• The health care industry is predicted to add 3.5 million new jobs between 2002 and 2012, an increase of 30%.¹

• It is predicted that about 16% of all new wage and salary jobs created between 2002 and 2012 will be in health services.²

• From 2002-2012, 10 of the 20 fastest growing occupations are concentrated in health services. These positions include: medical assistants (59% growth), physician assistants (49% growth), home health aides (48% growth), and medical records and health information technicians (47% growth).³

• Projected rates of employment growth for the various segments of the industry range from 12.8% in hospitals, the largest and slowest-growing industry segment, to 55.8% in the much smaller home healthcare services.⁴

• Fast growth is expected for workers in occupations concentrated outside the inpatient hospital sector, such as medical assistants and home health aides.⁵

• The Gross Domestic Product for Health Services in 2001 was $589.8 billion, a 5.8 percent share of the national total.⁶

• In 2002, total employment in the health services industry was 12.9 million jobs, making it one of the largest industries in the country.⁷

• The majority of jobs require less than four years of college education, but health diagnosing and treating practitioners are among the most educated workers.⁸

• A variety of post-high school programs provide specialized training for jobs in health services.⁹

• Some health services establishments provide on-the-job or classroom training, as well as continuing education.¹⁰

³ Ibid.
⁴ Ibid.
⁵ Ibid.
⁸ Ibid.
⁹ Ibid.
¹⁰Ibid.