

Heavy Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Service Technicians

SOC: 49-3040 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$62,740

Median Salary

245,600

Employment

+6.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: High school diploma

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 25.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■■ Work-Life Balance

6.4/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	8.8/10	Investigative	7.4/10
Artistic	4.4/10	Social	5.6/10
Enterprising	4.6/10	Conventional	6.4/10

■ Top Skills Required

Dexterity, Mechanical skills, Organizational skills, Physical strength, Troubleshooting skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Heavy Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Service Technicians are skilled mechanics who inspect, maintain, and repair **large vehicles and mobile machinery** such as trucks, buses, construction equipment, agricultural machines, and industrial vehicles. Their work keeps essential transportation, construction, mining, and public service operations running safely and efficiently.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy hands-on mechanical work, troubleshooting complex systems, and working with large-scale equipment in demanding environments.

What Do Heavy Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Service Technicians Do?

These technicians diagnose and repair mechanical, electrical, and hydraulic systems in heavy vehicles and equipment. Their responsibilities focus on safety, reliability, and performance.

Common responsibilities include:

- Inspecting heavy vehicles and mobile equipment for defects
- Diagnosing mechanical, electrical, or hydraulic issues
- Repairing or replacing engines, transmissions, brakes, and steering systems
- Servicing diesel engines and fuel systems
- Maintaining hydraulic, pneumatic, and electronic controls
- Performing routine maintenance such as oil changes and filter replacement
- Documenting repairs and maintenance activities

Types of Heavy Equipment Technicians

This occupation includes several specialized roles:

- Heavy Truck Mechanics: Service commercial trucks and tractor-trailers.
- Bus and Transit Mechanics: Maintain public transportation vehicles.
- Construction Equipment Technicians: Repair excavators, bulldozers, and cranes.
- Agricultural Equipment Technicians: Service tractors, harvesters, and farm machinery.
- Mobile Equipment Repairers: Maintain industrial or mining vehicles.
- Diesel Service Technicians: Specialize in diesel-powered equipment.

Skills and Abilities Needed

Heavy vehicle technicians combine mechanical expertise with problem-solving ability.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Training Pathway

Most heavy vehicle and mobile equipment service technicians enter the field through technical training and hands-on experience:

- High School Diploma or Equivalent: Typical minimum requirement
- Technical or Vocational Training: Diesel technology or heavy equipment programs
- Apprenticeships or On-the-Job Training: Supervised learning with experienced technicians
- Manufacturer or Industry Certifications (optional): Specialized equipment credentials
- Ongoing Training: Updates on electronic controls and emissions systems

Where Do Heavy Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Service Technicians Work?

These technicians work in environments that rely on large machinery:

- Truck and Bus Repair Shops
- Construction and Mining Sites
- Agricultural Operations and Dealerships
- Public Transit and Municipal Fleets
- Industrial Facilities and Warehouses
- Equipment Rental and Service Companies

Work may occur indoors, outdoors, or at field locations.

How Much Do Heavy Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Service Technicians Earn?

Earnings vary by specialization, experience, and industry:

- Entry-Level Technicians: Typically earn hourly wages during training
- Experienced or Certified Technicians: Often earn higher pay due to technical skill
- Field or Specialized Equipment Technicians: May earn more with advanced expertise

Compensation may include overtime and shift differentials.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career is physically and technically demanding. Technicians work with heavy components, complex systems, and sometimes in challenging environments. The challenge lies in diagnosing sophisticated mechanical and electronic issues while maintaining safety and efficiency.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy mechanical and technical problem-solving
- Prefer hands-on, practical work
- Are comfortable working with large machinery
- Want a skilled trade with strong demand
- Like learning evolving vehicle technologies

How to Prepare Early

- Study basic mechanics, electronics, and diesel systems
- Learn to use hand and power tools safely
- Gain experience through vocational programs or apprenticeships
- Develop troubleshooting and diagnostic skills
- Research manufacturer-specific training opportunities

Heavy vehicle and mobile equipment service technicians keep vital industries moving by maintaining and repairing the powerful machines that support transportation, construction, agriculture, and public services every day.