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MARKET PROMINENCE, POSITION AND PERFORMANCE

## Top Ten Fastest Growing Master's Level Occupations in the Chicago Region\*

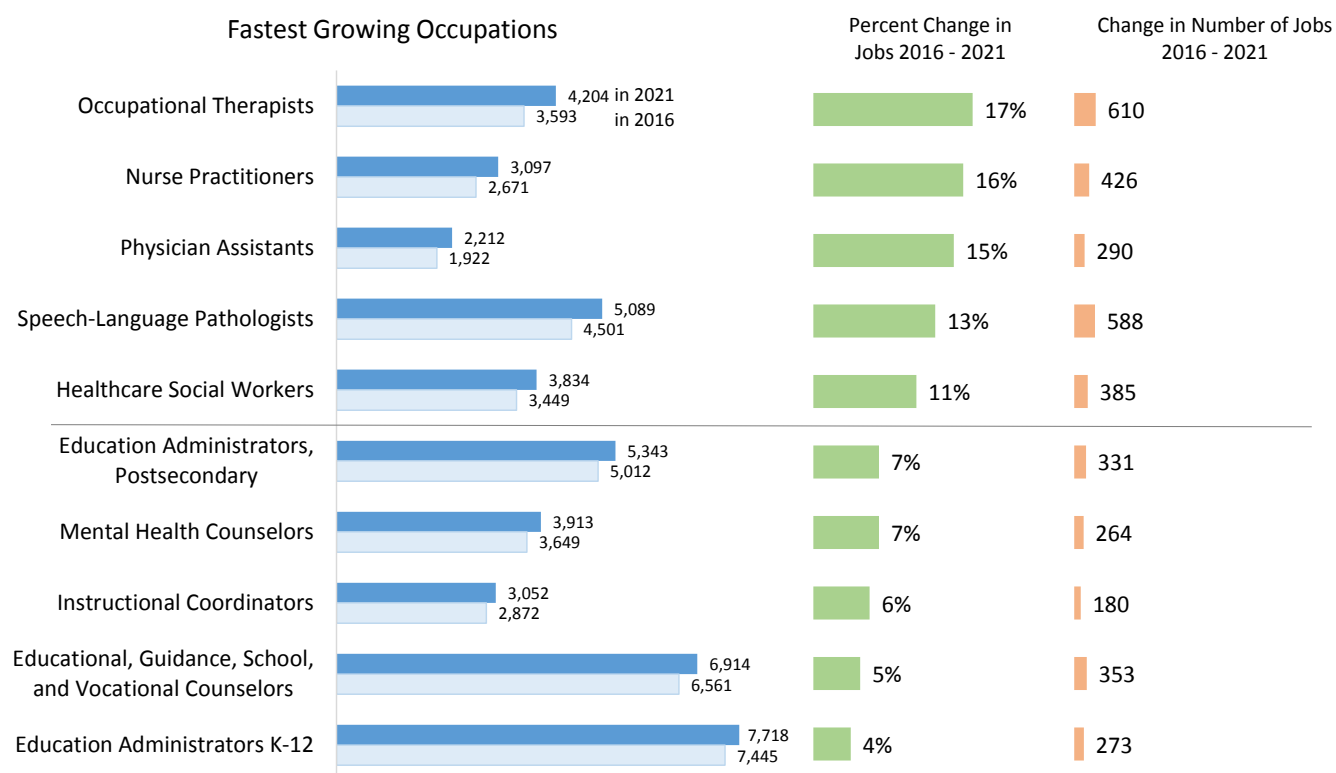
From 2016 to 2021, the ten fastest-growing occupations in the Chicago region where the most significant source of education for workers is a master's degree\*\* are projected to grow by 9 percent and generate 45,376 jobs in 2021 compared with 41,675 in 2016.

Topping the list of the ten fastest-growing occupations are occupational therapists, nurse practitioners, physicians assistants, speech-language pathologists, and healthcare social workers, each with double-digit projected

job growth. By 2021, these five occupations will generate 14 percent more jobs and account for 62 percent of the job growth of the top ten occupations.

The three largest of the ten occupations are in education. Together, these three occupations will grow by 5 percent in total jobs and account for 26 percent of the total gain in jobs among the top ten occupations.

### Fastest Growing Occupations for Chicago Region—From 2016 to 2021



Source: IRMA, Emsi Q2 2017 Data Set. \*The seven counties include in this analysis are: Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will counties. \*\*This description of "the ten fastest-growing occupations in the Chicago region where the most significant source of education for workers is a master's degree" applies to all subsequent references to ten fastest-growing and top ten occupations. For more information, contact Liz Sanders at [liz.sanders@depaul.edu](mailto:liz.sanders@depaul.edu).