

ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

What is Allied Health?

Allied health professionals are a diverse group of health care workers who provide necessary services to patients in addition to services provided by physicians and nurses. **Allied health professionals comprises nearly 60% of the health care workforce.** People working in these roles may perform diverse responsibilities from laboratory testing, interact with patients, provide emergency medicine, or administrative work. They may also promote wellness and preventative medical practices. Allied health is a continually growing field with an increasing demand driven by an aging population, more specialization in the field due to technological advances, and expanding scope of practice.

Although the allied health professions comprise nearly 60% of the health care workforce, the funding to support workforce training, faculty development, and research in the allied health fields lags substantially behind funding for the physician and nursing professions. FHA is raising awareness of what the allied health professions contribute to health care and to advocate for expanded funding across all health care professions.

What Are Some Examples of Allied Health Professions?

Jobs in the allied health field range from diagnostic personnel to health information technologists. The following are a few examples of titles that fall under this umbrella:

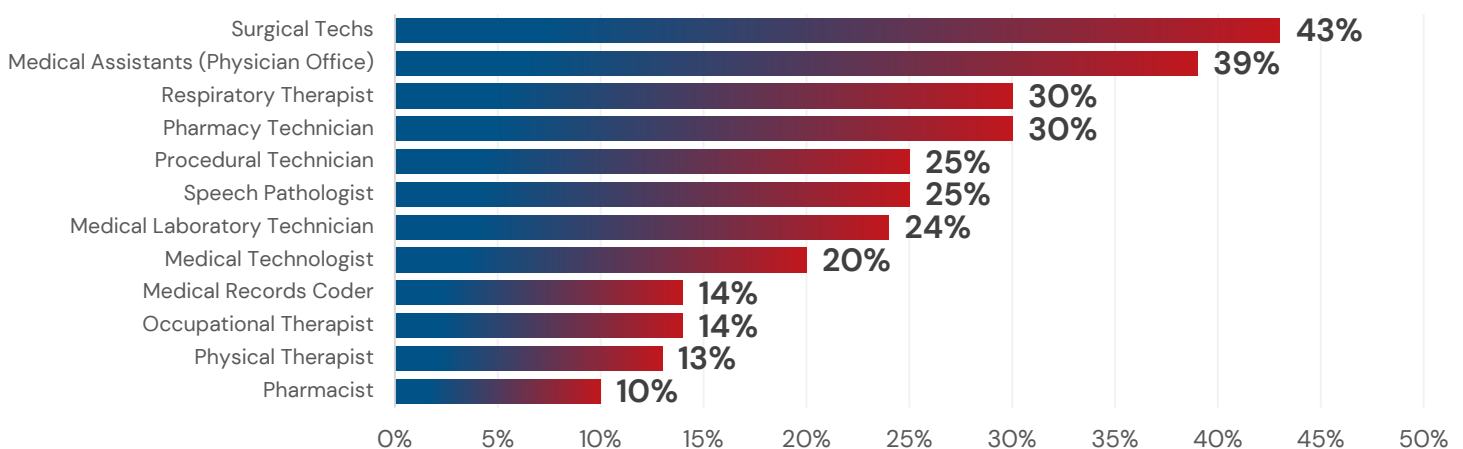
- Surgical Technicians
- Medical Assistant
- Physical Therapist
- Pharmacy Technician
- Medical Laboratory Scientist
- Phlebotomist



Vacancy and Turnover

FHA survey data captured the turnover rate for allied professions. The below chart shows the high turnover for these positions and the average time to fill these positions when they become vacant.

How the Workforce Has Changed – Turnover Rates for Allied Professions



Graph Source: FHA Vacancy and Turnover Analysis: <https://www.fha.org/workforce.html>

306 E COLLEGE AVE
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

850.222.9800
VISIT FHA.ORG



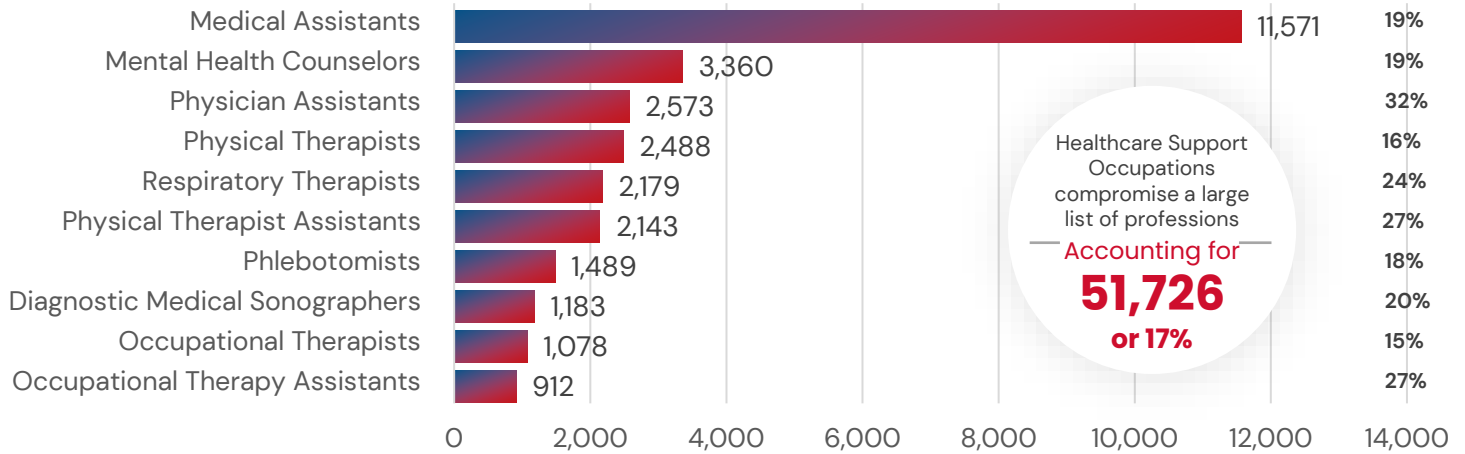
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Allied Health Growth Projections

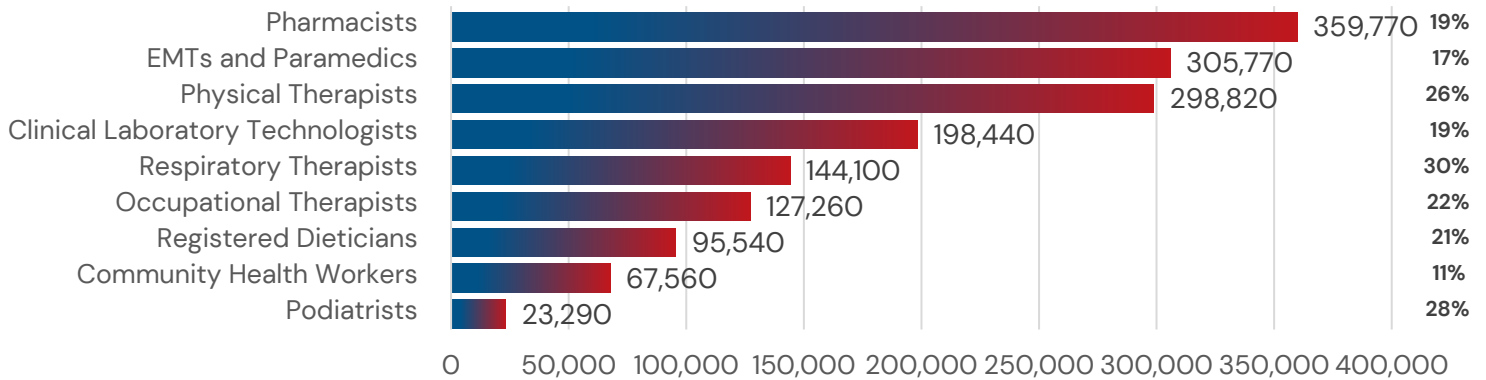
Allied health professionals are amongst the fastest growing occupations in the state. Health diagnosing and treating practitioners are projected to grow an average of 13.5 percent between 2020 and 2030. However, there are key allied health professions that are projected to grow at a much higher rate.

Allied Health Profession Employment Growth (2020 – 2030)



Source: <https://www.floridajobs.org/economic-data/employment-projections>

National Allied Health Workforce Projected Demand by 2030*



*HRSA national-level demand projections for allied health professionals.

Source: <https://bhwa.hrsa.gov/data-research/projecting-health-workforce-supply-demand/allied-health>

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ✓ Allied health professionals comprises nearly 60% of the health care workforce.
- ✓ These professions are facing the same workforce shortage that we have seen in nursing. And these professions are critical to a robust health care system.
- ✓ There is a growing need for this segment of the health care workforce. Especially in Florida where our population is projected to grow 21% by 2035.

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