

Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanic

PANHANDLE

Average Wage
\$17.16

*Average Annual
Job Openings*
15

<i>Employment in</i>	
<i>2004</i>	<i>2014</i>
350	450

TEXAS

Average Wage
\$17.50

*Average Annual
Job Openings*
1,030

<i>Employment in</i>	
<i>2004</i>	<i>2014</i>
23,800	30,950

UNITED STATES

*Employment in
2006*
250,970

Female 1%
Minority 28%

EMPLOYMENT CODES

OES 85902

O*NET 49-9021.02
*Heating, Air Conditioning,
and Refrigeration Mechanics*

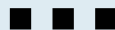
JOB DESCRIPTION

Install and repair heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration systems.



SKILLS AND APTITUDES NEEDED

- ◆ Basic knowledge of plumbing, electrical work, mechanical drawing, applied physics, chemistry, blueprint reading, computer applications
- ◆ Basic understanding of microelectronics
- ◆ Interpersonal skills for dealing with customers
- ◆ Good physical condition



Heating and air conditioning mechanics install, maintain, and repair systems which control temperature, humidity, and the total air quality in residential, commercial, and industrial facilities. Heating and A/C systems consist of many mechanical, electrical, and electronic components such as motors, compressors, pumps, fans, ducts, pipes, thermostats, and switches.

When mechanics service equipment, they must use care to conserve, recover, and recycle chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) and hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) refrigerants used in A/C and refrigeration systems. They recover it by venting it into proper cylinders and recycle it for reuse with special filter-dryers.

Mechanics may work outside in cold or hot weather or in buildings which are uncomfortable because the A/C or heating equipment is malfunctioning. They often work in awkward or cramped positions and must sometimes work in high places. They risk injuries from electrical shock and burns. Appropriate safety equipment is necessary when handling refrigerants because contact can cause skin damage or blindness, and inhalation can cause asphyxiation.

PANHANDLE AREA PUBLIC TRAINING PROVIDERS

Training Provider	Direct Training	Related Training	Education Offering
Amarillo College Amarillo, Dumas, Hereford	√	√	A.A.S (Associate in Applied Science Degree), Industrial Maintenance Technology Major Certificate of Completion (Industrial Maintenance Technology)
Frank Phillips College Borger, Perryton		√	Certification of Completion (Air Conditioning/Heating)

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

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION

Optional: North American Technician Excellence, Inc. (NATE) Certification
(Air Conditioning Excellence Program)

Optional: Journeyman's License

Required: Certification for the purchase or handling of specific refrigerants

HIGHEST EMPLOYMENT LEVELS BY INDUSTRY

Building Equipment Contractors	50%	Elementary/Secondary Schools	6%
Self-employed/Unpaid Family Workers	13%	Local Government	2%
Hardware/Plumbing/Heating Equipment Supplies	9%	Federal Government	1%
Commercial/Industrial Machinery and Equipment	6%	Animal Slaughtering/Processing	1%

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Air Conditioning Contractors of America, 2800 Shirlington Rd., Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22206, (703) 575-4477, <http://www.acca.org>

North American Technician Excellence (NATE), 4100 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 210, Arlington, VA 22203, toll free (877) 420-6283, <http://www.natex.org>

Associated Plumbing, Heating, & Cooling Contractors, Texas Panhandle Chapter, 87 N. Fannin, Amarillo, TX 79106, (806) 376-9797

Associated Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors of Texas, 505 E. Huntland Dr., Suite 170, Austin, TX 78752, (800) 831-9313, <http://www.phcc-tx.org>

Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association, 180 S. Washington St., P. O. Box 6808, Falls Church, VA 22040, (800) 533-7694, <http://www.phccweb.org>

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

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