The Hardest Construction Jobs to Fill

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SOME OF THE TOUGHEST POSITIONS TO STAFF IN 2023 ARE THE MOST VITAL

Construction needs to fnd more workers, and there are no easy-to-fll jobs in the industry.

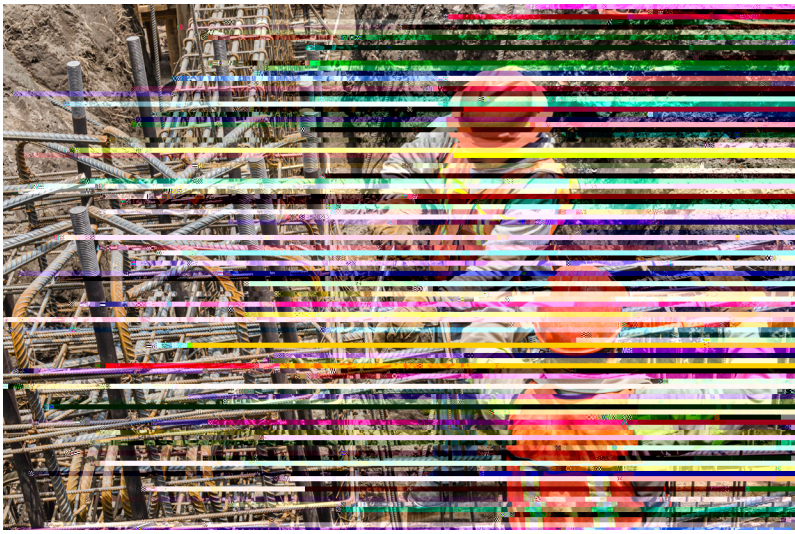
In fact, according to an Associated General Contractors of America survey of its members, 91% of contractors had trouble flling positions last year, and experts say the labor crunch for these positions isn't going to let up anytime soon.

The number of workers in construction has failed to meet the high demand. Fewer new workers have joined the industry, and retention has remained low as experienced workers retire.

Among hourly craft positions, AGC respondents had the most trouble with staffng pipelayers; 89% of contractors had trouble flling those spots. Glaziers were the least diffcult job to staff, but even so, 70% of respondents had trouble fnding workers in those positions.

Salaried positions, such as architects, engineers and estimating personnel, are easier to fll, but 81% of frms still struggled to fnd project managers/supervisors and 77% estimating personnel. Half had trouble with vital jobs like safety personnel.

"We continue to be faced with the challenge of hiring superintendents and skilled craft labor," said Alison Tripp, national recruiting lead for Redwood City, California-based DPR Construction. "As our more seasoned superintendents are getting closer to retirement, we must double our efforts to make careers in the feld attractive to younger talent."



The toughest positions to fll are some of the most vital: ones that require leadership or experience in the trades.

"There was a point in time where he who had the people hoped he got the work," said Greg Sizemore, vice president of