

# Southeast Region Top Openings

2016-2026

The Southeast region is projected to have over 183,000 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 with the most total openings, 4 are in the *Office and Administrative Support* major occupation group. The occupations of *Registered Nurses, Truck Drivers, Supervisors of Retail Workers, and General and Operations Managers* 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 Southeast region.

Occupation	2016 Estimated Employment	2026 Projected Employment	Exit Openings	Transfer Openings	Growth Openings	Total Openings	Average Annual Wage
Personal Care Aides	6,943	9,920	6,729	5,069	2,977	<b>14,775</b>	\$20,287
Cashiers	5,594	5,709	5,306	5,178	115	<b>10,599</b>	\$20,815
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers	4,106	4,642	3,873	4,051	536	<b>8,460</b>	\$18,838
Retail Salespersons	4,325	4,393	2,760	3,459	68	<b>6,287</b>	\$27,292
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	4,589	4,189	2,364	2,300	-400	<b>4,264</b>	\$29,728
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	3,707	3,700	1,570	2,327	-7	<b>3,890</b>	\$38,832
Waiters and Waitresses	2,016	2,059	1,508	2,311	43	<b>3,862</b>	\$21,011
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers	2,770	2,813	1,383	2,387	43	<b>3,813</b>	\$27,076
Nursing Assistants	2,624	2,939	1,690	1,406	315	<b>3,411</b>	\$23,778
Janitors and Cleaners	2,020	2,238	1,386	1,339	218	<b>2,943</b>	\$23,881
Childcare Workers	1,773	1,987	1,535	1,164	214	<b>2,913</b>	\$25,494
Office Clerks	2,329	2,271	1,350	1,315	-58	<b>2,607</b>	\$25,852
Registered Nurses	3,536	4,003	1,079	819	467	<b>2,365</b>	\$58,522
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	1,601	1,671	893	1,165	70	<b>2,128</b>	\$24,879
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	1,923	2,003	725	1,321	80	<b>2,126</b>	\$39,523
Cooks, Restaurant	1,370	1,465	831	1,134	95	<b>2,060</b>	\$21,556
Maintenance and Repair Workers	1,915	2,015	801	1,093	100	<b>1,994</b>	\$33,488
Home Health Aides	1,098	1,545	803	668	447	<b>1,918</b>	\$22,362
General and Operations Managers	2,083	2,247	449	1,291	164	<b>1,904</b>	\$80,858
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	1,752	1,705	1,070	831	-47	<b>1,854</b>	\$31,339

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Division of Occupational Employment Statistics (OES).  
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