



### Protective service workers

This occupational group includes workers engaged in firefighting and fire prevention, law enforcement, and animal control, as well as private detectives and investigators, security guards, lifeguards, transportation security screeners, and crossing guards.

### Cognitive and mental requirements

The qualifications that workers need to use judgment, make decisions, interact with others, and adapt to changes in jobs.

In 2023, more than basic people skills were required for 79.0 percent of protective service workers, and basic people skills were required for 21.0 percent.

**Table 1. Percentage of protective service workers with cognitive and mental requirements, 2023**

| Requirement                                | Yes  | No    |
|--|------|-------|
| <b>Pace: Pause control</b>                 | 13.2 | 86.8  |
| <b>Interaction with general public</b>     | 98.8 | 1.2   |
| <b>Working around crowds</b>               | 40.6 | 59.4  |
| <b>Telework</b>                            | <0.5 | >99.5 |
| <b>Work review: Supervising others</b>     | 12.5 | 87.5  |
| <b>Work review: Presence of supervisor</b> | 34.9 | 65.1  |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey

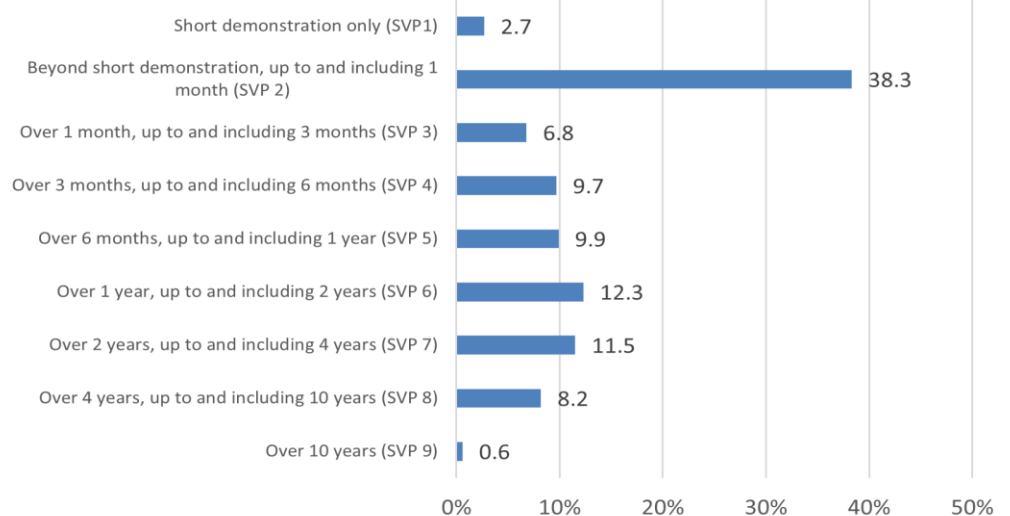
### Education, training, and experience requirements

The minimum level of formal education required, credentials necessary, on-the-job training, and prior work experience necessary for average performance in jobs.

In 2023, credentials were required for 89.4 percent of protective service workers. Prior work experience was required for 30.4 percent and on-the-job training was required for 75.9 percent.

A high school diploma was required for 82.3 percent of protective service workers.

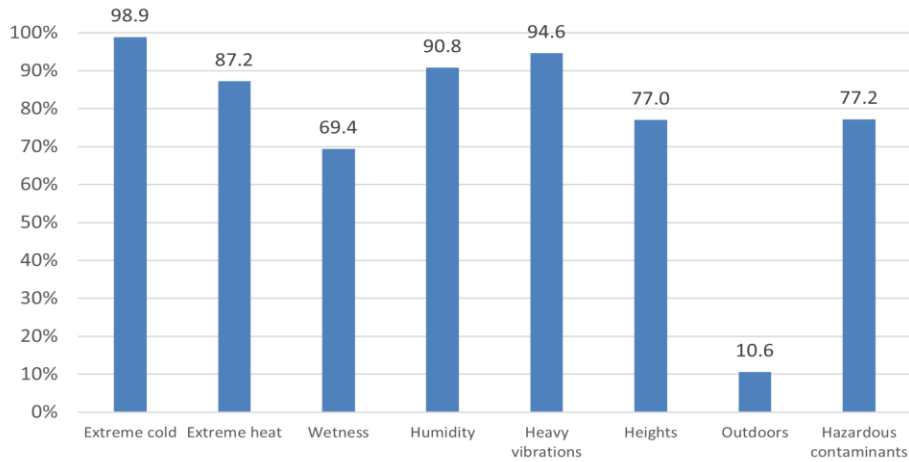
**Chart 1. Percentage of protective service workers by specific preparation time (SVP) level, 2023**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey



**Chart 2. Percentage of protective service workers without exposure to environmental conditions, 2023**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey

### Environmental conditions

The various tangible or concrete hazards or difficulties that are in the vicinity of where jobs' critical tasks are performed.

In 2023, a quiet noise exposure was present for 3.6 percent of protective service workers. Another 82.2 percent were exposed to moderate noise, 13.2 percent were exposed to loud noise, and 1.1 percent to very loud noise. Personal protective equipment (PPE) was used by 9.3 percent of workers to mitigate noise exposure, and was not used by 90.7 percent.

### Physical demands

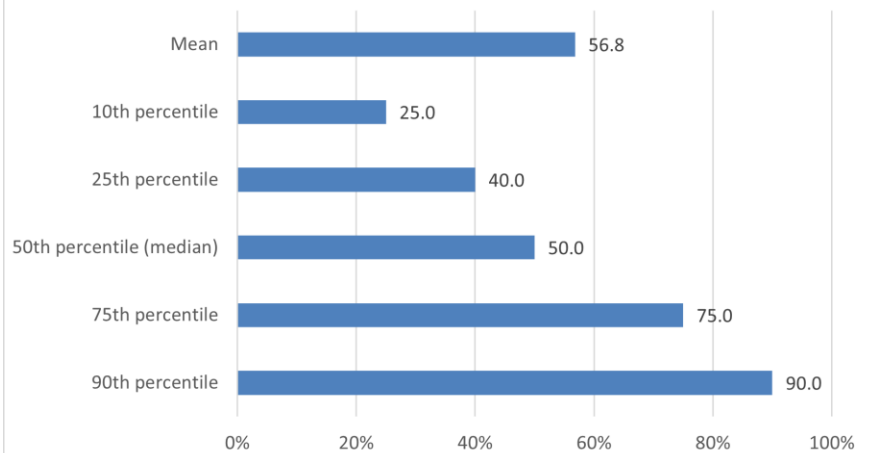
Refer to the physical activities required to perform tasks in jobs. The presence and, in some cases, duration of these activities are published.

In 2023, reaching at or below the shoulder was required for 85.5 percent of protective service workers and was not required for 14.5 percent.

Performing work in low postures was required for 73.4 percent of protective service workers and was not required for 26.6 percent. For 33.7 percent of workers, stooping was required to perform low work.

The choice to sit or stand when performing critical tasks was available to 9.2 percent of protective service workers. On average, workers spent 43.2 percent of the workday sitting and 56.8 percent of the workday standing.

**Chart 3. Protective service workers by percent of workday standing, 2023**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey

**Table 2. Percentage of protective service workers with physical demands, 2023**

| Requirement                                | Yes  | No   |
|--|------|------|
| Choice of sitting or standing              | 9.2  | 90.8 |
| Driving                                    | 56.8 | 43.2 |
| Climbing structure-related ramps or stairs | 70.7 | 29.3 |

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey