

Employment in Allied Health Occupations

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Employment Projections

- Every 2 years BLS releases long-term national employment projections
- Total employment is projected to increase 6.5 percent from 2014 to 2024
 - ▶ 9.8 million new jobs
- Healthcare occupations are projected to add 2.3 million jobs, or about 1 in 4 new jobs added to the total economy

Occupational Outlook Handbook

- Projections data are featured in the *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)*
- The 2016-17 edition of the OOH includes 329 occupational profiles covering 576 detailed occupations
- Each profile features information on
 - ▶ Job duties
 - ▶ Work environment
 - ▶ Wages
 - ▶ How to become one – education, training, licenses and certifications
 - ▶ Job outlook

Typical education, training, and work experience pathway

- Not everyone working in an occupation needs the same level of preparation for entry
- What is typical?
- Occupations that typically require a postsecondary credential of less than a bachelor's degree
 - Associate's degree
 - Postsecondary nondegree award

Most healthcare occupations are regulated

- May require a license, certification, or registration
 - ▶ Licenses are typically issued by states to ensure that workers have met specific legal requirements to practice in an occupation
 - ▶ Some occupations are certified; these certifications may be required or optional and demonstrate competency
 - ▶ Registrations are typically required and issued by state or local governments
- Requirements vary by state

Dental occupations

- Dental hygienists
 - ▶ Associate's degree
 - ▶ All states require a license

- Dental assistants
 - ▶ Postsecondary nondegree award
 - Less common pathway: on-the-job training
 - ▶ Some states require license, registration, or certification

Dental occupations

SOC occupation title	Employment				Job openings due to growth and replacement needs, 2014-24	2014 median wage
	Number, in thousands		Change, 2014-24			
	2014	2024	Number	Percent		
Dental hygienists	200.5	237.9	37.4	18.6	70.3	\$71,520
Dental assistants	318.8	377.4	58.6	18.4	137.5	\$35,390

Emergency medical technicians

- Postsecondary nondegree award
 - ▶ Programs provide training at three levels:
 - EMT
 - Advanced EMT
 - Paramedic
- Paramedics may need an associate's degree
- All states require license and a certification may be required prior to license
 - ▶ In most states, an individual who has National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) certification qualifies for licensure

Emergency medical technicians

SOC occupation title	Employment				Job openings due to growth and replacement needs, 2014-24	2014 median wage
	Number, in thousands		Change, 2014-24			
	2014	2024	Number	Percent		
Emergency medical technicians and paramedics	241.2	299.6	58.5	24.2	98.0	\$31,700

Diagnostic imaging occupations

- Cardiovascular technologists and technicians
- Diagnostic medical sonographers
- Nuclear medicine technologists
- Radiologic technologists
- MRI technologists
 - ▶ All typically require an associate's degree for entry
 - ▶ Licensing and certification requirements vary by occupation and state
 - ▶ Employers typically prefer to hire candidates with certification

Diagnostic imaging occupations

SOC occupation title	Employment				Job openings due to growth and replacement needs, 2014-24	2014 median wage
	Number, in thousands		Change, 2014-24			
	2014	2024	Number	Percent		
Cardiovascular technologists and technicians	52.0	63.5	11.5	22.2	21.4	\$54,330
Diagnostic medical sonographers	60.7	76.7	16.0	26.4	27.5	\$67,530
Nuclear medicine technologists	20.7	21.0	0.3	1.5	4.2	\$72,100
Radiologic technologists	197.0	214.2	17.2	8.7	54.4	\$55,870
Magnetic resonance imaging technologists	33.6	37.1	3.5	10.3	9.8	\$67,090

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics



Laboratory technician occupations

- Medical and clinical laboratory technicians
 - ▶ Associate's degree
 - ▶ Some states require license

- Phlebotomists
 - ▶ Postsecondary nondegree award
 - Less common pathway: high school diploma + on-the-job training
 - ▶ Phlebotomists are not licensed
 - However, almost all employers prefer to hire phlebotomists who have earned certification

Laboratory technician occupations

SOC occupation title	Employment				Job openings due to growth and replacement needs, 2014-24	2014 median wage
	Number, in thousands		Change, 2014-24			
	2014	2024	Number	Percent		
Medical and clinical laboratory technicians	163.4	192.4	29.0	17.8	68.1	\$38,370
Phlebotomists	112.7	140.8	28.1	24.9	51.6	\$30,670

Direct care occupations

- Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses
- Nursing assistants
- Medical assistants
 - ▶ Postsecondary nondegree award
 - ▶ LPNs and LVNs must be licensed
 - ▶ Nursing assistants must be on state registry
 - ▶ Medical assistants are not required to be licensed in most states

Direct care occupations

SOC occupation title	Employment				Job openings due to growth and replacement needs, 2014-24	2014 median wage
	Number, in thousands		Change, 2014-24			
	2014	2024	Number	Percent		
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	719.9	837.2	117.3	16.3	322.2	\$42,490
Nursing assistants	1,492.1	1,754.1	262.0	17.6	599.0	\$25,100
Medical assistants	591.3	730.2	138.9	23.5	262.1	\$29,960

Behavioral health occupations

■ Psychiatric technicians

- ▶ Postsecondary nondegree award and prior clinical experience
- ▶ Most states do not license psychiatric technicians

■ Substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors

- ▶ Many positions need a bachelor's degree and some a master's degree
 - There are positions for workers with less than a bachelor's degree depending on the type of employer or setting
- ▶ Regulation of counselors varies by state and by practice setting

Behavioral health occupations

SOC occupation title	Employment				Job openings due to growth and replacement needs, 2014-24	2014 median wage
	Number, in thousands		Change, 2014-24			
	2014	2024	Number	Percent		
Psychiatric technicians	67.9	71.4	3.5	5.2	10.2	\$31,130
Substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors	94.9	116.2	21.2	22.3	41.1	\$39,270

Physical and occupational therapy occupations

- Physical therapist assistants
- Occupational therapy assistants
 - ▶ Associate's degree
 - ▶ All states require a license or certification for PT assistants
 - ▶ Most states require license or registration for OT assistants

Physical and occupational therapy occupations

SOC occupation title	Employment				Job openings due to growth and replacement needs, 2014-24	2014 median wage
	Number, in thousands		Change, 2014-24			
	2014	2024	Number	Percent		
Physical therapist assistants	78.7	110.7	31.9	40.6	54.7	\$54,410
Occupational therapy assistants	33.0	47.1	14.1	42.7	23.6	\$56,950

Pharmacy technicians

- High school diploma + moderate on-the-job training
 - ▶ Less typical pathway: postsecondary nondegree award
- Most states regulate technicians in some way

Pharmacy technicians

SOC occupation title	Employment				Job openings due to growth and replacement needs, 2014-24	2014 median wage
	Number, in thousands		Change, 2014-24			
	2014	2024	Number	Percent		
Pharmacy technicians	372.5	407.2	34.7	9.3	71.6	\$29,810

OOH website

For more information about these occupations and hundreds of others, please see the OOH webpage:

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/home.htm>

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