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Where are the jobs in Kansas?

KDOL releases 2006 Job Vacancies in Kansas

TOPEKA — Kansas businesses reported an estimated 47,911 job vacancies in spring 2006. During the same time, Kansas averaged 64,609 unemployed workers, or more than 1.3 people for every open-for-hire job.

The 2006 Job Vacancies in Kansas identifies what jobs are open and available for Kansas workers, where these jobs are located, what they pay and what kind of education and experience they require. The survey was conducted by the Kansas Department of Labor during the second quarter of 2006.

"The employment and unemployment rate tell us how many people are working and how many people are looking for work," said Jim Garner, Secretary of Labor. "The Job Vacancy Survey is the only study that tells us about the number of open jobs in the state."

The 2006 study showed a strong link between education, training and wages. The average wage offer for all open positions in Kansas ranges from \$9.40 per hour for positions that require only a high school diploma to \$19.31 per hour for positions that require a bachelor's degree. Of the openings found in the survey, nearly three-quarters were full-time positions and more than 90 percent were permanent jobs.

Almost 20 percent of the job openings in Kansas are in the Healthcare and Social Assistance industry. At least five of the top 25 occupations with the most open jobs are health care-related.

"This helps identify some of the immediate needs for Kansas employers," said Garner. "It's very clear that health care workers are in high demand."

About one-third of the open-for-hire jobs in Kansas are located in the eastern part of the state, Johnson, Leavenworth and Wyandotte counties.

"It's now our job to share this information with other government agencies, policymakers, educational institutions and anyone interested in workforce development," said Garner. "Information like this helps us find the gaps in our workforce and will be a valuable tool in developing plans to fill them."

More information from the *2006 Job Vacancies in Kansas* is available at www.dol.ks.gov.

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