

The 30 highest-paying jobs in America

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Obstetricians and gynecologists are among the medical occupations at the top of the ranking.

Orlin Wagner/AP Images

- Some US professions have workers earning a lot more than the annual average salary of \$58,260.
- We found the occupations in America with the highest mean annual salaries in May 2021.
- Cardiologist was the highest-paying occupation based on data from the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).

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The US has been seeing a [trend of people quitting their jobs](#). Leaving for a job where one can earn more is one possible [reason](#) people are quitting and accepting new work opportunities.

Using the latest data from the [Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics program](#) that was released on Thursday, we identified the 30 detailed occupations with the highest mean annual salaries as of May 2021, the most recent period for which data is available.

The 30 highest-paying occupations all earned an average of six figures annually, all above \$150,000. Many of the top-paying jobs are in healthcare. Cardiologists had the highest average annual salary among the detailed occupations, with an average of \$353,970. That's more than three times the average annual pay for healthcare practitioners and technical occupations, which had an average of \$91,100.

Outside of different healthcare and medical jobs, chief executives and financial managers made the top 30. All 30 of these occupations also make more than the overall average for all occupations in May 2021 of \$58,260.

Below are the 30 highest-paying jobs in the US, along with the estimated number of people employed in each occupation as of May 2021.

30. Marketing managers



kate_sept2004/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$153,440

Number of people employed: 278,690

29. Financial managers



create jobs 51/Shutterstock

Average annual salary: \$153,460

Number of people employed: 681,070

28. Natural sciences managers



AP

Average annual salary: \$156,110

Number of people employed: 74,760

27. Podiatrists



Tomas Bravo / Reuters

Average annual salary: \$158,380

Number of people employed: 8,840

26. Architectural and engineering managers



YP_photographer/Shutterstock

Average annual salary: \$158,970

Number of people employed: 187,100

25. Computer and information systems managers



10'000 Hours/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$162,930

Number of people employed: 485,190

24. General dentists



A dentist performs a dental examination.
Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$167,160

Number of people employed: 108,680

23. All other dentist specialists



John Amis/AP

Average annual salary: \$179,400

Number of people employed: 4,750

22. Airline pilots, copilots, and flight engineers



Sergio Perez/Reuters

Average annual salary: \$198,190

Number of people employed: 81,310

21. General pediatricians



Rogelio V. Solis/AP Images

Average annual salary: \$198,420

Number of people employed: 33,620

20. Nurse anesthetists



Getty Images/Carsten Koall

Average annual salary: \$202,470

Number of people employed: 43,950

19. Chief executives



Elon Musk, Tesla CEO
Patrick Pleul/picture alliance via Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$213,020

Number of people employed: 200,480

18. All other physicians



The Good Brigade/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$231,500

Number of people employed: 256,670

17. Family medicine physicians



Emlyn Louis, MD speaks with Julia Herrera as he examines her at the Broward Community & Family Health Center on April 20, 2009 in Pompano Beach, Florida.
Joe Raedle/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$235,930

Number of people employed: 102,930

16. General internal medicine physicians



Joe Raedle/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$242,190

Number of people employed: 58,260

15. Psychiatrists



Elise Amendola/AP Images

Average annual salary: \$249,760

Number of people employed: 25,520

14. Pathologists



Photo_Concepts/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$267,180

Number of people employed: 11,010

13. Orthodontists



Westend61/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$267,280

Number of people employed: 5,140

12. Neurologists



Tashi-Delek/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$267,660

Number of people employed: 7,120

11. Ophthalmologists (except pediatric)



Morsa Images/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$270,090

Number of people employed: 11,610

10. Pediatric surgeons



FS Productions/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$290,310

Number of people employed: 820

9. Obstetricians and gynecologists



Obstetricians and gynecologists are among the medical occupations at the top of the ranking.

Orlin Wagner/AP Images

Average annual salary: \$296,210

Number of people employed: 21,570

8. All other surgeons

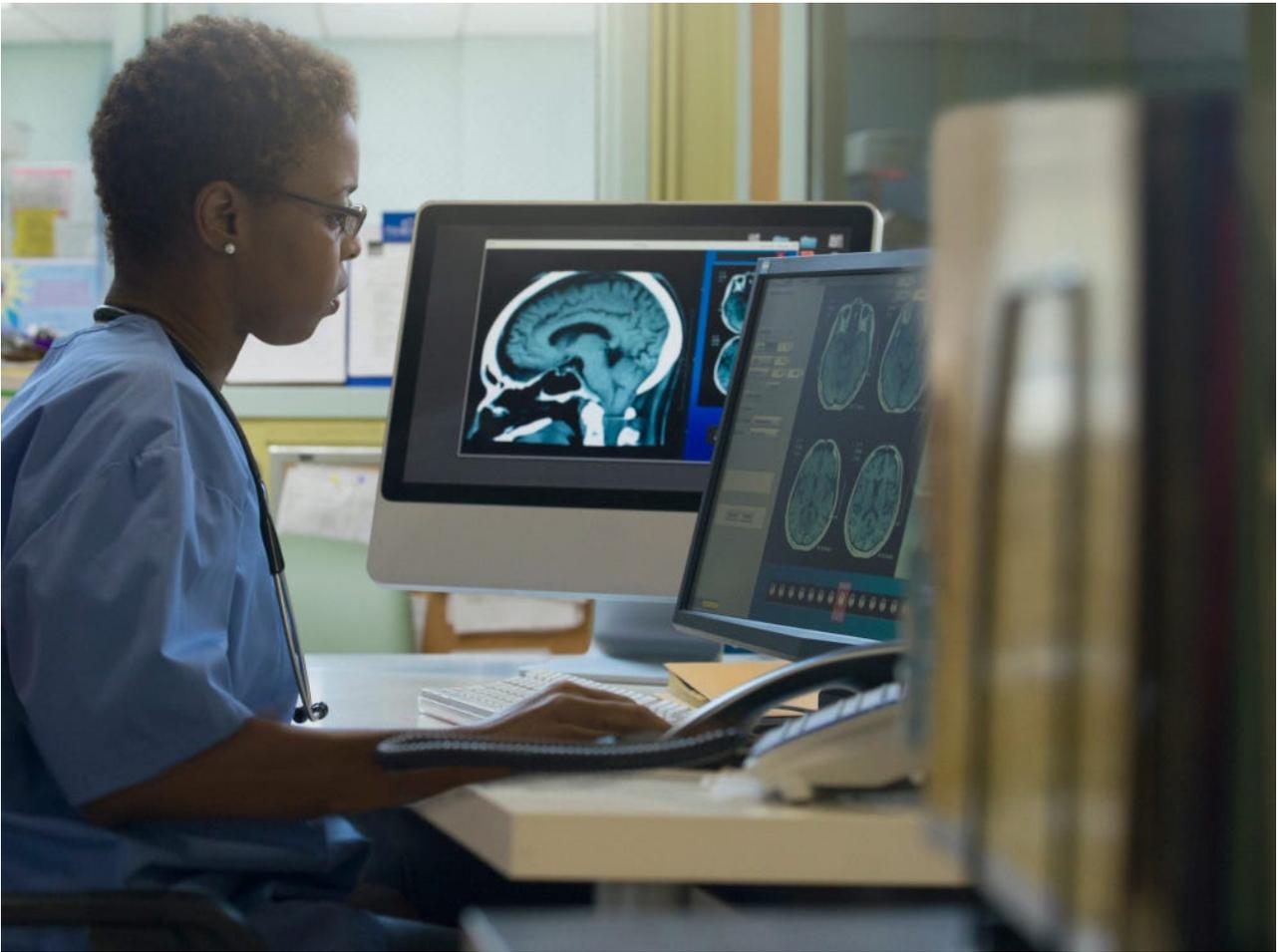


Surgeons perform a total knee arthroplasty operation in an operating room at the Ambroise Pare hospital in Marseille
Thomson Reuters

Average annual salary: \$297,800

Number of people employed: 29,590

7. Radiologists



Jose Luis Pelaez Inc/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$301,720

Number of people employed: 29,530

6. Dermatologists



Kosamtu/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$302,740

Number of people employed: 9,230

5. Orthopedic surgeons (except pediatric)



Dana Neely/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$306,220

Number of people employed: 16,260

4. Emergency medicine physicians



Dennis Degnan/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$310,640

Number of people employed: 36,180

3. Oral and maxillofacial surgeons



Mikhail Olykainen/Shutterstock

Average annual salary: \$311,460

Number of people employed: 5,330

2. Anesthesiologists



sturti/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$331,190

Number of people employed: 31,130

1. Cardiologists



SDI Productions/Getty Images

Average annual salary: \$353,970

Number of people employed: 18,610

