

# Immigrant Job Opportunities



**Map to Success**

## Utah

Job Shortages



Potential Career  
Advancement



Immigration in  
Utah



## Job Shortages

The tables below show the top three occupations that are projected from 2018-2028 of Utah employers based on the level of education they require. There is a state minimum wage of \$7.25 in Utah. The one highlighted occupation under each of the three education levels has been selected to expand on in terms of potential career advancement.

<b>High School (HS) Diploma or Less</b>			
<b>Occupation</b>	<u><a href="#">Average Annual Job Openings</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Median Hourly Wage</a></u>	<u><a href="#">State Licensing Required</a></u>
Retail Salespersons	8,300	\$12.63	No
Customer Service Representatives	8,260	\$16.16	No
Food Preparation Workers	8,170	\$10.51	Yes

<b>More than HS Diploma, less than Bachelor's Degree</b>			
<b>Occupation</b>	<u><a href="#">Average Annual Job Openings</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Median Hourly Wage</a></u>	<u><a href="#">State Licensing Required</a></u>
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,520	\$22.11	Yes
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Audit Clerks	2,110	\$18.61	No
Electricians	1,930	\$23.52	Yes

<b>Bachelor's Degree or Higher</b>			
<b>Occupation</b>	<a href="#"><u>Average Annual Job Openings</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Median Hourly Wage</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>State Licensing Required</u></a>
General & Operations Managers	6,430	\$32.58	No
Wholesale & Manufacturing Sales Representatives	3,110	\$26.92	No
Registered Nurses	2,090	\$32.30	Yes

## Potential Career Advancement

### 1) Retail Salesperson to Supervisor of Retail Sales Workers

	<b>Entry Level Job (hourly wage)</b>	<b>Entry Level Requirements</b>	<b>Career Advancement (hourly wage)</b>	<b>Career Advancement Requirements</b>
<b>1</b>	Retail Salesperson (\$12.63)	On-the-job training English language proficiency	Supervisor of Retail Sales Workers (\$18.30)	High School diploma or GED required

#### Retail Salesperson Job Description:

- [Sell](#) merchandise, such as furniture, motor vehicles, appliances, or apparel to consumers

#### Entry Level Requirements:

- Short-term, on-the-job training
- English language proficiency

### Supervisor of Retail Sales Workers Job Description:

- [Supervise](#) and coordinate activities of retail sales workers in a department

### Career Advancement Requirements:

- High school diploma or GED typically required

## 2) Electrician to Electrical Engineer

	Entry Level Job (hourly wage)	Entry Level Requirements	Career Advancement (hourly wage)	Career Advancement Requirements
2	Electrician (\$23.52)	Choose type of Electrical license  Complete an approved apprenticeship program  Pass state exams  Apply for license	Electrical Engineer (\$43.73)	Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering often required  Pass Professional Engineer Exam  Apply for license

### Electrician Job Description:

- [Install](#), maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures

### Entry Level Requirements:

- Choose which type of Electrical license you wish to obtain: (1) **Journeyman Electrician** can work on a wide range of job sites, including commercial and industrial, (2) **Residential Journeyman Electrician** is limited to residential work, (3) **Master Electrician** can plan and supervise a complex project
- [Complete](#) an approved apprenticeship program and accumulate on-the-job hours
- [Pass](#) the Utah Electrical Licensing Theory, Code, and Practical Examinations
- [Apply](#) for license with state of Utah

### Electrical Engineer Job Description:

- [Research](#), design, develop, test, or supervise the manufacturing and installation of electrical equipment, components, or systems for commercial, industrial, military, or scientific use

### Career Advancement Requirements:

- [Bachelor's](#) degree in Electrical Engineering often required
- [Pass](#) the Professional Engineer exam
- [Apply](#) for Professional Engineer license with state of Utah

### 3) General & Operations Manager to Chief Executive

	Entry Level Job (hourly wage)	Entry Level Requirements	Career Advancement (hourly wage)	Career Advancement Requirements
3	General & Operations Manager (\$32.58)	Bachelor's degree in Business related field  Prior experience in managerial position often required	Chief Executive  (\$70.64)	Bachelor's degree in Business related field, MBA encouraged  5+ years of management experience

#### General & Operations Manager Job Description:

- [Plan](#), direct, or coordinate the operations of public or private sector organizations, overseeing multiple departments or locations

#### Entry Level Requirements:

- [Bachelor's](#) degree in Business related field
- Prior experience in managerial position often required, more information found [here](#)

#### Chief Executive Job Description:

- [Determine](#) and formulate policies and provide overall direction of companies or private and public sector organizations within guidelines set up by a board of directors or similar governing body

#### Career Advancement Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Business related field, [MBA](#) encouraged
- 5+ years of management experience, more information found [here](#)

## Immigration in Utah

The following are facts about the [immigrant community in Utah](#):

- Immigrants comprise 9% of the state population and 11% of the Utah labor force
- Top industries of immigrant employment:
  - Manufacturing, 31,148 workers
  - Construction, 24,707 workers
  - Accommodation and Food Services, 21,605 workers
  - Health Care and Social Assistance, 19,173 workers
  - Retail Trade, 16,735 workers

- 16,852 immigrant business owners account for 11% of all self-employed Utah residents
- 41% of immigrants in Utah are naturalized and another 38% are undocumented
- Top foreign-born countries of origin:
  - Mexico, 35%
  - India, 4%
  - Venezuela, 4%
  - Peru, 4%
  - Canada, 3%
- 9% of native-born Utahns are children of an immigrant
- Educational attainment of foreign born adults in Utah:
  - High School diploma or less – 51%
  - More than HS diploma, less than Bachelor’s degree – 22%
  - Bachelor’s degree or higher – 27%
    - Share of [Brain Waste](#)\* - 33%

\* Share of [immigrant professionals](#), who are unemployed, employed at poverty-level wages in High School diploma or less jobs, or significantly underemployed in more than HS diploma, less than Bachelor’s degree jobs

## Sources

### Jobs

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<https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oesrcst.htm>

Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employment Projections*, “Education and training assignments by detailed occupation,” 2019;  
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National Council of State Legislatures, “State Minimum Wages”, December 2020;  
<http://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/state-minimum-wage-chart.aspx#Table>

Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Economic News Release*, “Employees on Nonfarm Payrolls by State, Seasonally adjusted”, November 2020;  
<https://www.bls.gov/news.release/laus.t03.htm>

### Potential Career Advancement

National Conference of State Legislatures, “The National Occupational Licensing Database”, March 2020:  
<https://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/occupational-licensing-statute-database.aspx>

### Immigration

American Immigration Council, State by State Fact Sheet, August 2020;  
<https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/topics/state-by-state>