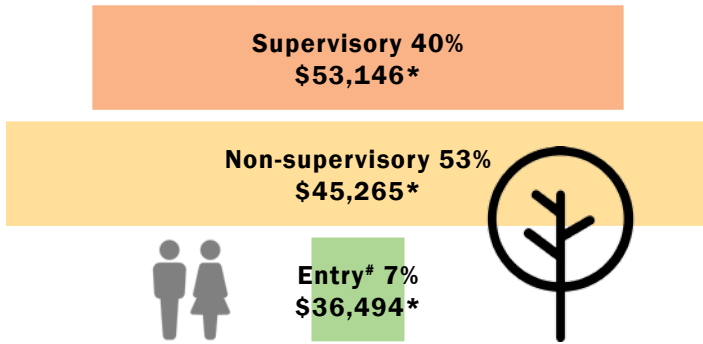# Job Opportunities for Urban Foresters in the United States

We analyzed 18 months of job postings (151 jobs) across the U.S. We then interviewed a selection of those who filled the jobs at least 12 months after their hire date.
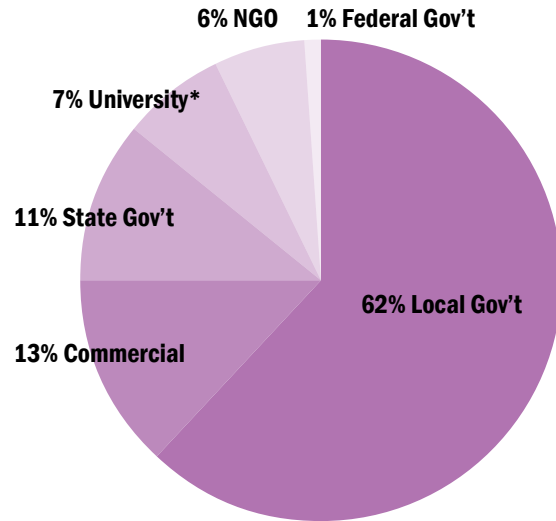
BREAKING DOWN THE CAREER LADDER

Supervisory 40%
$53,146*

Non-supervisory 53%
$45,265*

Entry# 7%
$36,494*

*Average annual income

#Entry level was defined requiring 1 year or less of experience. All positions that fell into this category required a degree.

MOST COMMON WORDS IN JOB TITLES

26% ... included *urban forest*, *forestry*, or *forester*

23% ... included *forest*, *forestry*, or *forester* but WITHOUT the words *urban*, or *community*

17% ... included *arborist*, *arboriculture*, or *arboricultural*

14% ... OMITTED any reference at all to *forestry*, *urban forestry*, *arboriculture*, or *trees*

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

AK and HI were omitted from geospatial stats analysis

- 60% are in cities of population 100,000 or greater
  - *34% are in cities of population 500,000 or greater*
- 40% were in cities of population less than 100,000

WHO ARE THE EMPLOYERS?

6% NGO 1% Federal Gov't
7% University*
11% State Gov't
13% Commercial
62% Local Gov't

* Teaching positions were intentionally excluded from all consideration
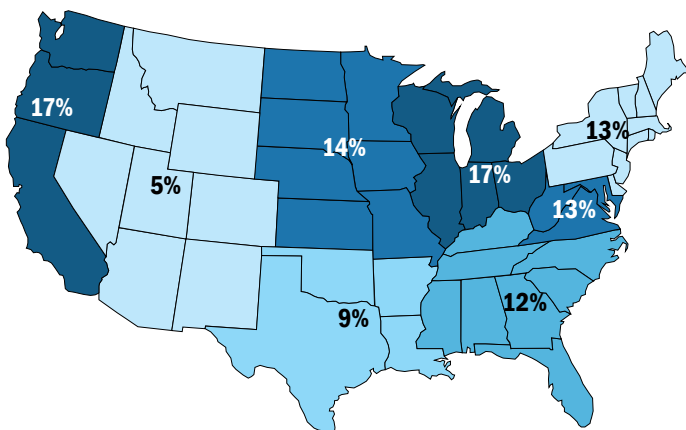
TOP PREFERRED DEGREES

These are the top degrees mentioned by name in the postings. (% of total postings)

- 57% Forestry
- 40% Horticulture
- 35% Urban Forestry
- 25% Arboriculture
- 17% Environmental Science

HOW ACCURATE ARE JOB DESCRIPTIONS?

Our interviews with new hires indicated that they spend considerable time on functions not mentioned in the job description. Most frequently omitted duties include:

- Protect existing canopy by solving conflicts with grey infrastructure through plan review, code enforcement, and other means to influence the development process.
- Assessing the effectiveness of the urban forestry program including setting goals and evaluating outcomes.
- Manage urban forest composition using modern inventory techniques.