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Guest Blogger

Where Will Jobs Be For D.C. Area?

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The D.C. area will continue to be an area of significant job growth according to recent [detailed statistical analysis first reported at The Daily Beast from the always interesting Richard Florida](#).

Florida, author of the celebrated book "[The Rise of the Creative Class](#)," estimates that Greater Washington will have the second fastest growing job market in the United States over the decade from 2008-2018, behind only Rochester, Min., in percentage growth.

Florida goes into far greater statistical detail and analysis on his own blog ([Creative Class](#)). Nationally, Florida anticipates that job growth will be highly concentrated in areas focusing on technology and human capital while more industrial areas can anticipate continued erosion. Florida extrapolates from the data:

This suggests that the structural forces that are reshaping the U.S. economy from an industrial to a more idea, knowledge, and human capital driven post-industrial economic system will continue to deepen. Left unchecked, these forces will continue to divide the U.S. economy and U.S. society by skill-level, occupation, and economic class – the kind of work people do. And this rising economic divide of work and class will also continue to be reflected in and overlaid by a deepening geographic divide, as the geography of class compounds economic and social inequality.



Richard Florida

For Florida, who has long seen the educated, technological, and creative workers as being keys to economic development, the projects are confirmation of theories he has long expounded. His predictions on growth of creative class jobs are quite intriguing as well. Not only can [!]DC expect [17.4% growth rates in creative class jobs, but Richmond does even better at a estimated 17.51% creative class job growth rate](#). While his message of deepening geographic and economic divides is a little disheartening, he certainly brings confirmation that educational, monetary and population demographics are highly favorable to our future in the D.C. metro area.

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