

# Construction and Building Inspectors

SOC: 47-4011 • Career Profile Report

## ■ Key Facts

**\$72,120**

Median Salary

**1,200**

Employment

**-1.0%**

Growth Rate

## ■ Requirements & Salary Range

**Education:** High school diploma

## ■ Automation Risk Assessment

**Medium Risk** - 35.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

## ■■ Work-Life Balance

**9.0/10** - Excellent work-life balance

## ■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

|              |        |               |        |
|--------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| Realistic    | 9.4/10 | Investigative | 5.8/10 |
| Artistic     | 4.0/10 | Social        | 5.0/10 |
| Enterprising | 5.0/10 | Conventional  | 6.0/10 |

## ■ Top Skills Required

Communication skills, Detail oriented, Mechanical knowledge, Physical stamina

### ✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

### ■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

## ■ What They Do

Construction and Building Inspectors examine buildings, structures, and construction sites to ensure **compliance with building codes, safety regulations, and design specifications**. They help maintain safe, functional, and code-compliant structures. Their work is critical in construction, real estate, and public safety.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy problem-solving, attention to detail, and working with construction projects.

## What Do Construction and Building Inspectors Do?

Inspectors evaluate construction work, materials, and methods to ensure adherence to standards.

Common responsibilities include:

- Reviewing building plans and blueprints
- Inspecting construction sites for code compliance
- Checking structural integrity, plumbing, electrical, and mechanical systems
- Identifying safety hazards and recommending corrective actions
- Preparing detailed inspection reports
- Communicating findings to contractors, builders, or regulatory agencies
- Keeping up-to-date with building codes, regulations, and safety standards

## Key Areas of Construction and Building Inspection

Inspectors may focus on specific areas:

- Structural Inspection: Evaluating the strength and stability of buildings and components
- Electrical and Mechanical Systems: Ensuring proper installation and safety of utilities
- Safety Compliance: Monitoring construction sites to prevent accidents and hazards
- Plan Review: Checking blueprints and permits for regulatory adherence
- Quality Assurance: Verifying workmanship and materials meet required standards

## Skills and Abilities Needed

Inspectors combine technical knowledge with observational and analytical skills.

### **Core Professional Skills**

### **Personal Qualities That Matter**

## Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires education and field experience:

- High School Diploma or GED: Basic math, science, and technical knowledge
- On-the-Job Training or Apprenticeship: Experience under senior inspectors or in construction roles
- Certification or Licensing (often required): State or national certifications in building inspection or specialty areas
- Continuous Learning: Staying updated on code changes, safety standards, and inspection techniques

## Where Do Construction and Building Inspectors Work?

They are employed across industries that construct or regulate buildings:

- Government Agencies
- Construction Companies
- Engineering and Architectural Firms
- Real Estate and Property Management Companies
- Independent Consulting Services

Work environments include offices, construction sites, and field locations.

## Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires technical knowledge, attention to detail, and sometimes physical effort. Inspectors must identify potential safety hazards, ensure compliance with regulations, and manage multiple sites and reports.

## Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy construction, engineering, and safety regulations
- Have strong observational and analytical skills
- Are detail-oriented and methodical
- Can communicate effectively with builders and officials
- Want a career focused on safety, quality, and compliance

## How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in construction, engineering, or building technology
- Gain experience in construction or inspection-related roles
- Learn about building codes, safety standards, and regulations
- Explore apprenticeship or training programs in inspection
- Develop report writing and communication skills

**Construction and building inspectors ensure that structures are safe, code-compliant, and built to last, protecting people, property, and communities.**

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Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/construction-and-building-inspectors.htm>