

Pharmacy Technicians

Labor Market Analysis: San Diego County

June 2018

Summary

The following list summarizes findings from the labor market analysis below for *Pharmacy Technicians*:

- Between 2017 and 2022, *Pharmacy Technicians* are projected to increase by 206 jobs or six percent.
- Employers in San Diego County will need to hire 305 workers annually to fill new jobs and backfill jobs due to attrition such as retirement or turnover.
- Between 2010 and 2017, there was an average of 352 online job postings per year for *Pharmacy Technicians* in San Diego County.
- *Pharmacy Technicians* earn median hourly earnings of \$17.01; this is more than the Self-Sufficiency Standard for a single adult in San Diego County, which is \$13.09 per hour.
- According to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information System (MIS) Data Mart, there is one Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) code associated with this occupation: 122100: Pharmacy Technology. There are two Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes related to the occupation: CIP 51.0000: Health Services/Allied Health/Health Sciences, General and 51.0805: Pharmacy Technician/Assistant.
- According to the Cal-PASS Plus LaunchBoard, MiraCosta College has a Pharmacy Technology program, but no awards have been reported. According to CIP data, five non-community college providers supply the region with awards for this occupation: Pima Medical Institute-Chula Vista, Brightwood College-Vista, United Education Institute-UEI College San Marcos, Academy of Professional Careers, and Newbridge College-San Diego East.
- Comparing labor demand (annual openings) with labor supply suggests that there is a supply gap for this occupation in San Diego County, with 305 annual openings and 150 awards. Comparatively, there are 3,592 annual openings in California and 294 completions.
- Between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2017, the top five employers in San Diego County for this occupation were CVS Health, Scripps Health, Sharp Healthcare, Rite Aid Corporation and Kaiser Permanente.
- The typical on-the-job training for this occupation is moderate-term on-the-job training. The typical entry-level education is a high school diploma or equivalent.

This report provides labor market information in San Diego County for the following occupational code in the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC)¹ system:

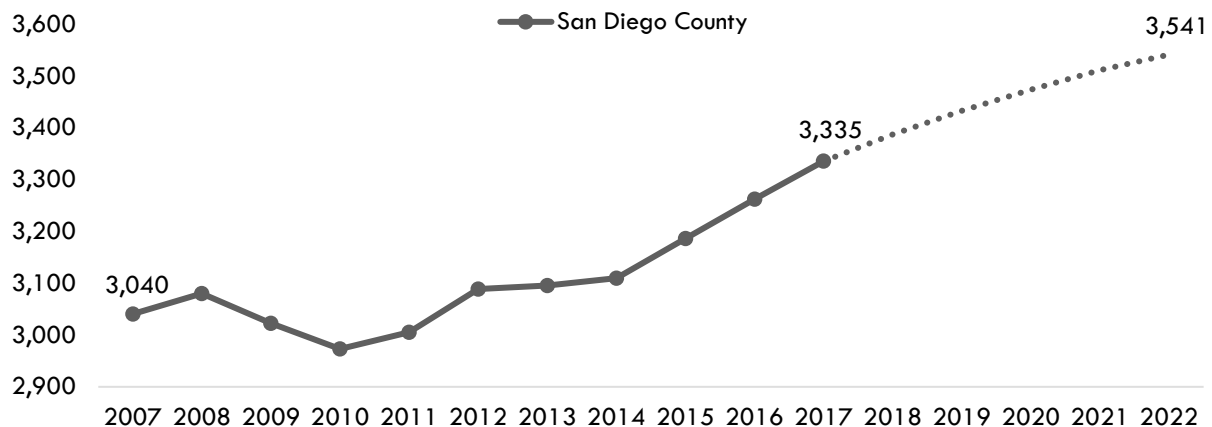
Pharmacy Technicians (SOC 29-2052): Prepare medications under the direction of a pharmacist. May measure, mix, count out, label, and record amounts and dosages of medications according to prescription orders. Sample reported job titles include:

- Pharmacy Technician (Pharmacy Tech)
- Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT)
- Technician, Inventory Specialist
- Senior Pharmacy Technician
- Lead Pharmacy Technician (Lead Pharmacy Tech)
- Senior Pharmacy Technician
- Lead Pharmacy Tech, Certified Pharmacy Technician (Lead Pharmacy Tech, CPhT)
- Compounding Technician
- Billing and Quality Technician
- Accredited Pharmacy Technician

Projected Occupational Demand

Between 2017 and 2022, *Pharmacy Technicians* are projected to increase by 206 jobs or six percent (Exhibit 1). Employers in San Diego County will need to hire 305 workers annually to fill new jobs and backfill jobs due to attrition such as retirement or turnover.

Exhibit 1: Number of Jobs for Pharmacy Technicians (2007-2022)²



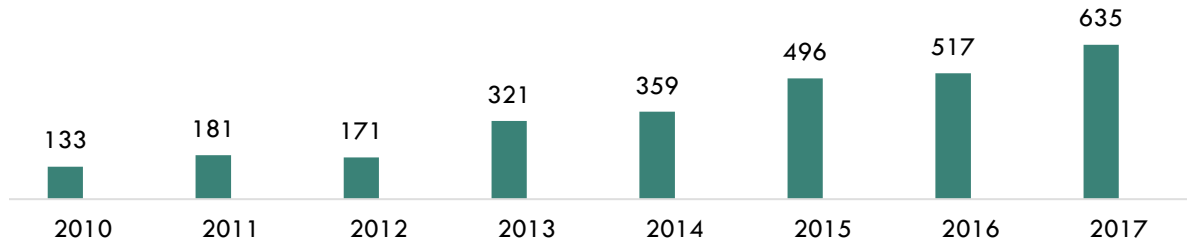
¹ The Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system is used by federal statistical agencies to classify workers into occupational categories for the purpose of collecting, calculating or disseminating data. [bls.gov/soc](https://www.bls.gov/soc/).

² Economic Modeling Specialists, Int'l. (EMSI). San Diego (6073). 2018.02 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2007-2022.

Online Job Postings

Between 2010 and 2017, there was an average of 352 online job postings per year for *Pharmacy Technicians* in San Diego County (Exhibit 2).

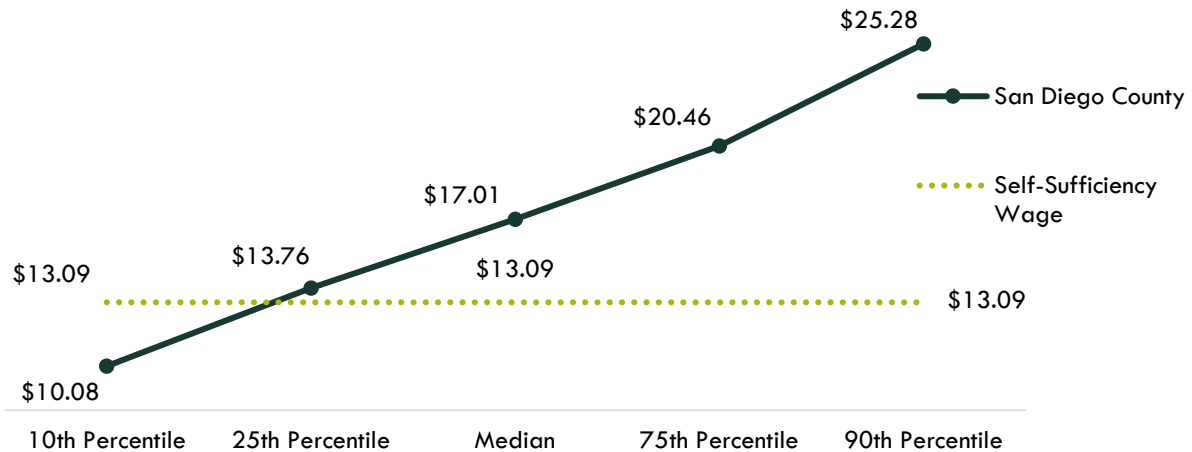
Exhibit 2: Number of Online Job Postings for *Pharmacy Technicians* in San Diego County (2010-2017)³



Earnings

Pharmacy Technicians earn median hourly earnings of \$17.01; this is more than the Self-Sufficiency Standard for a single adult in San Diego County, which is \$13.09 per hour (Exhibit 3).⁴

Exhibit 3: Hourly Earnings for *Pharmacy Technicians* in San Diego County⁵



³ Labor Insight Jobs. Burning Glass Technologies. San Diego, CA. Full years 2010-2017.

⁴ The self-sufficient wage in San Diego for one adult is \$13.09 (insightcced.org/tools-metrics/self-sufficiency-standard-tool-for-california).

⁵ EMSI. San Diego (6073). 2018.02 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2017-2022.

Educational Supply

Educational supply for an occupation can be estimated by analyzing the number of related program completers/graduates/awards in San Diego County. According to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information System (MIS) Data Mart, there is **one** Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) code associated with this occupation: 122100: Pharmacy Technology. There are **two** Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes related to the SOC code analyzed: CIP 51.0000: Health Services/Allied Health/Health Sciences, General and 51.0805: Pharmacy Technician/Assistant (Exhibit 4).

Exhibit 4: Related TOP Codes in San Diego County

SOC 29-2052: Pharmacy Technicians

TOP 122100: Pharmacy Technology

CIP 51.0000: Health Services/Allied Health/Health Sciences, General

CIP 51.0805: Pharmacy Technician/Assistant

According to the Cal-PASS Plus LaunchBoard, MiraCosta College has a Pharmacy Technology program, but no awards have been reported. According to CIP data, five non-community college providers supply the region with awards for this occupation: Pima Medical Institute-Chula Vista, Brightwood College-Vista, United Education Institute-UEI College San Marcos, Academy of Professional Careers, and Newbridge College-San Diego East. (Exhibit 5). CIP 51.0000 Health Services/Allied Health/Health Sciences, General provides awards for multiple occupations, so these awards will not be counted for the occupation analyzed in this brief.

Exhibit 5: Number of Awards (Certificates and Degrees) Conferred by Postsecondary Institutions (Program Year 2013-14 through PY2016-17 Average)

CIP	CIP Title	3-Yr Annual Average CC Awards (PY13-14 to PY15-16)	Other Educational Institutions 3-Yr Annual Average Awards (PY13-14 to PY15-16)	3-Yr Total Average Supply (PY13-14 to PY15-16)
51.0805	Pharmacy Technician/Assistant	0	150	150
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pima Medical Institute-Chula Vista 	0	94	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brightwood College-Vista 	0	46	

• United Education Institute-UEI College San Marcos	0	10	
• Academy of Professional Careers	0	0	
• Newbridge College-San Diego East	0	0	
		Total	150

Demand vs. Supply

Comparing labor demand (annual openings) with labor supply⁶ suggests that there is a **supply gap** for this occupation in San Diego County, with **305** annual openings and **150** awards. Comparatively, there are **3,592** annual openings in California and **294** completions⁷ (Exhibit 6).

Exhibit 6: Labor Demand (Annual Openings) Compared to Labor Supply (Average Annual Awards)

Community Colleges and Other Postsecondary Educational Institutions	Demand (Annual Openings)	Supply (Total Annual Average Supply)	Supply Gap or Oversupply
San Diego	305	150	155
California	3,592	294	3,298

Please note: This is a basic analysis of supply and demand of labor. This data should be used to discuss the potential gaps or oversupply of workers; however, it should not be the only basis for determining whether or not a program should be developed. Additionally, the data does not include workers who are currently in the labor force who could fill these positions or workers who are not captured by publicly available data.

Student Outcomes

Based on the information available in the CTE LaunchBoard, students who took courses in the related TOP codes exhibited the following outcomes (Exhibit 7).

Exhibit 7: Strong Workforce Program Metrics for TOP 122100: Pharmacy Technology in the San Diego-Imperial Region (PY2015-16)

⁶ Labor supply can be found from two different sources: EMSI or the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office MIS Data Mart. EMSI uses CIP codes while MIS uses TOP codes. Different coding systems result in differences in the supply numbers.

⁷ EMSI. San Diego (6073). 2018.02 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2017-2022.

Metric	San Diego-Imperial	California
Number of course enrollments ⁸	241	5,548
Completed 12+ CTE Units in One Year ⁹	42	468
Completed 48+ CTE Contact Hours in One Year ¹⁰	N/A	538
Number of students who got a degree or certificate ¹¹	16	299
Number of students who transferred ¹²	N/A	154
Employed in the second fiscal quarter after exit ¹³	58%	74%
Employed in the fourth fiscal quarter after exit ¹⁴	65%	74%
Job closely related to field of study ¹⁵	N/A	N/A
Median earnings in the second fiscal quarter after exit ¹⁶	\$7,603	\$6,627
Median change in earnings ¹⁷	51%	82%
Attained a living wage ¹⁸	57%	38%

Top Employers and Work Locations

Between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2017, the top five employers in San Diego County for this occupation were [CVS Health](#), [Scripps Health](#), [Sharp Healthcare](#), [Rite Aid Corporation](#) and [Kaiser Permanente](#) (Exhibit 8).

Exhibit 8: Top Employers in San Diego County for *Pharmacy Technicians*

Top Employers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CVS Health • Scripps Health • UnitedHealth Group • Rx Relief

⁸ The number of enrollments in courses assigned to the TOP code in the selected year.

⁹ The number of students who completed 12 or more credit CTE units.

¹⁰ The number of students who completed 48 or more noncredit CTE instructional contact hours.

¹¹ The number of unduplicated students who earned a locally-issued certificate, Chancellor's Office approved certificate, associate degree, and/or California Community Colleges bachelor's degree in the selected TOP code.

¹² Students who took non-introductory courses or completed a California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office award in the selected TOP code in selected year who subsequently enrolled for the first time in a four-year institution the following year.

¹³ Among all exiters with a valid SSN, the percentage who were employed two quarters after exiting California Community Colleges.

¹⁴ Among exiting students with a valid SSN, the percentage who were employed four quarters after exiting California Community Colleges.

¹⁵ Among students who responded to the CTEOS, the percentage reporting employment in the same or similar field as their program of study.

¹⁶ Among exiting students, the median second-quarter earnings one year after the year in which they exited California Community Colleges.

¹⁷ Among exiting students with a valid SSN, the percentage change in earnings one year before and one year after exiting California Community Colleges.

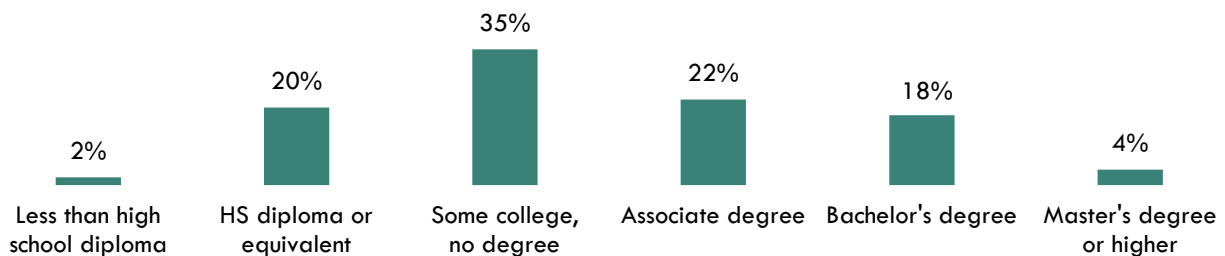
¹⁸ Among completers and skills builders who exited, the proportion of students who attained a living wage.

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- Sharp Healthcare
 - Rite Aid Corporation
 - Kaiser Permanente
 - Safeway Incorporated
 - University Of California
 - Medimpact Healthcare Systems
 - Albertsons
 - Providence Health & Services
 - UC San Diego Health System
 - Palomar Health
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Skills, Education and Certifications

Exhibit 9 indicates the educational attainment for the occupation found currently in the national labor force. The typical on-the-job training for this occupation is *moderate-term on-the-job training*. The typical entry-level education is a *high school diploma or equivalent*¹⁹

Exhibit 9: National Educational Attainment of Pharmacy Technicians ²⁰



*May not add to 100% due to rounding

Exhibit 10 lists the top specialized, soft and software skills that appeared in online job postings for between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2017.

Exhibit 10: Top Skills for Pharmacy Technicians in San Diego County²¹

Specialized Skills	Soft Skills	Software Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmacist Assistance • Customer Service • Retail Industry Knowledge • Customer Contact • Customer Billing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typing • Communication Skills • Organizational Skills • Computer Literacy • Microsoft Excel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Excel • Microsoft Windows • Microsoft Word • Microsoft PowerPoint • Microsoft Access

¹⁹ EMSI. San Diego (6073). 2018.02 Class of Worker. QCEW + Non-QCEW + Self-Employed. 2017-2022.

²⁰ Bureau of Labor Statistics, Educational attainment for workers 25 years and older by detailed occupation. [bls.gov/emp/ep_table_111.htm](https://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_table_111.htm).

²¹ Labor Insight Jobs. Burning Glass Technologies. San Diego, CA. Full years 2015-2017.

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Important Disclaimers

All representations included in this report have been produced from primary research and/or secondary review of publicly and/or privately available data and/or research reports. This study examines the most recent data available at the time of the analysis; however, data sets are updated regularly and may not be consistent with previous reports. Efforts have been made to qualify and validate the accuracy of the data and the report findings; however, neither the Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE), COE host