



## Security guards

Guard, patrol, or monitor premises to prevent theft, violence, or infractions of rules. May operate x-ray and metal detector equipment.

## Cognitive and mental requirements

The qualifications that workers need to use judgement, make decisions, interact with others, and adapt to changes in jobs.

**Table 1. Percentage of security guards with cognitive and mental requirements, 2024**

Requirement	Yes	No
<b>Adaptability: Work schedule variability</b>	33.2	66.8
<b>Pace: Pause control</b>	3.2	96.8
<b>Telework</b>	<5	>95
<b>Work review: Presence of supervisor</b>	7.6	92.4
<b>Work review: Supervising others</b>	<0.5	>99.5
<b>Working around crowds</b>	14.5	85.5

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey

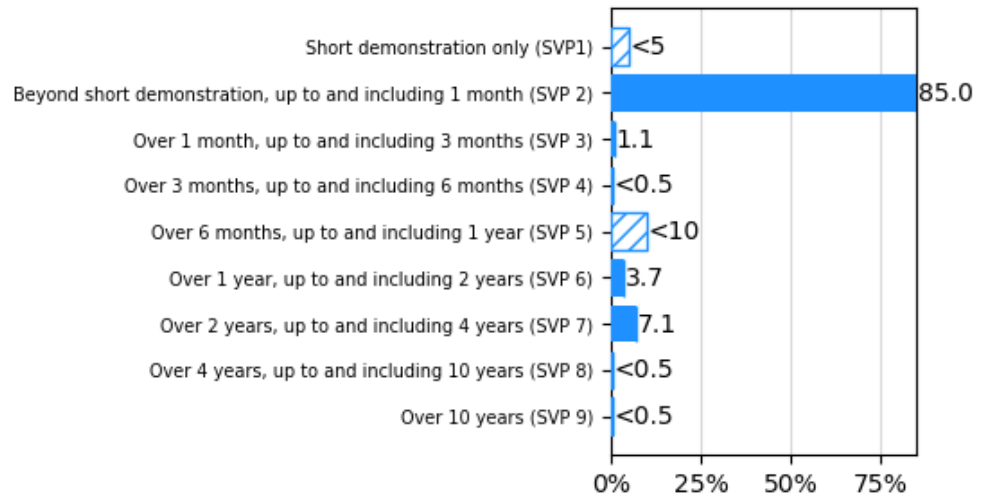
## Education, training, and experience requirements

The minimum level of formal education required, credentials necessary, on-the-job training, and prior work experience necessary for average performance in jobs.

In 2024, prior work experience was required for 10.9 percent of security guards and on-the-job training was required for greater than 99.5 percent.

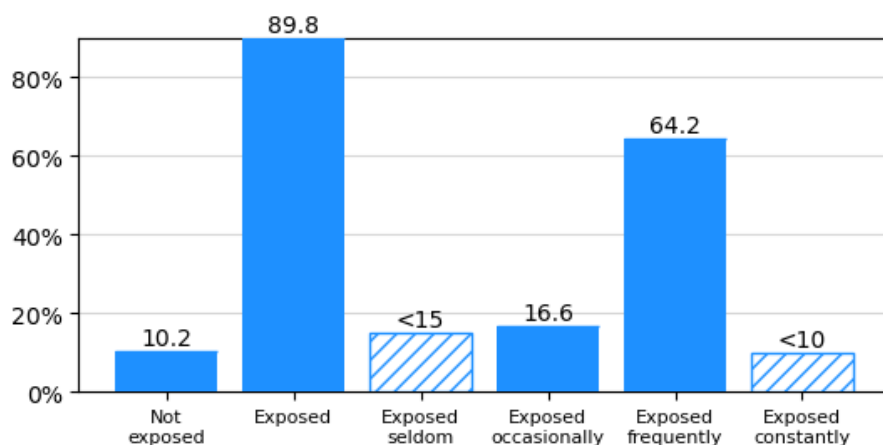
A high school diploma was required for 73.8 percent of security guards.

**Chart 1. Percentage of security guards by specific vocational preparation (SVP) level, 2024**



Note: Striped bars represent range estimates where precise value is unpublished.  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey

**Chart 2. Percentage of security guards with outdoor exposure and duration, 2024**



Note: Striped bars represent range estimates where precise value is unpublished.  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey

## Environmental conditions

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

In 2024, greater than 99.5 percent of security guards were not exposed to extreme cold, and greater than 99.5 percent were not exposed to extreme heat. Wetness was not present for greater than 95 percent, greater than 99.5 percent were not exposed to heavy vibrations, and 10.2 percent were not exposed to the outdoors.

## Physical demands

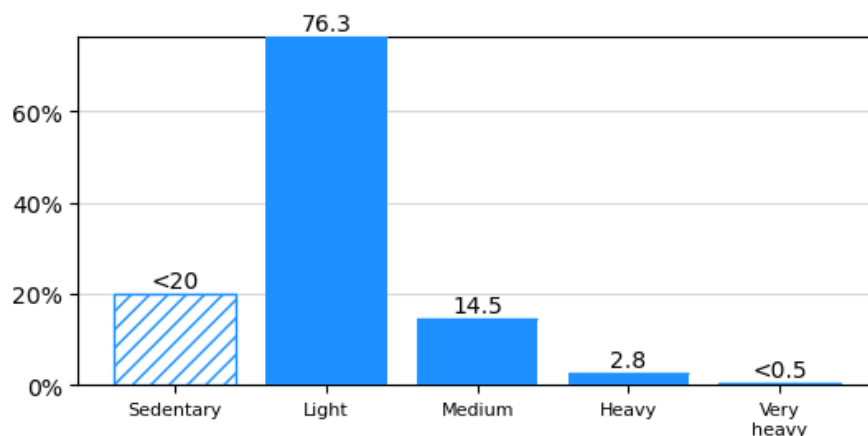
Refer to the physical activities required to perform tasks in jobs. The presence and, in some cases, duration of these activities are published.

In 2024, reaching at or below the shoulder was required for 45.4 percent of security guards and was not required for 54.6 percent.

Performing work in low postures was required for 39.9 percent of security guards and was not required for 60.1 percent.

On average, security guards spent 37.3 percent of the workday sitting and 62.7 percent of the workday standing.

**Chart 3. Percentage of security guards by strength level requirements, 2024**



Note: Striped bars represent range estimates where precise value is unpublished.  
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey

**Table 2. Percentage of security guards with physical demands, 2024**

Requirement	Yes	No
Choice of sitting or standing	<5	>95
Climbing structure-related ramps or stairs	59.4	40.6
Driving	63.9	36.1

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Requirements Survey