

Psychologists

SOC: 19-3030 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$94,310

Median Salary

204,300

Employment

+6.0%

Growth Rate

■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: See Requirements (BLS)

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Low Risk - 8.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.

This job is relatively safe from automation due to its creative, social, or complex problem-solving requirements.

■■ Work-Life Balance

7.5/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	6.2/10	Investigative	9.4/10
Artistic	5.6/10	Social	6.4/10
Enterprising	4.8/10	Conventional	6.4/10

■ Top Skills Required

Analytical skills, Communication skills, Compassion, Integrity, Interpersonal skills, Observational skills, Patience, Problem-solving skills

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Psychologists study **human behavior, emotions, and mental processes** to understand, assess, and support mental health and well-being. They conduct research, administer tests, provide therapy, and develop interventions. Their work is critical in healthcare, education, research, and organizational settings.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy understanding human behavior, problem-solving, and helping others improve their mental health and quality of life.

What Do Psychologists Do?

These professionals assess, diagnose, and treat mental health and behavioral issues using scientific methods and therapeutic techniques.

Common responsibilities include:

- Conducting psychological assessments and testing
- Developing treatment plans and therapeutic interventions
- Providing individual, group, or family therapy
- Conducting research on behavior, cognition, and emotion
- Analyzing data and interpreting results to inform treatment or policy
- Consulting with other healthcare providers, educators, or organizations
- Maintaining confidential records and documentation

Key Areas of Psychology

Psychologists may specialize in specific populations, settings, or areas of study:

- Clinical and Counseling Psychology: Treating mental health disorders and providing therapy
- School and Educational Psychology: Supporting student learning and development
- Industrial-Organizational Psychology: Improving workplace performance and employee well-being
- Research and Experimental Psychology: Studying behavior and cognitive processes
- Health and Neuropsychology: Addressing the interplay between mental and physical health

Skills and Abilities Needed

These professionals combine analytical, clinical, and interpersonal skills.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires advanced education, supervised experience, and licensure:

- Bachelor's Degree: Psychology or related field
- Graduate Degree (Master's or Doctoral): Specialized in clinical, counseling, or research psychology
- Clinical Internship or Practicum: Supervised hands-on experience with patients or research
- State Licensure: Required to practice independently as a psychologist
- Continuing Education: Staying current with psychological research, treatment techniques, and ethical standards

Where Do Psychologists Work?

They are employed in settings that provide mental health services, research, or organizational support:

- Hospitals and Mental Health Clinics

- Schools and Universities
- Private Practice
- Government and Research Institutions
- Corporate and Organizational Settings

Work environments include offices, clinics, laboratories, schools, and community or corporate facilities.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires extensive education, critical thinking, and emotional resilience. Psychologists must handle sensitive cases, provide effective therapy, and adhere to ethical standards.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy understanding human behavior and mental processes
- Are empathetic and patient with clients or research subjects
- Have strong analytical and communication skills
- Can work independently or as part of a multidisciplinary team
- Want a career contributing to mental health, research, or organizational improvement

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in psychology, biology, and social sciences
- Volunteer or intern in mental health, counseling, or research settings
- Develop research, analytical, and interpersonal skills
- Explore undergraduate and graduate programs in psychology
- Gain experience in assessment, therapy, or behavioral research

Psychologists study, assess, and treat mental processes and behavior, improving individual well-being, advancing research, and supporting healthy communities.