

Where Electrician Pay Goes Furthest in America

A briefing on wages, buying power, rent benchmarks and employment across all 50 states, DC and 100 selected metros.

Will Gordon | media@bestelectricianjobs.com

Originally published and data frozen August 1, 2026. Editorial presentation and downloads updated October 23, 2026. Underlying research unchanged.

Illinois leads in cost-adjusted electrician pay

Illinois's \$47.89 cost-adjusted hourly wage leads all 50 states and Washington, DC.

California moves from 15th to 32nd after cost adjustment

California ranks #15 on nominal median wages and #32 after regional prices are applied.

Florida's rent benchmark takes 8.2 shifts of gross electrician pay

Florida's one-bedroom benchmark equals 8.2 eight-hour gross-pay shifts, the highest ratio among states and DC.

Portland leads the report's metro buying-power comparison

Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA leads the selected metros at \$47.93 in cost-adjusted hourly pay.

Texas has the largest published electrician employment count

Texas has 76,770 published electrician jobs, the largest state count in the release.

Read and verify

<https://www.bestelectricianjobs.com/research/electrician-payoff-report/2026>

The edition year is not a unified observation year. Sources: BLS May 2025; BEA 2024; HUD FY2026; Census ACS 2020-2024.

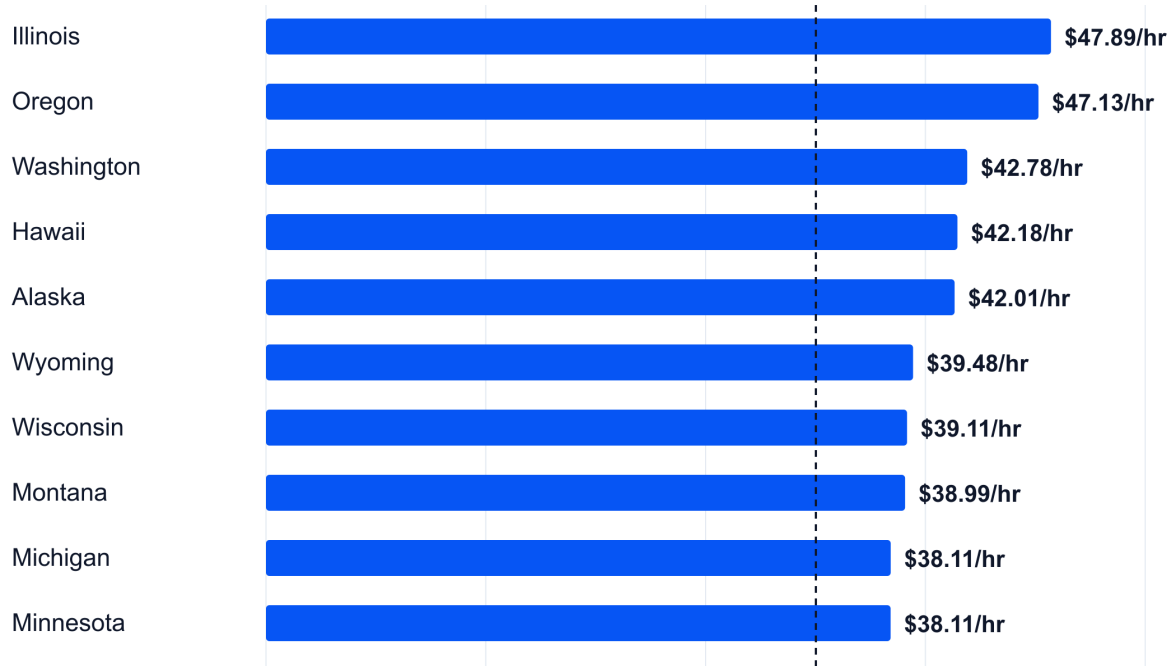
State buying power and rank changes

Its published median wage is \$47.87 an hour. Adjusting for regional prices puts it at \$47.89 in national-price-level dollars. The median across the 51 jurisdictions is \$33.55; that is a comparison of places, not the wage of a typical U.S. electrician.

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Illinois leads in cost-adjusted electrician pay

Cost-adjusted dollars per hour



Dashed line: median across states/DC, \$33.55/hr

Cost-adjusted pay compares buying power. It is not a paycheck, take-home pay, or a wage guaranteed to an individual worker.

Source: BLS OEWS May 2025 median hourly wages; BEA 2024 all-items Regional Price Parities.

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Same observations, two rankings

State	Nominal to adjusted rank
California	#15 to #32
Mississippi	#40 to #25

Two rankings of the same release, not a year-over-year change. Published competition ranks preserve ties; Mississippi and Iowa share nominal rank 40.

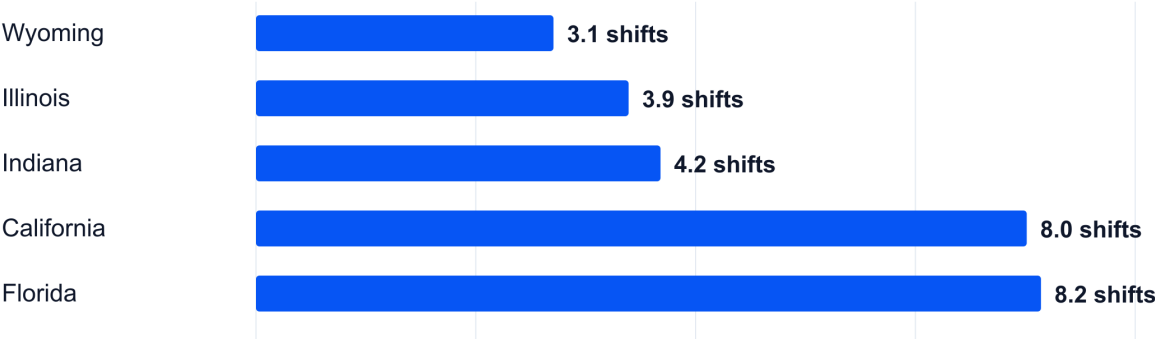
Rent benchmarks and metro pay

Florida's one-bedroom benchmark equals 8.2 eight-hour gross-pay shifts, the highest ratio among states and DC.

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Florida's rent benchmark takes 8.2 shifts of gross electrician pay

Eight-hour gross-pay shifts per month · Selected states



Selected states, not a complete ranking. Gross pay before taxes; HUD rent benchmarks are not live asking rents or electricians' observed housing expenses.

Source: HUD FY2026 50th-percentile gross rents; BLS OEWS May 2025 wages; ACS 2020–2024 renter-household weights.

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Selected states, not a complete ranking. Gross pay before taxes; HUD rent benchmarks are not live asking rents or electricians' observed housing expenses.

Top cost-adjusted metro wages

Metro (selected 100)	Cost-adjusted median/hr
Portland-Vancouver-Hillsboro, OR-WA	\$47.93
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN	\$47.50
Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA	\$44.03
Urban Honolulu, HI	\$43.45
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	\$41.52
Kansas City, MO-KS	\$39.93
Akron, OH	\$39.83
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	\$39.64
Detroit-Warren-Dearborn, MI	\$39.30
Toledo, OH	\$39.28

BLS May 2025 wages / BEA 2024 prices. Metro selection is by published electrician employment.

Employment and methodology

Texas has 76,770 published electrician jobs, the largest state count in the release.

State	Published electrician jobs
Texas	76,770
California	73,310
Florida	49,700
New York	40,130
Ohio	28,950
Virginia	23,630
Michigan	23,530
Illinois	23,120
Pennsylvania	22,730
Georgia	21,650

Employment counts are estimates of existing jobs, not current openings, hiring demand, or evidence of a worker shortage. OEWS excludes self-employed workers.

How the comparisons work

Cost-adjusted hourly pay = median hourly wage / (regional price parity / 100). Rent shifts = monthly HUD gross-rent benchmark / nominal hourly median / 8. Rent is weighted by renter households; it is not an observed electrician household budget.

The occupation includes different experience and career stages. These data do not isolate journeymen, apprentices, master electricians or union workers. ACS worker estimates retain suppression and caution flags. No proprietary overall score is used.

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<https://www.bestelectricianjobs.com/research/electrician-payoff-report/2026/data>

The public package includes the original CSV values, Excel workbook, dictionary, methodology, source manifest, source checksums and chart rows. Editorial reuse is permitted with attribution to Best Electrician Jobs.

Author: Will Gordon | [linkedin.com/in/will-gordon1/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/will-gordon1/) | media@bestelectricianjobs.com