

Missouri Top Openings

2017-2019

Missouri is projected to have more than 726,000 total job openings between 2017 and 2019. 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, 5 are in the *Office and Administrative Support* occupation group, while 3 are in the *Food Preparation and Serving Related* occupation group. *Registered Nurses* and *General and Operations Managers* are occupations that are projected to have a high number of total openings and both have average wages that are higher than the state average for all occupations.

| Occupation | 2017 Estimated Employment | 2019 Projected Employment | Exit Openings | Transfer Openings | Growth Openings | Total Openings | Average Annual Wage |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers | 75,274 | 77,985 | 13,571 | 14,193 | 2,711 | 30,475 | \$19,700 |
| Cashiers | 74,494 | 74,326 | 13,973 | 13,636 | -168 | 27,441 | \$21,240 |
| Retail Salespersons | 82,286 | 82,939 | 10,460 | 13,112 | 653 | 24,225 | \$27,160 |
| Waiters and Waitresses | 52,158 | 53,040 | 7,787 | 11,931 | 882 | 20,600 | \$20,180 |
| Personal Care Aides | 52,312 | 56,908 | 8,717 | 6,566 | 4,596 | 19,879 | \$20,810 |
| Secretaries and Administrative Assistants | 82,991 | 82,341 | 8,906 | 8,663 | -650 | 16,919 | \$32,940 |
| Customer Service Representatives | 54,907 | 55,417 | 5,640 | 8,277 | 510 | 14,427 | \$34,200 |
| Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers | 48,509 | 49,006 | 4,831 | 8,338 | 497 | 13,666 | \$29,150 |
| Janitors and Cleaners | 45,571 | 46,433 | 5,989 | 5,788 | 862 | 12,639 | \$24,570 |
| Office Clerks | 49,056 | 49,208 | 5,766 | 5,619 | 152 | 11,537 | \$30,530 |
| Nursing Assistants | 42,696 | 43,764 | 5,252 | 4,370 | 1,068 | 10,690 | \$24,690 |
| Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers | 46,681 | 46,949 | 3,970 | 5,882 | 268 | 10,120 | \$42,460 |
| Registered Nurses | 74,760 | 76,954 | 4,344 | 3,298 | 2,194 | 9,836 | \$60,830 |
| Stock Clerks and Order Fillers | 33,621 | 33,949 | 3,689 | 4,814 | 328 | 8,831 | \$26,560 |
| Cooks, Restaurant | 26,985 | 27,695 | 3,204 | 4,374 | 710 | 8,288 | \$23,120 |
| General and Operations Managers | 44,750 | 45,727 | 1,876 | 5,397 | 977 | 8,250 | \$104,860 |
| Childcare Workers | 24,438 | 25,231 | 4,054 | 3,076 | 793 | 7,923 | \$21,860 |
| Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks | 33,532 | 33,603 | 4,157 | 3,226 | 71 | 7,454 | \$37,230 |
| Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 24,133 | 24,891 | 3,630 | 2,740 | 758 | 7,128 | \$21,390 |
| Maintenance and Repair Workers | 32,852 | 33,477 | 2,702 | 3,689 | 625 | 7,016 | \$36,150 |

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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