

Occupational Profile



Auto Mechanics

OVERVIEW

Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any vehicle part or specialize in the transmission system. Belongs to the Transportation, Distribution and Logistics career cluster and Facility and Mobile Equipment Maintenance career pathway.

DOES THIS DESCRIBE YOU?

Work Interests involve descriptive categories (compatible with Holland's Model) attributed to success in this career:

- **Realistic** – Involves work activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions; often dealing with plants, animals, and real-world materials like wood, tools, and machinery.
- **Investigative**—Involves working with ideas requiring an extensive amount of research, fact finding, problem solving, and thought analysis.

Work Styles depict worker characteristics conducive for this career:

- **Independence**
- **Attention to Detail**
- **Dependability**
- **Integrity**
- **Analytical Thinking**

Work Values are associated with aspects of work that provide satisfaction in this career: aspects of work that are satisfying to you.

- **Independence**—Autonomy; working on your own.
- **Support**—Management backing.
- **Working Conditions**—Job security; good working conditions.

Aptitudes reflect an ability to acquire skills and knowledge for success in this career:

- **Arm-Hand Steadiness**
- **Control Precision**
- **Finger Dexterity**
- **Problem Sensitivity**
- **Manual Dexterity**

SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE NEEDED

Basic Skills:

- Equipment Maintenance
- Repairing
- Troubleshooting
- Equipment Selection
- Quality Control Analysis

Technology Skills:

- Analytical or Scientific Software
- Data Base User Interface and Query Software
- Facilities Management Software
- Information Retrieval or Search Software
- Project Management Software

Knowledge:

- Mechanical
- Engineering and Technology
- Computers and Electronics
- Customer and Personal Service
- English Language

ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2014 Estimated Employment	2024 Projected Employment	2014-24 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,795,100	1,949,240	154,140	0.9	58,145
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	70,155	77,670	7,510	1.1	2,385
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	9,820	10,675	855	0.9	350

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>

2017 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Mean Wage	Mean Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Exp Wage	Exp Salary
Total All Occupations	20.93	43,539	10.09	20,991	26.35	54,813
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	21.36	44,429	13.63	28,357	25.22	52,466
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	18.58	38,648	11.93	24,825	21.90	45,560

Source: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-employment-and-wages>

EDUCATION & TRAINING



Education	Work Experience	Job Training
High School Diploma	None	Long-Term On-The-Job

A diploma is required for most auto mechanic positions with training received from vocational schools, industry-based programs, and/or apprenticeships. Sources: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections>, https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_education_training_system.htm, and <https://www.dol.gov/apprenticeship/>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level	Minimum Skill Level	Maximum Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	4	3	5
Locating Information	4	3	6
Reading for Information	4	3	5
Applied Technology	4	3	6
Business Writing	1	1	3
Workplace Observation	2	2	2
Listening for Understanding	3	3	3

An ACT assessment-based credential issued in determining essential work skills needed for employment success across industries and occupations. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6 & higher). Source: <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/workkeys-for-employers/assessments.html>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

This workforce product was funded by a grant by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner. This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Updates, revisions, and/or corrections made periodically. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov. Visit www.iowalmi.gov to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document. Published 9/2017.

PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Auto Mechanics Employed?)

- Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers
- Repair and Maintenance
- Self Employed
- Gasoline Stations
- State Government

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