

Occupational Profile: Educational, Vocational, and School Counselors

GENERAL OCCUPATION DESCRIPTION

Counsel individuals and provide group educational and vocational guidance services. Counsel students regarding educational issues such as course and program selection, class scheduling, school adjustment, truancy, study habits, and career planning.

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

REQUIRED EDUCATION

As shown in the table to right, a high level of education is required for this occupation, with 97% of interviewed employers reportedly requiring a four year college degree or more.

Required Education	
Percent of Employers Requiring HS Diploma or Less	0%
Percent of Employers Requiring 2-Year Degree or Equiv	3%
Percent of Employers Requiring BS Diploma or More	97%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

WAGES

Educational, Vocational, and School Counselor is considered a high-wage occupation, with excellent possibility for wage advancement with experience. Employers in the State of Arizona generally pay less as compared with the overall United States.

Location	Pay Period	2005				
		10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
United States	Hourly	\$13.00	\$17.05	\$22.33	\$28.50	\$35.30
	Yearly	\$27,000	\$35,500	\$46,400	\$59,300	\$73,400
Greater Phoenix	Hourly	\$11.82	\$14.12	\$16.90	\$20.53	\$23.31
	Yearly	\$24,597	\$29,384	\$35,169	\$42,723	\$48,508
Arizona	Hourly	\$11.79	\$14.98	\$18.79	\$22.53	\$26.91
	Yearly	\$24,500	\$31,200	\$39,100	\$46,900	\$56,000

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

As shown in the table to right, a national comparison of wages for this occupation reveals Arizona ranks 48th in terms of median wages.

RANK	Location	Median Wage 2005	
		Hourly	Annual
1	New Jersey	\$29.59	\$61,500
2	Rhode Island	\$27.91	\$58,100
3	Illinois	\$27.50	\$57,200
4	Ohio	\$26.49	\$55,100
5	Michigan	\$25.93	\$53,900
48	ARIZONA	\$18.79	\$39,100

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, "Educational Services," pays more than the other main employment sector.

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
Educational Services	1,980	\$19.23	\$12.58	\$15.23	\$18.67	\$22.40	\$26.59
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities		\$12.12	\$9.06	\$9.74	\$10.86	\$14.62	\$16.33

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

EMPLOYMENT

As shown in the table below, this occupation has a projected 20% growth rate over 10 years (between 2003 and 2013) for the Greater Phoenix region. There are an average projected 108 job openings each year, comprised of 54 new jobs and 54 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
	2004	2014				
United States						
Educational, vocational, and school counselors	248,500	285,200	15%	9,350	n/a	n/a
Arizona						
Educational, vocational, and school counselors	4,400	5,890	34%	250	n/a	n/a
Greater Phoenix						
Educational, vocational, and school counselors	2,351	2,895	20%	108	54	54

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 12%, which is markedly higher than the average of 2% per year reflected by the BLS data above.

Additionally, the ERISS data provides an indicator of turnover for this occupation, which is reported to be moderately high at 18%.

ERISS Occupational Survey Data (2004)			
Greater Phoenix	Growth	Turnover	Demand
Educational, Vocational, and School Counselors	12.0%	18.0%	30.0%

Comparison of employment projections for top five regions for Educational, Vocational, and School Counselor

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 (34%).

RANK	Location	Employment		Percent
		2004	2014	Change
1	Nevada	1,090	1,550	43%
2	Colorado	2,960	3,970	34%
2	ARIZONA	4,400	5,890	34%
3	Utah	2,690	3,470	29%
4	North Carolina	5,170	6,520	26%
5	South Carolina	3,410	4,210	24%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment by Industry

The table below shows the industries that most commonly employ Educational, Vocational, and School Counselor, and the proportion of employment accounted for at the national level. As shown, "Local government educational services" are by far the largest employer for this occupation (52%).

Percent of Employment Nationally by Industry	
Percent	Industry
51.6%	Local government educational services
9.9%	State government educational services
6.3%	Vocational rehabilitation services
4.6%	Self-employed workers, primary job
3.4%	Elementary and secondary schools, private
2.4%	State government, excluding education and hospitals
2.3%	Child, youth, and all other individual and family services

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Geo-Location Overlay of Employers with 100 or More Employees that Potentially Employ Occupation (n = 204)

