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Contact: 785-296-0901
Communications@dol.ks.gov

Healthcare workers are in demand

The 2008 Kansas Job Vacancy Survey looks at job openings across Kansas

TOPEKA – Contemplating a career path or just considering a job move? You'll want to look at the *2008 Kansas Job Vacancy Survey*. It reveals the types of jobs available to Kansas workers. Healthcare-related jobs are at the top of the list with the most vacancies and the highest demand for workers.

"This survey is a useful tool providing a snapshot of what kinds of jobs Kansas employers are looking to fill," said Jim Garner, Kansas Secretary of Labor. "It shows not only what types of jobs are most sought to be filled but the education needed for various jobs and how much you can expect to be paid."

Both skilled and unskilled workers are in demand in Kansas, he noted.

The survey found five of the top 10 occupations statewide reported as "always open" were healthcare-related and, among occupations requiring a bachelor's degree, Registered Nurses consistently reported the most job openings.

Looking at the second quarter of 2008, the survey estimated there were 46,584 job vacancies across the state. That is a vacancy rate of 3.5 percent, or 3.5 open jobs for every 100 filled positions. The lowest job vacancy rate was in southeast Kansas (3.1 percent) and the highest job vacancy rate was in the Wichita area (4.1 percent).

Other findings in the survey include:

- The education and health services and the trade, transportation and utilities industries reported the most job vacancies in the state, accounting for 43 percent of all vacancies.
- The occupation groups with high job vacancy rates were in healthcare support and healthcare practitioners and technicians.
- The average wage offered for vacancies statewide was \$11.23 to \$13.13 per hour. Jobs requiring a bachelor's degree generally paid more than twice those requiring a high school diploma or GED.

For more information regarding the *2008 Kansas Job Vacancy Survey*, visit www.dol.ks.gov or call 785-296-5000.

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