



July 2008

Jobfox Top 20 Most Recession-Proof Professions

Sales Representatives, Software Developers and Nurses
Identified as Best Able to Survive Stormy Economy

About this Special Report:

Each month, Jobfox ranks the top 25 professions in greatest demand by recruiters and other employer agents who use Jobfox's precision matching engine to find new or replacement workers. The **Jobfox Top 20 Most Recession-Proof Professions** is a special report (see page 4) derived from these monthly rankings and covering available jobs during a period from November 2007 through July 7, 2008. The most recession-proof professions are identified as those with the best median monthly rankings over this time period.

About the Monthly Rankings

Rankings for each month are derived from a stratified random sample of more than 4,000 U.S. job openings posted on the Jobfox database. All active postings made within a 120-day time period are considered to ensure the sample contains both new postings and older postings for which hires have not yet been made. More than 150 distinct professions are analyzed to determine the 25 professions that are most often the targets of Jobfox employers. This report also includes the current month's rankings of the **Jobfox Top 25 Most Wanted U.S. job Candidates: July 2008** (see pages 5 and 6), reflecting the rankings of the most wanted U.S. professions during a 120-day period ending July 7, 2008.

The monthly report also captures the median salary ranges desired by candidates for the most wanted professions. Median salaries are determined from a stratified random sample of more than 100,000 Jobfox candidate profiles matched to specific professions during the 120-day period.

The information in this report is not intended to be a representative sample of all U.S. job openings or professionals. However, the findings are robust and provide job candidates, recruiters, employers, researchers and others with insightful about professional trends shaping the U.S. job market.

Recession-Busting Jobs

This longitudinal report identified the Top 20 professions that are best able to weather continued job erosion in the weakened U.S. economy. These are the professions that have most consistently remained in highest demand over a more than eight-month period dating from November 2007 through July 7, 2008 — a critical period of economic slowdown in the United States. Based on Jobfox's analysis, the Top 5 most recession-proof professions are: (1) Sales Representative/Business Development, (2) Software Design/Development, (3) Nursing, (4) Accounting & Finance Executive and (5) Accounting Staff. For the complete list, please see the chart on page 4 of this report.

Overall, the technology sector had the most professions in the **Jobfox Top 20 Most Recession-Proof Professions**. Software Design/Development, Networking/System Administration, Business Administration (Software Implementation), Testing/Quality Assurance, Database Administration and Technology Executive remain strong technology professions despite the lackluster job market.

About July's Findings

The **Jobfox Top 25 Most Wanted U.S. Job Candidates: July 2008** rankings — a more current snapshot of job openings created by employers during a 120-day period from March 7, 2008, to July 7, 2008, placed the following professions in the Top 5: (1) Nursing, (2) Sales Representative/Business Development, (3) Mechanical Engineering, (4) Software Design/Development and (5) Account/Customer Support.

Two rapidly rising professions are noteworthy in the July report. Mechanical Engineering has steadily climbed up the Jobfox rankings, moving from No. 19 in May, to No. 10 in June and now sitting at No. 3 in the July report. Account/Customer Support moved up from No. 16 in the June report to No. 5 in July.

Of Note from the U.S. Labor Department

According to the U.S. Labor Department's report on June unemployment figures, the most highly educated workers continue to enjoy relatively low unemployment rates compared to

workers with limited or no education.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in June, for workers with bachelor's degrees and higher, was 2.3 percent, according to Labor Department. This compares to seasonally adjusted unemployment rates of 4.2 percent for workers with some college or associate degrees, 5.1 percent for high school graduates and 8.7 percent for professionals with less than a high school diploma.

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Special Jobfox Report: Top 20 Most Recession-Proof Professions*

Rank	Profession	Jobfox Comments
1	Sales Representative/ Business Development	Experienced sales representatives remain in high demand.
2	Software Design/ Development	Computer software engineers are expected to be among the fastest-growing occupations through 2016, according to the Department of Labor.
3	Nursing	As the Baby Boomers age, the employment outlook remains strong for nurses. However, employment opportunities may vary by geographic location.
4	Accounting & Finance Executive	Tougher accounting and auditing regulations are mostly responsible for the growth of this profession. Jobfox saw a slight slippage in demand in its July rankings.
5	Accounting Staff	Companies searching for prior experience as well as college graduates with accounting degrees.
6	Networking/Systems Administration	A limited supply of qualified workers in this profession.
7	Administrative Assistant	Companies report the need to replace retiring administrative assistants and those who move on to other career challenges.
8	Business Analysis (Software Implementation)	In demand, but competition is fierce for top positions. Fell from No. 9 to No. 19 in Jobfox's July rankings. Good timing is important.
9	Business Analysis (Research)	Fell from No. 8 to No. 13 in Jobfox's July rankings.
10	Finance Staff	The most experienced get the best job opportunities.
11	Project Management	Very good employment prospects for this profession.
12	Testing/Quality Assurance	Especially good for those with automated testing expertise.
13	Product Management	Jobfox continues to see average job growth for this profession.
14	Database Administration	High demand for the highly skilled.
15	Account/Customer Support	Moved up in Jobfox's monthly rankings from No. 16 in June to No. 5 in July.
16	Technology Executive	Especially good prospects for those with cutting-edge mobile technology and Web 2.0 skills.
17	Electrical Engineering	Strong demand for experience with electrical devices, according to the Department of Labor.
18	Sales Executive	Those with proven track records and great people skills have the advantage.
19	Mechanical Engineering	New opportunities due to emerging technologies in biotech, materials science and nanotechnology, according to the Labor Department. Moved from No. 19 in May, to No. 10 in June and sits at No 3 in the July Jobfox rankings.
20	Government Contracts Administration	One of the most consistent professions across good and bad economies.

*Based on a Jobfox analysis of monthly rankings of professions over an eight-month period dating from November 2007 through July 7, 2008.

Jobfox Top 25 Most Wanted U.S. Job Candidates: July 2008*

Rank	Prior Month's Rank	Profession	U.S. Median Salary**	Profession Description
1	5	Nursing	\$35-\$45K	Includes RNs, LPNs or nursing assistants at hospitals, residential facilities, private practices, home care, etc.
2	2	Sales Representative/ Business Development	\$65-\$75K	Focus on the typical full-sales cycle and business development including inside or outside sales.
3	10	Mechanical Engineering	\$65-\$75K	Analyze, design or manufacture mechanical systems including maintenance of these systems.
4	1	Software Design/ Development	\$85-95K	Design or development of software including architecture, user-interface, applications, operating systems, device drivers, etc.
5	16	Account/Customer Support	\$35-\$45K	Non-technical customer service representatives in a call center or corporate environment. Includes account managers with assigned clients.
6	4	Accounting Staff	\$45-\$55K	Accounting functions and processes within public or private organizations.
7	11	Administrative Assistant	\$35-\$45K	Administrative and secretarial support of a department or individual (excludes Legal Administrative Assistant).
8	7	Counseling/Social Work	\$35-\$45K	The practice and delivery of cognitive, expressive or behavioral therapy including social workers.
9	3	Accounting & Finance Executive	\$65-\$75K	Management or oversight of accounting/finance functions.
10	6	Networking/System Administration	\$65-\$75K	Installation and monitoring of computer networks including system administration roles.
11	NR	Store Management	\$45-\$55K	Involved in the daily operations of a retail store including buying, loss prevention, merchandising, operations and store management.
12	15	Finance Staff	\$65-\$75K	Involved with planning and budgeting, financial analysis, investor relations, reporting, partnerships, due diligence, investments and valuations.
13	8	Business Analysis (Research)	\$65-\$75K	Collection and research that is turned into value-added information for organizations (includes work inside companies or with consulting firms).
14	NR	Restaurant/Banquet Services	\$25-\$35K	Individuals who work in the back of the house in a restaurant including chefs and kitchen managers.
15	17	Electrical Engineering	\$65-\$75K	Design of electrical systems or complex electronic circuits within a structure, facility or power generating environment.

*Top 25 most wanted professions by Jobfox employers during a 120-day period ending July 7, 2008.

**Defined by Jobfox candidates with matching profession profiles during a 120-day period ending July 7, 2008.

Jobfox Top 25 Most Wanted U.S. Job Candidates: June 2008*

Rank	Prior Month's Rank	Profession	U.S. Median Salary**	Profession Description
16	13	Project/Engagement Management	\$85-\$95K	Lifecycle project management from concept introduction to close-out.
17	18	Sales Executive	\$85-\$95K	Managers of a team of sales representatives or an entire sales department. Responsible for territory assignments and commission structures.
18	14	Database Administration	\$75-\$85K	Administer and support company databases including database creation, monitoring and troubleshooting.
19	9	Business Analysis (Software Implementation)	\$85-\$95K	Management, configuration and customization of software in a corporate environment or with a consulting firm.
20	12	Testing/Quality Assurance	\$65-\$75K	Testers, quality assurance engineers or testing managers who test applications, primarily software, using manual or automated testing tools.
21	24	Recruiting/Staffing	\$65-\$75K	Involved with the recruiting/staffing functions within an organization.
22	NR	Advertising (Online and Offline)	\$55-\$65K	Account management, media planning, creative, production and budgeting, including individuals at an advertising agency or in-house department.
23	19	Product Management	\$85-\$95K	Management of existing products or development of new products including product promotion and maximizing profitability.
24	NR	Senior Executive Assistant	\$45-\$55K	Providing the highest levels of administrative/secretarial support to senior-level management or C-level executives including research, preparing statistical reports and handling information requests.
25	NR	Retail Banking	\$35-\$45K	Work in a branch of a retail bank including branch managers and tellers.

*Top 25 most wanted professions by Jobfox employers during a 120-day period ending July 7, 2008.

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About Jobfox

Jobfox gives job candidates and organizations complete controls to connect with each other — in real time — by providing intelligent skills matching and popular communication tools such as instant messaging and mobile text messaging alerts. Jobfox provides free Web pages for job seekers to showcase their unique skills, talents, work-styles, career desires and job-change receptivity. Visit www.jobfox.com today.



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