

**Table 617. Employment Projections by Occupation: 2008 to 2018**

[In thousands (16.0 represents 16,000), except percent and rank. Estimates based on the Current Employment Statistics Program; the Occupational Employment Statistics Survey; and the Current Population Survey. See source for methodological assumptions. Occupations based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification system]

Occupation	Employment (1,000)		Change, 2008–2018		Quartile rank by 2008 median annual earn- ings <sup>1</sup>	Most significant source of postsecondary education or training
	2008	2018	Num- ber (1,000)	Per- cent		
<b>FASTEST GROWING</b>						
Biomedical engineers	16.0	27.6	11.6	72.0	VH	Bachelor's degree
Network systems and data communications analyst	292.0	447.8	155.8	53.4	VH	Bachelor's degree
Home health aides	921.7	1,382.6	460.9	50.0	VL	Short-term on-the-job training
Personal and home care aides	817.2	1,193.0	375.8	46.0	VL	Short-term on-the-job training
Financial examiners	27.0	38.1	11.1	41.2	VH	Bachelor's degree
Medical scientists, except epidemiologists	109.4	153.6	44.2	40.4	VH	Doctoral degree
Physician assistants	74.8	103.9	29.2	39.0	VH	Master's degree
Skin care specialists	38.8	53.5	14.7	37.9	L	Postsecondary vocational award
Biochemists and biophysicists	23.2	31.9	8.7	37.4	VH	Doctoral degree
Athletic trainers	16.3	22.4	6.0	37.0	H	Bachelor's degree
Physical therapist aides	46.1	62.8	16.7	36.3	L	Short-term on-the-job training
Dental hygienists	174.1	237.0	62.9	36.1	VH	Associate degree
Veterinary technologists and technicians	79.6	108.1	28.5	35.8	L	Associate degree
Dental assistants	295.3	400.9	105.6	35.8	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Computer software engineers, applications	514.8	689.9	175.1	34.0	VH	Bachelor's degree
Medical assistants	483.6	647.5	163.9	33.9	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Physical therapist assistants	63.8	85.0	21.2	33.3	H	Associate degree
Veterinarians	59.7	79.4	19.7	33.0	VH	First professional degree Work experience in a related occupation
Self-enrichment education teachers	253.6	334.9	81.3	32.0	H	
Compliance officers, except agriculture, construc- tion, health and safety, and transportation	260.2	341.0	80.8	31.1	H	Long-term on-the-job training
Occupational therapist aides	7.8	10.2	2.4	30.7	L	Short-term on-the-job training
Environmental engineers	54.3	70.9	16.6	30.6	VH	Bachelor's degree
Pharmacy technicians	326.3	426.0	99.8	30.6	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Computer software engineers, systems software	394.8	515.0	120.2	30.4	VH	Bachelor's degree
Survey researchers	23.4	30.5	7.1	30.4	H	Bachelor's degree
Physical therapists	185.5	241.7	56.2	30.3	VH	Master's degree
Environmental engineering technicians	21.2	27.5	6.4	30.1	H	Associate degree
Occupational therapist assistants	26.6	34.6	7.9	29.8	H	Associate degree
Fitness trainers and aerobics instructors	261.1	337.9	76.8	29.4	L	Postsecondary vocational award
<b>LARGEST JOB GROWTH</b>						
Registered nurses	2,618.7	3,200.2	581.5	22.2	VH	Associate degree
Home health aides	921.7	1,382.6	460.9	50.0	VL	Short-term on-the-job training
Customer service representatives	2,252.4	2,651.9	399.5	17.7	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	2,701.7	3,096.0	394.3	14.6	VL	Short-term on-the-job training
Personal and home care aides	817.2	1,193.0	375.8	46.0	VL	Short-term on-the-job training
Retail salespersons	4,489.2	4,863.9	374.7	8.4	VL	Short-term on-the-job training
Office clerks, general	3,024.4	3,383.1	358.7	11.9	L	Short-term on-the-job training
Accountants and auditors	1,290.6	1,570.0	279.4	21.7	VH	Bachelor's degree
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	1,469.8	1,745.8	276.0	18.8	L	Postsecondary vocational award
Postsecondary teachers	1,699.2	1,956.1	256.9	15.1	VH	Doctoral degree
Construction laborers	1,248.7	1,504.6	255.9	20.5	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Elementary school teachers, except special education	1,549.5	1,793.7	244.2	15.8	H	Bachelor's degree
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	1,798.4	2,031.3	232.9	13.0	H	Short-term on-the-job training
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	1,205.8	1,422.9	217.1	18.0	L	Short-term on-the-job training
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	2,063.8	2,276.2	212.4	10.3	H	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	1,594.4	1,798.8	204.4	12.8	H	Work experience in a related occupation Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience
Management analysts	746.9	925.2	178.3	23.9	VH	work experience
Computer software engineers, applications	514.8	689.9	175.1	34.0	VH	Bachelor's degree
Receptionists and information clerks	1,139.2	1,312.1	172.9	15.2	L	Short-term on-the-job training
Carpenters	1,284.9	1,450.3	165.4	12.9	H	Long-term on-the-job training
Medical assistants	483.6	647.5	163.9	33.9	L	Moderate-term on-the-job training
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	1,457.2	1,617.5	160.3	11.0	H	Work experience in a related occupation
Network systems and data communications analysts	292.0	447.8	155.8	53.4	VH	Bachelor's degree
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	753.6	909.2	155.6	20.7	H	Postsecondary vocational award

<sup>1</sup> Quartile ranks based on the Occupational Employment Statistics annual wages. VH = very high (\$51,540 and over), H = high (\$32,390 to \$51,530), L = low (\$21,590 to \$32,380), and VL = very low (under \$21,590). The rankings were based on quartiles using one-fourth of total employment to define each quartile. Wages are for wage and salary workers.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics "Occupational employment projections to 2018," *Monthly Labor Review*, Volume 132, Number 11, November 2009, <<http://www.bls.gov/opub/mlr/2009/11/art5exc.htm>>.