

BENEFITS OF WORKING IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

1. Salary

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the wage for construction jobs is 16% higher than that of other jobs. Obviously, this depends on factors such as labor market demand. Salary also depends on the skills and experience of employees, as well as their position. Recent reports from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) note that the construction industry had 410,000 vacant positions, even with the economy recovering. This means that job offers for construction workers are open right now, and very often.

2. The size of the industry

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, construction remains a growing industry thanks to population growth and aging buildings. The number of construction workers in the industry is expected to grow by 19% through 2018, compared to 11% for other industries. Construction is expected to grow for both new construction and refurbishment to operate on older versions of buildings, roads, and bridges.

3. Variety of specializations

Construction offers the opportunity for specialization to compete more effectively with other companies. While some companies offer general-contracting services, others specialize in new, "green" work of construction, civil building, or residential housing. Specialization allows companies to optimize production, so workers become more expert and familiar with processes, contributing to efficiency and safety.

4. Positive impact on the community

Starting a construction company has another advantage: positively impacting the community. Construction companies build housing for growing families and create large civic structures, libraries, schools, museums, and hospitals. They also work to maintain bridges and safe roads for passengers. Your successful construction company can help shape the city's visual appeal, attract tourists, and provide pleasant places for residents to enjoy.

5. High labor demand

With seven out of every ten jobs available in the United States requiring less than a four-year degree, the current job market is oversaturated with college graduates. By pursuing a craft career, you will be opening yourself up to more possibilities and opportunities. When you complete a technical degree, apprenticeship, or craft training certificate, you are highly marketable in the job market.

Additionally, with a skills gap and the upcoming wave of retirees, there will be a demand for 1 million craft professionals by 2023. This is a staggering deficit, but it allows new craftspeople to have many opportunities.

Want to know what the job demand is in your state? Look at BYF's Craft Demand Map and check out the demand for skilled crafts by state and specific crafts.

6. It's easy to enter and get started.

Another advantage to working in construction is that for many trades, it's easy to enter the trade and start a career – with almost no experience. For many trades, you can start as a laborer, work hard, learn the trade over a few years, and progress in your skills, position, and salary. Many contractors in trades like carpentry, remodeling, and more are looking for people that are hardworking and willing to learn. Here are a few skilled trades jobs you can get without experience. Not many other career options allow you to enter without a degree or formal training, start getting paid and work your way up to the position you want.

7. Stay physically active and healthy

In case you haven't heard the buzz, it turns out that sitting all day is terrible for your health (some people say, bad for your health). Our bodies were designed to move: to run, walk, bend, lift, and stretch. For years, most works were physically active work – and that wasn't looked down on; it was normal. In the past 20 years or so, it seems our culture has looked down on work that's physically demanding. But the reality is, if you work a construction job, you can be much more physically fit, healthy, and active during your day. Of course, the flip side of this is that it's very physically demanding work, and if you don't look after yourself, you can run your body into the ground. We'll discuss some of the health hazards below, but it's essential to know that working with your body all day can be very healthy.