

Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant System Operator (47-4071.00)

At-a-Glance Statistics

Sample Job Titles

Plant Operator, Process Operator (Process Op), Relief Operator, SCADA Operator (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Operator), Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator (WWTP Operator), Wastewater Operator (WW Operator), Water Control Dispatcher, Water Plant Operator, Water Treatment Operator, Water Treatment Plant Operator

Key Tasks

- Add chemicals, such as ammonia, chlorine, or lime, to disinfect and deodorize water and other liquids.
- Collect and test water and sewage samples, using test equipment and color analysis standards.
- Record operational data, personnel attendance, or meter and gauge readings on specified forms.
- Operate and adjust controls on equipment to purify and clarify water, process or dispose of sewage, and generate power.
- Inspect equipment or monitor operating conditions, meters, and gauges to determine load requirements and detect malfunctions.
- Maintain, repair, and lubricate equipment, using hand tools and power tools.
- Clean and maintain tanks, filter beds, and other work areas, using hand tools and power tools.
- Direct and coordinate plant workers engaged in routine operations and maintenance activities.

Education and Training


High school diploma or equivalent

42%


Post-secondary certificate

25%


Some college, no degree

21%

Median Wages



Hourly

\$22.49



Annually

\$46,780

Top Industries



Government
Utilities

Number Employed



127,000 positions
10,600 job openings

Occupational Growth by State

