EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS: ANALYZING DATA FROM HEALTH SCIENCE

This analysis of the Health Science cluster in Virginia highlights important information for each of its five career pathways—Biotechnology Research & Development; Diagnostic Services; Health Informatics; Support Services; and Therapeutic Services.

What trends do we currently see? What trends may we anticipate?

• The Health Science cluster continues to have the highest rate of job growth of all clusters in Virginia (21%). In 2014, there were approximately 294,000 Virginia jobs associated with this cluster, and about 63,000 additional jobs are expected by 2024.

• Among all pathways in this cluster, Therapeutic Services is projected to have the highest percentage of job growth (22%) as well as the greatest number of new jobs (52,387) by 2024.

• Half of the occupations in this cluster projected to have 25 percent job growth or more by 2024 have a predominant education level of associate degree or less.

EDUCATION

Figure 1 shows the predominant level of education and training in each pathway. Education data was determined by Trailblazers based on US Bureau of Labor Statistics occupational education and training data.

Footnote 1: Reflects predominant education by the number of occupations in each pathway, not the number of workers.
EMPLOYMENT

Figure 2 compares the estimated 2014 employment for each pathway to projected 2024 employment levels.

Data are provided by the Virginia Employment Commission.

EARNINGS AND GROWTH

Figure 3 presents the size and median wages of the occupations in each pathway with the highest projected percentage of growth. Wage data are provided by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics program.