

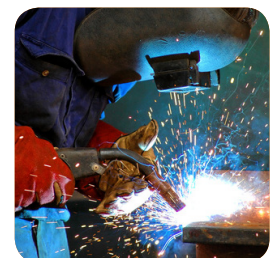
middle-skill production occupations

The *Production* occupation group has 85% of its employment in middle-skill occupations. *Team Assemblers* is the *Production* occupation with the most projected total openings, followed by *Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers*; then *Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders*. These three occupations combined are projected to have over 15,000 total openings between 2014 and 2024.

TOP MIDDLE-SKILL PRODUCTION OCCUPATIONS BY TOTAL OPENINGS

Occupation	Employment		Openings		Average Wage
	2014	2024	Growth	Total	
Team Assemblers	26,952	30,049	3,097	8,885	\$33,996
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers	9,923	10,638	715	3,210	\$40,053
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders	8,865	8,853	0	3,161	\$33,139
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	7,456	7,946	490	2,629	\$38,349
Machinists	6,091	6,615	524	2,285	\$42,197
Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators	3,893	4,872	979	2,163	\$37,387
Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	12,212	11,943	0	1,930	\$54,668
Assemblers and Fabricators	6,316	6,662	346	1,702	\$26,183
Production Workers	5,130	5,280	150	1,200	\$29,792
Food Batchmakers	4,862	4,862	0	1,048	\$32,361

Seventy percent of *Production* occupations are found in *Manufacturing*. This strong link between the *Manufacturing* sector and *Production* occupations is evident in the fact that knowledge of production and processing is important for the top 7 middle-skill *Production* occupations.





Computer aided design (CAD) software and enterprise resource planning (ERP) software are important technology skills for 6 of the top 7 middle-skill *Production* occupations. These are also considered hot technology skills according to O*NET. As manufacturing becomes more technologically advanced, such as the application of 3D printing, it is important for production workers to continue to learn the skills necessary to keep up in a changing manufacturing environment.

TOP SKILLS	
Baseline	Specialized
Physical Demand	Inspection
Communication Skills	Packaging
Mathematics	Repair
Troubleshooting	Supervisory Skills
Problem Solving	Machine Operation

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TOP CERTIFICATIONS
Forklift Operator Certification
Welding Certification
National Career Readiness Certificate
Six Sigma
Security Clearance

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In addition to these more specialized technology skills, basic computer skills are also becoming increasingly necessary across a range of occupations, with skills in spreadsheet software (such as Microsoft Excel), being important for the top 7 middle-skill *Production* occupations. With other basic software skills, such as Microsoft Office Suite, being important for many *Production* occupations it is clear that acquiring basic computer skills is becoming necessary to remain competitive in a wide range of occupations.