

# Automotive Service Technician / Mechanic

## PANHANDLE

*Average Wage*  
\$15.16

*Average Annual  
Job Openings*  
45

*Employment in*  
2004      2014  
1,050    1,200

## TEXAS

*Average Wage*  
\$15.84

*Average Annual  
Job Openings*  
2,380

*Employment in*  
2004      2014  
51,000    61,250

## UNITED STATES

*Employment in*  
2006  
642,360

*Female*    2%  
*Minority* 40%

## EMPLOYMENT CODES

*OES 85302*

*O\*NET 49-3023.01*

*Automotive Service  
Technicians & Mechanics*

## JOB DESCRIPTION

Adjust, repair, and overhaul automotive vehicles. May use computerized diagnostic equipment to identify engine malfunctions. May estimate damage for customer and negotiate repair cost.



## SKILLS AND APTITUDES NEEDED

- ◆ Mechanical aptitude
- ◆ Good reading, mathematics, and computer skills
- ◆ Strong communication and analytical skills
- ◆ Basic knowledge in automotive repair, electronics, chemistry and physics



Automotive mechanics inspect, maintain, and repair automobiles and light trucks, such as vans and pickups, with gasoline engines. Because so many auto components now use electronics, mechanics must be familiar with at least the basic principles of electronics to recognize a malfunction and be able to test and replace electronic components. Although some problems can be fixed with simple computerized adjustments, mechanics frequently work with dirty and greasy parts, and in awkward positions. They often lift heavy parts and tools. Dealers typically furnish expensive power tools, engine analyzers, and other diagnostic equipment but mechanics usually provide their own hand tools and many experienced workers have a large amount of money invested in them.

Continuing education throughout a career in auto mechanics is required to gain new skills and to keep up with technological changes in automotive parts, materials and electronics.

## PANHANDLE AREA PUBLIC TRAINING PROVIDERS

Training Provider	Direct	Related	Education Offering
Amarillo College Amarillo, Dumas, Hereford	√		A.A.S. (Associate in Applied Science Degree), Automotive Technology
	√		Certificate of Completion (Automotive Technology)

For information on public training providers outside of the Panhandle Area, please refer to the Resource Index.

### LICENSE/CERTIFICATION

Optional: National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) Certification

### HIGHEST EMPLOYMENT LEVELS BY INDUSTRY

Automotive Repair & Maintenance	34%
Automobile Dealers	23%
Self-employment/Unpaid Family Workers	17%
Automobile Parts, Accessories, & Tire Stores	7%
General Merchandise Stores	5%
Local Government	4%
Motor Vehicle/Vehicle Parts & Supplies	2%
Gasoline Stations	2%

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Automotive Service Association, Inc., P.O. Box 929, Bedford, TX 76095-0929, (800) 272-7467, <http://www.asashop.org>

National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation, 101 Blue Seal Drive, Suite 101, Leesburg, VA 20175, (703) 669-6650, <http://www.natef.org>

National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), 101 Blue Seal Drive, SE, Suite 101, Leesburg, VA 20175, toll free (888) 273-8378, <http://www.asecert.org>

For additional website sources, please refer to the Resource Index.

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