

# News

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## **2008–09 EDITIONS OF THE OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK AND THE CAREER GUIDE TO INDUSTRIES AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET**

The 2008–09 editions of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* and the *Career Guide to Industries* were issued today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor on the Bureau's Internet site. The *Handbook* and the *Career Guide* can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/> and <http://www.bls.gov/oco/cg/>, respectively. Print versions of both publications are expected to be available by Spring 2008.

The *Occupational Outlook Handbook* has been a nationally recognized source of career information since the late 1940s. The *Career Guide to Industries* was developed as a companion publication to the *Handbook* in the early 1990s. These publications provide comprehensive, up-to-date, and reliable labor market information that has helped millions of Americans plan their future work lives. The *Handbook* and the *Career Guide* discuss prospective changes in the job market and the qualifications sought by employers, information that is widely used by counselors, students, job seekers, education and training officials, and researchers.

These publications reflect the Bureau's latest employment projections, which cover the 2006–16 decade. Detailed information on the 2006–16 projections appears in five articles in the November 2007 issue of the *Monthly Labor Review*, accessible at <http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/welcome.htm>. A graphic presentation of projections highlights appears in the Fall 2007 *Occupational Outlook Quarterly*, accessible at <http://www.bls.gov/opub/ooq>.

### The Occupational Outlook Handbook

The *Occupational Outlook Handbook* provides detailed information about hundreds of occupations, covering 9 out of 10 jobs in the economy. For each occupation, the *Handbook* highlights key occupational characteristics, followed by sections about the nature of the work and work environment, requirements for entry and opportunities for advancement, employment of salaried and self-employed workers, earnings, related occupations, and sources of additional information. Additionally, a section on "Job Outlook" describes each occupation's projected employment change over the next decade, as well as the various factors expected to affect this projection. Examples of such factors are the aging of baby boomers, technological innovations, changes in business practices, changes in the goods and services demanded by businesses and consumers, and changing foreign competition.

Employment over the 2006–16 decade is expected to increase by 15.6 million, or 10 percent. Table 1 lists the changes in employment over the 2006–16 decade for the 30 fastest growing occupations. For 19 of these occupations, the most significant source of postsecondary education or training is an associate or higher degree. Computer-related and health-related occupations, in addition, account for 16 of the 30 fastest growing occupations. Table 2 lists the changes in employment over the 2006–16 decade for the 30 occupations with the largest projected job growth. Short-term on-the-job training is the most significant source of postsecondary education or training for 14 of these occupations.

### The Career Guide to Industries

The *Occupational Outlook Handbook's* companion publication, the *Career Guide to Industries*, analyzes employment change from an industry perspective, providing information on 44 industries that cover 3 out of 4 wage and salary jobs in the economy. For each industry, the *Career Guide* describes the nature of the industry, typical working conditions, and key occupations employed in the industry. The *Career Guide* also discusses industry training practices and worker earnings. The “Outlook” section compares the industry’s projected percentage change in wage and salary employment with the percentage change in wage and salary jobs for all industries combined.

Table 3 indicates the changes in wage and salary employment over the 2006–16 decade for each of the industries included in the *Career Guide*. Employment growth is projected to be concentrated in the service-providing sector. Two industry groups within the service-providing sector—education and health care—are expected to account for half of all wage and salary employment growth in the economy. In the goods-producing sector, employment is expected to grow in construction and decline in natural resources and manufacturing.

### Enhancements to the 2008–09 Editions

The new editions of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* and *Career Guide to Industries* incorporate several organizational changes. In addition to the major headings used in previous editions, the new editions contain subheadings, which make it easier to find relevant information within each section. For example, the “Job Outlook” section of each statement now contains separate subheadings for employment change and job prospects. An overview and discussion of this and the many other enhancements can be found in the “Occupational Information Included in the Handbook” and the “Information in the Career Guide to Industries” sections of each respective publication.

### Ordering Information

The print versions of the 2008–09 editions of the *Occupational Outlook Handbook* and the *Career Guide to Industries* are sold by the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, and are expected to be available by Spring 2008. Ordering and price information will appear online at <http://www.bls.gov/emp/emppub01.htm>.

*Occupational Projections and Training Data* will be available online May 2008 at <http://www.bls.gov/emp/optd/home.htm>.

To order the *Monthly Labor Review*, visit <http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/subscrib.htm>.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

**Table 1. The 30 fastest growing occupations covered in the 2008-09 Occupational Outlook Handbook**

(Numbers in thousands)

Occupation	Employment change, 2006-16		Most significant source of postsecondary education or training <sup>1</sup>
	Number	Percent	
Network systems and data communications analysts .....	140	53.4	Bachelor's degree
Personal and home care aides .....	389	50.6	Short-term on-the-job training
Home health aides .....	384	48.7	Short-term on-the-job training
Computer software engineers, applications .....	226	44.6	Bachelor's degree
Veterinary technologists and technicians .....	29	41.0	Associate degree
Personal financial advisors .....	72	41.0	Bachelor's degree
Makeup artists, theatrical and performance .....	1	39.8	Postsecondary vocational award
Medical assistants .....	148	35.4	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Veterinarians .....	22	35.0	First professional degree
Substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors .....	29	34.3	Bachelor's degree
Skin care specialists .....	13	34.3	Postsecondary vocational award
Financial analysts .....	75	33.8	Bachelor's degree
Social and human service assistants .....	114	33.6	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Gaming surveillance officers and gaming investigators .....	3	33.6	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Physical therapist assistants .....	20	32.4	Associate degree
Pharmacy technicians .....	91	32.0	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Forensic science technicians .....	4	30.7	Bachelor's degree
Dental hygienists .....	50	30.1	Associate degree
Mental health counselors .....	30	30.0	Master's degree
Mental health and substance abuse social workers .....	37	29.9	Master's degree
Marriage and family therapists .....	7	29.8	Master's degree
Dental assistants .....	82	29.2	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Computer systems analysts .....	146	29.0	Bachelor's degree
Database administrators .....	34	28.6	Bachelor's degree
Computer software engineers, systems software .....	99	28.2	Bachelor's degree
Gaming and sports book writers and runners .....	5	28.0	Short-term on-the-job training
Environmental science and protection technicians, including health .....	10	28.0	Associate degree
Manicurists and pedicurists .....	22	27.6	Postsecondary vocational award
Physical therapists .....	47	27.1	Master's degree
Physician assistants .....	18	27.0	Master's degree

<sup>1</sup> An occupation is placed into 1 of 11 categories that best describes the postsecondary education or training needed by most workers to become fully qualified in that occupation. For more information about the categories, see *Occupational Projections and Training Data*, 2006-07 edition, Bulletin 2602 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, February 2006) and *Occupational Projections and Training Data*, 2008-09 edition, Bulletin 2702 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, forthcoming).

**Table 2. The 30 occupations covered in the 2008-09 Occupational Outlook Handbook with the largest employment growth**

(Numbers in thousands)

Occupation	Employment change, 2006-16		Most significant source of postsecondary education or training <sup>1</sup>
	Number	Percent	
Registered nurses .....	587	23.5	Associate degree
Retail salespersons .....	557	12.4	Short-term on-the-job training
Customer service representatives .....	545	24.8	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food ..	452	18.1	Short-term on-the-job training
Office clerks, general .....	404	12.6	Short-term on-the-job training
Personal and home care aides .....	389	50.6	Short-term on-the-job training
Home health aides .....	384	48.7	Short-term on-the-job training
Postsecondary teachers .....	382	22.9	Doctoral degree
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners .....	345	14.5	Short-term on-the-job training
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants .....	264	18.2	Postsecondary vocational award
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks .....	264	12.5	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Waiters and waitresses .....	255	10.8	Short-term on-the-job training
Child care workers .....	248	17.8	Short-term on-the-job training
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants .....	239	14.8	Work experience in a related occupation
Computer software engineers, applications .....	226	44.6	Bachelor's degree
Accountants and auditors .....	226	17.7	Bachelor's degree
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers .....	221	18.1	Short-term on-the-job training
Elementary school teachers, except special education .....	209	13.6	Bachelor's degree
Receptionists and information clerks .....	202	17.2	Short-term on-the-job training
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer .....	193	10.4	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Maids and housekeeping cleaners .....	186	12.7	Short-term on-the-job training
Security guards .....	175	16.9	Short-term on-the-job training
Carpenters .....	150	10.3	Long-term on-the-job training
Management analysts .....	149	21.9	Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience
Medical assistants .....	148	35.4	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Computer systems analysts .....	146	29.0	Bachelor's degree
Maintenance and repair workers, general .....	140	10.1	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Network systems and data communications analysts .....	140	53.4	Bachelor's degree
Food preparation workers .....	138	15.3	Short-term on-the-job training
Teacher assistants .....	137	10.4	Short-term on-the-job training

<sup>1</sup> An occupation is placed into 1 of 11 categories that best describes the postsecondary education or training needed by most workers to become fully qualified in that occupation. For more information about the categories, see *Occupational Projections and Training Data*, 2006-07 edition, Bulletin 2602 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, February 2006) and *Occupational Projections and Training Data*, 2008-09 edition, Bulletin 2702 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, forthcoming).

**Table 3. Wage and salary employment in industries covered in the Career Guide to Industries, 2006 and projected change, 2006-16**  
(Numbers in thousands)

Industry	Employment		Employment change	
	2006	2016	Number	Percent
All industries .....	138,310	153,262	14,951	10.8
Natural resources, construction, and utilities .....	10,076	10,710	634	6.3
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing .....	1,220	1,114	-105	-8.6
Construction .....	7,689	8,470	781	10.2
Mining .....	619	609	-10	-1.6
Utilities .....	549	518	-31	-5.7
Manufacturing .....	14,197	12,695	-1,503	-10.6
Aerospace product and parts manufacturing .....	472	497	25	5.4
Chemical manufacturing, except drugs .....	576	486	-90	-15.7
Computer and electronic product manufacturing .....	1,316	1,159	-157	-12.0
Food manufacturing .....	1,484	1,489	5	.3
Machinery manufacturing .....	1,192	1,045	-146	-12.3
Motor vehicle and parts manufacturing .....	1,070	918	-153	-14.3
Pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturing .....	292	362	69	23.7
Printing .....	636	497	-139	-21.8
Steel manufacturing .....	154	116	-39	-25.1
Textile, textile product, and apparel manufacturing .....	595	385	-211	-35.4
Trade .....	21,217	22,332	1,115	5.3
Automobile dealers .....	1,247	1,388	141	11.3
Clothing, accessory, and general merchandise stores .....	4,352	4,676	324	7.5
Grocery stores .....	2,463	2,479	16	.7
Wholesale trade .....	5,898	6,326	428	7.3
Transportation and warehousing .....	4,466	4,962	496	11.1
Air transportation .....	487	522	35	7.3
Truck transportation and warehousing .....	2,074	2,381	307	14.8
Information .....	3,055	3,267	212	6.9
Broadcasting .....	331	362	31	9.3
Motion picture and video industries .....	357	396	39	10.9
Publishing, except software .....	660	611	-49	-7.5
Software publishers .....	243	321	78	32.0
Telecommunications .....	973	1,022	49	5.0
Internet services providers, web search portals, and data processing services .....	383	437	54	14.0
Financial activities .....	8,363	9,570	1,207	14.4
Banking .....	1,825	1,899	74	4.0
Insurance .....	2,316	2,488	172	7.4
Securities, commodities, and other investments .....	816	1,192	376	46.1
Professional and business services .....	17,552	21,644	4,092	23.3
Advertising and public relations services .....	458	520	62	13.6
Computer systems design and related services .....	1,278	1,768	489	38.3
Employment services .....	3,657	4,348	692	18.9
Management, scientific, and technical consulting services .....	921	1,639	718	77.9
Scientific research and development services .....	593	649	56	9.4
Education, health, and social services .....	29,082	34,543	5,461	18.8
Child day care services .....	807	1,078	272	33.7
Educational services .....	13,152	14,564	1,412	10.7
Health services .....	13,621	16,576	2,954	21.7
Social assistance, except child day care .....	1,502	2,326	823	54.8
Leisure and hospitality .....	13,143	15,016	1,873	14.2
Arts, entertainment, and recreation .....	1,927	2,522	595	30.9
Food services and drinking places .....	9,383	10,407	1,024	10.9
Hotels and other accommodations .....	1,833	2,088	254	13.9
Government and advocacy, grantmaking, and civic organizations .....	11,210	11,895	685	6.1
Advocacy, grantmaking, and civic organizations .....	1,234	1,392	158	12.8
Federal Government .....	1,958	1,869	-90	-4.6
State and local government, except education and health care .....	8,018	8,634	617	7.7

NOTE: Columns may not add to totals due to omission of industries not covered in the *Career Guide to Industries*.