



## Using Labor Market Information (LMI) to Plan Your Career

Jobs.mo.gov provides you access to current labor market trends and wage information through the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). MERIC uses data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics to help you understand the workforce in through the filter of specific industries and occupations within a geographic area.

For example, MERIC offers you regional lists of the top 10 occupations by number of employees in the Now, Next and Later categories—terms used to describe the education and experience typically required to work successfully within an occupation.

- “Now” occupations typically require on-the-job training, work experience and/or a high school diploma.
- “Next” occupations typically require 2 years of education and/or experience.
- “Later” occupations typically require 4 or more years of education beyond high school plus work experience.

Employment numbers along with the wages for entry-level, average and experienced workers are provided for each of the 3 categories.

MERIC also utilizes an aggregating tool that searches approximately 35,000 job board web sites and creates a database of information including occupation, skills, job location, and employer to provide insight into the types of jobs employers are seeking to hire for their organizations.

For more specific data for your area or other regions in Missouri visit the [MERIC web site](#).



For additional information about Missouri Division of Workforce Development services, contact a Missouri Job Center near you. Locations and additional information are available at [jobs.mo.gov](#) or 1-888-728-JOBS (5627).



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