

Occupational Profile: HVAC Mechanics and Installers

Description

Heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning systems (HVAC) control the temperature, humidity, and the total air quality in residential, commercial, industrial, and other buildings. Refrigeration systems make it possible to store and transport food, medicine, and other perishable items. HVAC installers—also called technicians—install, maintain, and repair such systems.

Required Education

Nationwide, 60.1% of HVAC mechanics and installers aged 25 to 44 have a high school degree or less. Thirty-seven percent have an associate's degree or some college, and 3.4% have a bachelor's degree or more.

Educational Attainment for HVAC Mechanics and Installers

High School or Less	60.1%
Associates Degree/Some College	36.5%
Bachelor Degree or More	3.4%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Wages

There were approximately 3,890 HVAC mechanics and installers working in the Greater Phoenix region in 2006, earning an average of \$37,113 annually.

Wages for HVAC Mechanics and Installers

Pay Period	Wages by Percentile, 2006				
	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%
Hourly	\$9.58	\$12.82	\$17.77	\$21.77	\$26.86
Yearly	\$19,919	\$26,662	\$36,958	\$45,274	\$55,860

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security

Employment Projections

The number of HVAC mechanics and installers in Greater Phoenix is expected to grow 48.2% between 2004 and 2014. This translates to approximately 250 job openings annually, with 78% being new jobs added by businesses expanding operations, and 22% from employee vacancies such as retirements and career changes.

Employment Projections for HVAC Mechanics and Installers

Employment Growth, 2004-2014	Average Annual Job Openings, 2004-2014
48.2%	250

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security

Programs at the Maricopa Community Colleges

The Maricopa Community Colleges offer two programs district wide for students training to be HVAC mechanics and installers. Associate in applied science degrees and certificates of completion are available.

College	Program	Associate in Applied Science	Certificate of Completion
Gateway	Air Conditioning/Refrigeration/Facilities Technology	x	x
	Mechanical Trades: Heating, Cooling, and Air Conditioning	x	x