

Gap Analysis

Below is a Gap Analysis prepared by the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board. This projection was created by comparing the number of graduates prepared for the listed health care occupations in 2011 to the projected annual net job openings for 2015 through 2020. The demand data is derived from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics for the state of Washington. Negative numbers in the far right column indicate the gap in supply. A positive number indicates an oversupply.

Occupation	2011 - New Supply	Projected Annual Net Job Openings 2015 - 2020	Annual Difference Between Supply & Projected Demand
Home Health Aides *	58	436	-378
Physicians and Surgeons, All Specialties	173	545	-372
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors	17	385	-368
Registered Nurses **	2411	2588	-177
Medical, Clinical Lab Technologists	45	175	-130
Mental Health Counselors	48	176	-128
Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	103	216	-113
Dentists, General and All Specialties	88	200	-112
Physical Therapists	108	198	-90
Occupational and Vocational Therapists	56	106	-50
Respiratory Therapists	40	89	-49
Radiologic Technologists/Radiographer	152	199	-47
Medical and Clinical Lab Assistants & Technician	74	120	-46
Physician Assistants	64	109	-45
Dental Lab Technicians	16	56	-40
Med Transcriptionists	105	144	-39
Dental Hygienists	220	255	-35
Pharmacists	240	266	-26
Recreational Therapists	11	26	-15
Nuclear Medicine Technologists	4	18	-14
Medical Records & Health Information Techs	230	243	-13
Dietetic Technicians/Assistants	8	20	-12
Marriage and Family Therapists	45	50	-5
Dietitians and Nutritionists	69	72	-3
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	144	144	0
Counselors, All Other	26	17	9
Opticianry/Ophthalmic Dispensing Optician	68	59	9
Psychiatric, Mental Health Technicians	47	35	12
Athletic Trainers	33	20	13
Orthotist /Prosthetists	20	6	14
Occupational Therapy Assistants	40	25	15
Audiologists	29	13	16
Dental Assistants	478	444	34
Surgical Technology/Technologists	136	102	34
Cardiovascular Technicians	84	46	38
Veterinarians	122	80	42
Respiratory Therapy Technician/Assistant	58	6	52
Epidemiologist	68	8	60
Physical Therapy Assistants	134	62	72
Radiation Therapists	123	15	108
Speech-Language Pathologists	246	115	131

Veterinary Technologists/Technicians/Assistants	389	200	189
Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners, All	265	46	219
Substance Abuse/Addiction Counselors	342	99	243
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Social Workers	421	77	344
Medical Secretaries	1027	642	385
Pharmacy Technicians and Assistants	747	311	436
Massage Therapists	770	330	440
Licensed Practical and Vocational Nurses	1042	448	594
Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	920	235	685
Nursing Assistants, Nurse Aids	2004	940	1064
Medical Assistants	2993	517	2476

*Includes Department of Health licensed Home care aids, but not Medicaid home care aids.

**Demand for nurses is currently down as result of the recession and aftermath but is expected to grow as recovery strengthens.

These demand estimates are from occupational projections for Washington that were developed by the Employment Security Department under a contract from the U.S. Department of Labor. This national methodology relies heavily on recent trends and on national averages. Therefore, it may underestimate emerging overall changes or effects specific to Washington. In general, this methodology tends to be conservative in predicting changes to recent trends.

Accurately predicting future changes in health care labor demand resulting from national health care reform is very challenging. It will be important to carefully monitor changes in the health care system for labor market effects that were not predicted in the official projections.