

**Occupational Profile**  
**Licensed Vocational Nurses**  
**OES (Occupational Employment Statistics) CODE: 32505**

Cameron County		Hidalgo/Starr/Willacy Counties	
Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010	Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010
1,010	1,280	1,300	1,540
Absolute Change		Absolute Change	
#	%	#	%
270	26.7	240	18.5
Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement	Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement
Yes	1:1	Yes	1:1.4
Hourly Wage 2002		Hourly Wage 2002	
Mean	Median	Mean	Median
\$13.39	\$13.34	\$14.36	\$14.23

**Job Description:**

Licensed practical nurses (LPNs), or licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) as they are called in Texas and California, care for the sick, injured, convalescent, and disabled under the direction of physicians and registered nurses. Most LVNs provide basic bedside care. They take vital signs such as temperature, blood pressure, pulse, and respiration. They also treat bedsores, prepare and give injections and enemas, apply dressings, give alcohol rubs and massages, apply ice packs and hot water bottles, and insert catheters. LVNs observe patients and report adverse reactions to medications or treatments.

**Average Education Required**

Most occupations in this zone require training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree.

**Related Occupations**

LVNs work closely with people while helping them. So do emergency medical technicians, social and human service assistants, surgical technologists, and teacher assistants.

Industrial Employment Patterns		
Industry Code	Industry	Percent of Employees
8060	Hospitals	28.9%
8050	Nursing & Personal Care Facilities	23.3%
8080	Home Health Care Services	13.1%
8010	Offices & Clinics Of Medical Doctors	12.8%
9200	State Government, except Education	5.3%
7360	Personnel Supply Services	3.8%
8220	Colleges & Universities	3.3%

**Skills Required**

- Service Orientation -- Actively looking for ways to help people
- Active Listening -- Listening to what other people are saying and asking questions as appropriate
- Information Gathering -- Knowing how to find information and identifying essential information
- Problem Identification -- Identifying the nature of problems
- Reading Comprehension -- Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents
- Speaking -- Talking to others to effectively convey information

Critical Thinking -- Using logic and analysis to identify the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches