

Fantasy Demographics

Fantasy City Demographics

The value is the number of people required to support a person of that profession. For smaller settlements the ratio between the population and the value represents a percentage change of that profession being present. For example for a village of 101 people there is a 50% chance that a Baker will be present. Population of 101 divided by 202 = .5 or 50%.

Profession	Value	Profession	Value
Artist	965	Metalsmith	529
Baker	202	Miller	275
Carpenter	196	Miner	1,618
Chandler	509	Ostler	322
Clerk	3,929	Physician	289
Engineer	13,750	Pilot	1,774
Finesmith	238	Potter	2,619
Fisherman	1,078	Religious	786
Games	3,667	Sailor	4,583
Glassmaker	1,375	Scholar	353
Harper	6,875	Servant	154
Herbalist	573	Shipwright	3,929
Jeweler	276	Tailor	94
Laborer	149	Tanner	1,058
Leathercrafter	80	Tavern	130
Legal	1,222	Teamster	1,122
Luxury	18,333	Timber	833
Mason	259	Weaponsmith	462
Mercenary	3,929	Weaver	119
Merchant	243		

Professions

These are broad categories of profession. In the largest medieval settlements these were finely divided into bewildering array of guilds each dedicated to a different aspect of a trade. For example fletchers for arrows were different those who made the arrow shaft which were different than those who made the arrow heads. For most games this level of detail is overkill and confusing. I grouped similar professions into the same categories. Here I list each broad profession and the some of the detailed occupations that can be found under that category.

Artist

Deals with creating various works of art.
House Painter, Painter, Sculptor.

Baker

Deals with the preparation of baked goods and/or prepared foods.
Bread baker, Cake Baker, Pastry Baker, Pie Baker, Prepared Sauce Baker. Public Baker, Roast Caterer, Tart Seller

Carpenter

Deals with making things out of wood.
Altar Maker, Barrel Maker, Carpenter, Cartwright, Chair Maker, Chest Maker, Coffin Maker, Cooper, Cane maker, dowel/peg maker,

scaffolding builder, wooden-sole maker, worktable maker.

Chandler

Deals with lighting, soap making, rope making and shoe making. Often is the general merchant responsible for selling items to outfit a ship. A Chandler can be considered a proto general store.
Dried Hemp seller, soap maker, candle maker, cobbler

Clerk

Minor Bureaucrats whose duty involve the operation of market. Accurate and fair weights is one such important duty as well witnessing transactions.
Bonded measurer.

Engineer

Deals with complex construction and planning.
Fountain Maker, Surveyor

Finesmith

Deals with creating small and intricate metal items.

Balance scale maker, Pot/pan maker, wire maker, buckle/ring maker, chain maker, chalice maker, tableware maker, enameler, fishing gear maker, locksmith, nail maker, needle maker, shear/clipper maker, shovel maker.

Fisherman

Deals with fishing sea/river/lake food.

Games

Makes items for various popular games. Mostly balls and basic equipment.

Tennis Ball maker, Bowling Ball Maker

Glassmaker

Deals with making items out of glass.
Bottle Seller, Glass Maker, Stained Glass Seller, Mirror Maker.

Harper

Deals with the playing of Music.
Drummer, Flutist, Minstrel.

Herbalist

Deals with selling of herb related items for medicine or cooking.

Ash/powder seller, Cooking Herb/Oil Seller, Herb/Potion Seller, Apothecary, Oakum Seller (used to stuff crack in ships).

Jeweler

Deals with making Jewelry out of precious metals/materials.

Bone Carver, Button maker, Gilder, Gold Cloth maker, Gold Braid Maker, Gold Refiner, Goldsmith, Jeweler, Lapidary, Ring Maker, Silvermith, Engraver.

Laborer

General Laborers including non-specialized household servants.

Chamber Maids (real common), Teamster, Sedan Chair Porter, Dishwasher, Worker, Water-carrier.

Leathercrafter

Deals with the crafting of item out of leather and hides.

Bellows-maker, Shoe Maker, Boot Maker, Glove maker, Leather/Fur Seller, leather/Fur Trimmer, Belt Maker, Purse Maker, Scabbard Maker.

Legal

Deals with various legal matters.
Lawyer, Magistrate, Tax Collector, Notary.

Luxury

Provides luxury services.
Massage, Floral Decorator, Hairdo Maker.

Mason

Deals with stonework and construction
Mason, Mortar, Plasterer, Roofer, Carver, Quarrier.

Mercenary

Guards and Fighters for hire.
Animal Pound Guard, Guard, Profession Duelist Second.

Merchant

Deals with the buying and selling of goods
Banker, Money Changer, Cattle Merchant, Cheese Merchant, Hay Seller, Fruit Seller, Salt Seller, Eel Seller.

Metalsmith

Works with crafting items out of metal.
Anvil Maker, Barrel hoop maker, Cauldron Maker, Knifsmith, Blacksmith,

Miller

Deals with the processing of grain and other crops.

Poultry Seller, Milk Seller, Miller, Peafowl Seller, Mole Trapper.

Miner

Deals with the mining and processing of various ores and minerals. Of which iron and salt are the most important.

Iron maker, Salt Miner, Sand/Gravel Miner,

Ostler

Deals with the buying and selling of horses, draft animals, and their equipment.

Horse Broker, Harness maker, Saddler, Spurrier.

Physician

Deals with the care and treatment of the sick (Good Luck!)

Barber (Surgeon), Doctor, Midwife.

Pilot

Deals with the piloting of boats and ships.

Boat Captain, Ferry Operator.

Potter

Deals with the making of pottery and ceramics.

Tile Maker, Potter.

Religious

Various Clergymen and their associates.

Clerks (religious below a priest), Priests, Priest's Wife, Priest Concubine.

Sailor

Those who are qualified to be a member of a ship's crew.

Mariners, Sailors

Scholar

Deals with items used in the creation of scrolls and books.

Book binder, Book Clasp maker, Dice Maker, Ink Maker, Illustrator, Parchment Maker, Scrivener.

Servant

Various profession dealing with serving other people. Generally some skill or knowledge is required.

Chamberlain, Church Warden, Cook, Dancer, Doorman, Teacher, Gardener, Hangman, Jailer, Butler, Laundry worker, Nursemaid, Public Bath Proprietor, Public Cryer, Messenger, Trumpeter, Wine Steward

Shipwright

Deals with the building and repair of ships.

Boat Builder, Shipwright

Tailor

Deals with the creation of Clothes.

Bag Maker, Dyer, Embroider, Mattress Maker, Hat Maker, Hood Maker, Lace Maker, Tailor, Rag maker, Ribbon maker.

Tanner

Turns raw animal hides into leather.

Skinner, Sheepskin Seller, Tanner.

Tavern

Serves Food and Drink to the Public and provides accommodations.

Beer Seller, Brewer, Butcher, Caterer, Foodstuff Reseller, Fried Fish Seller, Innkeeper, Pastry Hawker, Wine Seller.

Teamster

Deals with the loading/unloading/transport of goods.

Draftsmen, Longshoreman, Teamster.

Timber

Deals with the harvesting and sale of wood including charcoal fuel.

Charcoal Seller, Firewood Seller, Forester, Sawyer, Logger, Stave Wood Seller.

Weaponsmith

Deals with the manufacture of Weapons and Armor.

Armorer, Bow & Arrow maker, Crossbow maker, Pike Maker, Swordsmith, Weaponsmith,

Weaver

Deals with the making of cloth, and woven items.

Basket maker, Carpet maker, Tapestry Maker, Fuller, Shearer, Weaver, Spinner.

Thanks to S. John Ross for writing Medieval Demographics which can be downloaded from here. (<https://www.batintheattic.com/downloads/Medieval%20Demographics%20Made%20Easy.pdf>)

This inspired me to go back to the original sources and do the research that went into this article. This article is based on the Paris Tax Roll of 1292 which can found at <http://heraldry.sca.org/laurel/names/parisbyname.html>.

The list was originally found in *Life of a Medieval City* by Joseph and Francis Geis (Harper and Row, 1981). The list in *Medieval City* was paraphrased and truncated from the original document. The values for each profession was computed by summing up all the practitioners and dividing that into 55,000.

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