

Healthcare

Labor Market Insights + Community Impacts · Austin Metro + Surrounding Counties

12-county region including: Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Milam, Travis, Williamson County



KEY TAKEAWAYS

Building the Healthcare Workforce Central Texas Needs

- **Demand:** Healthcare occupations remain among the region's most in-demand careers, with more than **4,200** projected annual openings through 2031 across six priority occupations.
- **Opportunity:** Healthcare careers offer competitive wages and multiple entry points, with many high-demand roles requiring a certificate or associate degree and median annual wages ranging from approximately **\$38,000 to \$94,000**.
- **Collaboration:** Regional employers report hiring needs beyond published labor market estimates, reinforcing the importance of partnerships like the **Central Texas Healthcare Partnership** to align and strengthen the healthcare talent pipeline.

PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS

In-Demand Career Pathways

	RECENT TRENDS				FUTURE PROJECTIONS		EARNINGS POTENTIAL		EDUCATION
	2025 JOBS	2019-25 CHANGE IN JOBS	2025 UNIQUE JOB POSTINGS	2025 TURN-OVER RATE	2031 JOBS	2026-31 AVG. ANN. OPENINGS	MEDIAN HRLY. EARNINGS	MEDIAN ANN. EARNINGS	TYPICAL ENTRY-LEVEL CREDENTIAL
REGISTERED NURSES	20,069	5,164	24,397	41%	22,585	1,455	\$45.18	\$93,971	■■■ ²
NURSING ASSISTANTS	6,921	1,492	1,157	90%	7,834	1,170	\$18.23	\$37,928	■■
MEDICAL ASSISTANTS	5,983	930	2,175	58%	7,066	952	\$21.80	\$45,336	■■
DENTAL ASSISTANTS	3,236	378	1,246	67%	3,621	502	\$21.04	\$43,756	■■
RADIOLOGIC TECHS ¹	1,448	17	2,268	32%	1,635	108	\$38.26	\$80,152	■■■
SURGICAL TECHS ¹	712	17	750	59%	802	56	\$33.26	\$69,185	■■■

■■ Certificate program ■■■ Associate's degree

¹ While labor market information provides important baseline trends, employer feedback indicates that actual hiring demand for these occupations is significantly higher than published estimates.

² Can either be an Associate Degree in Nursing or a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Sources: Lightcast (2026.1); US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) and Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW); US Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) and County Business Patterns (CBP)

Read Full Report



INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Turning Workforce Strategy Into Action

Explore how regional partners are turning collaboration into action. Click or scan to connect with workforce opportunities.

**Central Texas Healthcare Academy**

The Central Texas Healthcare Partnership, convened by Workforce Solutions Capital Area, developed the Central Texas Healthcare Academy to strengthen the region's future healthcare workforce. Through Austin Community College Dual Credit, the Academy gives high school students access to college-level healthcare coursework beginning as early as ninth grade, with opportunities to earn an industry-recognized credential before graduation. Participating school districts include Hays CISD and Pflugerville ISD. Through hands-on learning, employer engagement, and early exposure to healthcare careers, the Academy prepares students to enter the workforce or continue their education, helping build a stronger, locally trained talent pipeline to meet the region's growing healthcare workforce needs.

[Learn More](#)
**Make It Medical Series**

Austin Community College's Make It Center has expanded learning opportunities for students interested in healthcare by introducing Make It Medical. This hands-on, interactive scenario walks students through a medical scenario that enables students to explore a variety of healthcare occupations, diagnose a patient, and even perform surgery.

[Learn More](#)
**Marble Falls Texas Tech and Central Texas College**

Central Texas College's (CTC) \$60,000+ investment in its enhanced Science Lab gives students hands-on experience with state-of-the-art equipment, preparing them for high-demand healthcare careers while strengthening the Highland Lakes workforce pipeline and supporting the long-term health and vitality of rural Central Texas. Through its partnership with WNI and the REINVEST grant, Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area helped elevate the need for this important enhancement, demonstrating how investments in local training infrastructure can help address critical rural workforce needs.

[Learn More](#)
**Get Involved!**

Looking to connect with future talent and strengthen your workforce?
Click or scan to join the Central Texas Healthcare Partnership.

