

Occupational Profile: Brickmasons and Blockmasons

GENERAL OCCUPATION DESCRIPTION

Lay and bind building materials, such as brick, structural tile, concrete block, cinder block, glass block, and terra-cotta block, with mortar and other substances to construct or repair walls, partitions, arches, sewers, and other structures.

Source: O*NET online. <http://online.onetcenter.org>

REQUIRED EDUCATION

As shown in the table to right, over 88% of interviewed employers reportedly require a High School diploma or less, while an additional 12% require a two-year degree or the equivalent.

Required Education	
Percent of Employers Requiring HS Diploma or Less	88.16%
Percent of Employers Requiring 2-Year Degree or Equiv	11.84%
Percent of Employers Requiring BS Diploma or More	0%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

WAGES

Brickmason and Blockmason is considered a low to medium -wage occupation, with moderate possibility for wage advancement with experience. Employers in the State of Arizona generally pay lower as compared with the overall United States.

Location	Pay Period	2005				
		10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
United States	Hourly	\$11.54	\$15.42	\$20.13	\$25.43	\$31.15
	Yearly	\$24,000	\$32,100	\$41,900	\$52,900	\$64,800
Greater Phoenix	Hourly	\$11.61	\$13.48	\$16.71	\$20.16	\$24.46
	Yearly	\$24,160	\$28,052	\$34,774	\$41,953	\$50,901
Arizona	Hourly	\$9.08	\$12.01	\$16.68	\$21.47	\$27.19
	Yearly	\$18,900	\$25,000	\$34,700	\$44,700	\$56,600

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

As shown in the table to right, a national comparison of wages for this occupation reveals Arizona ranks 39th in terms of median wages.

RANK	Location	Median Wage 2005	
		Hourly	Annual
1	Alaska	\$30.96	\$64,400
2	Rhode Island	\$30.29	\$63,000
3	Illinois	\$28.02	\$58,300
4	New Jersey	\$27.97	\$58,200
5	Connecticut	\$26.12	\$54,300
39	ARIZONA	\$16.68	\$34,700

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

The table below provides a comparison of wages by sub-industry for the Greater Phoenix region (2005). As shown, the main employment sector, "Specialty Trade Contractors" pays less than the other main employment sector "Construction of Buildings."

Wages by Industry: Greater Phoenix MSA (2005)	Rounded Employment	Mean Wage	10th Percentile Wage	25th Percentile Wage	Median Wage	75th Percentile Wage	90th Percentile Wage
Specialty Trade Contractors	2,960	\$17.92	\$8.98	\$12.00	\$17.26	\$22.81	\$28.83
Construction of Buildings	.	\$16.42	\$14.23	\$14.95	\$16.15	\$17.50	\$20.09

EMPLOYMENT

As shown in the table below, this occupation has a projected 30% growth rate over 10 years (between 2003 and 2013) for the Greater Phoenix region. There are an average projected 148 job openings each year, comprised of 101 new jobs and 47 positions vacated by individuals leaving the field (due to retirement, death, career changes, or other reasons).

	10-YEAR CHANGE			AVERAGE ANNUAL		
	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings	Growth	Separations
United States	2004	2014				
Brickmasons and blockmasons	155,100	173,700	12%	4,170	n/a	n/a
Arizona	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings	Growth	Separations
	2004	2014				
Brickmasons and blockmasons	5,140	7,340	43%	300	n/a	n/a
Greater Phoenix	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings	Growth	Separations
	2003	2013				
Brickmasons and blockmasons	3,152	4,160	30%	148	101	47

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

*Job Openings refers to the average annual job openings due to growth and net replacement.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

**N/A is displayed in cases where data is not available or cannot be published because of federal data privacy standards.

An additional source of information regarding this occupation can be provided by analysis of employer survey data collected for the Maricopa County Community Colleges by the ERISS Corporation in 2004. As shown, the ERISS survey data shows a projected 1-year growth rate of 2%, which is comparable with the average of 3% per year reflected by the BLS data above.

Additionally, the ERISS data provides an indicator of yearly turnover for this occupation, which is reported to be high at 25%.

ERISS Occupational Survey Data (2004)			
Greater Phoenix	Growth	Turnover	Demand
Brickmasons and Blockmasons	2%	25%	27%

Comparison of employment projections for top five regions for Brickmasons and Blockmasons

As shown in the table to right, a national comparison reveals the State of Arizona ranks 2nd in terms of projected 10-year growth for this occupation (43%).

RANK	Location	Employment		Percent
		2004	2014	Change
1	Nevada	1,470	2,140	45%
2	ARIZONA	5,140	7,340	43%
3	Colorado	2,810	3,890	39%
3	Wyoming	230	320	39%
4	Utah	1,580	2,050	30%
5	Hawaii	360	460	29%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment by Industry

The table below shows the industries that most commonly employ Brickmason and Blockmason, and the proportion of employment accounted for at the national level. As shown, "Masonry contractors" is the largest employer for this occupation (50.4%).

Percent of Employment Nationally by Industry	
Percent	Industry
50.4%	Masonry contractors
28.9%	Self-employed workers, primary job
5.2%	Nonresidential building construction
2.3%	Poured concrete foundation and structure contractors
2.3%	Residential building construction

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Geo-Location Overlay of Employers with 10 or More Employees that Potentially Employ Occupation (n = 114)

