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## **OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES GULFPORT-BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI, MAY 2006**

Workers in the Gulfport-Biloxi Metropolitan Statistical Area<sup>1</sup> had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$15.64 in May 2006, compared with the nationwide average of \$18.84, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that, after testing for statistical significance, wages in the local area were lower than their respective national averages in 18 of the 22 major occupational groups. In addition, when compared to the nationwide distribution, local employment was more highly concentrated in 8 of the 22 occupational groups, while 11 groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation. Occupational groups with larger local employment shares included construction and extraction and food preparation and serving related. (See table A and box note at end of release.)

These statistics are from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey, a federal-state cooperative program between BLS and State Workforce Agencies, in this case the Mississippi Department of Employment Security. The OES survey provides estimates of employment and hourly and annual wages for wage and salary workers in 22 major occupational groups and up to 801 non-military detailed occupations for the nation, states, and 409 metropolitan areas, including Gulfport-Biloxi, Mississippi.

### Occupational wages in the Gulfport-Biloxi area

Legal and management occupations were the two highest-paid occupational groups in the Gulfport-Biloxi area in May 2006, with those in legal occupations averaging \$34.40 per hour and those in management, \$34.20. (See chart A and table A.) Nationwide, these were also the two highest-paying groups, with hourly earnings of \$44.20 in management and \$41.04 in legal occupations.

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<sup>1</sup> The Gulfport-Biloxi Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) consists of Hancock, Harrison, and Stone Counties in Mississippi. Gulfport-Biloxi, the Gulfport-Biloxi metropolitan area, and other such abbreviations are used interchangeably to refer to the officially designated MSA.

Within the legal profession, hourly wages varied widely. Lawyers in Gulfport-Biloxi averaged \$46.93 per hour, while paralegals and legal assistants averaged \$18.71. Those with jobs in management also had widely varying wages. Two of the higher-paid occupations in management included chief executives (\$57.85) and engineering managers (\$46.65). At the lower end of the spectrum, three management occupations had hourly rates under \$20.00: social and community service managers; lodging managers; and property, real estate, and community association managers. (Detailed occupational data are presented in table 1.)

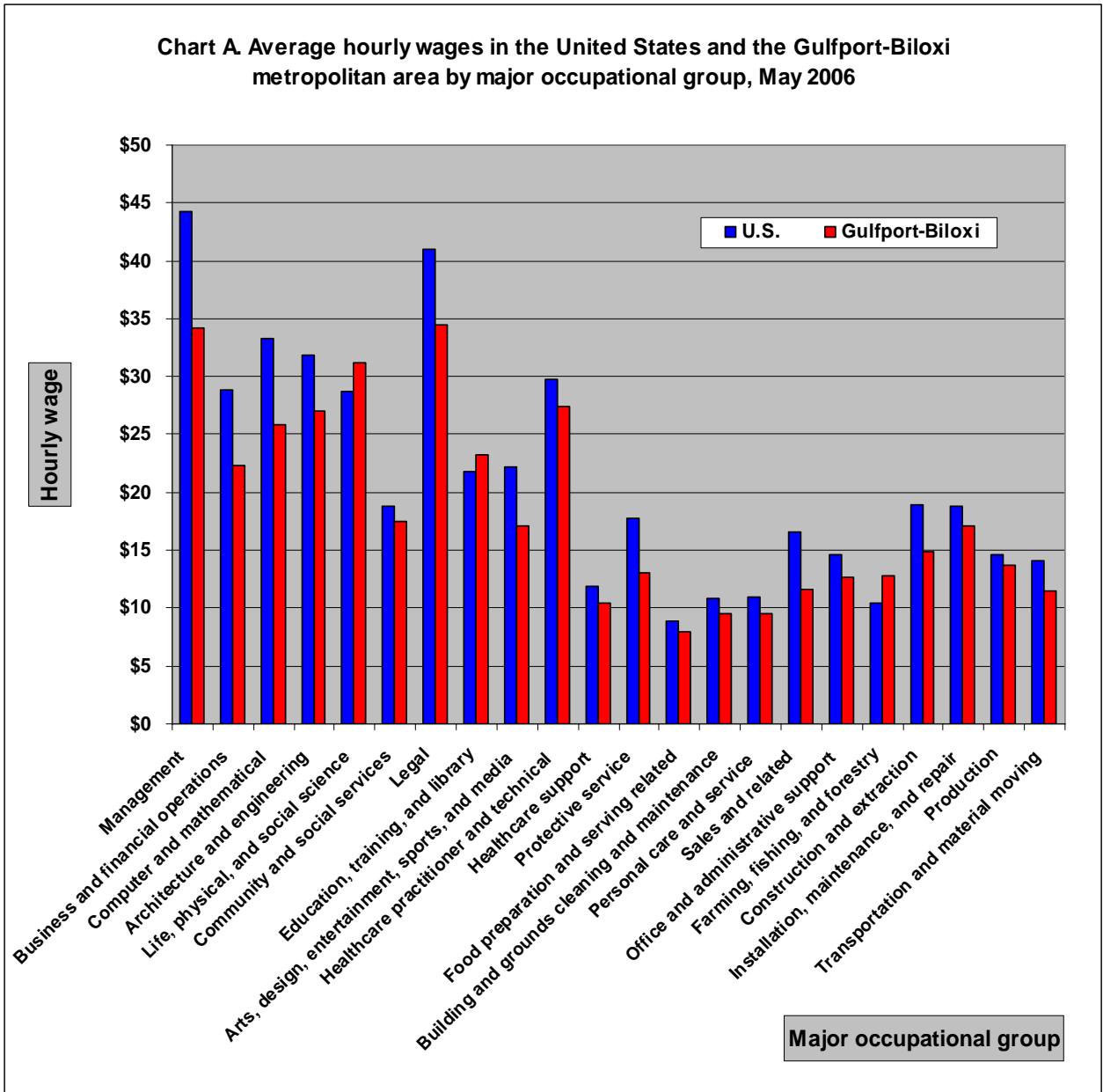
The life, physical, and social sciences occupational group averaged \$31.17 an hour in Gulfport-Biloxi. Five other occupational groups had wages that were above \$20.00 an hour: business and financial operations; education, training, and library; computer and mathematical; architecture and engineering; and healthcare practitioner and technical. The average wage rates for the life, physical, and social science (\$31.17) and education, training, and library (\$23.23) groups were not measurably different from their respective national averages.

**Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and Gulfport-Biloxi metropolitan area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2006**

Major occupational group	Employment share (percent of total)			Average (mean) hourly wage		
	United States	Gulfport-Biloxi	Significant difference <sup>1</sup>	United States	Gulfport-Biloxi	Significant difference <sup>1</sup>
Management	4.4%	4.0%	Yes	\$44.20	\$34.20	Yes
Business and financial operations	4.4	3.2	Yes	28.85	22.35	Yes
Computer and mathematical	2.3	1.2	Yes	33.29	25.91	Yes
Architecture and engineering	1.8	2.2	Yes	31.82	26.97	Yes
Life, physical, and social science	0.9	1.3	Yes	28.68	31.17	No
Community and social services	1.3	0.8	Yes	18.75	17.49	No
Legal	0.7	0.5	Yes	41.04	34.40	Yes
Education, training, and library	6.2	5.9	No	21.79	23.23	No
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	1.3	0.8	Yes	22.17	17.10	Yes
Healthcare practitioner and technical	5.1	6.0	Yes	29.82	27.38	Yes
Healthcare support	2.6	1.8	Yes	11.83	10.43	Yes
Protective service	2.3	4.4	Yes	17.81	13.00	Yes
Food preparation and serving related	8.3	10.9	Yes	8.86	7.99	Yes
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	3.3	4.2	Yes	10.86	9.47	Yes
Personal care and service	2.5	4.7	Yes	11.02	9.49	Yes
Sales and related	10.6	10.4	No	16.52	11.63	Yes
Office and administrative support	17.4	15.3	Yes	14.60	12.71	Yes
Farming, fishing, and forestry	0.3	0.1	Yes	10.49	12.78	Yes
Construction and extraction	5.0	6.6	Yes	18.89	14.84	Yes
Installation, maintenance, and repair	4.0	4.5	No	18.78	17.07	Yes
Production	7.7	4.6	Yes	14.65	13.74	Yes
Transportation and material moving	7.3	6.4	Yes	14.16	11.53	Yes

<sup>1</sup> Statistical significance testing at the 90-percent confidence level.

Three occupational groups in Gulfport-Biloxi averaged below \$10.00 per hour: food preparation and serving related, building and grounds cleaning and maintenance, and personal care and service. Wages for these three groups were all significantly below their respective national averages. Food preparation and serving related workers were the lowest-paid occupational group locally at \$7.99; nationally, this group was also the lowest paid at \$8.86. Within this occupational group in the Gulfport-Biloxi area, chefs and head cooks, at \$14.99 an hour, were among the more highly paid occupations, while food preparation workers, earning \$6.96, were at the lower end of the pay scale.

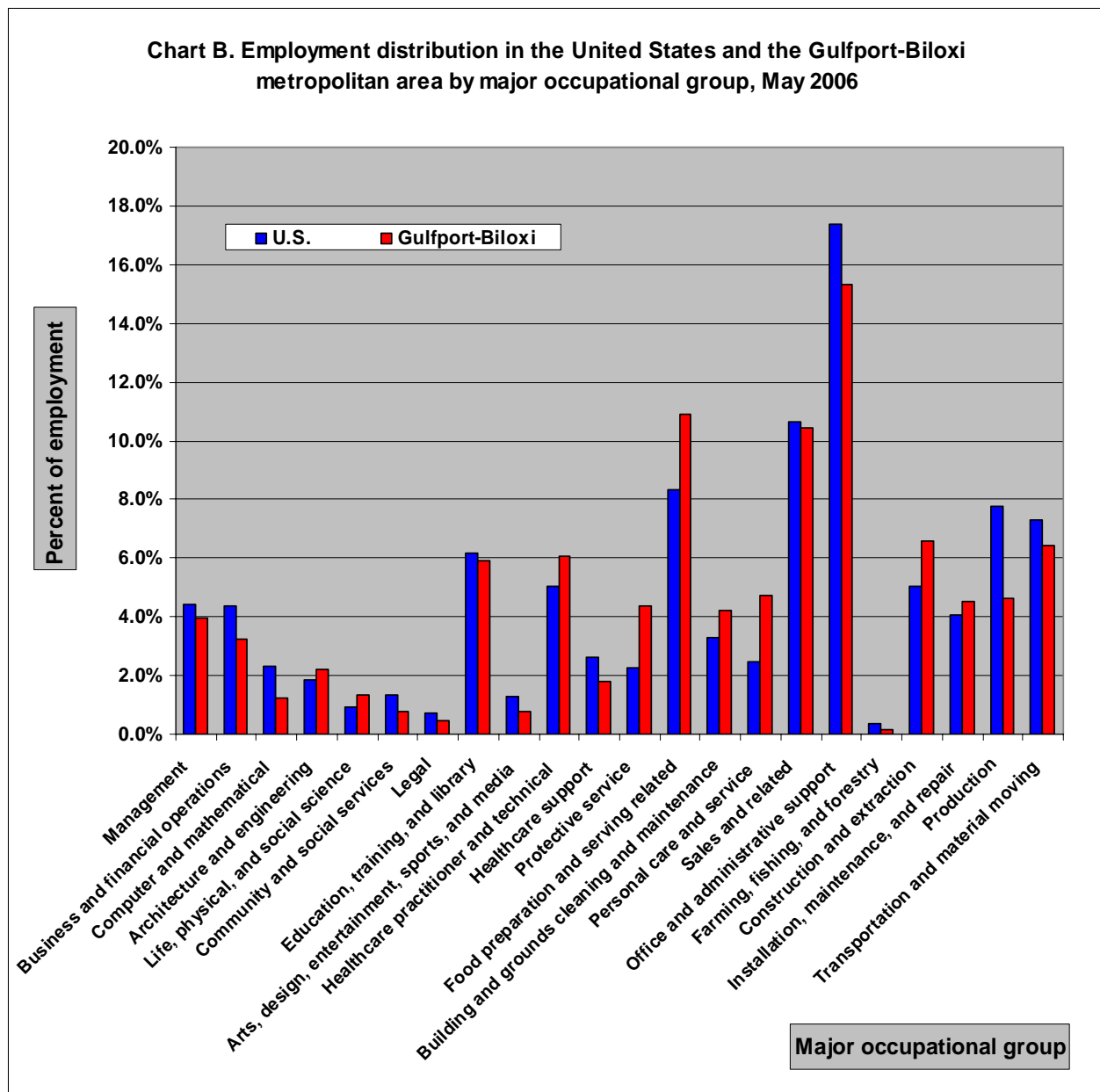


Occupational employment in the Gulfport-Biloxi area

Office and administrative support was the largest major occupational group in the Gulfport-Biloxi area, with a total of 14,330 workers representing 15.3 percent of area employment. (See table A and chart B.) The percentage of workers in this occupational group locally was significantly below the U.S. average of 17.4 percent. Nationally, this was also the largest occupational group. Within the office and administrative support group, secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive (1,730); bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks (1,440); and stock clerks and order fillers (1,150) accounted for the largest number of workers in the Gulfport area. (See table 1.)

Food preparation and serving related workers accounted for 10.9 percent of the local workforce; this was significantly above the 8.3-percent share at the national level. Four

occupations within this group—waiters and waitresses, food preparation workers, fast food cooks, and restaurant cooks—accounted for over one-half of local employment.



The sales and related occupational group accounted for a 10.4-percent share of the Gulfport-Biloxi workforce, not significantly different from the 10.6-percent nationwide average. Cashiers (3,320) and retail salespersons (3,640) made up more than 70 percent of this occupational group locally.

Seven other occupational groups had significantly larger employment shares in the Gulfport-Biloxi area than in the nation as a whole. These included construction and extraction, personal care and service, and protective service occupations. The construction and extraction group employed 6.6 percent of the local workforce. Together, electricians (870), construction laborers (830), and carpenters (810) accounted for more than one-third of the employment in this

occupational group. The personal care and service and protective service groups made up 4.7 and 4.4 percent of Gulfport-Biloxi's workforce, respectively. Gaming dealers (1,640) made up more than one-third of those employed in the personal care and service group, while security guards (1,560) accounted for a similar share of those employed in and protective service occupations.

Eleven occupational groups had lower-than-average representation in the Gulfport-Biloxi workforce. The largest differential was in the production group, which had a local employment share of 4.6 percent versus 7.7 percent nationally.

The OES wage and employment data for the 22 major occupational groups in the Gulfport-Biloxi metropolitan area were compared to their respective national averages based on statistical significance testing. Only those occupations with wages or employment shares above or below the national wage or share after testing for significance at the 90-percent confidence level meet the criteria. NOTE: A value that is statistically different from another does not necessarily mean that the difference has economic or practical significance. Statistical significance is concerned with the ability to make confident statements about a universe based on a sample. It is entirely possible that a large difference between two values is not significantly different statistically, while a small difference is, since both the size and heterogeneity of the sample affect the relative error of the data being tested.

## Technical Note

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey is a semiannual mail survey measuring occupational employment and wage rates for wage and salary workers in nonfarm establishments in the United States. Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands also are surveyed, but their data are not included in this release. OES estimates are constructed from a sample of about 1.2 million establishments. Forms are mailed to approximately 200,000 establishments in May and November of each year for a 3-year period. The nationwide response rate for the May 2006 survey was 78.1 percent based on establishments and 73.4 percent based on employment. The survey included establishments sampled in the May 2006, November 2005, May 2005, November 2004, May 2004, and November 2003 semiannual panels. The sample in the Gulfport-Biloxi metropolitan area included 1,122 establishments with a response rate of 79 percent.

### The occupational coding system

The OES survey uses the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) occupational classification system, the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. The SOC system is the first OMB-required occupational classification system for federal agencies. The OES survey categorizes workers in 1 of 801 detailed occupations. Together, these detailed occupations make up 23 major occupational groups, 22 of which are covered in this release. The one exception is military specific occupations which are not included in the OES survey.

For more information about the SOC system, please see the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/soc/>.

### The industry coding system

The OES survey uses the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). For more information about NAICS, see the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm>.

### Survey sample

BLS funds the survey and provides the procedures and technical support, while the State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) collect most of the data. BLS produces cross-industry and industry-specific estimates for the nation, states, and metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs). Industry-specific estimates are produced at the NAICS sector, 3-digit, 4-digit, and selected 5-digit industry levels. BLS releases all cross-industry and national estimates; the SWAs release industry-specific estimates at the state and MSA levels.

State Unemployment Insurance (UI) files provide the universe from which the OES survey draws its sample. Employment benchmarks are obtained from reports submitted by employers to the UI program. The OES survey sample is stratified by metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas and industry. Samples selected in panels prior to May 2005 were stratified using MSA definitions based on the 1990 Metropolitan Statistical Area standards. Beginning with the May 2005 panel, the sample was stratified using new MSA definitions based on the 2000 Metropolitan Statistical Area standards.

### Concepts

*Occupational employment* is the estimate of total wage and salary employment in an occupation across the industries surveyed. The OES survey defines employment as the number of

workers who can be classified as full- or part-time employees, including workers on paid vacations or other types of paid leave; workers on unpaid short-term absences; salaried officers, executives, and staff members of incorporated firms; employees temporarily assigned to other units; and employees for whom the reporting unit is their permanent duty station regardless of whether that unit prepares their paycheck.

*Wages* for the OES survey are straight-time, gross pay, exclusive of premium pay. Base rate, cost-of-living allowances, guaranteed pay, hazardous-duty pay, incentive pay including commissions and production bonuses, tips, and on-call pay are included. Excluded are: back pay, jury duty pay, overtime pay, severance pay, shift differentials, non-production bonuses, employer cost for supplementary benefits, and tuition reimbursements.

*Mean hourly wage.* The mean hourly wage rate for an occupation is the total wages that all workers in the occupation earn in an hour divided by the total employment of the occupation. To calculate the mean hourly wage of each occupation, total weighted hourly wages are summed across all intervals and divided by the occupation's weighted survey employment. The mean wage for each interval is based on occupational wage data collected by the BLS Office of Compensation and Working Conditions for the National Compensation Survey (NCS).

*Annual Wage.* Many employees are paid at an hourly rate by their employers and may work more than or less than 40 hours per week. Annual wage estimates for most occupations in this release are calculated by multiplying the mean hourly wage by a "year-round, full-time" figure of 2,080 hours (52 weeks by 40 hours). Thus, annual wage estimates may not represent the actual annual pay received by the employee if they work more or less than 2,080 hours per year. Some workers typically work less than fulltime, year round. For these occupations, the OES survey collects and reports either the annual salary or the hourly wage rate, depending on how the occupation is typically paid, but not both. For example, teachers, flight attendants, and pilots may be paid an annual salary, but do not work the usual 2,080 hours per year. In this case, an annual salary is reported. Other workers, such as entertainment workers, are paid hourly rates, but generally do not work full time, year round. For these workers, only an hourly wage is reported.

*Hourly versus Annual Wage Reporting.* For each occupation, respondents are asked to report the number of employees paid within specific wage intervals. The intervals are defined both as hourly rates and the corresponding annual rates, where the annual rate for an occupation is calculated by multiplying the hourly wage rate by a typical work year of 2,080 hours. The responding establishment can reference either the hourly or the annual rate for full-time workers, but they are instructed to report the hourly rate for part-time workers.

## **Estimation methodology**

Each OES panel includes approximately 200,000 establishments. The OES survey is designed to produce estimates using six panels (3 years) of data. The full six-panel sample of 1.2 million establishments allows the production of estimates at detailed levels of geography, industry, and occupation.

*Wage Updating.* Significant reductions in sampling errors are obtained by combining six panels of data, particularly for small geographic areas and occupations. Wages for the current panel need no adjustment. However, wages in the five previous panels need to be updated to the

current panel's reference period.

The OES program uses the BLS Employment Cost Index (ECI) to adjust survey data from prior panels before combining them with the current panel's data. The wage updating procedure adjusts each detailed occupation's wage rate, as measured in the earlier panel, according to the average movement of its broader occupational division. The procedure assumes that there are no major differences by geography, industry, or detailed occupation within the occupational division.

*May 2006 OES survey estimates.* The May 2006 OES survey estimates are based on all data collected from establishments in the May 2006, November 2005, May 2005, November 2004, May 2004, November 2003 semiannual samples.

*Reliability of the estimates.* Estimates calculated from a sample survey are subject to two types of error: sampling and nonsampling. Sampling error occurs when estimates are calculated from a subset (that is, a sample) of the population instead of the full population. When a sample of the population is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimate of the characteristic of interest may differ from the population value of that characteristic. Differences between the sample estimate and the population value will vary depending on the sample selected. This variability can be estimated by calculating the standard error (SE) of the sample estimate. If we were to repeat the sampling and estimation process countless times using the same survey design, approximately 90 percent of the intervals created by adding and subtracting 1.645 SEs from the sample estimate would include the population value. These intervals are called 90-percent confidence intervals. The OES survey, however, usually uses the relative standard error (RSE) of a sample estimate instead of its SE to measure sampling error. RSE is defined as the SE of a sample estimate divided by the sample estimate itself. This statistic provides the user with a measure of the relative precision of the sample estimate. RSEs are calculated for both occupational employment and mean wage rate estimates. Occupational employment RSEs are calculated using a subsample, random group replication technique called the jackknife. Mean wage rate RSEs are calculated using a variance components model that accounts for both the observed and unobserved components of the wage data. The variances of the unobserved components are estimated using wage data from the BLS National Compensation Survey. In general, estimates based on many establishments have lower RSEs than estimates based on few establishments. If the distributional assumptions of the models are violated, the resulting confidence intervals may not reflect the prescribed level of confidence.

*Nonsampling error* occurs for a variety of reasons, none of which are directly connected to sampling. Examples of nonsampling error include: nonresponse, data incorrectly reported by the respondent, mistakes made in entering collected data into the database, and mistakes made in editing and processing the collected data.

### **Additional information**

The May 2006 OES national data by occupation, comparable to data in table 1, are available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/oes>. Users also may access each occupation's definition and percentile wages. The May 2006 cross-industry data for states and metropolitan areas are also available on the BLS Web site, as are the industry staffing patterns at the sector, 3-, 4-, and selected 5-digit NAICS levels. These data include industry-specific occupational employment and wage data. A more detailed technical note for OES is available at <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.tn.htm>.



OES data are available on our regional web page at <http://www.bls.gov/ro4/home.htm>. If you have additional questions, contact the BLS Southeast Economic Analysis and Information Office at (404) 893-4222, 9:00-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4:00 pm., E.T. Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2006**

	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
<b>All occupations</b>	93,660	\$15.64	\$32,530	\$12.20
<b>Management occupations</b>	<b>3,710</b>	<b>34.20</b>	<b>71,130</b>	<b>29.66</b>
Chief executives	340	57.85	120,330	51.94
General and operations managers	1,110	36.08	75,040	31.41
Legislators	50	(3)	24,430	(3)
Advertising and promotions managers	50	26.72	55,580	24.24
Marketing managers	40	39.05	81,220	31.36
Sales managers	170	33.88	70,460	30.34
Administrative services managers	140	22.01	45,780	17.58
Computer and information systems managers	70	36.91	76,760	36.28
Financial managers	220	33.58	69,850	30.49
Industrial production managers	60	31.05	64,580	30.46
Purchasing managers	40	34.93	72,660	34.79
Transportation, storage, and distribution managers	50	28.21	58,670	26.29
Construction managers	180	26.52	55,150	24.42
Education administrators, preschool and child care center/program	50	22.42	46,640	19.06
Education administrators, elementary and secondary school	120	(3)	69,320	(3)
Engineering managers	110	46.65	97,030	46.80
Food service managers	250	22.91	47,660	20.47
Gaming managers	70	32.70	68,010	29.50
Lodging managers	30	18.04	37,520	17.50
Medical and health services managers	130	37.46	77,920	33.23
Property, real estate, and community association managers	90	13.79	28,690	11.72
Social and community service managers	60	19.68	40,930	18.11
Managers, all other	80	37.28	77,550	36.78
<b>Business and financial operations occupations</b>	<b>3,010</b>	<b>22.35</b>	<b>46,490</b>	<b>20.79</b>
Wholesale and retail buyers, except farm products	60	20.17	41,950	19.78
Purchasing agents, except wholesale, retail, and farm products	210	23.62	49,130	22.61
Claims adjusters, examiners, and investigators	110	23.86	49,630	24.56
Compliance officers, except agriculture, construction, health and safety, and transportation	200	18.75	39,010	16.30
Cost estimators	120	26.61	55,360	24.16
Employment, recruitment, and placement specialists	120	16.64	34,620	14.95
Compensation, benefits, and job analysis specialists	30	16.28	33,860	15.85
Training and development specialists	60	18.41	38,290	17.13
Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists, all other	160	29.41	61,170	29.41
Logisticians	50	26.79	55,730	26.25
Management analysts	110	33.94	70,600	33.17
Meeting and convention planners	50	12.65	26,320	8.58
Business operations specialists, all other	760	21.69	45,120	20.20
Accountants and auditors	370	23.66	49,220	21.57
Budget analysts	60	28.31	58,890	27.77
Personal financial advisors	(4)	23.09	48,030	22.14
Loan officers	180	18.00	37,430	16.31

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2006 (continued)**

	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
Tax examiners, collectors, and revenue agents	70	22.32	46,430	21.96
Financial specialists, all other	40	26.58	55,290	25.41
<b>Computer and mathematical occupations</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>25.91</b>	<b>53,880</b>	<b>25.12</b>
Computer and information scientists, research	130	34.74	72,260	34.01
Computer programmers	120	23.00	47,840	21.54
Computer software engineers, applications	120	26.27	54,650	25.64
Computer software engineers, systems software	70	27.17	56,500	29.69
Computer support specialists	320	19.77	41,120	18.17
Computer systems analysts	(4)	26.67	55,470	24.92
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	80	24.67	51,310	25.23
Network systems and data communications analysts	(4)	25.41	52,850	23.35
Computer specialists, all other	(4)	31.75	66,040	30.40
<b>Architecture and engineering occupations</b>	<b>2,070</b>	<b>26.97</b>	<b>56,090</b>	<b>25.02</b>
Architects, except landscape and naval	30	23.67	49,230	25.50
Surveyors	280	14.46	30,070	12.67
Chemical engineers	60	34.01	70,730	34.18
Civil engineers	330	32.90	68,420	33.40
Electrical engineers	80	40.31	83,840	38.15
Electronics engineers, except computer	120	35.79	74,450	38.07
Industrial engineers	30	29.02	60,360	28.46
Mechanical engineers	60	33.02	68,690	32.70
Engineers, all other	130	44.26	92,060	45.29
Architectural and civil drafters	90	18.44	38,360	19.40
Civil engineering technicians	120	17.72	36,850	16.49
Electrical and electronic engineering technicians	320	22.98	47,800	21.82
Mechanical engineering technicians	50	19.35	40,240	19.77
Engineering technicians, except drafters, all other	90	24.90	51,780	26.26
Surveying and mapping technicians	50	12.38	25,750	12.78
<b>Life, physical, and social science occupations</b>	<b>1,230</b>	<b>31.17</b>	<b>64,840</b>	<b>30.96</b>
Conservation scientists	40	20.50	42,640	19.09
Foresters	(4)	23.77	49,440	23.37
Chemists	60	37.86	78,750	36.21
Environmental scientists and specialists, including health	80	20.61	42,880	18.62
Geoscientists, except hydrologists and geographers	270	40.44	84,110	40.03
Physical scientists, all other	260	37.12	77,200	36.32
Clinical, counseling, and school psychologists	40	30.05	62,510	24.06
Social scientists and related workers, all other	50	32.65	67,910	33.01
Chemical technicians	60	17.80	37,030	16.08
Life, physical, and social science technicians, all other	40	20.57	42,780	20.63
<b>Community and social services occupations</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>17.49</b>	<b>36,370</b>	<b>16.22</b>
Substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors	60	18.83	39,160	15.67
Educational, vocational, and school counselors	140	22.09	45,940	22.98

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2006 (continued)**

	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
Rehabilitation counselors	30	21.87	45,490	18.72
Child, family, and school social workers	110	14.55	30,260	13.68
Mental health and substance abuse social workers	80	11.69	24,320	6.95
Social and human service assistants	80	13.07	27,180	13.14
<b>Legal occupations</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>34.40</b>	<b>71,540</b>	<b>27.96</b>
Lawyers	250	46.93	97,610	44.13
Paralegals and legal assistants	(4)	18.71	38,930	18.33
<b>Education, training, and library occupations</b>	<b>5,520</b>	<b>23.23</b>	<b>48,330</b>	<b>20.76</b>
Preschool teachers, except special education	130	9.79	20,360	9.87
Kindergarten teachers, except special education	200	(3)	41,410	(3)
Elementary school teachers, except special education	1,360	(3)	58,290	(3)
Middle school teachers, except special and vocational education	570	(3)	62,470	(3)
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	720	(3)	59,210	(3)
Vocational education teachers, secondary school	70	(3)	50,180	(3)
Special education teachers, preschool, kindergarten, and elementary school	150	(3)	43,200	(3)
Special education teachers, middle school	60	(3)	43,100	(3)
Special education teachers, secondary school	50	(3)	44,380	(3)
Adult literacy, remedial education, and GED teachers and instructors	50	16.93	35,220	17.91
Self-enrichment education teachers	60	17.40	36,190	17.27
Teachers and instructors, all other	(4)	(3)	56,920	(3)
Librarians	90	22.94	47,710	22.47
Library technicians	60	11.63	24,190	11.12
Instructional coordinators	180	29.97	62,330	31.09
Teacher assistants	770	(3)	15,720	(3)
<b>Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>17.10</b>	<b>35,560</b>	<b>15.59</b>
Floral designers	40	8.75	18,210	8.52
Graphic designers	90	17.27	35,920	16.96
Producers and directors	60	20.48	42,600	19.76
Radio and television announcers	50	13.20	27,460	10.99
Public relations specialists	160	17.62	36,640	15.02
Technical writers	(4)	27.26	56,700	29.91
Photographers	50	13.92	28,940	12.61
<b>Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations</b>	<b>5,660</b>	<b>27.38</b>	<b>56,960</b>	<b>22.05</b>
Dentists, general	50	87.23	181,440	(2)
Dietitians and nutritionists	30	21.90	45,550	20.59
Pharmacists	150	43.99	91,500	44.50
Family and general practitioners	140	81.92	170,380	(2)
Surgeons	(4)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Registered nurses	2,450	24.77	51,510	23.70
Occupational therapists	40	34.41	71,580	35.06
Physical therapists	140	40.37	83,980	36.85

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2006 (continued)**

	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
Recreational therapists	30	18.08	37,610	16.95
Speech-language pathologists	80	27.53	57,260	25.62
Medical and clinical laboratory technologists	110	22.98	47,800	23.33
Dental hygienists	100	30.60	63,640	32.06
Diagnostic medical sonographers	30	25.09	52,180	24.97
Radiologic technologists and technicians	180	20.95	43,570	20.78
Pharmacy technicians	210	12.42	25,820	11.87
Surgical technologists	130	15.62	32,500	15.77
Veterinary technologists and technicians	(4)	10.23	21,280	10.45
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	600	14.30	29,750	14.08
Medical records and health information technicians	200	12.42	25,830	11.52
Occupational health and safety specialists	40	25.21	52,440	24.79
<b>Healthcare support occupations</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>10.43</b>	<b>21,690</b>	<b>9.55</b>
Home health aides	100	9.02	18,770	9.03
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	760	9.89	20,570	9.17
Physical therapist assistants	40	15.54	32,330	17.39
Physical therapist aides	60	8.95	18,620	8.86
Dental assistants	150	13.29	27,650	13.16
Medical assistants	160	11.27	23,440	12.06
Pharmacy aides	(4)	6.79	14,120	6.70
Healthcare support workers, all other	90	14.82	30,820	13.01
<b>Protective service occupations</b>	<b>4,110</b>	<b>13.00</b>	<b>27,030</b>	<b>11.97</b>
First-line supervisors/managers of police and detectives	60	24.53	51,020	22.04
First-line supervisors/managers of fire fighting and prevention workers	100	23.75	49,400	24.54
First-line supervisors/managers, protective service workers, all other	70	18.43	38,330	14.86
Fire fighters	520	15.82	32,910	15.86
Correctional officers and jailers	700	11.96	24,880	11.10
Detectives and criminal investigators	130	24.89	51,780	22.08
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	650	14.69	30,550	14.98
Security guards	1,560	9.49	19,730	8.49
<b>Food preparation and serving related occupations</b>	<b>10,190</b>	<b>7.99</b>	<b>16,620</b>	<b>7.04</b>
Chefs and head cooks	140	14.99	31,190	14.37
First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers	690	13.54	28,170	12.46
Cooks, fast food	1,020	7.03	14,620	6.69
Cooks, institution and cafeteria	430	9.10	18,940	8.64
Cooks, restaurant	1,010	8.97	18,660	9.01
Food preparation workers	1,490	6.96	14,480	6.72
Bartenders	340	7.70	16,020	7.56
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	760	7.77	16,150	6.79
Counter attendants, cafeteria, food concession, and coffee shop	390	7.22	15,010	7.18
Waiters and waitresses	2,170	7.18	14,940	6.46
Dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender helpers	430	7.14	14,850	6.70
Dishwashers	490	7.18	14,930	7.03
Hosts and hostesses, restaurant, lounge, and coffee shop	420	7.27	15,120	7.20

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2006 (continued)**

	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
<b>Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations</b>	<b>3,930</b>	<b>9.47</b>	<b>19,700</b>	<b>8.93</b>
First-line supervisors/managers of housekeeping and janitorial workers	260	13.76	28,610	12.87
First-line supervisors/managers of landscaping, lawn service, and groundskeeping workers	80	14.46	30,080	13.93
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	1,880	9.42	19,590	9.34
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	990	7.76	16,130	7.89
Pest control workers	110	11.39	23,690	11.98
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	540	9.31	19,360	8.52
<b>Personal care and service occupations</b>	<b>4,410</b>	<b>9.49</b>	<b>19,740</b>	<b>8.01</b>
Gaming supervisors	370	18.32	38,110	18.47
Slot key persons	450	11.27	23,450	10.61
First-line supervisors/managers of personal service workers	70	11.35	23,620	12.16
Nonfarm animal caretakers	(4)	7.17	14,910	6.65
Gaming dealers	1,640	8.05	16,750	6.76
Ushers, lobby attendants, and ticket takers	80	7.21	15,000	6.77
Amusement and recreation attendants	110	8.63	17,940	8.36
Hairdressers, hairstylists, and cosmetologists	70	10.78	22,410	10.18
Manicurists and pedicurists	(4)	7.88	16,390	7.90
Baggage porters and bellhops	150	7.29	15,150	6.71
Concierges	(4)	8.21	17,080	8.03
Child care workers	740	7.49	15,570	6.98
Personal and home care aides	(4)	9.10	18,920	8.55
Fitness trainers and aerobics instructors	160	11.50	23,910	11.01
Recreation workers	130	10.64	22,130	10.05
Residential advisors	40	11.08	23,050	10.23
<b>Sales and related occupations</b>	<b>9,780</b>	<b>11.63</b>	<b>24,200</b>	<b>9.21</b>
First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers	1,100	16.18	33,660	14.27
First-line supervisors/managers of non-retail sales workers	70	27.77	57,760	25.09
Cashiers	3,320	7.57	15,740	7.39
Counter and rental clerks	230	8.87	18,450	7.68
Parts salespersons	170	14.58	30,330	13.38
Retail salespersons	3,640	11.00	22,880	9.65
Advertising sales agents	70	19.35	40,250	17.66
Insurance sales agents	180	15.92	33,120	12.49
Securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents	(4)	27.18	56,530	20.39
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, technical and scientific products	80	25.82	53,700	22.72
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	410	24.19	50,310	21.54
Real estate sales agents	70	24.15	50,240	21.54
Telemarketers	(4)	11.25	23,400	11.13
<b>Office and administrative support occupations</b>	<b>14,330</b>	<b>12.71</b>	<b>26,430</b>	<b>11.58</b>
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	1,000	19.45	40,460	18.30
Switchboard operators, including answering service	230	9.30	19,350	8.98

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2006 (continued)**

	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
Bill and account collectors	200	11.71	24,360	11.03
Billing and posting clerks and machine operators	320	11.63	24,190	11.19
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	1,440	14.17	29,480	13.60
Gaming cage workers	290	11.65	24,240	11.00
Payroll and timekeeping clerks	160	13.74	28,580	13.44
Procurement clerks	80	17.45	36,300	17.59
Tellers	600	9.13	18,990	9.34
Court, municipal, and license clerks	90	11.27	23,440	10.65
Customer service representatives	970	11.15	23,190	10.85
Eligibility interviewers, government programs	70	13.30	27,660	11.80
File clerks	110	8.33	17,320	8.30
Hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks	210	9.14	19,000	9.29
Interviewers, except eligibility and loan	240	11.00	22,870	10.83
Loan interviewers and clerks	100	12.38	25,750	13.68
New accounts clerks	(4)	11.50	23,920	11.26
Order clerks	120	11.43	23,770	10.12
Human resources assistants, except payroll and timekeeping	160	15.84	32,960	16.14
Receptionists and information clerks	650	10.49	21,810	10.03
Reservation and transportation ticket agents and travel clerks	120	12.19	25,350	10.93
Information and record clerks, all other	300	15.64	32,530	15.27
Couriers and messengers	60	8.90	18,510	8.88
Police, fire, and ambulance dispatchers	120	11.50	23,920	11.89
Dispatchers, except police, fire, and ambulance	110	13.33	27,720	12.91
Meter readers, utilities	50	12.59	26,180	11.58
Postal service clerks	60	21.16	44,020	21.56
Postal service mail carriers	250	20.80	43,260	20.80
Postal service mail sorters, processors, and processing machine operators	120	20.63	42,910	21.58
Production, planning, and expediting clerks	120	17.11	35,580	16.71
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks	460	12.34	25,660	11.97
Stock clerks and order fillers	1,150	9.95	20,700	9.04
Weighers, measurers, checkers, and samplers, recordkeeping	40	13.08	27,210	12.12
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	500	15.87	33,010	14.44
Legal secretaries	130	16.29	33,890	16.19
Medical secretaries	170	12.18	25,340	12.43
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	1,730	12.02	25,000	11.22
Computer operators	100	13.84	28,780	13.25
Data entry keyers	120	9.65	20,080	9.46
Word processors and typists	80	12.55	26,090	11.79
Insurance claims and policy processing clerks	70	11.56	24,050	10.84
Mail clerks and mail machine operators, except postal service	40	11.66	24,250	12.00
Office clerks, general	(4)	10.02	20,840	9.40
Office machine operators, except computer	30	9.30	19,340	9.34
<b>Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>12.78</b>	<b>26,570</b>	<b>12.93</b>
Fallers	(4)	11.67	24,280	11.03
Logging Equipment Operators	40	13.41	27,880	13.65

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2006 (continued)**

	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
<b>Construction and extraction occupations</b>	<b>6,170</b>	<b>14.84</b>	<b>30,870</b>	<b>13.88</b>
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers	510	21.86	45,480	20.72
Carpenters	810	14.57	30,310	14.42
Cement masons and concrete finishers	(4)	11.18	23,240	11.20
Construction laborers	830	10.65	22,150	10.53
Paving, surfacing, and tamping equipment operators	100	12.57	26,150	12.47
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators	520	13.82	28,740	13.13
Drywall and ceiling tile installers	(4)	15.36	31,940	15.60
Electricians	870	18.63	38,760	19.78
Insulation workers, floor, ceiling, and wall	100	11.11	23,110	12.25
Painters, construction and maintenance	350	14.35	29,840	14.35
Pipelayers	70	11.65	24,230	11.65
Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	(4)	17.40	36,200	17.76
Plasterers and stucco masons	(4)	9.97	20,740	9.44
Roofers	120	13.14	27,330	13.32
Sheet metal workers	110	15.02	31,250	13.71
Helpers--brickmasons, blockmasons, stonemasons, and tile and marble setters	30	10.69	22,240	10.73
Helpers--carpenters	100	10.83	22,530	10.93
Helpers--electricians	(4)	13.04	27,120	13.17
Helpers--painters, paperhangers, plasterers, and stucco masons	70	10.62	22,080	10.59
Helpers--pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	(4)	10.91	22,700	10.93
Helpers--roofers	60	11.03	22,940	11.11
Construction and building inspectors	70	19.37	40,300	16.66
Highway maintenance workers	160	10.73	22,310	10.39
<b>Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations</b>	<b>4,250</b>	<b>17.07</b>	<b>35,510</b>	<b>16.31</b>
First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, and repairers	460	23.29	48,440	23.02
Computer, automated teller, and office machine repairers	60	13.78	28,670	13.77
Telecommunications equipment installers and repairers, except line installers	70	23.08	48,000	24.47
Electrical and electronics repairers, commercial and industrial equipment	60	21.39	44,500	21.66
Electrical and electronics repairers, powerhouse, substation, and relay	30	25.73	53,520	26.79
Security and fire alarm systems installers	(4)	20.53	42,700	21.06
Aircraft mechanics and service technicians	180	21.70	45,130	21.84
Automotive body and related repairers	90	19.75	41,080	20.89
Automotive service technicians and mechanics	470	15.66	32,580	13.70
Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists	(4)	15.13	31,470	14.40
Mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines	130	17.05	35,470	16.82
Tire repairers and changers	(4)	10.09	20,990	10.11
Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers	250	15.30	31,820	14.81
Industrial machinery mechanics	230	19.11	39,750	19.63
Maintenance and repair workers, general	1,030	12.24	25,460	11.05

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2006 (continued)**

	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
Electrical power-line installers and repairers	260	22.28	46,350	22.81
Coin, vending, and amusement machine servicers and repairers	110	12.93	26,890	12.64
Helpers--installation, maintenance, and repair workers	(4)	11.12	23,140	11.50
Installation, maintenance, and repair workers, all other	40	16.70	34,740	11.38
<b>Production occupations</b>	<b>4,340</b>	<b>13.74</b>	<b>28,580</b>	<b>12.00</b>
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	340	21.21	44,110	20.69
Structural metal fabricators and fitters	70	13.89	28,890	13.67
Team assemblers	480	9.41	19,580	8.78
Bakers	110	8.52	17,730	8.42
Butchers and meat cutters	50	12.90	26,820	12.80
Meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers	40	7.72	16,060	7.45
Computer-controlled machine tool operators, metal and plastic	(4)	10.40	21,620	9.49
Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	70	10.74	22,340	10.72
Machinists	90	16.34	33,990	14.01
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	350	15.07	31,340	15.61
Lay-out workers, metal and plastic	(4)	9.99	20,790	8.71
Printing machine operators	60	11.69	24,320	11.62
Laundry and dry-cleaning workers	210	9.24	19,230	8.45
Pressers, textile, garment, and related materials	60	9.69	20,160	9.53
Cabinetmakers and bench carpenters	180	11.19	23,270	10.45
Sawing machine setters, operators, and tenders, wood	(4)	10.72	22,300	10.48
Stationary engineers and boiler operators	50	17.86	37,140	18.05
Chemical plant and system operators	(4)	20.97	43,620	21.36
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	110	17.97	37,370	18.42
Ophthalmic laboratory technicians	(4)	8.87	18,450	8.96
Packaging and filling machine operators and tenders	210	9.69	20,150	9.75
Coating, painting, and spraying machine setters, operators, and tenders	40	12.64	26,290	12.71
Painters, transportation equipment	40	17.59	36,590	16.70
Helpers--production workers	150	9.03	18,790	9.28
<b>Transportation and material moving occupations</b>	<b>6,040</b>	<b>11.53</b>	<b>23,980</b>	<b>10.09</b>
First-line supervisors/managers of helpers, laborers, and material movers, hand	110	16.83	35,000	14.37
First-line supervisors/managers of transportation and material-moving machine and vehicle operators	160	22.67	47,160	20.42
Bus drivers, school	500	7.43	15,460	7.11
Driver/sales workers	370	11.34	23,590	10.25
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	930	14.57	30,310	14.04
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	1,030	11.11	23,110	10.79
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	120	9.34	19,430	8.71
Motor vehicle operators, all other	50	15.94	33,150	16.44
Parking lot attendants	200	7.47	15,540	6.83
Service station attendants	110	8.13	16,920	7.97
Transportation workers, all other	(4)	11.01	22,900	10.09
Excavating and loading machine and dragline operators	50	12.28	25,550	11.82

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Gulfport-Biloxi, MS, Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2006 (continued)**

	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
Industrial truck and tractor operators	260	12.24	25,470	12.36
Cleaners of vehicles and equipment	170	8.22	17,110	8.10
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	1,300	9.43	19,610	8.61
Machine feeders and offbearers	50	10.42	21,670	10.73
Packers and packagers, hand	240	7.77	16,150	7.41

(1) Annual wages have been calculated by multiplying the hourly mean wage by a 'year-round, full-time' hours figure of 2,080 hours; for those occupations where there is not an hourly mean wage published, the annual wage has been directly calculated from the reported survey data.

(2) Represents a wage above \$70.00 per hour.

(3) Hourly wage rates for occupations where workers typically work fewer than 2,080 hours per year are not available.

(4) Indicates that an employment estimate is not available.