

JOB 2012 vacancystudy

Utah Department of Workforce Services

Second Quarter 2012

A profile of job openings in Utah



The Job Vacancy Study (JVS) is designed to gauge the characteristics of the current demand for labor in Utah.

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The JVS can help job seekers identify occupations in demand and can assist employers in understanding the shared labor needs of the business community. Approximately 4,700 Utah employers across five geographic areas were surveyed during the second quarter of 2012.

STATEWIDE SUMMARY

Nate Talley, Economist

- The Utah job vacancy rate was 2.5 percent during the second quarter of 2012, meaning there were 2.5 vacancies for every 100 jobs at any time during the survey period. A 2.5 per-

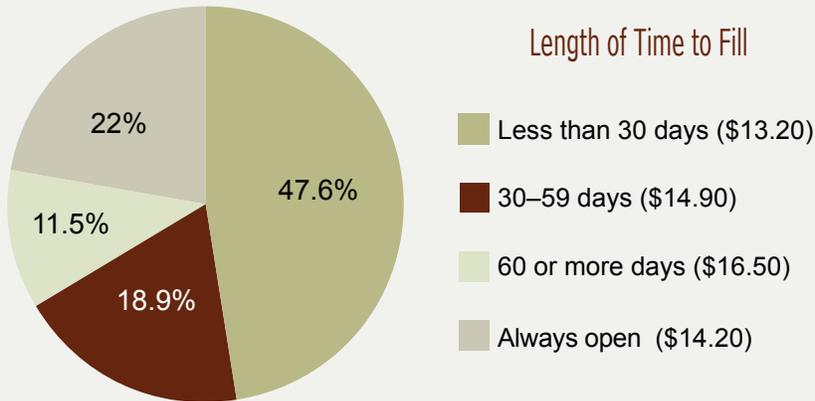
cent vacancy rate among surveyed establishments equates to approximately 27,600 job openings statewide.

- The average offered wage for job openings surveyed was \$14.10 an hour, although wages offered for any individual opening were variant and largely dependent on the nature and requirements of the position.
- Two thirds of the job vacancies were open for less than 60 days. Jobs open 60 or more days offered a higher-than-average wage and were more likely to require a bachelor's or advanced degree.
- The majority of job openings were for full-time, permanent employment.

STATEWIDE

Area	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Statewide	27,600	2.5%	\$14.10

Percent of Openings and Offered Wages by
Length of Time Open
Statewide

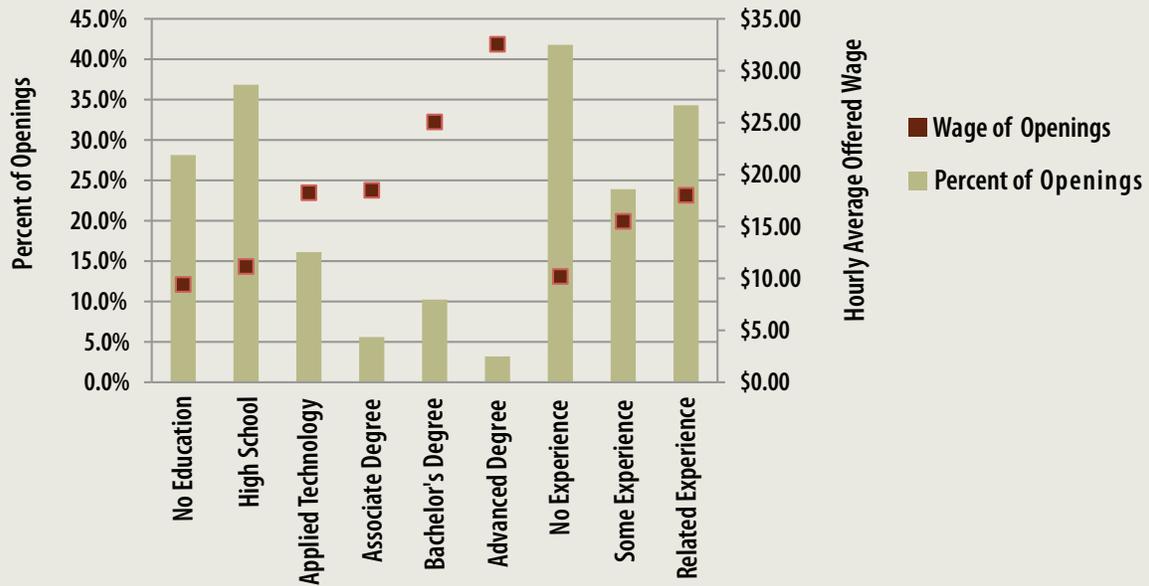


Average offered wages were positively correlated with education and experience requirements.

- Sixty-five percent of job openings did not require postsecondary education. However, this statistic should be interpreted with caution, as it is influenced by the natural presence of turnover in the labor market. Jobs that are predisposed to high turnover are normally identified as occupations that do not require much, if any, formal education or training. And by definition, high-turnover jobs are open more frequently than others. Hence, when surveying the economy for job openings at any particular point in time, average education requirements tend to be bottom-heavy toward little or no education. This does not contradict the overall trend of a greater demand for a more educated workforce.
- Average offered wages positively correlated with education and experience requirements.
- Eighty-five percent of all job vacancies were in service-providing industries, which is representative of those industries' share of total employment in Utah.
- Sixty-two percent of job openings offered some kind of employer-provided benefit.
- With job growth returning and a sub six percent unemployment rate, a vacancy rate of 2.5 percent is a commensurate upswing, representative of a rebounding economy.



Education and Experience Requirements and Average Offered Wage Statewide



It appears that Utah's hiring environment has improved in a manner consistent with other labor market measures since last surveyed in 2009. That year, the JVS uncovered a 1.5 percent vacancy rate, while the unemployment rate was above eight percent and the Utah economy continued to experience net job losses in the wake of the Great Recession.





METROPOLITAN REGION SUMMARY

Nate Talley, Economist

The JVS Metro region is comprised of Davis, Juab, Morgan, Salt Lake, Summit, Tooele, Utah, Wasatch and Weber counties. The JVS Metro region accounts for more than 80 percent of Utah’s labor market activity and holds the vast majority of the state’s job openings. As such, the Metro region’s 2.6 percent vacancy rate is expectedly similar to the statewide rate of 2.5.

- The average offered wage for job openings surveyed was \$14.40 an hour.
- Openings in the metro region were slightly more likely to be of full-time, permanent status.



Area	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Metro	24,000	2.6%	\$14.40

- Education and experience requirements mirrored the statewide averages.
- Metro region job openings filled quickly, as 48 percent were open for less than 30 days. While the greater economic context of rising job growth and decreasing unemployment holds true, a short opening duration provides some evidence that competition for existing vacancies remains high among job seekers.

METROPOLITAN KEY MAJOR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS

- Sales occupations and office occupations ranked one and two, respectively, in terms of total number of openings. Occupations such as cashiers, retail salespersons, telemarketers and customer service representatives accounted for the bulk of these vacancies.

Sales and office occupations ranked one and two in total number of openings.

- By the first quarter of 2012, year-over job growth in the construction industry reached 6.3 percent in the metro region, outpacing the area’s total growth rate of 3.3 percent by a significant margin. As a corollary, the volume of openings for construction occupations ranked fourth among all major occupational groups and witnessed an above-average vacancy rate of 3.3 percent.
- Healthcare support occupations posted the highest vacancy rate at 5.6 percent, more than twice the regional average. Demand for these occupations is driven by sus-

tained long-term growth as well as replacement needs stemming from turnover.

- More than 95 percent of the healthcare practitioner and technician openings required postsecondary education. Forty percent of all openings in this group were for registered nurses.
- Eighty percent of the openings in the transportation and material moving occupational group were for truck drivers.
- Nearly all of the openings for production occupations were for full-time employment.
- Eighty-four percent of the openings in the personal care and service group were considered “always open” by employers, which indicates the potential for high turnover in these occupations.

METROPOLITAN KEY OCCUPATIONS

Occupations with the Most Openings

- Openings for heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers topped the list during the second quarter of 2012, but not without qualification. During JVS data collection, many employers communicated that hiring practices for this occupation are unique in that some establishments recruit potential drivers for in-house training programs, programs which may or may not ultimately result in a job placement with that firm. JVS methodology does not technically consider this recruitment activity to constitute a job opening, yet it can be difficult for employers to precisely quantify their number of openings for truck drivers with the complete exclusion of this type of recruitment. Nevertheless, an estimated 1,666 openings for truck drivers suggests high demand for the occupation.
- Of the 459 openings for landscaping and groundskeeping workers, 92 percent were for seasonal employment.

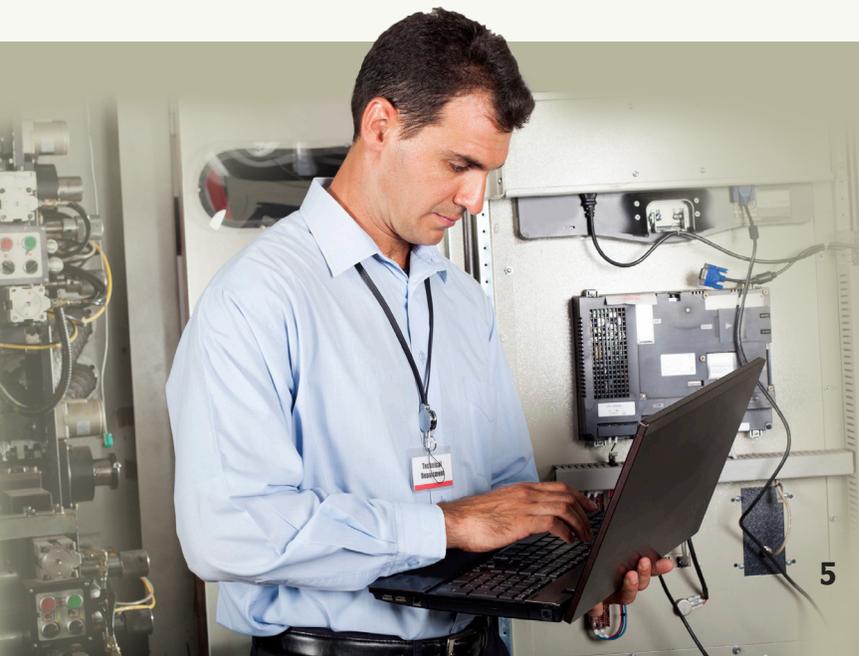
- Registered nurses have been in demand every year studied, yet, with 99 percent of the positions being open for less than 60 days, it seems that the economy is supplying an adequate amount of labor to fill these openings.

Occupations with the Highest Vacancy Rates

- A high occupational vacancy rate signifies a strong demand for an occupation relative to the total employment within that occupation. High job vacancy rates are usually found in occupations with low employment totals (where a small number of openings produce a high vacancy rate) or in occupations that experience a high amount of churn.
- Occupations with high vacancy rates can be grouped with respect to postsecondary training requirements in that the majority of openings for healthcare social workers, truck drivers, occupational therapy assistants and safety engineers required postsecondary education, whereas most of the openings for the remaining occupations did not.

Top 10 Occupations Requiring an Associate Degree or Applied Technology Training

- Three of the top four occupational openings requiring an associate degree or applied technology training were healthcare related.
- While the typical education level required to become a registered nurse is an associate degree, 23.5 percent of registered nurse openings required a bachelor's degree. An increased demand for higher levels of educational attainment is further evidence that employers' labor needs for registered nurses are being met.
- Openings for occupations such as truck drivers, registered nurses, medical assistants, hairdressers and electricians frequently require a certificate or license and an associate or applied technology degree.



Software developers have been in demand every year the JVS has been conducted dating back to 2004.



Top 10 Occupations Requiring a Bachelor's or Advanced Degree

- Software developers have been in demand every year the JVS has been conducted dating back to 2004.
- Industrial engineers develop and evaluate systems for industrial production processes and are commonly found in a manufacturing setting. With 121 openings and a vacancy rate of 8.7 percent, the relative demand for industrial engineers is the greatest of any occupation requiring a bachelor's degree or more.
- Fourteen percent of the openings for computer and information systems managers required an advanced degree beyond a bachelor's.

Openings by Major Occupational Group

Major Occupational Group	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Sales and Related Occupations	4,273	3.9%	\$10.00
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	4,084	2.2%	\$11.40
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	2,039	3.4%	\$21.20
Construction and Extraction Occupations	1,752	3.3%	\$15.10
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	1,558	2.1%	\$9.30
Healthcare Support Occupations	1,295	5.6%	\$11.10
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	1,114	2.3%	\$23.20
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	922	3.1%%	\$8.90
Production Occupations	909	1.5%%	\$13.30
Personal Care and Service Occupations	899	4.4%%	\$11.10
Installation, Maintenance and Repair Occupations	812	2.1%%	\$14.60
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	710	1.1%%	\$19.70
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	683	1.4%%	\$22.60
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	582	1.9%%	\$25.80
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports and Media Occupations	533	3.8%%	\$11.70
Management Occupations	484	1.1%%	\$35.90
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	459	2.3%%	\$28.70
Community and Social Service Occupations	205	1.6%%	\$17.50
Protective Service Occupations	160	0.8%%	\$10.20

Occupations with the Most Openings

Occupation	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,666	13.0%	\$23.60
Retail Salespersons	1,348	3.9%	\$7.60
Customer Service Representatives	1,284	4.3%	\$11.50
Cashiers	824	4.1%	\$7.50
Fast Food Cooks	780	29.1%	\$8.00
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	682	5.5%	\$9.10
Telemarketers	668	12.6%	\$9.50
Nursing Assistants	618	N/A	\$10.00
Registered Nurses	464	2.8%	\$22.70
Landscapers and Groundskeepers	459	7.0%	\$9.20

Top 10 Occupations Requiring an Associate Degree or Applied Technology Training

Occupation	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,666	13.0%	\$23.60
Nursing Assistants	618	N/A	\$10.00
Registered Nurses	464	2.8%	\$22.70
Medical Assistants	393	7.9%	\$11.90
Hairdressers, Hairstylists and Cosmetologists	221	8.7%	\$14.20
Bookkeeping, Accounting and Auditing Clerks	208	1.8%	\$16.10
Electricians	194	4.6%	\$23.70
Machinists	129	4.5%	\$19.90
Human Resources Assistants (Except Payroll and Timekeeping)	121	12.8%	\$15.40
Welders, Cutters, Solderers and Brazers	105	4.1%	\$15.70





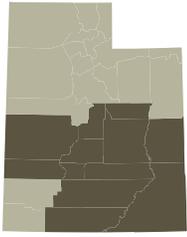
Software Developers and Public Relations Specialists ranked one and two in total number of openings that required a bachelor's or advanced degree.

Top 10 Occupations Requiring a Bachelor's or Advanced Degree

Occupation	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Software Developers, Applications	150	3.4%	\$33.80
Public Relations Specialists	122	5.3%	\$15.80
Industrial Engineers	121	8.7%	\$30.20
Healthcare Social Workers	116	13.5%	\$20.10
Accountants and Auditors	114	1.3%	\$22.10
Purchasing Agents (Except Wholesale, Retail and Farm Products)	108	5.5%	\$26.50
Financial Managers	81	2.5%	\$33.40
Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists	73	3.0%	\$19.40
Computer and Information Systems Managers	68	3.4%	\$47.30
Sales Managers	59	2.2%	\$41.60

Occupations with the Highest Vacancy Rates

Occupation	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Fast Food Cooks	780	29.1%	\$8.00
Helpers—Extraction Workers	67	20.2%	\$15.10
Healthcare Social Workers	116	13.5%	\$20.10
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	1,666	13.0%	\$23.60
Human Resources Assistants (Except Payroll and Timekeeping)	121	12.8%	\$15.40
Telemarketers	668	12.6%	\$9.50
Occupational Therapy Assistants	11	10.8%	\$20.30
Advertising Sales Agents	94	9.0%	\$16.10
Health and Safety Engineers (Except Mining Safety Engineers and Inspectors)	19	8.9%	\$28.10
Hotel, Motel and Resort Desk Clerks	125	8.8%	\$8.20



NON-METROPOLITAN REGION SUMMARY

Spencer Garn, Research Analyst

The JVS non-metropolitan region includes Beaver, Carbon, Emery, Garfield, Grand, Kane, Millard, Piute, San Juan, Sanpete, Sevier and Wayne counties.

- The job vacancy rate for the non-metropolitan region was 2.3 percent. The current vacancy rate translates into approximately 1,100 open jobs at any time during the second quarter of 2012. The area's vacancy rate was slightly lower than the statewide average.

- While 46.3 percent of openings were seasonal in the non-metropolitan region, only 12.4 percent of job openings statewide were seasonal. Many of these seasonal openings were in food-preparation and serving-related occupations and are likely related to the seasonal increase in tourism activity.
- The average wage was driven down considerably by the high percentage of openings in food preparation and

Area	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Non-Metropolitan Utah	1,100	2.3%	\$11.20
State	27,600	2.5%	\$14.10



serving-related occupations. The average offered wage for openings in the area was \$11.20 an hour. The lower average wages in the area relative to the statewide average can likely be attributed to the nearly 80 percent of job openings in the non-metropolitan area requiring a high school diploma or less.

- More than 40 percent of job openings in the area were open more than 60 days, a relatively high percentage compared to the statewide average of 11.4 percent. The seasonal openings in the region constituted a significant percentage of the jobs open more than 60 days as employers likely started recruiting early for these positions, anticipating the seasonality of the business.
- In summary, the non-metropolitan region had a close-to-average vacancy rate with a considerable number of food-preparation and serving-related occupations that helped to keep the average wage for the region lower than the statewide average. Demand for seasonal labor strongly affected vacancies in the area.

Non-Metropolitan Key Major Occupational Groups

- The 303 openings in food preparation and serving related occupations more than doubled the number of openings seen in the next highest major occupational group in the area. The 6.3 percent job vacancy rate was also the highest in the region. The high vacancy rate might reflect both the seasonality of the openings and high turnover in the occupational group. A high percentage of these job openings, 31.9 percent, were seasonal and help explain the high percentage of seasonal openings in the region overall.
- Office and administrative support occupations had 144 openings and a closer-to-average vacancy rate of 2.1 percent. More than half of these jobs (57.7 percent) were for part-time positions and 54.8 percent were seasonal.
- Healthcare support occupations had a 5.2 percent vacancy rate and 57 job openings. These vacancies were likely filled quickly in the second quarter, as 66.4 percent of them were open for less than 30 days. Seventy-one percent of the openings were for part-time employment.
- Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations also had a modest vacancy rate at 2 percent and 33 estimated openings. The group also had a high relative average wage of \$25.40 an hour.

Non-Metropolitan Key Occupations

- Waiters and waitresses accounted for an estimated 108 vacancies of which 57.9 percent were for part-time work and 57.9 percent were open less than 60 days.
- Restaurant cooks had one of the highest vacancy rates at 15.1 percent and an estimated 82 job openings. Seventy-two percent of these openings were for full-time employment.
- Many of the seasonal jobs in the region came from tourism demand, where there were an estimated 57 openings for hotel, motel and resort desk clerks. Of these openings, 69.8 percent were seasonal and 69.8 percent were open 30–59 days.
- There were 29 estimated openings for dental assistants. Most of these openings, 82.9 percent, were for part-time employment.
- With 14 openings and a 2.6 percent vacancy rate, registered nursing was the highest-paying publishable opening in the non-metropolitan area. Employers offered registered nurses an average wage of \$21.50 an hour. Of these jobs, 68.7 percent were for full-time employment and 65.9 percent were open for less than 30 days.

Occupations with the Most Openings

Occupation	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Waiters and Waitresses	108	10.3%	\$10.20
Restaurant Cooks	82	15.1%	\$9.40
Cashiers	76	3.6%	\$8.10
Hotel, Motel and Resort Desk Clerks	57	8.8%	\$7.90
Amusement and Recreation Attendants	48	N/A	\$8.40
Forest and Conservation Workers	48	N/A	\$10.40
Stock Clerks and Order Fillers	40	10.8%	\$8.20
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	33	2.3%	\$16.70
Dental Assistants	29	11.1%	\$10.30
Fast Food Cooks	23	8.4%	\$7.40
Landscapers and Groundskeepers	22	9.1%	\$7.70
Registered Nurses	14	2.6%	\$21.50

Openings by Major Occupational Group

Major Occupational Group	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	303	6.3%	\$9.40
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	144	2.1%	\$8.70
Sales and Related Occupations	97	2.1%	\$8.60
Building and Grounds Cleaning Maintenance Occupations	70	1.7%	\$8.70
Installation, Maintenance and Repair Occupations	69	2.1%	\$13.50
Healthcare Support Occupations	57	5.2%	\$11.10
Farming, Fishing and Forestry Occupations	56	2.4%	\$10.10
Personal Care and Service Occupations	54	4.4%	\$8.70
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	52	1.5%	\$13.70
Construction and Extraction Occupations	48	1.3%	\$10.60
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	33	2.0%	\$25.40
Protective Service Occupations	27	1.8%	\$10.40
Education Training and Library Occupations	25	0.7%	\$18.70
Life, Physical and Social Science Occupations	17	1.7%	\$11.40
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	14	2.7%	\$27.00
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	10	4.3%	\$17.10

Food preparation and serving-related jobs have more than double the number of openings seen in the next highest job group, with a high percentage of these jobs being seasonal.





NORTHERN REGION SUMMARY

Spencer Garn, Research Analyst

The JVS northern region includes Box Elder, Cache and Rich counties. The job vacancy rate for the this region was 1.5 percent. The current vacancy rate translates into approximately 900 open jobs at any time during the second quarter of 2012, or about 3.3 percent of all openings statewide.

- The average offered wage for openings in the area was \$12.40 an hour. This is less than the statewide average because the area has a high number of openings for jobs in major occupational groups that offer a lower wage and a high percentage of openings for seasonal work.
- The lowest paying 10 percent of job openings in the region offered \$7.30 an hour while the highest paying 10 percent offered an average of \$28.20 an hour.
- Job openings in the north required less education than job openings statewide. Nearly 77 percent of job openings in the north required only a high school diploma or less while 65 percent of vacancies statewide were open to those with a high school diploma or no education.
- Only 51.1 percent of openings were full time compared to 64.7 percent of the openings statewide. Furthermore, 16.3 percent were seasonal and 31.1 percent were always open.
- In summary, the northern region had higher-than-average seasonal openings, lower average wages and the lowest vacancy rate of any of the five regions statewide. Even so, production occupations, an important major occupational group for the region, were well represented.

Area	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Northern Utah	900	1.5%	\$12.40
State	27,600	2.5%	\$14.10

The average wage for openings in this region is less than the statewide average. This is partially due to the fact that the area has a high percentage of openings in seasonal work.

Northern Key Major Occupational Groups

- Production occupations had the highest number of total openings of any major occupational group with 187 and a 1.9 percent vacancy rate. These openings paid an average of \$12.00 an hour. Of these openings, 67.7 percent were “always open,” and while none required more than applied technology training, 61.5 percent required related experience.
- All together, production occupations, sales and related occupations, office and administrative support, food and preparation support, and building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations accounted for 67.7 percent of the region’s vacancies and paid an average wage of \$10.90 an hour. Thirty-three percent of these openings were for seasonal workers as compared to the 12.4 percent statewide average for all occupational groups. Because seasonal openings are typically lower-paying jobs, the high percentage of seasonal openings contributed to the lower average wage for the region overall.
- Sales and related occupations were a close second to production occupations with 178 openings and a higher vacancy rate of 2.8 percent. Although 94.8 percent of these openings were permanent, 54 percent were part time. None of the job openings required postsecondary education and 74.9 percent of the openings did not require experience.
- Management occupations had the highest average wage in the region at \$29.60 but only had 18 openings and a low vacancy rate of 0.7 percent.
- Healthcare support occupations had a high vacancy rate of 2.3 percent. There were 43 of these openings paying an average of \$13.50 an hour. Only 15 percent of these jobs were open for more than 30 days, and 80.5 percent of the openings were for part-time employment. The majority of these jobs, 65.3 percent, required related work experience, and another 23.6 percent required some work experience.
- The 54 healthcare practitioners and technical occupation openings were also noteworthy. These jobs

offered an average wage of \$18.00 an hour and had a 2.1 percent vacancy rate.

Northern Key Occupations

- Multiple machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic, had the highest number of job openings in the production occupations major group. The estimated 120 vacancies in these jobs accounted for 13.3 percent of the total job openings in the region. All of these openings were permanent and 94.2 percent of them were always open.
- Cashiers and retail salespersons accounted for 50.6 percent of the openings in sales and related occupations.
- With 15 openings and a vacancy rate of 1.8 percent, registered nursing was one of the highest paying jobs in the northern region. Employers offered registered nurses an average wage of \$22.70 an hour. These jobs are likely to fill quickly in the region, as 77.1 percent of the vacancies were open for less than 30 days.
- Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers constituted another high paying job in the region. The occupation had an estimated 39 openings, a higher-than-average vacancy rate at 3.5 percent and an average offered wage of \$21.40 an hour. The statewide average pay for employed truck drivers during 2011 was \$19.90 an hour. All of these openings were for full-time positions and required a license or certification.

Registered nursing was one of the highest-paying jobs in the region.



Openings by Major Occupational Group

Major Occupational Group	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Production Occupations	187	1.9%	\$12.00
Sales and Related Occupations	178	2.8%	\$9.40
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	89	0.8%	\$11.40
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	79	1.6%	\$7.60
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	77	4.6%	\$8.80
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	61	1.3%	\$16.50
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	54	2.1%	\$18.00
Healthcare Support Occupations	43	2.3%	\$13.50
Construction and Extraction Occupations	19	0.7%	\$12.30
Management Occupations	18	0.7%	\$29.60
Personal Care and Service Occupations	18	1.5%	\$7.80
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	18	1.0%	\$18.10
Education Training and Library Occupations	16	0.4%	\$14.10
Installation, Maintenance and Repair Occupations	15	0.6%	\$15.20

Management offers the highest wages yet one of the lowest vacancy rates at just under 1 percent.

One of the higher paying average wage is \$21.40 for heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers, with 39 estimated openings.



Occupations with the Most Openings

Occupation	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	120	N/A	\$12.10
Cashiers	49	3.3%	\$7.80
Fast Food Cooks	41	15.2%	\$7.30
Retail Salespersons	41	1.6%	\$11.20
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	39	3.5%	\$21.40
Janitors and Cleaners (Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners)	23	3.0%	\$8.50
Customer Service Representatives	16	1.0%	\$11.20
Registered Nurses	15	1.8%	\$22.70
Industrial Engineers	4	N/A	\$27.70



SOUTHWESTERN REGION SUMMARY

John Dietrich, Research Analyst

The JVS southwestern region is comprised of Iron and Washington counties, which includes Utah's southernmost metropolitan statistical area.

- The job vacancy rate for the southwestern region was 1.7 percent. The current vacancy translates into approximately 1,000 open jobs at any time during the survey period.
 - The average offered wage was \$12.40 an hour, which was lower than the statewide average. This area's average wages were driven down by the relatively high percentage of vacancies in food preparation, office and administrative support and sales.
 - Although the region's average offered wages were lower than the rest of Utah, the demand for employees with advanced degrees was twice as high as that of the state average. This is mostly demonstrated in healthcare.
 - The southwestern region's job vacancy rate of 1.7 percent appears to be misaligned with the relatively high amount of job growth the area experienced during the second quarter of 2012. This could be because many openings in the area filled faster than the survey could capture them. Of the vacancies recorded, 80 percent were open less than 60 days, indicating that jobs filled more quickly in the region than in any other area surveyed.
- Southwestern Key Major Occupational Groups**
- Sales and related occupations led all groups with 169 job openings, 52 percent of which were full time and 83 percent were permanent.
 - One-third of the openings for sales and related occupations in the southwestern region required a high school diploma and no experience. These openings offered a below average wage of \$9.20 an hour and benefits for half of the openings as surveyed.
 - There were 129 openings in office and administrative support occupations, 60 percent of which were part time and 85 percent were permanent. Openings for office and administrative support required a high school diploma and 67 percent required some related work experience.
 - Almost all openings for healthcare practitioners and technical occupations were for permanent employees and 53 percent were full time. Open positions quickly filled, with 97 percent open for less than 60 days. Half of the openings required an associate degree, 15 percent needed a bachelor's degree and 11 percent specified an advanced degree. Additionally, 78 percent of the openings required a certificate or license.
 - Openings for practitioners and technical occupations in healthcare offered an average of \$20.80 an hour. Two-thirds of the openings offered medical, sick leave, paid vacations and retirement plans.
 - Half of the openings in healthcare support were for full-time employment, but all were permanent positions. Openings filled quickly, with 90 percent open for less than 30 days.

Area	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Southwestern Utah	1,000	1.7%	\$12.40
State	27,600	2.5%	\$14.10

Openings by Major Occupational Group

Major Occupational Group	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Sales and Related Occupations	169	2.1%	\$9.20
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	129	1.2%	\$10.50
Food Preparations and Serving Occupations	120	1.8%	\$8.00
Healthcare Practitioners	100	2.8%	\$20.80
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	90	3.0%	\$10.00
Healthcare Support Occupations	72	3.5%	\$11.20
Education, Training and Library Occupations	50	1.1%	\$17.20
Production Occupations	35	1.5%	\$13.10
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	31	0.8%	\$11.30
Construction and Extraction Occupations	26	0.8%	\$13.40

Occupations with the Most Openings

Key Occupations	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Retail Salespersons	50	1.8%	\$9.70
Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners	50	4.6%	\$8.40
Registered Nurses	44	3.8%	\$22.30
Cashiers	42	1.9%	\$7.70
General Office Clerks	37	2.5%	\$9.40
Restaurant Cooks	34	4.8%	\$7.80
Nursing Assistants	33	N/A	\$10.00

Sales and related occupations had the most openings at 168 jobs, 52 percent of which were full-time.



Southwestern Key Occupations

- Openings for retail salespersons topped the list of occupations in the southwest, but the vacancy rate was only slightly higher than the region's vacancy rate. Retail openings required either a high school diploma or no education, which reflects the below average wage of \$9.70 an hour.
- Of the 50 openings for retail salespersons, 80 percent were for permanent employment and 70 percent were for part-time employment.
- The 4.6 percent vacancy rate for maids and housekeeping cleaners outpaced the region's overall vacancy rate of 1.7 percent. Eighty percent of the openings were permanent and part-time. Openings filled quickly, with 70 percent open for less than 30 days, but 30 percent were reported always open. This may reflect a high turnover rate.
- The demand for registered nurses is consistent with Utah's growing healthcare industry. Although registered nurses are in high demand, the openings fill quickly, as 96 percent were open for less than 60 days.
- The \$22.30 average wage for registered nurses was well above the regional and statewide averages for all occupations, but not without reason. Eighty-six percent of the openings for registered nurses required an associate degree.



UINTAH BASIN REGION SUMMARY

John Dietrich, Research Analyst

The Uintah Basin region includes Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah counties. The job vacancy rate for the Uintah Basin was 2.9 percent. The current vacancy rate translates into approximately 620 open jobs at any time during the survey period. The area’s vacancy rate was higher than the statewide average of 2.5 percent.

- The region’s average offered wage was \$13.60 an hour.
- Open jobs filled slower in the Uintah Basin area than the rest of Utah, with 56 percent open for less than 60

days compared to 67 percent Statewide. Additionally, 26 percent of vacancies were reported always open and 18 percent were open for 60 days or more.

- Openings in the Uintah Basin required less education than vacancies throughout the state. Basin vacancies required a high school degree or equivalent 38 percent of the time. Meanwhile, 37 percent of all vacancies required no education. Open jobs offering higher wage required either more education, more experience or a certificate.

Area	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Uintah Basin	620	2.9%	\$13.60
State	27,600	2.5%	\$14.10

Uintah Basin Key Major Occupational Groups

- Major occupational groups associated with natural resource extraction activities accounted for one third of all openings. These occupational openings offered above-average wages.
- Transportation and material-moving occupations had 124 job openings and a 5 percent vacancy rate. Most of the transportation occupational openings were for heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers specializing in moving construction equipment or extraction materials. This occupation offered average wages of \$19.40 an hour. Medical benefits were offered with most of the openings; however, sick leave was the least common benefit offered in this occupation.
- One half of the openings for installation, maintenance and repair occupations required either applied tech-

nology training or an associate degree. Additionally, three-quarters of the openings required some or related work experience. Employers may have difficulty keeping or recruiting employees, since almost 50 percent of the openings were always open.

- Eighty-five percent of openings for construction and extraction occupations required no education. About three-quarters offered benefits and an above-average wage of \$15.60 an hour.
- Food preparation and serving-related occupations led all groups with 137 job openings, 66 percent of which were part-time, but permanent employment. Approximately 60 percent of the openings in this occupation required no education and no experience. This occupation also offered the lowest wages in the region, with an average of \$8.70 an hour.

- Openings in sales and related occupations were mostly part-time and permanent positions. Approximately 81 percent of these vacancies required a high school diploma or less. Fifty-nine percent of the openings offered some benefits.
- A quarter of the food preparation and serving related positions were open for 60 or more days and 38 percent were always open.
- Openings for education, training and library occupations offered \$18.20 an hour, but only 50 percent of openings offered benefits. The job vacancies required a minimum of a high school diploma; however, 14 percent of openings needed an advanced degree. Job openings filled quickly, with 86 percent open for less than 60 days.

Uintah Basin Key Occupations

- Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers led all reportable occupations in the Basin region at a 6.8 percent vacancy rate, over twice the overall job vacancy rate for the region. Full-time and permanent truck driver positions were reported always open 46 percent of the time.
- The job vacancy rate for retail salespersons was 6.5 percent. Most openings for retail sales positions were part-time, seasonal employees. The positions were filled quickly, with 67 percent open less than 30 days.

Openings by Major Occupational Group

Major Occupational Group	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Food Preparation and Serving Related	137	7.3%	\$8.70
Transportation and Material Moving	124	5.0%	\$19.40
Sales and Related	81	4.2%	\$10.00
Office and Administrative Support	66	2.3%	\$11.10
Installation, Maintenance and Repair	40	3.1%	\$15.90
Construction and Extraction	38	0.9%	\$15.60
Education, Training and Library	26	1.4%	\$18.20
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	21	4.4%	\$10.60

Occupations with the Most Openings

Key Occupation	Openings	Vacancy Rate	Average Offered Wage
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	95	6.8%	\$21.50
Retail Salespersons	40	6.5%	\$10.00
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers	37	2.2%	\$7.90
Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists	18	18.2%	\$20.60

Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers led all reportable occupations in the Basin region with over twice the overall job vacancy rate.



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