



High Opportunity Occupations in British Columbia

Introduction

The Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation is responsible for producing labour market information, including labour market forecasting and analysis for BC and its regions. This report identifies high opportunity occupations that are expected to provide above-average employment prospects in the coming ten years.

The methodology used to develop the high opportunity occupations has been revised from the previous version to reflect new data sources now available to the Ministry. In 2009, the Ministry developed the BC Labour Market Scenario Model in partnership with BC Stats and the BC Ministry of Finance. The model examines the possible future state of occupational labour supply and demand for BC and its regions. Given the model's capability of incorporating both supply and demand for an occupation, the model results are used as a major input to the development of the high opportunity occupation list. For more information on the BC Labour Market Scenario Model and related reports, go to WorkBC.ca.

High Opportunity Occupations

In 2010, labour market conditions gradually improved with total employment almost back to the pre-recession level. Looking forward, while economic uncertainties remain, the economy and labour market are expected to gradually improve. Along with a growing number of workers retiring from the workforce,

many occupations are expected to experience relatively favourable labour market conditions for workers.

A set of labour market indicators from several sources are used to assess the labour market outlook for each of the 520 occupations in the National Occupational Classification (NOC)¹ system. Based on these indicators, the following occupations are expected to show favourable employment opportunities due to a combination of relatively high employment growth, large number of job openings, and low unemployment rate. The occupations are grouped based on their skill types and listed according to their NOC code.

The occupations on the list reflect a range of education, skills and experience requirements. These occupations correspond to growing sectors as well as to the challenge of the aging population structure faced by the province. The expected growing need for health care services contributes to a number of health occupations on the list. The management occupations on the list mainly reflect the fact that management occupations normally require several years of experience and have a relatively older workforce. These management occupations are expected to experience a large number of retirements in the coming years.

Note that BC High Opportunities Occupation List does not represent a "top ten" list. When one makes a career decision, it is recommended that multiple information sources are consulted. Some other useful resources regarding labour market information in

BC include: BC Work Futures; A Guide to the BC Economy; and the BC Labour Market Outlook. These publications and other labour market reports can be found at WorkBC.ca.

For more information on the *BC High Opportunity Occupations List*, contact ALMD.LMI@gov.bc.ca.

The following labour market indicators are used to develop the list of high opportunity occupations:

■ Employment Size

Employment data from the 2006 Census were used to assess the size of the occupation.

■ Historical Unemployment Rate

Very recent occupational unemployment rates were used to assess the labour market conditions for occupations.

■ Projected employment growth and job openings

Results from the BC Labour Market Scenario Model 2010-2020 were used to assess occupational employment growth and ten-year job opportunities due to industry growth and the need for replacing retired workers.

■ Projected unemployment rate

Estimated occupational unemployment rates from the BC Labour Market Scenario Model 2010-2020 were used to assess labour market conditions over the projected time period.

¹ For more information on the NOC, go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/noc/english/noc/2006/welcome.aspx>.

Labour Market Indicators Rating based on each occupation's relative position on the following:

Employment Size *and* Projected Job Openings Relative to Employment Size

lowest 20 percent = poor 20-40 percent = below average 40-60 percent = average 60-80 percent = above average highest 20 percent = excellent

Projected Unemployment Rate

lowest 20 percent = excellent 20-40 percent = above average 40-60 percent = average 60-80 percent = below average highest 20 percent = poor

Occupation NOC Code and Name <small>For more information on an occupation, click the occupation name.</small>	Employment Size	Projected Unemployment Rate	Projected Job Openings Relative to Employment Size	Education Normally Required ²
Management Occupations				
0013 Senior Managers - Financial, Communications and Other Business Services	excellent	excellent	excellent	Varies
0015 Senior Managers - Trade, Broadcasting and Other Services	excellent	excellent	excellent	Varies
0016 Senior Managers - Goods Production, Utilities, Transportation and Construction	excellent	excellent	excellent	Varies
0311 Managers in Health Care	above-average	excellent	excellent	Varies
0313 School Principals and Administrators of Elementary and Secondary Education	above-average	excellent	excellent	Varies
0314 Managers in Social, Community and Correction Services	above-average	excellent	excellent	Varies
Business, Finance and Administration Occupations				
1121 Specialists in Human Resources	above-average	excellent	above-average	University Education
1122 Professional Occupations in Business Service to Management	excellent	excellent	above-average	University Education
1221 Administrative Officers	excellent	excellent	above-average	College or Trade Certificate
1224 Property Administrators	excellent	excellent	above-average	College or Trade Certificate
1228 Immigration, Employment Insurance and Revenue Officers	above-average	excellent	above-average	College or Trade Certificate
1241 Secretaries (Except Legal and Medical)	excellent	excellent	above-average	College or Trade Certificate
Health Occupations				
3111 Specialist Physicians	above-average	excellent	excellent	University Education
3112 General Practitioners and Family Physicians	excellent	excellent	excellent	University Education
3113 Dentists	above-average	excellent	excellent	University Education
3131 Pharmacists	above-average	excellent	average	University Education
3142 Physiotherapists	above-average	excellent	excellent	University Education
3143 Occupational Therapists	average	excellent	excellent	University Education
3152 Registered Nurses	excellent	excellent	excellent	University Education
3211 Medical Laboratory Technologists and Pathologists' Assistants	above-average	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
3212 Medical Laboratory Technicians	above-average	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
3213 Veterinary and Animal Health Technologists and Technicians	average	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
3215 Medical Radiation Technologists	average	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
3232 Midwives and Practitioners of Natural Healing	average	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
3233 Licensed Practical Nurses	above-average	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
3234 Ambulance Attendants and Other Paramedical occupations	above-average	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
3411 Dental Assistants	excellent	excellent	excellent	High School Diploma and/or Occupation-Specific Training
3413 Nurse Aides, Orderlies and Patient Service Associates	excellent	excellent	excellent	High School Diploma and/or Occupation-Specific Training
3222 Dental Hygienists and Dental Therapists	average	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
Professional Occupations in Social Science, Education, Government Services and Religion				
4112 Lawyers and Quebec Notaries	excellent	excellent	average	University Education
4151 Psychologists	average	excellent	excellent	University Education
4152 Social Workers	excellent	excellent	excellent	University Education
4153 Family, Marriage and Other Related Counsellors	above-average	excellent	excellent	University Education
4163 Business Development Officers and Marketing Researchers and Consultants	excellent	excellent	above-average	University Education
4166 Education Policy Researchers, Consultants and Program Officers	above-average	excellent	above-average	University Education
4211 Paralegal and Related Occupations	above-average	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
4212 Community and Social Service Workers	excellent	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate
4214 Early Childhood Educators and Assistants	excellent	excellent	excellent	College or Trade Certificate

² Education requirement for management occupations can vary in education and experience. Education requirements for other occupational groups are generally based on skill level indicated by an occupation's NOC code. However, education requirements may vary in different situations.