

# Research Notes



Pharmaceutical Occupations  
Hayley Smith-Kirkham, Economist

Note: 2018:09  
January 10, 2018

## 2,300 Pharmacists Employed in Nevada, with 3,400 Pharmacy Technicians

Occupation	Number Employed in Nevada, 2016	Annual Openings, 2014-2024	Mean Salary
Pharmacists	2,340	87	\$123,430
Pharmacy Technicians	3,380	116	\$35,500
Pharmacy Aides	110	N/A	\$30,830

- In a previous *Research Note*, we examined spending on pharmaceutical goods in the Silver State. This *Note* examines occupational trends for pharmacists and related occupations.
- In 2016, a total of 2,340 pharmacists were employed in Nevada, earning a mean salary of \$123,430 per year. We expect to see about 90 openings for pharmacists in the State each year through 2024, due to growth of the occupation and replacements for retiring or moving workers.
- Pharmacists must possess a Doctor of Pharmacy degree, as well as be licensed in the State. Many common pharmacy operations are also performed by pharmacy technicians.
- Pharmacy technicians may measure, mix, count, label, and record medication amounts and dosages, but must do so under the direction of a pharmacist. There were 3,380 pharmacy technicians in 2016, earning a mean salary of \$35,500 per year. We expect to see almost 120 annual openings for pharmacy technicians every year.
- Additionally, some pharmacies also employ pharmacy aides. These employees may not dispense medication, but they can accept prescriptions and act as a cashier/counter clerk. There were 110 pharmacy aides employed in Nevada in 2016, with a mean salary of \$30,800.
- In 2016, 1,030 pharmacists were employed in retail pharmacy and drug stores, while 420 were employed in general medical/surgical hospitals, and an additional 300 worked in grocery stores. The remainder were split between state and federal government, drug wholesalers, department stores, and physicians' offices.