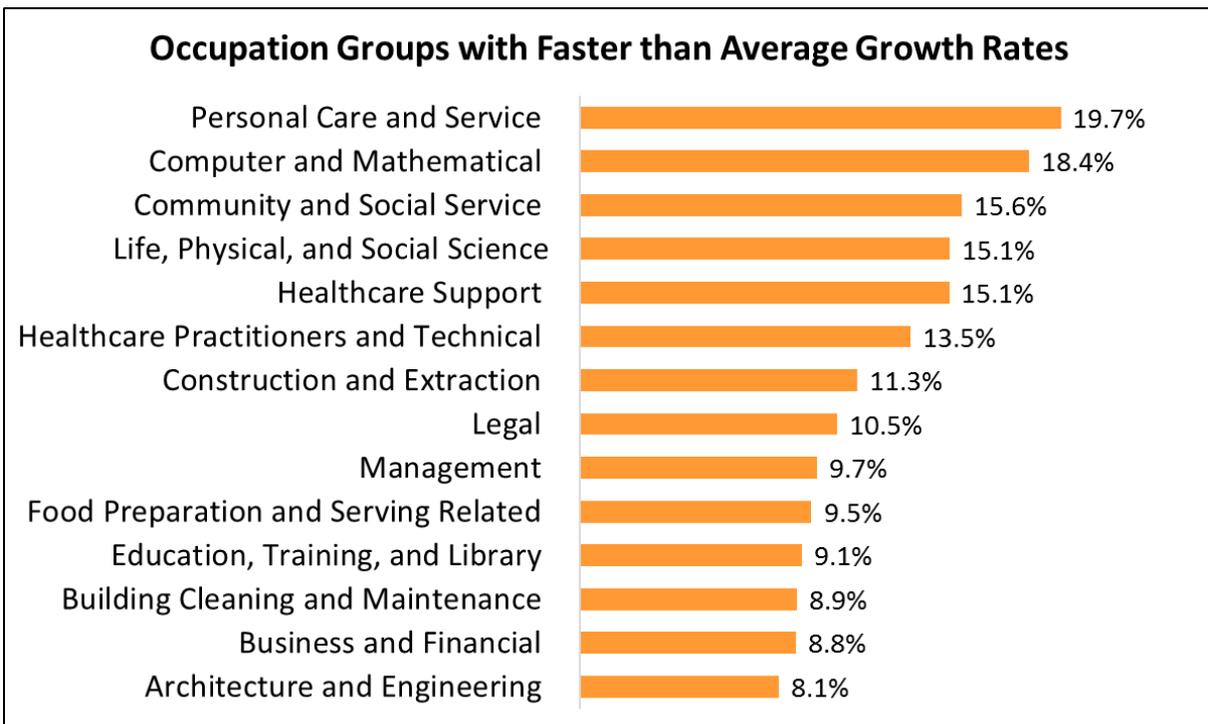


Occupational projections are calculated by applying staffing patterns supplied by the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program to industry projections. Occupational projections differ from industry projections, however, in that occupational projections include self-employed workers. The Missouri employment for all occupations is projected to increase from about 3 million in 2016 to almost 3.23 million by 2026. This is an increase of 7.3%, or almost 220,000 jobs, during the projection period.

Major Occupation Groups

While there are over 800 occupations, these can be grouped into 22 major occupation groups. Some occupation groups are expected to grow faster than the state average. *Personal Care and Service* occupations are projected to grow the fastest with a 19.7% growth rate. *Computer and Mathematical* and *Community and Social Service* occupations are projected to have the next highest growth rates with 18.4% and 15.6% growth rates, respectively.

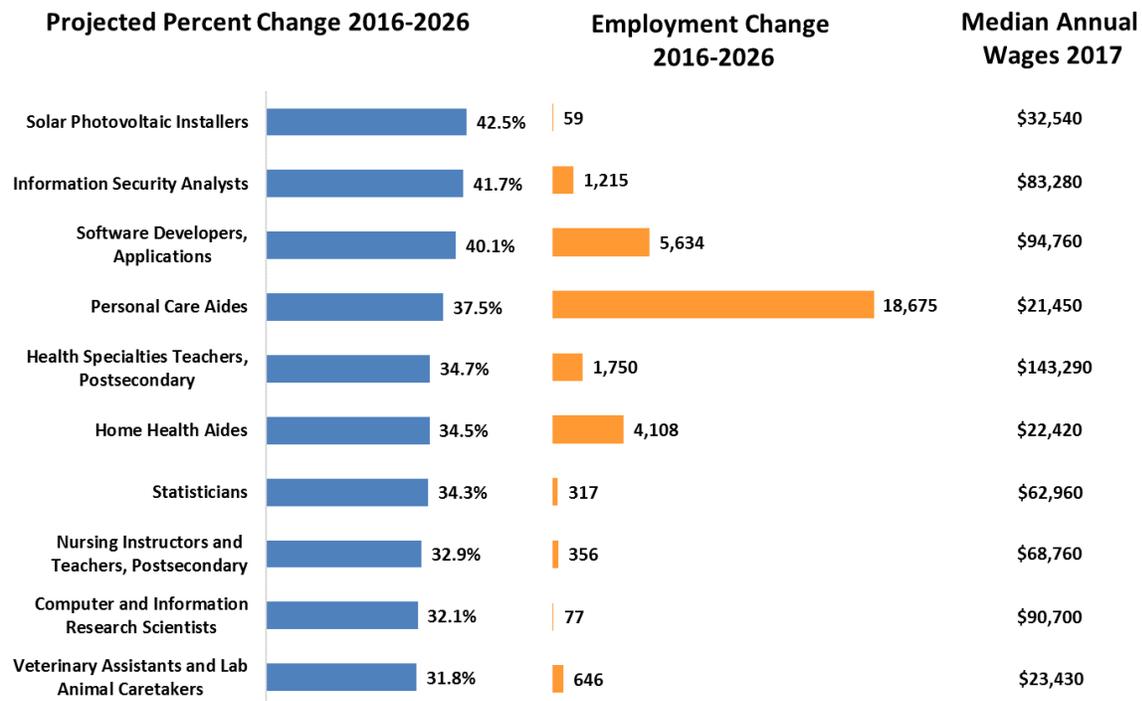


While there are 14 major occupation groups that are projected to experience above average growth rates, eight are expected to have below average growth rates. *Production* is the only group that is projected to have a negative growth rate, at -2.3%. This negative growth rate is not unique to Missouri, but is part of a national trend, with the United States projecting *Production* jobs to have a -4.3% growth rate during the same time frame.

Detailed Occupations

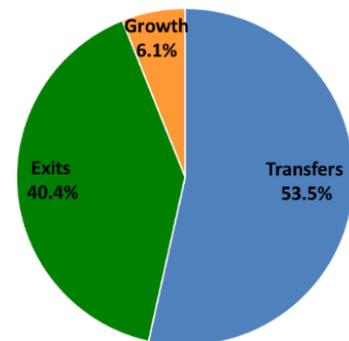
Of the top 10 fastest growing occupations, four are in the *Computer and Mathematical* major occupation group. In addition to having very high projected growth rates, these four occupations also have median wages that are well above the median wage of \$35,050 for all occupations in the state. *Application Software Developers* is an occupation with an especially bright outlook, offering fast jobs growth, a large net growth in employment, and median annual wages of over \$94,000.

Personal Care Aides are expected to be in great demand during the projection period with the fourth fastest growth rate, the highest amount of growth openings and the fourth highest amount of total openings of all occupations. While this occupation has below average wages, it requires a high school diploma and no experience, meaning that it can be a good entry-level job on the Patient Care career pathway. By combining additional education with the skills and experience acquired while working as a *Personal Care Aide*, individuals can move up to higher paying occupations on the Patient Care career pathway, such as *Licensed Practical Nurses* and, eventually, to *Registered Nurses* or *Physical Therapists*.



Missouri is projected to have more than 3.6 million total job openings between 2016 and 2026. Total openings comprise growth openings, exit openings, and transfer openings. Growth openings are the result of an occupation growing between the base year and the projected year. Exit openings occur when a worker leaves the workforce entirely, such as retirement. Transfer openings occur when a worker leaves their occupation for a different one.

Most Job Openings are a Result of Exits or Transfers

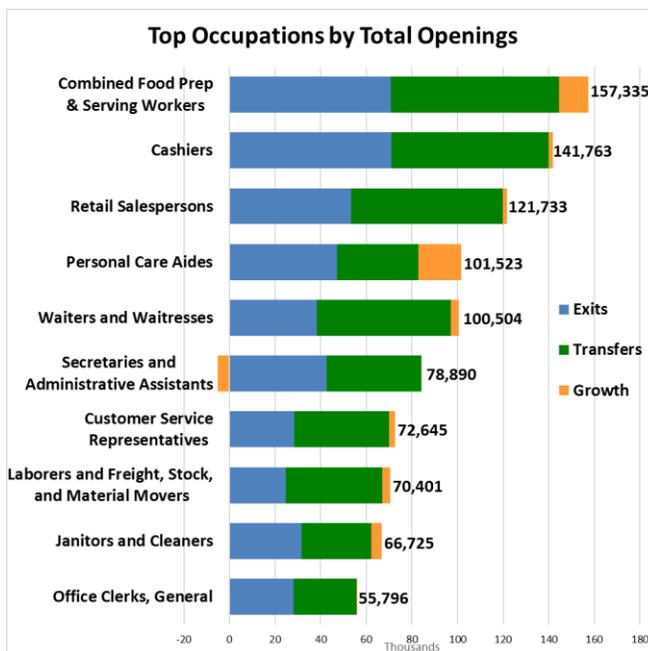


Percentage of Missouri total job openings

Of the projected 3.6 million total job openings, about 220,000 are expected to come from actual new job growth. This only represents 6.1% of total job openings. Transfer openings make up the majority of total openings at 53.5% with exit openings making up the remainder, at 40.4% of total openings. This means that there will continue to be demand for employees even in occupations that are expected to have slow or even negative growth.

Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers are projected to have the most total openings, followed by *Cashiers* and *Retail Salespersons*. Three of the top 20 occupations with the most total projected openings are in the *Office and Administrative Support* major occupational group. The major occupational groups of *Food Preparation and Serving* and *Sales* have two occupations each in the top five occupations with the most total openings.

Secretaries and Administrative Assistants is projected to have over 78,000 total job openings, even though it is also projected to have a negative net growth of 5,268. This is an example of the continued need for workers even in occupations that are experiencing static or negative growth.



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Division of Occupational Employment Statistics (OES). Occupational projections developed by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC).

This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the US Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the US Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner. August 2018

