

# Occupational Profile: Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists

## GENERAL OCCUPATION DESCRIPTION

Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul trucks, buses, and all types of diesel engines. Include mechanics working primarily with automobile diesel engines.

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

## REQUIRED EDUCATION

As shown in the table to right, 19% of interviewed employers reportedly require a High School diploma or less, while an additional 81% require a two-year degree or the equivalent.

| Required Education                                    |        |
|---|--------|
| Percent of Employers Requiring HS Diploma or Less     | 19.09% |
| Percent of Employers Requiring 2-Year Degree or Equiv | 80.91% |
| Percent of Employers Requiring BS Diploma or More     | 0%     |

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

## WAGES

Bus and Truck Mechanic and Diesel Engine Specialist is considered a medium-wage occupation, with moderate possibility for wage advancement with experience. Employers in the State of Arizona generally pay comparably as compared with the overall United States.

| Location        | Pay Period | 2005     |          |          |          |          |
|-----------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                 |            | 10%      | 25%      | Median   | 75%      | 90%      |
| United States   | Hourly     | \$11.44  | \$14.15  | \$17.61  | \$21.35  | \$25.74  |
|                 | Yearly     | \$23,800 | \$29,400 | \$36,600 | \$44,400 | \$53,500 |
| Greater Phoenix | Hourly     | \$12.30  | \$14.49  | \$17.05  | \$20.31  | \$23.37  |
|                 | Yearly     | \$25,596 | \$30,154 | \$35,481 | \$42,265 | \$48,633 |
| Arizona         | Hourly     | \$11.42  | \$13.64  | \$16.52  | \$20.16  | \$23.48  |
|                 | Yearly     | \$23,800 | \$28,400 | \$34,400 | \$41,900 | \$48,800 |

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

As shown in the table to right, a national comparison of wages for this occupation reveals Arizona ranks 30th in terms of median wages.

| RANK | Location      | Median Wage 2005 |          |
|------|---------------|------------------|----------|
|      |               | Hourly           | Annual   |
| 1    | Alaska        | \$23.37          | \$48,600 |
| 2    | Hawaii        | \$21.25          | \$44,200 |
| 3    | New York      | \$20.71          | \$43,100 |
| 4    | Nevada        | \$20.41          | \$42,500 |
| 5    | Massachusetts | \$20.31          | \$42,200 |
| 30   | ARIZONA       | \$16.52          | \$34,400 |

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, "Truck Transportation," generally pays less than the other main employment sectors.

| 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 |
|---|--------------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Truck Transportation                          | 570                | \$14.60   | \$8.89               | \$11.26              | \$14.12     | \$17.63              | \$21.29              |
| Rental and Leasing Services                   | 290                | \$17.16   | \$11.97              | \$13.79              | \$17.14     | \$20.34              | \$22.78              |
| Merchant Wholesalers, Durable Goods           | 240                | \$18.29   | \$11.52              | \$14.94              | \$18.63     | \$21.77              | \$25.21              |
| Specialty Trade Contractors                   | 240                | \$16.36   | \$10.54              | \$14.30              | \$15.99     | \$17.92              | \$21.38              |
| Educational Services                          | 140                | \$15.65   | \$11.70              | \$13.63              | \$15.58     | \$17.34              | \$20.37              |
| Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods        | 100                | \$21.70   | \$14.71              | \$18.35              | \$21.17     | \$25.62              | \$30.43              |
| Public Administration                         | 80                 | \$20.38   | \$14.76              | \$16.58              | \$19.73     | \$23.13              | \$28.27              |
| Administrative and Support Services           | 80                 | \$18.33   | \$12.73              | \$14.81              | \$17.88     | \$21.44              | \$25.36              |
| Transit and Ground Passenger Transportation   | 80                 | \$18.97   | \$11.77              | \$13.89              | \$16.93     | \$24.90              | \$27.10              |
| Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing     | 70                 | \$15.12   | \$12.29              | \$13.93              | \$15.28     | \$16.62              | \$17.43              |
| Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction      | 50                 | \$16.20   | \$11.73              | \$14.32              | \$16.31     | \$19.03              | \$21.21              |
| Waste Management and Remediation Services     | 50                 | \$16.15   | \$11.61              | \$12.90              | \$15.18     | \$18.50              | \$23.70              |
| Beverage and Tobacco Product Manufacturing    | 30                 | \$17.79   | \$14.64              | \$15.59              | \$17.16     | \$19.92              | \$22.03              |
| Nonstore Retailers                            | .                  | \$17.48   | \$12.35              | \$14.05              | \$17.78     | \$20.75              | \$22.49              |
| Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers               | .                  | \$17.29   | \$12.56              | \$14.65              | \$17.00     | \$19.97              | \$22.23              |
| Warehousing and Storage                       | .                  | \$17.41   | \$13.04              | \$14.87              | \$16.91     | \$20.03              | \$22.61              |

## EMPLOYMENT

As shown in the table below, this occupation has a projected 21% growth rate over 10 years (between 2003 and 2013) for the Greater Phoenix region. There are an average projected 130 job openings each year, comprised of 59 new jobs and 71 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    |                |                |        |             |
| Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists | 270,100        | 308,900 | 14%            | 10,830         | n/a    | n/a         |
| Arizona   | Employment     |         | Percent Change | Job Openings   | Growth | Separations |
|   | 2004           | 2014    |                |                |        |             |
| Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists | 4,010          | 5,190   | 29%            | 220            | n/a    | n/a         |
| Greater Phoenix                                       | Employment     |         | Percent Change | Job Openings   | Growth | Separations |
|   | 2003           | 2013    |                |                |        |             |
| Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists | 2,739          | 3,326   | 21%            | 130            | 59     | 71          |

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 1%, which is comparable with the average of 2.1% 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 low at 5%.

| ERISS Occupational Survey Data (2004)             |        |          |        |
|---|--------|----------|--------|
| Greater Phoenix                                   | Growth | Turnover | Demand |
| Bus & Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists | 1%     | 5%       | 7%     |

### Comparison of employment projections for top five regions for Bus and Truck Mechanic and Diesel Engine Specialist

As shown in the table to right, a national comparison reveals the State of Arizona ranks 4th in terms of projected 10-year growth for this occupation (24%).

| RANK | Location       | Employment |       | Percent |
|------|----------------|------------|-------|---------|
|      |                | 2004       | 2014  | Change  |
| 1    | Nevada         | 1,930      | 2,740 | 42%     |
| 2    | Wyoming        | 900        | 1,230 | 37%     |
| 3    | Utah           | 2,580      | 3,510 | 36%     |
| 4    | <b>ARIZONA</b> | 4,010      | 5,190 | 29%     |
| 5    | Arkansas       | 3,420      | 4,220 | 24%     |

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

### Employment by Industry

The table below shows the industries that most commonly employ Bus and Truck Mechanic and Diesel Engine Specialist, and the proportion of employment accounted for at the national level. As shown, "General Freight Trucking" is the largest employer for this occupation (11%).

| Percent of Employment Nationally by Industry |   |
|--|---|
| Percent                                      | Industry  |
| 11.3%  | General Freight Trucking  |
| 8.1%   | Automotive mechanical and electrical repair and maintenance             |
| 8%   | Local government, excluding education and hospitals                     |
| 6.6%   | Motor vehicle and motor vehicle parts and supplies merchant wholesalers |
| 5.1%   | Local government educational services                                   |
| 4.9%   | Specialized freight trucking  |
| 4.9%   | Automotive equipment rental and leasing                                 |
| 4.8%   | Self-employed workers, primary job                                      |

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Geo-Location Overlay of Employers with 25 or More Employees that Potentially Employ Occupation (n = 216)

