Table 3. Fastest growing occupations, 2002-12

[Numbers in thousands of jobs]

| 2000 Standard occupation classification code and title 2002 2012 Number Percent 2002 Number Percent 2002 Mumber Percent 2002 Percent 2002 | 2000 standard occupation classification code and title | | Employment | | Change | | Quartile | |
|--|--|---|------------|------|--------|---------|------------------|---|
| 15-1081 Network systems and data communications analysts 186 292 106 57 1 Bachelor's degree 29-1071 Physician assistants | | | 2002 | 2012 | Number | Percent | median annual | Most significant source of postsecondary education or training ² |
| 15-1081 Network systems and data communications analysts 186 292 106 57 1 Bachelor's degree 29-1071 Physician assistants | 31-9092 | Medical assistants | 365 | 579 | 215 | 59 | 3 | Moderate-term on-the-job training |
| 29-1071 Physician assistants 63 94 31 49 1 Bachelor's degree 21-1093 Social and human service assistants 305 454 149 49 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 31-1011 Home health aides 580 859 279 48 4 Short-term on-the-job training 31-2022 Physical therapist aides 37 54 17 46 3 Short-term on-the-job training 15-1031 Computer software engineers, applications 394 573 179 46 1 Bachelor's degree 31-2021 Physical therapist assistants 50 73 22 45 2 Associate degree 31-2021 Physical therapist assistants 50 73 22 45 2 Associate degree 31-2012 Computer software engineers, applications 183 264 81 44 1 Bachelor's degree 31-2012 Computer software engineers, applications 183 264 81 44 3< | | | | | | | | |
| 21-1093 Social and human service assistants 305 454 149 49 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 31-1011 Home health aides 580 859 279 48 4 Short-term on-the-job training 31-2012 Medical records and health information technicians 147 216 69 47 3 Associate degree 31-2022 Physical therapist aides 37 54 17 46 1 Bachelor's degree 31-51031 Computer software engineers, applications 394 573 179 46 1 Bachelor's degree 31-2012 Physical therapist assistants 50 73 22 45 2 Associate degree 31-2012 Physical therapist assistants 50 73 22 45 2 Associate degree 39-9031 Fitness trainers and aerobics instructors 183 264 81 44 3 Postsecondary vocational award 15-1061 Database administrators 110 159 49 44 1 Bachelor's degree 29-2056 Veterinary technologists and technicians 53 76 23 44 3 Associate degree 31-2012 Occupational therapist aides 8 12 4 43 3 Associate degree 31-2012 Occupational therapist aides 8 12 4 43 3 Short-term on-the-job training 31-9091 Dental assistants 266 379 113 42 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 31-9091 Dental assistants 266 379 113 42 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 31-9012 Occupational therapist aides 8 12 4 43 3 Short-term on-the-job training 31-9012 Occupational therapist aides 8 12 4 43 3 Short-term on-the-job training 31-9012 Dental assistants 266 379 113 42 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 31-9012 Dental assistants 31 31 32 33 34 34 34 34 34 34 | | | | | | 49 | | |
| 29-2071 Medical records and health information technicians 31-2022 147 216 69 47 3 Associate degree 3 Short-term on-the-job training 3 Short-term on-the-job training 15-1031 Computer software engineers, applications 394 573 179 46 1 Bachelor's degree 3 Short-term on-the-job training 15-1031 Bachelor's degree 3 Short-term on-the-job training 15-1032 Computer software engineers, systems software 281 409 128 45 1 Bachelor's degree 3 Associate degree 4 Associate degree 5 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 3 Postsecondary vocational award 1 Bachelor's degree 4 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 44 3 Postsecondary vocational award 1 Bachelor's degree 4 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 44 3 Postsecondary vocational award 1 Bachelor's degree 4 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 44 43 Associate degree 4 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 44 43 Associate degree 4 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 44 43 Associate degree 4 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 44 43 Associate degree 4 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 44 43 Associate degree 4 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 44 43 44 43 Associate degree 4 Ar-4041 44 43 44 <td></td> <td>Social and human service assistants</td> <td></td> <td>454</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> | | Social and human service assistants | | 454 | | | | |
| 29-2071 Medical records and health information technicians 147 216 69 47 3 Associate degree 31-2022 Physical therapist aides 37 54 17 46 3 Short-term on-the-job training 15-1031 Computer software engineers, applications 394 573 179 46 1 Bachelor's degree 15-1032 Computer software engineers, systems software 281 409 128 45 1 Bachelor's degree 31-2021 Physical therapist assistants 50 73 22 45 2 Associate degree 31-2021 Physical therapist assistants 50 73 22 45 2 Associate degree 31-2021 Prisconal therapist assistants 110 159 49 44 1 Bachelor's degree 29-2026 Veterinary technologists and technicians 53 76 23 44 3 Associate degree 47-4041 Hazardous materials removal workers 38 54 16 43 | 31-1011 | Home health aides | 580 | 859 | 279 | 48 | 4 | Short-term on-the-job training |
| 15-1031 Computer software engineers, applications 394 573 179 46 1 Bachelor's degree | 29-2071 | | 147 | 216 | 69 | 47 | 3 | |
| 15-1031 Computer software engineers, applications 394 573 179 46 1 Bachelor's degree | 31-2022 | Physical therapist aides | 37 | 54 | 17 | 46 | 3 | Short-term on-the-job training |
| 31-2021 Physical therapist assistants 50 73 22 45 2 Associate degree | 15-1031 | | 394 | 573 | 179 | 46 | 1 | Bachelor's degree |
| 39-9031 Fitness trainers and aerobics instructors 183 264 81 44 3 Postsecondary vocational award | 15-1032 | Computer software engineers, systems software | 281 | 409 | 128 | 45 | 1 | Bachelor's degree |
| 15-1061 Database administrators 110 159 49 44 1 Bachelor's degree 29-2056 Veterinary technologists and technicians 53 76 23 44 3 Associate degree 47-4041 Hazardous materials removal workers 38 54 16 43 2 Moderate-term on-the-job training 29-2021 Dental hygienists 148 212 64 43 1 Associate degree 31-2012 Occupational therapist aides 8 12 4 43 3 Short-term on-the-job training 31-9091 Dental assistants 266 379 113 42 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 39-9021 Personal and home care aides 608 854 246 40 4 Short-term on-the-job training 39-9021 Self-enrichment education teachers 200 281 80 40 2 Work experience in a related occupation 15-1051 Computer systems analysts 468 653 184 39 | 31-2021 | Physical therapist assistants | 50 | 73 | 22 | 45 | 2 | Associate degree |
| 29-2056 Veterinary technologists and technicians 53 76 23 44 3 Associate degree 47-4041 Hazardous materials removal workers 38 54 16 43 2 Moderate-term on-the-job training 29-2021 Dental hygienists 148 212 64 43 1 Associate degree 31-2012 Occupational therapist aides 8 12 4 43 3 Short-term on-the-job training 31-9091 Dental assistants 266 379 113 42 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 39-9021 Personal and home care aides 608 854 246 40 4 Short-term on-the-job training 25-3021 Self-enrichment education teachers 200 281 80 40 2 Work experience in a related occupation 15-1051 Computer systems analysts 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 | 39-9031 | | 183 | 264 | 81 | 44 | 3 | Postsecondary vocational award |
| 47-4041 Hazardous materials removal workers 38 54 16 43 2 Moderate-term on-the-job training 29-2021 Dental hygienists 148 212 64 43 1 Associate degree 31-2012 Occupational therapist aides 8 12 4 43 3 Short-term on-the-job training 31-9091 Dental assistants 266 379 113 42 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 39-9021 Personal and home care aides 608 854 246 40 4 Short-term on-the-job training 39-9021 Personal and home care aides 608 854 246 40 4 Short-term on-the-job training 39-9021 Personal and home care aides 608 854 246 40 4 Short-term on-the-job training 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 | 15-1061 | Database administrators | | | | 44 | | Bachelor's degree |
| 29-2021 Dental hygienists 148 212 64 43 1 Associate degree 31-2012 Occupational therapist aides 8 12 4 43 3 Short-term on-the-job training 31-9091 Dental assistants 266 379 113 42 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 39-9021 Personal and home care aides 608 854 246 40 4 Short-term on-the-job training 25-3021 Self-enrichment education teachers 200 281 80 40 2 Work experience in a related occupation 15-1051 Computer systems analysts 468 653 184 39 1 Bachelor's degree 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree 25-1001 Postsecondary teachers 1,581 2,184 603 38 1 Doctoral degree 15-1071 Network and computer systems administrators 251 345 94 37 1 | 29-2056 | | 53 | 76 | 23 | 44 | 3 | Associate degree |
| 31-2012 Occupational therapist aides 8 12 4 43 3 Short-term on-the-job training 31-9091 Dental assistants 266 379 113 42 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 39-9021 Personal and home care aides 608 854 246 40 4 Short-term on-the-job training 25-3021 Self-enrichment education teachers 200 281 80 40 2 Work experience in a related occupation 15-1051 Computer systems analysts 468 653 184 39 1 Bachelor's degree 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree 17-2081 Environmental engineers 47 65 18 38 1 Doctoral degree 25-1000 Postsecondary teachers 25.184 603 38 1 Doctoral degree 15-1071 Network and computer systems administrators 251 345 94 37 1 Bachel | 47-4041 | | 38 | 54 | 16 | 43 | 2 | Moderate-term on-the-job training |
| 31-9091 Dental assistants 266 379 113 42 3 Moderate-term on-the-job training 39-9021 Personal and home care aides 608 854 246 40 4 Short-term on-the-job training 25-3021 Self-enrichment education teachers 200 281 80 40 2 Work experience in a related occupation Bachelor's degree 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree 31-2011 Environmental engineers 47 65 18 38 1 Bachelor's degree 25-1000 Postsecondary teachers 251 345 94 37 1 Bachelor's degree 37-4091 Environmental science and protection technicians, including health 28 38 10 37 2 Associate degree 38-4000 37 38 37 38 38 38 38 38 | 29-2021 | Dental hygienists | | 212 | 64 | 43 | 1 | |
| 39-9021 Personal and home care aides 608 854 246 40 4 Short-term on-the-job training 25-3021 Self-enrichment education teachers 200 281 80 40 2 Work experience in a related occupation 15-1051 Computer systems analysts 468 653 184 39 1 Bachelor's degree 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree 17-2081 Environmental engineers 47 65 18 38 1 Bachelor's degree 25-1000 Postsecondary teachers 1,581 2,184 603 38 1 Doctoral degree 19-4091 Environmental science and protection technicians, including health 251 345 94 37 1 Bachelor's degree 25-2011 Preschool teachers, except special education 424 577 153 36 4 Postsecondary vocational award 29-1123 Physical therapists 137 185 48 | 31-2012 | Occupational therapist aides | | 12 | 4 | 43 | 3 | Short-term on-the-job training |
| 25-3021 Self-enrichment education teachers 200 281 80 40 2 Work experience in a related occupation 15-1051 Computer systems analysts 468 653 184 39 1 Bachelor's degree 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree 17-2081 Environmental engineers 47 65 18 38 1 Bachelor's degree 25-1000 Postsecondary teachers 1,581 2,184 603 38 1 Doctoral degree 15-1071 Network and computer systems administrators 251 345 94 37 1 Bachelor's degree 19-4091 Environmental science and protection technicians, including health 28 38 10 37 2 Associate degree 25-2011 Preschool teachers, except special education 424 577 153 36 4 Postsecondary vocational award 11-3021 Omputer and information systems managers 284 387 | | | | | | 42 | 3 | |
| 15-1051 Computer systems analysts 468 653 184 39 1 Bachelor's degree 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree 17-2081 Environmental engineers 47 65 18 38 1 Bachelor's degree 25-1000 Postsecondary teachers 1,581 2,184 603 38 1 Doctoral degree 15-1071 Network and computer systems administrators 251 345 94 37 1 Bachelor's degree 19-4091 Environmental science and protection technicians, including health 28 38 10 37 2 Associate degree 25-2011 Preschool teachers, except special education 424 577 153 36 4 Postsecondary vocational award 11-3021 Computer and information systems managers 284 387 103 36 4 Postsecondary vocational award 29-1123 Physical therapists 137 185 48 35 1 Master's degree 29-1122 Occupational ther | | Personal and home care aides | | 854 | 246 | 40 | 1 | |
| 31-2011 Occupational therapist assistants 18 26 7 39 2 Associate degree | | | | | | | 2 | |
| 17-2081 Environmental engineers 47 65 18 38 1 Bachelor's degree 25-1000 Postsecondary teachers 1,581 2,184 603 38 1 Doctoral degree 15-1071 Network and computer systems administrators 251 345 94 37 1 Bachelor's degree 19-4091 Environmental science and protection technicians, including health 28 38 10 37 2 Associate degree 25-2011 Preschool teachers, except special education 424 577 153 36 4 Postsecondary vocational award 11-3021 Computer and information systems managers 284 387 103 36 1 Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work expe 29-1123 Physical therapists 137 185 48 35 1 Master's degree 29-1122 Occupational therapists 82 110 29 35 1 Bachelor's degree | 15-1051 | Computer systems analysts | 468 | 653 | 184 | 39 | 1 | Bachelor's degree |
| 25-1000 Postsecondary teachers 1,581 2,184 603 38 1 Doctoral degree 15-1071 Network and computer systems administrators 251 345 94 37 1 Bachelor's degree 19-4091 Environmental science and protection technicians, including health 28 38 10 37 2 Associate degree 25-2011 Preschool teachers, except special education 424 577 153 36 4 Postsecondary vocational award 11-3021 Computer and information systems managers 284 387 103 36 1 Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work expe 29-1123 Physical therapists 137 185 48 35 1 Master's degree 29-1122 Occupational therapists 82 110 29 35 1 Bachelor's degree | | | | | | | 2 | |
| 15-1071 Network and computer systems administrators 251 345 94 37 1 Bachelor's degree 19-4091 Environmental science and protection technicians, including health 28 38 10 37 2 Associate degree 25-2011 Preschool teachers, except special education 424 577 153 36 4 Postsecondary vocational award 11-3021 Computer and information systems managers 284 387 103 36 1 Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work expe 29-1123 Physical therapists 137 185 48 35 1 Master's degree 29-1122 Occupational therapists 82 110 29 35 1 Bachelor's degree | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 19-4091 Environmental science and protection technicians, including health 28 38 10 37 2 Associate degree 25-2011 Preschool teachers, except special education 424 577 153 36 4 Postsecondary vocational award 11-3021 Computer and information systems managers 284 387 103 36 1 Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work expe 29-1123 Physical therapists 137 185 48 35 1 Master's degree 29-1122 Occupational therapists 82 110 29 35 1 Bachelor's degree | | | | | | | | |
| including health | | | 251 | 345 | 94 | 37 | 1 | Bachelor's degree |
| 25-2011 Preschool teachers, except special education 424 577 153 36 4 Postsecondary vocational award 11-3021 Computer and information systems managers 284 387 103 36 1 Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work expe 29-1123 Physical therapists 137 185 48 35 1 Master's degree 29-1122 Occupational therapists 82 110 29 35 1 Bachelor's degree | 19-4091 | | 20 | 20 | 10 | 27 | 2 | Aggariate degree |
| 11-3021 Computer and information systems managers 284 387 103 36 1 Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work expe 29-1123 Physical therapists 137 185 48 35 1 Master's degree 29-1122 Occupational therapists 82 110 29 35 1 Bachelor's degree | 25 2011 | | | | | | | |
| 29-1123 Physical therapists 137 185 48 35 1 Master's degree 29-1122 Occupational therapists 82 110 29 35 1 Bachelor's degree | | | | | | | - | |
| 29-1122 Occupational therapists | | | | | | | 1 | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 29-1126 Respiratory therapists | | | 86 | | 30 | | | |

¹ The quartile rankings of Occupational Employment Statistics annual earnings data are presented in the following categories: 1=very high (\$41,820 and over), 2=high (\$27,500 to \$41,780), 3=low (\$19,710 to \$27,380), and 4=very low (up to \$19,600). The rankings were based on quartiles using one-fourth of total employment to define each quartile. Earnings are for wage and salary workers.

² An occupation is placed into one of 11 categories that best describes the education or training needed by most workers to become fully qualified. For more information about the categories, see *Occupational Projections and Training Data*, Bulletin 2572 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, forthcoming).