

Public health graduates in the United States

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Summary

Although educational institutions who prepare public health graduates (PHGs) are designed specifically to prepare their graduates for the public health workforce, especially the government public health workforce, little has previously been published about the employment outcomes of PHGs, nor about the demands of the employers who hire them. This thesis establishes the dearth of recent published information about employment outcomes of PHGs, presents the largest-scale data collection on the employment outcomes of PHGs in the United States in decades, and illustrates a trend toward increased hiring of PHGs by for-profit companies at one university in the United States; and then presents a revised occupational taxonomy reflecting the employer demands for PHGs based on an analysis of a large-scale data set of job postings, as well as an analysis of a specific subset of employers—those seeking candidates with a combination of training in public health and climate change. Finally, the thesis provides policy recommendations to address the potential mismatch between PHGs and the governmental public health workforce.