

Occupational Profile
Diesel/Bus/Truck Mechanics
OES (Occupational Employment Statistics) CODE: 85311

Cameron County		Hidalgo/Starr/Willacy Counties	
Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010	Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010
210	240	330	370
Absolute Change		Absolute Change	
#	%	#	%
30	14.3	40	12.1
Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement	Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement
No	1:1	No	1:2
Hourly Wage 2002		Hourly Wage 2002	
Mean	Median	Mean	Median
\$10.90	\$10.33	\$11.16	\$10.10

Job Description:

Diesel Mechanics repair and maintain diesel engines that power transportation equipment, such as heavy trucks, buses, and locomotives. Some diesel mechanics and technicians also work on bulldozers, cranes, road graders, farm tractors, and combines; and a small number repair automobiles or boats. Diesel mechanics use a variety of tools in their work, including power tools, such as pneumatic wrenches to remove bolts quickly; machine tools, like lathes and grinding machines to rebuild brakes; welding and flame-cutting equipment to remove and repair exhaust systems; and jacks and hoists to lift and move large parts.

Average Education Required

Most occupations in this zone require training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree.

Related Occupations

Related mechanic and technician occupations include aircraft mechanics, automotive mechanics, and service technicians, boat engine mechanics, farm equipment mechanics, and mobile heavy equipment mechanics.

Skills Required

- Repairing -- Repairing machines or systems using the needed tools
- Troubleshooting -- Determining what is causing an operating error and deciding what to do about it
- Equipment Maintenance -- Performing routine maintenance and determining when and what kind of maintenance is needed
- Equipment Selection -- Determining the kind of tools and equipment needed to do a job
- Installation -- Installing equipment, machines, wiring, or programs to meet specifications
- Product Inspection -- Inspecting and evaluating the quality of products
- Testing -- Conducting tests to determine whether equipment, software, or procedures are operating as expected

Problem Identification -- Identifying the nature of problems

Industrial Employment Patterns		
Industry Code	Industry	Percent of Employees
4210	Trucking and Courier Services, ex. Air	17.7%
9300	Local Government, except Education	10.2%
5080	Machinery, Equipment, and Supplies	9.2%
5010	Motor Vehicles, Parts and Supplies	8.7%
8820	Self-employed & Unpaid Family Workers	5.6%
8210	Elementary and Secondary Schools	5.4%
7530	Automobile Repair Shops	4.5%
7510	Automotive Rentals, No Drivers	4.0%
5510	New & Used Car Dealers	3.6%