

## What is the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program?

OES provides employment and wage estimates for 800 occupations in over 300 industries. By contacting 1.2 million firms nation-wide, OES produces estimates for more than 375 metropolitan areas, 34 metropolitan divisions, all 50 States, the District of Columbia, select U.S. Territories, and many non-metropolitan areas. OES data is published annually in May.

## Who uses OES data?

- State and local workforce investment boards as well as training professionals use the information to determine the need for local employment and training services.
- Economic development specialists use the information to estimate available labor supply.
- Researchers use the data to study trends in labor markets and industries and to understand labor costs for new markets.
- Students and counselors use the information for career planning.
- Compensation specialists use the data to determine equitable and competitive pay and develop recruiting packages.
- BLS and State Employment Security Agencies use OES data to project employment.

## How can OES data help you?

- You can compare employment and wages for different occupations.
- You can compare employment and wages for particular occupations across industries.
- You can make wage comparisons across geographic areas.

## Where can you find this information?

You can find our data online at <http://www.bls.gov/oes>. There you will find the latest news releases and can search for detailed information.

## Whom should you contact if you have additional questions?

Contact the Carrie Jones by e-mail at [jones.carrie@bls.gov](mailto:jones.carrie@bls.gov) or by telephone at (202) 691-6474.

OES data include occupational employment and wages by industry as well as occupational employment and wages by geographic areas: national, state, and metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas. Here are examples of what OES has to offer.

### Metropolitan Areas with the Highest Employment for Human Resources Specialists, May 2012

Metropolitan Area	Employment	Hourly mean wage	Annual mean wage
New York-White Plains-Wayne, NY-NJ Metropolitan Division	18,860	\$33.76	\$70,230
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Division	16,080	\$39.75	\$82,670
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, CA Metropolitan Division	11,640	\$32.24	\$67,060
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, IL Metropolitan Division	10,110	\$31.98	\$66,520
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	8,640	\$27.58	\$57,360
Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX	8,460	\$31.82	\$66,190
Dallas-Plano-Irving, TX Metropolitan Division	8,370	\$30.58	\$63,610

### Metropolitan Areas with the Highest Employment for Accountants and Auditors, May 2012

Metropolitan Area	Employment	Hourly mean wage	Annual mean wage
New York-White Plains-Wayne, NY-NJ Metropolitan Division	65,730	\$43.87	\$91,240
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, CA Metropolitan Division	41,240	\$36.31	\$75,530
Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metropolitan Division	32,190	\$40.54	\$84,320
Chicago-Joliet-Naperville, IL Metropolitan Division	29,100	\$36.62	\$76,160
Houston-Sugar Land- Baytown, TX	28,240	\$36.43	\$77,850
Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	26,870	\$35.82	\$74,510
Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA NECTA Division	23,200	\$37.45	\$77,890