

APRIL 2021 REPORT



JOB POSTINGS

KC | 5,644 US | 557,265

+1,402 since March '21 +35,448 since March '21

TOP 10 OCCUPATIONS

Occupation Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Software Developer	1,681	+467
Computer User Support Specialist	1,356	+284
Network and Computer Systems Administrator	665	+158
Computer Systems Engineer/Architect	531	+146
Information Security Analyst	342	+100
Information Technology Project Manager	283	+78
Computer Systems Analyst	204	-44
Software Quality Assurance Analyst and Tester	193	+42
Web Developer	114	+15
Database Administrator	94	+17

TOP 10 CERTIFICATIONS

Certification Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
PMP	84	+32
CISSP	67	+12
Secret Clearance	67	-5
CCNA	46	-4
CISM	39	+8
CCNP	38	+2
MTA	28	Returning
CSM	27	+6
CISA	25	+4
C/EH	23	Returning

TOP 10 HARD SKILLS

Skill Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Computer Programming/Coding	990	+215
Oracle	907	+333
Agile	878	+179
Structured Query Language	869	+194
Java	712	+130
Microsoft Azure	578	+102
Python	563	+79
JavaScript	553	+90
Amazon Web Services	551	+102
Linux	489	+63

TOP 10 EMPLOYERS

Employer Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Oracle	661	+305
Cerner*	228	+24
Humana	206	+84
CTG	189	+121
Garmin*	186	+60
Deloitte	128	Returning
Netsmart	111	New
WellSky Corporation	77	New
Fiserv	74	New
TEKsystems	72	New

* Numbers for this company include job postings that may have previously been listed under an alternate name, or with an extension (like Corp. or Intl.) in the name. No duplicate listings are counted.

Report produced by the KC Tech Council | kctechcouncil.com

Data source: JobsEQ, a tool produced by Chmura | <http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq/>
This data was collected early May, 2020.

THE TECH CHECKPOINT | APRIL 2021

DATA INSIGHT

April saw a big jump in job postings for our area. The Kansas City metro area increased by 33.1% with 5,644 total postings, once again outpacing national trends. The United States job postings for April experienced a smaller increase percentage-wise, growing by 6.8% for a total of 557,265 postings.

The Top 10 Occupations for April experienced a sizeable overall increase for the total number of postings except for one occupation, Computer Systems Analyst (-44). Software Developer saw the most significant increase month-over-month once again, establishing a strong lead over Computer User Support Specialist with 1,681 postings. Other categories are seeing almost double the number of openings over this time last year, indicative of the growing strength of the KC IT market. Information Security Analyst grew by 100 postings, a 41.3% increase and demonstrating the growing importance of cybersecurity to organizations.

April had two Certifications appear after an absence of a few months, and two others reflect a drop in demand while the remaining six saw a significant increase. Secret Clearance and CCNA were the categories suffering a decrease in postings (-5 and -4, respectively), while MTA and C/EH both returned with a solid showing (+28 and +23, respectively). PMP jumped into the lead in the Top 10 with a significant increase of +32 postings over March for a total of 84 postings, while CISSP and CISM added +12 and +8 postings respectively in April.

As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, the Top 10 Hard Skills for April experienced enormous growth across all skill sets, adding a whopping +1,487 postings. Oracle once again led the Top Ten Hard Skills category with the largest increase of +333 postings in April, coming close to dethroning the overall numbers champ Computer Programming/Coding, which earned a respectable second place increase of +215. Indicative of the growing need for Cloud platform engineers, architects, and developers, AWS and Microsoft Azure both saw sizeable increases at +102 apiece.

The Top 10 Employers of Tech Talent once again saw overall numbers grow at an increasing rate, adding 457 postings, the resounding return of Deloitte (128 postings), and a total of four brand new organizations on the KC Tech Checkpoint Report; Netsmart (111), WellSky Corporation (77), Fiserv (74), and TEKsystems (72). Oracle commands the list with 661 total postings and a category-leading +305. Cerner continues to reside at second place in the Top 10 Employers of Tech Talent at 228 postings, albeit with a smaller increase than last month of 24 postings. The companies represented in April's list saw uniform growth, with a substantial 40.1% increase over March.

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EMERGING IT TRENDS

As the COVID-19 pandemic begins to wind down, the question of businesses fully reopening is being cautiously addressed throughout the nation. Recent guidance by the CDC released May 13, 2021, now recommends fully vaccinated individuals are safe to resume activities without masks or social distancing, unless in very crowded spaces or otherwise superseded by other rules and regulations. Essential IT personnel have maintained a presence in the office throughout the pandemic by necessity, although it is undeniable that this profession has handily lent itself to remote work. Many companies staffed offices at 50% or less during the pandemic to allow for social distancing and deeper cleaning.

According to Forbes, many employees discovered the pandemic brought a few unexpected benefits, such as:

- 55% say their productivity increased while working remotely, while 33% say it stayed the same.
- 30% say their ability to collaborate has improved in a virtual environment, compared to a traditional office, one-third say their ability to collaborate has suffered (33%) and another one-third say it has been unchanged (34%).
- Cost savings is listed as the 2nd top benefit of working remotely (75%), second only to not having a commute (84%), and 38% estimate they save at least \$5,000 a year from remote work.

What does the potential end of the pandemic mean for our workplaces? Many of the largest employers represented on our Top 10 Employers of Tech Talent are planning to return to a fully open office by the Fall of this year. Larger companies such as Google, IBM, and Deloitte are looking at hybrid models for office workers that may be necessary to grant flexibility to balance work and home life and to prioritize mental health and wellness. The office we return to may be different, with reconfigured layouts encouraging more social distancing and sanitization. Certainly, we've been required to rethink our attitudes toward calling in sick, as infectious symptoms sprang into the limelight. Employers should have a thoughtful plan for saying goodbye to the Coronavirus and hello to the office of the future, as that will be critical to account for new workforce priorities and the ability to attract top talent.

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