

**Table 104. Healthcare employment and wages, by selected occupations: United States, selected years 2001–2012**

Updated data when available, Excel, PDF, and more data years: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2012.htm#104>.

[Data are based on a semiannual mail survey of nonfarm establishments]

Occupation title	2001	2005	2009	2012	2001– 2012	2001	2005	2009	2012	2001– 2012
Health care practitioners and technical occupations	Employment <sup>1</sup>				AAPC <sup>2</sup>		Mean hourly wage <sup>3</sup>			AAPC <sup>2</sup>
Audiologists . . . . .	11,040	10,030	12,590	12,060	0.8	\$23.89	\$27.72	\$32.14	\$35.04	3.5
Cardiovascular technologists and technicians . . . . .	40,990	43,560	48,070	50,530	1.9	17.55	19.99	23.91	25.51	3.5
Dental hygienists . . . . .	149,880	161,140	173,900	190,290	2.2	27.30	29.15	32.63	33.99	2.0
Diagnostic medical sonographers . . . . .	32,990	43,590	51,630	57,700	5.2	23.08	26.65	30.60	31.90	3.0
Dietetic technicians . . . . .	28,940	23,780	24,510	24,660	-1.4	11.23	12.20	13.72	13.79	1.9
Dietitians and nutritionists . . . . .	43,200	48,850	53,220	58,240	2.8	19.74	22.09	25.59	27.00	2.9
Emergency medical technicians and paramedics . . . . .	170,690	196,880	217,920	232,860	2.9	12.24	13.68	15.88	16.53	2.8
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses . . . . .	683,790	710,020	728,670	718,800	0.5	15.14	17.41	19.66	20.39	2.7
Magnetic resonance imaging technologists . . . . .	---	---	---	29,560	---	---	---	---	31.45	---
Medical and clinical laboratory technicians . . . . .	146,920	142,330	152,420	157,920	0.7	14.52	15.95	18.20	18.91	2.4
Medical and clinical laboratory technologists . . . . .	145,400	155,250	166,860	160,700	0.9	20.70	23.37	26.74	28.19	2.8
Medical records and health information technicians . . . . .	142,170	160,450	170,580	182,370	2.3	12.20	13.81	16.29	17.68	3.4
Nuclear medicine technologists . . . . .	17,360	18,280	21,670	20,480	1.5	24.65	29.10	32.91	34.06	3.0
Nurse anesthetists . . . . .	---	---	---	34,180	---	---	---	---	74.22	---
Nurse midwives . . . . .	---	---	---	5,710	---	---	---	---	43.78	---
Nurse practitioners . . . . .	---	---	---	105,780	---	---	---	---	43.97	---
Occupational therapists . . . . .	77,080	87,430	97,840	105,540	2.9	25.10	28.41	33.98	36.73	3.5
Opticians, dispensing . . . . .	63,120	70,090	60,840	64,930	0.3	13.49	14.80	16.73	16.83	2.0
Pharmacists . . . . .	223,630	229,740	267,860	281,560	2.1	35.02	42.62	51.27	55.27	4.2
Pharmacy technicians . . . . .	207,140	266,790	331,890	353,340	5.0	10.82	12.19	13.92	14.63	2.8
Physical therapists . . . . .	126,450	151,280	174,490	191,460	3.8	28.43	31.42	36.64	38.99	2.9
Physician assistants . . . . .	56,200	63,350	76,900	83,640	3.7	30.00	34.17	40.78	44.45	3.6
Psychiatric technicians . . . . .	59,750	62,040	70,730	67,760	1.2	12.94	14.04	14.77	15.93	1.9
Radiation therapists . . . . .	13,460	14,120	15,570	18,230	2.8	25.71	30.59	37.18	38.66	3.8
Radiologic technologists <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	168,240	184,580	213,560	194,790	1.3	18.68	22.60	26.05	27.14	3.5
Recreational therapists . . . . .	26,830	23,260	21,960	19,180	-3.0	14.92	16.90	19.84	21.29	3.3
Registered nurses <sup>4</sup> . . . . .	2,217,990	2,368,070	2,583,770	2,633,980	1.6	23.19	27.35	31.99	32.66	3.2
Respiratory therapists . . . . .	82,930	95,320	107,270	116,960	3.2	19.17	22.24	26.06	27.50	3.3
Respiratory therapy technicians . . . . .	28,700	22,060	15,100	13,460	-6.7	16.93	18.57	21.96	22.84	2.8
Speech-language pathologists . . . . .	83,110	94,660	111,640	121,690	3.5	24.20	27.89	32.86	34.97	3.4
Healthcare support occupations										
Dental assistants . . . . .	267,840	270,720	294,020	300,160	1.0	13.29	14.41	16.35	16.86	2.2
Home health aides . . . . .	560,190	663,280	955,220	839,930	3.8	8.90	9.34	10.39	10.49	1.5
Massage therapists . . . . .	26,440	37,670	55,920	71,040	9.4	15.93	19.33	19.13	19.40	1.8
Medical assistants . . . . .	345,930	382,720	495,970	553,140	4.4	11.71	12.58	14.16	14.69	2.1
Medical equipment preparers . . . . .	33,540	41,790	47,070	50,230	3.7	11.29	12.42	14.32	15.51	2.9
Medical transcriptionists . . . . .	94,090	90,380	82,810	74,810	-2.1	12.99	14.36	16.03	16.66	2.3
Nursing assistants <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	1,307,600	1,391,430	1,438,010	1,420,020	0.8	9.54	10.67	12.01	12.32	2.4
Occupational therapy aides . . . . .	7,560	6,220	8,040	7,950	0.5	11.70	13.20	13.89	14.36	1.9
Occupational therapy assistants . . . . .	17,520	22,160	26,680	29,500	4.9	17.39	19.13	24.44	25.52	3.5
Pharmacy aides . . . . .	58,130	46,610	52,230	42,600	-2.8	9.22	9.76	10.74	11.28	1.9
Physical therapist aides . . . . .	35,250	41,930	44,160	48,700	3.0	10.45	11.01	12.01	12.22	1.4
Physical therapist assistants . . . . .	47,810	58,670	63,750	69,810	3.5	17.18	18.98	23.36	25.15	3.5
Psychiatric aides . . . . .	59,640	56,150	62,610	77,880	2.5	11.42	11.47	13.19	12.83	1.1

<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. Estimates 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 number of employees in 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).

<sup>4</sup>2012 data are not comparable to earlier data. Starting with 2012 data, the registered nurses occupation category was split into four occupations as part of the 2010 SOC revision: Registered nurses (29–1141), plus three advanced nursing occupations: Nurse anesthetists (29–1151), Nurse midwives (29–1161), and Nurse practitioners (29–1171).

<sup>5</sup>2012 data are not comparable to earlier data. Starting with 2012 data, the nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants occupation category was split into two occupations as part of the 2010 SOC revision: Nursing assistants (31–1014) and Orderlies (31–1015).

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 \(OES\)](#).

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 \(OES\)](#).