

11<sup>E</sup> - 12<sup>E</sup>

Part 1: Close Read- Underline main ideas, circle anything strange, and WRITE YOUR THOUGHTS IN THE MARGIN-we often forget this one.

## Careers: Industrial production manager

By U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, adapted by Newsela staff

You may work for one of these guys one day; you may be one of these guys some day!

Industrial production managers monitor a plant's workers to ensure they meet safety standards. These managers oversee the daily operations of manufacturing. They coordinate, plan and direct the activities used to create a wide range of goods, such as cars, computer equipment or paper products.

### What Industrial Production Managers Do

Industrial production managers have a broad range of duties, such as:

- Deciding how to make the best use of a plant's workers and equipment to meet the goals of production.
- Ensuring that production stays on schedule and within expected costs.
- Hiring, training and evaluating workers.
- Analyzing production data.
- Writing production reports.
- Monitoring a plant's workers to ensure they meet performance and safety requirements.
- Making the production process more effective.

- Determining whether new machines are needed or whether overtime work is necessary.
- Fixing any production problems.

Industrial production managers are also called plant managers. They might oversee an entire manufacturing plant or a specific area of production. They are responsible for quality control, which means ensuring that finished products meet a specific level of quality. To do this, they use programs that help find defects in the products. Managers then identify the cause of the defects and solve the problem that created it.

Industrial production managers also communicate with other managers and departments. For example, if one department forgets to buy materials, others will not be able to continue their work. Managers coordinate with each other to make sure this never happens. Industrial production managers split their time between their office and the production area itself.

## Work Environment

There were about 173,400 industrial production manager jobs in 2014. The largest employers were:

- Fabricated metal product manufacturing - 11 percent
- Transportation equipment manufacturing - 10 percent
- Chemical manufacturing - 8 percent
- Machinery manufacturing - 8 percent
- Food manufacturing - 7 percent

## Work Schedules

Most industrial production managers work full time, and in 2014 almost half worked more than 40 hours per week. In some facilities, managers work night or weekend shifts. They must be on call to deal with emergencies at any time.

## How To Become An Industrial Production Manager

Industrial production managers typically need a bachelor's degree and several years of related work experience. Sometimes, production workers with many years of experience take management classes and become a production manager. Larger companies might want managers who have a Master of Business Administration (MBA) or a graduate degree in industrial management.

### Work Experience In A Related Occupation

Many industrial production managers begin as production workers and move up through the ranks. They usually advance to become supervisors before eventually being selected for management. Most earn a college degree in business management or take classes to increase their chances of a promotion.

Some managers begin working at a company right after college or graduate school. They might spend their first few months in training to become familiar with the production process, company policies and safety regulations. In large companies, many also work in other departments such as purchasing or accounting, to learn more about the company.

### Important Qualities

**Interpersonal skills.** Industrial production managers must have excellent communication skills. This allows them to work with managers from other departments, as well as with the company's senior-level management.

**Leadership skills.** To keep the production process running smoothly, industrial production managers must motivate and direct their employees.

**Problem-solving skills.** Production managers must be able to identify and solve problems.

**Time-management skills.** To meet production deadlines, managers must carefully manage their employees' time as well as their own.

### Licenses, Certifications And Registrations

While not required, industrial production managers can earn certifications. These show a higher level of skill in quality or management systems. The

Association for Operations Management offers a certification called Certified in Production and Inventory Management (CPIM). The American Society for Quality offers credentials in quality control. Both certifications require specific amounts of work experience before applying.

## Pay

The median wage is a measure of how much people earn in a profession. Half of the workers in that profession earn less than the median wage, while the other half earn more. In May 2016, the median annual wages for industrial production managers were:

- Chemical manufacturing - \$105,670
- Transportation equipment manufacturing - \$101,180
- Machinery manufacturing - \$96,630
- Food manufacturing - \$90,630
- Fabricated metal product manufacturing - \$90,250

## Job Outlook

Employment of industrial production managers is expected to decrease 4 percent between 2014 and 2024. Most of these managers are employed in various manufacturing industries, which might see a decrease in overall employment due to increased productivity. This means that fewer workers are needed to do the same amount of work. If there are fewer workers, then fewer managers are needed to keep track of them.

Some manufacturing jobs are also at risk of being outsourced to other countries with lower wages. This slows down employment growth within the United States. However, this risk might be reduced by a recent trend called "reshoring." This is the trend of bringing back previously outsourced personnel and services to the United States. In addition, some companies are moving jobs to regions in the United States that have lower wages, a trend called "domestic sourcing."

## Job Prospects

Applicants will likely face strong competition for the job of industrial production manager. Those who have several years of experience and a bachelor's degree should have the best prospects.

### PART 2 Reading Comprehension

Answer all questions in a COMPLETE SENTENCE! If you get stuck on a questions; skip it and go to the next one.

1. Read the section "Important Qualities." How does this section contribute to the article's MAIN idea?
2. What is the MAIN reason why the author included the section "Work Schedules"?
3. How does the section "Job Outlook" describe the future job prospects of manufacturing jobs?
4. Under JOB OUTLOOK, what are some of the risks that manufacturing jobs have in the future?
5. Would you consider a career in this field? Why or why not? Use details from the article and from your personal life to explain your answer. Tell me in a short paragraph

PART 3 Write A Summary

Write a summary of this article (just like we do in class); make sure that it is at least 5 sentences, explains the article, all sentences are complete, and indent the first sentence.