



# SOC Standard Occupational Classification System

The Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system is a system for classifying all occupations in the economy including private, public, and military occupations. SOC is the foundation of the O-NET system and is used by all federal statistical agencies to classify workers into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating, or disseminating data.

The occupations in the SOC are classified at four levels of aggregation to suit the needs of various data users: major group, minor group, broad occupation, and detailed occupation. Each lower level of detail identifies a more specific group of occupations. The 23 major groups, listed below, are divided into 97 minor groups, 461 broad occupations, and 840 detailed occupations.



*Making sense of occupational data isn't always easy. But the task is less daunting when the data are well organized. For Federal occupational statistics, the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system establishes that organization. [Summer 2010 • Occupational Outlook Quarterly]*

## Classification and Coding Structure

- 11-0000 Management Occupations
- 13-0000 Business & Financial Operations Occupations
- 15-0000 Computer & Mathematical Occupations
- 17-0000 Architecture & Engineering Occupations
- 19-0000 Life, Physical, & Social Science Occupations
- 21-0000 Community & Social Service Occupations
- 23-0000 Legal Occupations
- 25-0000 Education, Training, & Library Occupations
- 27-0000 Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations
- 29-0000 Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations
- 31-0000 Healthcare Support Occupations
- 33-0000 Protective Service Occupations
- 35-0000 Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations
- 37-0000 Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occupations
- 39-0000 Personal Care & Service Occupations
- 41-0000 Sales & Related Occupations
- 43-0000 Office & Administrative Support Occupations
- 45-0000 Farming, Fishing, & Forestry Occupations
- 47-0000 Construction & Extraction Occupations
- 49-0000 Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations
- 51-0000 Production Occupations
- 53-0000 Transportation & Material Moving Occupations
- 55-0000 Military Specific Occupations

## Coding Guidelines

- A worker should be assigned to an SOC occupation code based on work performed.
- When workers in a single job could be coded in more than one occupation, they should be coded in the occupation that requires the highest level of skill.
- Workers who perform activities not described in any distinct detailed occupation in the SOC structure should be coded in an appropriate "All Other" or residual occupation. These residual occupational categories appear as the last occupation in a group with a code ending in "9" and are identified by having the words "All Other" appear at the end of the title.
- Workers in Major Groups 33-0000 through 53-0000 who spend 80 percent or more of their time performing supervisory activities are coded in the appropriate first-line supervisor category in the SOC. In these same Major Groups (33-0000 through 53-0000), persons with supervisory duties who spend less than 80 percent of their time supervising are coded with the workers they supervise.
- Licensed and non-licensed workers performing the same work should be coded together in the same detailed occupation, except where specified otherwise in the SOC definition.

## SOC Codes For The Most Frequently Employed Occupations In Rhode Island (page 1 of 2)

11-0000	Management Occupations	25-0000	Education, Training, & Library Occupations
11-2021	Marketing Managers	25-2011	Preschool Teachers
11-2022	Sales Managers	25-2012	Kindergarten Teachers
11-3011	Administrative Services Managers	25-2021	Elementary School Teachers
11-3021	Computer & Information Systems Managers	25-2022	Middle School Teachers
11-3031	Financial Managers	25-2031	Secondary School Teachers
11-9032	Education Administrators, Elementary & Secondary	25-2041	Special Education Teachers
11-9033	Education Administrators, Postsecondary	25-2054	Special Education Teachers, Secondary School
11-9051	Food Service Managers	25-4021	Librarians
11-9111	Medical & Health Services Managers	25-9041	Teacher Assistants
11-9151	Social & Community Service Managers	27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, & Sports Occupations
11-1011	Chief Executives	27-1024	Graphic Designers
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	27-2022	Coaches & Scouts
13-0000	Business & Financial Operations Occupations	27-3031	Public Relations Specialists
13-1023	Purchasing Agents	29-0000	Healthcare Practitioner & Technical Occupations
13-1031	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, & Investigators	29-1051	Pharmacists
13-1051	Cost Estimators	29-1111	Registered Nurses
13-1111	Management Analysts	29-1123	Physical Therapists
13-1151	Training & Development Specialists	29-2011	Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technologists
13-1161	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	29-2021	Dental Hygienists
13-2011	Accountants & Auditors	29-2037	Radiologic Technologists & Technicians
13-2051	Financial Analysts	29-2041	Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics
13-2052	Personal Financial Advisors	29-2052	Pharmacy Technicians
13-2072	Loan Officers	29-2056	Veterinary Technologists & Technicians
13-2082	Tax Preparers	29-2061	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses
15-0000	Computer & Mathematical Science Occupations	29-2071	Medical Records & Health Information Technicians
15-1121	Computer Systems Analysts	31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations
15-1131	Computer Programmers	31-1011	Home Health Aides
15-1132	Software Developers, Applications	31-1012	Nursing Aides, Orderlies, & Attendants
15-1133	Software Developers, Systems Software	31-9091	Dental Assistants
15-1142	Network & Computer Systems Administrators	31-9092	Medical Assistants
15-1150	Computer Support Specialists	33-0000	Protective Service Occupations
15-1179	Info Security Analysts, Web, & Network Architects	33-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Police and Detectives
17-0000	Architecture & Engineering Occupations	33-1021	First-Line Supervisors: Fire Fighting Workers
17-2051	Civil Engineers	33-2011	Firefighters
17-2071	Electrical Engineers	33-3012	Correctional Officers & Jailers
17-2072	Electronics Engineers, Except Computer	33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers
17-2112	Industrial Engineers	33-9032	Security Guards
17-2141	Mechanical Engineers	35-0000	Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations
17-3023	Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technicians	35-1012	First-Line Supervisors: Food Preparation & Serving
19-0000	Life, Physical, & Social Science Occupations	35-2011	Cooks, Fast Food
19-3031	Clinical, Counseling, & School Psychologists	35-2012	Cooks, Institution & Cafeteria
21-0000	Community & Social Services Occupations	35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant
21-1012	Educational, Guidance, School, & Voc Counselors	35-2015	Cooks, Short Order
21-1014	Mental Health Counselors	35-2021	Food Preparation Workers
21-1021	Child, Family, & School Social Workers	35-3011	Bartenders
21-1022	Healthcare Social Workers	35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers
21-1023	Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, & Coffee Shop
21-1093	Social & Human Service Assistants	35-3031	Waiters & Waitresses
23-0000	Legal Occupations	35-3041	Food Servers, Nonrestaurant
23-1011	Lawyers	35-9011	Dining Room Attendants & Bartender Helpers
23-2011	Paralegals & Legal Assistants	35-9021	Dishwashers

## SOC Codes For The Most Frequently Employed Occupations In Rhode Island (page 2 of 2)

35-9031	Hosts, Restaurant, Lounge, & Coffee Shop	43-9022	Word Processors & Typists
37-0000	<b>Building Cleaning &amp; Maintenance Occupations</b>	43-9041	Insurance Claims & Policy Processing Clerks
37-2011	Janitors & Cleaners	43-9061	Office Clerks, General
37-2012	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	47-0000	<b>Construction &amp; Extraction Occupations</b>
37-3011	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	47-1011	First-Line Supervisors: Construction & Extraction
39-0000	<b>Personal Care &amp; Service Occupations</b>	47-2031	Carpenters
39-1021	First-Line Supervisors of Personal Service Workers	47-2061	Construction Laborers
39-5012	Hairdressers, Hairstylists, & Cosmetologists	47-2073	Operating Engineers
39-9011	Childcare Workers	47-2111	Electricians
39-9021	Personal Care Aides	47-2141	Painters, Construction & Maintenance
39-9031	Fitness Trainers & Aerobics Instructors	47-2152	Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters
39-9032	Recreation Workers	47-2211	Sheet Metal Workers
41-0000	<b>Sales &amp; Related Occupations</b>	47-4051	Highway Maintenance Workers
41-1011	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	49-0000	<b>Installation, Maintenance, &amp; Repair Occupations</b>
41-1012	First-Line Supervisors of Non-Retail Sales Workers	49-1011	First-Line Supervisors: Mechanics & Repairers
41-2011	Cashiers	49-3021	Automotive Body and Related Repairers
41-2012	Gaming Change Persons & Booth Cashiers	49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics
41-2021	Counter & Rental Clerks	49-3031	Bus & Truck Mechanics & Diesel Engine Specialists
41-2022	Parts Salespersons	49-9021	HVAC Mechanics & Installers
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	49-9041	Industrial Machinery Mechanics
41-3021	Insurance Sales Agents	49-9052	Telecommunications Line Installers & Repairers
41-3031	Securities, Commodities, & Financial Sales Agents	49-9071	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General
41-4011	Sales Representatives, Wholesale - Technical	51-0000	<b>Production Occupations</b>
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing	51-1011	First-Line Supervisors: Production Workers
43-0000	<b>Office &amp; Administrative Support Occupations</b>	51-2022	Electrical & Electronic Equipment Assemblers
43-1011	First-Line Supervisors: Office & Support Workers	51-2041	Structural Metal Fabricators & Fitters
43-2011	Switchboard Operators, Including Answering Service	51-2092	Team Assemblers
43-3011	Bill & Account Collectors	51-3011	Bakers
43-3021	Billing & Posting Clerks	51-4031	Cutting, Punching, & Press Machine Operators,
43-3031	Bookkeeping, Accounting, & Auditing Clerks	51-4033	Grinding, Polishing, & Buffing Machine Operators
43-3051	Payroll & Timekeeping Clerks	51-4041	Machinists
43-3071	Tellers	51-4072	Molding & Casting Machine Operators
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	51-4081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters & Operators
43-4061	Eligibility Interviewers, Government Programs	51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers
43-4071	File Clerks	51-5112	Printing Press Operators
43-4081	Hotel, Motel, & Resort Desk Clerks	51-6011	Laundry & Dry-Cleaning Workers
43-4121	Library Assistants, Clerical	51-6064	Textile Winding & Drawing Out Machine Operators
43-4131	Loan Interviewers & Clerks	51-9061	Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, & Weighers
43-4161	Human Resources Assistants	51-9071	Jewelers & Precious Stone & Metal Workers
43-4171	Receptionists & Information Clerks	51-9198	Helpers--Production Workers
43-5021	Couriers & Messengers	53-0000	<b>Transportation &amp; Material Moving Occupations</b>
43-5032	Dispatchers, Except Police, Fire, & Ambulance	53-1031	First-Line Supervisors:Transportation Workers
43-5052	Postal Service Mail Carriers	53-3022	Bus Drivers, School or Special Client
43-5053	Postal Service Mail Sorters & Processors	53-3031	Driver/Sales Workers
43-5061	Production, Planning, & Expediting Clerks	53-3032	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
43-5071	Shipping, Receiving, & Traffic Clerks	53-3033	Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers
43-5081	Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	53-3041	Taxi Drivers & Chauffeurs
43-6011	Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	53-7051	Industrial Truck & Tractor Operators
43-6012	Legal Secretaries	53-7061	Cleaners of Vehicles & Equipment
43-6013	Medical Secretaries	53-7062	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand
43-6014	Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	53-7064	Packers & Packagers, Hand
43-9021	Data Entry Keyers	53-7081	Refuse & Recyclable Material Collectors

## SOC Classification Principles

1. The SOC covers all occupations in which work is performed for pay or profit, including work performed in family-operated enterprises by family members who are not directly compensated. It excludes occupations unique to volunteers. Each occupation is assigned to only one occupational category at the lowest level of the classification.
2. Occupations are classified based on work performed and, in some cases, on the skills, education, and/or training needed to perform the work at a competent level.
3. Workers primarily engaged in planning and directing are classified in management occupations in Major Group 11-0000. Duties of these workers may include supervision.
4. Supervisors of workers in Major Groups 13-0000 through 29-0000 usually have work experience and perform activities similar to those of the workers they supervise, and therefore are classified with the workers they supervise.
5. Workers in Major Group 31-0000 Healthcare Support Occupations assist and are usually supervised by workers in Major Group 29-0000 Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations. Therefore, there are no first-line supervisor occupations in Major Group 31-0000.
6. Workers in Major Groups 33-0000 through 53-0000 whose primary duty is supervising are classified in the appropriate first-line supervisor category because their work activities are distinct from those of the workers they supervise.
7. Apprentices and trainees are classified with the occupations for which they are being trained, while helpers and aides are classified separately because they are not in training for the occupation they are helping.
8. If an occupation is not included as a distinct detailed occupation in the structure, it is classified in an appropriate "All Other," or residual, occupation. "All Other" occupations are placed in the structure when it is determined that the detailed occupations comprising a broad occupation group do not account for all of the workers in the group. These occupations appear as the last occupation in the group with a code ending in "9" and are identified in their title by having "All Other" appear at the end.
9. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau are charged with collecting and reporting data on total U.S. employment across the full spectrum of SOC major groups. Thus, for a detailed occupation to be included in the SOC, either the Bureau of Labor Statistics or the Census Bureau must be able to collect and report data on that occupation.

## High-level Aggregation

To present data at higher levels of aggregation than the SOC major groups and to maintain consistency and comparability across data sets, either the intermediate or the high-level aggregations can be used for data tabulation purposes.

Major groups included	High-level aggregation to 6 groups High-level aggregation title
11-29	Management, Business, Science, and Arts Occupations
31-39	Service Occupations
41-43	Sales and Office Occupations
45-49	Natural Resources, Construction, and Maintenance Occupations
51-53	Production, Transportation, and Material Moving Occupations
55	Military Specific Occupations

Major groups included	Intermediate aggregation to 13 groups Intermediate aggregation title
11-13	Management, Business, and Financial Occupations
15-19	Computer, Engineering, and Science Occupations
21-27	Education, Legal, Community Service, Arts, and Media Occupations
29	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations
31-39	Service Occupations
41	Sales and Related Occupations
43	Office and Administrative Support Occupations
45	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations
47	Construction and Extraction Occupations
49	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations
51	Production Occupations
53	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations
55	Military Specific Occupations

