

Kansas City's Top Openings

2008-2010

Kansas City is projected to have more than 36,000 job openings from 2008 to 2010. During this time, the 20 occupations with the most projected total openings in the region include five food preparation and serving occupations and three occupations that are sales-related. Job openings are classified as "Growth" or "Replacement" openings. Growth openings are new jobs that are added to the economy, while replacement openings are vacancies created by worker mobility or retirements, but are not new jobs.

Cashiers are projected to have the most openings from 2008 to 2010, though almost all the openings are projected to be replacements. This occupation has a Grade D due to the lack of growth in the occupation, and lower than average wages. Nursing Aides, on the other hand, have more openings due to growth than replacements indicating strong future demand in that occupation in the state. The combination of its above average total openings, fast growth, and higher than average wages for Nursing Aides merit its Grade B career outlook. Overall, eleven of the 20 fastest growing occupations have a Grade A or B outlook in terms of having above average openings, growth, and wages.

SOC	Occupation	2008 Estimated Employment	2010 Projected Employment	Total Openings	Total Openings		Average Annual Wage	Career Grade
					Openings Due to Growth	Openings Due to Replacement		
41-2011	Cashiers	14,240	13,870	1,801	0	1,801	\$17,720	D
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	10,900	11,040	1,431	139	1,292	\$16,870	C+
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	15,880	15,760	1,088	0	1,088	\$24,520	B-
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers	14,290	14,760	948	472	476	\$16,480	C+
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	15,950	15,840	587	0	587	\$26,320	B-
29-1111	Registered Nurses	11,330	11,600	573	269	304	\$54,710	A
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	9,370	9,420	568	49	519	\$30,260	B-
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	7,730	7,520	531	0	531	\$24,770	D
35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, and Coffee Shop	1,610	1,620	374	10	364	\$17,350	C
25-2021	NEW! Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	4,900	5,060	355	160	195	\$42,020	A-
43-5081	Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	6,190	5,950	353	0	353	\$22,470	D
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	9,580	9,530	344	0	344	\$21,400	B-
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	4,250	4,320	342	68	274	\$20,350	B
35-9031	NEW! Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, and Coffee Shop	1,530	1,550	337	26	311	\$16,910	C+
39-9011	Child Care Workers	4,350	4,410	325	57	268	\$18,550	C+
41-4012	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing	7,460	7,370	310	0	310	\$57,180	A-
11-1021	NEW! General and Operations Managers	6,330	6,150	278	0	278	\$97,960	B
31-1012	NEW! Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	6,120	6,300	270	181	89	\$20,820	B
25-2031	NEW! Secondary School Teachers, Except Special and Vocational Ed.	3,460	3,520	268	62	206	\$43,670	A-
35-9011	NEW! Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers	2,060	2,080	268	19	249	\$16,280	C+

Data Sources: MERIC Short-term Occupational Projections, MERIC Occupational Employment and Wage Survey, and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Career Grades are assigned by analyzing an occupation's percent change, total openings and average wage relative to all other occupations in the region. An occupation's combination of scores on these three factors determines its grade.