



White Paper  
Top industries for employment and wages in Clark County, Nevada  
October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Goal:** Define and identify “good occupations” by industry in Clark County.

**Definitions:**

**Good Occupation:** a job that produces above average wages, wage growth, and employment growth.

**Wages per worker:** the amount a worker collects before taxes.

**Supplement per worker:** the amount per worker for employer contributions for employee pension, insurance funds, and government social insurance.

**Employment:** the number of individuals employed by industry.

**Level of growth:** growth or rate of change expressed as a number.

**Fraction of growth:** fraction of total growth expressed as a percentage (0-100).

**Methodology:** UNLV’s Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) used its REMI PI+ dynamic macroeconomic impact analysis model for local, state, and national effects to compare historical data on wages and employment by industry. CBER uses this same model to produce our annual Southern Nevada Population Forecast, which we have been doing since 1997 on behalf of Clark County, The Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), and the Southern Nevada Regional Transportation Commission (RTC). We examined two different ways to compare wages, wage growth, and employment growth, comparing percentage growth and levels to their relative mean (average). We crossed tabulated those results with each other to get a final list as well as compared the results with the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS)’s forecast on the Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations, Excluding Pandemic Recovery. The results are below.

**Notable variables:**

**All industries wage growth in Clark County from 2011-2020:** 8 percent

**All industries supplement per worker percentage growth in Clark County from 2011-2020:** 9%

**All industries employment percentage growth in Clark County from 2011-2020:** 15 percent

**All industries wage per worker growth by level in Clark County from 2011-2020:** \$2,800

**All industries supplement per worker growth by level in Clark County from 2011-2020:** \$730

**All industries employment growth by level in Clark County from 2011-2020:** 163,682

## SECTION 1: GOOD OCCUPATION AS DEFINED BY PERCENTAGES OF WAGES, WAGE GROWTH, AND EMPLOYMENT GROWTH

Using REMI historical data, CBER selected industries that had both decent wage and employment growth over the last ten years. We categorized them as 4 groups based on their current wage, wage growth from 2011 to 2020, and employment growth from 2011 to 2020. **Highlighted** are occupations that appear in the BLS's forecast of the top fastest growing occupations between 2020-2030, excluding pandemic recovery (Appendix A and B)

**Group 1: (a) Higher wage than average in 2020 + (b) higher wage growth than average from 2011 to 2020 + (c) higher employment growth than average from 2011 to 2020**

	Growth 2011-2020		2020 Level	
	Wage per worker	Employment	Wage per worker (thou)	Employment
Support activities for agriculture and forestry	356%	100%	\$53.91	24
Construction	23%	68%	\$53.86	81331
Wood product manufacturing	22%	103%	\$46.11	507
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	8%	65%	\$55.59	2649
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	41%	32%	\$43.92	2903
Furniture and related product manufacturing	19%	36%	\$39.94	1216
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	129%	302%	\$46.75	791
Paper manufacturing	16%	41%	\$56.89	628
<b>Air transportation</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>\$76.22</b>	<b>8304</b>
Scenic and sightseeing transportation; <b>Support activities for transportation</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>\$48.71</b>	<b>7114</b>
<b>Data processing, hosting, and related services; Other information services</b>	<b>107%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>\$78.76</b>	<b>3015</b>
<b>Monetary authorities - central bank; Credit intermediation and related activities</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>\$75.58</b>	<b>19131</b>
Religious, grantmaking, civic, professional, and similar organizations	14%	24%	\$45.40	9892

**Group 2: (a) Higher wage than average in 2020 + (b) higher wage growth than average from 2011 to 2020 + (c) lower employment growth than average from 2011 to 2020**

	Growth 2011-2020		2020 Level	
	Wage per worker	Employment	Wage per worker (thou)	Employment
<b>Computer and electronic product manufacturing</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>\$76.03</b>	<b>525</b>
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing	10%	-12%	\$52.14	37
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	15%	11%	\$46.34	1786
Wholesale trade	17%	13%	\$66.56	27742
Publishing industries, except Internet	46%	13%	\$68.93	2855

**Group 3: (a) Higher wage than average in 2020 + (b) lower wage growth than average but positive growth from 2011 to 2020 + (c) higher employment growth than average from 2011 to 2020**

	Growth 2011-2020		2020 Level	
	Wage per worker	Employment	Wage per worker (thou)	Employment
Rail transportation	5%	28%	\$95.02	239
Professional, scientific, and technical services	6%	33%	\$44.17	74943
Management of companies and enterprises	3%	50%	\$99.42	25052
Ambulatory health care services	3%	44%	\$49.91	53890
Federal Civilian	3%	25%	\$68.35	14638

**Group 4: (a) Lower wage than average in 2020 + (b) higher wage growth than average from 2011 to 2020 + (c) higher employment growth than average from 2011 to 2020**

	Growth 2011-2020		2020 Level	
	Wage per worker	Employment	Wage per worker (thou)	Employment
Food manufacturing	10%	19%	\$37.01	3480
Apparel manufacturing; Leather and allied product manufacturing	23%	39%	\$ 5.18	365
Warehousing and storage	24%	334%	\$27.47	26558
Administrative and support services	19%	22%	\$25.50	91383
Educational services; private	15%	43%	\$31.26	14279
Social assistance	22%	27%	\$17.52	21611
Museums, historical sites, and similar institutions	15%	51%	\$29.28	528
Repair and maintenance	25%	22%	\$25.53	12924

## **SECTION 2: GOOD OCCUPATION AS DEFINED BY LEVELS OF WAGE, WAGE GROWTH, AND EMPLOYMENT GROWTH**

Using REMI historical data, CBER selected industries that had both decent wage and employment growth by level over the last ten years. We categorized them as 4 groups based on their 2020 wage level, wage growth by level from 2011 to 2020, and employment growth by level from 2011 to 2020. **Highlighted** are occupations that appear in the BLS' top fastest growing occupations 2020-2030, excluding pandemic recovery (Appendix A and B)

Group 1: (a) Higher wage than average in 2020 + (b) higher wage growth than average from 2011 to 2020 + (c) Positive employment growth from 2011 to 2020

	Growth 2011-2020 (by levels)			2020 Level	
	Wage per worker (thou)	Supplement per worker (thou)	Employment	Wage per worker (thou)	Current Employment Level
Data processing, hosting, and related services; Other information services	\$ 40.7	\$3.5	1265	\$ 78.76	3015
Monetary authorities - central bank; Credit intermediation and related activities	\$ 29.6	\$2.5	3490	\$ 75.58	19131
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	\$ 26.4	\$5.7	594	\$ 46.75	791
Publishing industries, except Internet	\$ 21.7	\$1.1	328	\$ 68.93	2855
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	\$ 21.0	\$3.1	68	\$ 76.03	525
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	\$ 12.8	\$2.5	696	\$ 43.92	2903
Air transportation	\$ 10.1	\$6.4	2326	\$ 76.22	8304
Construction	\$ 10.0	\$1.4	32988	\$ 53.86	81331
Wholesale trade	\$9.7	\$1.9	3119	\$ 66.56	27742
Scenic and sightseeing transportation; Support activities for transportation	\$9.2	\$1.8	1395	\$ 48.71	7114
Wood product manufacturing	\$8.3	\$0.4	257	\$ 46.11	507
Paper manufacturing	\$7.8	\$2.4	182	\$ 56.89	628
Furniture and related product manufacturing	\$6.5	\$1.4	319	\$ 39.94	1216
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	\$6.2	\$1.7	177	\$ 46.34	1786
Religious, grantmaking, civic, professional, and similar organizations	\$5.5	\$1.4	1913	\$ 45.40	9892
Rail transportation	\$4.5	\$ (6.0)	52	\$ 95.02	239
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	\$4.2	\$1.7	1040	\$ 55.59	2649
Management of companies and enterprises	\$3.2	\$ (1.7)	8384	\$ 99.42	25052
State and Local Government (includes public education)	\$2.9	\$ (1.1)	5770	\$ 56.23	87924

Note: We excluded support activities for agriculture and forestry due to very small employment levels.

**Group 2: (a) Higher wage than average in 2020 + (2) Lower wage growth than average, but positive growth from 2011 to 2020 + (3) Positive employment growth from 2011 to 2020**

	Level Growth 2011-2020			2020 Level	
	Wage per worker (thou)	Supplement per worker (thou)	Employment	Wage per worker (thou)	Employment
Professional, scientific, and technical services	\$2.6	\$0.2	18384	\$ 44.17	74943
Federal Military	\$2.2	\$0.7	1665	\$ 51.81	16609
Federal Civilian	\$2.0	\$5.0	2891	\$ 68.35	14638
Ambulatory health care services	\$1.4	\$0.8	16375	\$ 49.91	53890
Hospitals; private	\$ (0.0)	\$1.9	8010	\$ 65.41	24462

**Group 3: (a) Lower wage than average in 2020 + (b) higher wage growth than average from 2011 to 2020 + (c) Positive employment growth from 2011 to 2020.**

	Level Growth 2011-2020			2020 Level	
	Wage per worker (thou)	Supplement per worker (thou)	Employment	Wage per worker (thou)	Employment
Performing arts, spectator sports, and related industries	\$ 11.9	\$1.3	282	\$ 28.42	20018
Warehousing and storage	\$5.3	\$ (1.8)	20443	\$ 27.47	26558
Rental and leasing services; Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	\$5.1	\$1.2	219	\$ 36.08	6838
Repair and maintenance	\$5.1	\$0.7	2363	\$ 25.53	12924
Educational services; private	\$4.1	\$1.4	4288	\$ 31.26	14279
Administrative and support services	\$4.0	\$1.5	16756	\$ 25.50	91383
Museums, historical sites, and similar institutions	\$3.7	\$1.5	178	\$ 29.28	528
Food manufacturing	\$3.3	\$1.1	557	\$ 37.01	3480
Social assistance	\$3.2	\$1.2	4570	\$ 17.52	21611
Real estate	\$3.2	\$0.5	2212	\$ 11.91	63384

Note: A possible explanation on why the healthcare sector (Ambulatory health care services and hospitals) had lower wage growth than the average for the last ten years is because the local healthcare industry has been changing to hire more assistants such as nurses, technicians, and physician assistants. This trend is also shown in the BLS projections. For example, according to BLS, employment of physician assistants is projected to grow 27.6 percent from 2021 to 2030, while overall employment of physicians and surgeons is projected to grow only 3 percent. Also, the employment of nurse practitioners (NP), who have higher authority than registered nurses, is projected to grow by 45.7 percent, and registered nurses are projected to grow by 6.2 percent.

**SECTION 3: INDUSTRY OCCUPATIONS WHICH APPEAR IN BOTH SECTION 1 AND SECTION 2**

<b>Matches between Levels and Percent Growth Rates for Groups 1 only</b>
Air transportation
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing
Construction
Data processing, hosting, and related services; Other information services
Fabricated metal product manufacturing
Furniture and related product manufacturing
Monetary authorities - central bank; Credit intermediation and related activities
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing
Paper manufacturing
Religious, grantmaking, civic, professional, and similar organizations
Scenic and sightseeing transportation; Support activities for transportation
Support activities for agriculture and forestry
Wood product manufacturing

<b>Matches for Growth and Levels for All Groups</b>
Air transportation
Ambulatory health care services
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing
Computer and electronic product manufacturing
Construction
Data processing, hosting, and related services; Other information services
Fabricated metal product manufacturing
Federal Civilian Employment
Furniture and related product manufacturing
Hospitals; private
Management of companies and enterprises
Monetary authorities - central bank; Credit intermediation and related activities
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing
Paper manufacturing
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing

Professional, scientific, and technical services
Publishing industries, except Internet
Rail transportation
Religious, grantmaking, civic, professional, and similar organizations
Support activities for agriculture and forestry
Wholesale trade
Wood product manufacturing

**Appendix A: Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations, Excluding Pandemic Recovery (Percent and Levels)**

**Top 10 Fastest Growing Occupations, Excluding Pandemic Recovery\***

	Percent change, projected 2020-30	Employment change, projected 2020-30 (in thousands)	Median annual wages, May 2021
Wind turbine service technicians	68.2%	4.7	\$56,260
Nurse practitioners	52.2%	114.9	\$120,680
Solar photovoltaic installers	52.1%	6.1	\$47,670
Statisticians	35.4%	14.9	\$95,570
Physical therapist assistants	35.4%	33.2	\$61,180
Information security analysts	33.3%	47.1	\$102,600
Home health and personal care aides	32.6%	1,129.9	\$29,430
Medical and health services managers	32.5%	139.6	\$101,340
Data scientists and mathematical science occupations, all other	31.4%	19.8	\$100,480
Physician assistants	31.0%	40.1	\$121,530

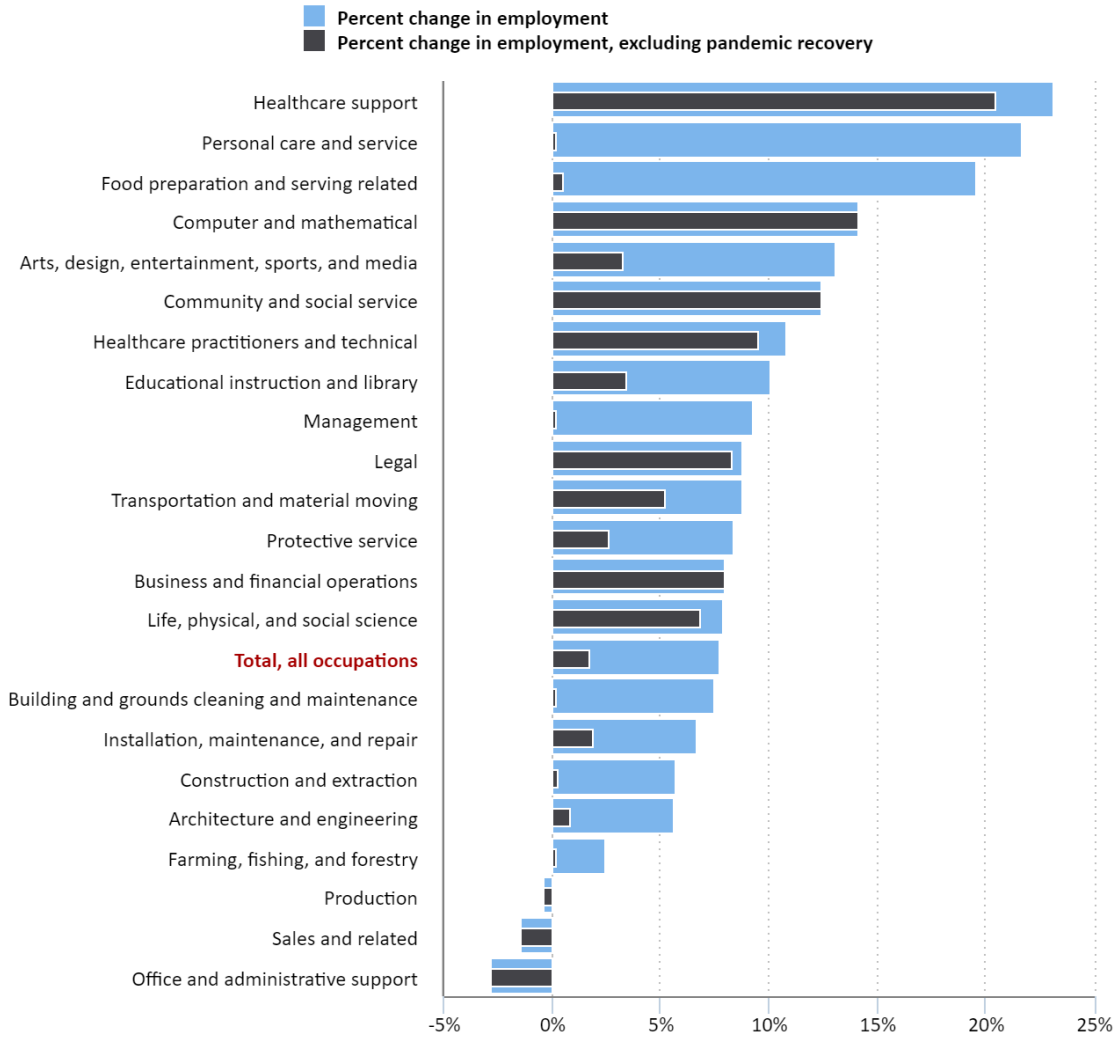
Source: [https://www.bls.gov/emp/images/growing\\_occupations.png](https://www.bls.gov/emp/images/growing_occupations.png)

BLS’s projection shows that **renewable energy, information and data processing, and especially health care sectors** will grow faster than other sectors and their median wages are usually higher than the median wage in Clark County with the exception of solar photovoltaic Installers and Home Health and Personal Care Aides.

**Appendix B: Top Projected Percent Change in Employment by Occupational Group 2020-2030, Including Adjustments for Pandemic Recovery (percent only)**



**Projected percent change in employment by major occupational group, 2020–2030, including adjustments for pandemic recovery**



Click legend items to change data display. Hover over chart to view data.  
 Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Source: <https://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2021/employment-to-grow-7-7-percent-from-2020-to-2030-1-7-percent-excluding-covid-19-recovery.htm>