

Sterile Processing Technician Job Trend Data Tool Tips

A typical hospital uses (and reuses) tens of thousands of medical instruments every month. Although some supplies are disposable, many are not. The reusable supplies come with their own special instructions for proper cleaning and maintenance. Sterile Processing Technicians (SPTs) prepare surgical instruments and devices. They clean, inspect, test, sterilize, store and deliver devices needed for surgery in a healthcare facility. Other job duties may include, verifying and accurately documenting missing instruments, recording sterilizer test results, ensuring each instrument is in good working order prior to placing in-tray for use, operating and maintaining steam autoclaves, keeping records of loads complete, items in loads, and maintenance procedures performed, make recommendations to management for possible improvement, and effectively communicate with operating room personnel and others.

Follow the steps below to learn more about the Sterile Processing field, gain industry insights, and identify career paths you can take as you advance in your field.

Select 'Filtering For Industry and Occupation'

- Using this filter will populate more specific occupations and industries

Select an Industry

- From the dropdown menu, select **Health Science**

Select an Occupation

- From the dropdown menu, beneath the **Medical Science and Biotechnology** header
 - Medical Equipment Preparers

Select a Location

- **Nationwide** is the default setting. From the dropdown menu, select the state you are looking for opportunities in.

Select a County

- **All Counties** is the default setting. From the dropdown menu, select the county you are looking for opportunities in.

Occupation Description

- This section of the Job Trend Data tool provides clarity on the key responsibilities of the position.

Employment Trends

- This section shares the number of jobs in the career for the past two years, the current year, and projections for the next 10 years. Job counts include both employed and self-employed persons. Understanding industry growth can assist you in determining if the field is growing and in-demand or if it's stagnant or declining.

Top Employers

- Knowing the top employers for the industry selected based on the location selected can pinpoint you in the direction of companies to research and potentially apply with.

Education Levels

- See how your educational experience compares to others in the field.

Annual Earnings

- Being aware of the annual earnings of those already employed in the field and in the area selected, will equip you with an understanding of what you can expect.
 - Keep in mind, entry level employees generally earn lower than the median amount.

Technical Skills

- Included is a list of hard skills associated with a given career ordered by the number of unique job postings which ask for those skills. Hard skills are objective, quantifiable skills gained through training, school, or work experiences.
 - Pay special attention to this section. If you have experience in the listed skills, be sure to include them in your resume. You can sprinkle these in the skills and professional experience sections. This will help you to stand out amongst other applicants.

Core Competencies

- These are the soft skills needed to be successful in the career. The "importance" is how relevant the ability is to the occupation: scale of 1-5. The "level" is the proficiency required by the occupation: scale of 0-100. Results are sorted by importance first, then level. Soft skills are personality traits and behaviors that will help candidates get hired and succeed in their work. Unlike technical skills or "hard" skills, soft skills are interpersonal and behavioral skills that help you to work well with other people and develop your career.
 - Pay special attention to this section. If you are qualified in the listed skills, be sure to include them in your resume. You can sprinkle these in the skills and professional experience sections. This will help you to stand out amongst other applicants.

Job Titles

- Having the right job titles for your program/certification will help you determine the appropriate job titles to search for when searching for opportunities. Job titles are not consistent. Companies call similar job functions different things.

More Information and Resources

- Sterile Processing Technician Job Trend Data (including alternative job titles)
 - <https://careercenter.medcerts.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/127/2023/09/Job-Trend-Data-Tool-Sterile-Processing-Technician.pdf>
- Job Search Tools
 - <https://careercenter.medcerts.com/resources/category/job-search-tools/>
- Sterile Processing Career Pathways
 - <https://careercenter.medcerts.com/channels/sterile-processing/>