

South Central Region Profile

The South Central Region is home to five hospitals. Poplar Bluff and West Plains are the region's largest cities. Some of the largest private employers in this region include Ozarks Healthcare and Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center. Four hospitals submitted calendar year 2024 data for MHA's 25th annual workforce survey that focuses on turnover and vacancy rates, both regionally and statewide.

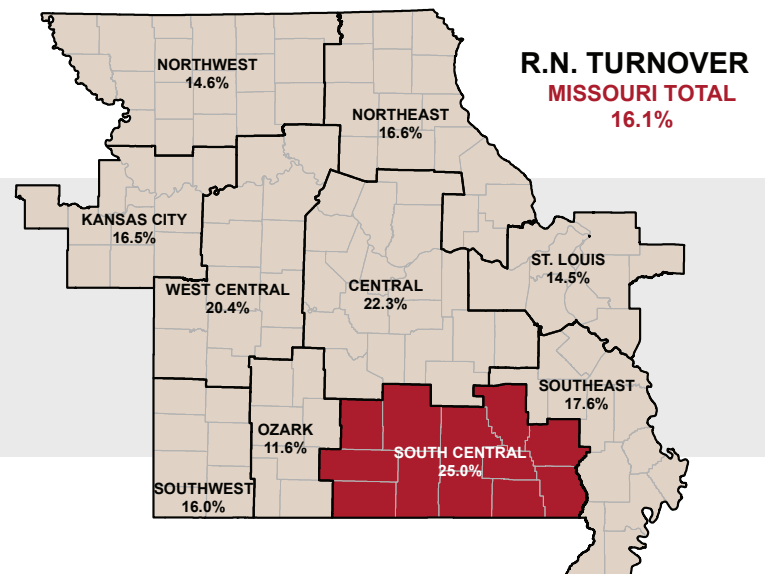
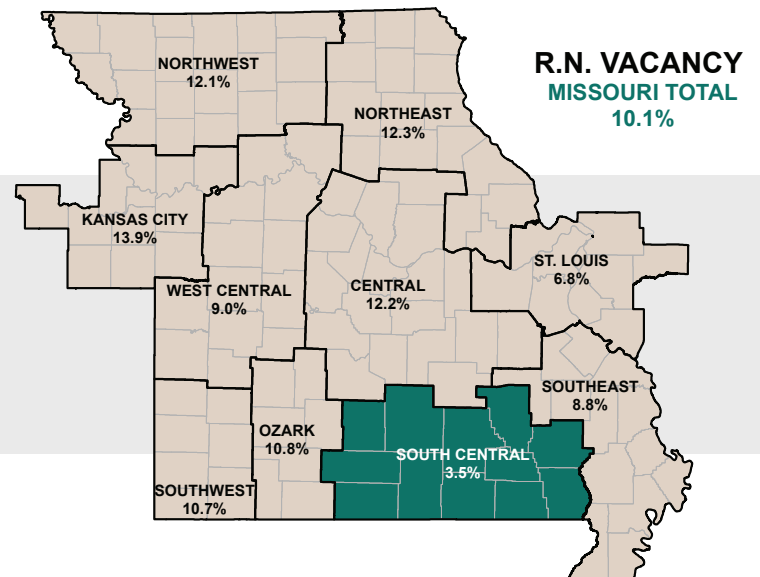
SOUTH CENTRAL REGION Top 10 Professions With the Highest Employee Vacancy

Nuclear Medicine Technologist
Physician Assistant
CT Technologist
Occupational Therapy Assistant
Physical Therapist
Medical Laboratory Technician
Staff Registered Nurse - Clinic
Phlebotomist
Physical Therapy Assistant
Nurse Assistant

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION Top 10 Professions With the Highest Employee Turnover

Licensed Practical Nurse
Phlebotomist
Nuclear Medicine Technologist
Nurse Assistants
Medical Laboratory Technician
Staff Registered Nurse
Respiratory Therapist
Food Service Worker/Dietary Aide
Pharmacy Technician
Staff Registered Nurse - Clinic

The careers included in the tables are listed in order of highest to lowest percent.



2025 SOUTH CENTRAL REGION SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Job Title Collected January 2025	Number of FTE's	Number of FTE Vacancies	Vacancy Rate (FTE)	Number of Employees	Average Number of Employees	Number of Vacant Positions	Employee Vacancy Rate	Total Employee Separations	Employee Turnover Rate
Nursing & Medical									
Nurse Assistants (Patient Care Technician, Certified Nurse Assistant or Unlicensed Assistive Personnel)	136	15	9.9%	147	142	17	10.4%	55	38.8%
Licensed Practical Nurse	65	3	4.4%	66	63	3	4.3%	40	63.5%
Advance Practice Registered Nurse	2	0	0.0%	4	0	0	0.0%	2	0.0%
Staff Registered Nurse	579	20	3.3%	611	593	22	3.5%	148	25.0%
Physician Assistant	4	1	20.0%	4	4	1	20.0%	0	0.0%
Employed Physicians	114	6	5.0%	114	114	6	5.0%	9	7.9%
Diagnostic Imaging									
CT Technologist	20	3	12.8%	21	20	4	16.0%	1	5.0%
Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologist	4	0	0.0%	4	4	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Mammography Technologist	9	0	0.0%	9	9	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Nuclear Medicine Technologist	4	2	33.3%	4	4	2	33.3%	2	50.0%
Radiology Technologist	33	15	31.6%	33	33	1	2.9%	1	3.0%
Sonographer/Ultrasound Technologist	18	1	5.3%	19	19	1	5.0%	2	10.5%
Laboratory									
Medical Laboratory Technician	19	3	13.6%	19	19	3	13.6%	5	26.3%
Medical Technologist/Laboratory Scientist	18	1	5.4%	23	22	1	4.2%	2	9.0%
Phlebotomist	34	5	12.9%	39	39	5	11.4%	21	53.8%
Therapies									
Occupational Therapist	22	1	4.4%	22	22	1	4.3%	2	9.3%
Occupational Therapy Assistant	11	2	16.0%	12	10	2	14.3%	1	9.8%
Physical Therapist	28	4	12.3%	30	30	5	14.3%	2	6.7%
Physical Therapy Assistant	29	4	12.1%	33	33	4	10.8%	2	6.1%
Respiratory Therapist	57	4	6.6%	71	67	4	5.3%	16	23.8%
Speech Pathologist	11	0	0.0%	12	11	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Pharmacy									
Pharmacist - Clinical/Staff	23	1	4.2%	31	30	1	3.1%	2	6.7%
Pharmacy Technician	41	2	4.7%	35	43	2	5.4%	8	18.6%
Surgery									
Surgical Technician	35	1	2.8%	36	37	3	7.7%	2	5.5%
Sterile Processing Technician	13	0	0.0%	13	13	1	7.1%	0	0.0%
Miscellaneous Hospital Based Positions									
Medical Records Coder	21	2	8.6%	22	22	2	8.3%	1	4.5%
Environmental Services	49	5	9.2%	51	52	5	8.9%	8	15.4%
Registered Dietitian	2	0	0.0%	2	2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Food Service Worker/Dietary Aid	32	2	5.8%	39	39	1	2.5%	8	20.6%
Clinic & Physician Practices									
Staff Registered Nurse - Clinic	22	3	12.1%	23	23	3	11.5%	4	17.4%
Licensed Practical Nurse - Clinic	89	10	10.1%	91	90	10	9.9%	14	15.6%
Advance Practice Registered Nurse - Clinic	37	2	5.2%	38	38	2	5.0%	2	5.3%
Medical Assistant - Clinic	40	3	6.9%	42	42	3	6.7%	6	14.3%
Physician Assistant - Clinic	2	0	0.0%	2	2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%