

# The 20 Fastest-Growing Jobs for Aging Boomers

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Older Americans now work as retail salespersons than in any other occupation. But baby boomers are expected to find other things to do besides being store clerks as they come to dominate the 55-plus age bracket.

Boomers are likely to land in growth fields that welcome older workers, according to a new Urban Institute study. And many boomers will breathe a sigh of relief to find that retail jobs did not make the top 20 occupations projected to be the fastest growing among the older set.

Most of the hot occupations already employ above-average shares of 55-plus workers and draw on an educated workforce. They include personal financial advisers, veterinarians, and social and community service managers.

Each of the top-ranked fields is expected to see its workforce grow at least 20 percent by 2016. That's twice the rate forecast for the nation's labor force as a whole. Workers 55 and older now make up 17 percent of the labor force.

Workers in these fast-growing occupations are generally educated, and have opportunities for part-time work. While there are few physical demands on the job, many of the jobs require brainpower, computer savvy, and a knack for working with people.

## 20 Hot Jobs for Older Workers

Occupation	2007 Employment	Projected 10-Year Growth	Share of Workers 55 and Older
Personal and home-care aides	794,846	50.7%	23.4%
Personal financial advisers	343,170	40.9	18.8
Veterinarians	66,824	35.5	22.4
Social and community service managers	340,736	24.6	24.4
Miscellaneous entertainment attendants	163,717	23.8	21.1
Surveyors, cartographers, and photogrammetrists	42,128	23.6	16.9
Environmental scientists and geoscientists	102,766	23.6	20.2
Registered nurses	2,608,762	23.4	17.9
Animal trainers	45,072	23.3	23.0
Instructional coordinators	24,165	23.3	32.0
Locksmiths and safe repairers	25,047	23.1	25.4
Postsecondary teachers	1,357,642	22.8	27.0
Archivists, curators, and museum technicians	56,396	22.2	24.7
Social workers	728,481	22.2	17.5
Management analysts	662,978	22.0	26.5
Pharmacists	229,830	21.8	21.4
Counselors	707,527	21.4	18.2
Business operation specialists	100,367	20.9	18.8
Brokerage clerks	3,831	20.5	29.5
Religious workers	109,127	20.5	32.5

Source: Urban Institute