



# Job Vacancy Study

See the entire report at:

<http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/pubs/jvs2005/>

*A Profile of Job Openings in Utah*

## Southwestern Utah

4th quarter 2005

The Job Vacancy Study (JVS) is used to gauge the current demand for labor and characteristics of job openings in Utah's Southwestern region. For JVS purposes, Southwestern Utah includes Iron and Washington counties. JVS helps job seekers identify occupations in demand and helps employers recognize the existence of skill shortages and labor gaps.

### Region Summary

- The job vacancy rate in the southwestern region measured 5.0 percent. This means that for every one hundred employed persons there were five job openings. This is up from 3.1 percent during fourth quarter 2004.
- The average offered wage for job openings surveyed was \$11.20/hr, down slightly from \$11.30/hr measured a year ago. This decline is the result of an increase in the percentage of job openings that require little to no educational stipulation, not that wages are falling in the southwestern region.
- Nearly 90 percent of job openings are for permanent positions, indicating a sustained need to fill jobs, not simply seasonal demand.
- Seventy percent of job openings were for full-time positions, 30 percent for part-time.

### Key Industries

- Like last year, the industry offering both the most openings and the highest job vacancy rate is healthcare.
- The construction industry experienced huge growth last year. The number of estimated job vacancies rose by nearly 400 since the 2004 study, and the vacancy rate jumped from 2.0 percent to 6.4 percent.
- Industries offering the highest advertised wages are transportation and warehousing (nearly \$15.00/hr) and information (\$16.40/hr). However, transportation and warehousing offers a 7-percent vacancy rate - much higher than information's 1.5 percent.

### Key Occupations

- Construction laborers account for the highest job vacancy rate at 19.2 percent, as well as the highest total of estimated openings at 130.
- Occupations offering the highest wage are registered nurses (\$19.70/hr), electricians (\$17.10/hr), and truck drivers (\$15.50/hr).

### Education & Experience

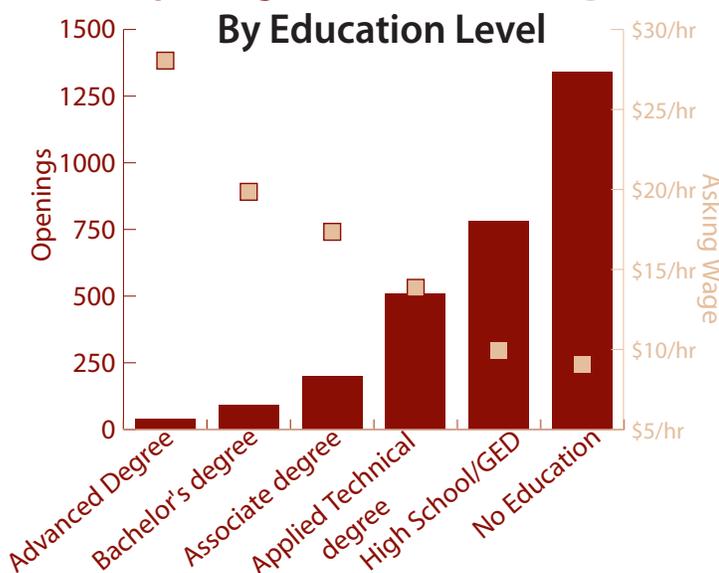
- Seventy-one percent of all job vacancies surveyed required either a high school education or listed no educational requirement. Average advertised wages for job openings of these types were \$9.90/hr for jobs that asked for a high school education and \$9.00/hr for jobs that did not have an educational requirement.
- Jobs with the most openings requiring high school/GED or little education included construction laborers, cashiers, maids, waiters and waitresses, and retail salespersons.
- Jobs with the most openings requiring an applied technical degree included nursing aides, truck drivers, and electricians.
- The top job requiring an Associate degree or higher was registered nurses with 75 estimated openings and an average advertised wage of \$19.75/hour.

**Top Ten Jobs by Number of Openings**

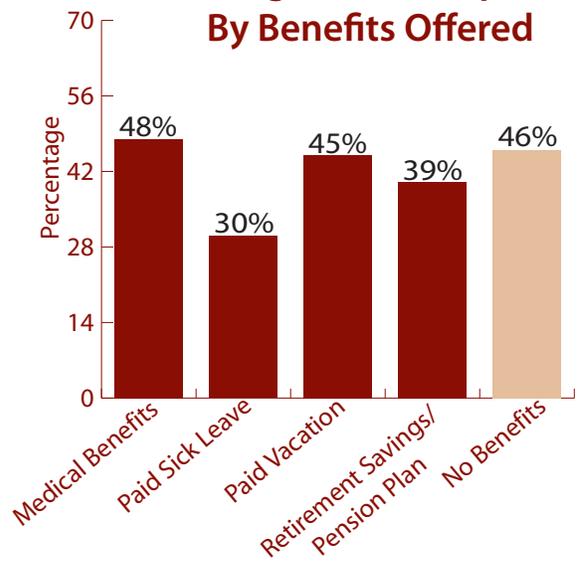
Occupation	Advertised Wage/Hour*	Estimated Job Openings**	Total Estimated Employment	Occupational Vacancy Rate
Construction Laborers	\$9.60	130	680	19.2%
Nursing Aides & Orderlies	\$8.30	110	750	14.9%
Laborers & Material Movers	\$7.90	100	1,080	9.5%
Cashiers	\$7.20	100	1,880	5.4%
Maids & Housekeepers	\$7.20	90	890	9.7%
Registered Nurses	\$19.70	75	840	8.9%
Waiters & Waitresses	\$7.90	70	850	7.9%
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor Trailer	\$15.50	70	990	6.9%
Retail Salespersons	\$7.80	60	2,650	2.3%
Cement Masons	\$13.20	60	720	7.9%

\*Wage is for job openings and does not represent the wage of all employed persons  
 \*\*Estimated openings at any one time during the fourth quarter

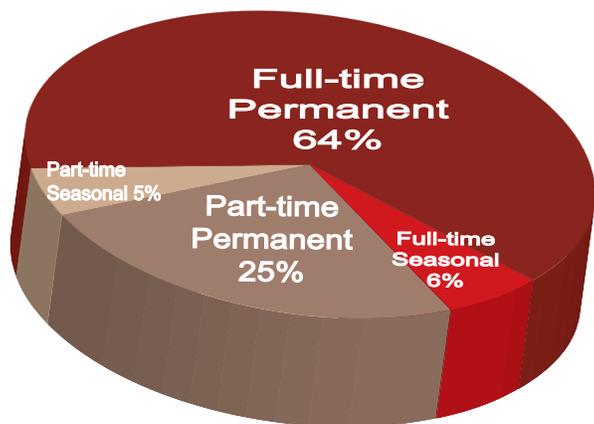
**Openings & Advertised Wage**



**Percentage of Total Openings By Benefits Offered**



**Share of Job Openings by Job Status**



**Share of Job Openings by Education**

