



Epidemiologist

STANDARD OCCUPATIONAL CODE 19-1041.00

What They Do

Investigate and describe the determinants and distribution of disease, disability, or health outcomes. May develop the means for prevention and control.

Is This For You?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model). People who tend to succeed in this career are:

Investigative – involves working with ideas, and require an extensive amount of thinking. Can involve searching for facts and figuring out problems mentally.

Social – involves working with, communicating with, and teaching people. Often involve helping or providing service to others.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career:

Recognition – offer advancement, potential for leadership, and are often considered prestigious.

Achievement – results oriented and allow employees to use their strongest abilities, giving them a feeling of accomplishment.

Independence – allow employees to work on their own and make decisions.

Abilities reflect a person's aptitude to acquire skills and knowledge. The following abilities are important for success in the career:

- Problem Sensitivity
- Oral Comprehension
- Oral Expression
- Written Comprehension
- Deductive Reasoning
- Inductive Reasoning

Skills You Need

- Science – Using scientific rules and methods to solve problems.
- Critical Thinking – Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- Reading Comprehension – Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.
- Active Learning – Understanding the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making.
- Judgment and Decision Making – Considering the relative costs and benefits of potential actions to choose the most appropriate one.

Education & Training

Epidemiologists need **at least a master’s degree in epidemiology or related program.**

Where They Work

Industries which employ the largest number of epidemiologists are:

- Laboratories
- State and Local Health Departments
- Federal or Government Health Agencies
- Colleges or Universities
- Large Medical Corporations

US Employment & Wages

| 2016 Workers | 2026 Workers | Numeric Change | Percent Change | Average Demand for Workers | Average Annual Wage |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 6,100 | 6,600 | 500 | 9% | 600 | \$69,660 |

Activities: what you might do in a day

- Direct medical science or healthcare programs
- Plan biological research
- Develop methods of social economic research
- Communicate with government agencies
- Research diseases or parasites.
- Prepare scientific or technical reports or presentations
- Establish standards for products, processes, or procedures
- Train personnel in technical or scientific procedures
- Supervise scientific or technical personnel.
- Establish standards for medical care.

Additional References

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

www.onetcenter.org