Opportunity Occupations in the 10th Federal Reserve District

The Federal Reserve has examined the impact of jobs that don’t require a four-year college degree, yet typically pay above the national annual median wage. These positions are called “opportunity occupations”. The research shows that opportunity occupations are an important part of the nation’s economy and that many of these careers are anticipated to have solid growth.

Opportunity Occupations in Select Tenth District Cities

Including annual median income and projected growth for each job between 2018-2028

Grand Rapids, WY
- Registered Nurse: $63,000 (12%)
- Sales Representative, Wholesale & Manufacturing: $61,200 (2%)
- Supervisor of Production & Operating Workers: $58,900 (1%)

Oklahoma City, Tulsa, OK
- Registered Nurse: $62,500 (12%)
- Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers: $34,600 (5%)
- Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers: $44,700 (3%)

Kansas City, MO
- Registered Nurse: $64,500 (12%)
- Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers: $45,700 (12%)
- Construction Laborers: $38,600 (11%)

Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver, Aurora, Lakewood, Fort Collins, CO
- Registered Nurse: $70,500 (12%)
- Securities, Commodities, and Financial Service Sales Agents: $55,700 (4%)
- Electricians: $55,100 (10%)

Kansas City, Wichita, KS
- Registered Nurse: $55,100 (12%)
- Maintenance & Repair Workers: $34,900 (6%)
- Industrial Machinery Mechanics: $57,600 (5%)

Albuquerque, NM
- Registered Nurse: $72,700 (12%)
- Police & Sheriff’s Patrol Officers: $57,600 (5%)
- Supervisor of Construction Trades & Extraction Workers: $52,200 (10%)

Omaha, NE-Council Bluffs, IA
- Registered Nurse: $61,700 (12%)
- General & Operations Manager: $89,800 (6%)
- Plumbers, Pipefitters, & Steamfitters: $59,900 (14%)

More information about opportunity occupations can be found at Investing in America’s Workforce: Opportunity Occupations