

# Metropolitan area occupational densities, 1999

- **Accountants and auditors:** The highest employment shares for these workers are found in large metropolitan areas. The national share is 0.7 percent. The six areas with the highest shares of accountants and auditors are: Bloomington-Normal, IL; Bismarck, ND; Stamford-Norwalk, CT; Austin-San Marcos, TX; Abilene, TX; and Boise City, ID.
- **Computer programmers:** The highest shares are found where one would expect them Silicon Valley and other high-tech areas. The national share for these workers is 0.46 percent. The six areas with the highest shares are Binghamton, NY; Iowa City, IA; Springfield, IL; San Jose, CA; Middlesex-Somerset-Hunterdon, NY; and Austin-San Marcos, TX.
- **Cooks, restaurant:** The metropolitan areas with high shares are located mostly along the Nation's coasts and in rural and resort areas. The national share is 0.6 percent. The six areas with the highest shares are Myrtle Beach, SC; Panama City, FL; Santa Fe, NM; Iowa City, IA; Barnstable-Yarmouth, MA; and Atlantic-Cape May, NJ.
- **Financial managers:** Large urban areas and regional business centers have the highest shares of financial managers. The national share is 0.54 percent. The six areas with the highest shares are Stamford-Norwalk, CT; Santa Fe, NM; Boston, MA; San Francisco, CA; Pittsfield, MA; and Lowell, MA.
- **Lawyers:** Washington, DC, and the state capitals have some of the highest concentrations of lawyers. The national share is 0.34 percent. The six areas with the highest shares are Tallahassee, FL; Washington, DC; San Francisco, CA; Trenton, NJ; Great Falls, MT; and New York, NY.
- **Registered nurses:** Metropolitan areas with large health care facilities have the highest shares. The national share is 1.62 percent. The six areas with the highest shares are Rochester, MN; Columbia, MO; Punta Gorda; Pueblo, CO; Gainesville, FL; and Cumberland, MD.
- **Salespersons, retail:** Metropolitan areas in rural States and resort areas have the highest shares. The national share is 3.14 percent. The six areas with the highest shares are Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, NC; Bremerton, WA; Jacksonville, NC; Myrtle Beach, SC; Lawrence, KS; and Fort Walton Beach, FL.
- **Secretaries (except medical and legal):** The highest concentrations are found in both small and medium metropolitan areas. The national share is 1.95 percent. The six areas with the highest shares are Pocatello, ID; Springfield, MO; Athens, GA; Trenton, NJ; Cheyenne, WY; and Yolo, CA.
- **Truck drivers, heavy or tractor-trailer:** The highest shares are all in small metropolitan areas. The national share is 1.18 percent. The six areas with the highest shares are Joplin, TX; Laredo, TX; Yolo, CA; Fort Smith, AR; Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, NC; and Chattanooga, TN.

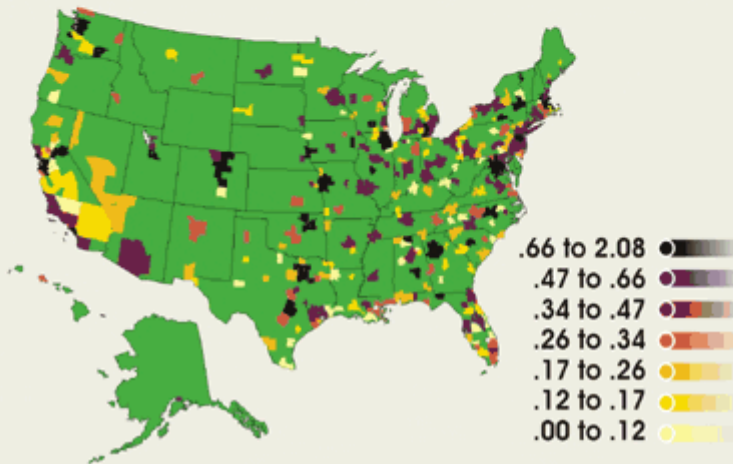


# Selected occupational densities by metropolitan area, 1999

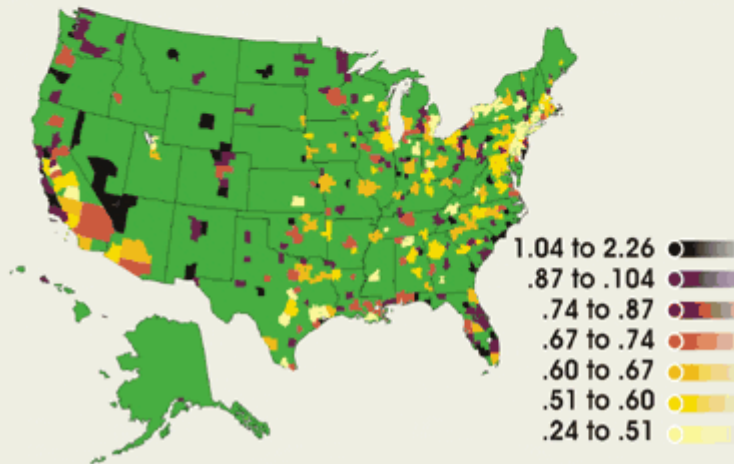
Local economies create a wide array of occupational distributions. For example, lawyers and secretaries are much more prevalent in the corridor between Boston and Washington and there are high concentrations of restaurant cooks in certain mountain and coastal areas.

Differences in industrial structure are one source of variation. Mountains and seacoasts are often the site of such recreation-oriented industries as lodging and eating and drinking places.

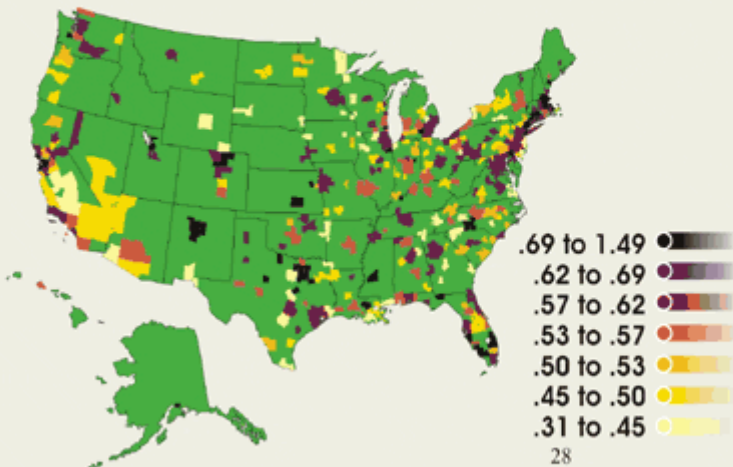
**Computer Programmers**  
(percentage of U.S. employment = 0.46%)



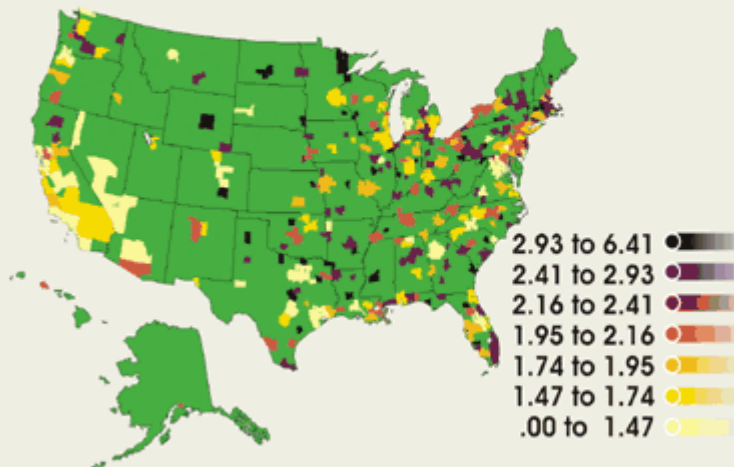
**Cooks, Restaurants**  
(percentage of U.S. employment = 0.60%)



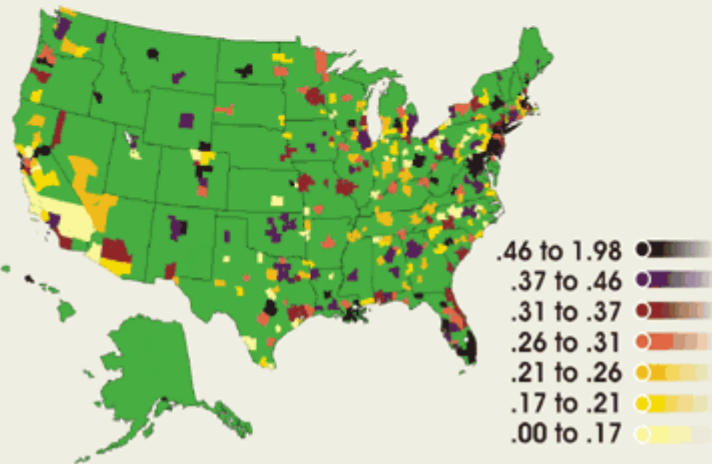
**Financial Managers**  
(percentage of U.S. employment = 0.54%)



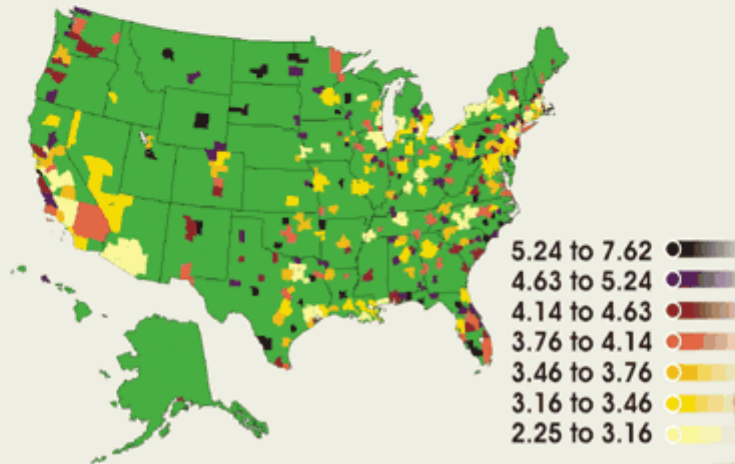
**Registered Nurses**  
(percentage of U.S. employment = 1.62%)



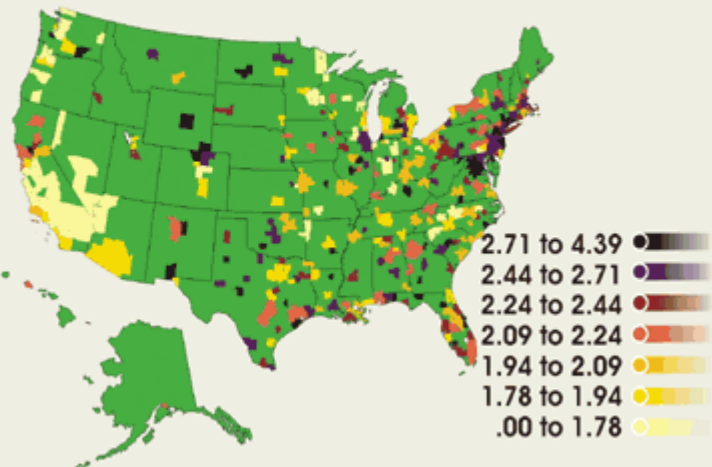
**Lawyers**  
(percentage of U.S. employment = 0.34%)



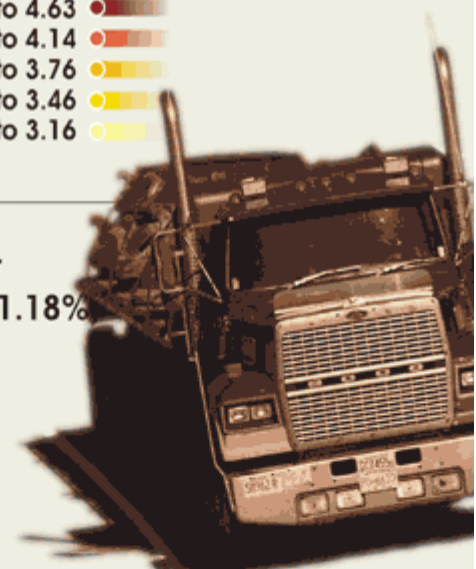
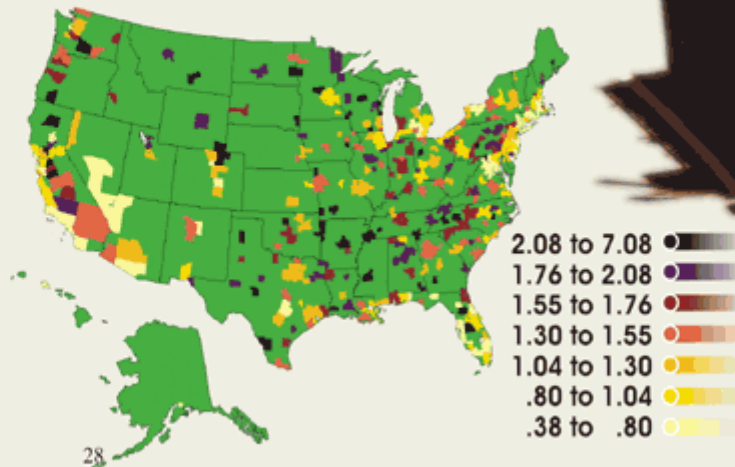
**Salespersons, Retail**  
(percentage of U.S. employment = 3.14%)



**Secretaries**  
(percentage of U.S. employment = 1.95%)



**Truck Drivers, Heavy or Tractor-Trailer**  
(percentage of U.S. employment = 1.18%)



# About the Occupational Employment Statistics program

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program produces estimates of the number of people employed in specific occupations and the wages paid to them. These estimates are available for various geographic areas and specific industries. OES estimates are calculated from data collected in annual surveys that ask employers to classify their employees into occupation and wage categories. Data are collected from employers of all sizes, in metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas, and in almost every industry. Data collected from local, state, and Federal Government are included in the calculation of the estimates. Self-employed persons are not surveyed, and are not included in the estimates.

The maps are derived from OES estimates of occupational employment in metropolitan areas. For selected occupations, these maps show the occupation's percentage share of employment in the metropolitan areas. An occupation's share of metropolitan area employment is the occupation's percentage of the metropolitan area's total employment. This is calculated by taking the OES employment estimate for a specific occupation in a particular metropolitan area (for example, the number of computer programmers in Denver) and dividing it by the sum of all of the occupational employment estimates for that area. This process is repeated for every metropolitan area and for the Nation as a whole, and the results are used to create a national map showing shares of metropolitan area employment for computer programmers. In the case of computer programmers, the metropolitan area occupational share ranged from 0 percent to slightly over 2 percent,

while the national occupational share (including metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas) was slightly less than one-half of 1 percent, 0.46 percent. Thus, for any given metropolitan area, the occupational share is not the percentage of the Nation's employment in an occupation in that area, but rather reflects the concentration of an occupation in that area's overall employment.

Example: Metropolitan area occupational share of computer programmers in Smalltown and Bigcity

Small Town:

Employment of computer programmers: 1,500

Total employment, all occupations: 100,000

Metropolitan area occupational share of computer programmers: 1.50 percent

Big City:

Employment of computer programmers: 5,000

Total employment, all occupations: 600,000

Metropolitan area occupational share of computer programmers: 0.83 percent

*Note that, even though Big City has more computer programmers, Small Town has a larger share because it has a much smaller level of total employment.*