



South Dakota High Demand & High Wage Career

Career Cluster:
Agriculture



Farm Equipment Mechanics & Service Technicians

Standard Occupational Code 49-3041

What They Do

Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul farm machinery and vehicles, such as tractors, harvesters, dairy equipment, and irrigation systems.

Is This For You?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model). People who tend to succeed in this career are:

Realistic (Doers) — Prefer to work with objects, things, machines, tools, plants or animals. They have mechanical ability, enjoy being outdoors and working with their hands.

Conventional (Organizers) —Detail oriented and organized. They like to analyze data, keep financial records and do research. They can be counted on to be accurate and enjoy structure and closure.

Work Styles (personality tendencies) of people who perform well in this occupation have:

Attention to Detail — A tendency to be detail-oriented, organized, and thorough in completing work.

Dependability — A tendency to be reliable, responsible, and consistent in meeting work-related obligations.

Abilities reflect a person's aptitude to acquire skills and knowledge. The following abilities are important for success in the career:

- Control Precision
- Finger Dexterity
- Manual Dexterity
- Multi-limb Coordination
- Near Vision
- Problem Sensitivity
- Visualization
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Deductive Reasoning

Work Activities

- Repairing and Maintaining Mechanical Equipment
- Inspecting Equipment, Structures, or Materials
- Getting Information

Education & Training

Some postsecondary education in an agricultural technology or a related field is recommended. Demonstrated ability in maintenance and repair of agricultural equipment is the most important qualification.

A registered apprenticeship is another option for preparing for this occupation. To learn more, visit StartTodaySD.com or contact your local Job Service office to get started.

Recommended Levels* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math	3
Workplace Documents	3
Graphic Literacy	4

*Using the median skill level.

Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of farm equipment mechanics are:

- Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods
- Repair and Maintenance
- Self Employment
- Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods

South Dakota Employment & Wages

2024 Employment	2034 Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,242	1,469	227	18.3%	131	\$62,140	\$63,550

Additional References

Labor Market Information Center

www.dlr.sd.gov/lmic

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

www.onetonline.org

mySkills myFuture

<https://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/>

Provided By

Labor Market Information Center
South Dakota Dept. of Labor and Regulation
605.626.2314

Visit dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers to obtain the most recent workforce data and trends and more resources, including this document. Also available are explanations of the terms used in this occupational profile.

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