MANUFACTURING GEORGIA · FOR EDUCATORS

Georgia technician numbers: citation sheet

Every figure below is from a federal or state government source. If a parent or administrator challenges a number, hand them this sheet. We would rather be checked than believed.

Measure	Georgia figure	Source (where to check it)
Industrial machinery mechanics, Georgia median annual wage SOC 49-9041	**$61,130**	BLS Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), Georgia https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_ga.htm
Same role, metro Atlanta mean annual wage SOC 49-9041, Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell MSA	**$65,780**	BLS OEWS, Atlanta metro area https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_12060.htm
Retail salespersons, Georgia median annual wage SOC 41-2031	**$30,840**	BLS OEWS, Georgia https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_ga.htm
First-line supervisors of retail sales workers, Georgia median SOC 41-1011	**$46,150**	BLS OEWS, Georgia https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_ga.htm
Projected growth, industrial machinery mechanics, Georgia SOC 49-9041, 2024 to 2034	**+20.2%**	Georgia Dept. of Labor long-term projections, via Projections Central https://projectionscentral.org/longterm
Average annual openings, same role, Georgia SOC 49-9041, 2024 to 2034	**1,440 per year**	Georgia Dept. of Labor long-term projections, via Projections Central https://projectionscentral.org/longterm

The comparison in one line

In Georgia, the median retail salesperson earns **$30,840** a year. The median industrial machinery mechanic (maintenance technician) earns **$61,130**, about twice as much, and the role is projected to grow **20.2%** by 2034 with about **1,440** openings a year.

How to check a figure yourself

Wages (BLS OEWS): open the Georgia or Atlanta metro page linked above, then search the page for the SOC code (for example 49-9041). The annual median and mean wages are in the last columns. BLS updates these tables each spring, so check the release date at the top of the page.

Growth and openings (projections): on Projections Central, choose Georgia, then search for "Industrial Machinery Mechanics". The table shows the 2024 base, the 2034 projection, percent change and average annual openings.

Median vs. mean: the median is the middle wage (half earn more, half earn less). The mean is the average. Statewide figures here are medians; the Atlanta figure is a mean, as labeled.