



South Dakota High Demand & High Wage Career



Career Cluster: Architecture & 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
- Multi-limb Coordination
- Arm-Hand Steadiness
- Oral Comprehension
- Problem Sensitivity
- Static Strength
- Auditory Attention
- Manual Dexterity

Basic Skills You Need

- Operation and Control
- Operations Monitoring
- Coordination
- Monitoring

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.

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	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

2022 Employment	2032 Employment	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Openings	Annual Median Wage	Annual Average Wage
2,130	2,192	62	2.9%	199	\$45,870	\$45,600

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
SD Department of Labor & Regulation
605.626.2314

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