

**Occupational Profile**  
**Protective Service Occupations**  
**OES (Occupational Employment Statistics) CODE: \*5**

Cameron County		Hidalgo/Starr/Willacy Counties	
Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010	Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010
2,250	2,890	3,240	4,170
Absolute Change		Absolute Change	
#	%	#	%
640	28.4	930	28.7
Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement	Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement
No	1:0.8	No	1:0.8
Hourly Wage 2002		Hourly Wage 2002	
Mean	Median	Mean	Median
\$15.68	\$16.10	\$13.18	\$12.31

**Job Description:**

People in protective service occupations help protect the public against dangers by rapidly responding to a variety of emergency situations. Guards, who are also called security officers, patrol and inspect property to protect against fire, theft, vandalism, and illegal activity. Correctional officers are responsible for overseeing individuals who have been arrested and are awaiting trial or who have been convicted of a crime and sentenced to serve time in a jail, reformatory, or penitentiary.

**Average Education Required**

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

**Related Occupations**

Related security and protective service occupations include law enforcement officers, bailiffs, house or store detectives, private investigators, and fire marshals.

**Skills Required**

- Critical Thinking -- Using logic and analysis to identify the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches
- Social Perceptiveness -- Being aware of others' reactions and understanding why they react the way they do
- Problem Identification -- Identifying the nature of problems
- Speaking -- Talking to others to effectively convey information
- Judgment and Decision Making -- Weighing the relative costs and benefits of a potential action
- Active Listening -- Listening to what other people are saying and asking questions as appropriate

Industrial Employment Patterns		
Industry Code	Industry	Percent of Employees
9300	Local Government, except Education	27.9%
8220	Colleges & Universities	16.5%
7990	Misc. Amusement & Recreational Services	15.9%
8210	Elementary & Secondary Schools	9.6%
7380	Miscellaneous Business Services	5.1%
9200	State Government, except Education	4.9%

*\*5 includes the following occupations: correctional officers, police patrol officers, security guards, security officers, fire fighters, and private investigators*