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California Employment Development Department

[Back](#)

Photographers (SOC Code : 27-4021) in California

Photograph persons, subjects, merchandise, or other commercial products. May develop negatives and produce finished prints. Include scientific photographers, aerial photographers, and photojournalists.

Employers usually expect an employee in this occupation to be able to do the job after Long-term on-the-job training (> 12 months) .

Occupational Wages

[\[Top\]](#)

Area	Year	Period	Hourly Mean	Hourly by Percentile		
				25th	Median	75th
California	2017	1st Qtr	\$24.87	\$12.62	\$20.44	\$34.59

[View Wages for All Areas](#) [About Wages](#)

Occupational Projections of Employment (also called "Outlook" or "Demand")

[\[Top\]](#)

Area	Estimated Year-Projected Year	Employment		Employment Change		Annual Avg Openings
		Estimated	Projected	Number	Percent	
California	2014 - 2024	16,100	18,200	2,100	13.0	600

[View Projections for All Areas](#) [About Projections](#)

Job Openings from JobCentral National Labor Exchange

[\[Top\]](#)

Enter a Zip Code [Find a Zip code in California](#)

Within miles of Zip Code.

Industries Employing This Occupation (click on Industry Title to View Employers List)

[\[Top\]](#)

Industry Title	Number of Employers in State of California	Percent of Total Employment for Occupation in State of California
Other Professional & Technical Services	21,006	25.4%
Motion Picture and Video Industries	5,154	2.7%
Radio and Television Broadcasting	1,928	1.8%

[About Staffing Patterns](#)

Training Programs (click on title for more information)

[\[Top\]](#)

Program Title

[Art/Art Studies, General](#)

[Commercial Photography](#)

[Digital Arts](#)

[Photography](#)

[Photojournalism](#)

[About Training & Apprenticeships](#)

About This Occupation (from O*NET - The Occupation Information Network)

[\[Top\]](#)

Top Tasks (Specific duties and responsibilities of this job.)

Take pictures of individuals, families, and small groups, either in studio or on location.

Adjust apertures, shutter speeds, and camera focus based on a combination of factors such as lighting, field depth, subject motion, film type, and film speed.

Use traditional or digital cameras, along with a variety of equipment such as tripods, filters, and flash attachments.

Transfer photographs to computers for editing, archiving, and electronic transmission.

Determine desired images and picture composition, selecting and adjusting subjects, equipment, and lighting to achieve desired effects.

Create artificial light, using flashes and reflectors.

Scan photographs into computers for editing, storage, and electronic transmission.

Test equipment prior to use to ensure that it is in good working order.

Review sets of photographs to select the best work.

Estimate or measure light levels, distances, and numbers of exposures needed, using measuring devices and formulas.

[More Tasks for Photographers](#)

Top Skills used in this Job

Active Listening - Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.

Speaking - Talking to others to convey information effectively.

Social Perceptiveness - Being aware of others` reactions and understanding why they react as they do.

Judgment and Decision Making - Considering the relative costs and benefits of potential actions to choose the most appropriate one.

Instructing - Teaching others how to do something.

Critical Thinking - Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.

Monitoring - Monitoring/Assessing performance of yourself, other individuals, or organizations to make improvements or take corrective action.

Operations Analysis - Analyzing needs and product requirements to create a design.

Reading Comprehension - Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.

Complex Problem Solving - Identifying complex problems and reviewing related information to develop and evaluate options and implement solutions.

More Skills for Photographers

Top Abilities (Attributes of the person that influence performance in this job.)

Oral Comprehension - The ability to listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.

More Abilities for Photographers

Top Work Values (Aspects of this job that create satisfaction.)

Independence - Occupations that satisfy this work value allow employees to work on their own and make decisions.

Relationships - Occupations that satisfy this work value allow employees to provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly non-competitive environment.

More Work Values for Photographers

Top Interests (The types of activities someone in this job would like.)

Artistic - Artistic occupations frequently involve working with forms, designs and patterns. They often require self-expression and the work can be done without following a clear set of rules.

Realistic - Realistic occupations frequently involve work activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions. They often deal with plants, animals, and real-world materials like wood, tools, and machinery. Many of the occupations require working outside, and do not involve a lot of paperwork or working closely with others.

More Interests for Photographers

Related Links

[LMI for Job Seekers](#)

[Local Area Profile](#)

[Compare Occupations](#)

[O*Net - The Occupation Information Network](#)