

Construction, Extraction, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations: 2007 and 2008 American Community Surveys

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Introduction

This report is one of a series produced to highlight results from the 2008 American Community Survey (ACS), focusing on changes between the 2007 ACS and the 2008 ACS. The report series is designed to cover a variety of economic topics, such as poverty, occupation, home values, and labor force participation. This series provides information about the changing economic characteristics of the nation and states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The ACS also provides detailed estimates of demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics for congressional districts, counties, places, and other localities every year. A description of the ACS is provided in the text box "What Is the American Community Survey?"

This report presents data on the construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupation group at the national and state levels based on the 2007 ACS and 2008 ACS. Occupational categories are based on the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) 2000. The six major occupational categories based on this classification are management, professional, and related occupations; service occupations; sales and office occupations; farming, fishing, and forestry occupations; construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations;

What Is the American Community Survey?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities with reliable and timely demographic, social, economic, and housing data every year. It has an annual sample size of about 3 million addresses across the United States and Puerto Rico and includes both housing units and group quarters. The ACS is conducted in every county throughout the nation and every municipio in Puerto Rico, where it is called the Puerto Rico Community Survey.

Beginning in 2006, ACS data for 2005 were released for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 and greater. In 2008, the first set of multiyear estimates was released for data collected between January 2005 and December 2007.

These 3-year estimates were published for geographic areas with populations of 20,000 and greater. The U.S. Census Bureau is planning to release the first 5-year estimates in late 2010 for the smallest geographic areas based on data collected between January 2005 and December 2009.

The data contained in this report are based on the ACS sample interviewed in 2007 and 2008. For information on the ACS sample design and other topics, visit www.census.gov/acs/www.

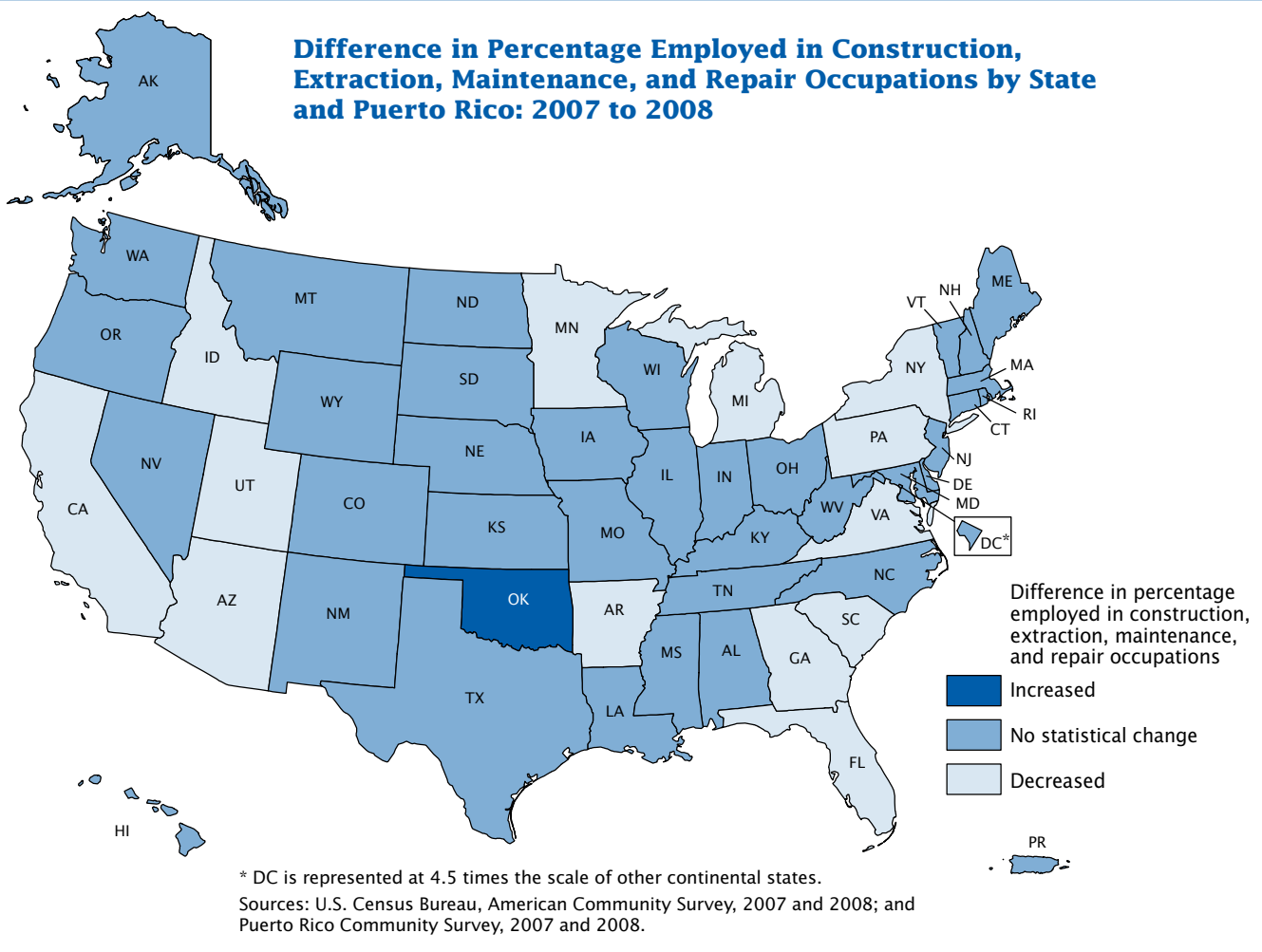
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Difference in Percentage Employed in Construction, Extraction, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations by State and Puerto Rico: 2007 to 2008



and production, transportation, and material-moving occupations.¹

This report features the major occupational category construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations in order to highlight changes in the occupational composition of the employed workforce in each state during the 2007 to 2008 time period.²

The data contained in this report are based on ACS samples that were selected for interview in 2007 and 2008 and are estimates of the

¹ Data on all occupational categories are available through the Economic Data Profile and Comparison Profile and Detailed Table B24010 "Sex by Occupation for the Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over" located on American FactFinder at <<http://factfinder.census.gov>>.

² The employed workforce excludes the unemployed.

actual figures that could have been obtained by interviewing the entire population using the same methodology. All comparisons presented in this report have taken sampling error into account and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level unless noted otherwise. Due to rounding, some details may not sum to totals. For information on sampling and estimation methods, confidentiality protection, and sampling and nonsampling errors, please see the "2008 ACS Accuracy of the Data" document located at <www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2008.pdf>.

Occupation

In 2008, 9.3 percent of the United States' employed workforce, or 13.6 million people, worked in the construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations—down from 9.7 percent (13.8 million) the previous year. At the national level, the job losses in this occupation group were concentrated in the construction and extraction occupations.³

Decreases in these occupations occurred primarily in the South (Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and Virginia) and the West (Arizona, California, Idaho, and Utah).

³ The number of workers in installation, maintenance, and repair occupations was not statistically different between 2007 and 2008.

Michigan also experienced a loss of workers in these occupations. Florida and California had the largest number of job losses in these occupations with about 80,000 each.⁴ In contrast, the number of workers in these occupations increased in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, with Texas

⁴ California's estimate was not statistically different from Florida's estimate.

showing the largest increase (about 67,000).

In 2008, the share of the employed workforce in construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations ranged from 15.5 percent in Wyoming to 3.0 percent in the District of Columbia. The map illustrates the relative change in the distribution of this occupation group in each

state over the last year. Thirteen states showed a percentage-point decline between 2007 and 2008: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia. Notably, Oklahoma was the only state with an increase in the proportion of workers in these occupations.

Employment in Construction, Extraction, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations Among the Civilian Employed Population Aged 16 and Older by State and Puerto Rico: 2007 and 2008

(For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/acs/www)

Area	2007				2008				Change in construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations (2008 less 2007)			
	Construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations				Construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations				Estimate	Margin of error ¹ (±)	Per-centage point change	Margin of error ¹ (±)
	Estimate	Margin of error ¹ (±)	Per-centage of employed population	Margin of error ¹ (±)	Estimate	Margin of error ¹ (±)	Per-centage of employed population	Margin of error ¹ (±)				
United States . . .	13,795,740	57,727	9.7	0.1	13,612,976	63,859	9.3	0.1	*-182,764	86,084	*-0.4	0.1
Alabama	228,784	7,742	11.3	0.4	224,851	7,686	10.8	0.4	-3,933	10,909	-0.5	0.5
Alaska	39,692	3,175	12.0	1.0	43,006	3,663	12.7	1.0	3,314	4,848	0.6	1.4
Arizona	345,088	10,550	12.2	0.4	328,873	11,038	11.2	0.4	*-16,215	15,269	*-1.0	0.5
Arkansas	131,129	6,119	10.6	0.5	124,730	5,114	9.8	0.4	-6,399	7,975	*-0.8	0.6
California	1,554,074	22,605	9.2	0.1	1,470,289	21,812	8.6	0.1	*-83,785	31,412	*-0.6	0.2
Colorado	274,821	10,318	11.0	0.4	279,047	9,399	10.8	0.4	4,226	13,957	-0.2	0.6
Connecticut	144,196	6,571	8.2	0.4	137,490	6,655	7.7	0.4	-6,706	9,353	-0.5	0.5
Delaware	42,881	3,319	10.3	0.8	39,860	3,051	9.5	0.7	-3,021	4,508	-0.8	1.1
District of Columbia	10,767	1,914	3.7	0.7	9,100	1,645	3.0	0.5	-1,667	2,523	-0.7	0.8
Florida	921,418	18,661	11.0	0.2	843,666	16,807	10.0	0.2	*-77,752	25,114	*-1.0	0.3
Georgia	468,734	12,500	10.6	0.3	445,086	12,995	9.8	0.3	*-23,648	18,031	*-0.8	0.4
Hawaii	64,633	4,461	10.7	0.7	65,347	4,447	10.4	0.7	714	6,299	-0.3	1.0
Idaho	86,225	4,457	12.1	0.6	79,772	4,299	11.0	0.6	*-6,453	6,192	*-1.1	0.9
Illinois	508,263	10,146	8.2	0.2	509,343	11,850	8.0	0.2	1,080	15,600	-0.2	0.3
Indiana	290,278	9,066	9.6	0.3	284,205	7,612	9.2	0.2	-6,073	11,838	-0.4	0.4
Iowa	137,843	4,243	8.9	0.3	138,675	4,700	8.7	0.3	832	6,332	-0.2	0.4
Kansas	127,502	5,491	9.1	0.4	137,389	6,076	9.5	0.4	*9,887	8,190	0.4	0.6
Kentucky	194,064	7,839	10.2	0.4	191,161	7,546	10.0	0.4	-2,903	10,881	-0.2	0.5
Louisiana	243,445	8,666	12.9	0.4	249,659	8,237	12.5	0.4	6,214	11,956	-0.3	0.6
Maine	67,361	3,169	10.2	0.5	66,769	3,929	10.1	0.6	-592	5,048	-0.1	0.8
Maryland	255,696	9,374	9.0	0.3	259,810	7,816	8.8	0.3	4,114	12,205	-0.2	0.4
Massachusetts	239,874	8,432	7.3	0.3	246,362	7,580	7.3	0.2	6,488	11,339	-0.1	0.3
Michigan	367,852	8,612	8.1	0.2	347,258	8,650	7.6	0.2	*-20,594	12,206	*-0.5	0.3
Minnesota	228,846	6,445	8.3	0.2	225,120	6,164	8.0	0.2	-3,726	8,918	*-0.4	0.3
Mississippi	137,148	6,424	11.4	0.5	142,119	6,560	11.3	0.5	4,971	9,181	-0.1	0.7
Missouri	269,834	7,999	9.6	0.3	272,856	8,081	9.4	0.3	3,022	11,370	-0.2	0.4
Montana	56,056	3,013	11.9	0.6	55,525	3,459	11.5	0.7	-531	4,587	-0.5	1.0
Nebraska	84,683	4,262	9.2	0.5	83,009	3,932	8.7	0.4	-1,674	5,799	-0.5	0.6
Nevada	152,350	6,599	12.2	0.5	148,914	7,086	11.7	0.6	-3,436	9,683	-0.5	0.8
New Hampshire	66,503	3,623	9.5	0.5	64,064	3,735	8.9	0.5	-2,439	5,204	-0.6	0.7
New Jersey	342,257	9,627	8.1	0.2	345,531	10,770	7.9	0.2	3,274	14,446	-0.2	0.3
New Mexico	109,862	5,438	12.4	0.6	108,160	5,905	12.0	0.6	-1,702	8,028	-0.4	0.9
New York	713,099	14,671	7.8	0.2	705,220	15,272	7.5	0.2	-7,879	21,177	*-0.4	0.2
North Carolina	456,451	10,842	10.8	0.3	464,885	11,882	10.6	0.3	8,434	16,085	-0.2	0.4
North Dakota	36,459	2,406	10.7	0.7	35,865	2,720	10.3	0.8	-594	3,631	-0.4	1.0
Ohio	443,454	10,531	8.2	0.2	446,679	10,415	8.0	0.2	3,225	14,811	-0.1	0.3
Oklahoma	180,758	6,591	10.9	0.4	196,009	5,530	11.5	0.3	*15,251	8,604	*0.6	0.5
Oregon	164,927	6,075	9.1	0.3	162,761	6,502	8.8	0.4	-2,166	8,899	-0.3	0.5
Pennsylvania	522,899	9,917	8.8	0.2	513,919	9,624	8.5	0.2	-8,980	13,819	*-0.3	0.2
Rhode Island	40,159	3,699	7.7	0.7	41,017	2,822	7.9	0.5	858	4,652	0.2	0.9
South Carolina	222,987	9,337	11.2	0.5	207,507	7,774	10.3	0.4	*-15,480	12,150	*-0.9	0.6
South Dakota	35,696	2,313	8.6	0.6	39,375	3,047	9.3	0.7	3,679	3,825	0.7	0.9
Tennessee	283,959	8,919	10.0	0.3	281,371	8,874	9.6	0.3	-2,588	12,581	-0.3	0.4
Texas	1,268,894	20,062	11.6	0.2	1,335,763	20,358	11.7	0.2	*66,869	28,582	0.1	0.3
Utah	145,487	6,678	11.4	0.5	128,556	6,475	9.8	0.5	*-16,931	9,302	*-1.6	0.7
Vermont	33,474	2,120	10.0	0.6	33,658	2,310	9.9	0.7	184	3,135	-0.1	0.9
Virginia	371,385	9,894	9.8	0.3	356,253	10,231	9.2	0.3	*-15,132	14,233	*-0.6	0.4
Washington	296,519	8,536	9.5	0.3	299,408	9,091	9.3	0.3	2,889	12,470	-0.2	0.4
West Virginia	98,828	4,556	13.0	0.5	102,222	4,958	13.0	0.6	3,394	6,733	0.0	0.8
Wisconsin	245,104	6,625	8.5	0.2	251,529	6,412	8.5	0.2	6,425	9,220	0.0	0.3
Wyoming	43,042	2,670	15.4	1.0	43,933	2,961	15.5	1.0	891	3,987	0.1	1.4
Puerto Rico	127,466	5,492	10.8	0.5	132,319	5,097	10.6	0.4	4,853	7,493	-0.2	0.6

* Statistically different from zero at the 90 percent confidence level.

¹ Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. When added to and subtracted from the estimate, the margin of error forms the 90 percent confidence interval.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2007 and 2008; and Puerto Rico Community Survey, 2007 and 2008.