

Health Technologist and Technician Occupation Employment

Wichita, Kansas, Metropolitan Area December 2014

Prepared by

Center for Economic Development and Business Research

W. Frank Barton School of Business

Wichita State University

Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount St., Wichita, KS 67260-0121 Telephone: (316) 978-3225 Fax: (316) 978-3950 www.cedbr.org

Employment in the various technologist and technician occupations in the Wichita metropolitan area has varied significantly across the occupations for which data is available. Although these occupations account for a small fraction of the local labor force, approximately 1,400 workers, they provide valuable services to the community.

To understand how employment in these important occupations has changed over time, employment, location quotient, and average annual wages have been analyzed. For comparison, data is also provided for metropolitan areas in Kansas, the Midwest region, and a group of four metropolitan areas that most closely resemble Wichita in population, demographics and industrial mix. These peer communities are Akron, Ohio; Grand Rapids-Wyoming, Mich.; Greenville-Mauldin-Easley, S. C.; and Lancaster, Penn.

A location quotient is the ratio between the level of employment in a regional economy and the level in the national economy. It is calculated to determine whether the regional economy has a greater share of an occupation than expected. Values less than one indicate an occupation may not be meeting the local demand for the services of that occupation. Values greater than one indicate an occupation provides enough goods and services to meet local demand, and excess production is consumed outside the region. Values greater than 1.20 indicate an industry of specialization in the region.

In the Wichita metropolitan area, employment in the technologist and technician occupations has grown between 2008 and 2013. The two exceptions are radiologic technologists and nuclear medicine technologists, two occupations that have also decreased in numbers at the national level.

Wichita, KS

	Employment		L.	.Q.	Average Annual Wages				
		% Chg.		% Chg.		% of	% Chg.		
	2013	2008-2013	2013	2008-2013	2013	National	2008-2013		
Surgical Technologists	300	3.4%	1.43	▼ -0.01	\$39,030	87.9% 📤	2.6%		
Radiologic Technologists	440	▼ -4.3%	1.06	a 0.08	\$46,390	81.7% —	0.0%		
Nuclear Medicine Technologists	30	▼ -25.0%	0.70	▼ -0.14	\$66,980	93.1% 📤	4.7%		
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	170	13.3%	1.36	— 0.00	\$63,070	93.9% 🔻	-10.5%		
Cardiovascular Technologists									
& Technicians	100	25.0%	0.91	0.17	\$50,620	93.8% 🔺	4.7%		
Medical and Clinical									
Laboratory Technicians	370	42.3%	1.10	0.33	\$35,460	88.1% 📤	13.0%		

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

_

¹The data used in this analysis is from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics (OES). The OES survey covers all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers in nonfarm industries. The survey does not cover the self-employed, nor owners and partners in unincorporated firms. The self-employed can account for a significant number of the workers employed in professional occupations. Despite their exclusion, the OES still provides the most timely and accurate count of workers in these occupations.

Surgical Technologists

Surgical technologists, also called operating room technicians, assist in surgical operations. They prepare operating rooms, arrange equipment, and help doctors during surgeries. Surgical technologists typically need a postsecondary certificate or an associate's degree.²

Nationally, the number of surgical technologists has grown by 11.2 percent between 2008 and 2013 and is projected to grow 30 percent from 2012 to 2022.³ Growth in this occupation in the Wichita area has been below the national average, and not enough to maintain the concentration of surgical technologists in the area. However, the current concentration of surgical technologists is well above the national average.

Within the region, which includes Kansas, Kansas City and Oklahoma City have had decreases in the number of workers in this occupation. The remainder of the metropolitan areas in the region have had strong growth in surgical technologists. Among the peer communities, Greenville's growth and concentration is similar to the Wichita area.

Surgical Technologists

Ourgiour recrimerogists										
		Employment		L.	Q.	Average Annual Wages				
		% Chg.			% Chg.		% of	% Chg.		
		2013	2008-2013	2013 20	008-2013	2013	National	2008-2013		
တ	Wichita, KS	300	3.4%	1.43 🔻	- 0.01	\$39,030	87.9%	2.6%		
sas	Lawrence, KS	**	**	**	**	**	**	**		
Kansa	Kansas City, MO-KS	570	▽ - 20.8%	0.78 🔻	-0.29	\$43,160	97.2%	▽ -4.4%		
	Topeka, KS	100	25.0%	1.25 🔺	0.14	\$40,400	91.0%	0.3%		
_	Oklahoma City, OK	620	▼ -6.1%	1.41 🔻	-0.33	\$37,120	83.6%	▽ -1.1%		
Region	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	480	29.7%	1.42 🔺	0.20	\$41,880	94.3%	▼ -4.3%		
Rec	St. Louis, MO-IL	900	47.5%	0.94 🔺	0.26	\$40,330	90.8%	▽ -5.1%		
	Tulsa, OK	590	4 0.5%	1.89 🔺	0.43	\$35,340	79.6%	▽ -6.2%		
	Akron, OH	200	▼ -31.0%	0.85 🔻	- 0.46	\$44,470	100.1%	4.8%		
eer	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	410	57.7%	1.40 🔺	0.38	\$40,280	90.7%	▽ -16.7%		
P	Greenville, SC	320	6.7%	1.43 🔻	-0.02	\$37,400	84.2%	▽ -4.9%		
	Lancaster, PA	140	55.6%	0.85 🔺	0.27	\$38,860	87.5%	▼ -14.6%		

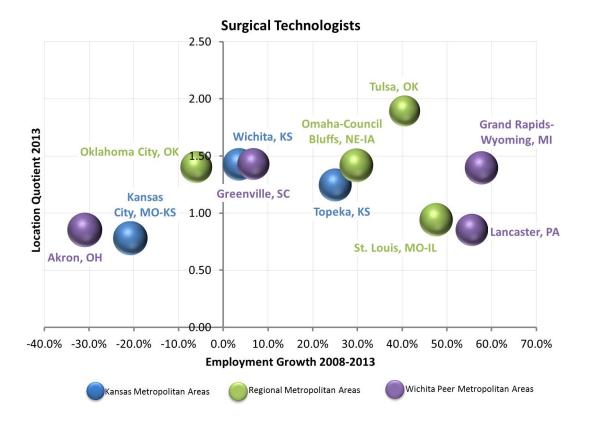
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

In 2013 the national average wage of a surgical technologist was \$44,420, up 11 percent from 2008. The average wage of a surgical technologist in Wichita was below the national average in 2013 and increased relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013.

_

²Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

³Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Outlook Handbook



Radiologic Technologists

Radiologic technologists perform diagnostic imaging examinations, such as X rays, on patients. An associate's degree is the most common educational path for radiologic technologists.⁴

Nationally, the number of radiologic technologists has contracted by 5.1 percent between 2008 and 2013. However, this occupation is projected to grow 21 percent from 2012 to 2022. As the population grows older, there will be an increase in medical conditions, such as breaks and fractures caused by osteoporosis, which can require diagnostic imaging. In the Wichita area, the number of radiologic technologists has decreased slightly less than the national rate. However, the concentration remains above the national average. Across the region and peer communities there has been a wide range of growth patterns in this occupation.

,

⁴Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

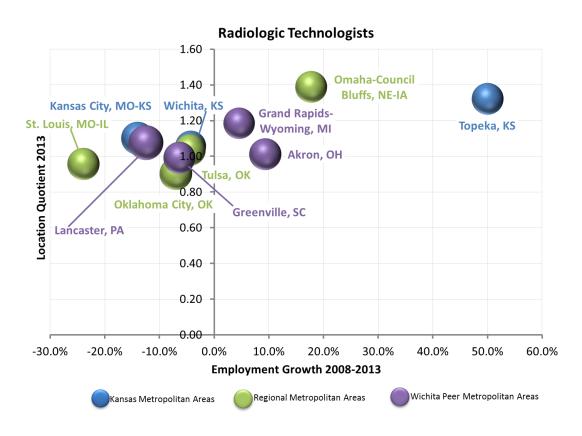
⁵Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Outlook Handbook

Radiologic Technologists

		Empl	oyment	L.Q.	Average Annual Wages		
			% Chg.	% Chg.	% of % Chg.		
		2013	2008-2013	2013 2008-2013	2013 National 2008-2013		
S	Wichita, KS	440	-4.3%	1.06 📤 0.08	\$46,390 81.7% — 0.0%		
w .	Lawrence, KS	60	**	0.91 📤 0.91	\$49,040 86.4% A 86.4%		
Kans	Kansas City, MO-KS	1,590	▽-14.1%	1.10 🔻 -0.08	\$52,970 93.3% 📤 1.7%		
_	Topeka, KS	210	50.0%	1.32 📤 0.49	\$49,330 86.9% 1.0 %		
_	Oklahoma City, OK	790	▼ -7.1%	0.90 🔻 -0.06	\$52,380 92.3% 1 0.0%		
gior	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	930	17.7%	1.39 📤 0.27	\$49,220 86.7% - 3.5%		
Region	St. Louis, MO-IL	1,810	▽ - 23.9%	0.96 🔻 -0.19	\$51,100 90.0% ▽ -2.6%		
	Tulsa, OK	640	▼ -4.5%	1.04 📤 0.04	\$49,050 86.4% 0.8%		
	Akron, OH	470	9.3%	1.01 📤 0.18	\$50,460 88.9% 3.0%		
eer	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	690	4.5%	1.19 📤 0.08	\$48,110 84.8% ▼ -6.9%		
Pe	Greenville, SC	440	▽ -6.4%	0.99 📤 0.02	\$49,750 87.6% — 0.0%		
	Lancaster, PA	350	▽ -12.5%	1.08 🔻 -0.03	\$59,220 104.3% 📤 2.4%		

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

In 2013 the national average wage of a radiologic technologist was \$56,760, up 6.6 percent from 2008. The average wage of a radiologic technologist in Wichita was below the national average in 2013 and did not change relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013.



Nuclear Medicine Technologists

Nuclear medicine technologists use a scanner to create images of various areas of a patient's body. They prepare radioactive drugs and administer them to patients undergoing the scans. The radioactive drugs cause abnormal areas of the body to appear different from normal areas in the images. Formal education programs in nuclear medicine technology or a related healthcare field lead to a certificate, an associate's degree, or a bachelor's degree. ⁶

Nationally, the number of nuclear medicine technologists has contracted by 3.6 percent between 2008 and 2013. However, this occupation is projected to grow 20 percent from 2012 to 2022. The number of nuclear medicine technologists in the Wichita area has decreased significantly more than the national rate. The concentration of nuclear medicine technologists in Wichita is well below the national average, the lowest of all areas reviewed.

Across the region and peer communities, only two areas have increased the number of nuclear medicine technologists, Oklahoma City and Greenville. The majority of areas have maintained the number of workers in this occupation, increasing in concentration due to the decreasing national numbers.

Nuclear Medicine Technologists

Emp		Emp	oloyment		L.Q.		Average Annual Wages		Wages		
			q	% Chg.	% Chg.				% of	% Chg	
		2013	20	08-2013	2013	200	08-2013	2013	National	2008-201	13
(0)	Wichita, KS	30	$\overline{}$	-25.0%	0.70	\checkmark	-0.14	\$66,980	93.1%	4 .7	' %
sas	Lawrence, KS	**		**	**		**	**	**	**	
Kansas	Kansas City, MO-KS	140	_	0.0%	0.94		0.06	\$65,720	91.3%	▼ -8.2	2%
	Topeka, KS	**		**	**		**	**	**	**	
_	Oklahoma City, OK	110	_	22.2%	1.22	_	0.22	\$69,830	97.0%	▽ -4.2	2%
gi	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	60		0.0%	0.87		0.03	\$63,350	88.0%	▽ -3.4	.%
Region	St. Louis, MO-IL	210	_	0.0%	1.08		0.08	\$68,910	95.7%	▽ -0.5	%
	Tulsa, OK	60	$\overline{}$	-25.0%	0.94	$\overline{}$	-0.23	\$68,780	95.6%	4.8	%
	Akron, OH	60		0.0%	1.25	_	0.10	\$65,680	91.3%	▼ -8.4	.%
eer	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	50		0.0%	0.83		0.01	\$65,150	90.5%	▽ -6.1	%
P.	Greenville, SC	50		25.0%	1.09		0.28	\$60,600	84.2%	▽ -21.1	%
	Lancaster, PA	**		**	**		**	**	**	**	

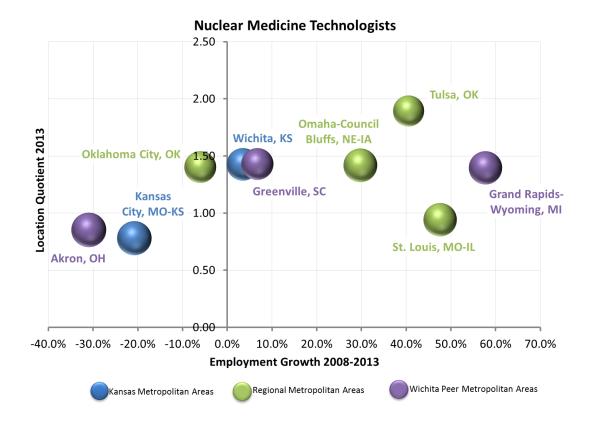
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

In 2013 the national average wage of a nuclear medicine technologist was \$71,970, up 6.7 percent from 2008. The average wage of a nuclear medicine technologist in Wichita was below the national average in 2013 and had increased relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013.

-

⁶Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

[']Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Outlook Handbook



Diagnostic Medical Sonographers

Diagnostic medical sonographers operate special imaging equipment to create images or conduct tests. The images and test results help physicians assess and diagnose medical conditions. Some technologists assist physicians and surgeons during surgical procedures. Diagnostic medical sonographers need formal education, such as an associate's degree or a postsecondary certificate.⁸

Nationally, the number of diagnostic medical sonographers has grown 21 percent between 2008 and 2013, and is projected to grow 39 percent from 2012 to 2022. In the Wichita area the number of diagnostic medical sonographers has grown at a slower rate than the national average. However, the growth rate was enough to maintain the above average concentration of sonographers in the Wichita area.

In general, most areas have had strong growth in this occupation, enough to increase concentration. Two areas had growth, but decreased concentration, Tulsa and Akron. Two areas had decreasing growth and concentration, Topeka and Omaha.

Page | 7

⁸Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

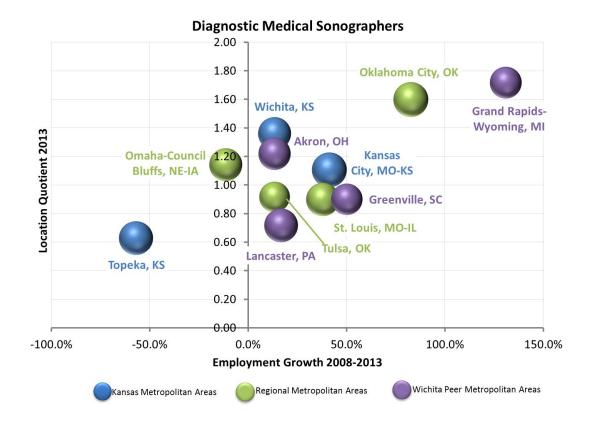
⁹Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Outlook Handbook

Diagnostic Medical Sonographers

		Employment			L.C	2 .	Average Annual Wages		
			% Chg.		% Chg.			% of	% Chg.
		2013	2008-20	3 201	3 20	08-2013	2013	National	2008-2013
(O	Wichita, KS	170	13.3	% 1.3	6 💳	0.00	\$63,070	93.9%	▽ -10.5%
sas	Lawrence, KS	**	**	**		**	**	**	**
Kansas	Kansas City, MO-KS	480	41.2	% 1.1	1 📤	0.18	\$69,100	102.9%	▽ -1.0%
	Topeka, KS	30	▽ -57.′	% 0.6	3 🔻	-1.14	\$66,580	99.1%	11.9%
_	Oklahoma City, OK	420	82.6	% 1.6	0 📤	0.49	\$69,380	103.3%	8.9%
gio	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	230	▼ -11.5	% 1.1	4 ~	-0.42	\$62,820	93.5%	▽ -6.2%
Region	St. Louis, MO-IL	510	37.8	% 0.9	0 📤	0.14	\$64,020	95.3%	▼ -0.3%
	Tulsa, OK	170	13.3	% 0.9	2 🔻	-0.04	\$53,990	80.4%	▼ -6.8%
	Akron, OH	170	13.3	% 1.2	2 🔻	-0.02	\$60,200	89.6%	0.7%
eer	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	300	130.8	% 1.7	2 📤	0.79	\$58,680	87.4%	▽ -11.5%
P	Greenville, SC	120	50.0	% 0.9	0 📤	0.19	\$56,450	84.0%	▼ -8.2%
	Lancaster, PA	70	<u></u> 16.7	% 0.7	2 📤	0.01	\$64,670	96.3%	— 0.0%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

In 2013 the national average wage of a diagnostic medical sonographer was \$67,170, up 7.2 percent from 2008. The average wage of diagnostic medical sonographers in Wichita was below the national average in 2013 and decreased relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013.



Cardiovascular Technologists & Technicians

Cardiovascular technologists and technicians operate special imaging equipment to create images or conduct tests. The images and test results help physicians assess and diagnose medical conditions. Some technologists assist physicians and surgeons during surgical procedures. Cardiovascular technologists and technicians need formal education.¹⁰

Nationally, the number of cardiovascular technologists and technicians has grown 8.1 percent between 2008 and 2013, and is projected to grow 39 percent from 2012 to 2022. In the Wichita area, growth in this occupation has been considerably greater than the national average, bringing the local concentration up, closer to the national average. Across the region and peer communities there has been a wide range of growth patterns in this occupation.

Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians

		Employment			L.Q.			Average Annual Wages		
			% Chg.		% Chg.			% of	% Chg.	
		2013	20	08-2013	2013	200	8-2013	2013	National	2008-2013
(0	Wichita, KS	100	_	25.0%	0.91	_	0.17	\$50,620	93.8%	4.7%
Kansas	Lawrence, KS	**		**	**		**	**	**	**
Śar	Kansas City, MO-KS	450	_	66.7%	1.19	_	0.44	\$51,740	95.8%	▽ -1.2%
	Topeka, KS	**		**	**		**	\$49,980	92.6%	14.4%
_	Oklahoma City, OK	290		3.6%	1.26	\checkmark	-0.11	\$43,960	81.4%	△ 5.1%
l'ë	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	250	$\overline{}$	-21.9%	1.42	\checkmark	-0.54	\$52,650	97.5%	▽ -2.6%
Region	St. Louis, MO-IL	410	$\overline{}$	-6.8%	0.83	\checkmark	-0.10	\$46,080	85.3%	▽ -3.3%
	Tulsa, OK	240		33.3%	1.48		0.31	\$42,440	78.6%	▼ -9.0%
	Akron, OH	100	$\overline{}$	-9.1%	0.82	$\overline{}$	-0.11	\$49,030	90.8%	1 0.7%
eer	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	320	_	100.0%	2.09	_	0.93	\$48,170	89.2%	▼ -16.1%
P.	Greenville, SC	**		**	**		**	\$43,710	81.0%	△ 7.4%
	Lancaster, PA	90	_	50.0%	1.05	_	0.33	\$55,600	103.0%	▽ -0.5%

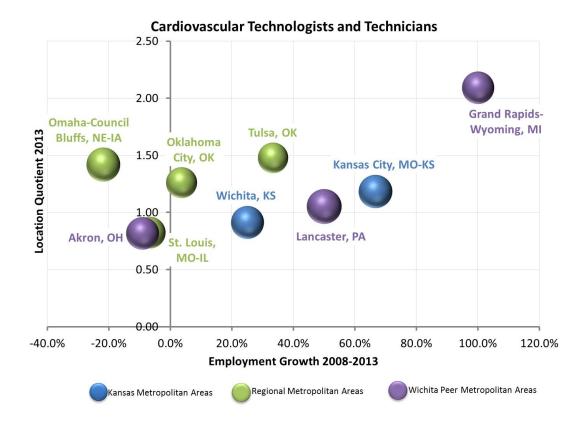
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

In 2013 the national average wage of a cardiovascular technologist or technician was \$53,990, up 11.0 percent from 2008. The average wage of a cardiovascular technologist or technician in Wichita was below the national average in 2013 and increased relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013.

-

¹⁰Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

¹¹Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Outlook Handbook



Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians

Medical laboratory technicians collect samples and perform tests to analyze body fluids, tissue, and other substances. Technicians usually need an associate's degree or a postsecondary certificate. ¹²

Nationally, the number of medical and clinical laboratory technicians has grown 6.9 percent between 2008 and 2013, and is projected to grow 22 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the national average for all occupations. An increase in the aging population will lead to a greater need to diagnose medical conditions, such as cancer or type II diabetes, through laboratory procedures. ¹³ In the Wichita area the number of medical and clinical laboratory technicians has grown much faster than the national rate. This growth has brought the local concentration of workers in this occupation above the national average.

Strong growth and increasing concentration in the number of medical and clinical laboratory technicians has been the general experience across the areas reviewed, with the exception of three. Topeka, St. Louis and Tulsa have all had decreasing employment and concentration within this occupation.

1 '

¹²Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Employment Statistics

¹³Bureau of Labor Statistics – Occupational Outlook Handbook

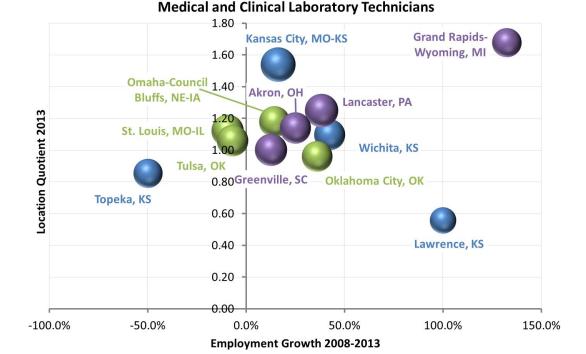
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians

		Empl	oyment	L.Q.	Average Annual Wages		
		% Chg.		% Chg.	% of % Chg.		
		2013	2008-2013	2013 2008-2013	2013 National 2008-2013		
S	Wichita, KS	370	42.3%	1.10 📤 0.33	\$35,460 88.1% 📤 13.0%		
sas	Lawrence, KS	30	**	0.56 📤 0.56	\$26,100 64.9% 64.9%		
Kansas	Kansas City, MO-KS	1,800	16.1%	1.54 📤 0.16	\$45,030 111.9% 📤 25.0%		
_	Topeka, KS	110	▼ -50.0%	0.86 🔻 -0.96	\$31,570 78.5% 📤 1.1%		
_	Oklahoma City, OK	680	36.0%	0.96 📤 0.17	\$35,090 87.2% ▽ -3.2%		
gio	Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA	640	14.3%	1.18 📤 0.08	\$35,650 88.6% ▼ -3.3%		
Region	St. Louis, MO-IL	1,720	▽ -9.5%	1.12 🔻 -0.15	\$38,820 96.5% 📤 0.5%		
	Tulsa, OK	530	▽ -7.0%	1.06 🔻 -0.13	\$37,290 92.7% △ 18.4%		
	Akron, OH	470	38.2%	1.25 📤 0.33	\$41,670 103.6% ~ -3.7%		
eer	Grand Rapids-Wyoming, MI	790	132.4%	1.68 📤 0.88	\$31,990 79.5% ▼ -3.9%		
P	Greenville, SC	360	12.5%	1.00 📤 0.08	\$38,300 95.2% ▼ -0.4%		
	Lancaster, PA	300	25.0%	1.14 📤 0.21	\$36,090 89.7% ▽ -22.9%		

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2014 - **Data not available

Kansas Metropolitan Areas

In 2013 the national average wage of a medical or clinical laboratory technician was \$40,240, up 8.3 percent from 2008. The average wage of a medical or clinical laboratory technician in Wichita was below the national average in 2013 and increased relative to the national average between 2008 and 2013.



Wichita Peer Metropolitan Areas

Regional Metropolitan Areas

CEDBR has this occupation data available for many occupations and areas.

For additional information you may contact us at:

(316) 978-3225

Or

cedbr@wichita.edu