



## South Dakota High Demand & High Wage Career

### Career Cluster: Architecture and Construction



# Highway Maintenance Workers

*Standard Occupational Code 47-4051*

## What They Do

Maintain highways, municipal and rural roads, airport runways and rights-of-way. Duties include patching broken or eroded pavement, repairing guard rails, highway markers and snow fences. May also mow or clear brush from along road or plow snow from roadway.

## 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 Values** are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

**Support** — Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

**Relationships** — Provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly, non-competitive environment.

**Working Conditions** — Job security and good working conditions.

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

- Control Precision
- Multilimb Coordination
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Oral Comprehension
- Problem Sensitivity
- Static Strength
- Auditory Attention

## Basic Skills You Need

- Operation and Control
- Operations Monitoring
- Coordination
- Monitoring
- Active Listening
- Complex Problem Solving
- Speaking

## Education & Training

The minimum of a high school diploma is recommended for highway maintenance worker positions. Those with postsecondary education in a heavy construction or related program are normally given preference in the hiring process. Work experience helping with street or highway maintenance is also a plus.

## Recommended Levels\* for the National Career Readiness Certificate

Applied Math	3
Workplace Documents	4
Graphic Literacy	3

\*Using the median skill level.

## Where They Work

The South Dakota industries which employ the largest number of highway maintenance workers are:

- Local Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals
- State Government, Excluding Education and Hospitals

## South Dakota Employment & Wages

2020 Workers	2030 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
1,870	1,961	91	4.9%	204	\$37,253	\$38,768

## Additional References

### Labor Market Information Center

[www.dlr.sd.gov/lmic](http://www.dlr.sd.gov/lmic)

### Career OneStop

[www.careeronestop.org](http://www.careeronestop.org)

### O\*Net Online

[www.onetonline.org](http://www.onetonline.org)

### mySkills myFuture

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

## Provided By

Labor Market Information Center  
SD Department of Labor & Regulation  
605.626.2314

Visit [dlr.sd.gov/hotcareers](http://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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