Occupational Data and Regional Labor Market Information Tools

Center for Workforce Research and Information

This guide is intended to assist MDOL staff as they navigate and identify Maine occupational data and regional labor market information. Included in this guide are the locations of data on our website, as well as other external sites with useful tools to determine the correct occupation of interest.

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Working with Occupational Data

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics uses the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) to classify workers and jobs into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating, analyzing, or disseminating data. The 2018 version of the SOC contains **23 Major Groups** (the first two digits like **53**-0000 Transportation and Material Moving Occupations) and **867 Detailed Occupations** (all six digits like **53**-**3033** Light Truck Drivers).

Detailed occupations with similar job duties, and in some cases, similar skills, education, and/or training, are grouped together in the SOC. Each worker is classified into only one of the 867 detailed occupations based on the tasks they perform.

The key to using occupational data is to first identify the detailed occupation that you are looking for. There are a variety of tools that you can use to search for the correct occupation – this guide will focus on using Onet to achieve this. Once you've determined the correct occupation, record the official title and the 6-digit SOC code (not needed but can be helpful) for your reference when searching on the CWRI/BLS website for data.

Once you've identified your detailed occupation, determine the geographic area that you want to pull information for. CWRI provides data at the statewide, county, metropolitan, and workforce investment regions in Maine. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has data for other individual states, their metropolitan areas, and the nation in total.

With the occupation and area identified, next you'll want to decide the specific data you're looking for – employment, wages, projected employment, etc. Depending on the area you'll navigate to the appropriate site and locate/save data.

Normally, the OEWS yearly estimates are updated yearly in the Spring, usually around April. Projections are completed on an alternating annual schedule between the statewide and sub-state areas but the timeline for their release can vary from year to year.

You can refer to the last page in this guide for a list of the 23 Major Groups that the detailed occupations belong to.

O*NET

O*Net is a free online database that contains occupational definitions and supplemental information used to identify and develop the skills of the US workforce. It can be a good place to start your search for the specific occupation you're looking for. Start by entering in a job title, SOC code, or keyword(s) that are commonly associated with the type of work in any of the search fields on the home page.

The search results will provide you with a list of occupations that are associated with the keyword "driver" - If you can't find what you're looking for on your first attempt, try searching a different title or more-unique keyword. Let's say we're looking for information on local delivery truck drivers (not tractor-trailers). Select an occupation and see the results:

O*NET OnLine

Occupation Quick Search:

| Help | Find Occupations | Advanced Search | Crosswalks | | Share | O*NET Sites |

Quick Search for:
driver

Showing top 20 occupations for **driver**. Closest matches are shown first.

How do they match?	Code	Occupation
	53-3031.00	Driver/Sales Workers
	53-3011.00	Ambulance Drivers and Attendants, Except Emergency Medical Technicians ☀ Bright Outlook
	53-3032.00	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers ☀
	53-3053.00	Shuttle Drivers and Chauffeurs ☀
	53-3052.00	Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity ☀
	53-3033.00	Light Truck Drivers ☀
	53-7081.00	Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors ☀
	47-2071.00	Paving, Surfacing, and Tamping Equipment Operators ☀
	47-4061.00	Rail-Track Laying and Maintenance Equipment Operators
	39-4021.00	Funeral Attendants
	39-7011.00	Tour Guides and Escorts ☀
	47-4071.00	Septic Tank Servicers and Sewer Pipe Cleaners ☀
	43-5021.00	Couriers and Messengers
	53-7051.00	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators
	37-3011.00	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers ☀

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Summary Report for:
53-3033.00 - Light Truck Drivers

Bright Outlook

Drive a light vehicle, such as a truck or van, with a capacity of less than 26,001 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW), primarily to pick up merchandise or packages from a distribution center and deliver. May load and unload vehicle.

Sample of reported job titles: Bulk Delivery Driver, Delivery Driver, Driver, Driver/Merchandiser, Package Car Driver, Package Delivery Driver, Route Driver, Service Provider, Truck Driver

View report:	Summary	Details	Custom

Tasks | Technology Skills | Tools Used | Knowledge | Skills | Abilities | Work Activities | Detailed Work Activities | Work Context | Job Zone | Education | Credentials | Interests | Work Styles | Work Values | Related Occupations | Wages & Employment | Job Openings | Additional Information

Tasks

5 of 14 displayed

- Obey traffic laws and follow established traffic and transportation procedures.
- Turn in receipts and money received from deliveries.
- Read maps and follow written or verbal geographic directions.
- Verify the contents of inventory loads against shipping papers.
- Load and unload trucks, vans, or automobiles.

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Technology Skills

5 of 9 displayed   Show 13 tools used

- **Communications server software** — IBM Domino
- **Industrial control software** — FreightDATA; Package location and tracking software; Vehicle location and tracking software
- **Office suite software** — Microsoft Office 🔥
- **Operating system software** — Microsoft Windows 🔥
- **Spreadsheet software** — Microsoft Excel 🔥

🔥 Hot Technology — a technology requirement frequently included in employer job postings.

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Knowledge

All 4 displayed

- **Customer and Personal Service** — Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.
- **Transportation** — Knowledge of principles and methods for moving people or goods by air, rail, sea, or road, including the relative costs and benefits.
- **Law and Government** — Knowledge of laws, legal codes, court procedures, precedents, government regulations, executive orders, agency rules, and the democratic political process.
- **English Language** — Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.

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Skills

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The summary page begins with the occupational definition and examples of commonly reported job titles. You can then scroll to find additional information like common technology skills, abilities, work activities, typical education, and similarly related occupations. The entire list is located at the top of the page (see arrow) but is also available by simply scrolling through the page.

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Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)

The Occupational Outlook Handbook provides information on what workers do; the work environment; education, training, and other qualifications; pay; the job outlook; information on state and area data; similar occupations; and sources of additional information, for 324 occupational profiles, covering about 4 out of 5 jobs in the economy.

You can search for information about occupations by major occupational group, wage, education, training, fastest growing, and more from right on the home screen. I find the **Occupational Finder** to be particularly useful:

You can also use the **A-Z Index** to search for occupations based on specific job titles.

The **Occupation Finder** provides a quick and simple way to filter through occupations by education level, on-the-job training, projected number of new jobs, projected growth rate, and 2019 median pay. Simply use the filters as you need and select the occupation of interest:

U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Search BLS.gov

HOME ∨   SUBJECTS ∨   DATA TOOLS ∨   PUBLICATIONS ∨   ECONOMIC RELEASES ∨   CLASSROOM ∨   BETA ∨

OOH HOME | OCCUPATION FINDER | OOH FAQ | OOH GLOSSARY | A-Z INDEX | OOH SITE MAP

OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK

Search Handbook   Go

Occupational Outlook Handbook >

Occupation Finder

Search: Use the drop-down menu in one or more columns to narrow your search.
Sort: Use the arrows at the top of each column to sort alphabetically or numerically.

Showing 1 to 25 of 790 entries

Show 25 ∨ entries

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OCCUPATION	ENTRY-LEVEL EDUCATION	ON-THE-JOB TRAINING	PROJECTED NUMBER OF NEW JOBS	PROJECTED GROWTH RATE	2019 MEDIAN PAY
Psychiatrists	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	1,000 to 4,999	Much faster than average	$80,000 or more
Oral and maxillofacial surgeons	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	0 to 999	Slower than average	$80,000 or more
Orthodontists	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	0 to 999	Slower than average	$80,000 or more
Prosthodontists	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	0 to 999	Slower than average	$80,000 or more
Anesthesiologists	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	0 to 999	Little or no change	$80,000 or more
Obstetricians and gynecologists	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	Declining	Decline	$80,000 or more
Surgeons, except ophthalmologists	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	Declining	Decline	$80,000 or more
Physicians, all other; and ophthalmologists, except pediatric	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	10,000 to 49,999	As fast as average	$80,000 or more
Family medicine physicians	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	5,000 to 9,999	Faster than average	$80,000 or more
General internal medicine physicians	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	Declining	Decline	$80,000 or more
Chief executives	Bachelor's degree	None	Declining	Decline	$80,000 or more
Pediatricians, general	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	Declining	Decline	$80,000 or more
Nurse anesthetists	Master's degree	None	5,000 to 9,999	Much faster than average	$80,000 or more
Dentists, general	Doctoral or professional degree	None	1,000 to 4,999	As fast as average	$80,000 or more
Airline pilots, copilots, and flight engineers	Bachelor's degree	Moderate-term on-the-job training	1,000 to 4,999	As fast as average	$80,000 or more
Dentists, all other specialists	Doctoral or professional degree	Internship/residency	0 to 999	Little or no change	$80,000 or more
Computer and information systems managers	Bachelor's degree	None	10,000 to 49,999	Much faster than average	$80,000 or more

Inside an occupation you will find a variety of unique information such as: what they do, what the work environment is like, and how to become one:

Maine Center for Workforce Research & Information (CWRI)

The Center for Workforce Research and Information develops and disseminates state and area labor market information to employers, job seekers, and other users; provides measurements of labor market outcomes to assist local and state officials, employers, educators, trainers, and the public in making decisions that promote economic opportunity and efficient use of state labor resources; and supports the Department with management and actuarial analyses for program planning and delivery.

We have a lot of information on our site, so it's important to have an idea of what you're looking for (wages, employment projections, etc.). While this focuses on occupational data, we also have industry, population, labor force, and other demographical data readily available. The primary occupational tools on our site include: **Occupational Employment Statistics (by Occupation), Occupational Projections (Job Outlook)**, **High-Wage In-Demand Jobs**, **MaineEARNS, LMI For Students, County Profiles**, & **Employer Locator (Maine Employers):**

Occupational Employment Statistics (by Occupation)

https://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/oes1.html

CWRI works in cooperation with the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics to produce yearly occupation and wage estimates for detailed SOC occupations. Surveyed employers are asked about the number of wage and salary workers and the wage distribution for those workers. This data is used to create an estimate of the **number of workers** in a detailed occupation and an estimate of the **wages paid** to them:

In order to find the data, you're looking for, it helps to have the occupational title already identified (our example has been 53-3033 Light Truck Drivers). Start by adjusting your filters in the top row:

- "Filter Major Groups" – this is pre-set to the Major Groups (such as 53-0000 Transportation and Material Moving). Change to **Detailed Groups Only** (this will only include detailed six-digit occupations like 53-3033 Light Truck Drivers)

- "Select Occupational Group" – this is pre-set to **All** Major Groups. If you change this to the major group that your detailed occupation resides in (for this example its Transportation and Material Moving) it will make your next filter easier. You can leave **All** selected, but you will have to filter through all the detailed occupations in the next step.

- "Select Occupation" – select the occupation(s) from the dropdown. Use the SOC Occupational Title retrieved from O*Net, Occupational Outlook Handbook, etc.

Applying these filters for our example (53-3033 Light Truck Drivers) we get these statewide results:

The next step is to filter for the type of wage and area that you're looking for. This is accomplished with the filters on the left side of the screen:

- "Wage Type" – Select hourly or annual. Some wages are only available in annual format (mostly teaching occupations)
- "Geography" – Select between Statewide, County, Balance of State, Metropolitan Statistical Area (Portland-South Portland, Lewiston-Auburn, Bangor) or Workforce Investment Areas
- "Area Name" – Select the specific areas you're looking for from your geography selections

Select the geographies of interest and get your results:

*Note: **Not all data is available for each occupation due to potential data quality or confidentiality concerns.** CWRI can't publish the estimated employment of Light Truck Drivers in Somerset County, but is are able to publish an average wage for the occupation.*

You will notice we have additional views that can be used to examine the data, including bubble and wage range graphs (see grey bar). Additionally, the top link above will provide you with an Excel file that contains all the data behind these visualizations (and more)! This may be a good option if you're familiar with filtering and sorting Excel spreadsheets for the information you need. You can also sort your results by any column by clicking on the column title.

Occupational Projections (Job Outlook)

https://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/outlook.html

CWRI produces a 10-Year Job Outlook bi-annually as part of our workforce projections. This is produced at the Statewide and Regional levels. The 10-year outlook contains useful information like **projected employment**, **annual openings**, **current average wage** and **current median wage**. The Statewide projections are the default screen when you enter the webpage:

Like the OES page, you can filter your search on various elements like Major Groups, Detailed Occupations, or Education/Training requirements. If you already know the title of the occupation you're looking for, you can quickly locate it by scrolling through the Detailed Occupation dropdown.

Other visualizations are also available that display this, and other, information and can be found on the tab above. To switch to the **Regional Employment Projections**, select the third tab on the left side of the display.

The **Regional Employment Projections** break the State into 3 geographic areas (Coastal Counties, Central-Western, and Northeastern Counties) and are produced in alternate years as the Statewide. For this interactive specifically its best to refine your search in this order:

- "Region" – Select region of interest
- "Filter Major Group" – Unless interested in Major Group information, select Detailed Occupation Only
- "Select an Occupational Group" – Select the Major Group that your occupation belongs to (**53**-3033)
- "Select a Detailed Occupation" – Select the occupational title of interest **OR**
- "SOC Code" – Select the SOC code for your occupation

Workforce Projections

- Statewide Employment Outlook to 2028 (PDF)
- Charting Maine's Workforce Outlook 2018 to 2028 (PDF)

Data Files:
- View entire Tableau data set as spreadsheets

How to export charts and tables

View More

Interactive Data Tools ›

Regional Employment Projections to 2027

Region	County		
Coastal Counties	Cumberland, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Waldo, York	■	
Central-Western	Androscoggin, Franklin, Kennebec, Oxford, Somerset	▨	
Northeastern Counties	Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Washington, Aroostook	■	

Lookup | Occupation | Growing/Declining Occupations | Definitions

Region	Filter Major Group	Select an Occupational Group	3. Education/Training Required
○ Coastal Counties Region	⦿ (All)	Transportation and Material Moving ▾	(All)
○ Central-Western Region	○ Major Groups Only		
⦿ Northeast Region	○ Detailed Occupation Only	Select a Detailed Occupation	SOC Code
		(All) ▾	(All)

Employment and Job Openings in the Northeast Region, 2017 to 2027
Occupation Group: Transportation and Material Moving
Education/Training Required: All

Job Title	2017 Employment	Annual Total Openings	Annual Openings Rate (%)	Median Hourly Wage ($), 2018
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	2,732	270	9.9%	$17.43
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	1,313	131	10.0%	$13.53
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,307	165	12.6%	$12.05
Driver/Sales Workers	618	57	9.2%	$12.28
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	589	65	11.0%	$15.84
Taxi Drivers and Chauffeurs	435	38	8.7%	$11.12
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	332	33	9.9%	$15.18
Packers and Packagers, Hand	318	39	12.3%	$11.24
Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	287	40	13.9%	$13.32
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	284	35	12.3%	$13.50
First-Line Supervisors of Transportation and Material-Moving Ma..	191	19	9.9%	
Automotive and Watercraft Service Attendants	184	29	15.8%	$10.07
Excavating and Loading Machine and Dragline Operators	153	13	8.5%	$18.45
Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	116	14	12.1%	$17.12
Motor Vehicle Operators, All Other	101	18	17.8%	$11.14
First-Line Supervisors of Helpers, Laborers, and Material Movers..	76	7	9.2%	
Ambulance Drivers and Attendants, Except Emergency Medical ..	67	9	13.4%	$10.01

High-Wage In-Demand Jobs (HWID)

https://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/data/oes/hwid.html

Based on the CWRI Job Outlook projections, high-wage in-demand jobs are a collection of occupations that are expected to have high employment opportunities over a 10-year outlook:
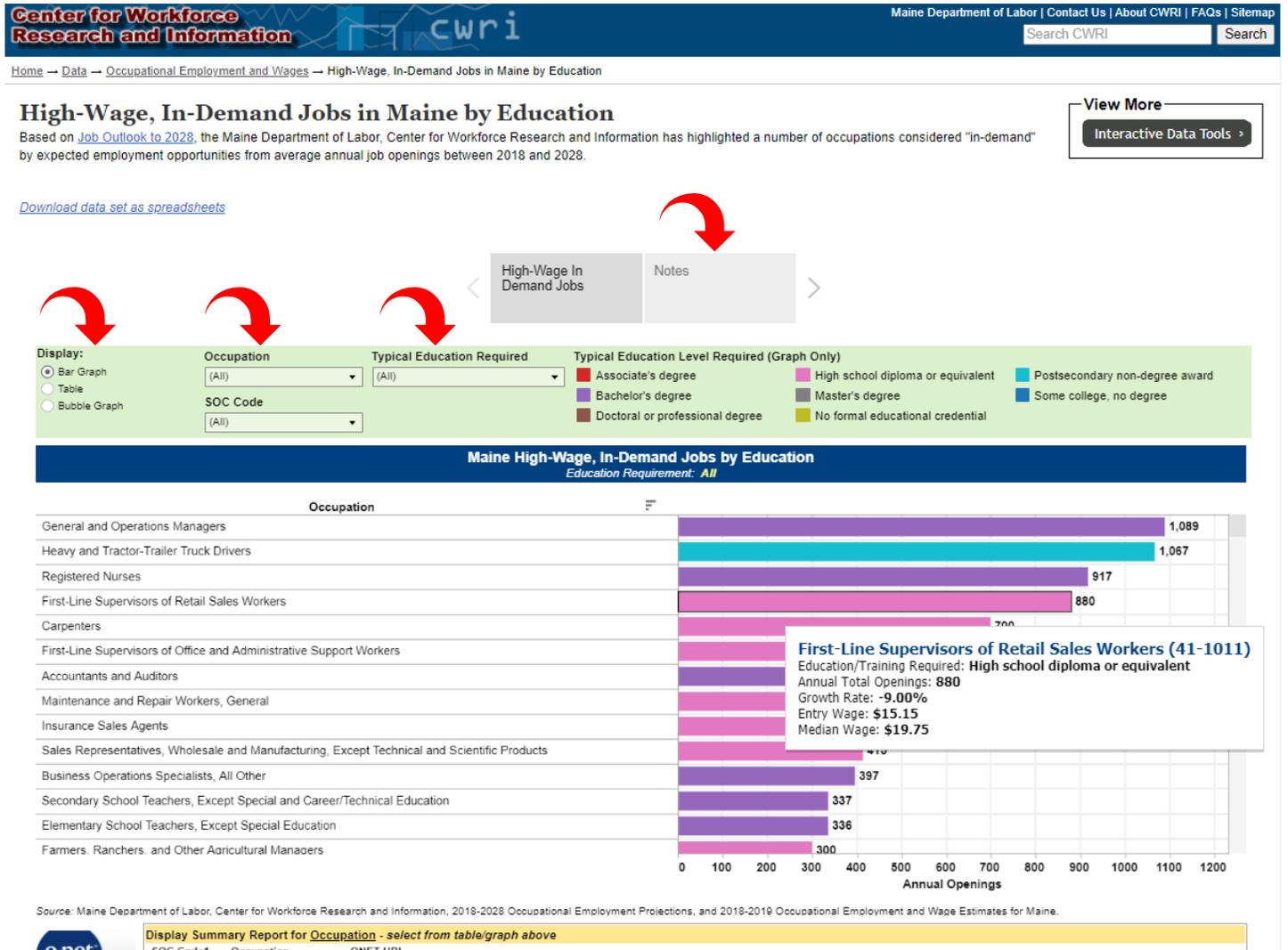
*The criteria for High-Wage In-Demand jobs differ for each data release so be sure to check the **Notes** (for 2018-2028 the criteria are at least 20 openings per year and a median wage above $18.45 per hour).*

This interactive allows you to filter by specific occupation, SOC code, or typical education requirement. If you hover over an occupation, a box with additional statistics like Entry and Median wages will appear. If you prefer a different view, you can change the display to a traditional Table, Bubble Graph, or download as a spreadsheet.

MaineEARNS

Maine Education and Attainment Research Navigation System (MaineEARNS) is a unique data series designed to shed light on the effect of education program completions and other economic events on earnings over time. The Maine Post-Secondary Outcomes Report (linked above) provides information on employment and wage outcomes for Maine workers who graduated from partnering post-secondary institutions. Some of the data available include the **median annual earnings by credential type**, **earnings by area of study**, and **earnings by school and campus**:

The table above shows the median wages of program completers by outcome year across broad fields of study and for specific credential types, among other information. Users can also navigate to other tabs to view employment outcomes by academic program, by industry of employment, or by school.

MaineEARNS has a lot of available data to review. Refer to the Need Help tab for instructional videos about navigating through the data tool, and how to use it. The About tab also provides more information about the MaineEARNS program and technical definitions.

LMI For Students

https://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/student_portal/index.html

The LMI for Students page, often referenced as the Student Dashboard, is geared toward students but can also be used by anyone that is looking to explore jobs in Maine. The dashboard uses the statewide and sub-state projections, most recent annual wage estimates, Career Technical Education resources, and O*net to provide a unique platform for users to visualize and explore more information about the jobs in Maine. There is an additional slide-deck with more information and an instructional video available for users on the tabs to the left.

The dashboard dynamically updates as selections are made between area and career cluster, so users are encouraged to toggle and explore the various areas and career clusters. Users can click on any of the available CTE programs or Career Pathways for a link to the respective sites. Once finished with your selections, hit the GO button to be directed to the bubble screen.

This screen is where users can begin to explore. Each bubble represents a unique occupation that is employed in Maine. Selecting a bubble will populate a description on the left and highlight where that occupation is on each of the surrounding charts. Users can also hover/select any of the charts for the same effect. Most occupations have a link at the bottom that will direct you to a version of O*net geared towards students and includes a brief career video. Users can toggle between areas/career clusters in the top left and the dashboard will dynamically update. For larger career clusters, like Health Sciences above, it may be helpful to filter by education levels in the *View by Education* box. To return to the first page with CTE and Career Pathways links, use the **BACK** button at the top.

County Profiles

County Profiles is an interactive containing demographics, occupational wages, labor force statistics and other relevant labor force information for the counties of Maine. Like the other interactives you can hover over the charts/graphs for more details and specifics. The Snapshot contains a variety of demographical information for each county. You can also view the Occupational Wages for each county (which contains the same data found on the OES page, but displayed in a slightly different view):

Employer Locator (search by occupation)

https://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/employers.html

Employer locator is a third-party data source that CWRI has subscribed to that provides a search tool to identify businesses _potentially_ hiring for a given occupation. There are two tabs on this screen; the top is a search that can be based on occupation, the bottom is a search better used for when you have a business name or specific location already.

For the occupational search, enter an occupation/keywork and location into the search box to generate a list of businesses that may be hiring in that field of work:

You can filter by industry/description on the left side of the page to narrow your results. You can then select a business name and view additional information like phone number, address, and industry description. This is a good resource to identify potential businesses of interest, however, it should not be solely relied on for openings. We suggest further research to determine if they are hiring and for what positions.

Employer Locator (search by business)

The second tab of the Employer Locator is list of businesses within the database and their contact information. A search bar is located on the right side of the screen to search by name, or you can search by employer size, county, or city below. Selecting a business will display the company detail, as well as a mark on the map displaying the approximate business location.

List of Major Occupational Groups

11-0000 Management

13-0000 Business and Financial Services

15-0000 Computer and Mathematical

17-0000 Architecture and Engineering

19-0000 Life, Physical, and Social Science

21-0000 Community and Social Service

23-0000 Legal

25-0000 Educational Instruction and Library

27-0000 Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media

29-0000 Healthcare Practitioners and Technical

31-0000 Healthcare Support

33-0000 Protective Service

35-0000 Food Preparation and Serving Related

37-0000 Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance

39-0000 Personal Care and Service

41-0000 Sales and Related

43-0000 Office and Administrative Support

45-0000 Farming, Fishing, and Forestry

47-0000 Construction and Extraction

49-0000 Installation, Maintenance, and Repair

51-0000 Production

53-0000 Transportation and Material Moving