

**Occupational Profile**  
**Medical Records Technicians**  
**OES (Occupational Employment Statistics) CODE: 32911**

Cameron County		Hidalgo/Starr/Willacy Counties	
Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010	Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010
180	290	270	420
Absolute Change		Absolute Change	
#	%	#	%
110	61.1	150	55.6
Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement	Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement
No	1:0.5	No	1:0.3
Hourly Wage 2002		Hourly Wage 2002	
Mean	Median	Mean	Median
\$9.45	\$8.15	\$7.92	\$7.51

**Job Description:**

Medical Records Technicians assemble patients' health information by first making sure their initial medical charts are complete. They ensure all forms are completed and properly identified and signed, and all necessary information is in the computer. Sometimes, they talk to physicians or others to clarify diagnoses or get additional information. Technicians assign a code to each diagnosis and procedure. Technicians then use a software program to assign the patient to one of several hundred "diagnosis-related groups," or DRG's. The DRG determines the amount the hospital will be reimbursed if the patient is covered by Medicare or other insurance programs using the DRG system.

**Average Education Required**

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

**Related Occupations**

Occupations requiring knowledge of medical terminology, anatomy, and physiology without directly touching the patient are medical secretaries, medical transcriptionists, medical writers, and medical illustrators.

**Skills Required**

- Information Organization -- Finding ways to structure or classify multiple pieces of information
- Reading Comprehension -- Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents
- Synthesis/Reorganization -- Reorganizing information to get a better approach to problems or tasks
- Information Gathering -- Knowing how to find information and identifying essential information
- Writing -- Communicating effectively with others in writing as indicated by the needs of the audience
- Active Listening -- Listening to what other people are saying and asking questions as appropriate

Industrial Employment Patterns		
Industry Code	Industry	Percent of Employees
8060	Hospitals	40.5%
8010	Offices & Clinics Of Medical Doctors	25.2%
8050	Nursing & Personal Care Facilities	10.9%
8080	Home Health Care Services	5.7%
9100	Federal Government	5.6%
8040	Offices of Other Health Practitioners	3.3%
8090	Misc. Health & Allied Services	2.2%
8220	Colleges & Universities	2.1%