



NC DEPARTMENT  
of COMMERCE  
LABOR & ECONOMIC  
ANALYSIS



ASHEVILLE REGION  
**STAR JOBS**  
TOP 10 BY EDUCATION  
**2019**



Buncombe | Henderson | Madison  
Polk | Rutherford | Transylvania

# ASHEVILLE REGION Top 10 Star

High School and Work Experience		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Managers of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers	\$27.95	\$58,136
★	Managers of Mechanics, Installers, & Repairers	\$28.24	\$58,750
★	Food Service Managers	\$27.96	\$58,148
★	Insurance Sales Agents	\$26.55	\$55,221
★	Managers of Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	\$22.36	\$46,512
★	Electrical Power-Line Installers & Repairers	\$25.89	\$53,849
★	Property, Real Estate, & Community Assoc Managers	\$33.75	\$70,203
★	Managers of Retail Sales Workers	\$19.11	\$39,739
★	Managers of Food Prep & Serving Workers	\$17.55	\$36,507
★	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General	\$17.46	\$36,324

Postsecondary Training		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	\$20.05	\$41,698
★	Medical Assistants	\$15.04	\$31,292
★	Automotive Service Techs & Mechanics	\$17.19	\$35,763
★	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$21.17	\$44,042
★	HVAC & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	\$19.16	\$39,862
★	Dental Assistants	\$20.16	\$41,923
★	Computer User Support Specialists	\$20.73	\$43,109
★	Phlebotomists	\$14.45	\$30,055
★	Firefighters	\$14.99	\$31,186
★	Emergency Medical Techs & Paramedics	\$17.81	\$37,049

Top careers with high wages and employment growth by education requirements

Associate Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	\$19.96	\$41,512
★	Clinical Lab Technologists & Techs	\$22.04	\$45,849
★	Physical Therapist Assistants	\$27.60	\$57,415
★	Radiologic Technologists	\$23.82	\$49,556
★	Dental Hygienists	\$28.54	\$59,360
★	Respiratory Therapists	\$25.90	\$53,868
★	Occupational Therapy Assistants	\$30.78	\$64,017
★	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$32.17	\$66,910
★	Veterinary Technologists & Techs	\$14.97	\$31,141
★	Web Developers	\$24.84	\$51,672

Bachelor's Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Registered Nurses	\$30.10	\$62,609
★	General & Operations Managers	\$44.32	\$92,178
★	Accountants & Auditors	\$30.25	\$62,917
★	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	\$23.40	\$48,677
★	Loan Officers	\$23.12	\$48,082
★	Child, Family, & School Social Workers	\$21.67	\$45,069
★	Medical & Health Services Managers	\$47.90	\$99,625
★	Construction Managers	\$38.08	\$79,213
★	Software Developers, Apps	\$42.60	\$88,606
★	Sub. Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, & Mental Health Counselors	\$22.61	\$47,033

# ASHEVILLE REGION Top 10 Star Jobs

*Top careers with high wages and employment growth by education requirements*

Advanced Degree		Median Hourly Wage	Median Annual Wage
★	Physical Therapists	\$42.18	\$87,738
★	Healthcare Social Workers	\$26.03	\$54,146
★	Physician Assistants	\$50.15	\$104,319
★	Health Specialties Teachers, Postsecondary	N/A	\$61,845
★	Pharmacists	\$58.12	\$120,882
★	Lawyers	\$48.51	\$100,894
★	Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	\$21.15	\$43,989
★	Nurse Practitioners	\$48.14	\$100,141
★	Speech-Language Pathologists	\$35.94	\$74,749
★	Occupational Therapists	\$40.53	\$84,308

All wage information (except where noted) is Regional Median Hourly and Annual Wage data which was calculated based on 2019 release of the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The OES program produces employment and wage estimates annually for more than 800 occupations for the U.S., individual states, and metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas; National occupational estimates for specific industries are also available.

Note: Selected occupations for each education/experience category are based on the Star Jobs Methodology. Education categories in this brochure represent the minimum level of education required for entry according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Actual market conditions may require additional education and training.

## What are Star Jobs?

North Carolina's 5-Star Jobs represent occupations with the greatest projected employment potential through 2026. Occupations were rated from 1-5 stars based on wages, projected growth rates, and projected job openings. For a complete list of Star Jobs and explanation of the rating process, visit [www.nccommerce.com/data-tools-reports/labor-market-data-tools/employment-projections#star-jobs](http://www.nccommerce.com/data-tools-reports/labor-market-data-tools/employment-projections#star-jobs)



For more information on North Carolina careers go to:

 [NCCareers.org](http://NCCareers.org)
 [@CareersinNC](https://twitter.com/CareersinNC)
 [lead@nccommerce.com](mailto:lead@nccommerce.com)