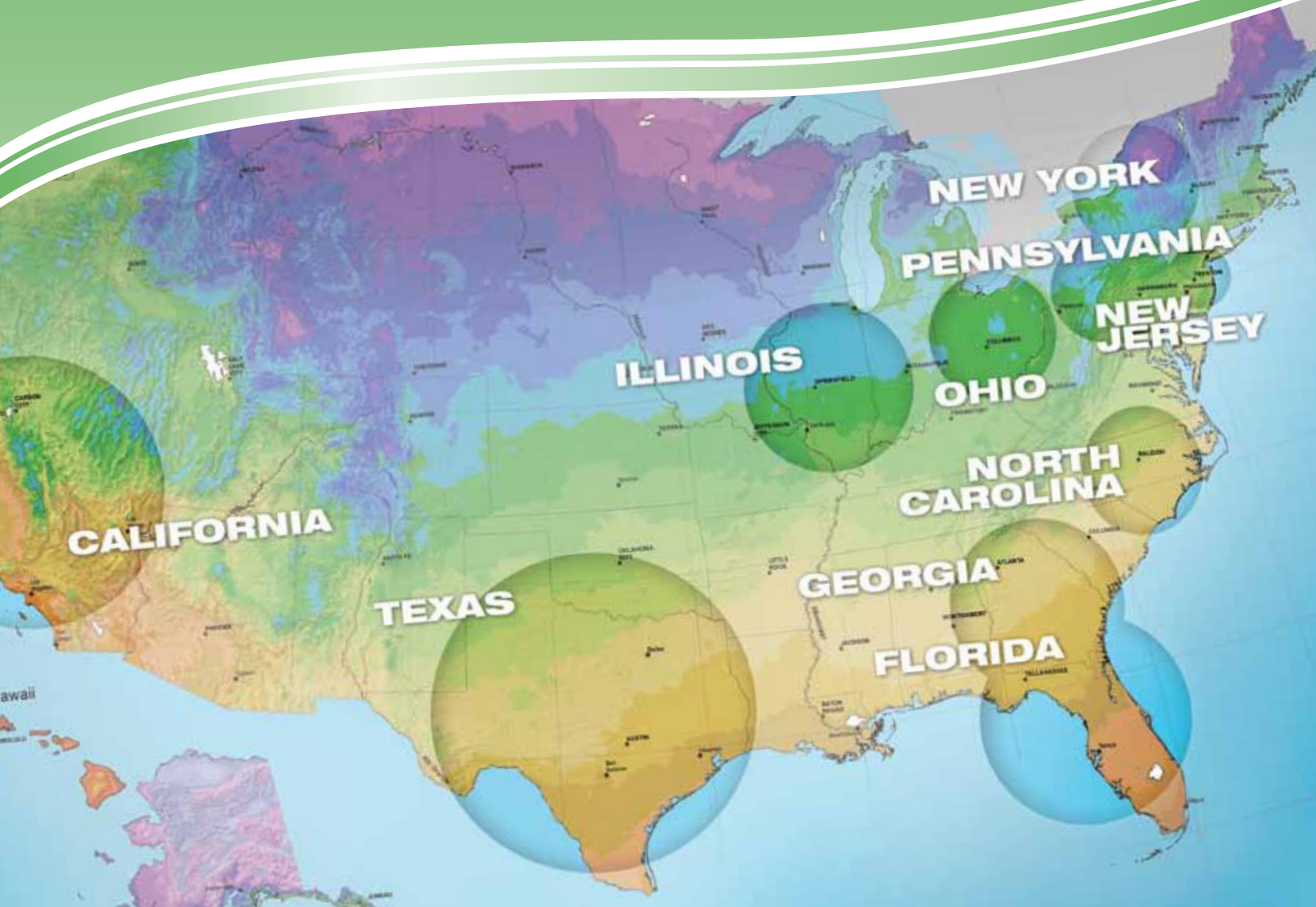


Top states to work in HVACR



Heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVACR) contractors looking for plentiful job opportunities, high salaries, available training and large numbers of service calls should head for the Golden Coast or the Buckeye State, according to a list of top states to work in HVACR compiled by Emerson Climate Technologies.

EMERSON CLIMATE TECHNOLOGIES TOP 10 STATES TO WORK IN HVACR

1. California
2. Ohio
3. Florida
4. Texas
5. Illinois
6. New York
7. Pennsylvania
8. New Jersey
9. North Carolina
10. Georgia

TOP STATES BOAST SALARIES, TRAINING, SUNNY DAYS



1. California tops the list with more than 2,000 NATE certified technicians, many cooling degree days to drive air conditioning and refrigeration demand, high employment (more than 16,000 HVACR techs, according to the U.S. Dept. of Labor) and some of the highest wages in the country.



2. Ohio comes in second with fewer sunny days but many more opportunities for training, with the most accredited HVACR schools in the country. The state is also in the top ten in the country for number of wholesaler locations.



3. Florida also offers many HVACR employment opportunities but much lower wages than California. The state boasts a high number of cooling degree days but was edged out by Ohio's better training environment.



4. Texas ranks similar to Florida in many areas; both are in the top ten states for residential air conditioning sales. However, Texas does not have as much commercial service volume, according to Emerson.



5. Illinois does not employ as many techs, although they are paid better than techs in the three states above. The state offers more wholesaler locations than Ohio and more commercial business than Texas.

In rounding out the top ten, the next states fall behind in employment, training schools and cooling degree days, while offering high numbers of certified technicians, large numbers of wholesaler locations and valuable commercial service opportunities.

Top 20 standouts

What Indiana lacks in accredited schools (it has none), it makes up for in NATE certified technicians, ranking 10th in the country.

Tennessee is among the top ten states for air conditioning sales but falls behind in economic indicators like home values and wages.

Oklahoma has the second most trade schools, seven, but technician employment below the states making the top 10.

"Illinois is a great state to work in the HVACR trade. Commercial refrigeration service is in high demand due to all the businesses related to food service and the restaurants in the Chicago area. We stay busy year round thanks to Chicago's extreme weather conditions. Working in the trade is an adventure every day. We may start off the day working in a max security prison and then end up working on a cruise ship docked at Navy Pier! You never know what the day will bring when working the trade in Illinois and that's what keeps it interesting!"

Mitch Byrne – Northeast Cooling LLC

Emerson's top 10 ranking draws on HVACR salary and employment data from the U.S. Department of Labor; trade school locations recognized by the Partnership for Air-Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration Accreditation; heating and cooling degree days calculated at DegreeDays.net; residential home values from the U.S. Census, and certified contractors by state from North American Technician Excellence (NATE). Emerson also draws upon its own data to look at wholesaler locations and commercial service volumes from its ProAc™ Service Center.

HVACR RECRUITING CHALLENGE

One of the key challenges facing the HVACR industry is a shortage of qualified technicians.



Emerson created the list after talking to contractors and HVACR students and instructors about what motivates young people to pursue careers in this industry. According to the Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), an estimated additional 57,000 skilled workers are needed each year to work in the HVACR industry.

DATA SOURCES

U.S. Department of Labor – <http://1.usa.gov/UPoTuc>

Heating and cooling degree days – <http://www.degree-days.net/>

Partnership for Air-Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration Accreditation – <http://bit.ly/YhTDck>