Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic
Set up, operate, or tend machines to saw, cut, shear, slit, punch, crimp, notch, bend, or straighten metal or plastic material.

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 13.4 percent of cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic, and basic people skills were required for 86.6 percent.

Table 1. Percentage of cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic 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>39.5</td>
<td>60.5</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, credentials were required for 19.1 percent of cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic. Prior work experience was required for 31.2 percent.

No minimum education was required for 41.9 percent of cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic, and a high school diploma was required for 58.1 percent.

Chart 1. Percentage of cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic by specific preparation time (SVP) level, 2021

Beyond short demonstration, up to and including 1 month (SVP 2) 55.4%
Over 1 month, up to and including 3 months (SVP 3) 5.8%
Over 3 months, up to and including 6 months (SVP 4) 10.5%
Over 6 months, up to and including 1 year (SVP 5) 0%
Over 1 year, up to and including 2 years (SVP 6) 0%

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

In 2021, a moderate noise exposure was present for 81.9 percent of cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic, and 18.1 percent were exposed to loud noise. Personal protective equipment (PPE) was used by 81.1 percent of workers to mitigate noise exposure and was not used by 18.9 percent.

![Chart 2. Percentage of cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic without exposure to environmental conditions, 2021](chart)

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 86.7 percent of cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic. For 41.9 percent of workers, reaching at or below the shoulder was occasionally performed, and for 16.5 percent reaching at or below the shoulder occurred frequently.

Performing work in low postures was required for 67.7 percent of cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic and was not required for 32.3 percent.

On average, cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic spent 15.3 percent of the workday sitting and 84.7 percent of the workday standing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Driving</td>
<td>35.6</td>
<td>64.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>