

# Recruiting the Future of Occupational Therapy:

**Usability, Simplicity, & a  
Generous Assumption of  
Human Nature**

**“Helping people find more than they are looking for is the essence of the job.”**

Klinenberg, E. (2019). *Palaces for the people how social infrastructure can help fight inequality, polarization, and the decline of civic life*. Broadway Books.

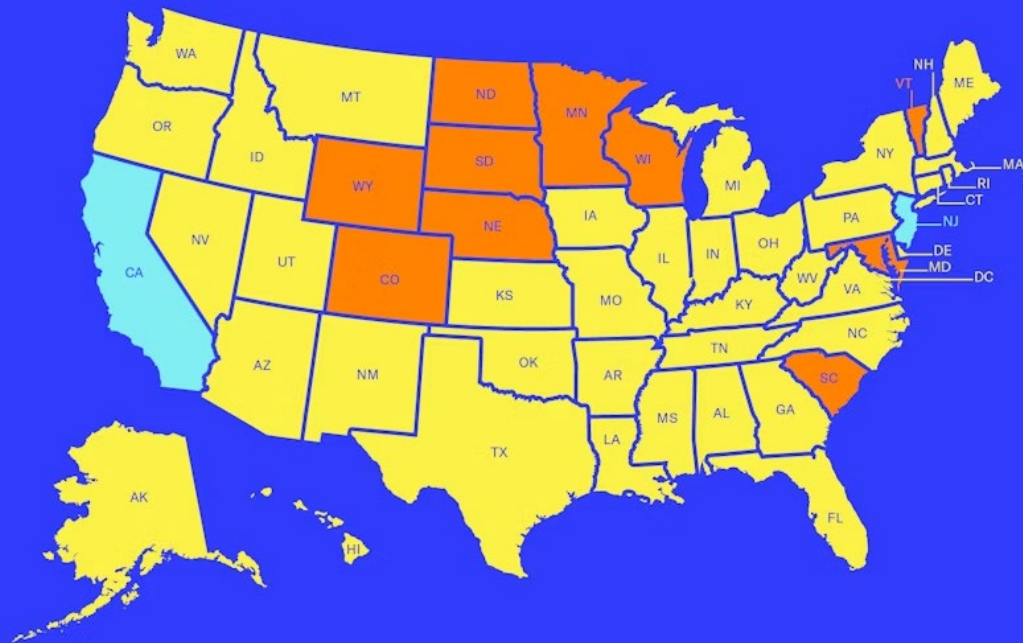
# Worker shortage by state

States with a lower worker shortage index are suffering the most. December 2023



0-0.49    0.50-0.99    1.0-1.99

Source: U.S. Chamber Analysis, BLS Data



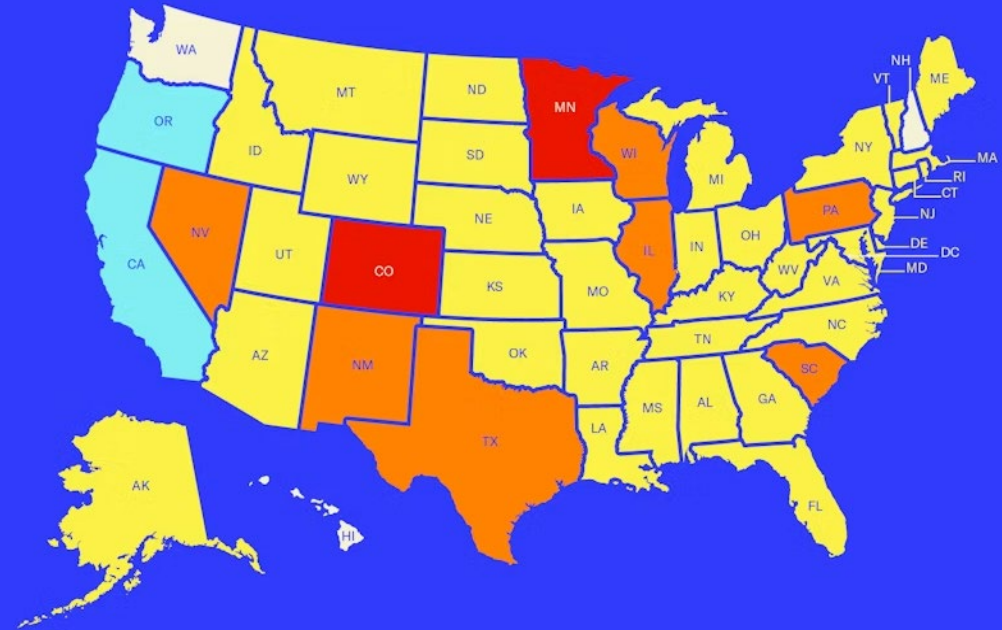
# Job openings by state

Percent increase in job openings from February 2020 to November 2023



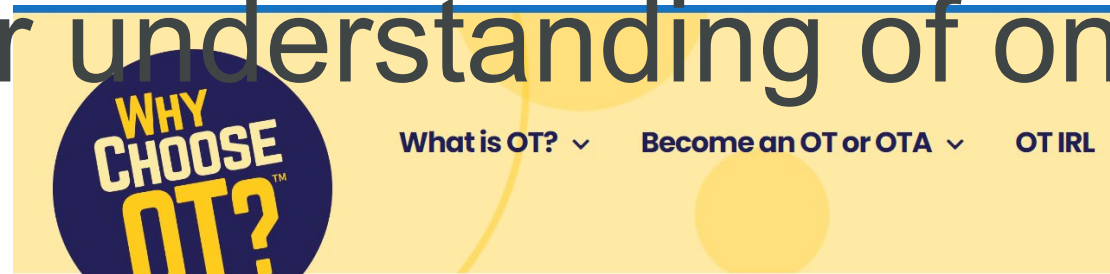
Source: U.S. Chamber Analysis, BLS Data

Below 0    0 to +9.9%    +10 to +39.9%    +40 to +69.9%    +70 to +100%



# Usability

- A clear understanding of oneself
- Knowledge of different lines of work



- True reasoning about the relations between these facets

## What is Occupational Therapy?

Occupational therapy is a type of therapy that helps people improve their ability to do everyday activities. These activities can be things like getting dressed, eating, playing sports, doing school work, and so much more!

# Simplicity



## NEWS

### A new form of occupational therapy is using Lego's to help build social skills in Southwest VA

Published: April 12, 2023 at 5:59 AM

Updated: April 12, 2023 at 7:21 AM

Tags: News





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TABLE 1 Child and Adolescent Career Construction Interview (CACCI) protocol summary

#	Topic	Materials	Prompt	Data sources
1	Getting to know each other: Introductions and opening activity	Individual sand trays Sand tray miniatures Blank session reflection sheets	"This activity is for us to get to know each other. Using these sand tray figures, put something together that represents you (or your life)."	PST GSR
2	What I like to do: exploring interests	Expressive art media Prompt worksheet Blank session reflection sheet	"What is your favorite TV show, website, social media site or magazine? What do you like about them?"	EAC WRP GSR
3	My favorite story: Strategy for decision-making	Expressive art media Prompt worksheet Blank session reflection sheet	"What is your favorite story from a book or a movie? What is the story about?"	EAC WRP GSR
4	My favorite saying: Advice to myself	Expressive art media Prompt worksheet Blank session reflection sheet	"What is your favorite saying or advice to yourself?"	EAC WRP GSR
5	My heroes: Exploring self-concept	Expressive art media Prompt worksheet Blank session reflection sheet	"Who do you admire the most? Who are your heroes? I'm interested in learning about <i>three</i> people, other than your mother or father. They can be real people you know or don't know personally. They can be make-believe people like super-heroes, cartoon characters, or characters in books or on TV."	EAC WRP GSR
6	Memories: How I view a problem	Expressive art media Prompt worksheet Blank session reflection sheet	"What are <i>three</i> of your earliest memories? I'm interested in hearing <i>three</i> stories about things that happened to you when you were about three to six years old."	EAC WRP GSR
7	Group closure	Individual sand trays Sand tray miniatures	"Using the sand tray figures in here, put something together that represents your experience in this group over the past 6 weeks."	PST GSR

# Generous Assumption of Human Nature



A quote by Helen Keller is centered on a rectangular background. The background is a soft, warm-toned image of falling confetti or small white particles against a light pinkish-brown backdrop. The text is in a black, serif, all-caps font.

“OPTIMISM IS THE FAITH  
THAT LEADS TO  
ACHIEVEMENT. NOTHING  
CAN BE DONE WITHOUT  
HOPE AND CONFIDENCE.”

HELEN KELLER