



OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK HANDBOOK

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Urban and Regional Planners

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Quick Facts: Urban and Regional Planners

2024 Median Pay	\$83,720 per year \$40.25 per hour
Typical Entry-Level Education	Master's degree
Work Experience in a Related Occupation	None
On-the-job Training	None
Number of Jobs, 2023	45,200
Job Outlook, 2023-33	4% (As fast as average)
Employment Change, 2023-33	2,000

What Urban and Regional Planners Do

Urban and regional planners develop comprehensive plans and programs for use of land and physical facilities in cities, counties, metropolitan areas, and other jurisdictions.

Work Environment

Urban and regional planners usually work in an office setting and may travel to visit proposed sites. Most work full time, and some work evenings or weekends to attend meetings.

How to Become an Urban or Regional Planner

Urban and regional planners typically need a bachelor's or master's degree from an accredited planning program to enter the occupation. Employers may prefer or require planners to be certified.

Pay

The median annual wage for urban and regional planners was \$83,720 in May 2024.

Job Outlook

Employment of urban and regional planners is projected to grow 4 percent from 2023 to 2033, about as fast as the average for all occupations.

About 3,600 openings for urban and regional planners are projected each year, on average, over the decade. Many of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire.

State & Area Data

Explore resources for employment and wages by state and area for urban and regional planners.

Similar Occupations

Compare the job duties, education, job growth, and pay of urban and regional planners with similar occupations.

[More Information, Including Links to O*NET](#)

Learn more about urban and regional planners by visiting additional resources, including O*NET, a source on key characteristics of workers and occupations.

[What They Do ->](#)

SUGGESTED CITATION:

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Urban and Regional Planners, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/urban-and-regional-planners.htm> (visited August 04, 2025).

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