

Connecticut Career Resource Network UPDATE

Preliminary data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show that there were roughly 3.5 million job

Job openings by major industry sector, seasonally adjusted, June 2005	
Industry	Job Openings Rate
Professional and business services	3.6%
Education and health services	3.4%
Leisure and hospitality	3.6%
Trade, transportation, and utilities	2.4%
Manufacturing	1.8%
Government	1.7%
Construction	1.5%

there has been a rise in the percent of jobs that are open at a given time.

The table shows the job openings rate in major industry sectors. According to BLS, the rate of openings was highest in professional and business services. The professional and business services industry includes establishments that specialize in a variety of activities, such as computer, consulting, and advertising services.

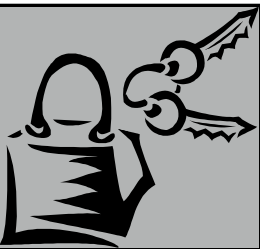
Throughout the month of June, about 3.3 million people were hired and about 2.6 million left or lost their jobs. These data come from the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey. This survey also collects data on employee hires and separations.

For more information, write to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, OEUS/JOLTS, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE., Room 4840, Washington, DC 20212-0001; call (202) 691-5870; or visit online at www.bls.gov/jlt.

Are you patient and dependable? Do you have good eye-hand coordination, enjoy precision, and have mechanical and mathematical abilities? Are you interested in entering an occupation that is projected to grow faster than the average?

If you answered 'yes' to these questions, you might want to consider a career as a professional locksmith. Locksmiths install and repair locks and other devices to safeguard homes, businesses, and property. They also make duplicate keys, generate new keys to replace lost ones, and respond to emergency calls to open doors that have been locked accidentally.

Locksmith: The key to your future?



Recommended classes for interested high school students include mathematics, mechanical drawing, physics, and electronics. On-the-job training, which may involve coursework at a school for locksmiths, is the usual method of entry into the occupation.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), job growth for locksmiths and safe repairers is expected to be faster

than the average for all occupations between 2002 and 2012. BLS data also show that about 15,500 locksmiths were employed in May 2004, with median earnings of \$30,360. However, those data are for wage-and-salary workers. Self-employed locksmiths are not included, and many locksmiths are self-employed.

To learn more about the occupation, such as training and scholarship information, write to the Associated Locksmiths of America, 3500 Easy Street, Dallas, TX 75247; call toll-free at (800) 532-2562 (toll-free) or (214) 827-1701; or visit online at www.aloa.org.

So, your job interview didn't go well? It probably wasn't as bad as you think, comparatively speaking.

Recent surveys by the National Association of Colleges and Employers reveal interview fiascos endured by both jobseekers and employers. Imagine, for example, being called the wrong name during your interview, or hearing all about the person who was interviewed before you, or being interviewed by someone trying to intimidate you. These were among the worst interview experiences reported by college students who participated in the association's 2005 Graduating Student and Alumni Survey.

Surveys describe disastrous job interviews



Employers responding to the association's Job Outlook 2005 survey also had tales to tell. One employer described a prospective employee who talked on a cell phone for all but 7 minutes of a 45-minute interview. Another employer was disenchanted by a jobseeker who fell asleep halfway through the interview. And the need to define professional attire became apparent when one interviewee, heeding advice to "dress nicely," showed up in the nicest thing she owned: a prom gown.

Compared to these mishaps, your interview probably went well. Even if you did commit an interview gaffe, one bad experience won't ruin your career. And on the bright side, a bad experience makes for a good story.

For more information about the association or its surveys, write to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, 62 Highland Avenue Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18017; or visit them online at www.naceweb.org.

Labor Market Information

CT's nonfarm employment in August 2005 was 1,671,800—an increase of 1,600 jobs from July, while the unemployment rate increased to 5.4%. The number of nonfarm jobs in August is up 19,700 from a year ago.

"However, even with these additional jobs, our unemployment rate has been increasing, mainly due to the sizable expansion of our labor force. We have added more than 31,000 people to the labor force since January (2005) - many of whom are seeking, but not yet finding employment," says State Labor Economist John Tirinzonie. He further stated, "Industry sectors that we would like to see growing—mainly manufacturing, financial services and professional and business services, have experienced a lackluster showing so far. While there is still hope that these industries will rebound in the next several months, energy prices may prove to be a tough challenge for them."

Labor market information is available online at www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi

Searching for a job that is just right for you? 'Your Job Search Guide' is a great resource and is available online at <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/jsguide.htm>

Connecticut Occupational Forecast: 2002—2012

- Cashiers (2,743) and Retail Salespersons (2,314) lead all occupations in the number of annual openings projected through 2012. Both jobs require only short-term on-the-job training and can typically offer flexible or part-time hours. However, these jobs only pay approximately \$9 - \$12 per hour.
- Customer Service Representatives (820) has the most openings forecast in the Office and Administrative Support category. These positions require moderate levels of training, but provide a higher salary (\$32,864) than other entry-level jobs.
- The Food Preparation and Serving occupational group is also forecast to have significant openings, led by Waiters and Waitresses (1,764) and Food preparation and Serving workers (1,070 and 709, respectively).

This table lists 50 occupations with the highest number of annual openings, and is grouped by occupational categories. Each category was sorted by the level of education or training required and then in order of annual salary.

Occupational Titles	Educ. / Trng. Code*	Annual Salary	Annual Openings	Rank
Sales and Related				
Cashiers	11	\$18,866	2,743	1
Retail Salespersons	11	\$25,750	2,314	2
Sales Reps., Wholesale and Mfg., <i>Excl. Technical</i>	10	**	775	8
Managers of Retail Sales Workers	8	\$43,098	526	19
Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents	5	\$129,667	303	41
Office and Administrative Support				
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	11	\$23,504	765	9
Tellers	11	\$25,022	296	43
Receptionists and Information Clerks	11	\$25,792	575	16
Office Clerks, General	11	\$27,602	737	10
Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive	10	\$31,886	525	21
Customer Service Representatives	10	\$32,864	820	7
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	10	\$35,173	526	20
Executive Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	10	\$41,122	449	25
Managers of Office and Administrative Support Workers	8	\$48,422	415	28
Food Preparation and Serving Related				
Counter Attendants, Caf./Food/Concession/Coffee Shop	11	\$17,659	466	24
Waiters and Waitresses	11	\$18,034	1,764	3
Bartenders	11	\$18,554	287	47
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers	11	\$18,866	1,070	5
Food Preparation Workers	11	\$21,237	709	11
Cooks, Restaurant	9	\$24,627	294	44
Managers of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	8	\$33,675	288	46
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance				
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	11	\$20,592	426	27
Janitors and Cleaners, <i>Excl. Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners</i>	11	\$23,899	904	6
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers	11	\$26,395	563	17
Education, Training and Library				
Teacher Assistants	11	\$23,461	682	12
Elementary School Teachers, <i>Excl. Special Education</i>	5	\$52,922	522	22
Secondary School Teachers, <i>Excl. Special / Vocational Ed.</i>	5	\$55,887	480	23
Business and Financial Operations				
Business Operations Specialists, All Other	5	\$58,261	367	31
Accountants and Auditors	5	\$65,541	637	14
Management Analysts	4	\$80,184	360	32



Connecticut Occupational Forecast: 2002—2012

- It is anticipated that health occupations will continue their strong demand through 2012. Registered Nurses (1,181) account for the most annual openings of any job requiring more than a high school education. Home Health Aides (308), Nursing Aides, Orderlies and Attendants (537) and Medical Assistants (303) are also among the top 50 jobs.

Occupational Titles	Educ. / Trng. Code*	Annual Salary	Annual Openings	Rank
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical				
Registered Nurses	6	\$57,283	1,181	4
Healthcare Support				
Home Health Aides	11	\$24,814	308	39
Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	11	\$26,853	537	18
Medical Assistants	10	\$30,014	303	40
Personal Care and Service				
Child Care Workers	11	\$20,675	445	26
Personal and Home Care Aides	11	\$21,611	356	34
Hairdressers, Hairstylists, and Cosmetologists	7	\$26,104	256	50
Transportation and Material Moving				
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	11	\$26,208	662	13
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	10	\$38,646	341	36
Management				
Financial Managers	4	\$111,946	258	49
General and Operations Managers	4	\$125,154	583	15
Installation, Maintenance and Repair				
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	10	\$36,462	297	42
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	7	\$38,085	374	30
Protective Services				
Security Guards	11	\$22,963	345	35
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	9	\$49,837	313	38
Construction and Extraction				
Carpenters	9	\$42,994	315	37
Electricians	9	\$46,675	271	48
Community and Social Services				
Social and Human Service Assistants	10	\$34,445	384	29
Computer and Mathematical				
Computer Systems Analysts	5	\$70,658	358	33
Production				
Team Assemblers	10	\$27,310	294	45

*** Education/Training Codes:**

1 First Professional Degree	7 Postsecondary Vocational Training
2 Doctoral Degree	8 Work Experience in a Related Occupation
3 Master's Degree	9 Long-Term On-The-Job Training
4 Work Experience Plus Bachelor's or Higher Degree	10 Moderate-Term On-The-Job Training
5 Bachelor's Degree	11 Short-Term On-The-Job Training
6 Associate Degree	

** Data did not meet OES publishing standards

Source: Connecticut Department of Labor: "Connecticut's Industries and Occupations, Forecast 2012" – January 2005. This report is also available on the Office of Research website: <http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/misc/forecast.htm>

Here's what you had to say about the CT Learns and Works—2005 Conference ...

"Every workshop provided exceptional info." "Keynote was excellent." "Everything was well organized, informative and applicable—well done!" "Thanks for the opportunity to learn, wouldn't change a thing." "John Tirinzonie was outstanding as a host and presenter!" "Just when I thought you were very, very good—you got better—great day!"

SAVE-THE-DATE for next year's CT Learns and Works conference!

Friday, May 12th 2006 at the Water's Edge Resort and Spa in Westbrook, CT. Visit www.ctlearnsandworks.org for the latest info.

Connecticut Department of Labor

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Far and away the best prize that life has
to offer is the chance to work hard at
work worth doing.

~ Theodore Roosevelt

Visit us online!
www.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi

You're A What?

Computers, gas pumps, and MP3 players—these are some of the everyday objects that Duane Martinez builds. But for him, form supersedes function. His objects look real, but they're not. Duane makes models of new products before they go into production. As a model maker, he turns the ideas of designers and engineers into solid, three-dimensional objects that people can see and touch. "It's a little like magic," Duane says. "We are asked to create things that are entirely new." Almost everything that is manufactured starts as a model. These models are created from foam or other materials and are used to test and improve designs or to give buyers a first look at new products.

Like most model makers, Duane starts his work when a designer brings him a drawing. It could be as simple as a rough sketch on a napkin or as complicated as a digital blueprint. Either way, Duane uses the drawing to make a simple model out of lightweight foam. Later, when the designers are sure that they like the product's shape, he creates a more realistic model.

Duane starts many models by drawing a three-dimensional picture on a computer using computer-aided design (CAD) software. Then, he programs the coordinates from the picture into automated tools in the shop. These tools follow the specified coordinates, cutting material into parts of the model.

Drawing in three dimensions is central to a model maker's work. "You need to be able to think spatially to look at a two-dimensional drawing and add in the third dimension," says Duane. "Most model makers can see something on paper and know what it will look like if it is flipped over or turned in space."

The foam stage is over when the designer approves a



materials—including aluminum, titanium, wood, leather, plastic, rubber, and stone—that match the project's purpose. Some models are photographed for catalogs and press releases and, thus, need perfect exteriors. Other models, such as Duane's gas pump prototype, are built for trade shows.

The final stage in building models is adding filler and paint. A good paint job goes a long way toward making a model look real. Nearly any look can be simulated, from the glossy look of a sports car to the wood grain of fine furniture. Model makers also add details, such as logos and digital displays. The level of realism needed depends on the model's intended use. A model for a consumer focus group, for example, must be more detailed than a model that does not need to be examined as closely.

Some models have to move and work as well as look good. Those models are among the most exciting to create. "I've always wanted to work in a James Bond lab," Duane says, "so making things with moving parts and working buttons is especially fun." He fits pieces together like a 3-D puzzle, perhaps trying many different approaches before he finds a configuration that works. Building models takes a steady hand and good eyesight, especially when making something small, such as the Play and Pause buttons on a CD player. Being so precise takes time. Duane has worked 36 hours straight to meet a deadline. "I want it to look good because a well-made model can really sell a design."

Another motivation for working long hours is seeing the

MODEL MAKER

shape. Then, it's time for Duane to make a better model. He uses a variety of

final product. "It's fun to go to the computer store and see all the shapes and sizes of the computer notebooks I worked on," Duane says, "Or to see the gas pump I modeled standing at the convenience store near my house." Modeling consumer products is only one part of the profession. Many modelers work on movie sets, building models for special effects. Other model makers create museum displays or one-of-a-kind awards and trophies. Architectural firms also hire model makers to create scaled-down versions of apartment buildings, amusement parks, and other real estate to help investors visualize how a project will look.

Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show that there were more than 11,000 model makers employed in May 2004. But that number doesn't include people who ran their own businesses. Median annual earnings for model makers were \$44,250 in May 2004. The highest paid model makers reported an annual salary of \$68,790 in 2004. Some model makers complete an apprenticeship or study trades, such as drafting, woodworking, and painting. Many others earn an associate degree in model making or industrial design technology. Others earn a bachelor's degree in fine arts, design, or engineering.

Duane's interest in model making began in high school, when he spent hours building model cars. He also took classes in ceramics and other crafts mainly as a hobby. But when he finally discovered professional model making, those classes helped him get his first job.

"There are opportunities out there. You don't have to be a starving artist," Duane says. "Growing up, I never knew model making could be a career, and I wish I'd found it sooner. I love it!"