

ACT Workforce Research Snapshot:

Foundational Skills for Construction Careers

Target Occupations in the Construction Industry

- The construction industry is comprised of businesses engaged in the construction of buildings or engineering projects as well as those engaged in subdividing land for sale as building sites.
- Target careers in the construction industry constitute 4% (6.3 million jobs) of total occupational employment in the U.S.
- Target construction careers are projected to grow more than 10% from 2010-2020 with more than 2 million openings (5% of total openings in the U.S.).

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Top 20 Employing Target Construction Careers

O*Net-Code	Occupation	Locating Information (Range 3-6)	Reading for Information (Range 3-7)	Applied Mathematics (Range 3-7)	Median Annual Wage (2010)	US Employment 2010
47-2031.01	Construction Carpenters	3	3	3	\$ 39,530	1,001,700
47-2031.00	Carpenters	4		5	\$ 39,530	1,001,700
47-2061.00	Construction Laborers	4	4	4	\$ 29,280	998,800
47-2111.00	Electricians	5	5	5	\$ 48,250	577,000
47-1011.00	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades & Extraction	4	4	4	\$ 58,680	558,500
11-9021.00	Construction Managers	6	6	5	\$ 83,860	523,100
47-2152.02	Plumbers	4	4	4	\$ 46,660	419,900
47-2152.01	Pipe Fitters & Steamfitters	4	4	5	\$ 46,660	419,900
47-2073.00	Operating Engineers & Other Construction Equipment Operators	4	4	4	\$ 40,400	349,100
51-4121.00	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	4	3	3	\$ 35,450	337,300
51-4121.06	Welders, Cutters, & Welder Fitters	4	3	3	\$ 35,450	337,300
51-4121.07	Solderers & Brazers	3	3	3	\$ 35,450	337,300
49-9021.02	Refrigeration Mechanics & Installers	3	3	3	\$ 42,530	267,800
49-9021.01	Heating & Air Conditioning Mechanics & Installers	5	5	4	\$ 42,530	267,800
49-9021.00	Heating, Air Conditioning, & Refrigeration Mechanics & Installer	3	3	3	\$ 42,530	267,800
13-1051.00	Cost Estimators	4	4	5	\$ 57,860	185,400
49-9052.00	Telecommunications Line Installers & Repairers	3	3	3	\$ 50,850	160,600
47-2211.00	Sheet Metal Workers	4	4	4	\$ 41,710	136,100
49-9098.00	Helpers--Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Workers	4	4	4	\$ 24,260	125,000
49-9051.00	Electrical Power-Line Installers & Repairers	4	4	4	\$ 58,030	108,400

About the Data

Wage and employment data are from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Foundational skill levels are derived from ACT's job profile database which includes over 19,000 job analyses for occupations across a diverse array of industries and occupations. Foundational skill levels are presented for three WorkKeys® cognitive skills—Reading for Information, Applied Mathematics, and Locating Information for selected groups of targeted occupations over the next 8-10 years. These three skills have been consistently identified as important for success in a broad range of jobs. Additional data for skill levels for other WorkKeys cognitive assessments can be found at: http://profiles.keytrain.com/profile_search/.