

# TOP STATES TO WORK IN HVACR



Demand is high due to industry growth and a retiring workforce



Heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVACR) contractors looking for plentiful job opportunities, high salaries, available training and large numbers of service calls should head for the Buckeye state or sunny California according to a list of Top States to Work in HVACR compiled by Emerson\*.



# Top states boast accredited trade schools, salaries and open positions

## Top states to work in HVACR

- 1 Ohio** tops the list with more than 1,400 certified technicians, a competitive median salary and almost 9,000 current openings. Ohio steals the title due to housing eight accredited trade schools.
- 2 California** comes in second overall but tops the list when it comes to number of open positions (22,000), certified technicians, and the highest hourly wages. California's second place raking is due to one accredited trade school.
- 3 Illinois** takes the bronze medal by boasting one of the highest median average salaries along with having five accredited trade schools and over 8,000 current openings.
- 4 Texas** ranks high when it comes to number of openings and certified technicians but takes the number four spot due to having only one accredited trade school and a lower median hourly wage.
- 5 Florida** is competitive with the states above when it comes to open positions and the number of certified technicians, but the state has some of the lowest median wages and only has one accredited trade school.

In rounding out the top ten, the next states fall behind in training schools, current openings, and certified technicians, while overall offering high wages, future employment, and heating degree days.



Trade Schools



Salaries



Open Positions

## Top 20 highlights

**Oklahoma** makes the top 10 list because it has the most trade schools, (nine) but has a lower number of certified technicians and median wages than the top five.

**Colorado** comes in close thanks to their number of certified technicians but lacks in trade school locations and opportunities for future employment.

**New York** makes our list by having a large number of future openings and one of the higher median wages but fell short when it came to training locations and cooling degree days.

*"I got interested in HVACR in high school and have been fortunate to build a career and a successful business here in Ohio. There are tremendous opportunities in a state like Ohio with both heating and cooling seasons and I enjoy the opportunity to meet new customers and new people every day. This is a great trade for young people who are looking for a challenge; the opportunities are endless right now."*

Kevin Turner – President, Comfort Air Solutions

## Methodology

Emerson's top 10 ranking draws on HVACR salary and future employment data from the U.S. Department of Labor; trade school locations recognized by the Partnership for Air Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration Accreditation; heating and cooling degree days calculated at DegreeDays.net; residential home values from Trulia, certified contractors by state from North American Technician Excellence (NATE) and current openings from HVACR Workforce Development Foundation. Emerson also draws upon its own data to look at wholesaler locations and commercial service volumes from its ProAct™ Service Center.

### \*Data Sources

U.S. Department of Labor – <http://1.usa.gov/UPoTuc>  
Heating and cooling degree days – <http://www.degreedays.net/>  
Partnership for Air-Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration Accreditation – [http://www.pahrahvacr.org/Content/Schools\\_38.html](http://www.pahrahvacr.org/Content/Schools_38.html)  
Trulia Real Estate Listings - [https://www.trulia.com/home\\_prices/](https://www.trulia.com/home_prices/)  
HVACR Workforce Development Foundation - <http://www.careersinhvacr.org/>