

## NATURE OF WORK

Geographers are considered social scientists. There are basically two types of geography: human and physical. Human geographers typically work in urban and regional planning, transportation, marketing, real estate, tourism and international business. Physical geographers usually combine their area of expertise with other forms of study and work in weather forecasting; land and water management; and the planning of forests, rangelands, and wetlands. Some geographers study how mankind interacts with nature and how society's actions may change or have already changed the environment.

## WORKING CONDITIONS

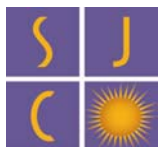
Geographers typically work in an office, but some have the opportunity to travel to remote regions to study an area. The regions may require them to live and work in rugged conditions, constituting physical exertion. When in the office most geographers have a normal daytime job, however, there may be deadlines for research articles or reports that could cause them to work longer hours. These extra hours are usually not paid.

## TRAINING & QUALIFICATIONS

In the geographer career area there are not many positions for people with a bachelor's degree. Most positions require a minimum of a master's degree with a Ph.D. preferred. Math, statistics, and computer training is helpful in this occupation. There is an increased need for people in this occupation to have training in GIS equipment.

## OUTLOOK

Most geographers work for government entities. Many also become educators in colleges and universities. Geographer positions are expected to grow by about 6% from 2006 to 2016, which is just a little slower than the average for all occupations. Those with the highest education will have the best advantage for employment. Geographers with GIS training will see more opportunities than a straight geography curriculum. Internships are highly recommended for students.



\*Most of this information is from the Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2010-2011

## CAREER OPTIONS

Geographer, Urban and Regional Planner, Professor

## ESTIMATED SALARY RANGE

Nationally —\$48,000-\$78,000  
(depending on skill, experience and responsibility)

## RELATED OCCUPATIONS

Anthropologist, Archeologist, Geographic Specialist, Sociologist, GIS Specialist, GIS Analyst

## SJC Basic Program Information

The A.S. degree is designed for students who will be transferring to other colleges or universities to acquire advanced degrees. It is advised to talk to the advisors at the transferring institution for information on program transference. A certificate is designed to help individuals seeking employment as a technician or to supplement their current profession with knowledge in geospatial technologies.



## For further information go to:

[www.sanjuancollege.edu/pages/158.asp](http://www.sanjuancollege.edu/pages/158.asp)

[www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes193092.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes193092.htm)

<http://geography.about.com/od/lists/u/basics.htm>