

# Fishing and Hunting Workers

SOC: 45-3031 • Career Profile Report

## ■ Key Facts

N/A Median Salary	1,000 Employment	-5.0% Growth Rate
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## ■ Requirements & Salary Range

**Education:** No formal educational credential

## ■ Automation Risk Assessment

**Medium Risk** - 42.0% 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

**7.0/10** - Good work-life balance

## ■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	9.0/10	Investigative	7.0/10
Artistic	3.8/10	Social	5.6/10
Enterprising	5.6/10	Conventional	6.2/10

## ■ Top Skills Required

Critical-thinking skills, Detail oriented, Listening skills, Machine operation skills, Physical stamina, Physical strength

### ✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

### ■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

## ■ What They Do

Fishing and Hunting Workers are outdoor professionals who harvest **fish, wildlife, and other natural resources** for food, commercial sale, population management, or conservation purposes. Their work supports commercial fisheries, subsistence activities, wildlife management programs, and regulated hunting operations. This occupation requires deep knowledge of natural environments, species behavior, and strict adherence to safety and environmental regulations.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy physically demanding outdoor work, long periods in remote environments, and hands-on interaction with nature.

## What Do Fishing and Hunting Workers Do?

Fishing and hunting workers locate, capture, and process fish or game using specialized equipment and techniques appropriate to the environment and species.

Common responsibilities include:

- Locating fishing grounds or hunting areas
- Operating boats, vehicles, or tracking equipment
- Using nets, lines, traps, firearms, or bows safely and legally
- Harvesting, cleaning, and processing fish or game
- Preserving catches through icing, freezing, or storage
- Maintaining gear, vessels, weapons, and equipment
- Following conservation laws, quotas, and safety regulations

## Types of Fishing and Hunting Workers

This occupation includes several distinct roles:

- Commercial Fishers: Catch fish or shellfish for sale to processors or markets.
- Subsistence Fishers and Hunters: Harvest food primarily for personal or community use.
- Hunting Guides and Outfitters: Lead and assist clients during regulated hunts.
- Trappers: Capture animals for population control, fur, or research.
- Wildlife Harvest Workers: Support wildlife management or conservation programs.

## Skills and Abilities Needed

Fishing and hunting workers combine physical skill with environmental awareness.

### **Core Professional Skills**

### **Personal Qualities That Matter**

## Education and Training Pathway

Most fishing and hunting workers gain skills through hands-on experience rather than formal education:

- High School Diploma or Equivalent: Often preferred
- On-the-Job or Apprenticeship Training: Learning techniques from experienced workers
- Licenses and Permits: Required for fishing, hunting, or guiding
- Firearm and Boating Safety Training: Often mandatory
- Ongoing Skill Development: Adapting to seasons, species, and regulations

## Where Do Fishing and Hunting Workers Work?

These workers operate in natural and often remote environments:

- Oceans, Rivers, and Lakes
- Forests, Mountains, and Plains

- Commercial Fishing Vessels
- Hunting Lodges and Guide Operations
- Rural and Wilderness Areas

Work is highly seasonal and dependent on weather and wildlife patterns.

## How Much Do Fishing and Hunting Workers Earn?

Earnings vary widely based on activity, season, and location:

- Commercial Fishers: Income depends on catch size, species, and market prices
- Guides and Outfitters: Often earn income from fees and tips
- Seasonal or Subsistence Workers: May have variable or supplemental income

Income can fluctuate significantly year to year.

## Is This Career Difficult?

This career is physically demanding and can be hazardous. Workers face long hours, extreme weather, heavy equipment, and unpredictable conditions. The challenge lies in maintaining safety, endurance, and compliance with regulations while working in isolated environments.

## Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy outdoor, physically demanding work
- Are comfortable with risk and responsibility
- Prefer seasonal or nontraditional work schedules
- Have respect for wildlife and conservation
- Value independence and hands-on skill

## How to Prepare Early

- Learn boating, hunting, or fishing safety practices
- Build physical endurance and outdoor skills
- Study wildlife behavior and conservation rules
- Gain experience through guiding, deckhand, or field work
- Obtain required licenses and certifications

**Fishing and hunting workers rely on skill, endurance, and respect for nature to harvest vital resources responsibly, supporting food systems, conservation efforts, and cultural traditions rooted in the natural world.**

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Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/farming-fishing-and-forestry/fishers-and-related-fishing-workers.htm>