

ACT Workforce Research Snapshot:

Foundational Skills for Manufacturing Careers

Target Occupations in the Manufacturing Industry

- The manufacturing industry is comprised of businesses engaged in the mechanical, physical, or chemical transformation of materials, substances, or components into new products.
- Target careers in the manufacturing industry constitute 9% (12.2 million jobs) of total occupational employment in the U.S.
- Targeted manufacturing careers are projected to grow more than 10% from 2010-2020 with more than 4 million openings (8% of total openings in the U.S.).

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Top 20 Employing Target Manufacturing Careers

O*Net-Code	Occupation	Locating Information (Range 3-6)	Reading for Information (Range 3-7)	Applied Mathematics (Range 3-7)	Median Annual Wage (2010)	US Employment 2010
53-7062.00	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers	4	3	3	\$ 23,460	2,068,200
11-1021.00	General & Operations Managers	4	5	5	\$ 94,400	1,767,100
41-4012.00	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing	4	4	5	\$ 52,440	1,430,000
51-2092.00	Team Assemblers	4	3	3	\$ 27,180	952,600
43-5071.00	Shipping, Receiving, & Traffic Clerks	4	3	3	\$ 28,370	687,600
53-7064.00	Packers & Packagers, Hand	3	3	3	\$ 19,630	677,300
51-1011.00	First-Line Supervisors of Production & Operating Workers	4	4	4	\$ 53,090	588,500
53-7051.00	Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators	3	3	3	\$ 29,780	522,200
49-1011.00	First-Line Supervisors of Mechanics, Installers, & Repair	5	5	4	\$ 59,150	431,200
51-9061.00	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers	4	4	3	\$ 33,030	416,100
41-4011.00	Sales Representatives, Technical & Scientific	4	4	4	\$ 73,710	400,000
51-9198.00	Helpers--Production Workers	4	3	3	\$ 22,450	395,100
51-4041.00	Machinists	4	4	4	\$ 38,520	370,400
11-2022.00	Sales Managers	5	5	4	\$ 98,530	342,100
51-4121.07	Solderers & Brazers	3	3	3	\$ 35,450	337,300
51-4121.06	Welders, Cutters, & Welder Fitters	4	3	3	\$ 35,450	337,300
51-4121.00	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	4	3	3	\$ 35,450	337,300
51-9111.00	Packaging & Filling Machine Operators & Tenders	4	3	3	\$ 25,270	337,200
49-9041.00	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	4	4	4	\$ 45,420	287,100
13-1023.00	Purchasing Agents, Except Wholesale, Retail, & Farm Products	4	4	3	\$ 56,580	284,200

About the Data

Wage and employment data are from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Foundational skill levels are derived from ACT's job profile database which includes over 19,000 job analyses for occupations across a diverse array of industries and occupations. Foundational skill levels are presented for three WorkKeys® cognitive skills—Reading for Information, Applied Mathematics, and Locating Information for selected groups of targeted occupations over the next 8-10 years. These three skills have been consistently identified as important for success in a broad range of jobs. Additional data for skill levels for other WorkKeys cognitive assessments can be found at: http://profiles.keytrain.com/profile_search/.