CENTER FOR HEALTH WORKFORCE STUDIES
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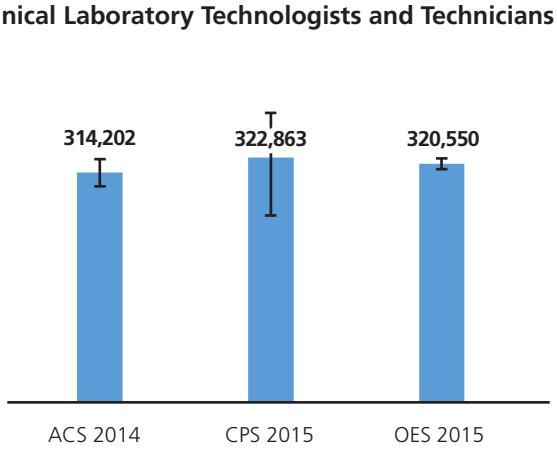
DATA SNAPSHOT:
Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians

Identifying and analyzing available data resources is a crucial step in assessing the supply and distribution of allied health occupations, their demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, and the adequacy of the supply to meet industry and population needs. The report *Leveraging Data to Monitor the Allied Health Workforce: National Supply Estimates Using Different Data Sources*[1] (the background report for this Data Snapshot) compared national estimates of the supply and characteristics of nine allied health occupations using four national data sources: the American Community Survey (ACS) and the Current Population Survey (CPS), both data from the U.S. Census Bureau; the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the National Provider Identifier (NPI) Registry from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' National Plan and Provider Enumeration System. Using the most recent comparable data available from these sources, this Data Snapshot summarizes the national supply size and demographic, educational attainment, and employment information for clinical laboratory technologists and technicians.

Who are Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians (CLTTs)? CLTTs examine body fluid and tissue to find signs of illnesses. They manage labs for private offices and clinics, and hospitals.[2]

How are CLTTs identified across data sources? CLTTs, in the ACS and CPS datasets, were identified by the four-digit SOC code, 3300, and in the OES dataset by the occupation code 29-2010, or could be pulled directly from the OES website, data section. In the NPI Registry, it was not possible to identify CLTTs due to lack of specific taxonomy code(s).

Estimated national supply of clinical laboratory technologists and technicians from the ACS, OES, and CPS data sources



Data sources: American Community Survey (ACS), Current Population Survey (CPS), Occupational Employment Statistics (OES), National Provider Identifier Registry (NPI)

National estimates of CLTTs across data sources: Data to estimate the supply of CLTTs were available in the ACS, CPS, and OES datasets. The NPI Registry had no information on CLTTs. Demographic and socioeconomic data were available in the ACS and CPS data, and the OES had salary data. As shown in the figure, the supply estimate of clinical laboratory technologists and technicians from the CPS was 322,863 (±58,363), from the OES was 320,550 (±7,600), and from the ACS was 314,202 (±14,176).

Demographic and socioeconomic characteristics: The table below provides information on the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of CLTTs from the ACS, CPS and OES data sources. The mean age of CLTTs was estimated at about 41-42 years. Estimates from both data sources showed nearly three quarters of CLTTs to be women (72.4% in ACS and 76.1% in CPS). In terms of racial/ethnic diversity, the CPS estimated less than half the CLTT workforce as White, not Hispanic while the ACS data put that estimate at 61.8%. Ten percent or more of CLTTs were estimated to be Hispanic by both the ACS (9.7%) and the CPS (13.8%). Married CLTTs comprised 52.4% (ACS) to 58.5% (CPS) of the workforce. Both datasets showed relatively high percentages of CLTTs having some college (40.4% in both the ACS and CPS data) or a bachelor's degree (38.2% in the ACS and 41.4% in the CPS data). The mean annual earnings, adjusted to 2015 U.S. dollars, was lowest in the ACS ($45,217) and highest in the OES ($51,810). The

average hours worked per week was estimated at about 32 hours in both ACS and CPS. The percent of CLTTs estimated to be working full-time in the ACS was 87.0%, and 90.4% in the CPS data sources.

REFERENCES:

1. Skillman SM, Dahal A, Frogner BK, Stubbs BA. Leveraging Data to Monitor the Allied Health Workforce: National Supply Estimates Using Different Data Sources. Center for Health Workforce Studies, University of Washington, Dec 2016.
2. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2016-17 Edition, Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians*. http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/medical-and-clinical-laboratory-technologists-and-technicians.htm Accessed November 09, 2016.

Demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of clinical laboratory technologists and technicians

	ACS 2014	CPS 2015	OES 2015
Age (mean years)	42.3	41.1	--
Female	72.4%	76.1%	--
Race/Ethnicity			
White, not Hispanic	61.8%	46.2%	--
Black, not Hispanic	13.8%	21.9%	--
Other, not Hispanic	14.6%	18.1%	--
Hispanic	9.7%	13.8%	--
Marital Status			
Married	52.4%	58.5%	--
Divorce/Separated/Widowed	17.2%	14.3%	--
Single	30.4%	27.2%	--
Educational Attainment			
High school or less	12.4%	9.4%	--
Some college	40.4%	40.4%	--
Bachelor's degree	38.2%	41.4%	--
Master's degree or more	9.0%	8.8%	--
Employment			
Annual earning (mean)*	$45,217	$46,352	$51,810
Usual hours worked per week (mean)	31.7	31.7	--
Full-time workers**	87.0%	90.4%	--

* ACS 2014 earnings were adjusted to 2015 real dollar values based on the Consumer Price Index. ACS and CPS wage and salary earnings include reported income from all sources. OES wage earnings are annualized to represent a full-time average wage.

**Full-time indicates 32 or more weekly work hours.

Data sources: American Community Survey (ACS), Current Population Survey (CPS), Occupational Employment Statistics (OES)

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