

## Epidemiologist

### What is it?

An Epidemiologist is a public health professional who studies the patterns, causes, and effects of diseases and health conditions in populations. They collect and analyse data to track health trends, identify outbreaks, and develop strategies to control and prevent the spread of diseases. Their work helps improve public health policies, guide interventions, and protect communities from health risks.

### Qualifications/Experience Required:

Bachelor's Degree in Epidemiology, Public Health, Biology, Statistics, or a related field. Many epidemiologists continue their studies with a master's degree in public health (MPH) or Epidemiology. Some may pursue a Doctorate (PhD) for advanced research roles. Experience in data collection, analysis, and working with public health data is highly beneficial.

### What the Work Involves:

Epidemiologists collect data from various sources such as hospitals, health surveys, and public health records. They analyse this data to identify trends in disease occurrence and risk factors. They conduct studies to understand the causes, transmission, and impact of diseases and other health conditions. They track disease outbreaks (such as flu, COVID-19, or infectious diseases) and work to identify the source and implement containment measures.

### Future Prospects – Labour Market Information:

Epidemiologists are in demand, particularly in the wake of global health crises like the COVID-19 pandemic. There is ongoing need for professionals in healthcare, government, and research institutions. Employment in the public health sector is expected to grow, driven by a focus on improving public health, disease prevention, and research.

**Annual Salary £25,000 - £50,000**

**Typical weekly hours: 38 hours**

### Type of person who may be suited to this job:

Have a strong interest in healthcare and public health. Are detail-oriented and enjoy analysing data and trends. Are able to work with large amounts of data and draw conclusions from them. Have strong problem-solving skills and enjoy working on challenging public health issues.

### Money/Wage Guide:

**Starting salaries** range £25,000 to £30,000 per year

**With experience**, you can earn between £35,000 and £45,000.

**Senior positions** may earn over £50,000

### Related Opportunities:

- Public Health Researcher
- Biostatistician:
- Healthcare Data Analyst:
- Health Educator:

### Further Information:

**The Royal Society for Public Health:**

[RSPH | Royal Society for Public Health UK](#)  
Prospects UK

[Prospects | Job & Course Search | Career & University Advice](#)

**National Careers Service**

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