



HVAC TECHNICIAN CAREER FACTS AND FORECAST

There's no getting around the fact that people need HVAC systems to maintain comfortable environments indoors. This means talented individuals who work on HVAC systems, HVAC technicians, are and will continue to be important members of the labor force. Here are some quick facts about HVAC technicians and some insight as to what the future holds for the profession.

INSTALL, MAINTAIN AND REPAIR

Much of what an HVAC technician does falls under the categories of installation, maintenance or repair. People depend heavily on these services, especially in climates where HVAC systems are used year-round.

DIVERSE SKILL SET

HVAC technicians need more than technical skills and knowledge to be successful. They also need skills like customer service, time management and critical thinking.

CONTRACTORS ARE BIGGEST EMPLOYERS

According to the BLS, contractors employed 64 percent of HVAC technicians in the workforce in 2016. The next most common employers were the technicians themselves.

MANY WORK SETTINGS

HVAC technicians can work in a variety of settings, including residential buildings, commercial office spaces and schools. Work setting is largely dependent on the needs of their respective contractor.

TRADE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Most HVAC technicians prepare to enter the field by enrolling in HVAC programs at a community college or trade school. Depending on the program and degree, most can be finished in less than two years.

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

Even after finishing a trade school program, entry-level HVAC technicians do a substantial amount of on-the-job learning. Entry-level technicians typically learn from those with more experience and gradually gain responsibilities as they grow.

IN DEMAND

The BLS projects employment of HVAC technicians to increase by 15 percent through 2026 compared to 2016. This presents an opportunity for individuals considering a skilled trades career



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