

Santa Cruz County High Demand Job Opportunities

Santa Cruz County continues to see jobs returning to the local economy and prospects for lower unemployment are improving. Over the next five years, Santa Cruz County is projected to add more than 500 jobs. The occupations within the industry sectors identified by the Workforce Development Board of Santa Cruz County that have the best job prospects are shown below.

soc	Agriculture	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
11-9013	Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	1,437	136	\$45.00
45-2091	Agricultural Equipment Operators	308	44	\$21.30
45-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	185	23	\$29.90
soc	Business & Financial Operations	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	1,658	151	\$23.46
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	1,514	102	\$63.03
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	1,118	99	\$29.81
43-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers	887	64	\$36.30
13-1199	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	875	65	\$38.99
13-2011	Accountants and Auditors	780	51	\$46.25
13-1111	Management Analysts	652	48	\$47.79
13-1082	Project Management Specialists	493	29	\$47.88
13-1161	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	492	43	\$37.21
11-3031	Financial Managers	451	32	\$85.24
13-1071	Human Resources Specialists	418	30	\$41.15
13-1081	Logisticians	107	9	\$43.32
15-2051	Data Scientists	99	8	\$58.99
soc	Education & Public Administration	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	1,574	189	\$20.29
37-3011	Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	1,318	149	\$21.83
11-9199	Managers, All Other	1,111	67	\$72.64
37-2012	Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	834	102	\$20.38
33-9032	Security Guards	538	59	\$20.29
33-3051	Police and Sheriffs Patrol Officers	480	30	\$53.99
25-3031	Substitute Teachers, Short-Term	420	40	\$27.16
25-3021	Self-Enrichment Teachers	417	44	\$32.02
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education	407	36	\$22.79
25-9099	Educational Instruction and Library Workers, All Other	367	26	\$33.03
11-9141	Property, Real Estate, and Community Association Managers	338	22	\$35.14
soc	Engineering & Environmental Science	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
17-2051	Civil Engineers	181	8	\$56.68
17-2199	Engineers, All Other	137	6	\$67.50
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	136	7	\$62.26
11-9041	Architectural and Engineering Managers	134	7	\$105.24
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	133	7	\$60.82
soc	Services	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
39-9031	Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	359	66	\$31.15
39-9032	Recreation Workers	321	62	\$19.95
39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	318	40	\$22.69
soc	Healthcare	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
29-1141	Registered Nurses	1,675	81	\$77.12
31-9092	Medical Assistants	818	108	\$25.10
43-6013	Medical Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	693	68	\$23.51
31-1131	Nursing Assistants	534	70	\$22.79
21-1093	Social and Human Service Assistants	460	47	\$24.47
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	419	29	\$36.35
31-9091	Dental Assistants	354	45	\$24.23
21-1018	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	343	31	\$30.14
11-9111	Medical and Health Services Managers	335	30	\$70.14
21-1021	Child, Family, and School Social Workers	321	23	\$38.08
29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians	298	24	\$26.06
11-9151	Social and Community Service Managers	207	16	\$40.82
29-1292	Dental Hygienists	186	11	\$60.19
31-9096	Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	181	38	\$21.25
29-2056	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	161	16	\$26.73
29-2099	Health Technologists and Technicians, All Other	156	10	\$30.63
31-9011	Massage Therapists	139	19	\$33.41
21-1094	Community Health Workers	65	7	\$27.26
19-5011	Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	55	6	\$48.37
31-2021	Physical Therapist Assistants	54	9	\$40.96

soc	Retail & Hospitality	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	2,195	266	\$20.05
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	1,173	186	\$20.10
35-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	1,048	140	\$21.97
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	1,029	108	\$24.71
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Except Technical and Scientific Products	838	61	\$41.83
43-4171	Receptionists and Information Clerks	587	69	\$20.72
41-3091	Sales Representatives of Services, Except Advertising, Insurance, Financial Services, and Travel	503	41	\$41.54
11-2022	Sales Managers	459	27	\$59.09
11-9051	Food Service Managers	336	32	\$35.10
41-9022	Real Estate Sales Agents	324	22	\$35.00
41-2021	Counter and Rental Clerks	318	32	\$22.07
11-2021	Marketing Managers	234	16	\$85.19
soc	Information/Technology and Science	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
15-1252	Software Developers	684	44	\$70.91
15-1232	Computer User Support Specialists	321	17	\$35.19
11-3021	Computer and Information Systems Managers	317	20	\$87.45
15-1299	Computer Occupations, All Other	270	15	\$55.38
15-1211	Computer Systems Analysts	236	12	\$54.28
15-1253	Software Quality Assurance Analysts and Testers	79	5	\$62.21
15-1212	Information Security Analysts	56	4	\$57.79
soc	Manufacturing, Construction & Transportation	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
53-7065	Stockers and Order Fillers	1,606	240	\$20.05
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	1,346	156	\$19.90
49-9071	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	926	72	\$27.55
53-3032	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	913	83	\$26.78
47-2061	Construction Laborers	896	66	\$26.54
53-3033	Light Truck Drivers	848	89	\$24.76
51-2092	Team Assemblers	830	74	\$23.61
47-2031	Carpenters	827	55	\$34.90
47-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	444	29	\$45.58
53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers	418	41	\$21.73
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	418	29	\$30.96
11-9021	Construction Managers	392	23	\$54.76
51-9111	Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	366	35	\$19.86
53-1047	First-Line Supervisors of Transportation and Material Moving Workers	355	30	\$31.68
47-2111	Electricians	353	28	\$37.31
53-7051	Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	321	27	\$21.44
51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	318	29	\$24.81
47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	316	23	\$37.16
51-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	311	23	\$37.79
53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	271	32	\$19.95
43-5061	Production, Planning, and Expediting Clerks	257	23	\$27.26
49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics	172	14	\$31.44
49-3041	Farm Equipment Mechanics and Service Technicians	74	7	\$27.50
soc	Other	2023 Jobs	Annual Openings	Avg. Hourly Earnings
27-2022	Coaches and Scouts	242	29	\$31.73
27-3031	Public Relations Specialists	185	13	\$40.14
27-3043	Writers and Authors	177	15	\$44.38

These occupations are in industries with projected growth from 2024-2029 (or a decline of less than 10%), that pay a wage of at least \$19.60/hour, or \$40,770 annually (current 300% poverty guideline for Santa Cruz County), have an education/experience level at or below the Bachelor's Degree level, and currently have at least 50 employed in Santa Cruz County.