

# Preface

This bulletin provides occupational employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey. Included are national, State, and Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) estimates across all industries, as well as by industry. The tables in the bulletin present cross-industry national estimates for Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) major occupational groups and detailed occupations, as well as selected industry-specific national estimates and cross-industry State and MSA estimates for selected detailed occupations. National industry estimates by industry sector and at the three-digit, four-digit, and selected five-digit industry level within the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) are available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/oes/](http://www.bls.gov/oes/). Cross-industry estimates for all States and metropolitan areas are available on the same Web site.

The estimates are based on data collected during the 2002-05 surveys and are adjusted to full universe counts for the reference period, May 2005 for wage data and the average of May 2005 and November 2004 for employment data, based on information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Covered Employment and Wages program.

The OES program is a Federal-State cooperative effort between the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). BLS provides technical assistance and the statistical procedures for the survey; the SWAs col-

lect the data. For many years, the OES survey has been a major source of detailed occupational employment data by industry for the Nation, for States, and for metropolitan areas. This survey provides information for many data users, including individuals and organizations engaged in planning vocational education programs, higher education programs, and employment and training programs. OES data also are used to prepare information for career counseling, for job placement activities performed at State Workforce Agencies, and for personnel planning and market research conducted by private enterprises.

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