

Table 113. Health care employment and wages, by selected occupations: United States, selected years 2001-2011

(Data are based on a semiannual mail survey of nonfarm establishments)

Occupation title	2001	2005	2009	2011	2001-2011	2001	2005	2009	2011	2001-2011	
	Employment <sup>1</sup>				AAPC <sup>2</sup>	Mean hourly wage <sup>3</sup>					AAPC <sup>2</sup>
<b>Health care practitioners and technical occupations</b>											
Audiologists.....	11,040	10,030	12,590	12,490	1.2	\$23.89	\$27.72	\$32.14	\$34.13	3.6	
Cardiovascular technologists and technicians.....	40,990	43,560	48,070	50,410	2.1	17.55	19.99	23.91	25.08	3.6	
Dental hygienists.....	149,880	161,140	173,900	184,110	2.1	27.30	29.15	32.63	33.54	2.1	
Diagnostic medical sonographers.....	32,990	43,590	51,630	54,760	5.2	23.08	26.65	30.60	31.63	3.2	
Dietetic technicians.....	28,940	23,780	24,510	23,490	-2.1	11.23	12.20	13.72	14.04	2.3	
Dietitians and nutritionists.....	43,200	48,850	53,220	56,130	2.7	19.74	22.09	25.59	26.66	3.1	
Emergency medical technicians and paramedics.....	170,690	196,880	217,920	229,340	3.0	12.24	13.68	15.88	16.36	2.9	
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses.....	683,790	710,020	728,670	729,140	0.6	15.14	17.41	19.66	20.21	2.9	
Medical and clinical laboratory technicians.....	146,920	144,710	152,420	156,860	0.7	14.52	15.95	18.20	18.73	2.6	
Medical and clinical laboratory technologists.....	145,400	160,760	166,860	165,220	1.3	20.70	23.37	26.74	27.94	3.0	
Medical records and health information technicians.....	142,170	164,700	170,580	180,280	2.4	12.20	13.81	16.29	17.27	3.5	
Nuclear medicine technologists.....	17,360	18,280	21,670	21,200	2.0	24.65	29.10	32.91	33.64	3.2	
Occupational therapists.....	77,080	87,430	97,840	103,570	3.0	25.10	28.41	33.98	36.05	3.7	
Opticians, dispensing.....	63,120	70,090	60,840	60,680	-0.4	13.49	14.80	16.73	16.70	2.2	
Pharmacists.....	223,630	229,740	267,860	272,320	2.0	35.02	42.62	51.27	53.92	4.4	
Pharmacy technicians.....	207,140	266,790	331,890	343,550	5.2	10.82	12.19	13.92	14.43	2.9	
Physical therapists.....	126,450	151,280	174,490	185,440	3.9	28.43	31.42	36.64	38.38	3.0	
Physician assistants.....	56,200	63,350	76,900	83,540	4.0	30.00	34.17	40.78	43.01	3.7	
Psychiatric technicians.....	59,750	62,040	70,730	69,840	1.6	12.94	14.04	14.77	15.08	1.5	
Radiation therapists.....	13,460	14,120	15,570	18,380	3.2	25.71	30.59	37.18	38.14	4.0	
Radiologic technologists and technicians.....	168,240	184,580	213,560	220,540	2.7	18.68	22.60	26.05	27.29	3.9	
Recreational therapists.....	26,830	23,260	21,960	19,650	-3.1	14.92	16.90	19.84	20.65	3.3	
Registered nurses.....	2,217,990	2,368,070	2,583,770	2,724,570	2.1	23.19	27.35	31.99	33.23	3.7	
Respiratory therapists.....	82,930	95,320	107,270	113,980	3.2	19.17	22.24	26.06	27.05	3.5	
Respiratory therapy technicians.....	28,700	22,060	15,100	13,940	-7.0	16.93	18.57	21.96	22.76	3.0	
Speech-language pathologists.....	83,110	94,660	111,640	117,210	3.5	24.20	27.89	32.86	34.61	3.6	
<b>Health care support occupations</b>											
Dental assistants.....	267,840	270,720	294,020	296,810	1.0	13.29	14.41	16.35	16.70	2.3	
Home health aides.....	560,190	663,280	955,220	924,650	5.1	8.90	9.34	10.39	10.49	1.7	
Massage therapists.....	26,440	37,670	55,920	63,810	9.2	15.93	19.33	19.13	19.19	1.9	
Medical assistants.....	345,930	382,720	495,970	539,220	4.5	11.71	12.58	14.16	14.51	2.2	
Medical equipment preparers.....	33,540	41,790	47,070	49,560	4.0	11.29	12.42	14.32	14.99	2.9	
Medical transcriptionists.....	94,090	90,380	82,810	76,570	-2.0	12.99	14.36	16.03	16.37	2.3	
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants.....	1,307,600	1,391,430	1,438,010	1,466,700	1.2	9.54	10.67	12.01	12.22	2.5	
Occupational therapy aides.....	7,560	6,220	8,040	7,090	-0.6	11.70	13.20	13.89	15.28	2.7	
Occupational therapy assistants.....	17,520	22,160	26,680	29,130	5.2	17.39	19.13	24.44	25.07	3.7	
Pharmacy aides.....	58,130	46,610	52,230	45,130	-2.5	9.22	9.76	10.74	11.23	2.0	
Physical therapist aides.....	35,250	41,930	44,160	47,640	3.1	10.45	11.01	12.01	12.11	1.5	
Physical therapist assistants.....	47,810	58,670	63,750	67,550	3.5	17.18	18.98	23.36	24.57	3.6	
Psychiatric aides.....	59,640	56,150	62,610	71,570	1.8	11.42	11.47	13.19	13.11	1.4	

<sup>1</sup>Employment is the number of filled positions. This table includes both full-time and part-time wage and salary positions.

Estimates do not include business establishments where persons are self-employed, owners and partners in unincorporated firms, household workers, or unpaid family workers and were rounded to the nearest 10.

<sup>2</sup>AAPC is average annual percent change. See Appendix II, Average annual rate of change (percent change).

<sup>3</sup>The mean hourly wage rate for an occupation is the total wages that all workers in the occupation earn in an hour divided by the total employment of the occupation. More information is available from: [http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_tec.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_tec.htm).

NOTES: This table excludes occupations such as dentists, physicians, and chiropractors, which have a large percentage of workers who are self-employed.

Challenges in using Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) data as a time series include changes in the occupational, industrial, and geographical classification systems, changes in the way data are collected, changes in the survey reference period, and changes in mean wage estimation methodology, as well as permanent features of the methodology.

See Appendix I, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES).  
Data for additional years are available. See Appendix III.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Occupational Employment Statistics.

Available from: [http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_nat.htm#29-0000](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm#29-0000).

See Appendix I, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES).