

ACCOUNTING

This is one of the largest growth occupations in the economy, which will ensure plenty of job opportunities. Employment of bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks is projected to grow about as fast as average through 2020. An increased emphasis on accuracy, accountability, and transparency in the reporting of financial data for public companies will increase the demand for these workers. Also, new regulations and reporting methods, including the use of International Financial Reporting Standards, will result in additional demand for clerks involved in accounting and auditing. More job openings will stem from replacement needs because of retirement or transfers to other occupations. Clerks who can carry out a wider range of bookkeeping and accounting activities will be in greater demand than specialized clerks. (For example, A demand for full-charge bookkeeping is expected to increase, because they can perform a wider variety of financial transactions, including payroll and billing.) Certified Bookkeepers and those with several years of accounting or bookkeeping experience who have demonstrated that they can handle a range of tasks will have the best job prospects.

Employment Information

Greater Kansas City Area: In 2010, bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks held an estimated 16,602 jobs in the fifteen counties that make up the Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), with 17,881 projected by 2020 (+8%).

Further data indicate that an estimated 7,267 bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks were employed throughout the four Kansas counties in the Kansas City MSA (Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, and Wyandotte) in 2010, with 8,281 jobs projected by 2020 (+14%).

State: Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks held an estimated 25,308 jobs in Kansas in 2010, with 27,723 jobs projected by 2020 (+10%). All together, 2,481 openings are anticipated.

National: Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks held 2,191,824 jobs in 2010, with 2,399,272 jobs projected by 2020 (+9%). Approximately 207,448 openings are expected due to growth and the need for replacement workers.

Salary Information

Greater Kansas City Area: Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks employed in the Greater Kansas City area earned an average hourly wage of \$16.23 in 2011. The average hourly wage for bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks in Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, and Wyandotte Counties was \$16.72 in 2011.

State: Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks in Kansas earned an average hourly wage of \$15.44 in 2011.

National: Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks working full-time earned an average hourly wage of \$16.81 in 2011.

JCCC Placement and Salary Information

The JCCC Office of Institutional Research conducts a follow-up study of program completers one year after completion. Eighty-three percent of the accounting program completers who responded to the short-term follow-up study conducted during the 2010-11 academic year were employed full-time in a job related to accounting and reported earning an average hourly wage of \$16.17.

Note: Salary Information for Greater Kansas City, State, and National is based on EMSI 2011 second quarter data. JCCC information for career program completers is based on data supplied by respondents to follow-up studies and is not necessarily representative of all career program completers.