



**Effects of COVID-19 on Income and Housing**

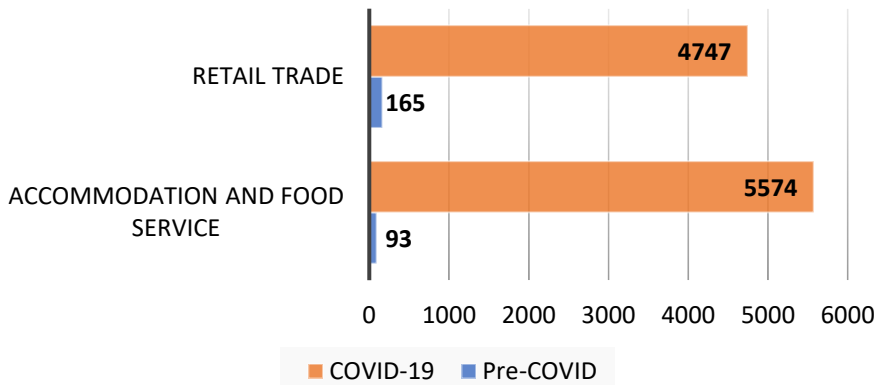
According to the most recent U.S. Census data, in Johnson County, those who are at the lowest income levels are most likely to be housing cost-burdened. Prior to the COVID-19 crisis, 43% renters and 20% of homeowners in Johnson County were considered cost-burdened or spending at least 30% of their monthly income on housing costs. While Governor Kelly issued an executive order that provided protections against COVID-19 eviction, foreclosure and utility shut-offs until May 31, many residents will continue to be financially impacted for months to come. This is particularly likely for the most vulnerable in our community.

**Housing Cost Burden by Income Level in Johnson County in 2018**



In the first month of the pandemic, nearly 33,000 Johnson County residents filed for unemployment insurance, more than a 600% increase from the same period in 2019. Nearly one in three (10,321) of the unemployment insurance filings in Johnson County in the first month of the pandemic fell into the occupational categories of accommodation and food services, and retail trade. Median annual wages for a hotel or motel clerk in Johnson County is \$20,430. Workers in food service earns a median annual wage of \$19,560, and median annual wage for those working in retail sales in Johnson County is \$23,936.

**Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims  
by Industry**



**Median Salary by Occupation  
in Johnson County**

- Retail Sales**  
\$23,936
- Hotel/Motel Clerk**  
\$24,012
- Food Service**  
\$19,560

Wichita State University recently published a 2020 employment forecast for the Kansas City metropolitan area (including Bates, Caldwell, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Jackson, Lafayette, Platte and Ray counties in Missouri and Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami, and Wyandotte). This report anticipates a 28.2 percent decline in the leisure and hospitality sector, which includes restaurants, hotels, and recreational activities. Additionally, the report predicts that retail spending will not return to 2019 levels until 2021 at the earliest, resulting in a 14.9 percent employment drop in this sector.

Sources: Kansas Department of Labor: Pre COVID-19 - weeks ending Jan 4th - Mar 14<sup>th</sup>; COVID-19 - weeks ending Mar 21st - Apr 18<sup>th</sup>; U.S. Census American Family Survey 2018; Wichita State University 2020 Kansas City Employment Forecast Published June 2020

