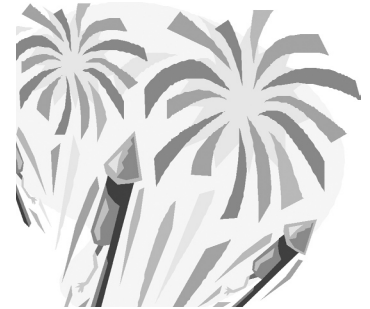


Working Healthy Program Launched July 1st!!!

The Working Healthy program officially began on July 1st. To date, approximately 160 people are enrolled in the program. More individuals are expected to enroll over the next several months as they have the opportunity to meet with Benefits Specialists to discuss their personal situations. The University of Kansas staff will be sending satisfaction surveys to the initial enrollees in January to determine their overall satisfaction with the program and learn about their work experiences and quality of life.



New Benefits Specialists and Team Leader Hired



Craig Perbeck,
Benefits Specialist Team Leader

In May, the Working Healthy program added a new Benefits Specialist Team Leader and five Benefits Specialists to its staff. All of the new staff members attended a five-day training program in Missouri on Social Security's disability, return to work and work incentive provisions, as well as other federal work incentives.

Craig Perbeck is the new Benefits Specialist Team Leader. Craig graduated from Emporia State University with a degree in sociology and has worked in the Behavioral Health Department of Via Christi St. Francis in Wichita, at the Wichita SRS office as an income maintenance worker and, later, as a supervisor. Craig can be contacted at (785) 368-6245 or CEP@srskansas.org.

Benefits Specialists

Emporia SRS Area Office – Carrie Boettcher - (620) 342-2505 ext. 246 - EECAB@srskansas.org

Carrie has an M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling and has worked as a juvenile probation officer, at a mental health center, at a community developmental disability organization, and at Kansas Rehabilitation Services.

Chanute SRS Area Office – Dan Hallacy - (620) 431-5096 - CDLH@srskansas.org

Dan comes to Social and Rehabilitation Services after 8 years working in Supported Employment with the Community Mental Health Center of Crawford County and Southeast Kansas Mental Health Center. Dan can be reached at (620) 431-5096 or CDLH@srskansas.org.

Hays SRS Area Office – Gary Youngman

Gary moved from Sheridan, Wyoming to accept his position in Hays. In Wyoming, Gary supervised the case management department, the after-school children's program, and personal care services at Rehabilitation Enterprises of Northeast Wyoming (RENEW), an agency that provided HCBS services for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

Garden City SRS Area Office – Steve Curtis - (620) 272-5828 - SXXC@srskansas.org

Prior to accepting this new position, Steve was an Economic and Employment Support Specialist with SRS in

continued on page 2...

Benefits Specialists, continued from page 1...

Garden City. He has been with SRS for more than 15 years and is a 1986 graduate of Fort Hays State University with B.A. in Sociology.

Lawrence SRS Area Office – Norman White - (785) 832-3716 - LNBW@srskansas.org

With degrees in psychology and social work, Norm brings a great deal of experience to the position. He was manager of the Disability and Health Program at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, has worked as a counselor in the physical disability and head injury waiver programs and as a community mental health professional.

Welcome to all the new staff members! Please feel free to contact them with your questions about Working Healthy. A new Benefits Specialist position will soon be filled in the Wichita area.

Come One, Come All....

Upcoming Working Healthy Information Sessions

Tuesday July 30th - LAWRENCE, 1:00-3:00 at the Lawrence Public Library, 707 Vermont St.

Wednesday July 31st - KANSAS CITY, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm at the West Wyandotte Public Library, 1737 N. 82nd

Thursday August 1st - OLATHE, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm at the Indian Creek Library, 12990 Blackbob

Tuesday August 13th - MANHATTAN, 10:30 am- 12:30 pm at the Manhattan Public Library, 629 Poyntz Ave.

Wednesday August 14th - TOPEKA, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm at the Shawnee County Public Library, 1515 SW 10th

If you have questions about this schedule or any of the outreach activities provided by Breakthrough Club, please email Paul Jasinski at pauljas@hotmail.com or phone him at (316)269-2711.

Kansas Job Market Improves As Working Healthy Kicks Off*

From the Kansas Department of Human Resources

June 25, 2002

The Kansas unemployment rate for May was 4.1%, down from 4.3% in April, announced Richard E. Beyer, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Human Resources (KDHR). The rate in May 2001 was 4.0% The seasonally adjusted national rate was 5.8% in May.

Employment in Kansas rose by 5,500 over the month, standing at 1,382,500. This was the highest number employed since June 2000. The number of jobless Kansas residents dropped by nearly 3,400 as all industries hired additional workers with the exception of manufacturing.

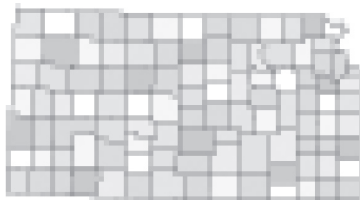
Kansas Occupational Projections

Over the next several years, the greatest job growth (the highest number of job openings) in the state is expected to occur in services and retail trade (see Table 1, on the following page). As the population in Kansas ages, health care-related occupations are also on the rise. In fact, half of the top ten fastest growing occupations in Kansas are in health care services (see Table 2). The top ten declining occupations are dominated by farm/agricultural-related jobs (see Table 3).

Occupational Outlook Based on Educational Levels/Training

Obviously, different jobs require different levels of education and/or training. In Kansas, labor market growth will occur both for jobs that do require a bachelor's degree or more and those that do not. These occupations and their projected growth rates are shown below (see Tables 4,5 and 6)

continued...



HELP SAVE THE TREES...

*This and other Kansas Labor Market Information can be obtained at:
 Labor Market Information Services Email: laborstats@hr.state.ks.us
 401 SW Topeka Blvd. Phone: 785-296-5058
 Topeka, KS 66603 Fax: 785-296-5286
<http://laborstats.hr.state.ks.us>

TABLE 1

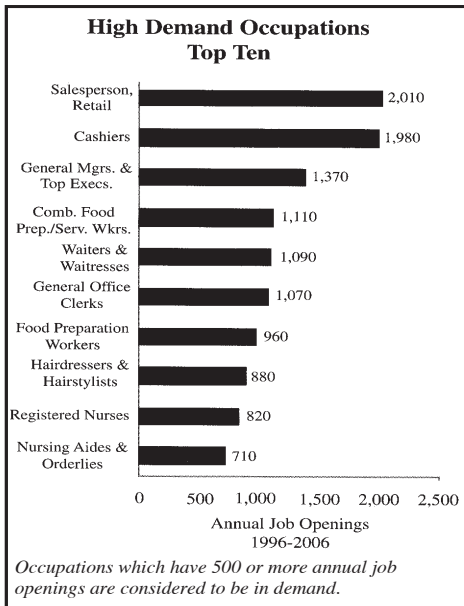


TABLE 2

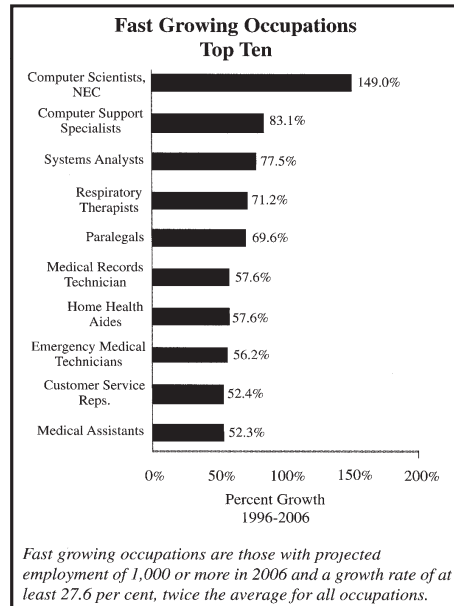


TABLE 3

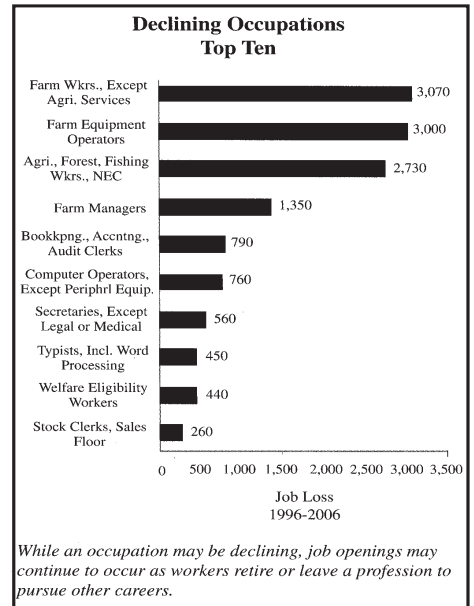


TABLE 4

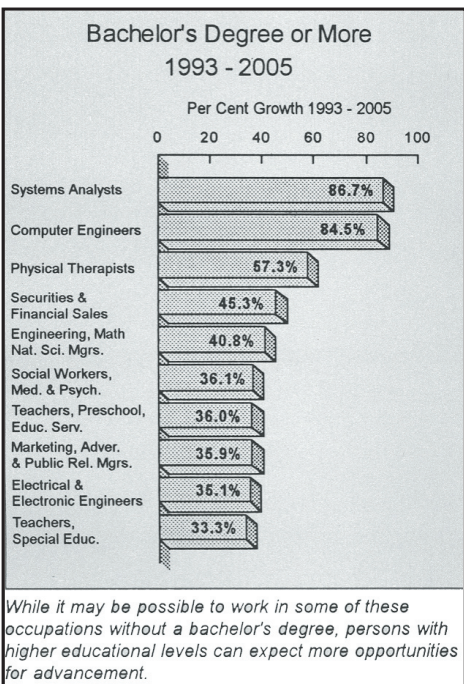


TABLE 5

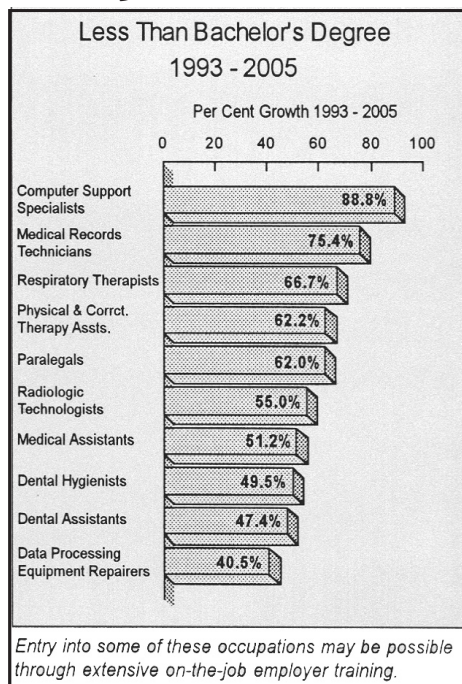
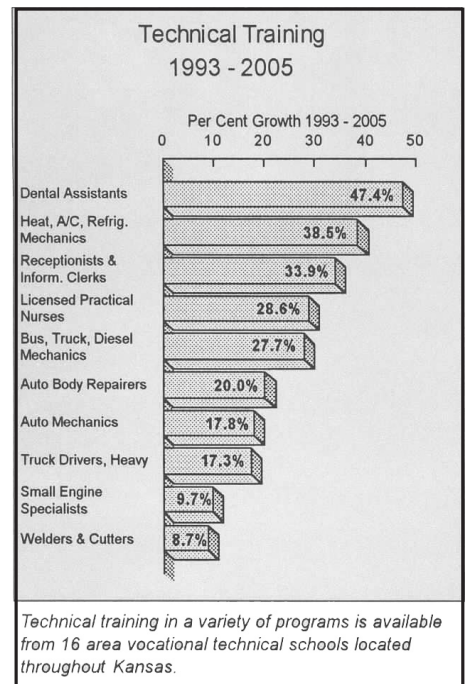


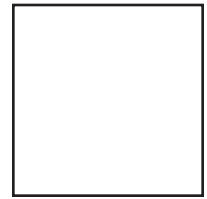
TABLE 6



Sign up to receive this newsletter via E-mail
 Contact Noelle at pixie@ku.edu. THANK YOU!

WORKING HEALTHY

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Return service requested

This newsletter and other information regarding the Working Healthy program can be found on-line at: <http://das.kucrl.org/medicaid.html>

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Additional copies and copies in alternate formats are available upon request by writing the University of Kansas Department of Health Policy and Management, c/o Division of Adult Studies, Attn: Noelle, JR Pearson Hall, Room 521, 1122 West Campus Rd., Lawrence, KS 66045-3101, by phone (785) 864-7085, or by E-mail: pixie@ku.edu

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