

# AUGUST 2021 REPORT



## JOB POSTINGS

KC | 5,622 US | 644,511

-249 since July '21

+17,484 since July '21

## TOP 10 OCCUPATIONS

Occupation Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Software Developer	1,587	+17
Computer User Support Specialist	1,394	-108
Network and Computer Systems Administrator	687	-62
Computer Systems Engineer/Architect	591	+9
Information Security Analyst	369	+13
Information Technology Project Manager	251	-8
Computer Systems Analyst	203	-39
Software Quality Assurance Analyst and Tester	191	-17
Database Administrator	77	-22
Web Developer	71	-15

## TOP 10 CERTIFICATIONS

Certification Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Secret Clearance	102	-19
CISSP	95	+11
PMP	75	-1
CCNA	64	+6
CISM	48	+10
CISA	41	+12
CSM	37	-3
CCNP	34	-1
MCP	34	+2
C/EH	29	Returning

## TOP 10 HARD SKILLS

Skill Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Computer Programming/Coding	1,076	-21
Agile	1,025	+15
Structured Query Language	886	+15
Java	770	+18
Amazon Web Services	746	+54
Microsoft Azure	687	+26
Python	611	-1
JavaScript	562	-5
Linux	537	+38
Scrum	460	+21

## TOP 10 EMPLOYERS

Employer Title	# of Current Postings	Change from Last Month
Garmin*	277	-7
Cerner*	179	-15
Humana	177	-34
CTG	176	-55
Deloitte	160	+13
Accenture	109	-10
Honeywell	107	-4
H&R Block	101	+31
Netsmart	81	+4
Wellsky Corporation	73	-7

\* Numbers for this company include job postings that may have previously been listed under an alternate name, or with an extension (like Corp. or Intl.) in the name. No duplicate listings are counted.

Report produced by the KC Tech Council | [kctechcouncil.com](http://kctechcouncil.com)

Data source: JobsEQ, a tool produced by Chmura | <http://www.chmuraecon.com/jobseq/>

This data was collected early September, 2021.

# THE TECH CHECKPOINT | AUGUST 2021

## DATA INSIGHT

As summer draws to a close the overall job market remains relatively stable with a small dip in Kansas City which is not unusual for August. While 17,484 Tech jobs were added nationwide for a total of 644,511, Kansas City saw 5,622 job postings which is a decrease of 249 postings. As summer vacations come to an end and children head back to school, we should expect to see posting numbers start ticking back up in September.

Only 3 categories of the Top 10 Occupations saw increases, with traditionally strong Software Developer adding only 17 total postings in August. Coming in at second place is Information Security Analyst (+13). Computer User Support Specialist, which was our leader in ads last month is our leader in losses with a large drop of 108 postings, while Network and Computer Systems Administrator lost a total of 62 postings in August. Overall, there was a drop of a net 232 postings from July to August, a 4% overall decrease.

Certifications managed to achieve a small 3% growth in August, adding 18 total postings overall. Reflecting the ever-present need for cybersecurity personnel, the top three categories in Certifications were all cyber-related; CISA (+12) led the way, followed closely by CISSP (+11) and CISM (+10). Secret Clearance (-19) once again showed the largest decline in total postings, although that certification still led the category with 102 total postings. C/EH returned to the Top Ten Certifications in August with 29 postings.

The Top 10 Hard Skills for August added 160 postings for a total of 7,360, the most in the category since Spring of 2020. Computer Programming/Coding (-21) had a small drop in postings but as usual led the category with 1,076. Amazon Web Services (+54) led in terms of growth with Linux (+38) and Microsoft Azure (+26) also showing positive gains. Over the past year, AWS has shown an overall increase of 56%, greater than any other Hard Skill while Azure has also grown by 43% since August of 2020. Scrum (+21) had a very positive net increase while still placing at the bottom of the Top Ten Hard Skills with 460 total postings.

The Top 10 Employers of Tech Talent had a small decrease of 84 total postings in August. HR Block (+31) easily led the category in terms of net growth, perhaps due to hiring to support the new Tax season. Garmin (-7) led the category with an overall total of 277 postings, while Deloitte (+13) was the only other Hirer to net double-digits of growth. CTG (-55) had the largest net decrease in postings, with Humana (-34) also reflecting a large negative trend.

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## EMERGING IT TRENDS

There are many pathways for advancing a career in Information Technology, including apprenticeship programs, certifications and advanced degrees. In this month's report, we'll be looking specifically at the advantages an advanced degree can bring to some.

There are many reasons for a career IT professional to pursue an advanced degree. First, there is a measurable increase in salary based on education. For example, The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics cites that the median annual wage for a worker with a master's degree in computer and information research is about \$126,800, which is about \$10,000 more than the next closest IT job category, although it is also true most IT-related jobs generally rank higher in terms of average salary than most other job categories. A Master of Business Administration (MBA) can also boost pay for individuals pursuing a career in IT management; for example, while the median annual salary for an IT manager is \$88,908, with an advanced degree, that number can rise as high as \$129,537 per year according to Salary.com.

There are many other benefits associated with achieving an advanced degree. For example, An MBA in information technology builds on technical skills with leadership, communication, and strategic business planning, perfect for a career as a chief technical officer, IT project manager, information systems security manager or data analyst. IT managers may also oversee a company's digital infrastructure and develop policies to protect company information, implement security measures to protect data and evaluate existing systems. IT managers may also plan for upgrades, recommend new software, or identify vendors for specific needs.

For more technically inclined employees, a Master of Information Science (MIS) may open many new windows of opportunity. However, the landscape varies significantly regarding the types of jobs available to someone with a master's degree in technology, including being ideally positioned to gain exposure to futuristic technologies such as AI, Internet of Things (IoT), data science, cloud applications, robotics, and neural networks.

In general, the business world needs people who can understand a business problem and translate that into a technology solution. An advanced degree can position an individual for positive career growth and job satisfaction by providing a deeper understanding of technology, greater technical competency, and a fundamental understanding of information technology, computing, and their use within organizations. In other words, graduates able to put together a solid combination of these competencies will find that a wide variety of jobs that were unattainable previously are now well within reach if the master's program has prepared them adequately. Moreover, demand for people with these capabilities is not likely to diminish in the foreseeable future.

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