

Occupational Outlook for Phlebotomists

Job Outlook

[\[About this section\]](#)

 [Back to Top](#)

Rapid job growth and excellent job opportunities are expected. Most jobs will continue to be in hospitals, but employment will grow faster in other settings.

Employment change. Employment of clinical laboratory workers is expected to grow 14 percent between 2006 and 2016, [faster than the average](#) for all occupations. The volume of laboratory tests continues to increase with both population growth and the development of new types of tests.

Technological advances will continue to have opposing effects on employment. On the one hand, new, increasingly powerful diagnostic tests will encourage additional testing and spur employment. On the other, research and development efforts targeted at simplifying routine testing procedures may enhance the ability of nonlaboratory personnel—physicians and patients in particular—to perform tests now conducted in laboratories.

Although hospitals are expected to continue to be the major employer of clinical laboratory workers, employment is expected to grow faster in medical and diagnostic laboratories, offices of physicians, and all other ambulatory health care services.

Job prospects. Job opportunities are expected to be [excellent](#) because the number of job openings is expected to continue to exceed the number of job seekers. Although significant, job growth will not be the only source of opportunities. As in most occupations, many additional openings will result from the need to replace workers who transfer to other occupations, retire, or stop working for some other reason.

Projections Data

[\[About this section\]](#)

 [Back to Top](#)

Projections data from the National Employment Matrix

Occupational title	SOC Code	Employment, 2006	Projected employment, 2016	Change, 2006-16		Detailed statistics
				Number	Percent	

Projections data from the National Employment Matrix

Occupational title	SOC Code	Employment, 2006	Projected employment, 2016	Change, 2006-16		Detailed statistics	
				Number	Percent		
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	29-2010	319,000	362,000	43,000	14	PDF	zipped XLS
Medical and clinical laboratory technologists	29-2011	167,000	188,000	21,000	12	PDF	zipped XLS
Medical and clinical laboratory technicians	29-2012	151,000	174,000	23,000	15	PDF	zipped XLS

NOTE: Data in this table are rounded. See the discussion of the employment projections table in the *Handbook* introductory chapter on [Occupational Information Included in the Handbook](#).

Earnings

[\[About this section\]](#)

 [Back to Top](#)

According to the American Society for Clinical Pathology, median hourly wages of staff clinical laboratory technologists and technicians in 2005 in various specialties and laboratory types were:

	Hospital	Private clinic	Physician office laboratory
Medical technologist	21.77	20.00	20.00
Histotechnician	18.50	20.86	18.27
Medical laboratory technician	17.41	16.94	16.63
Phlebotomist	11.70	12.15	11.25