



# QUARTERLY REPORT SAINT CLAIR COUNTY Q3 2015

ST. CLAIR  
COUNTY  
COMMUNITY  
college



A private-public partnership administered locally by  
the Macomb/St. Clair Workforce Development Board



# SUMMARY

## SAINT CLAIR Q' 2015 DEMAND OVERVIEW

Total job postings are up 4.2% in St. Clair County, increasing from 1,647 during Q2 2015 to 1,716 in Q3. This posting increase is driven 100% by demand for retail and hospitality workers. All other clusters either dropped in employer demand or remained steady between Q2 and Q3 this year. Employer demand more than doubled for retail salespersons during Q3 2015, growing from 51 postings in Q2 to 123 in Q3. Several new occupations entered the top ten and others fell off the list between Q2 and Q3 2015. Those that dropped include: production workers and maintenance and repair workers. Laborers and materials movers along with human resources specialists entered the top ten during Q3 2015.

Employment in St. Clair County increased 1.3% between Q2 and Q3 2015, adding 904 individuals to payrolls. The labor force also increased during Q3 2015, with 1,186 more individuals seeking work (a 1.6% increase).

The occupational clusters analyzed by WIN accounted for 66.6% of total employer demand in the county.

*\*This report includes top jobs and postings over time highlights for clusters that have made major shifts or movements in the past quarter. The data is updated each quarter based on the clusters with the most noteworthy changes. For complete top jobs lists, educational attainment, and wage information, please see the regional reports or contact WIN's Research Director Colby Cesaro at [colby.cesaro@win-semich.org](mailto:colby.cesaro@win-semich.org).*

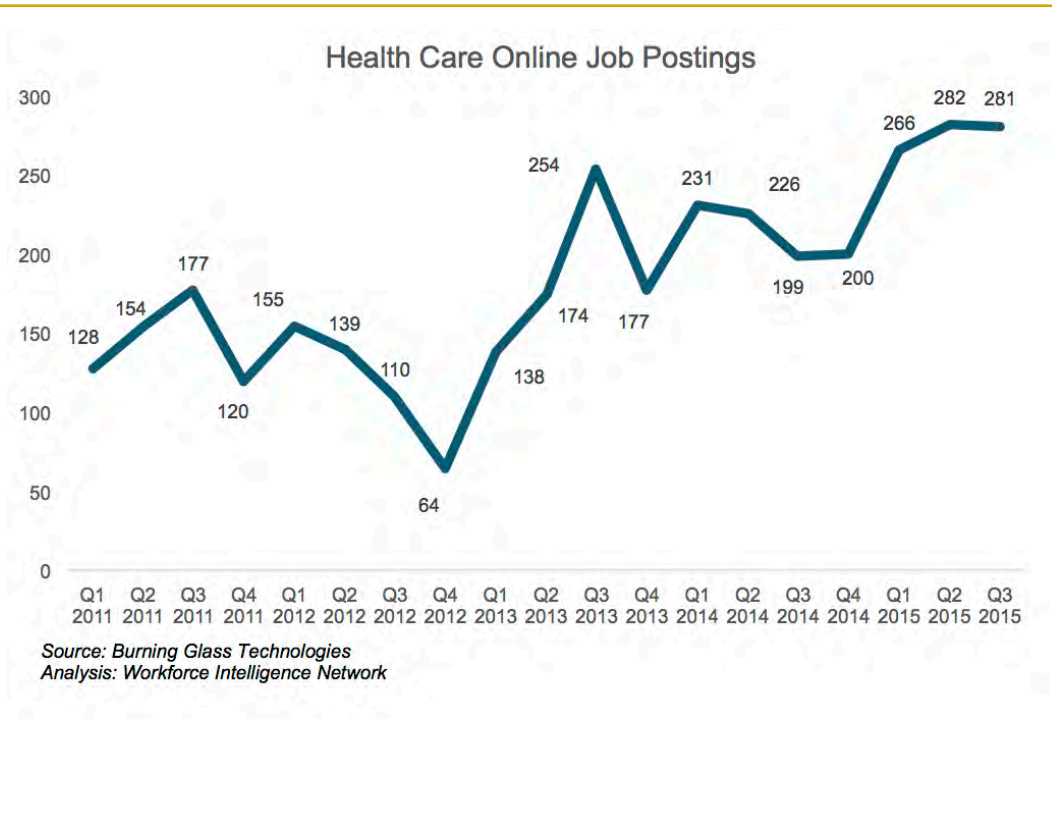
## TOP JOBS Q' 2015



## ANALYSIS

Employer demand more than doubled for retail salespersons during Q3 2015, growing from 51 postings in Q2 to 123 in Q3. Employers were likely preparing for summer, back-to-school, and the holiday rush. Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers fell in demand from 122 postings in Q2 to 92 during Q3 2015. The drop could mean that employers were able to fill some open positions. Employer demand for registered nurses held steady with no change in postings. Several new occupations entered the top ten and others fell off the list between Q2 and Q3 2015. Those that dropped include: production workers and maintenance and repair workers. Laborers and materials movers along with human resources specialists entered the top ten during Q3 2015.

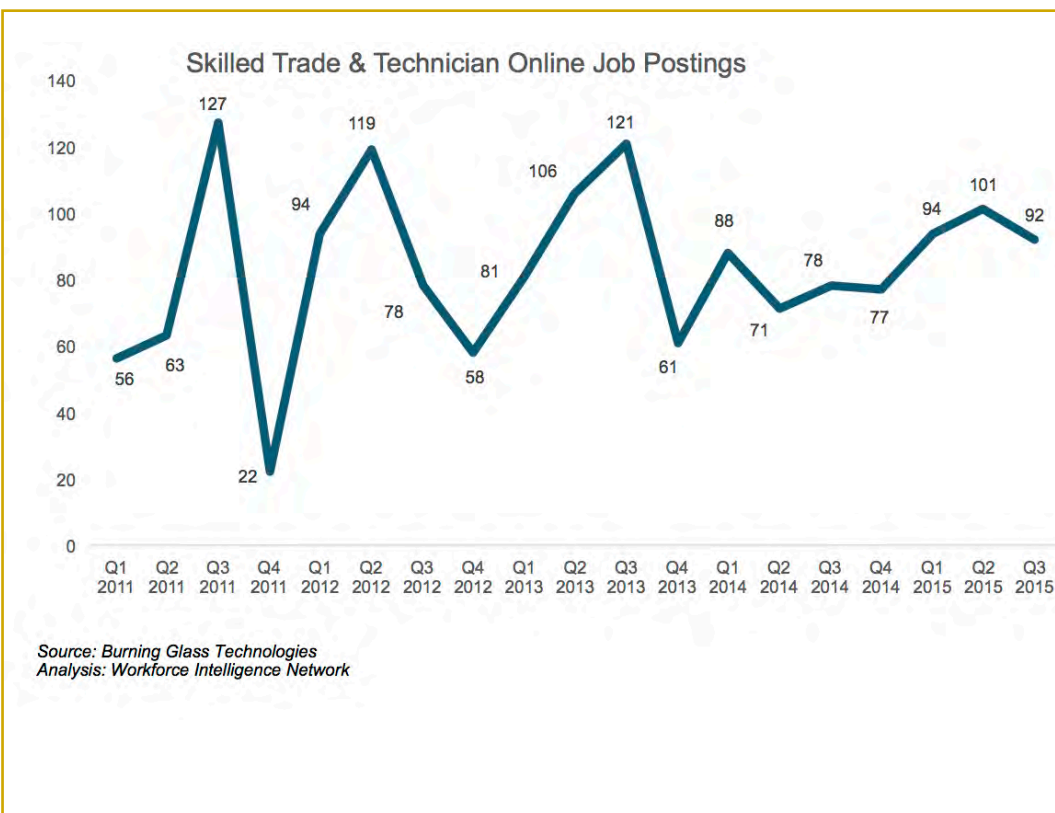
## HEALTH CARE POSTINGS OVER TIME



## ANALYSIS

Postings for Health Care employers in St. Clair County remained at historically high levels. With 282 postings in Q2 and 281 postings in Q3 this year; employers have continued high demand for health care workers.

## SKILLED TRADE & TECHNICIAN POSTINGS OVER TIME

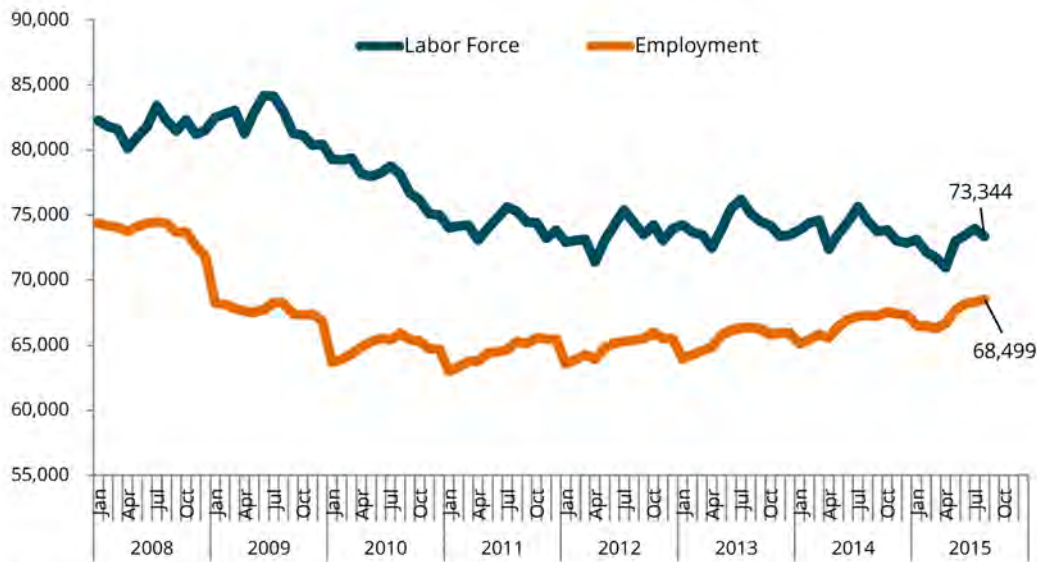


## ANALYSIS

Postings for Skilled Trade workers dropped about eight percent between Q2 2015 and Q3. Postings fluctuated dramatically from 2011 through 2013 but have since leveled off in 2014 and 2015. From Q2 2014 to Q2 2015 postings increased from 71 to 101. While postings dropped in the past quarter, demand remains above 2013 levels.

# LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW

## EMPLOYMENT & LABOR FORCE

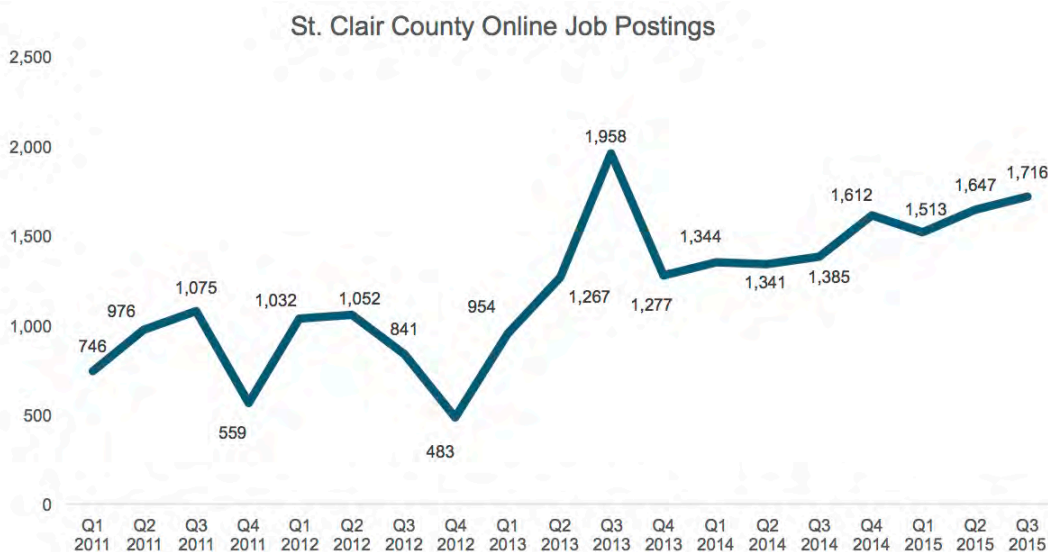


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Analysis: Workforce Intelligence Network

## ANALYSIS

Employment in St. Clair County increased 1.3% between Q2 and Q3 2015, adding 904 individuals to payrolls. The labor force also increased during Q3 2015, with 1,186 more individuals seeking work (a 1.6% increase). Because the labor force increased by more than employment, the unemployment rate increased by 0.3 percentage points growing from 6.9% to 7.1%. St. Clair's labor force has continuously declined since the recession and any increase is welcome for employers looking to fill open jobs.

## TOTAL POSTINGS OVER TIME



Source: Burning Glass Technologies  
Analysis: Workforce Intelligence Network

## ANALYSIS

Total job postings are up 4.2% in St. Clair County, increasing from 1,647 during Q2 2015 to 1,716 in Q3. This posting increase is driven 100% by demand for Retail and Hospitality workers. All other clusters either dropped in employer demand or remained steady between Q2 and Q3 this year.

# POSTING TRENDS BY CLUSTER

	Q3 2014	Q4 2014	Q1 2015	Q2 2015	Q3 2015	Change over time	Share of Total Postings Q3 2015
Total	1,385	1,612	1,513	1,647	1,716		
Skilled Trades & Technicians	78	77	94	101	92		5.4%
Engineers & Designers	28	32	63	60	40		2.3%
IT	34	28	46	36	34		2.0%
Health Care	199	200	266	282	281		16.4%
Retail & Hospitality	447	508	384	398	531		30.9%
TDL	68	125	119	161	136		7.9%
Agriculture	19	23	45	31	28		1.6%

## ANALYSIS

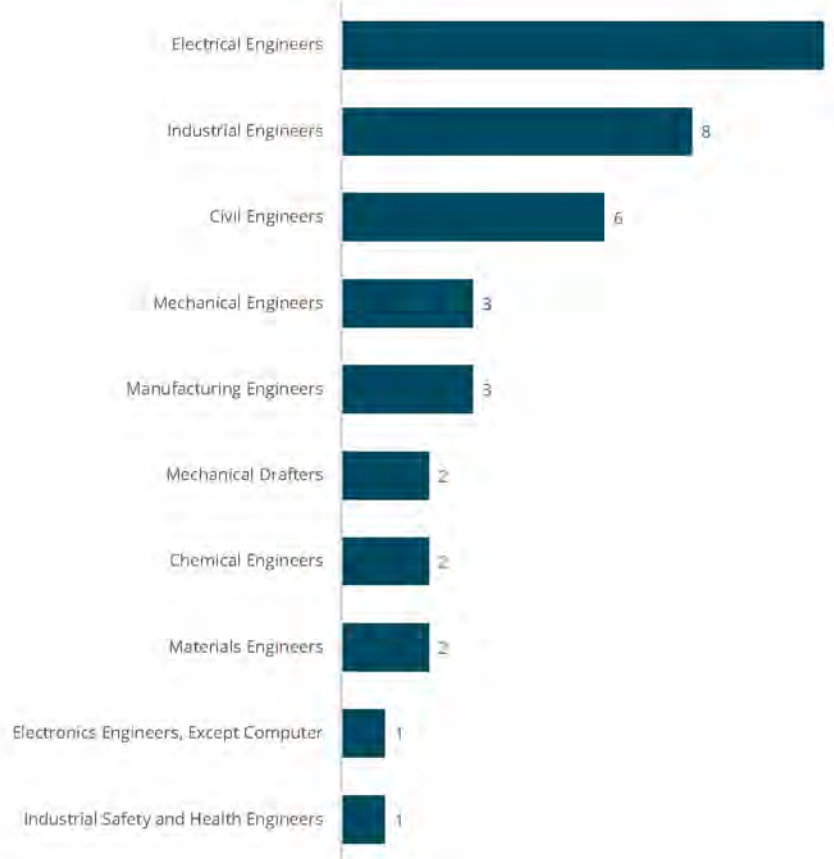
Postings in St. Clair County are strongly influenced by retail & hospitality employers with 30.9% of all online job ads from this cluster. This is the highest growth in any WIN county. Demand for retail salespersons, customer service representatives, and similar workers increased dramatically during Q3 creating an upswing in total demand. Postings for workers in the Skilled Trades, Health Care, and IT remained relatively steady between Q2 and Q3 this year.

The occupational clusters analyzed by WIN accounted for 66.6% of total employer demand in the county.



# TOP JOBS BY CLUSTER

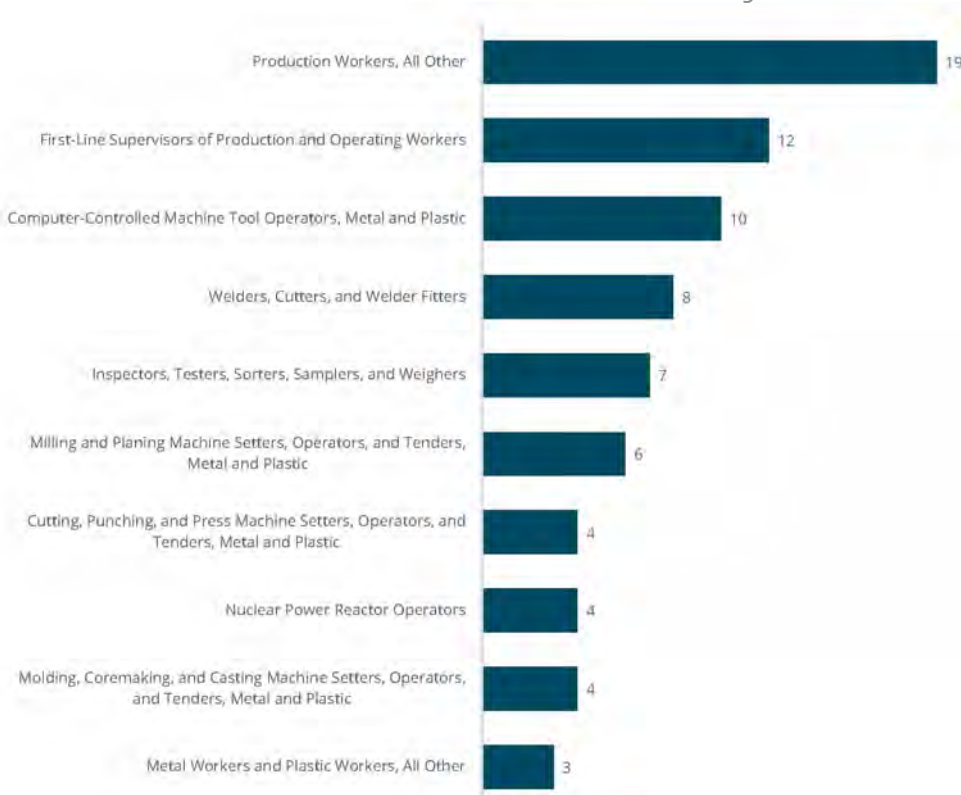
## ENGINEER & DESIGNER TOP JOBS



## ANALYSIS

Demand for Engineers and Designers in St. Clair county dropped between Q2 and Q3 2015, falling by a third (20 posting decline). Mechanical engineers is no longer the top job and postings fell for this occupation from 16 to 3 between Q2 and Q3 this year. Electrical engineers was the top posting job in Q3 with 11 postings (up from 6 in Q2). Demand for manufacturing engineers fell the most of all top jobs, dropping from 11 postings in Q2 to 3 in Q3. New to Engineering top jobs were electronics engineers (non-computer), and energy engineers fell out of the top ten.

## SKILLED TRADE & TECHNICIAN TOP JOBS

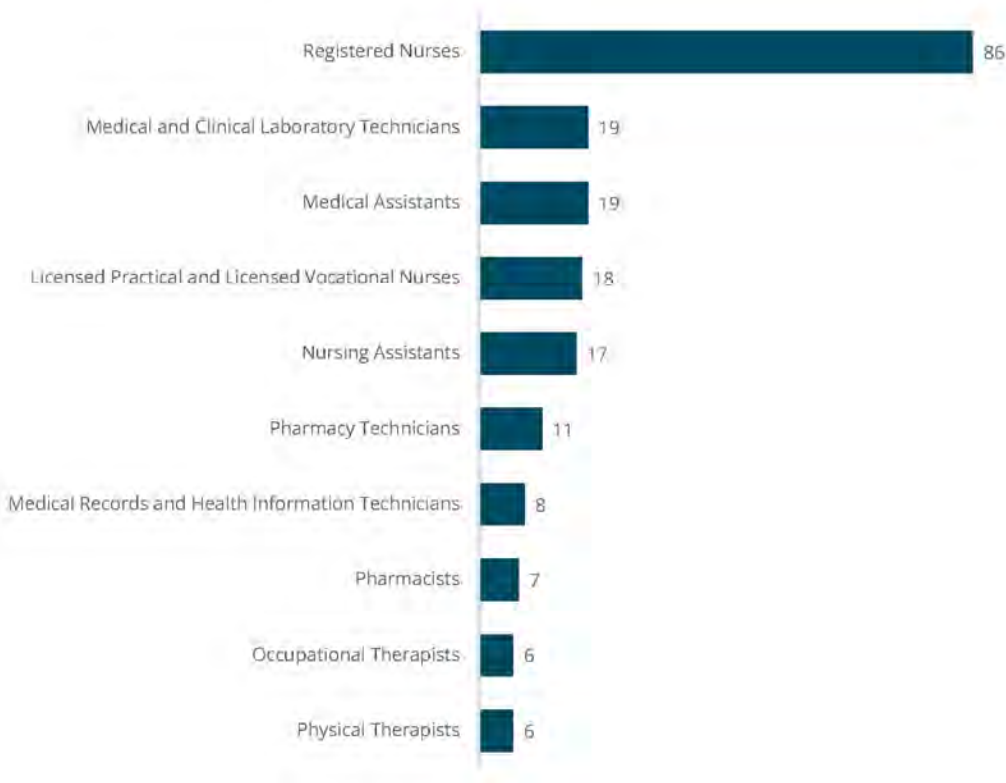


## ANALYSIS

Postings in the Skilled Trades dropped by a small margin from Q2 to Q3 2015, falling to 92 postings from 101. Despite a drop in postings, production workers returns to the top spot as St. Clair County's most in-demand Skilled Trades occupation during Q3 2015 with 19 postings (down from 34 online job ads in Q2 this year). The second most in-demand occupation in this cluster, first-line supervisors of production and operating workers, remained at 12 postings. New to the top jobs list were nuclear power plant operators and CC machinists.

# TOP JOBS BY CLUSTER

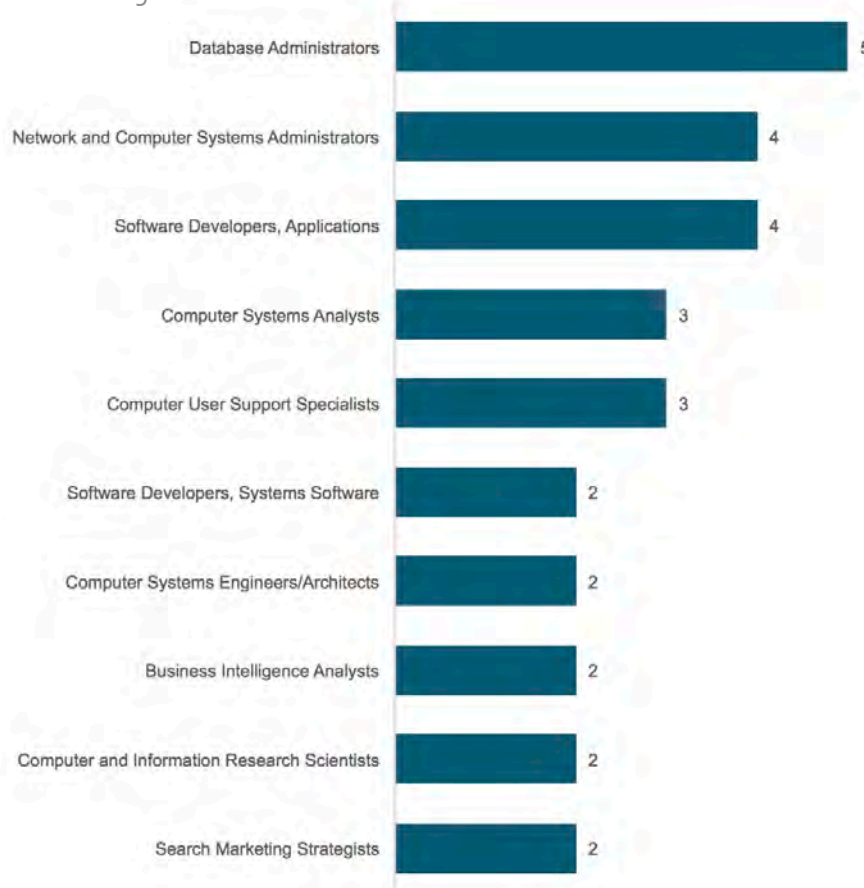
## HEALTH CARE TOP JOBS



## ANALYSIS

Postings for registered nurses, the county's top Health Care position, maintained its level from Q2 (86 postings). Demand for medical and clinical laboratory techs and medical assistants increased in demand rising to be tied for the number two most in-demand position (19 postings each). LPN demand also increased. Demand for nursing assistants remained at 17 postings but was pushed to be fifth most in-demand by the above occupations.

## IT TOP JOBS



## ANALYSIS

IT is not the strongest cluster in St. Clair County, with only two percent of postings for occupations in the cluster. Because of this, demand often fluctuates each quarter with revolving top jobs as employer needs shift. During Q3 2015, database administrators was the top posting IT job in the county (five postings). New the top jobs list are systems software developers, computer systems engineers/architects, and search marketing strategists. Computer programmers, IT project managers, and web developers are no longer in the top ten indicating that employers likely filled the open positions from Q2.



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