Over the 2004-14 decade, career choices abound for those seeking jobs that have high earnings and many opportunities.

The chart shows occupations that ranked in the top two earnings quartiles for 2004 median earnings. This means that 2004 median earnings in these occupations were higher than those of at least half of all workers.

The job openings in the chart represent openings available to people who are entering the occupation for the first time. Some of these openings are positions that need to be filled because workers have left an occupation permanently for any reason—changing to another occupation, retiring, or returning to school, for example. Other openings are new positions created because of growth in the occupation.

These job openings do not include every opening that exists. Because the chart is measuring opportunities for workers who want to enter the occupation, for example, job openings are not included if they will be filled by workers already in that occupation.