

Public Health

Public Health professionals promote health interventions which benefit communities as a whole.

Careers within this section include:

- **Biostatistician**
- **Environmental Health Specialist**
- **Epidemiologist**
- **Health Educator**

Biostatistician



To be a successful Biostatistician you should

- Have good computer skills
- Have good communication skills
- Pay attention to detail
- Have good analytical skills
- Enjoy problem solving



What would I do?

Biostatisticians analyze medical, scientific, and public health data to evaluate variables associated with a health problem and to determine if treatments are effective. Many work on drug development teams or with other researchers to compare data on side effects and success rates of the drugs being tested. Biostatisticians also help develop research studies to predict the pattern of a disease, evaluate treatments, and assess the safety and effectiveness of treatments. Some may work in environmental or public health research.

Where would I work?

Biostatisticians work for pharmaceutical companies, health insurance companies, universities, state and local health departments, and other health-related government agencies.

What would I earn?

\$27,000–\$32,000 (bachelor's degree)
\$34,100–\$89,000 (master's or doctoral degree)

What do I need to know?

A strong background in math and science is needed for this career. Entry-level Biostatisticians have a master's degree; however, a doctoral degree is needed for advancement in many research and academic settings.

What schools can I attend?

University of New Hampshire
4 Garrison Avenue
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 862-1360
www.unh.edu

University of New Hampshire offers both undergraduate (BS) and graduate (MS and PhD) programs in mathematics with an option in statistics.

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Statistical Association
1429 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3415
(703) 684-1221
(888) 231-3473
www.amstat.org

The International Biometric Society
1444 I Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005-6542
(202) 712-9049
www.tibs.org



Environmental Health Specialist



To be a successful Environmental Health Specialist you should

- **Have good analytical and problem solving skills**
- **Be interested in interpreting environmental policy and regulations**
- **Work well as an individual and in groups**
- **Have a commitment to creating a safe environment**
- **Be willing to update skills and knowledge**

What would I do?

Environmental Health Specialists are concerned with the interaction of the environment with human health. They inspect and collect samples from schools, child care centers, restaurants, workplaces, recreational areas, and health care facilities to ensure a safe, healthy environment. They also investigate outbreaks of diseases associated with food and water to identify the source.

Environmental Health Specialists may specialize in milk and dairy production; food protection; sewage disposal, land, and solid waste pollution; pesticide management; air and/or water pollution; occupational health; hazardous waste disposal; and wildlife health/management.

Where would I work?

Environmental Health Specialists may work in state, county, or local health departments; departments of environmental services or resources protection; wildlife parks; hospitals; private businesses; or private nonprofit organizations.

What would I earn?

\$33,023–\$55,037

What do I need to know?

Most Environmental Health Specialists have a bachelor's degree in environmental health or biological chemical sciences. Master's and doctoral degrees are increasingly becoming the standard. Certification is optional and may be obtained through the National Environmental Health Association.

What schools can I attend?

University of New Hampshire
4 Garrison Avenue
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 862-1360
www.unh.edu

University of New Hampshire-Manchester
400 Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03101-1113
(603) 641-4321
www.unh.edu/unhm

Both schools offer a Masters of Public Health (MPH) program with an option in Ecology.

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Public Health Association
Environment Section
800 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3710
(202) 777-2742
www.apha.org

National Environmental Health Association
720 South Colorado Boulevard, Suite 970-S
Denver, CO 80246-1925
(303) 756-9090
www.neha.org

National Safety Council
1121 Spring Lake Drive
Itasca, IL 60143-3201
(630) 285-1121
www.nsc.org

Epidemiologist



To be a successful Epidemiologist you should

- **Have good communication skills**
- **Be curious and persistent**
- **Be interested in communities**
- **Enjoy analyzing data**



What would I do?

Epidemiologists are the first to identify or anticipate poor health outcomes in a population and then track these trends as they change over time. They research the cause and frequency of disease or injury, as well as the common characteristics of people most likely to be affected. They use statistics, demographics, and other research methods to devise means of preventing or controlling the occurrence of poor health outcomes.

Epidemiologists specialize in health assessment and policy development. Through evaluation, they work to assure that the needs of communities are being met. They may also specialize in specific health conditions such as infectious diseases; chronic diseases; cancer; reproductive and perinatal epidemiology; cardiovascular disease; violence or injury prevention; occupational and environmental epidemiology; clinical epidemiology; genetics; and more.

Where would I work?

Epidemiologists work within government, academia, and private industry including but not limited to federal, state, and local health departments; large health care providers; pharmaceutical companies; research-oriented universities; hospitals; and major health organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO); the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

What would I earn?

\$41,683–\$69,472

What do I need to know?

Epidemiologists come from a variety of backgrounds, but must have a strong math and science background. They usually pursue graduate-level degrees in health, earning either a Master of Public Health (MPH) or a Master of Science or a PhD in epidemiology.

What schools can I attend?

Dartmouth Medical School
3 Rope Ferry Road
Hanover, NH 03755-1404
(603) 650-1505
www.dartmouth.edu/dms

University of New Hampshire
4 Garrison Avenue
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 862-1360
www.unh.edu

Dartmouth Medical School and University of New Hampshire both offer a Master of Public Health (MPH) program.

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American College of Epidemiology
1500 Sunday Drive, Suite 102
Raleigh, NC 27607
(919) 861-5573
www.acepidemiology.org

American Public Health Association
Epidemiology Section
800 I Street NW
Washington, DC 20001-3710
(202) 777-2742
www.apha.org

Association for Professionals in
Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc.
1275 K Street NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005-4006
(202) 789-1890
www.apic.org

*“Compassion is the experience of
touching the pain of others.”*

Jim Wallis

Health Educator



To be a successful Health Educator you should

- **Enjoy working with a variety of people**
- **Have good organizational skills**
- **Have good oral and written communication skills**
- **Be interested in promoting healthy lifestyles**
- **Be a team player**
- **Be a leader**
- **Have a desire to help others**
- **Be a lifelong learner about current health issues**



What would I do?

Health Educators are professionals who educate the public to improve individual, family, and community health. They support behavior change in order to prevent disease and promote healthy living. Health Educators design, conduct, and evaluate activities on a variety of health issues including wellness, nutrition, stress management, and fitness. They also coordinate programs, act as a resource, and communicate information about health to the public. Health Educators develop programs on a variety of wellness issues and work with people of all ages. Health Educators are employed under a range of job titles such as patient educators, health education teachers, trainers, community organizers, and health program managers.

Where would I work?

Health Educators may work in health departments, community public health centers, businesses, hospitals, clinics, government agencies, and schools. They may also work as Prevention Specialists or in public and private colleges as teachers. Programs in school health education and college health education in academic settings are also common.

What would I earn?

\$25,867–\$43,250

What do I need to know?

Health Educators possess at least a bachelor's degree in health promotion, health education, public health, or community health. Graduate degrees are often required. Professional certification—Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES)—by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc., is encouraged. Students graduating with a major of health education with a teacher certification option are eligible for K-12 health education teacher certification in the state of New Hampshire and many other states. Students should look for a health education program that is approved and a college which is certified at both the state and national level by the New Hampshire Department of Education and the National Council of Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

What schools can I attend?

Plymouth State University
17 High Street
Plymouth, NH 03264-1595
(603) 535-5000
(800) 842-6900
www.plymouth.edu

Please contact your guidance office or career counselor for more information.

Where can I find more information?

American Association for Health Education
1900 Association Drive
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 476-3437
(800) 213-7193
www.aahperd.org/aahe

National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc.
944 Marcon Boulevard, Suite 310
Allentown, PA 18109
(610) 264-8200
(888) 624-3248
www.nchec.org

National Wellness Institute
1300 College Court
PO Box 827
Stevens Point, WI 54481-0827
(715) 342-2969
(800) 243-8694
www.nationalwellness.org

Society for Public Health Education
750 First Street NE, Suite 910
Washington, DC 20002-4242
(202) 408-9804
www.sophe.org