

- 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

¹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Jay Berman, "Industry output and employment projections to 2012," *Monthly Labor Review*, February 2004, p. 68.

² BLS, Career Guide to Industries 2004-05, Health Services.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, www.bea.gov/bea/dn2/gpo.htm.

⁷ BLS, Career Guide to Industries 2004-05, Health Services.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.