Employment for the Administration of Justice field is expected to be slower than average growth compared to all occupations through 2024. While a continued desire for public safety is expected to result in a need for more officers, demand for employment is expected to vary depending on location, driven largely by local and state budgets. Even with crime rates falling in the last few years, demand for police services to maintain and improve public safety is expected to continue. Bilingual applicants with college training in police science, or those with military experience should have the best opportunities. Job prospects should be good as some local and state corrections agencies experience high job turnover. The need to replace correctional officers who retire, transfer to other occupations, or leave the labor force—coupled with rising employment demand—should generate job openings.

**Employment Information**

**Greater Kansas City Area:** In 2016, those in the administration of justice field held an estimated 7,825 jobs in the fifteen counties that make up the Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), with 8,038 projected by 2021 (+2.7%). Of those, 772 were detectives and criminal investigators (770 projected, +0%); 2,145 were correctional officers and jailers (2,223 projected, +4%); and 4,907 were police and sheriff's patrol officers (5,045 projected, +3%).

**State:** In Kansas, those in the administration of justice field held an estimated 11,068 jobs in 2016, with 11,518 jobs projected by 2021 (+4.1%). Of those, 906 were detectives and criminal investigators (916 projected, +1%); 3,878 were correctional officers and jailers (4,059 projected, +5%); and 6,284 were police and sheriff's patrol officers (6,543 projected, +4%).

**National:** About 1,242,660 jobs were held in the administration of justice field in 2016, with 1,280,010 jobs projected by 2021 (+4%). Of those, 112,329 were detectives and criminal investigators (114,217 projected, +2%); 437,817 were correctional officers and jailers (450,040 projected, +2%); and 692,514 were police and sheriff's patrol officers (715,753 projected, +3%).

**Salary Information**

**Greater Kansas City Area:** Detectives and criminal investigators employed in the Greater Kansas City area earned an average hourly wage of $33.56 in 2016. Additionally, police and sheriff's patrol officers earned $24.55 per hour, and correctional officers and jailers earned $15.39 per hour.

September 2017
State: Detectives and criminal investigators in Kansas earned an average hourly wage of $27.33 in 2016. Additionally, police and sheriff’s patrol officers earned $17.70 per hour; and correctional officers and jailers earned $15.00 per hour.

National: Detectives and criminal investigators working full-time earned an average hourly wage of $37.46 in 2016. Additionally, police and sheriff’s patrol officers earned $29.74 per hour and correctional officers and jailers earned $22.26 per hour.

JCCC Placement and Salary Information

The JCCC Office of Institutional Research conducts a follow-up study of program completers one year after completion. Seventy-six percent of the administration of justice graduates who responded to the 2015-16 follow-up study, and were employed, were employed in a related field and reported earning an average hourly wage of $21.53.

Note: Salary Information for Greater Kansas City, State, and National is based on EMSI 2016 third 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. Other sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics.