

News

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OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES IN TOPEKA, KANSAS, MAY 2005

Workers in the Topeka, Kansas Metropolitan Statistical Area¹ had an average (mean) wage of \$16.36 per hour during May 2005, slightly more than ten percent below the nationwide average of \$18.21, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that workers in 17 of the 22 major occupational groups in Topeka had wages that were significantly below their national counterparts; production workers, on the other hand, were one group that was paid appreciably more than the U.S. average. In addition, when compared to the nationwide distribution, local employment was more highly concentrated in 8 of the 22 occupational groups, including two of the better paid—management and legal. (See table A and box note at end of release.)

These estimates for wage and salary workers are from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey, a federal-state cooperative program between BLS and State Workforce Agencies, in this case, the Kansas Department of Labor's office of Labor Market Information Services. The OES survey provides estimates of employment and wages for 22 major occupational groups and for up to 801 detailed occupations, as defined by the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system for the nation, the states, 375 metropolitan statistical areas, and 34 metropolitan divisions.

Although not the highest paid occupational group in Topeka, production workers did earn more than their national counterparts. (See chart A.) Local production workers averaged \$16.38 an hour, nearly 14 percent more than the \$14.37 paid workers nationwide. However, production workers had a lower-than-average presence in Topeka as evidenced by a 6.0-percent employment share versus 7.9 percent nationwide. (See chart B.) Two of the higher-paying jobs in this occupational group were extruding, forming, pressing, and compacting machine setters, operators, and tenders (\$22.05) and inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers (\$19.30). (See table 1 for detailed occupational data.)

¹ The Topeka, Kansas Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is comprised of Jackson, Jefferson, Osage, Shawnee, and Wabaunsee Counties. For convenience, this MSA will be referred to as the Topeka area (or by similarly abbreviated titles) throughout the release.

On the other hand, management occupations were among the highest paid in the Topeka area, though hourly earnings for workers in this group were substantially below the national average—\$34.84 versus \$42.52. (See chart A.) This occupational group, however, did have an above-average presence in Topeka—5.1 percent versus 4.6 percent nationwide. Within management, sales managers (\$49.27) and marketing managers (\$46.48) were among the better paid in this group. At the lower end of the wage scale were food service managers and social and community service managers, each averaging \$20.40 per hour. Among the largest groups was general and operations managers, accounting for more than one-third of those in management and averaging \$32.43 per hour.

Table A.
Employment and wage data by occupation for the U.S. and Topeka, May 2005

Major occupational group	Employment Share (percent of total)			Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Topeka	Significant difference(1)	United States	Topeka	Significant difference(1)
Management	4.6	5.1	yes	\$42.52	\$34.84	yes
Business and financial operations	4.2	4.7	yes	27.85	22.73	yes
Computer and mathematical	2.3	2.0	yes	32.26	25.32	yes
Architecture and engineering	1.8	1.4	yes	30.73	24.11	yes
Life, physical, and social science	0.9	1.1	yes	27.90	22.32	yes
Community and social services	1.3	1.7	yes	18.04	15.58	yes
Legal	0.8	1.1	yes	38.98	28.91	yes
Education, training, and library	6.2	6.3	no	20.89	15.38	yes
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	1.3	1.2	no	21.30	15.47	yes
Healthcare practitioners and technical	5.0	6.4	no	28.45	25.53	yes
Healthcare support	2.6	3.7	yes	11.47	11.24	no
Protective service	2.3	2.9	yes	17.19	17.02	no
Food preparation and serving related	8.3	7.3	yes	8.58	7.78	yes
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	3.3	2.8	yes	10.55	9.77	yes
Personal care and service	2.4	2.9	no	10.67	8.89	yes
Sales and related	10.7	9.0	yes	15.77	13.43	yes
Office and administrative support	17.5	18.6	no	14.28	12.97	yes
Farming, fishing, and forestry	0.3	0.1	yes	10.10	14.77	yes
Construction and extraction	4.9	5.0	no	18.39	16.74	yes
Installation, maintenance, and repair	4.1	4.6	yes	18.30	18.23	no
Production	7.9	6.0	yes	14.37	16.38	yes
Transportation and material moving	7.4	6.2	yes	13.85	12.57	yes

(1) Statistical significance testing at the 90 percent confidence interval.

Legal workers, averaging \$28.91 an hour, were another of the better-paid occupational groups in Topeka. Even so, hourly earnings were more than 25 percent below (or just over \$10.00 less than) the nationwide average of \$38.98. Locally, lawyers and administrative law judges, adjudicators, and hearing officers were among the highest paid averaging \$39.42 and \$32.83, respectively. Title examiners, abstractors, and searchers (\$13.40) and law clerks (\$12.56) were among the lowest paid in the legal fields.

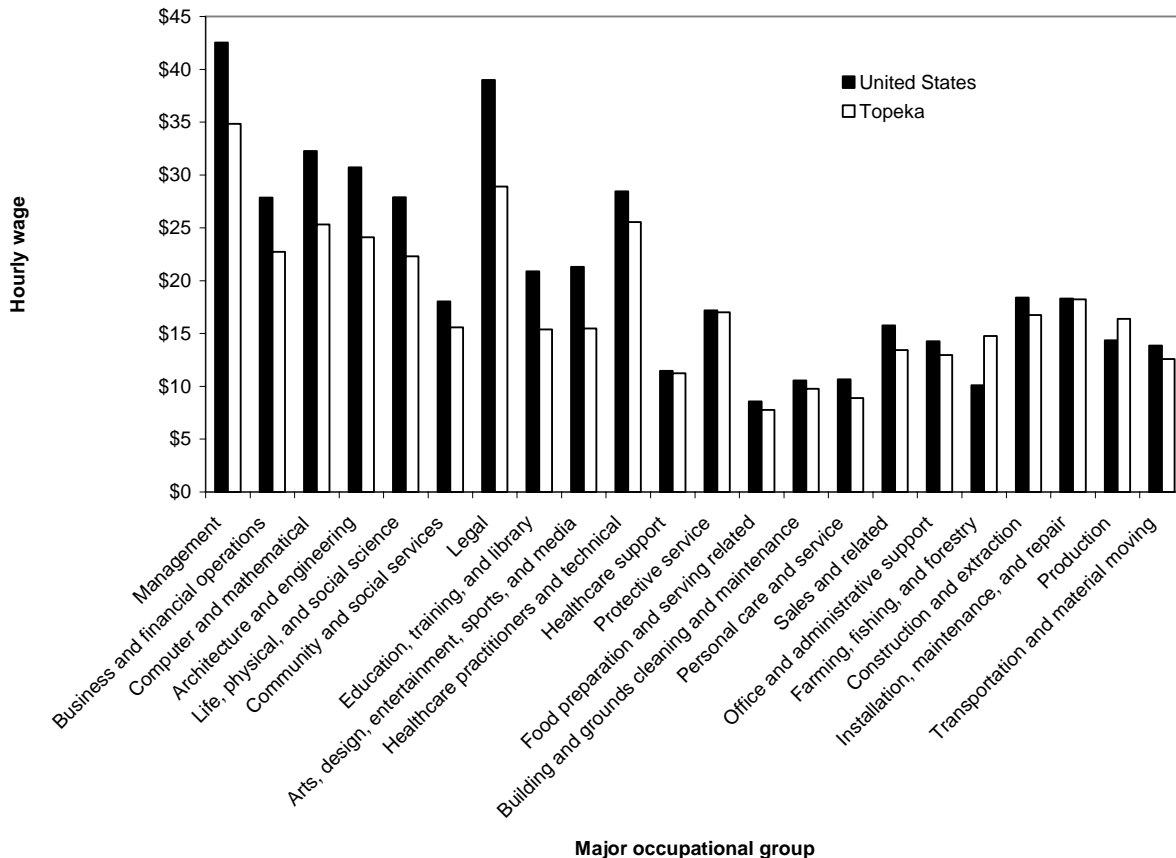
In the healthcare practitioners and technical occupational group, workers averaged \$25.53 per hour in the Topeka area, among the better paid, even though wages were appreciably below the \$28.45 nationwide average. However, this group did have an above-average presence in the area (6.4 percent) when compared to its representation nationally (5.0 percent). Registered nurses, the

largest group in this category with 2,930 workers, earned \$23.57 per hour. Family and general practitioners (\$86.69) and pharmacists (\$39.38) were among the better paid. Veterinary technologists and technicians and dietetic technicians averaging \$11.70 and \$7.52, respectively, were at the lower end of the wage scale.

Also among the well paid in Topeka were those in the computer and mathematical occupational group averaging \$25.32 per hour; nationally these workers earned \$32.26. Locally, systems software engineers (\$28.84) and database administrators (\$28.21) were among the better paid in this group and computer support specialists (\$18.95) were among the lowest paid.

Three other major occupational groups in the Topeka area averaged more than \$20.00 per hour—architecture and engineering; business and financial operations; and life, physical, and social science.

Chart A. Wage distribution in the United States and the Topeka metropolitan area by major occupational group



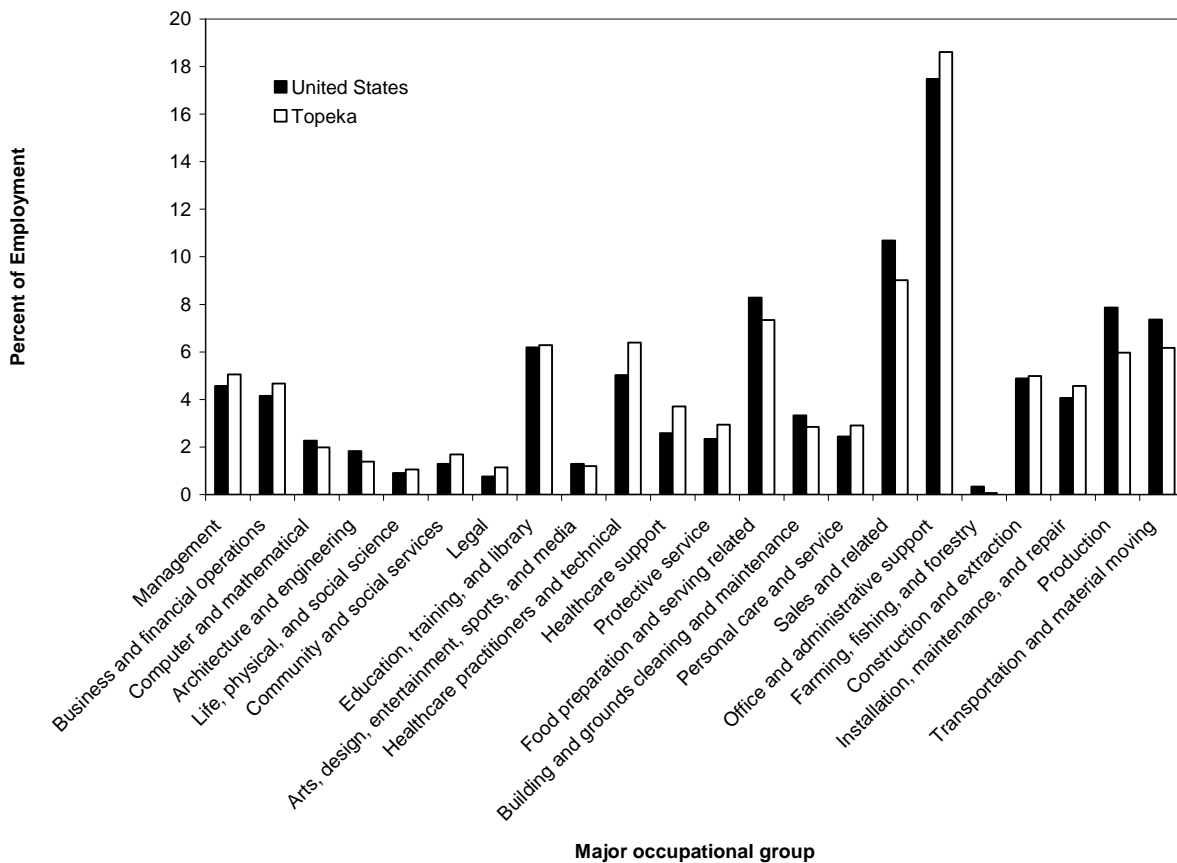
The largest occupational group in the Topeka area was office and administrative support with 20,020 workers, representing 18.6 percent of all employment in the metropolitan area. (See chart B.) Workers in this occupational group averaged \$12.97 compared to \$14.28 nationally. Locally, executive secretaries and administrative assistants (2,520) and general office clerks (1,940)

accounted for over 20 percent of the workers in this group and averaged \$13.63 and \$10.61 an hour, respectively. Those working for the postal service were among the better paid, including postal service clerks averaging \$23.24 and postal service mail carriers earning \$20.79. Hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks were at the other end of the wage scale averaging \$7.46 an hour.

Other occupational groups with above-average concentrations in Topeka included protective service workers accounting for 2.9 percent of the workforce compared to 2.3 percent nationwide and installation, maintenance, and repair occupations representing 4.6 percent of the local workforce but 4.1 percent nationally. (See table A.) Neither of these two occupational groups had wages that varied significantly from their U.S. averages.

Topeka had a lower-than-average presence in eight major occupational groups, including six that had lower than average wages: computer and mathematical; architecture and engineering; food preparation and serving related; building and grounds cleaning and maintenance; sales and related; and transportation and material moving.

Chart B. Employment distribution in the United States and the Topeka metropolitan area by major occupational group



The OES wage and employment data for the 22 major occupational groups in the Topeka 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 interval 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 our 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 effect 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 2005 survey was 78.4 percent based on establishments and 73.2 percent based on employment. The survey included establishments sampled in the May 2005, November 2004, May 2004, November 2003, May 2003, and November 2002 semiannual panels. The sample in the Topeka metropolitan area included 1,416 establishments with a response rate of 81 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 comprise 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/home.htm>.

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 full time, 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 2005 OES survey estimates. The May 2005 OES survey estimates are based on all data collected from establishments in the May 2005, November 2004, May 2004, November 2003, May 2003, and November 2002 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 2005 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 2005 cross-industry data for states and metropolitan areas are available on the BLS Web site. Industry staffing patterns at the sector, 3-, 4-, and selected 5-digit NAICS levels are also available from the Internet. 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 information is also available through our regional web page at <http://www.bls.gov/ro7/home.htm> and on our fax-on-demand system. For a catalog of items available to be faxed to you, call our fax-on-demand number at 816-426-3152. If you have additional questions, you can contact an economist in the Kansas City information office at 816-426-2481. 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, Topeka, Ks., metropolitan area, May 2005

Occupation	Employment	Mean wages		Median
		Hourly	Annual (1)	hourly wages
All occupations				
Management occupations				
Chief executives	440	60.47	125,780	52.02
General and operations managers	1,950	32.43	67,450	29.15
Legislators	290	(3)	(5)	(3)
Marketing managers	110	46.48	96,670	42.69
Sales managers	140	49.27	102,480	41.67
Public relations managers	40	37.11	77,200	34.93
Administrative services managers	140	24.90	51,780	23.10
Computer and information systems managers	190	36.29	75,490	35.03
Financial managers	270	38.03	79,110	34.37
Compensation and benefits managers	40	36.27	75,440	36.73
Human resources managers, all other	30	35.14	73,080	35.23
Industrial production managers	70	32.01	66,580	25.85
Purchasing managers	30	35.40	73,630	36.80
Transportation, storage, and distribution managers	80	31.40	65,310	31.69
Construction managers	170	31.72	65,980	29.44
Education administrators, elementary and secondary school	190	(3)	61,570	(3)
Engineering managers	120	42.22	87,820	40.34
Food service managers	180	20.40	42,430	18.44
Medical and health services managers	270	30.87	64,200	27.26
Postmasters and mail superintendents	40	23.45	48,780	24.10
Property, real estate, and community association managers	50	33.71	70,110	32.92
Social and community service managers	110	20.40	42,430	17.92
Managers, all other	280	36.55	76,020	33.19
Business and financial operations occupations				
Wholesale and retail buyers, except farm products	60	21.16	44,010	22.67
Purchasing agents, except wholesale, retail, and farm products	260	26.11	54,310	24.51
Claims adjusters, examiners, and investigators	360	22.66	47,130	21.57
Compliance officers, except agriculture, construction, health and safety, and transportation	170	23.00	47,850	20.88
Cost estimators	220	27.66	57,530	22.04
Employment, recruitment, and placement specialists	70	22.54	46,880	20.42
Compensation, benefits, and job analysis specialists	100	24.72	51,420	23.88
Training and development specialists	190	23.18	48,210	22.90
Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists, all other	130	20.91	43,480	20.23
Management analysts	410	24.41	50,770	21.95
Meeting and convention planners	40	21.34	44,390	20.21
Business operations specialists, all other	910	20.11	41,820	19.08
Accountants and auditors	1,060	23.07	47,990	21.63
Appraisers and assessors of real estate	60	23.85	49,610	21.48
Budget analysts	30	32.99	68,610	33.94
Credit analysts	(4)	19.78	41,130	19.06
Financial analysts	80	24.29	50,530	23.32
Personal financial advisors	80	46.63	96,990	57.66
Insurance underwriters	80	21.08	43,840	17.56
Loan officers	270	19.64	40,840	18.69
Financial specialists, all other	30	26.56	55,250	26.25
Computer and mathematical occupations				
Computer programmers	240	22.52	46,830	21.99

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Topeka, Ks., metropolitan area, May 2005 (continued)

Occupation	Employment	Mean wages		Median
		Hourly	Annual (1)	hourly wages
Computer software engineers, applications	400	24.19	50,310	23.71
Computer software engineers, systems software	60	28.84	59,980	28.20
Computer support specialists	300	18.95	39,420	18.13
Computer systems analysts	490	28.09	58,420	28.66
Database administrators	50	28.21	58,670	26.56
Network and computer systems administrators	260	20.94	43,550	19.09
Network systems and data communications analysts	180	24.70	51,380	24.32
Actuaries	70	(5)	(5)	(5)
Architecture and engineering occupations				
Architects, except landscape and naval	60	26.08	54,250	25.37
Surveyors	50	19.97	41,540	19.57
Civil engineers	430	28.02	58,270	26.94
Electrical engineers	(4)	34.88	72,560	33.38
Environmental engineers	60	30.51	63,470	29.58
Mechanical engineers	50	26.24	54,580	26.21
Architectural and civil drafters	70	18.03	37,500	17.56
Mechanical drafters	30	18.65	38,790	17.68
Drafters, all other	30	20.23	42,070	20.37
Civil engineering technicians	340	17.54	36,480	17.31
Electrical and electronic engineering technicians	70	21.88	45,510	22.29
Surveying and mapping technicians	50	11.87	24,680	10.52
Life, physical, and social science occupations				
Chemists	40	19.82	41,220	18.96
Environmental scientists and specialists, including health	220	23.41	48,680	23.03
Market research analysts	140	21.06	43,800	20.18
Survey researchers	120	17.66	36,730	16.85
Clinical, counseling, and school psychologists	100	30.69	63,830	25.63
Forest and conservation technicians	(4)	17.83	37,080	18.65
Community and social services occupations				
Substance abuse and behavioral disorder counselors	70	16.56	34,440	16.14
Educational, vocational, and school counselors	140	20.09	41,790	20.35
Mental health counselors	(4)	13.27	27,600	14.10
Rehabilitation counselors	50	15.22	31,660	15.60
Child, family, and school social workers	390	15.24	31,710	14.96
Medical and public health social workers	110	20.87	43,400	20.61
Mental health and substance abuse social workers	230	17.10	35,560	16.46
Health educators	50	16.16	33,620	14.04
Social and human service assistants	420	11.27	23,450	10.75
Community and social service specialists, all other	60	13.08	27,200	13.05
Clergy	30	19.69	40,950	18.67
Legal occupations				
Lawyers	600	39.42	82,000	30.22
Administrative law judges, adjudicators, and hearing officers	40	32.83	68,280	28.96
Paralegals and legal assistants	150	16.73	34,800	15.47
Law clerks	80	12.56	26,120	11.61
Title examiners, abstractors, and searchers	40	13.40	27,880	12.25
Legal support workers, all other	260	16.77	34,880	16.46
Education, training, and library occupations				
Preschool teachers, except special education	100	10.94	22,760	10.13
Kindergarten teachers, except special education	100	(3)	35,910	(3)
Elementary school teachers, except special education	1,730	(3)	33,040	(3)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Topeka, Ks., metropolitan area, May 2005 (continued)

Occupation	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
Middle school teachers, except special and vocational education	920	(3)	31,850	(3)
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	1,080	(3)	35,020	(3)
Vocational education teachers, secondary school	110	(3)	40,400	(3)
Special education teachers, preschool, kindergarten, and elementary school	110	(3)	38,120	(3)
Special education teachers, middle school	40	(3)	37,420	(3)
Special education teachers, secondary school	50	(3)	40,720	(3)
Self-enrichment education teachers	110	15.82	32,900	12.87
Librarians	180	20.91	43,490	20.58
Instructional coordinators	130	24.31	50,560	24.40
Teacher assistants	1,160	(3)	17,620	(3)
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations				
Floral designers	50	10.55	21,940	10.13
Graphic designers	240	15.19	31,590	15.42
Interior designers	30	17.77	36,960	15.89
Producers and directors	30	16.98	35,320	13.47
Coaches and scouts	170	(3)	23,220	(3)
Choreographers	30	(5)	(5)	(5)
Radio and television announcers	30	25.19	52,400	16.22
Reporters and correspondents	(4)	10.95	22,780	10.18
Public relations specialists	310	22.33	46,450	19.87
Editors	30	18.16	37,760	18.68
Writers and authors	30	16.16	33,610	16.45
Broadcast technicians	50	10.66	22,180	10.32
Photographers	60	10.37	21,580	9.84
Camera operators, television, video, and motion picture	30	7.45	15,500	6.57
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations				
Dietitians and nutritionists	40	22.26	46,310	21.28
Pharmacists	200	39.38	81,920	39.87
Family and general practitioners	(4)	86.69	180,310	(2)
Physicians and surgeons, all other	40	64.69	134,540	63.00
Physician assistants	60	33.10	68,840	33.22
Registered nurses	2,930	23.57	49,020	22.68
Occupational therapists	130	27.18	56,540	26.20
Physical therapists	200	29.41	61,170	29.05
Recreational therapists	40	18.17	37,790	16.14
Respiratory therapists	(4)	20.32	42,270	20.18
Speech-language pathologists	80	26.61	55,360	24.55
Veterinarians	50	26.73	55,600	25.27
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners, all other	80	80.19	166,790	(2)
Medical and clinical laboratory technologists	(4)	22.15	46,060	21.33
Medical and clinical laboratory technicians	120	13.27	27,610	12.59
Dental hygienists	(4)	32.04	66,640	31.91
Cardiovascular technologists and technicians	60	18.43	38,330	18.49
Diagnostic medical sonographers	60	23.83	49,560	24.65
Radiologic technologists and technicians	150	20.87	43,410	20.58
Dietetic technicians	(4)	7.52	15,630	7.66
Pharmacy technicians	230	11.78	24,510	10.88
Surgical technologists	(4)	13.85	28,820	13.44
Veterinary technologists and technicians	60	11.70	24,330	10.71
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	730	16.20	33,690	16.16

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Topeka, Ks., metropolitan area, May 2005 (continued)

Occupation	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
Medical records and health information technicians	170	14.10	29,330	14.54
Opticians, dispensing	(4)	10.37	21,560	10.45
Occupational health and safety specialists	60	21.36	44,420	20.14
Healthcare support occupations				
Home health aides	1,030	10.43	21,690	10.11
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	1,620	10.76	22,380	10.37
Psychiatric aides	350	9.67	20,120	9.56
Occupational therapist assistants	40	20.47	42,570	21.52
Physical therapist assistants	160	19.79	41,150	19.34
Physical therapist aides	30	11.28	23,470	11.37
Massage therapists	(4)	9.49	19,730	8.41
Dental assistants	200	12.94	26,920	12.90
Medical assistants	210	10.47	21,780	10.31
Medical transcriptionists	130	13.54	28,170	13.23
Pharmacy aides	(4)	8.05	16,750	8.06
Healthcare support workers, all other	90	12.32	25,630	11.08
Protective service occupations				
Fire fighters	960	20.50	42,640	23.11
Detectives and criminal investigators	180	22.43	46,660	23.03
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	720	17.35	36,090	17.63
Security guards	550	9.69	20,140	8.46
Food preparation and serving related occupations				
Chefs and head cooks	100	11.11	23,110	10.06
First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers	650	11.67	24,270	10.96
Cooks, fast food	380	6.66	13,840	6.50
Cooks, institution and cafeteria	580	10.15	21,120	9.52
Cooks, restaurant	380	8.78	18,260	8.54
Cooks, short order	280	6.91	14,370	6.54
Food preparation workers	610	7.28	15,140	7.27
Bartenders	400	6.81	14,160	6.60
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	1,580	7.37	15,330	7.28
Counter attendants, cafeteria, food concession, and coffee shop	300	6.19	12,870	6.21
Waiters and waitresses	1,740	6.94	14,440	6.53
Food servers, nonrestaurant	(4)	6.58	13,690	6.40
Dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender helpers	120	6.99	14,550	6.81
Dishwashers	380	6.92	14,390	7.01
Hosts and hostesses, restaurant, lounge, and coffee shop	240	7.53	15,650	7.50
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations				
First-line supervisors/managers of housekeeping and janitorial workers	160	13.69	28,470	14.02
First-line supervisors/managers of landscaping, lawn service, and groundskeeping workers	80	17.41	36,210	16.30
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	1,750	9.63	20,030	9.19
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	560	7.85	16,320	7.79
Pest control workers	40	13.15	27,350	12.92
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	440	9.52	19,790	9.30
Personal care and service occupations				

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Topeka, Ks., metropolitan area, May 2005 (continued)

Occupation	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual(1)	
First-line supervisors/managers of personal service workers	80	13.23	27,510	12.29
Nonfarm animal caretakers	160	7.59	15,790	6.86
Amusement and recreation attendants	200	6.78	14,110	6.49
Hairdressers, hairstylists, and cosmetologists	200	11.86	24,670	10.02
Child care workers	510	7.95	16,540	7.84
Fitness trainers and aerobics instructors	130	9.38	19,510	9.43
Recreation workers	220	9.01	18,740	8.24
Sales and related occupations				
First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers	870	15.71	32,680	13.57
First-line supervisors/managers of non-retail sales workers	180	31.65	65,830	26.72
Cashiers	2,700	8.02	16,680	7.61
Counter and rental clerks	340	9.01	18,730	8.71
Parts salespersons	190	12.15	25,280	10.57
Retail salespersons	3,380	10.22	21,260	8.72
Advertising sales agents	120	17.25	35,880	11.98
Insurance sales agents	250	22.23	46,250	16.65
Securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents	180	28.18	58,620	26.13
Sales representatives, services, all other	220	27.30	56,790	24.60
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, technical and scientific products	190	27.13	56,430	25.84
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	700	26.91	55,970	23.84
Real estate sales agents	60	19.68	40,930	19.31
Sales and related workers, all other	90	19.34	40,230	16.02
Office and administrative support occupations				
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	1,480	18.99	39,510	17.82
Switchboard operators, including answering service	150	10.25	21,330	10.04
Bill and account collectors	380	11.77	24,480	11.69
Billing and posting clerks and machine operators	320	12.18	25,340	11.92
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	1,630	13.35	27,770	13.01
Payroll and timekeeping clerks	210	15.43	32,090	15.49
Procurement clerks	50	14.40	29,950	14.89
Tellers	620	9.76	20,300	9.66
Court, municipal, and license clerks	160	14.81	30,800	14.91
Credit authorizers, checkers, and clerks	40	10.34	21,500	8.54
Customer service representatives	(4)	13.11	27,270	12.16
File clerks	180	10.54	21,930	9.48
Hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks	160	7.46	15,510	7.23
Interviewers, except eligibility and loan	140	11.35	23,610	10.61
Library assistants, clerical	150	9.67	20,120	9.80
Loan interviewers and clerks	80	12.95	26,940	12.04
Order clerks	150	12.93	26,900	12.41
Human resources assistants, except payroll and timekeeping	120	16.27	33,840	16.25
Receptionists and information clerks	890	9.56	19,880	9.41
All other information and record clerks	210	18.27	37,990	16.65
Couriers and messengers	230	7.56	15,720	6.99
Police, fire, and ambulance dispatchers	(4)	10.90	22,660	10.55
Dispatchers, except police, fire, and ambulance	120	12.76	26,530	10.68
Meter readers, utilities	130	12.97	26,980	14.20

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Topeka, Ks., metropolitan area, May 2005 (continued)

Occupation	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
Postal service clerks	60	23.24	48,340	23.84
Postal service mail carriers	330	20.79	43,230	21.93
Postal service mail sorters, processors, and processing machine operators	190	20.00	41,590	21.21
Production, planning, and expediting clerks	140	19.22	39,970	19.46
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks	830	13.77	28,630	11.43
Stock clerks and order fillers	1,490	11.25	23,410	10.51
Weighers, measurers, checkers, and samplers, recordkeeping	(4)	11.93	24,810	10.88
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	2,520	13.63	28,350	12.89
Legal secretaries	280	12.18	25,330	11.80
Medical secretaries	340	13.84	28,790	12.94
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	1,210	10.91	22,680	10.51
Computer operators	120	14.96	31,120	13.86
Data entry keyers	150	10.58	22,000	10.26
Word processors and typists	30	13.66	28,410	12.80
Insurance claims and policy processing clerks	80	13.44	27,960	12.98
Mail clerks and mail machine operators, except postal service	320	10.41	21,650	10.32
Office clerks, general	1,940	10.61	22,070	10.20
Office and administrative support workers, all other	70	14.10	29,330	14.44
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations				
Farmworkers and laborers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse	30	11.34	23,590	11.37
Construction and extraction occupations				
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers	540	22.91	47,650	22.51
Brickmasons and blockmasons	70	19.15	39,830	20.27
Carpenters	660	16.15	33,580	15.77
Carpet installers	(4)	17.51	36,410	16.96
Tile and marble setters	(4)	24.05	50,020	24.27
Cement masons and concrete finishers	190	16.12	33,530	15.87
Construction laborers	960	12.76	26,540	12.21
Paving, surfacing, and tamping equipment operators	90	14.42	30,000	14.59
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators	490	17.60	36,610	18.52
Drywall and ceiling tile installers	80	14.65	30,460	14.27
Tapers	40	16.36	34,020	16.72
Electricians	370	20.53	42,710	22.38
Insulation workers, floor, ceiling, and wall	(4)	13.12	27,300	12.40
Painters, construction and maintenance	160	14.48	30,120	13.28
Pipelayers	(4)	13.56	28,200	12.73
Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	530	19.29	40,120	19.37
Sheet metal workers	160	18.63	38,750	19.97
Helpers--brickmasons, blockmasons, stonemasons, and tile and marble setters	110	12.54	26,090	10.97
Helpers--carpenters	100	11.23	23,360	10.35
Helpers--electricians	50	11.23	23,360	11.36
Helpers--pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	40	11.06	23,000	9.90
Construction and building inspectors	50	21.36	44,430	20.08
Highway maintenance workers	150	13.34	27,750	13.05
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations				
First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics,				

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Topeka, Ks., metropolitan area, May 2005 (continued)

Occupation	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual (1)	
installers, and repairers	590	23.48	48,840	22.71
Computer, automated teller, and office machine repairers	210	15.87	33,020	15.77
Electric motor, power tool, and related repairers	(4)	15.73	32,720	15.44
Electrical and electronics repairers, commercial and industrial equipment	40	22.16	46,100	23.19
Electrical and electronics repairers, powerhouse, substation, and relay	60	24.95	51,890	26.33
Aircraft mechanics and service technicians	200	19.62	40,810	21.15
Automotive body and related repairers	80	17.89	37,220	17.01
Automotive glass installers and repairers	(4)	19.79	41,170	20.01
Automotive service technicians and mechanics	640	15.07	31,340	14.25
Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists	180	15.82	32,900	15.41
Farm equipment mechanics	70	13.02	27,080	12.75
Mobile heavy equipment mechanics, except engines	180	18.12	37,700	18.06
Tire repairers and changers	150	8.34	17,350	7.92
Control and valve installers and repairers, except mechanical door	40	21.83	45,410	21.32
Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers	160	18.35	38,160	17.98
Home appliance repairers	(4)	16.11	33,510	16.42
Industrial machinery mechanics	220	22.64	47,090	22.52
Maintenance and repair workers, general	1,010	17.49	36,370	17.50
Maintenance workers, machinery	80	18.01	37,470	16.43
Electrical power-line installers and repairers	140	24.97	51,940	25.20
Telecommunications line installers and repairers	120	20.18	41,980	21.21
Precision instrument and equipment repairers, all other	(4)	14.98	31,160	13.29
Coin, vending, and amusement machine servicers and repairers	50	13.72	28,550	13.70
Helpers--installation, maintenance, and repair workers	100	9.47	19,690	9.60
Installation, maintenance, and repair workers, all other	60	15.56	32,370	13.63
Production occupations				
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	420	24.72	51,410	24.24
Structural metal fabricators and fitters	30	14.99	31,170	15.82
Team assemblers	350	12.61	26,230	10.41
Assemblers and fabricators, all other	50	12.93	26,900	12.45
Bakers	80	11.34	23,590	10.51
Butchers and meat cutters	100	13.32	27,710	12.72
Food cooking machine operators and tenders	80	16.75	34,830	16.68
Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	140	14.54	30,230	15.00
Grinding, lapping, polishing, and buffing machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	(4)	12.46	25,910	11.62
Machinists	(4)	18.09	37,630	18.24
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	80	13.76	28,630	12.64
Bindery workers	240	9.18	19,100	8.21
Prepress technicians and workers	70	14.10	29,330	15.04
Printing machine operators	370	16.26	33,830	16.58
Laundry and dry-cleaning workers	110	8.00	16,650	7.97
Sewing machine operators	(4)	7.99	16,620	7.75
Upholsterers	(4)	11.67	24,260	12.25
Cabinetmakers and bench carpenters	40	13.71	28,510	13.28
Woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing	(4)	8.24	17,140	8.16
Power distributors and dispatchers	(4)	24.27	50,480	23.18

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Topeka, Ks., metropolitan area, May 2005 (continued)

Occupation	Employment	Mean wages		Median hourly wages
		Hourly	Annual(1)	
Crushing, grinding, and polishing machine setters, operators, and tenders	30	18.09	37,620	19.34
Cutting and slicing machine setters, operators, and tenders	190	15.21	31,630	15.55
Extruding, forming, pressing, and compacting machine setters, operators, and tenders	290	22.05	45,870	21.98
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	340	19.30	40,150	20.15
Dental laboratory technicians	(4)	14.13	29,390	12.97
Packaging and filling machine operators and tenders	840	15.72	32,690	16.30
Painters, transportation equipment	(4)	15.80	32,870	15.41
Photographic process workers	30	15.43	32,090	16.56
Molders, shapers, and casters, except metal and plastic	30	10.72	22,300	10.21
Paper goods machine setters, operators, and tenders	(4)	13.12	27,290	13.36
Helpers--production workers	290	13.51	28,110	11.76
Transportation and material moving occupations				
First-line supervisors/managers of helpers, laborers, and material movers, hand	100	18.38	38,240	16.88
First-line supervisors/managers of transportation and material-moving machine and vehicle operators	250	23.86	49,630	23.71
Bus drivers, transit and intercity	90	12.08	25,120	13.48
Bus drivers, school	630	11.50	23,920	10.70
Driver/sales workers	290	14.08	29,280	14.44
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	1,060	15.39	32,020	14.72
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	560	12.76	26,550	11.54
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	70	8.25	17,150	8.34
Service station attendants	310	7.88	16,390	7.35
Crane and tower operators	(4)	14.66	30,500	13.97
Excavating and loading machine and dragline operators	(4)	15.39	32,000	15.62
Industrial truck and tractor operators	420	15.02	31,230	14.53
Cleaners of vehicles and equipment	310	8.46	17,590	7.91
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	1,220	10.09	21,000	9.22
Packers and packagers, hand	1,010	10.77	22,410	8.82

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.

5 Indicates that a wage estimate is not available.

6 There is a wide variation in the number of hours worked by those employed as actors, dancers, singers, and musicians. Many jobs are for the duration of 1 day or 1 week, and it is extremely rare for a performer to have guaranteed employment for a period that exceeds 3 to 6 months. Therefore only hourly wages are available for these occupations.