

Occupational Profile: Radiologic Technologist and Technician

GENERAL OCCUPATION DESCRIPTION

Technologists

Take x-rays and Computerized Axial Tomography (CAT or CT) scans or administer nonradioactive materials into patient's blood stream for diagnostic purposes. Includes technologists who specialize in other modalities, such as computed tomography, ultrasound, and magnetic resonance.

Technicians

Maintain and use equipment and supplies necessary to demonstrate portions the human body on x-ray film or fluoroscopic screen for diagnostic purposes.

Source: O*NET online. <http://online.onetcenter.org>

REQUIRED EDUCATION

As shown in the table (right), 92% of interviewed employers reportedly required a 2-year degree or equivalent for this occupation.

Required Education	
Percent of Employers Requiring HS Diploma or Less	0%
Percent of Employers Requiring 2-Year Degree or Equiv	92%
Percent of Employers Requiring BS Diploma or More	8%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

WAGES

Radiologic Technologist and Technician is generally considered a high-wage occupation, with excellent possibility for wage advancement with experience. Employers in the Greater Phoenix MSA and the State of Arizona as a whole generally pay less at the lower end of the salary distribution (entry level) as

Location	Pay Period	2005				
		10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
United States	Hourly	\$15.04	\$18.39	\$22.09	\$26.49	\$31.36
	Yearly	\$31,300	\$38,300	\$45,900	\$55,100	\$65,200
Greater Phoenix MSA	Hourly	\$12.37	\$16.56	\$20.97	\$25.89	\$32.08
	Yearly	\$25,742	\$34,461	\$43,639	\$53,877	\$66,758
Arizona	Hourly	\$12.26	\$16.42	\$20.88	\$26.09	\$31.88
	Yearly	\$25,500	\$34,200	\$43,400	\$54,300	\$66,300

compared with the overall United States.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

As shown in the table to right, a comparison of wages for this occupation by State reveals Arizona ranks 28th in terms of median wages.

RANK	Location	Median Wage 2005	
		Hourly	Annual
1	Massachusetts	\$28.03	\$58,300
2	Alaska	\$26.92	\$56,000
3	California	\$26.45	\$55,000
4	Maryland	\$26.21	\$54,500
5	New Jersey	\$25.88	\$53,800
28	ARIZONA	\$20.88	\$43,400

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

The table below provides a comparison of wages by industry for the Greater Phoenix MSA (2005). As shown, wages are comparable across the two main sectors of employment.

Wages by Industry: Greater Phoenix MSA (2005)	Rounded Employment	Mean Wage	10th Percentile Wage	25th Percentile Wage	Median Wage	75th Percentile Wage	90th Percentile Wage
Ambulatory Health Care Services	1,420	\$21.81	\$12.37	\$15.59	\$19.25	\$25.30	\$32.97
Hospitals	980	\$21.98	\$12.36	\$17.52	\$22.69	\$26.48	\$31.19

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

EMPLOYMENT

As shown in the table below, this occupation has a projected 44% growth over 10 years (between 2003 and 2013) for the Greater Phoenix MSA. There is an average projected 175 job openings each year, comprised of 123 new jobs and 52 positions vacated by individuals leaving the field (due to retirement, death, career changes, or other reasons).

	10-YEAR CHANGE			AVERAGE ANNUAL		
	Employment		Percent	Job Openings	Growth	Separations
United States	2004	2014	Change			
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	182,000	224,200	23%	7,620	n/a	n/a
Arizona	Employment		Percent	Job Openings	Growth	Separations
	2002	2012	Change			
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	3,940	5,940	51%	270	n/a	n/a
Greater Phoenix MSA	Employment		Percent	Job Openings	Growth	Separations
	2003	2013	Change			
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	2,803	4,034	44%	175	123	52

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

*Job Openings refers to the average annual job openings due to growth and net replacement.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

**N/A is displayed in cases where data is not available or cannot be published because of federal data privacy standards.

An additional source of information regarding this occupation can be provided by analysis of employer survey data collected for the Maricopa County Community Colleges by the ERISS Corporation in 2003 (2004 data not available for this occupation). As shown, the ERISS survey data shows a projected 1-year growth rate of 4%, which is comparable to the average of 4% per year reflected by the BLS data above.

Additionally, the ERISS data provides an indicator of turnover for this occupation, which is reported to be very low at 1%.

ERISS Occupational Survey Data (2003)			
Greater Phoenix MSA	Growth	Turnover	Demand
Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	4.0%	1.0%	5.0%

Source: 2003 ERISS occupational survey

Comparison of employment projections for top five regions for Radiologic Technologist and Technician

As shown in the table to right, a statewide comparison reveals the Greater Phoenix MSA ranks 1st in terms of projected 10-year growth for this occupation (51%).

RANK	Location	Employment		Percent Change
		2002	2012	
1	ARIZONA	3,940	5,940	51%
2	Idaho	790	1,160	46%
3	Nevada	1,140	1,620	42%
4	Utah	1,430	1,990	39%
5	Colorado	2,140	2,920	37%
5	Wyoming	260	350	37%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Employment by Industry

The table below shows the industries that most commonly employ Radiologic Technologist and Technician, and the proportion of employment accounted for at the national level. As shown, General Medical and Surgical Hospitals account for the most employment (48.9%).

Percent of Employment Nationally by Industry	
Percent	Industry
48.9%	General Medical & Surgical Hospitals
22.4%	Offices of Physicians
8.9%	Medical and Diagnostic Laboratories
7.7%	Local Government Hospitals

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Geo-Location Overlay of Employers with 25 or More Employees that Potentially Employ Occupation (n = 198)

