

## Get Ready for the Future Job Market

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics current *Occupational Outlook Handbook* gives us a glimpse of what the job market may look like between now and 2016. Assuming you want to get a good job or decide on a college major, it may be worth your time to do some research on the projected job market.

**Education and Health Service Jobs** - This group is projected to grow by 18.8% and add more jobs than any other industry, nearly 5.5 million. More than 3 out of every 10 new jobs will be in the health care/social assistance or public/private educational services areas.

**Professional and Business Service Jobs** - This industry sector, which includes some of the fastest growing industries in the U.S., will grow by 23.3% and add 4.1 million new jobs. Openings will be in the areas of administrative support; waste management and remediation services; professional, scientific, and technical services; and management of companies and enterprises.

**Information Technology Jobs** - Employment is expected to increase by 6.9%, adding 212,000 jobs by 2016. Growth will be in software publishing, Internet publishing and broadcasting, and wireless telecommunication carriers.

**Leisure and Hospitality Jobs** - Overall employment will grow by 14.3%. Most new openings will be in the amusement, gambling, and recreation areas and will reflect increasing incomes, leisure time, and awareness of the health benefits of physical fitness. This industry includes food services and accommodation; trade, transportation and utilities; warehousing and storage; and retail.

**Finance and Insurance Jobs** - Employment is projected to grow 14.4% through 2016. Most new jobs will be in real estate, rental, and leasing; finance and insurance; securities and financial investments; and banking.

**Government Jobs** - Expected to increase by 4.8%, government employment will grow because of increased demand for public safety, but reduced by budgetary constraints and outsourcing of government jobs to the private sector. State and local governments are expected to grow as a result of the continued shift of responsibilities from the federal government to state and local governments.

**Other Services** - Employment is expected to grow by 14.9%. About 2 out of every 5 new jobs in this industry will be in religious organizations. Automotive repair and maintenance will be the fastest growing. Also included among other services are business, professional, labor, political, and similar organizations.

Adapted from an article by the University of North Carolina

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