

Kansas City Region Top Openings

2016-2026

The Kansas City region is projected to have over 700,000 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.

Of the top 20 occupations in the Kansas City region with the most total openings, 5 are in the *Office and Administrative Support* occupation group. The occupations of *General and Operations Managers*, *Registered Nurses*, and *Accountants and Auditors* all have large numbers of projected total openings, as well as having average wages that are higher than the average wage for all occupations in the Kansas City region.

Occupation	2016 Estimated Employment	2026 Projected Employment	Exit Openings	Transfer Openings	Growth Openings	Total Openings	Average Annual Wage
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers	13,111	15,547	12,688	13,270	2,436	28,394	\$20,308
Cashiers	13,555	14,124	12,994	12,681	569	26,244	\$21,577
Retail Salespersons	16,191	16,574	10,372	13,001	383	23,756	\$26,399
Waiters and Waitresses	11,092	11,993	8,544	13,090	901	22,535	\$23,377
Personal Care Aides	7,553	10,493	7,201	5,425	2,940	15,566	\$21,918
Customer Service Representatives	11,132	11,491	5,782	8,486	359	14,627	\$34,344
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	14,651	13,632	7,618	7,410	-1,019	14,009	\$35,958
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers	7,597	8,055	3,877	6,691	458	11,026	\$29,451
Office Clerks	8,797	8,641	5,116	4,986	-156	9,946	\$34,150
Janitors and Cleaners	6,973	7,402	4,679	4,522	429	9,630	\$27,993
General and Operations Managers	9,829	10,847	2,143	6,167	1,018	9,328	\$109,202
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	6,519	7,120	3,723	4,858	601	9,182	\$26,232
Registered Nurses	13,267	15,149	4,068	3,089	1,882	9,039	\$66,059
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	8,076	8,224	3,456	5,120	148	8,724	\$47,276
Cooks, Restaurant	5,084	5,757	3,176	4,336	673	8,185	\$26,183
Accountants and Auditors	7,403	8,294	2,317	4,516	891	7,724	\$67,315
Nursing Assistants	5,884	6,493	3,760	3,128	609	7,497	\$27,263
Team Assemblers	7,795	6,791	3,115	5,282	-1,004	7,393	n/a
Childcare Workers	4,434	4,971	3,839	2,912	537	7,288	\$23,184
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	6,435	6,289	3,939	3,057	-146	6,850	\$40,541

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).



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