
Over the decade from 1986 to 1996, nearly 1 out of every 9 new jobs created by the economy was in health occupations. That trend is expected to continue between 1996 and 2006.

Almost 2.3 million of the more than 20.9 million jobs added to the Nation’s workforce between 1986 and 1996 were in health diagnosing, health assessment and treating, health technician and technologist, and health service occupations. Employment growth of health technicians and technologists kept pace with that of health assessment and treating occupations, both increasing over 44 percent—more than twice as fast as total employment across all occupations. Employment in health service occupations also grew over 40 percent, but jobs in health diagnosing occupations increased just 15 percent.

Over 2.1 million of the 18.6 million jobs projected to be added between 1996 and 2006 will be in these same health occupations. Employment in health assessment and treating, health technicians and technologists, and health service occupations is projected to continue increasing faster than the average for all occupations. Growth in health diagnosing occupations will lag somewhat, increasing about as fast as the average.