

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 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