

Pipelayer (47-2151.00)

At-a-Glance Statistics



Sample Job Titles

Equipment Operator, Machine Operator, Pipe Crew Foreman, Pipe Foreman, Pipelayer, Skilled Laborer, Tailman, Wastewater Worker

Key Tasks

- Install or use instruments such as lasers, grade rods, or transit levels.
- Cut pipes to required lengths.
- Connect pipe pieces and seal joints, using welding equipment, cement, or glue.
- Cover pipes with earth or other materials.
- Install or repair sanitary or stormwater sewer structures or pipe systems.
- Align and position pipes to prepare them for welding or sealing.
- Check slopes for conformance to requirements, using levels or lasers.
- Lay out pipe routes, following written instructions or blueprints and coordinating layouts with supervisors.
- Operate mechanized equipment, such as pickup trucks, rollers, tandem dump trucks, front-end loaders, or backhoes.
- Grade or level trench bases, using tamping machines or hand tools.
- Dig trenches to desired or required depths, by hand or using trenching tools.
- Tap and drill holes into pipes to introduce auxiliary lines or devices.
- Locate existing pipes needing repair or replacement, using magnetic or radio indicators.
- Train or supervise others in laying pipe.

Education and Training



High school diploma or equivalent

71%



Less than high school diploma

24%



Professional degree

4%

Median Wages



Hourly

\$18.54



Annually

\$38,560

Top Industries



Construction
Government

Number Employed



43,000 positions
5,500 job openings

Top Ten States for Occupational Percentage Growth

