Animal caretakers
Feed, water, groom, bathe, exercise, or otherwise provide care to promote and maintain the well-being of pets and other animals that are not raised for consumption, such as dogs, cats, race horses, ornamental fish or birds, zoo animals, and mice. Work in settings such as kennels, animal shelters, zoos, circuses, and aquariums. May keep records of feedings, treatments, and animals received or discharged. May clean, disinfect, and repair cages, pens, or fish tanks.

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

In 2021, more than basic people skills were required for 17.3 percent of animal caretakers, and basic people skills were required for 82.7 percent.

Table 1. Percentage of animal caretakers with cognitive and mental requirements, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pace: Pause control</td>
<td>63.2</td>
<td>36.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working around crowds</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telework</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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 2021, prior work experience was required for 11.5 percent of animal caretakers and on-the-job training was required for 96.0 percent.

No minimum education was required for 32.8 percent of animal caretakers and a high school diploma was required for 66.9 percent.

![Chart 1. Percentage of animal caretakers by specific preparation time (SVP) level, 2021](chart.png)

Environmental conditions

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

In 2021, 100.0 percent of animal caretakers were not exposed to extreme cold, and 100.0 percent were not exposed to extreme heat. Heavy vibrations were not present for 100.0 percent, and 65.4 percent were not exposed to the outdoors.

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 2021, reaching at or below the shoulder was required for 98.9 percent of animal caretakers.

Performing work in low postures was required for 97.2 percent of animal caretakers.

The choice to sit or stand when performing critical tasks was available to 6.8 percent of animal caretakers. On average, workers spent 3.7 percent of the workday sitting and 96.3 percent of the workday standing.

Table 2. Percentage of animal caretakers with physical demands, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choice of sitting or standing</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>93.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>