

St. Louis' Top Openings

2009-2011

St. Louis is projected to have more than 60,000 job openings from 2009 to 2011. During this time, the 20 occupations with the most projected total openings in the region include six food preparation and serving occupations and three occupations that are health care-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 2009 to 2011, though all the openings are projected to be replacements. This occupation has a Grade C due to the lack of growth in the occupation, and lower than average wages. Registered Nurses, on the other hand, have almost as many openings due to growth as replacements indicating stronger future demand in that occupation in the region. The combination of its above average total openings, fast growth, and higher than average wages for Registered Nurses merit its Grade A career outlook. Overall, twelve 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	2009 Estimated Employment	2011 Projected Employment	Total Openings	Total Openings		Average Annual	Career Grade
					Openings Due to Growth	Openings Due to Replacements		
41-2011	Cashiers	25,970	26,090	3,194	112	3,082	\$18,900	C
35-3031	Waiters and Waitresses	20,360	20,670	2,696	317	2,379	\$17,990	C+
35-3021	Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers	33,200	34,270	2,218	1,069	1,149	\$17,070	C+
41-2031	Retail Salespersons	29,720	29,790	1,828	67	1,761	\$25,790	B-
29-1111	Registered Nurses	23,240	24,010	1,433	769	664	\$58,020	A
43-4051	Customer Service Representatives	16,460	16,770	1,324	309	1,015	\$32,470	B
41-3021	NEW! Insurance Sales Agents	6,360	7,060	983	702	281	\$60,210	A+
53-7062	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	14,520	13,820	979	0	979	\$28,510	D
35-3022	Counter Attendants, Cafeteria, Food Concession, & Coffee Shop	3,370	3,430	865	62	803	\$18,640	C+
43-9061	Office Clerks, General	29,780	29,770	773	0	773	\$30,270	B-
25-2021	Elementary School Teachers	10,600	10,840	688	240	448	\$49,860	A
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant	8,750	8,910	660	160	500	\$22,850	B
37-2011	Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	18,490	18,210	657	0	657	\$23,000	B-
11-1021	General and Operations Managers	11,840	11,490	649	0	649	\$110,000	B
39-9011	Child Care Workers	9,480	9,460	588	0	588	\$19,190	C
29-2061	NEW! Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	6,790	6,950	580	160	420	\$38,820	A-
35-9021	Dishwashers	4,070	4,170	576	100	476	\$17,680	C+
31-1012	NEW! Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	13,990	14,340	575	344	231	\$23,620	B
35-9031	Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, & Coffee Shop	2,510	2,550	572	43	529	\$17,400	C+
25-2031	Secondary School Teachers	8,160	8,240	550	78	472	\$48,440	B+

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.