

Occupational Profile
Physical Therapist Assistants
OES (Occupational Employment Statistics) CODE: 66017

Cameron County		Hidalgo/Starr/Willacy Counties	
Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010	Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010
30	50	60	90
Absolute Change		Absolute Change	
#	%	#	%
20	66.7	30	50
Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement	Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement
Yes	0:0	Yes	5:0
Hourly Wage 2002		Hourly Wage 2002	
Mean	Median	Mean	Median
\$17.67	\$17.41	\$21.15	\$21.22

Job Description:

Physical Therapist Assistants and aides perform components of physical therapy procedures and related tasks selected and delegated by a supervising physical therapist. These workers assist physical therapists in providing services that help improve mobility, relieve pain, and prevent or limit permanent physical disabilities of patients suffering from injuries or disease. Patients include accident victims and individuals with disabling conditions, such as low back pain, arthritis, heart disease, fractures, head injuries, and cerebral palsy.

Average Education Required

These occupations usually require a high school diploma and may require some vocational training or job-related course work. In some cases, an associate's or bachelor's degree could be needed.

Related Occupations

Physical therapist assistants and aides work under the supervision of physical therapists. Other assistants and aides in the health care field that work under the supervision of professionals include dental, medical, occupational therapy, optometric, podiatric, recreational therapy, and pharmacy assistants.

Skills Required

- Speaking -- Talking to others to effectively convey information
- Instructing -- Teaching others how to do something
- Active Listening -- Listening to what other people are saying and asking questions as appropriate
- Reading Comprehension -- Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents
- Service Orientation -- Actively looking for ways to help people
- Social Perceptiveness -- Being aware of others' reactions and understanding why they react the way they do
- Monitoring -- Assessing how well one is doing when learning or doing something

Industrial Employment Patterns		
Industry Code	Industry	Percent of Employees
8040	Offices of Other Health Practitioners	45.7%
8060	Hospitals	29.7%
8050	Nursing and Personal Care Facilities	10.6%
8010	Offices & Clinics Of Medical Doctors	3.9%
8080	Home Health Care Services	3.2%
8090	Misc. Health and Allied Services	2.5%
8740	Management & Public Relations	2.2%