

Table 87. Healthcare employment and wages, by selected occupations: United States, selected years 2000–2015

Excel and PDF versions (with more data years and standard errors when available): <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus/contents2016.htm#087>.

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

Occupation title	2000	2010	2014	2015	2000	2010	2014	2015
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations								
	Employment ¹				Mean hourly wage ²			
Audiologists	11,530	12,860	12,250	12,070	\$22.92	\$33.58	\$36.92	\$37.22
Cardiovascular technologists and technicians	40,080	48,720	51,080	51,400	16.81	24.38	26.54	26.97
Dental hygienists	148,460	177,520	196,520	200,550	24.99	33.02	34.60	34.96
Diagnostic medical sonographers	31,760	53,010	59,760	61,250	22.03	31.20	32.88	34.08
Dietetic technicians	28,010	23,890	28,690	28,950	10.98	13.86	13.75	14.03
Dietitians and nutritionists	43,030	53,510	59,490	59,740	18.76	26.13	27.62	28.08
Emergency medical technicians and paramedics	165,530	221,760	235,760	236,890	11.89	16.01	16.88	17.04
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	679,470	730,290	695,610	697,250	14.65	19.88	20.87	21.17
Magnetic resonance imaging technologists	---	---	33,130	33,460	---	---	32.36	32.86
Medical and clinical laboratory technicians	146,060	156,480	160,460	157,610	13.93	18.36	19.59	19.91
Medical and clinical laboratory technologists	144,530	164,430	161,710	162,950	19.84	27.34	29.12	29.74
Medical records and health information technicians	143,870	176,090	184,740	189,930	11.74	16.83	18.68	19.44
Nuclear medicine technologists	18,030	21,600	20,320	19,740	21.56	33.20	35.21	36.06
Nurse anesthetists	---	---	36,590	39,410	---	---	76.40	77.04
Nurse midwives	---	---	5,110	7,430	---	---	46.97	45.01
Nurse practitioners	---	---	122,050	136,060	---	---	47.11	48.68
Occupational therapists	75,150	100,300	110,520	114,660	24.10	35.28	38.46	39.27
Opticians, dispensing	66,580	62,200	73,110	73,520	12.67	16.73	17.43	17.70
Pharmacists	212,660	268,030	290,780	295,620	33.39	52.59	56.96	57.34
Pharmacy technicians	190,940	333,500	368,760	379,430	10.38	14.10	14.95	15.23
Physical therapists	120,410	180,280	200,670	209,690	27.62	37.50	40.35	41.25
Physician assistants	55,490	81,420	91,670	98,470	29.17	41.89	46.77	47.73
Psychiatric technicians	53,350	72,650	64,540	58,450	12.53	15.15	16.91	17.44
Radiation therapists	13,100	16,590	16,380	16,930	25.59	37.64	40.25	40.61
Radiologic technologists ³	172,080	216,730	193,400	195,590	17.93	26.80	27.65	28.13
Recreational therapists	26,940	20,830	17,950	17,880	14.23	19.92	22.14	22.98
Registered nurses ⁴	2,189,670	2,655,020	2,687,310	2,745,910	22.31	32.56	33.55	34.14
Respiratory therapists	82,670	109,270	119,410	120,330	18.37	26.54	28.12	28.67
Respiratory therapy technicians	28,230	13,570	10,610	10,000	16.46	22.28	23.46	23.90
Speech-language pathologists	82,850	112,530	126,500	131,450	23.31	33.60	36.01	36.97
Healthcare support occupations								
Dental assistants	250,870	294,030	314,330	323,110	12.86	16.41	17.43	17.75
Home health aides	561,120	982,840	799,080	820,630	8.71	10.46	10.77	11.00
Massage therapists	24,620	60,040	87,670	92,090	15.51	19.12	20.09	20.76
Medical assistants	330,830	523,260	584,970	601,240	11.46	14.31	15.01	15.34
Medical equipment preparers	32,760	47,310	50,550	50,330	10.68	14.59	16.28	16.80
Medical transcriptionists	97,330	78,780	61,210	57,830	12.37	16.12	17.11	17.17
Nursing assistants ⁵	1,273,460	1,451,090	1,427,740	1,420,570	9.18	12.09	12.62	12.89
Occupational therapy aides	8,890	7,180	8,570	7,570	11.21	14.95	13.96	14.95
Occupational therapy assistants	15,910	27,720	32,230	35,460	16.76	24.66	27.53	28.05
Orderlies	---	---	52,420	52,660	---	---	12.82	13.26
Pharmacy aides	59,890	49,580	41,240	38,040	9.10	10.98	12.28	13.20
Physical therapist aides	34,620	45,900	48,730	50,540	10.06	12.02	12.82	13.19
Physical therapist assistants	44,120	65,960	76,910	81,230	16.52	23.95	26.12	26.56
Psychiatric aides	57,680	64,730	72,860	69,550	10.79	12.84	13.67	13.55

--- Data not available.

¹ Employment is the number of filled positions. This table includes both full-time and part-time wage and salary positions. Estimates do not include the self-employed, owners and partners in unincorporated firms, household workers, or unpaid family workers. Estimates were rounded to the nearest 10.

² 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.

³ Starting with 2012 data, the radiologic technologists and technicians occupation category was split into two occupations as part of the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) revision: Radiologic technologists (29-2034) and Magnetic resonance imaging technologists (29-2035). Thus, data prior to 2012 include radiologic technologists as well as magnetic resonance imaging technologists and are not comparable with 2012–2015 data.

⁴ 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 practice nursing occupations: Nurse anesthetists (29-1151), Nurse midwives (29-1161), and Nurse practitioners (29-1171). Thus, data prior to 2012 include registered nurses as well as nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners and are not comparable with 2012–2015 data.

⁵ 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). Thus, data prior to 2012 include nursing assistants as well as orderlies and are not comparable with 2012–2015 data.

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. See Appendix I, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES).