

Industry Profile: Public Health Administration

A guide for newcomers to British Columbia



Contents

1. Overview of Public Health Administration.....	2
2. Occupations in the Public Health Administration Sector	8
3. Hiring Forecast by Region	12
4. Finding Jobs.....	13
5. Additional Resources.....	15

1. Overview of Public Health Administration

Professionals in public health administration work to improve the welfare of the community at large, serving as leaders of public sector and nonprofit organizations that provide health services and share information about health and wellness. Public health administrators possess the expertise and insight necessary to manage the people, finances, and information that support public health programs and initiatives.

In BC, there are two broad sectors that comprise Public Health Administration:

- *Health Care and Social Assistance*
- *Public Administration*

Health Care and Social Assistance:

Health Care and Social Assistance is one of BC's largest employers with 325,300 total employment in 2020. This industry has a low unemployment rate and tends to be immune from economic fluctuations. Most jobs in this industry are located in the Mainland / Southwest, including Metro Vancouver, Vancouver Island/Coast and Thompson-Okanagan.

The health care and social assistance industry provides diagnosis, treatment and residential care for medical reasons and social assistance.

Health care organizations include hospitals and clinics, ambulances, nursing or residential care homes. This industry is crucial for treating and maintaining the health of residents and non-residents in B.C. Health care establishments provide

care for individuals who seek services for prevention, diagnosis or treatment from health care professionals, including doctors, lab technicians, dentists, optometrists and chiropractors.

Social assistance organizations offer direct services to their clients, such as counselling, welfare, child protection, child care, home care, housing and food services

It is difficult to separate the social assistance occupations from health care occupations because many of the services provided by each are interconnected.

Source:

WorkBC, Industry Profile: Health Care & Social Assistance

This profile includes an industry overview, labour market statistics and outlook, and links to other resources.

- <https://www.workbc.ca/industry-profile/health-care-and-social-assistance>

In BC, **health care** is provided by the Ministry of Health working with seven health authorities:

- provincial health services authority, including BC Cancer Agency, BC Children’s Hospital, BC Emergency Health Services, and more
<http://www.phsa.ca/>
- five regional health authorities: Fraser, Interior, Island, Northern, and Vancouver Coastal <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/partners/health-authorities/regional-health-authorities>
- First Nations health authority
<https://www.fnha.ca/>

Social assistance in BC is provided through several provincial ministries including:

- Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/social-development-poverty-reduction>

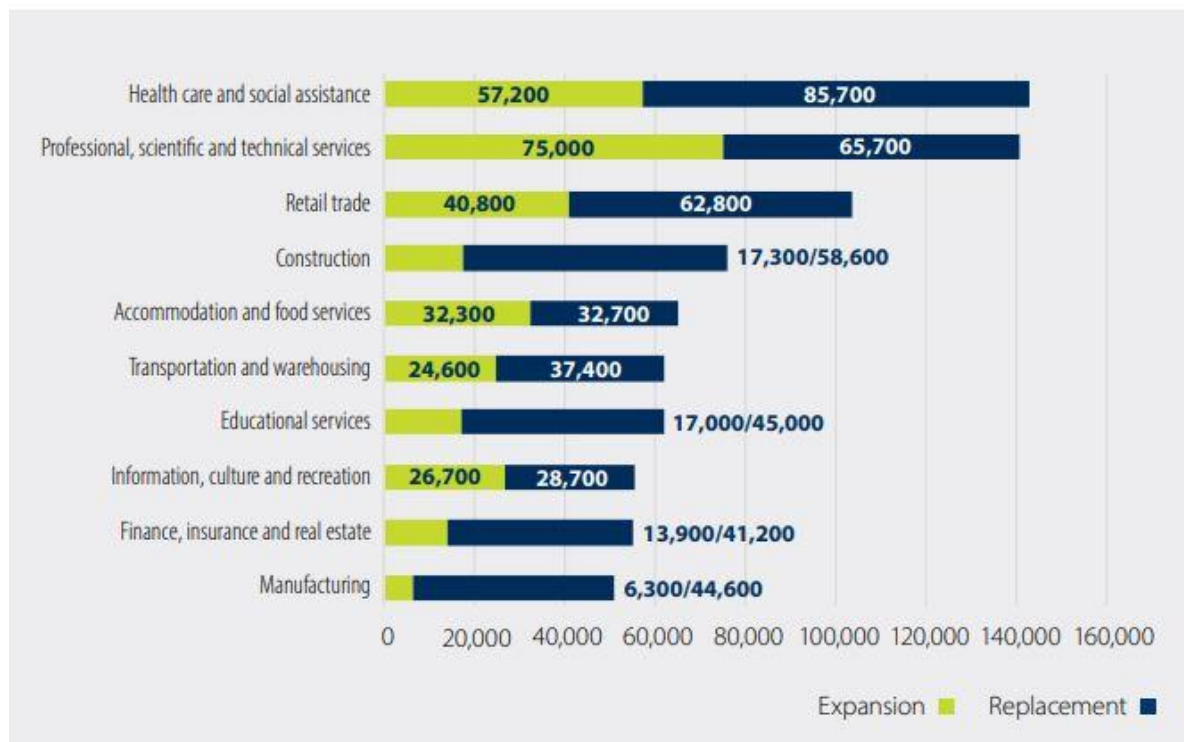
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A guide for newcomers to British Columbia

- Ministry of Children & Family Development
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/children-and-family-development>
- Ministry of Mental Health & Addictions
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/mental-health-addictions>

As B.C.'s population continues to age, Health care and social assistance will see the largest increase in job openings in 2021-2031. Of these openings, 60 per cent will come from the need to replace retiring workers, while the remaining 40 per cent will result from expansion of the health system in response to the growing medical needs of an aging population and the expansion of the care economy.

FIGURE 4-1: JOB OPENINGS BY MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUP — TOP TEN, B.C., 2021-2031



Source: BC Labour Market Outlook, 2021 edition

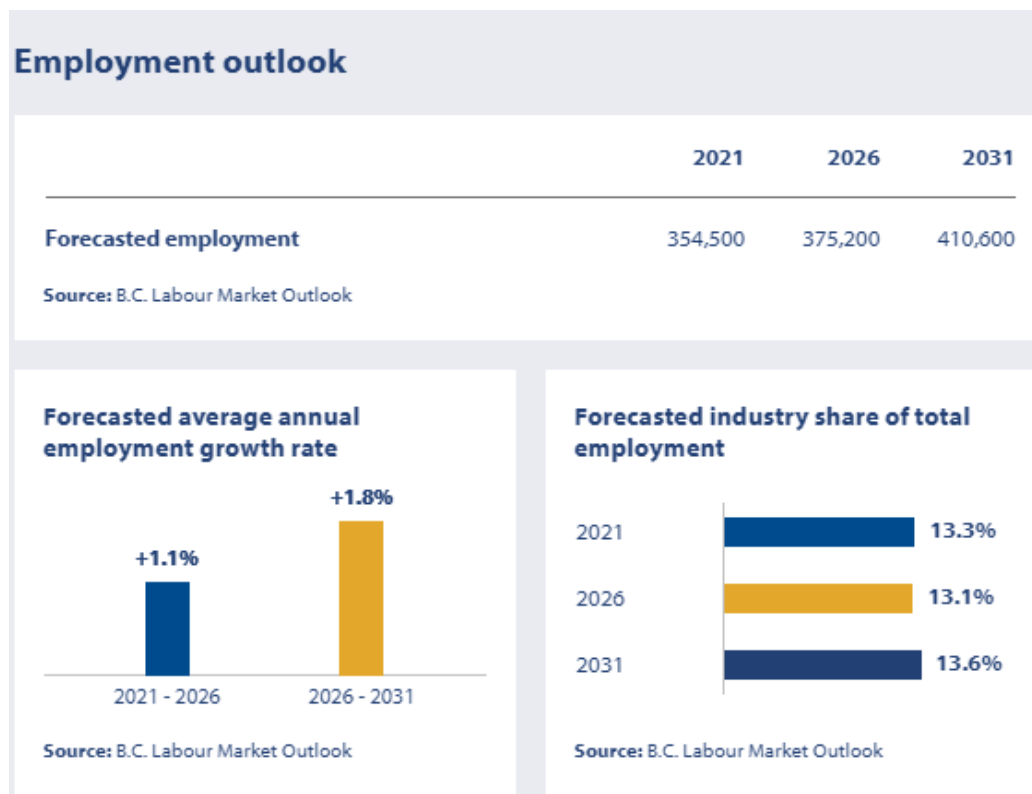
Detailed Industry Forecast of Employment in Health Care Sector (BC)

Industry	Employment 2021	Employment Growth (Compound Annual Growth Rate, %)			Expansion Job Openings 2021-2031	Replacement Job Openings 2021-2031	Total Job Openings 2021-2031
		2021-2026	2026-2031	2021-2031			
Health care and social assistance	354,500	1.1	1.8	1.5	57,200	85,700	142,900
Ambulatory health care services	101,900	1.3	1.7	1.5	16,600	25,200	41,800
Hospitals	126,400	0.5	1.5	1.0	13,200	29,400	42,500
Nursing and residential care facilities	60,900	1.6	3.3	2.5	17,200	15,300	32,600
Social assistance	65,300	1.6	1.3	1.4	10,200	15,800	26,000

Source: BC Labour Market Outlook: 2021 edition

<https://www.workbc.ca/Labour-Market-Industry/Labour-Market-Outlook.aspx>

Health Care and Social Assistance – Employment Outlook



Source: <https://www.workbc.ca/industry-profile/health-care-and-social-assistance>

Health Care and Social Assistance Industry – Hourly Wages

Earnings

Average hourly wages in this industry

Men



Source: 2020 Labour Force Survey

Women



Source: 2020 Labour Force Survey

Public Administration

In B.C., the *Public Administration* sector is made up of agencies that are engaged primarily in activities of a governmental nature. Such activities include keeping public order and safety, drafting and enacting legislation, administering and collecting taxes, working in national defence, providing immigration services, and administering government programs. *Total employment in 2020 was 119,700.*

Around half of employment in this industry is located in the Mainland / Southwest including Metro Vancouver, Vancouver Island and Thompson Okanagan regions.

For information on the structure of BC's public administration, see:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations>

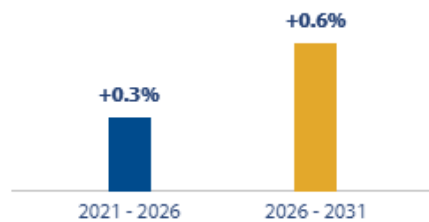
Public Administration – Employment Outlook

Employment outlook

	2021	2026	2031
Forecasted employment	126,700	128,500	132,500

Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

Forecasted average annual employment growth rate



Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

Forecasted industry share of total employment



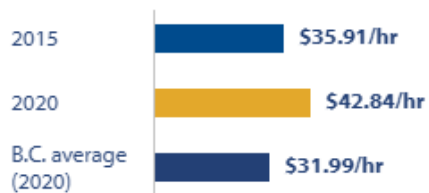
Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

Public Administration – Hourly Wages

Earnings

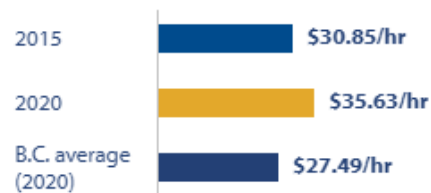
Average hourly wages in this industry

Men



Source: 2020 Labour Force Survey

Women



Source: 2020 Labour Force Survey

For more information see:

- **WorkBC Industry Profile: Public Administration**
<https://www.workbc.ca/industry-profile/public-administration>
- **WorkBC: Research the Labour Market**
<https://www.workbc.ca/research-labour-market/>

2. Occupations in the Public Health Administration Sector

The chart below shows high opportunity occupations in public health administration in BC:

NOC	Occupation Title	Employment 2021	Job Openings 2021-2031	Wage Rate Low 2020	Wage Rate Median 2020	Wage Rate High 2020
4165	Health policy researchers, consultants and program officers	4,680	1,720	\$15.00	\$35.00	\$52.44
0311	Managers in health care	5,940	3,240	\$19.89	\$45.19	\$59.50
0423	Managers in social, community and correctional services	5,050	2,830	\$21.15	\$33.33	\$57.69
0014	Senior managers — health, education, social and community services and membership organizations	3,900	2,810	\$21.76	\$45.96	\$88.00
0012	Senior government managers and officials	2,270	1,310	\$14.60	\$52.20	\$76.92
0411	Government managers — health and social policy development and program administration	620	300	\$31.34	\$43.83	\$57.20

Source: BC Labour Market Outlook, 2021 edition

High Opportunity Occupations in BC

<https://www.workbc.ca/Labour-Market-Industry/High-Opportunity-Occupations.aspx>

Public Health Administration - Examples of Careers:

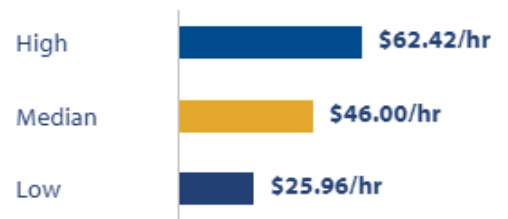
'Managers in Health Care' (NOC 30010)

These managers plan, organize and direct the delivery of health care services within a department or establishment. They consult with boards of directors and senior managers to create and maintain standards for the supplying of health care services. They develop evaluation systems to monitor the quality of health care given to patients.

Source: WorkBC Career Profile for Managers in Health Care, NOC 30010

<https://www.workbc.ca/career-profiles/managers-health-care>

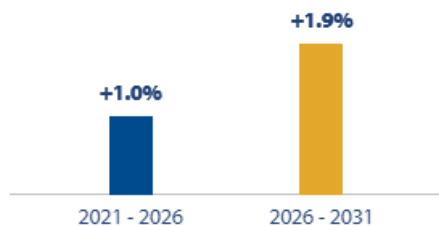
Provincial hourly rate



Source: 2021 Job Bank Wage Report

Managers in Health Care – Employment Outlook

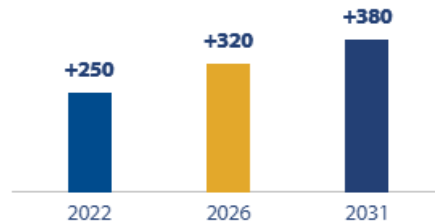
Forecasted average employment growth rate



Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

Job openings

10 year expected job openings: 3,220



Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

Composition of job openings



Source: B.C. Labour Market Outlook

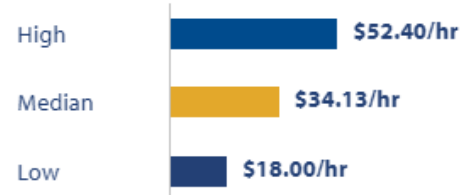
'Health policy researchers, consultants and program officers' (NOC 41404)

These researchers and program officers help develop government health policy by reviewing written material, collecting and analysing statistics, and providing advice to senior managers on issues such as health promotion, regulation, standards and financing. They design and carry out health projects or programs, collect and analyse statistics provided by health-care institutions, monitor and evaluate health-care programs.

Source: Source: WorkBC Career Profile for Health Policy Researchers, NOC 41404

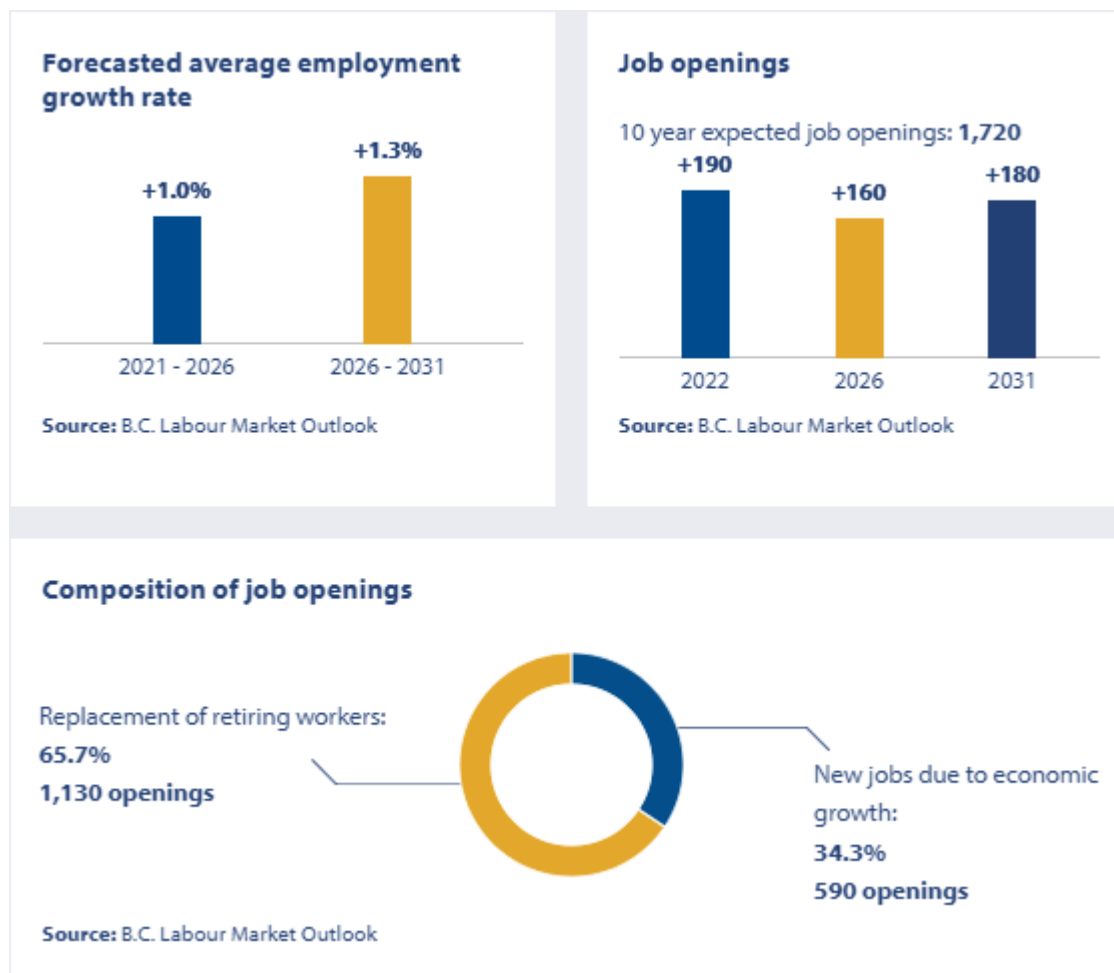
<https://www.workbc.ca/career-profiles/health-policy-researchers-consultants-and-program-officers>

Provincial hourly rate



Source: 2021 Job Bank Wage Report

Health Policy Researchers – Employment Outlook



For detailed information on any of the occupations in public health administration, including job description, educational requirements for working in BC, salary, and more see:

- **WorkBC Career Profiles**

<https://www.workbc.ca/plan-career/explore-careers>

3. Hiring Forecast by Region

The largest numbers of jobs in Public Health Administration are located in Metro Vancouver (Lower Mainland / Southwest BC), Vancouver Island and the Thompson-Okanagan regions.

Lower Mainland/Southwest BC Regional Employment Forecast

Ambulatory Health Care Services:

- currently employ 60,711
- anticipated job openings of 25,390 from 2021-2031

Hospitals

- currently employ 71,410
- anticipated job openings of 25,620 from 2021-2031

Vancouver Island / Coast BC Regional Employment Forecast

Ambulatory Health Care Services:

- currently employ 18,960
- anticipated job openings of 8,710 from 2021-2031

Hospitals

- currently employ 22,140
- anticipated job openings of 7,890 from 2021-2031

Source: **BC Labour Market Outlook, 2021 edition**

<https://www.workbc.ca/research-labour-market/bcs-labour-market-outlook-2023-edition>

4. Finding Jobs

Online Job Postings

- **BC's Health Authorities**
 - **Vancouver Coastal Health Authority**
<https://careers.vch.ca/>
 - **Fraser Health Authority**
<https://careers.fraserhealth.ca/>
 - **Interior Health Authority**
<https://www.interiorhealth.ca/careers>
 - **Northern Health Authority**
<https://careers.northernhealth.ca/>
 - **Island Health Authority**
<https://www.islandhealth.ca/careers>
 - **First Nations Health Authority**
<https://www.fnha.ca/about/work-with-us>
 - **Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA)**
<https://jobs.phsa.ca/>

- **BC Public Service – Job Opportunities**
<https://bcpublicservice.hua.hrsmart.com/hr/ats/JobSearch/index>
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/careers-myhr/job-seekers/current-job-postings>
- **Institute of Public Administration of Canada IPAC – Job Board**
https://www.ipac.ca/EN/Public/TEN_Job_Board.aspx
- **BioTalent Canada:**
<https://www.biotalent.ca/the-petridish/>
- **Indeed.ca**
<https://ca.indeed.com/Public-Health-jobs-in-Vancouver,-BC>
<https://ca.indeed.com/Community-Public-Health-jobs-in-Vancouver,-BC>
- **Talent.com**
<https://ca.talent.com/>
- **WorkBC**
<https://www.workbc.ca/search-and-prepare-job/find-jobs#/job-search>

- **BC Jobs.ca**
<https://www.bcjobs.ca/>
- **BC JobConnect**
<https://www.bcjobconnect.ca> **must have permanent resident number**
newcomers can post their skills, education and work experience to BC employers looking for workers
- **Job Bank**
<https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/findajob>

Creating a List of Potential Employers

You can use directories to produce lists of employers in the health care industry in British Columbia. Contact them directly to find out if they're hiring.

- **Directory of Canadian healthcare personnel**
Available at the Central Library
362.11025 C21a
- **Guide to Canadian health care facilities**
Available at the Central Library
362.105 C212ca

5. Additional Resources

Still looking for more information? Try looking at the following resources:

- **Career Paths for Skilled Immigrants Program**
<https://www.welcomebc.ca/Work-in-B-C/Career-Paths-for-Skilled-Immigrants>
- **Public Health Administration Careers**
<https://www.healthcareadministrationedu.org/public-health-administration/>
- **Careers in Public Health – webinars – Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA)**
<https://www.cpha.ca/public-health-virtual-journal-club>
- **BioTalent Canada – Bio-Economy Career Profiles**
<https://www.biotalent.ca/careerprofiles/>
- **BC Ministry of Health**
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizational-structure/ministries-organizations/ministries/health>
- **BC Public Service – Careers**
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/careers-myhr/job-seekers/featured-careers>
- **Institute of Public Administration of Canada IPAC**
<https://www.ipac.ca/>

**Questions? Please ask the Information Staff in the Central Branch,
Vancouver Public Library or telephone 604-331-3603.**

*Please note that the information in this guide is also available online through the
Skilled Immigrant InfoCentre website at <https://www.vpl.ca/sic>*

