

SEPTEMBER 2021 REPORT



JOB POSTINGS

KC | 6,179 US | 680,601

+557 since August '21 +36,090 since August '21

TOP 10 OCCUPATIONS

Occupation Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Software Developer	1,772	+185
Computer User Support Specialist	1,534	+140
Network and Computer Systems Administrator	779	+92
Computer Systems Engineer/Architect	571	-20
Information Security Analyst	409	+40
Information Technology Project Manager	270	+19
Computer Systems Analyst	211	+8
Software Quality Assurance Analyst and Tester	208	+17
Database Administrator	94	+17
Web Developer	91	+20

TOP 10 CERTIFICATIONS

Certification Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Secret Clearance	146	+44
CISSP	105	+10
PMP	87	+12
CCNA	70	+6
CCNP	54	+20
CISM	40	-8
CISA	39	-2
MCP	37	+3
MCSE	33	Returning
C/EH	32	+3

TOP 10 HARD SKILLS

Skill Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Computer Programming/Coding	1,186	+110
Agile	1,122	+97
Structured Query Language	1,002	+116
Java	837	+67
Amazon Web Services	834	+88
Microsoft Azure	742	+55
Python	689	+78
JavaScript	636	+74
Linux	575	+38
Scrum	485	+25

TOP 10 EMPLOYERS

Employer Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Garmin*	325	+48
Cerner*	229	+50
Humana	188	+11
Honeywell	132	+25
CTG	128	-48
Deloitte	116	-44
H&R Block	116	+15
Netsmart*	108	+27
Wellsky Corporation*	98	+25
C2FO*	58	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 October, 2021.

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DATA INSIGHT FROM ECCO SELECT

Our beautiful Kansas City greenspaces are starting to show their fall colors, as is the September job market! After the traditional August lull in hiring, the market boomed back with an overall increase of 557 postings to 6,179 postings, showing a strong growth trend of 10%. Nationally, 36,090 postings were added for a total of 680,601 postings, nearly doubling the increase we said last month. Economic uncertainty and supply chain issues are somewhat clouding the future of the job market, but these are very encouraging signs for the tech sector.

All but one category of the Top 10 Occupations saw increases, with Occupations leader Software Developer adding a whopping 185 postings in September after only showing 17 total postings in August. Second place was Computer User Support Specialist (+140). Network and Computer Systems Administrator (+92) nearly made it to triple digits in taking command of third place. Only Computer Systems Engineer/Architect (-20) failed to reach positive territory, although still placing fourth. Overall, there was an increase in postings of 9% over August.

Certifications (+84) grew by 13% in September, more than four times the postings we saw in August and with only two categories reflecting decreases. The Secret Clearance certification (+44) rebounded from two months of declines and led the category both in overall postings numbers (146) as well as percentage increase (30%)! CISSP (+10) and PMP (+12) remained strong at second (105) and third (87) respectively. Only CISM (-8) and CISA (-2) showed slight declines while MCSE returned to the Top Ten Certifications in September with 33 postings.

Every single category within the Top 10 Hard Skills was in positive territory for September, adding 748 postings for a total of 8,108: the most since the start of the pandemic last year. Computer Programming/Coding (+110) had the second-largest gain and led overall with 1,186 postings. Structured Query Language (+116) led in terms of growth with Agile (+97) and Amazon Web Services (+88) also showing very positive gains. Scrum (+25) once again had the smallest net increase and placed at the bottom of the Top 10 Hard Skills with 485 total postings.

The Top 10 Employers of Tech Talent had an increase of 58 total postings in August, and we were excited to see a new employer, C2FO (+58) crack into the Top 10 Employers. Garmin (+48) once again led the category with an overall total of 325 postings, while Cerner (+50) led the way with the most significant net gain, finishing in second place with 229 postings. CTG (-48) once again had the largest net decrease in postings, with Deloitte (-44) also reflecting a negative trend.

EMERGING IT TRENDS FROM ECCO SELECT

In terms of geography, Kansas and Missouri sit solidly in the middle of the country. The story is much the same in terms of the tech workforce and outlook for future employment in our local region. According to CompTIA statistics, overall US tech sector employment will reach 12.4 million jobs in 2021, with Missouri coming in 20th among all states with 208,690 jobs while Kansas places 28th with 98,811 jobs.

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EMERGING IT TRENDS CONTINUED

With more remote work options and a mobile workforce looking for a lower cost of living, our part of the tech landscape is becoming a magnet for an influx of workers that work for tech companies located on the coasts. Missouri is currently 22nd among all states in tech employment growth, while Kansas is 12th overall, almost cracking the top 10 overall thanks to the booming tech sector in Johnson County.

So, what's the outlook for our region? While the Sun Belt states have traditionally always been major attractors for workers (after all, there's something to be said for sunshine and warm weather!), it is undeniable the Midwest offers a very low cost of living with Kansas being fourth lowest and Missouri placing fifth lowest. In terms of quality of life, Kansas ranks 22nd with Missouri coming in at 28th overall. That lower cost of living appears to give our Midwest region an advantage over other parts of the country in terms of tech job growth.

Over the next ten years, CompTIA Cyberstates data project the tech employment market in Kansas to grow about 9%, with Missouri projected to grow at a healthy 14%. We are just starting to see the significant impact of the pandemic on these growth figures, and we fully expect to see those percentages adjusted upwards if the current trend of remote work and a mobile workforce continues to grow. Just as the railroads were a significant factor in the Great Plains seeing a wave of settlers, technology once again seems to be playing a part in the future growth of our tech industry.

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Citations:

1. CompTIA, C. (2021). *2021 Tech Industry Job Market & Salary Trends Analysis: Cyberstates by CompTIA. 2021 Tech Industry Job Market & Salary Trends Analysis | Cyberstates by CompTIA.* Retrieved October 25, 2021, from https://www.cyberstates.org/#interactiveMap?geoid=29__missouri.
2. Various, V. (2021). *Cost of Living by State, 2021. Cost of living index by state 2021.* Retrieved October 25, 2021, from <https://worldpopulationreview.com/state-rankings/cost-of-living-index-by-state>.
3. Various, V. (2021). *Quality of Life by State. 2021. Quality of life by state 2021.* Retrieved October 25, 2021, from <https://worldpopulationreview.com/state-rankings/quality-of-life-by-state>.
4. CompTIA, C. T. I. A. (2021). *CompTIA Cyberstates 2021 vfinal. CompTIA Cyberstates 2021.* Retrieved October 25, 2021, from https://www.cyberstates.org/pdf/CompTIA_Cyberstates_2021.pdf.