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OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES IN LAKE COUNTY-KENOSHA COUNTY, ILL.-WIS. METROPOLITAN DIVISION — MAY 2011

Workers in the Lake County-Kenosha County Metropolitan Division had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$23.18 in May 2011, about 7 percent above the nationwide average of \$21.74, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that, after testing for statistical significance, wages in the local area were significantly higher than their respective national averages in 11 of the 22 major occupational groups, including construction and extraction; life, physical, and social science; and healthcare practitioners and technical occupations. Seven groups had significantly lower wages than their respective national averages, including legal; arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media; and architecture and engineering.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, local employment was more highly concentrated in 6 of the 22 occupational groups, including management; production; and business and financial operations. Conversely, 12 groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including office and administrative support, construction and extraction, and food preparation and serving related occupations. (See table A and box note at end of release.)

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Lake County-Kenosha County Metropolitan Division, and measures of statistical significance, May 2011

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Lake County	United States	Lake County	Percent difference ^[1]
Total, all occupations	100.0%	100.0%	\$21.74	\$23.18 *	7
Management	4.8	7.1 *	51.64	49.51 *	-4
Business and financial operations	4.8	6.1 *	33.05	32.81	-1
Computer and mathematical	2.7	3.0	37.85	36.18 *	-4
Architecture and engineering	1.8	1.8	37.08	34.31 *	-7
Life, physical, and social science	0.8	1.3 *	32.44	37.89 *	17
Community and social service	1.5	1.0 *	21.07	23.70 *	12
Legal	0.8	0.4 *	47.30	39.69 *	-16
Education, training, and library	6.6	7.6 *	24.46	25.13	3
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	1.3	1.0 *	25.89	22.17 *	-14
Healthcare practitioners and technical	5.9	5.3 *	34.97	39.76 *	14
Healthcare support	3.1	2.5 *	13.16	13.96 *	6
Protective service	2.5	1.7 *	20.54	22.62 *	10
Food preparation and serving related	8.7	7.7 *	10.30	9.99 *	-3
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	3.3	4.1 *	12.29	13.07 *	6
Personal care and service	2.8	3.0	11.84	12.48 *	5
Sales and related	10.6	10.7	18.04	18.94 *	5
Office and administrative support	16.7	15.2 *	16.40	17.13 *	4
Farming, fishing, and forestry	0.3	0.1 *	11.68	13.00	11
Construction and extraction	3.9	2.8 *	21.46	27.23 *	27
Installation, maintenance, and repair	3.9	3.3 *	20.86	22.83 *	9
Production	6.5	8.4 *	16.45	16.70	2
Transportation and material moving	6.7	5.9 *	15.96	14.64 *	-8

* The percent share of employment or mean hourly wage for this area is significantly different from the national average of all areas at the 90-percent confidence level.

^[1] A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in Lake County is above the national mean wage, while a negative difference reflects a lower wage.

One occupational group—management—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. Lake County-Kenosha County had 25,940 jobs in management, accounting for 7.1 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 4.8-percent share nationally. The average hourly wage for this occupational group locally was \$49.51, measurably below the national wage of \$51.64.

With employment of 5,990, general and operations managers was the largest occupation within the management group, followed by sales managers (2,230) and financial managers (1,770). Among the higher paying jobs were chief executives and architectural and engineering managers, with mean hourly wages of \$82.32 and \$58.03, respectively. At the lower end of the wage scale were food service managers (\$22.14) and property, real estate, and community association managers (\$24.50). (Detailed occupational data for management are presented in table 1; for a complete listing of detailed occupations available go to www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_29404.htm)

Location quotients allow for the exploration of an area's occupational make-up by comparing the composition of jobs in an area relative to the national average. (See table 1.) For example, a location quotient of 2.0 indicates that an occupation accounts for twice the share of employment in the area than it does nationally. In the Lake County-Kenosha County Metropolitan Division, above average concentrations of employment were found in many of the occupations within the management group. For instance, sales managers were employed at 2.4 times the national rate in Lake County-Kenosha County, and purchasing managers, at 2.1 times the U.S. average. On the other hand, food service managers had a location quotient of 1.1 in Lake County-Kenosha County, indicating that this particular occupation's local and national employment shares were similar.

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 Illinois Department of Employment Security and the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. The OES survey provides estimates of employment and hourly and annual wages for wage and salary workers in 22 major occupational groups and nearly 800 detailed occupations for the nation, states, metropolitan statistical areas, metropolitan divisions, and nonmetropolitan areas.

OES wage and employment data for the 22 major occupational groups in the Lake County Metropolitan Division 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 the national estimates. 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 2011 survey was 77.3 percent based on establishments and 73.3 percent based on employment. May 2011 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected over a 3-year period: May 2011, November 2010, May 2010, November 2009, May 2009, and November 2008. The sample in the Lake County-Kenosha County Metropolitan Division included 3,604 establishments with a response rate of 76 percent. For more information about OES concepts and methodology, go to www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.tn.htm.

The May 2011 OES estimates mark the first set of estimates based in part on data collected using the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. Nearly all the occupations in this release are 2010 SOC occupations; however, some are not. The May 2012 OES data will reflect the full set of detailed occupations in the 2010 SOC. For a list of all occupations, including 2010 SOC occupations, and how data collected on two structures were combined, see the OES Frequently Asked Questions online at www.bls.gov/oes/oes_ques.htm#Ques41.

Area definitions

The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

The **Lake County-Kenosha County, Ill.-Wis. Metropolitan Division** includes Lake County of Illinois and Kenosha County of Wisconsin.

Additional information

OES data are available on our regional web page at www.bls.gov/ro5/home.htm. If you have additional questions, contact the Chicago Economic Analysis and Information Unit at (312) 353-1880. 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, Lake County-Kenosha County Metropolitan Division, May 2011

Occupation ^[1]	Employment		Mean Wages	
	Level ^[2]	Location quotient ^[3]	Hourly	Annual ^[4]
Management occupations	25,940	1.5	\$49.51	\$102,970
Chief executives	1,470	1.9	82.32	171,220
General and operations managers	5,990	1.2	52.53	109,260
Legislators	230	1.3	[5]	33,850
Advertising and promotions managers	180	2.1	40.26	83,740
Marketing managers	910	1.9	55.15	114,720
Sales managers	2,230	2.4	46.85	97,450
Public relations and fundraising managers	150	1.0	39.24	81,630
Administrative services managers	810	1.1	33.50	69,680
Computer and information systems managers	1,140	1.3	56.76	118,060
Financial managers	1,770	1.3	53.22	110,690
Industrial production managers	830	1.9	41.81	86,960
Purchasing managers	400	2.1	41.71	86,760
Transportation, storage, and distribution managers	280	1.1	39.10	81,320
Compensation and benefits managers	130	1.9	49.22	102,380
Human resources managers	350	1.5	52.65	109,520
Training and development managers	150	2.0	39.82	82,830
Construction managers	310	0.6	39.81	82,810
Education administrators, elementary and secondary school	1,220	1.9	[5]	94,850
Education administrators, postsecondary	160	0.5	43.92	91,360
Education administrators, all other	70	0.8	42.19	87,740
Architectural and engineering managers	600	1.1	58.03	120,700
Food service managers	560	1.1	22.14	46,040
Medical and health services managers	[5]	[5]	46.36	96,440
Postmasters and mail superintendents	40	0.5	34.68	72,130
Property, real estate, and community association managers	350	0.8	24.50	50,950
Social and community service managers	240	0.7	28.34	58,940
Managers, all other	3,630	3.7	48.51	100,910

[1] For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in Lake County-Kenosha County, see www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_29404.htm.

[2] Estimates for detailed occupations do not sum to the totals because the totals include occupations not shown separately. Estimates do not include self-employed workers.

[3] The location quotient is the ratio of the area concentration of occupational employment to the national average concentration. A location quotient greater than one indicates the occupation has a higher share of employment than average, and a location quotient less than one indicates the occupation is less prevalent in the area than average.

[4] 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.

[5] Estimate not released.