

Construction Employment Outlook

The construction industry currently employs more than 8.1 million people (Figure 1), but more talent is in demand as construction spending is projected to increase over the next few years.² It is estimated that the construction industry will need more than half a million new skilled workers each year.^{3,4}

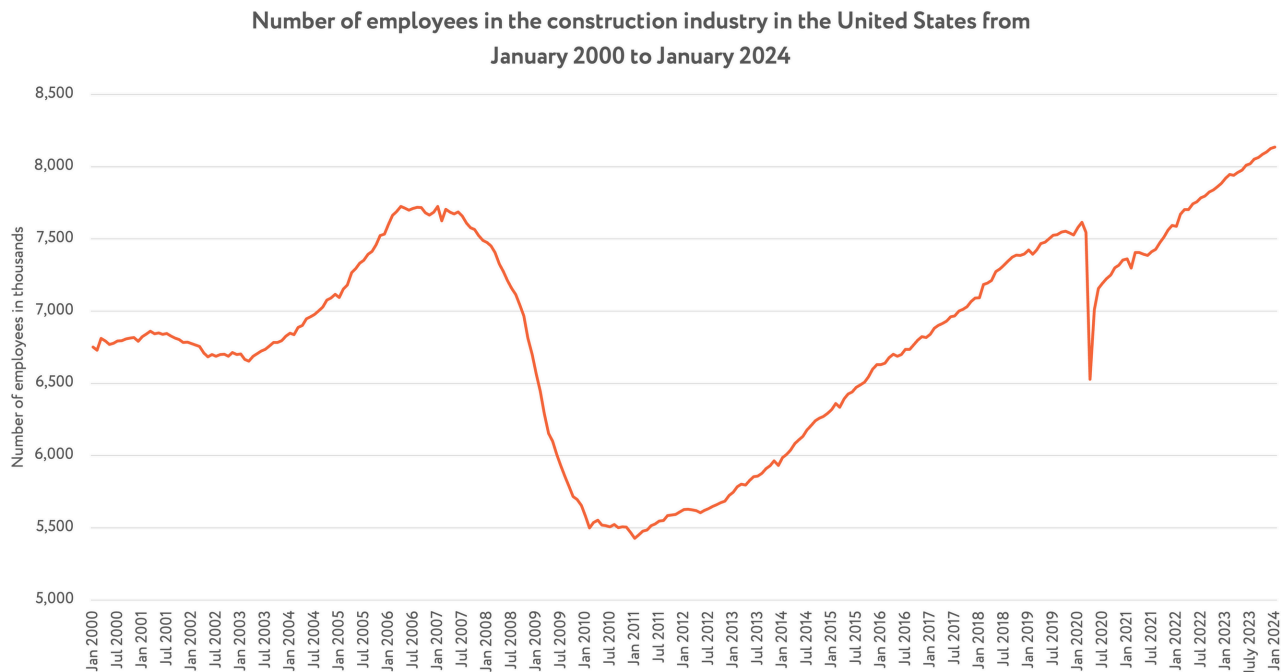


Figure 1. Number of employees in the construction industry in the United States from January 2000 to January 2024

There are abundant jobs available in all crafts across the United States, with Craft Laborers continuing to be the number one in-demand craft (Table 1).⁵

Craft	Demand	Craft	Demand
Craft Laborer	2,449,419	Electrician	624,900
Carpenter	1,547,824	Boilermaker	544,095
Mason	868,324	Roofer	368,647
Heavy Equipment Operator	661,439	Pipefitter	328,855
Ironworker	655,402	Painter	323,336

Table 1. Ten most in-demand crafts in the United States

¹ Data from Bureau of Labor Statistics; St. Louis Fed fred.stlouisfed.org. Retrieved May 22, 2024, from <https://www.statista.com/statistics/187412/number-of-employees-in-us-construction/>
² <https://fmicorp.com/insights/construction-outlook/2024-north-american-engineering-and-construction-overview-second-quarter>
³ <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/home.htm>
⁴ <https://www.abc.org/News-Media/News-Releases/abc-2024-construction-workforce-shortage-tops-half-a-million>
⁵ Data provided by the Construction Labor Market Analyzer® www.myCLMA.com. Retrieved May 22, 2024, from <https://www.byf.org/explore/demand-map/>