

Utah's

New Occupational Projections 2008-2018—Part Deux



**IF YOU DON'T WANT
TO GET A LOT OF
TRAINING, YOU'LL
PROBABLY FIND A
JOB, ALTHOUGH IT
MAY NOT PAY THE
TYPE OF WAGES
YOU'D LIKE.**

In last month's issue of TrendLines magazine, I wrote an article outlining our recently released occupational projections. Since we do projections for roughly 780 individual occupations, you know I didn't get very detailed in that two-page article. Hopefully, this article will add a little "meat" to the "bones" of the previous report. If you missed that discussion, I'd suggest you take a few moments to read it (<http://jobs.utah.gov/wi/pubs/trendlines/novdec10/theoutlook.pdf>) so you can understand some of the nuances of the data.



Part one in last issue.

Not Much Glamour Here

Understanding where we are helps us understand where we are going. Occupations with high employment today will likely show high employment in the future. We're talking about significant portions of the labor market—they don't change quickly. It just might make sense to take a moment to look at the chart with the most common occupations in Utah. Typically they aren't the "glamour jobs" or the high-paying jobs—they are the cashiers, the fast food workers, the secretaries, the truck drivers, the nurses and the janitors that we meet almost every day. However, together these top-ten occupations account for

a whopping 19 percent of total employment in Utah.

Not only are these occupations large, but many of them also have high replacement rates. You'll notice that many of the occupations in the top-ten most common occupations are ALSO among those with the most projected openings. These top-ten opening producers are expected to account for 22 percent of all the new openings in Utah between 2008 and 2018. Again, for the most part, they are not particularly exciting or "sexy." But, they are an integral part of Utah's labor market.

Show me the fast growing jobs!

The number of openings an occupation produces is the best indicator of demand. However, growth rates can also quickly reveal how our labor market is changing. In this case, we'll look at occupations with at least 100 annual average openings to exclude small occupations where minute employment gains can result in huge percent changes. (For example, an occupation with one job adds another and suddenly you've got 100-percent growth.)

In total, employment in Utah is expected to show a 2.1 percent average annual growth rate between 2008 and 2018. The top-ten fastest growing occupations all show expansion rates that at least

Utah Occupations with the
**HIGHEST
 EMPLOYMENT**
 2008



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

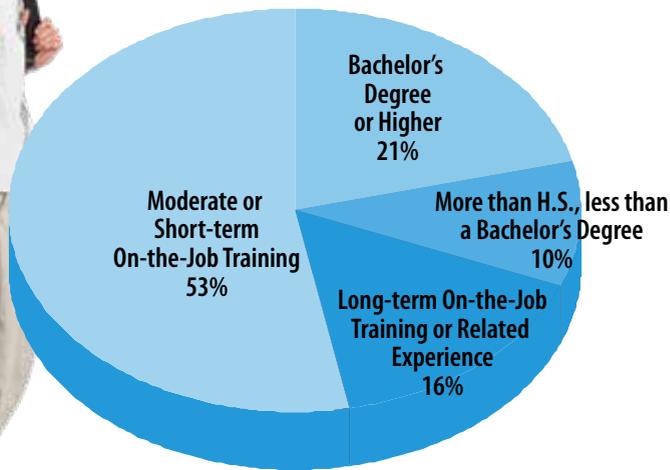
Utah Occupations
**ANNUAL
 OPENINGS**
 2008-2018



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.



Utah Job Openings by
TRAINING LEVEL
2008–2018



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

**WHAT ARE THE
BEST-PAYING
OCCUPATIONS
WHICH ALSO
SHOW A
RESPECTABLE
LEVEL OF
DEMAND?**

double the average. In this chart you'll notice that almost all the fastest growing jobs are related to healthcare. Nevertheless, a number of these healthcare positions are relatively low-skilled. Computer-related occupations also show relatively high rates of growth.

High-Pay; High Demand

You've surely noticed that the occupations with the most projected openings in Utah are generally far from the highest-paying. What are the best-paying occupations which also show a respectable level of demand? For this chart, we've used the same group of occupations with at least 100 average annual openings and then ranked the top-ten highest paying of those occupations.

Lawyers come out on top—but, remember over-supply may be an issue in a small state with two law schools. Again, computer-related and healthcare jobs make up a notable share of these positions. However, in this case, they are jobs with high education levels and analytic/technical skills. Your mom was right—education pays.

Finally ... What about education?

Most of the jobs with the highest levels of openings aren't necessarily those with the highest education levels.

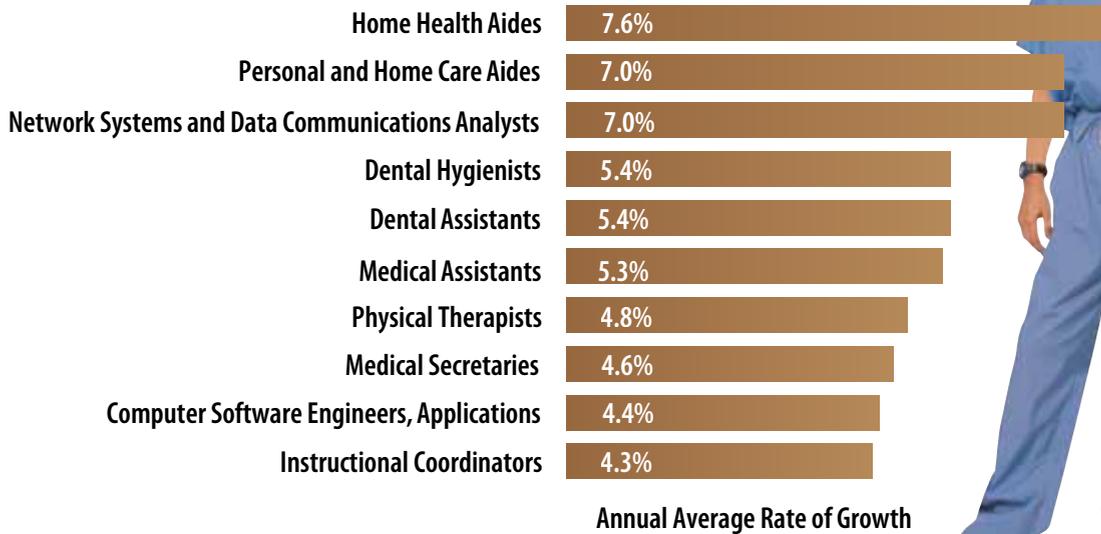
In fact, more than half the projected openings in Utah from 2008-2018 require moderate on-the-job training or less. The long-term occupational training occupations (which often include a classroom component) are expected to generate 16 percent of openings. Associate degrees and post-secondary technical training are projected to account for 10 percent of openings. And, occupations requiring at least a Bachelor's degree should create 21 percent of openings.

The good news? If you don't want to get a lot of training, you'll probably be able to find a job. The bad news? It probably won't pay the type of wages to which you'd like to become accustomed. In fact, every year, more and more jobs require a higher-level of training and/or education. If you want a good-paying, high-demand job, you're going to need some education and/or training. In fact, to get the higher-paying jobs which don't require post-high school education, you'll probably have to put in an equivalent amount of time on-the-job. Plus, your earnings potential is unlikely to ever reach that of most college-educated individuals. ●

For more information about our occupational projections, see: <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoOccinfo.do>

FASTEST GROWING UTAH OCCUPATIONS

with 100 or More Annual
Openings 2008-2018



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

HIGHEST PAYING UTAH OCCUPATIONS

with 100 or More Annual
Openings
2008-2018



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.