

The funeral services industry in the U.S. is experiencing several trends that are impacting the demand for embalmer jobs:

1. **Increase in Cremations:** Cremation has become increasingly popular due to its lower cost and flexibility compared to traditional burials. The cremation rate in the U.S. has been steadily rising and is expected to continue growing[1]. Since embalming is not typically required for cremations, this trend reduces the need for embalmers.
2. **Green Burials and Human Composting:** There is a growing interest in environmentally friendly burial options, such as green burials and human composting. Green burials avoid embalming and use biodegradable materials, while human composting transforms the body into soil[2]. Both methods further decrease the demand for embalming services.
3. **Personalization and Celebrations of Life:** Funerals are becoming more personalized and celebratory, focusing on the individual's life and achievements. These services often do not require embalming, especially if they are held shortly after death or if the body is not present[3].
4. **Modern Venues and Technology:** The use of modern venues and technology, such as live streaming funerals, has increased. These changes can reduce the emphasis on traditional embalming and viewing practices[2].
5. **Economic Factors:** The cost of traditional funerals, including embalming, can be prohibitive for many families. As a result, more cost-effective options like direct cremation or immediate burial without embalming are being chosen[1].

These trends collectively contribute to a reduced need for embalmers in the funeral services industry. However, the overall employment of funeral service workers is still projected to grow, driven by the aging population and the need for various funeral services[4].

Is there a specific aspect of these trends you'd like to explore further?

References

- [1] 2025 Trends in Funerals & Cremations - Dignity Memorial
- [2] 10 Funeral Trends in 2025: What to Look For - Holland Supply
- [3] The US Funeral Industry Today - US Funerals Online
- [4] Death care services in the U.S. - statistics & facts | Statista