

# 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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# Central Region Top Openings

2016-2026

The Central region is projected to have more than 382,000 total 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.

The *Food Preparation and Office and Administrative Support* occupational groups have 4 occupations each in the top 20 occupations with the most projected total openings. The occupations of *Registered Nurses, General and Operations Managers, and Secondary School Teachers* all have a large number of projected openings as well average wages that are higher than the average wage for all occupations in the Central 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	7,516	9,804	7,668	8,020	2,288	17,976	\$21,275
Cashiers	7,866	8,477	7,672	7,488	611	15,771	\$19,955
Retail Salespersons	9,499	9,776	6,102	7,648	277	14,027	\$27,086
Waiters and Waitresses	4,870	5,803	3,950	6,052	933	10,935	\$19,839
Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	8,878	8,692	4,732	4,603	-186	9,149	\$31,541
Office Clerks, General	7,132	7,233	4,215	4,107	101	8,423	\$30,799
Personal Care Aides	3,892	5,260	3,652	2,751	1,368	7,771	\$21,940
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers	4,410	4,727	2,263	3,906	317	6,486	\$27,250
Nursing Assistants	4,329	4,742	2,755	2,292	413	5,460	\$24,750
Janitors and Cleaners	3,616	4,073	2,503	2,419	457	5,379	\$25,697
Childcare Workers	3,277	3,657	2,830	2,147	380	5,357	\$22,505
Customer Service Representatives	3,720	4,019	1,978	2,903	299	5,180	\$31,207
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	3,286	3,553	1,867	2,436	267	4,570	\$24,632
Registered Nurses	6,755	7,671	2,065	1,568	916	4,549	\$61,692
Cooks, Restaurant	2,517	3,122	1,652	2,256	605	4,513	\$23,058
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	2,459	2,996	1,222	2,602	537	4,361	\$28,715
General and Operations Managers	4,277	4,926	954	2,745	649	4,348	\$83,199
Maintenance and Repair Workers	3,733	4,123	1,600	2,184	390	4,174	\$34,711
First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	3,545	3,846	1,364	2,487	301	4,152	\$38,835
Secondary School Teachers	4,573	4,970	1,462	1,780	397	3,639	\$43,955

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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