

HISTOTECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE

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BACKGROUND

- Bureau of Labor Statistics lumps many disciplines into the Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians Category
- Projected to grow 13% from 2016 to 2026 due to retirements, and an aging population which is expected to lead to a greater need to diagnose medical conditions.
- When CMS last revisited the CLIA regulations in 1992, it excluded from oversight many pre-analytic processes because they were deemed relatively simple, minimal risk procedures.



Summary Report for:

29-2011.03 - Histotechnologists and Histologic Technicians

- 2017 Median Wages * \$24.89 hourly, \$51,779 annually
- 2016 employment: 171,000 employees
- Projected growth (2016-2026) Faster than average (10%-14%)
- Projected openings (2016-2026) 12,900

WAGE INFORMATION*

Histotechnician

Average age is 43.54

Average total years of experience is 17.31

Average overall wage is \$26.96

Histotechnologists

Average age is 41.87

Average total years of experience is 16.61

Average overall wage is \$29.12

WAGE INFORMATION*

Results from the ASCP Wage Survey of Medical Laboratories in the US show that HTLs have a -1.56% change in annual hourly wage after adjusting for inflation. The annual hourly wage for laboratory professionals was up in 2017 except for HTL's (-2.92%). (MBs and PAs also saw a slight decrease)

HISTOTECHNOLOGY

HT/Histotechnologists

HT/Histotechnologists are most likely to perform coverslips and H&E stain line maintenance (by more than 80% each; processor maintenance, special stains, and slide distribution (by more than 70%); filing paraffin blocks and glass slides, accessioning specimens, frozen section cutting and staining, and IHC and ISH stains (by more than 50%); and specimen send out and reagent recycling (by more than 40%).

The key differences by status include registered being more likely to perform special stains, specialty testing, and particularly IHC and ISH stains; and non-registered being more likely to perform reagent recycling, filing glass slides, and cytology prep.

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