
Best Jobs 2014

by the Editors

A mathematical education is more important for today's workplace than ever before. The concepts of mathematics permeate physics, fluid dynamics, atmospheric science, economics, and biology. Mathematical disciplines such as game theory, stochastic calculus, and cryptography find ever-broader applicability in the workplace.

Careers in mathematically oriented fields rank among the most desirable and best-paying—with “mathematician” topping the bill—in the “2014 Jobs Rated” report published by job-search website career-cast.com¹, and cited in an online article by Adam Auriemma in the *Wall Street Journal*.² The report ranks mathematician, statistician, and computer systems analyst among the 10 *best* mid-level income jobs of 2014. Two hundred types of jobs were studied and compared with regard to workplace environment, pay, and potential for the future.³

Here are the 10 *best* mid-level income jobs of 2014 (with their median annual salaries) according to the report.

1. Mathematician / \$101,360
2. Tenured University Professor / \$68,970
3. Statistician / \$75,560

4. Actuary / \$93,680
5. Audiologist / \$69,720
6. Dental Hygienist / \$70,210
7. Software Engineer / \$93,350
8. Computer Systems Analyst / \$79,680
9. Occupational Therapist / \$75,400
10. Speech Pathologist / \$69,870

Incidentally, the report ranked the following as the 10 *worst* mid-level income jobs of 2014:⁴

200. Lumberjack / \$24,340
199. Newspaper Reporter / \$37,090
198. Enlisted Military Personnel / \$28,840
197. Taxi Driver / \$22,820
196. Broadcaster / \$55,380
195. Head Cook / \$42,480
194. Flight Attendant / \$37,240
193. Garbage Collector / \$22,970
192. Firefighter / \$45,250
191. Corrections Officer / \$38,970

¹ Kyle Kensing, “The Best Jobs of 2014”, <http://www.career-cast.com/jobs-rated/best-jobs-2014>.

² Adam Auriemma, “The Best Jobs of 2014”, *Wall Street Journal* online, 14 April 2014, <http://blogs.wsj.com/at-work/2014/04/15/best-jobs-of-2014-congratulations-mathematicians>.

³ “2014 Jobs Rated Methodology”, <http://www.career-cast.com/jobs-rated/2014-jobs-rated-methodology>.

⁴ Kyle Kensing, “The Worst Jobs of 2014”, <http://www.career-cast.com/jobs-rated/worst-jobs-2014>.