

Occupational Employment and Wages by States

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The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program produces cross-industry estimates of occupational employment and wages for every State and the District of Columbia (as well as other areas). These estimates are calculated with data collected from employers of all sizes, in all industry divisions, and in metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. As one would expect, the estimates for a given occupation vary from one State to another. By comparing State estimates for a given occupation, we can identify the State with the most employment and highest wages for that occupation. Certain States are ranked first in occupational em-

ployment or wages for many occupations, and the majority of States are ranked first in occupational employment or wages for at least one occupation.

States ranked first in occupational employment

Text table 1, “Occupational employment by State,” shows occupational employment and wage estimates and the State wage rank for selected States where, for a given occupation, the occupational employment estimate is greater than that of any other State. For example, in Alabama, there were 17,160 meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers—more than in

Text table 1. **Occupational employment by State**

State	Occupation title	Employment	Mean annual wage	State wage rank
AL	Meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers	17,160	\$15,530	27
AZ	Helpers—brickmasons, blockmasons, stonemasons, and tile and marble setters	4,730	20,050	32
CA	Retail salespersons	390,300	20,160	9
CO	Health specialties teachers, postsecondary	8,670	53,300	19
FL	Hairdressers, hairstylists, and cosmetologists	25,000	20,870	14
GA	Flight attendants	13,320	41,060	6
HI	Commercial divers	60	33,210	1
IL	Mixing and blending machine setters, operators, and tenders	12,320	25,670	23
IN	Molders, shapers, and casters, except metal and plastic	4,300	24,080	14
IA	Timing device assemblers, adjusters, and calibrators	1,300	21,790	6
KY	Continuous mining machine operators	1,670	31,860	4
LA	Sailors and marine oilers	5,660	19,650	16
ME	Fallers	830	26,340	5
MD	Atmospheric and space scientists	840	63,310	3
MA	Social work teachers, postsecondary	500	45,170	9
MI	Tool and die makers	24,020	44,490	2
MO	Coaches and scouts	5,450	34,630	17
NV	Gaming dealers	24,400	12,320	13
NJ	Service station attendants	11,320	15,290	34
NC	Textile winding, twisting, and drawing out machine setters, operators, and tenders	28,170	21,800	7
OH	Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	34,450	24,630	14
OK	Wellhead pumpers	1,140	32,200	4
PA	Emergency medical technicians and paramedics	14,240	20,370	36
SC	Forestry and conservation science teachers, postsecondary	500	52,750	5
TN	Foundry mold and coremakers	3,260	25,160	10
TX	Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	122,740	31,460	25
WA	Ship engineers	870	50,080	5
WV	Mine cutting and channeling machine operators	100	37,870	1
WI	Paper goods machine setters, operators, and tenders	10,730	31,260	4
PR	Shoe machine operators and tenders	3,790	12,040	11

Text table 2. **Occupational wages by State**

State	Occupation title	Employment	Mean annual wage	State wage rank
AL	Extruding, forming, pressing, and compacting machine setters, operators, and tenders	\$30,680	890	25
AK	Retail salespersons	22,740	8,070	50
AZ	Electrical engineers	71,130	3,560	14
AR	Gas compressor and gas pumping station operators	45,050	120	8
CA	Customer service representatives	29,540	199,250	1
CO	Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, technical and scientific products	67,780	4,930	26
CT	Home health aides	24,810	12,740	12
DE	Truck drivers, light or delivery services	28,220	2,690	47
DC	Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	32,110	15,820	34
FL	Obstetricians and gynecologists	145,020	2,090	2
GA	Computer software engineers, applications	82,130	10,470	8
HI	Maids and housekeeping cleaners	22,790	9,900	33
ID	Fallers	56,430	540	3
IL	Team assemblers	26,300	58,720	8
IN	Boilermakers	47,230	910	6
IA	Food batchmakers	27,510	1,410	13
KY	Aircraft mechanics and service technicians	51,770	1,290	22
LA	Chemical plant and system operators	47,250	4,270	3
ME	Clinical, counseling, and school psychologists	63,460	530	33
MD	First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers	31,540	8,820	24
MA	Tellers	21,260	13,440	9
MI	Industrial truck and tractor operators	34,050	28,680	5
MN	Automotive body and related repairers	45,530	5,070	12
MS	Gaming supervisors	40,190	1,780	2
MO	Mechanical engineering technicians	49,810	700	23
NV	Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	24,420	7,630	4
NH	Management analysts	79,550	2,370	27
NJ	Elementary school teachers, except special education	49,780	50,230	8
NM	Amusement and recreation attendants	23,110	780	40
NC	Upholsterers	29,410	9,580	1
ND	Gaming and sports book writers and runners	17,140	300	5
OH	Loan interviewers and clerks	32,620	4,410	12
OK	Geoscientists, except hydrologists and geographers	77,640	570	9
PA	English language and literature teachers, postsecondary	54,500	4,590	2
RI	Financial managers	86,940	1,430	45
SC	Cementing and gluing machine operators and tenders	31,950	1,350	8
TN	Coaches and scouts	56,370	650	32
TX	Mechanical engineers	63,290	19,250	2
UT	Computer, automated teller, and office machine repairers	39,480	1,700	25
VT	Medical records and health information technicians	32,040	470	47
VA	Airline pilots, copilots, and flight engineers	138,600	5,140	3
WA	Dental hygienists	65,870	3,600	6
WV	Roof bolters, mining	43,160	770	2
WI	Internists, general	140,260	1,070	13
WY	Wellhead pumpers	41,820	710	2
VI	Cargo and freight agents	34,310	30	36

any other State. For States that have more than one occupation ranked first in occupational employment, the occupation selected for inclusion in this table is generally that with the highest employment. The State wage rank shows where the State is ranked among other States in terms of wages for the same occupation. Over thirty States are ranked first in occupational employment in at least one occupation. Most of those are ranked first in 10 or fewer occupations. Some States are not ranked first in occupational employment for any occupation. The States with the largest populations are ranked first in many occupations: California is ranked first in 392 occupations, Texas in 70, New York in 59, Pennsylvania in 27, and Florida in 26. A State's being ranked number 1 in

occupational employment for a given occupation does not mean that the State will be ranked number 1 in occupational wages for the same occupation.

States ranked first in occupational wages

Text table 2 shows examples of occupational wage and employment estimates and State employment rank for States where, for a given occupation, the occupational wage estimate is greater than that of any other State. For example, retail salespersons in Alaska earn an annual mean wage of \$22,740, the highest in the United States. The State employment rank shows where the State is ranked among other States in terms of employment for the same occupation. More

Text table 3. **Occupational employment and wages by State**

State	Occupation title	Employment	Mean annual wage
CA	Network systems and data communications analysts	11,350	\$67,360
CA	Aerospace engineers	19,100	68,960
CA	Astronomers	170	72,170
CA	Environmental scientists and specialists, including health	5,860	58,990
CA	Hydrologists	670	67,870
CA	Market research analysts	7,830	64,690
CA	Industrial-organizational psychologists	110	89,010
CA	Nuclear technicians	820	63,240
CA	Probation officers and correctional treatment specialists	12,580	49,840
CA	Paralegals and legal assistants	18,910	46,760
CA	Producers and directors	5,970	83,440
CA	Technical writers	6,850	57,980
CA	Camera operators, television, video, and motion picture	2,620	46,460
CA	Pharmacists	23,170	69,760
CA	Occupational therapists	9,080	61,160
CA	Physical therapists	13,600	65,720
CA	Medical and clinical laboratory technologists	18,610	49,380
CA	Diagnostic medical sonographers	2,810	52,660
CA	Nuclear medicine technologists	1,810	54,370
CA	Psychiatric technicians	8,690	33,160
CA	Occupational therapist aides	1,060	33,460
CA	Court, municipal, and license clerks	10,510	33,320
CA	Customer service representatives	199,250	29,540
CA	Postal service mail carriers	38,680	37,970
CA	Medical secretaries	22,450	28,920
CA	Farm labor contractors	7,020	18,880
CA	Construction and building inspectors	5,720	52,940
CA	Fence erectors	2,200	27,290
CA	Radio mechanics	540	40,510
CA	Commercial pilots	3,310	78,660
CA	Locomotive engineers	2,280	60,300
CA	Railroad conductors and yardmasters	3,750	56,350
FL	Agricultural sciences teachers, postsecondary	1,060	68,870
HI	Commercial divers	60	33,210
IL	Brickmasons and blockmasons	8,600	57,230
IL	Avionics technicians	950	47,640
IL	Rail car repairers	1,830	38,020
IL	Signal and track switch repairers	140	43,920
MD	Political scientists	90	54,560
MI	Mechanical drafters	6,370	51,470
MI	Model makers, metal and plastic	2,750	53,400
MI	Welding, soldering, and brazing machine setters, operators, and tenders	7,690	35,960
NC	Upholsterers	9,580	29,410
PA	Foreign language and literature teachers, postsecondary	2,210	58,660
PA	Fish and game wardens	1,200	73,050
PA	Medical appliance technicians	720	32,330
TX	Models	800	27,830
TX	Rotary drill operators, oil and gas	3,540	38,240
TX	Semiconductor processors	9,820	28,320
VA	Geographers	100	54,530
VA	Nuclear power reactor operators	340	53,740
WV	Mine cutting and channeling machine operators	100	37,870

than 40 States are ranked first in occupational wages in at least one occupation; a few States are not ranked first in occupational wages for any occupation. Most States are ranked first in 10 or fewer occupations. The States with the most occupations ranked first in occupational wages are Alaska (ranked first for 73 occupations), New Jersey (for 70), California (55), New York (50), and Connecticut (39). For States that have more than one occupation ranked first in occupational wages, the occupation selected for inclusion in this table is generally that with the highest employment. A State's being ranked number one in occupational wages for a given occupation does not mean that the State will be ranked

number one in occupational employment for the same occupation.

States ranked first in both occupational employment and wages

In most cases, occupations that are ranked first in occupational employment are not ranked first in occupational wages, and vice versa. The entries in text table 3 are cases in which, for a given occupation, the employment and wage estimates for a given State are both ranked first—higher than those of any other State. In this table, States with large populations are predominant.