



Cornell University
ILR School

Cornell University ILR School
DigitalCommons@ILR

Federal Publications

Key Workplace Documents

May 2008

Occupational Employment and Wages, 2006

United States Bureau of Labor Statistics

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/key_workplace

Thank you for downloading an article from DigitalCommons@ILR.

Support this valuable resource today!

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Key Workplace Documents at DigitalCommons@ILR. It has been accepted for inclusion in Federal Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@ILR. For more information, please contact catherwood-dig@cornell.edu.

If you have a disability and are having trouble accessing information on this website or need materials in an alternate format, contact web-accessibility@cornell.edu for assistance.

Occupational Employment and Wages, 2006

Abstract

[Excerpt] For every occupation, the OES program has data on the total U.S. employment and the distribution of wages, including the mean wage and the 10th, 25th, 50th (median), 75th, and 90th percentiles. Occupational data for geographic areas include employment and wages for each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Local area data for each occupation is available for 375 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), 34 metropolitan divisions within 11 of the largest MSAs, and 170 non-metropolitan areas. National industry specific estimates are available by industry sector and for 290 detailed industries.

The OES survey is a cooperative effort between BLS and the State workforce agencies. Employment and wage data for more than 800 occupations were collected from a sample of 1.2 million business establishments, employing more than 80 million workers, in 6 semi-annual panels between November 2003 and May 2006. Wage data for all establishments were updated to the May 2006 reference period, and employment data were updated to the average of the November 2005 and the May 2006 reference periods. Information on OES sampling and estimation methodology is provided in the technical note that is included in appendix B and on the OES Web site, www.bls.gov/oes.

The OES Web site www.bls.gov/oes includes electronic copies of all charts in this book, files with data for all occupations in all industries, and files for all States and metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. Tables that were published in printed form in previous years are available in electronic form on the Web site cited at the end of this publication. These tables include national cross-industry employment and wage data for all occupations; the largest occupations in over 300 industries; and profiles for all occupations.

Material in this publication is in the public domain and, with appropriate citation, may be reproduced without permission. Questions about OES data can be directed to the information phone line at (202) 691-6569 or sent to OESInfo@bls.gov.

Keywords

Bureau of Labor Statistics, BLS, OES, wages, data, employment, statistics

Comments

Suggested Citation

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2008). *Occupational employment and wages, 2006*. Washington, DC: Author. http://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/key_workplace/517/



Occupational Employment and Wages, 2006

May 2008 Bulletin 2702





Occupational Employment and Wages, 2006

U.S. Department of Labor
Elaine L. Chao, *Secretary*

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Keith Hall, *Commissioner*

May 2008

Bulletin 2702



The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and the State workforce agencies.





Preface

This chart book, Occupational Employment and Wages, 2006, is a product of the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The OES program produces employment and wage estimates for more than 800 occupations by geographic area and industry.

For every occupation, the OES program has data on the total U.S. employment and the distribution of wages, including the mean wage and the 10th, 25th, 50th (median), 75th, and 90th percentiles. Occupational data for geographic areas include employment and wages for each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Local area data for each occupation is available for 375 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), 34 metropolitan divisions within 11 of the largest MSAs, and 170 nonmetropolitan areas. National industry-specific estimates are available by industry sector and for 290 detailed industries.

The OES survey is a cooperative effort between BLS and the State workforce agencies. Employment and wage data for more than 800 occupations were collected from a sample of 1.2 million business establishments, employing more than 80 million workers, in 6 semiannual panels between November 2003 and May 2006. Wage data for all establishments were updated to the May 2006 reference period, and employment data were updated to the average of the November 2005 and the May 2006 reference periods. Information on OES sampling and estimation methodology is provided in the technical note that is included in appendix B and on the OES Web site, www.bls.gov/oes.

The OES Web site www.bls.gov/oes includes electronic copies of all charts in this book, files with data for all occupations in all industries, and files for all States and metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. Tables that were published in printed form in previous years are available in electronic form on the Web site cited at the end of this publication. These tables include

national cross-industry employment and wage data for all occupations; the largest occupations in over 300 industries; and profiles for all occupations.

Material in this publication is in the public domain and, with appropriate citation, may be reproduced without permission. Questions about OES data can be directed to the information phone line at (202) 691-6569 or sent to OESInfo@bls.gov.

Acknowledgements

The information provided in this chart book is possible due to the cooperation of more than a million business establishments that provide information on their workers to their State workforce agency and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

State workforce agencies within each State collect and verify almost all data provided. BLS selects the sample, produces the estimates, and provides technical procedures and financial support to the States. BLS also collects a small portion of the data from employers.

BLS produced this chart book under the general guidance and direction of Dixie Sommers, Assistant Commissioner for Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections, and George D. Stamas, Chief, Division of Occupational Employment Statistics. Laurie Salmon, manager of Publications and Analysis in Occupational Employment Statistics, provided planning and day-to-day direction. Dina Itkin coordinated the production of the chart book. The tables, charts, and maps were prepared by Benjamin Cover, Jeffrey Holt, Dina Itkin, John Jones, Rebecca Keller, Michael Soloy, Zachary Warren, and Audrey Watson. Cover art, typesetting, and layout were furnished by Keith Tapscott, and editorial services were provided by Monica Gabor of the Office of Publications and Special Studies, Division of Publishing, William Parks II, Chief.



Contents

Page	Occupation Focus
2	Figure 1 Largest occupations in the United States, May 2006
4	Figure 2 Smallest occupations in the United States, May 2006
6	Figure 3 Largest occupations earning wages near the U.S. median, May 2006
8	Figure 4 Wages for occupations with high fatality rates, May 2006
10	Figure 5 Occupations with different wage variation, May 2006
11	Figure 6 Occupations with a similar mean wage, but a different wage potential, May 2006
Occupations within Industries	
14	Figure 7 Industries with the highest employment of environmental occupations and their annual wages, May 2006
16	Figure 8 Profile for registered nurses (RNs), May 2006
18	Figure 9 Career choices of drivers in the United States, May 2006
Industry Focus	
22	Figure 10 Largest occupations in nonstore retailers and their mean wages, May 2006
23	Figure 11 Largest occupations in general merchandise stores and their mean wages, May 2006
24	Figure 12 Wages for selected occupational groups in the health care and social assistance and manufacturing sectors, May 2006
26	Figure 13 Employment changes in the oil and gas extraction industry, 2003-2006
State Focus	
30	Figure 14 A look at Pennsylvania's occupational workforce, in percent, May 2006
31	Figure 15 Selected occupations in Pennsylvania, May 2006
32	Figure 16 Share of State employment in computer and mathematical occupations, May 2006
33	Figure 17 Annual mean wage for computer and mathematical occupations, by State, May 2006
34	Figure 18 States that employed the most and fewest selected service occupations per capita, May 2006
36	Figure 19 Wages and percent of employment by selected State and occupational group, May 2006
Area Focus	
40	Figure 20 Share of employment of elementary school teachers in California, May 2006
41	Figure 21 Average mean wages for elementary school teachers in California, May 2006
42	Figure 22 Percentage of employment of architecture and engineering occupations by area, May 2006
43	Figure 23 Employment of architecture and engineering occupations by area, May 2006
44	Figure 24 Metropolitan areas with the highest concentrations of fast food cooks and fitness trainers and aerobics instructors, May 2006
46	Figure 25 Metropolitan areas and divisions with the highest concentration of selected arts, entertainment, and sports occupations, May 2006
48	Figure 26 Occupational employment and wages in metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas in Texas, May 2006
50	Figure 27 Occupations most likely found in nonmetropolitan areas, May 2006

Organization of charts and applications of OES data

This chart book's presentation of charts, tables, and maps is intended to demonstrate a variety of applications of OES data. The charts are organized into five categories: The first with a focus on detailed occupations, the second highlighting labor patterns of specific industries, the third and fourth focusing on labor markets of States and local areas, and the fifth illustrating unique applications of OES data. Here are some examples of useful applications of OES data:

- Detailed occupational data can be used by job seekers or employers, for instance, to show wages for workers in certain occupations and to assess wage variation within and across occupations. Variation in wages within an occupation can result from a variety of factors, including industry, geographic location, or a worker's particular experience or qualifications. Useful data for job seekers include information on the industries or geographic areas that have the most jobs in an occupation or the highest average wages for the occupation. Total employment might serve as an indication of the ease of finding a job in the occupation.
- Industry-specific occupational data can be used by human resource professionals in salary negotiations or to remain competitive by ensuring that their wages are in line with other businesses in their area and industry. Information on the types of jobs within an industry could be used to compare average staffing patterns with that of one's own company. Occupational employment by industry may be useful in assessing the impact of shifts in technology and other macroeconomic trends. For example, for several years, healthcare industries have accounted for a significant portion of job growth, while manufacturing industries have declined. OES data can be used to see the types of jobs being created or disappearing from the economy due to changes in these industries.
- Geographic area information can be used to assess the job demand in a particular area. OES State level data can be used to make assessments about the diversity of a State's economy, or to

make comparisons among States. The composition of the workforce can provide clues to how a State or regional economy can hold up in adverse conditions that affect a certain sector of the economy. The composition of the workforce is also an indicator of the average wages within a State.

- Like State data, local area data can be used to study the diversity of a local area economy. Businesses can use data to see whether it might be beneficial to relocate to a particular area. OES provides information on the workforce, including whether there are workers available in the occupations that the business will need. For instance, some areas have higher levels of high-tech or skilled production workers. Businesses may also use the data to compare wages between alternative areas.



OES survey coverage, scope, and concept definitions

The OES survey covers all full- and part-time wage and salary workers in nonfarm industries. The survey does not include the self-employed, owners and partners in unincorporated firms, workers in private households, or unpaid family workers.

- An occupation is a set of activities or tasks that employees are paid to perform. Employees that perform essentially the same tasks are in the same occupation, whether or not they are in the same industry. Workers that may be classified in more than one occupation should be classified in the occupation that requires the highest level of skill. If there is no measurable difference in skill requirements, workers are included in the occupation they spend the most time. All occupations are classified by the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system.
 - An industry is a group of establishments that produce similar products or provide similar services. For example, all establishments that manufacture automobiles are in the same industry. A given industry, or even a particular establishment in that industry, might have employees in many different occupations. The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) groups similar establishments into industries.
 - The employment shown is the average employment for the most recent May and November. Employment is defined 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. Included are base rate, cost-of-living allowances, guaranteed pay, hazardous-duty pay, incentive pay including commissions and production bonuses, tips, and on-call pay. Excluded are back pay, jury duty pay, overtime pay, severance pay, shift differentials, non-production bonuses, employer cost for supplementary benefits, and tuition reimbursements.
 - Respondents are asked to report the number of employees paid within specific wage intervals, regardless of part- or full-time status. The responding establishment can reference either the hourly or the annual rate for full-time workers but are instructed to report the hourly rate for part-time workers. 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.
 - Geographic areas are defined by the Office of Management and Budget. Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are also surveyed, but their data are not included in this publication. (The OES Web site includes data for these U.S. territories.)
 - The nationwide response rate for the May 2006 survey was 78.1 percent, based on establishments and 73.4 percent, based on employment.
- More information on sampling and estimation methodology can be found in the technical note (appendix B) on the Web site http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_tec.htm.*





Occupation Focus

Six percent of U.S. employment was found in two sales-related occupations, retail salespersons and cashiers.

Figure 1 Largest occupations in the United States, May 2006

- One quarter of the employment in the United States was found in the 14 occupations in the adjacent table.
- Two of these occupations, registered nurses and general and operations managers, paid above the U.S. mean annual wage of \$39,190.

Occupation	Employment	Percent of U.S. employment	Mean wage	
			Hourly	Annual
Retail salespersons	4,374,230	3.30	\$ 11.51	\$ 23,940
Cashiers	3,479,390	2.62	8.62	17,930
Office clerks, general	3,026,710	2.28	12.12	25,200
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	2,461,890	1.86	7.66	15,930
Registered nurses	2,417,150	1.82	28.71	59,730
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	2,372,130	1.79	11.08	23,050
Waiters and waitresses	2,312,930	1.74	8.27	17,190
Customer service representatives	2,147,770	1.62	14.61	30,400
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	2,124,860	1.60	10.45	21,730
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	1,856,890	1.40	15.28	31,780
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	1,750,600	1.32	13.68	28,460
Stock clerks and order fillers	1,705,450	1.29	10.79	22,440
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	1,673,950	1.26	17.46	36,320
General and operations managers	1,663,280	1.25	47.73	99,280



The 14 smallest occupations combined made up less than one-tenth of one percent of total U.S. employment.

Figure 2 Smallest occupations in the United States, May 2006

- Six of these 14 occupations paid above the U.S. mean annual wage of \$39,190.

Occupation	Employment	Mean Wage	
		Hourly	Annual
Prosthodontists	480	\$76.42	\$158,940
Locomotive firers	560	21.96	45,680
Segmental pavers	880	13.75	28,600
Cooks, private household	900	13.64	28,370
Geographers	960	30.64	63,720
Industrial-organizational psychologists	1,140	43.23	89,920
Mathematical technicians	1,210	22.12	46,010
Radio operators	1,220	18.69	38,870
Makeup artists, theatrical and performance	1,250	17.66	36,730
Fabric menders, except garment	1,280	14.55	30,260
Astronomers	1,430	45.67	95,000
Models	1,470	13.45	27,980
Forest fire inspectors and prevention specialists	1,710	17.21	35,810
Dredge operators	1,780	17.81	37,050



What kind of jobs did the average earners hold?

- Many of the average-paying occupations were skilled manufacturing, skilled trades, and office and administrative support jobs.
- For most of the workers in these occupations, the highest level of educational attainment was high school or some college/associate's degree, and the most significant source of training was moderate-term on-the-job training. For the remaining occupations in this list, the most significant sources of training was short-term on-the-job training or a postsecondary vocational award, according to BLS's *Occupational Outlook Handbook*.

Figure 3 Largest occupations earning wages near the U.S. median, May 2006

Occupation	Median Hourly Wage	Employment
U.S. median wage	\$14.61	
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	14.69	1,856,890
Maintenance and repair workers, general	15.34	1,310,580
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	14.14	483,020
Bill and account collectors	13.97	423,090
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	15.10	376,630
Dental assistants	14.53	277,040
Painters, construction and maintenance	15.00	263,390
Loan interviewers and clerks	14.89	248,050
Insurance claims and policy processing clerks	14.96	238,210
All other information and record clerks	14.98	230,990



Workers in several of the occupations with the highest fatality rates earned below the average wage for all occupations.

Figure 4 Wages for occupations with high fatality rates, May 2006

- Of these occupations, aircraft pilots and flight engineers have the highest mean annual wage.

Occupation	Fatality rate, 2006 (per 100,000 employed)	Employment	Mean annual wage
All occupations	4.0	132,604,980	\$39,190
Fishers and related fishing workers	147.2	880	28,510
Aircraft pilots and flight engineers	90.4	75,810	140,380
Logging workers	84.6		
Logging equipment operators		28,300	30,880
Log graders and scalers		4,810	30,980
Logging workers, all other		5,880	31,720
Structural iron and steel workers	61.0	67,560	43,950
Refuse and recyclable material collectors	40.7	125,770	31,110
Farmers and ranchers	37.2	300	43,520
Electrical power-line installers and repairers	34.9	110,520	49,900
Roofers	33.5	125,030	35,340
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	27.5		
Driver/sales workers		396,680	24,380
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers		1,673,950	36,320
Light or delivery service truck drivers		941,590	27,520

Source for fatality rates: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Injuries, Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries, 2006



Occupations with similar average wages could still have had different ranges of wages.

- Although these occupations had the same wage at the 10th percentile, they had very different wages at the higher percentiles
- The lowest, or 10th percentile, wages for real estate sales agents and word processors were both about \$10.00. However, there was a large difference in the high wage earners in these occupations. The 90th percentile wages were \$53.61 for real estate sales agents and \$20.83 for word processors and typists.

Figure 5 Occupations with different wage variation, May 2006

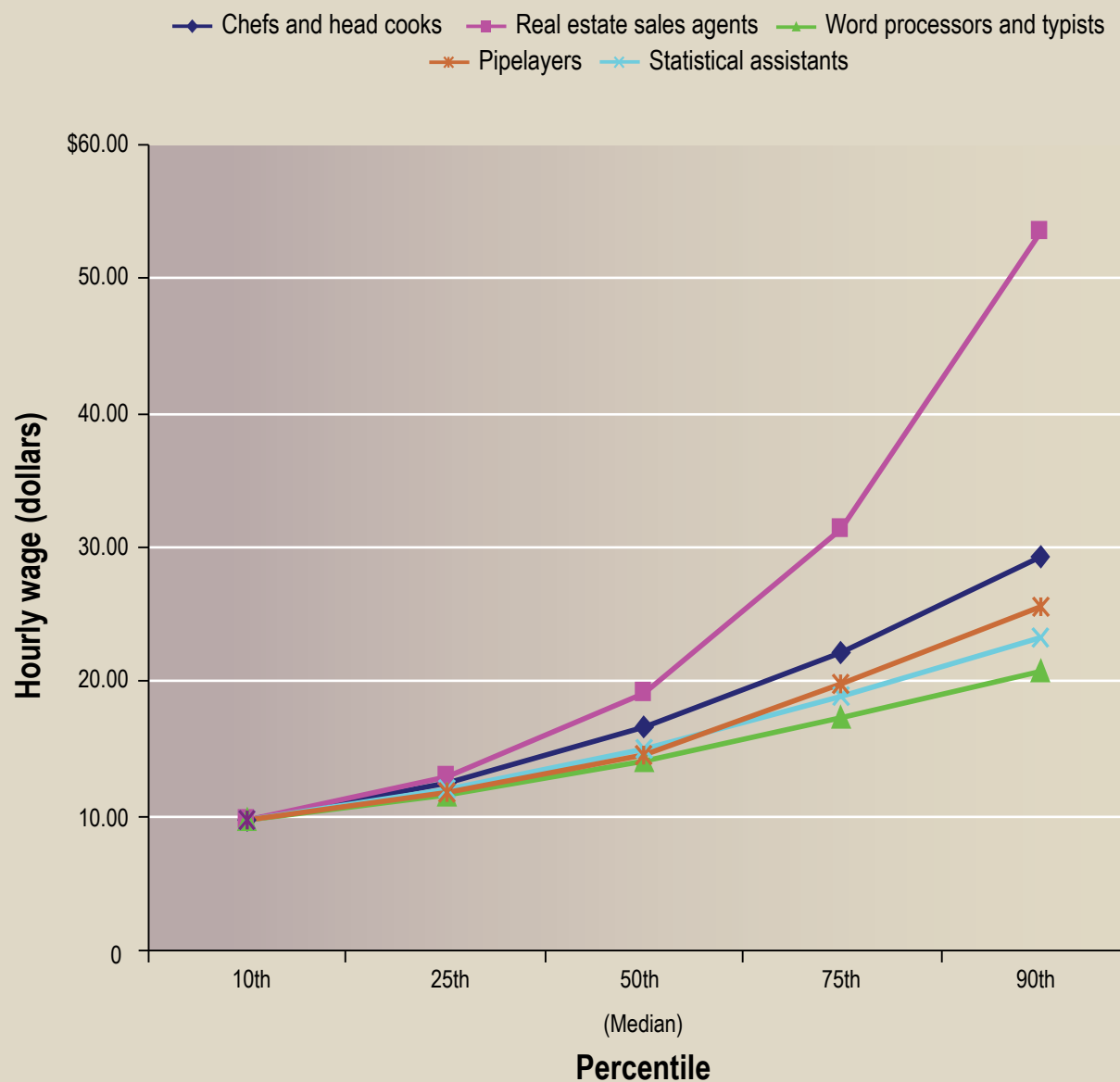
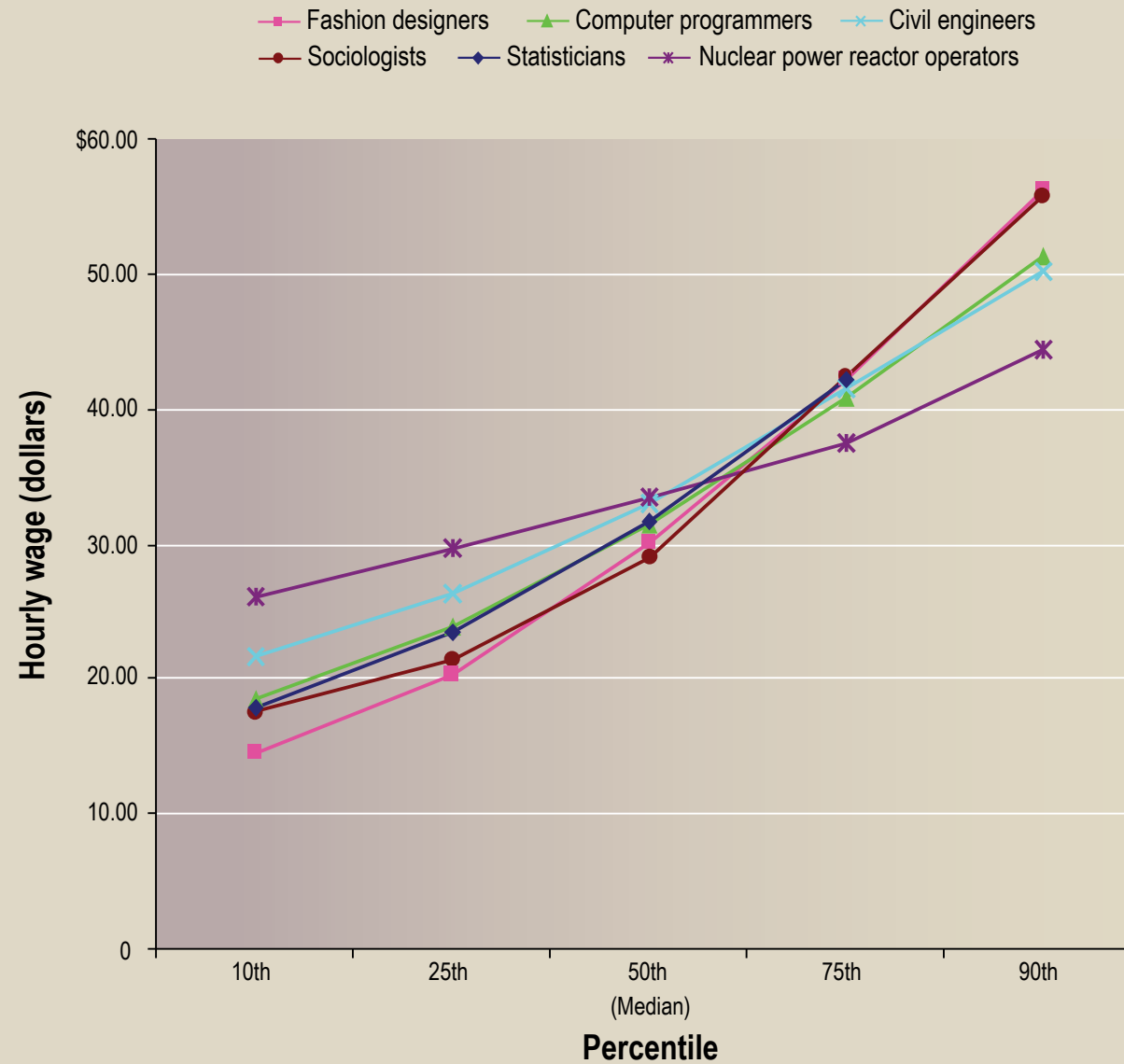




Figure 6 Occupations with a similar mean wage, but a different wage potential, May 2006

- Mean hourly wages for fashion designers, nuclear power reactor operators, and other occupations on this chart are all within \$2.00 of one another; but the variability of wages within the occupations is different.





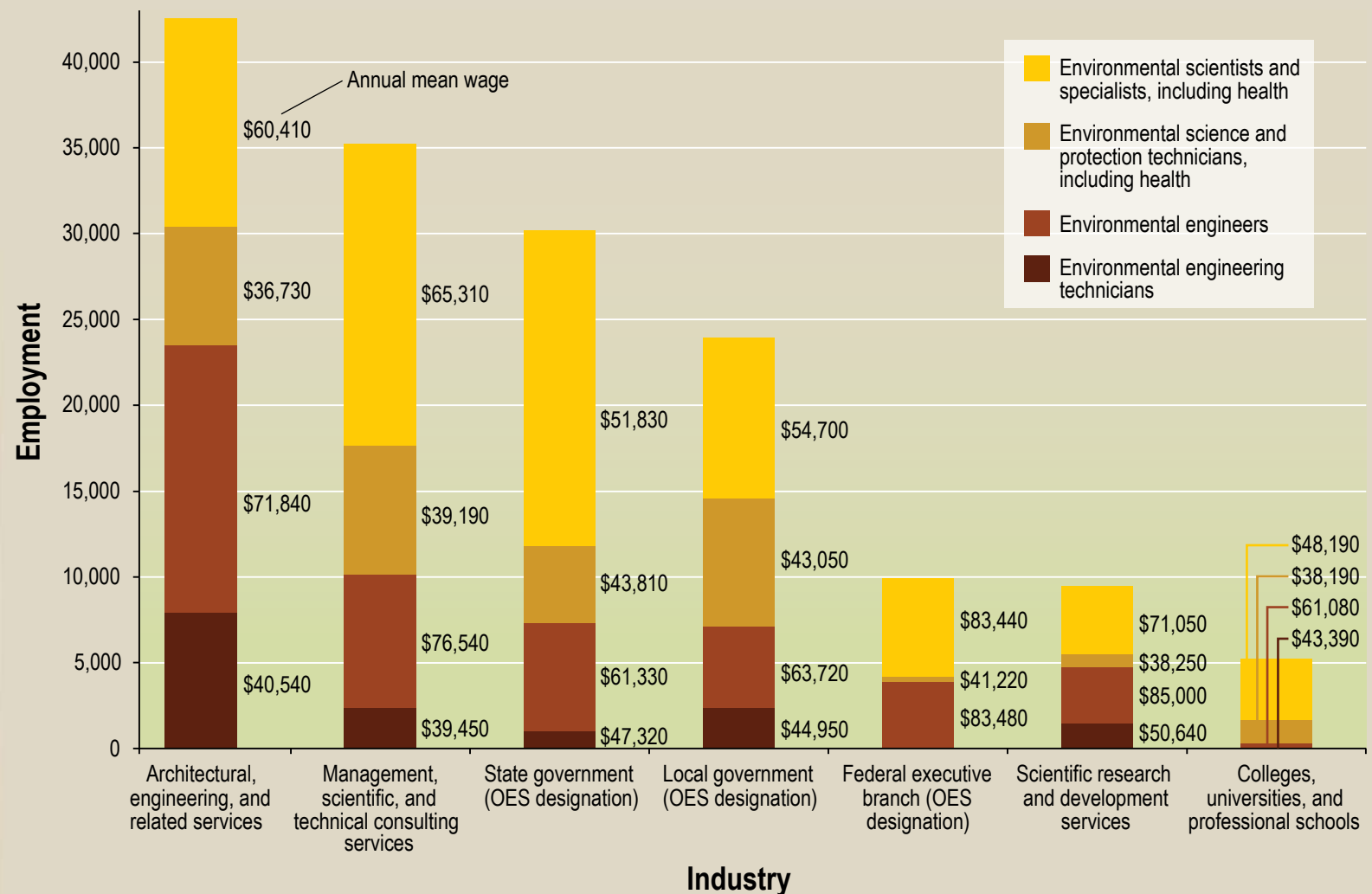


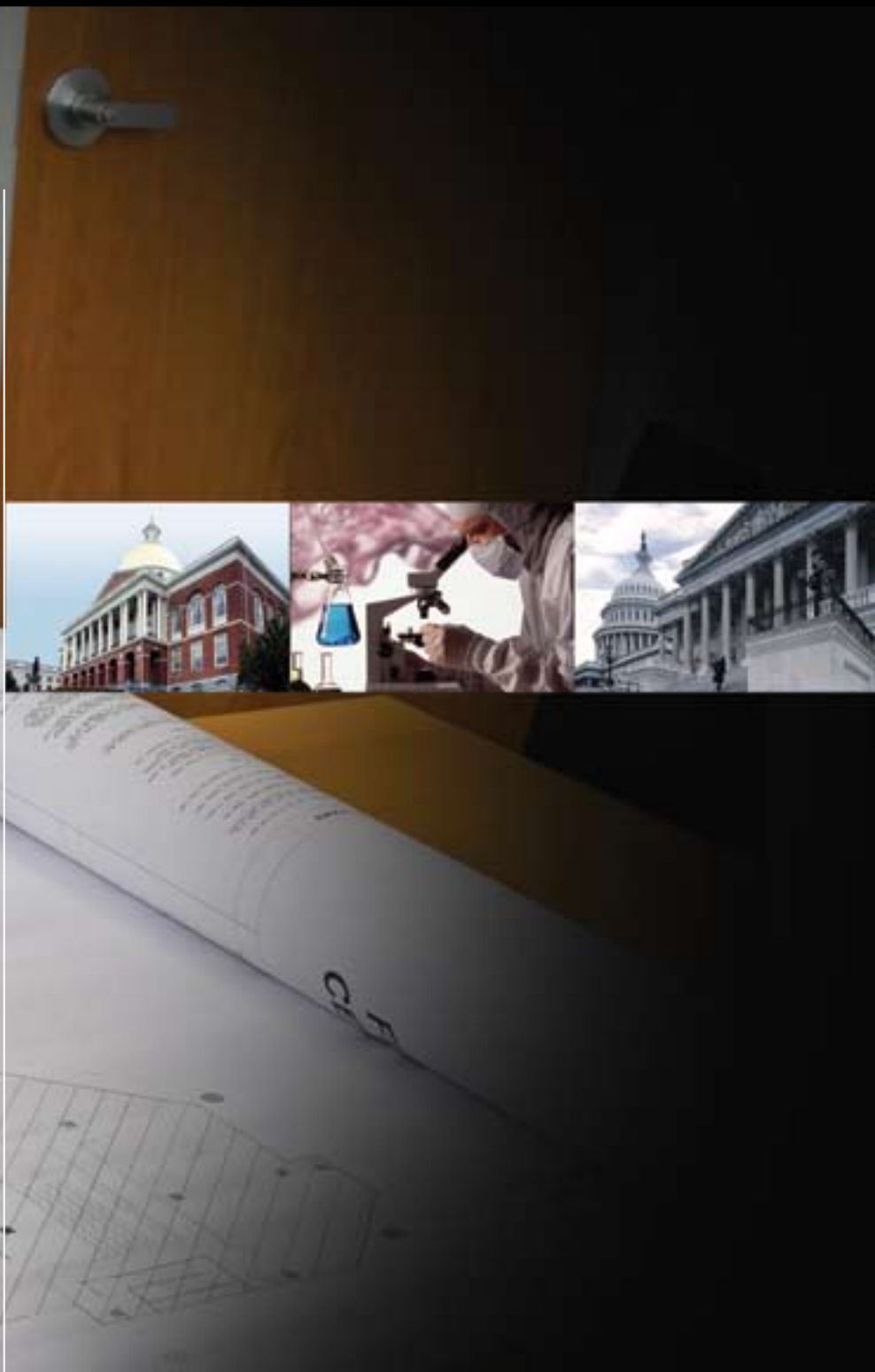
Occupations within Industries

Environmental occupations were most likely found in research and technical services industries and in government.

Figure 7 Industries with the highest employment of environmental occupations and their annual wages, May 2006

- Of the industries shown, environmental engineers and environmental scientists and specialists, including health, earned the highest average salary in the federal executive branch.
- Environmental engineering technicians earned the highest average salary in scientific research and development services. Environmental science and protection technicians, including health, earned the highest average salary in colleges, universities, and professional schools.





Registered nurses was one of the largest occupations in the United States, with over 2.4 million workers earning an average salary of \$59,730 per year.

Figure 8 Profile for registered nurses (RNs), May 2006

- Twenty-five percent of registered nurses earned more than \$69,850 per year, and 10 percent earned more than \$83,440.
- More than half of registered nurses were employed in general medical and surgical hospitals.
- Offices of physicians, home health care services, and nursing care facilities were also large employers of registered nurses.

Wage distribution for RNs (percentile)					
	10th	25th	50th (median)	75th	90th
Hourly	\$19.35	\$22.94	\$27.54	\$33.58	\$40.11
Annual	\$40,250	\$47,710	\$57,280	\$69,850	\$83,440
Industries with the largest concentration of RNs					
Industry	Percent of industry employment		Employment		
General medical and surgical hospitals	28.11		1,373,610		
Specialty (except psychiatric and substance abuse) hospitals	21.14		40,500		
Home health care services	14.58		124,470		
Outpatient care centers	14.40		69,870		
Psychiatric and substance abuse hospitals	13.49		32,000		
States with the highest employment concentration of RNs					
State	Percent of area employment		Hourly mean wage		
South Dakota	2.47		\$23.83		
Massachusetts	2.41		34.09		
Maine	2.29		26.47		
Mississippi	2.26		24.10		
Pennsylvania	2.24		27.42		
Metropolitan areas with highest mean wages for RNs					
Metropolitan area	Mean annual wage		Employment		
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA	\$92,400		14,930		
Oakland-Fremont-Hayward, CA Metropolitan Division	89,820		17,430		
Salinas, CA	84,920		2,130		
San Francisco-San Mateo-Redwood, CA Metropolitan Division	82,840		15,430		
Santa Rosa-Petaluma, CA	80,790		3,240		



Which careers involve driving?

- Ten percent of all industrial truck and tractor operators working in warehousing and storage businesses earned less than \$19,710 per year, and 10 percent earned more than \$38,630 per year.
- Wage variability could have been due to geographic wage variation, work experience, or other economic factors.

Figure 9 Career choices of drivers in the United States, May 2006

What businesses employ the most of each kind of driver, and how much do they pay? How do drivers' wages compare to those of their supervisors?			
Driving occupation	Industry in which they were most employed	Employment in industry	Hourly mean wage in industry
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	General freight trucking	583,710	\$18.60
Bus drivers, school	Elementary and secondary schools	247,620	11.80
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	Couriers	150,360	18.06
Driver/sales workers	Limited-service eating places	131,070	7.84
Industrial truck and tractor operators	Warehousing and storage	77,880	13.53
Refuse and recyclable material collectors	Waste collection	44,320	14.84
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	Taxi and limousine service	42,630	11.66
Bus drivers, transit and intercity	Urban transit systems	20,600	14.74
Subway and streetcar operators	Local government	6,170	22.36
First-line supervisors/managers of transportation and material-moving machine and vehicle operators	General freight trucking	23,210	25.58

for example

In the warehousing and storage industry, what was the salary range for industrial truck and tractor operators?

Wage percentile	Hourly wage	Annual wage
10th	\$ 9.47	\$19,710
25th	11.03	22,930
Median	13.04	27,120
75th	15.69	32,630
90th	18.57	38,630

How much did different driving occupations earn nationwide, on average, per hour?



- Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer, \$17.46
- Driver/sales workers, \$11.72
- Taxi drivers and chauffeurs, \$10.62
- Bus drivers, school, \$12.08
- Industrial truck and tractor operators, \$13.99
- Bus drivers, transit and intercity, \$15.89
- Truck drivers, light or delivery services, \$13.23
- Refuse and recyclable material collectors, \$14.96
- Subway and streetcar operators, \$22.20





Industry Focus

Nonstore retailers and general merchandise stores employed different types of occupations.

- Retailers employed different types of workers depending on their venue. Nonstore retailers, which include Internet retailers and vending machine operators, hired fewer cashiers and retail salespersons and more customer service representatives and order clerks.
- The adjacent charts show the largest occupations in nonstore retailers and in general merchandise stores and their mean wages in each.

Figure 10 Largest occupations in nonstore retailers and their mean wages, May 2006

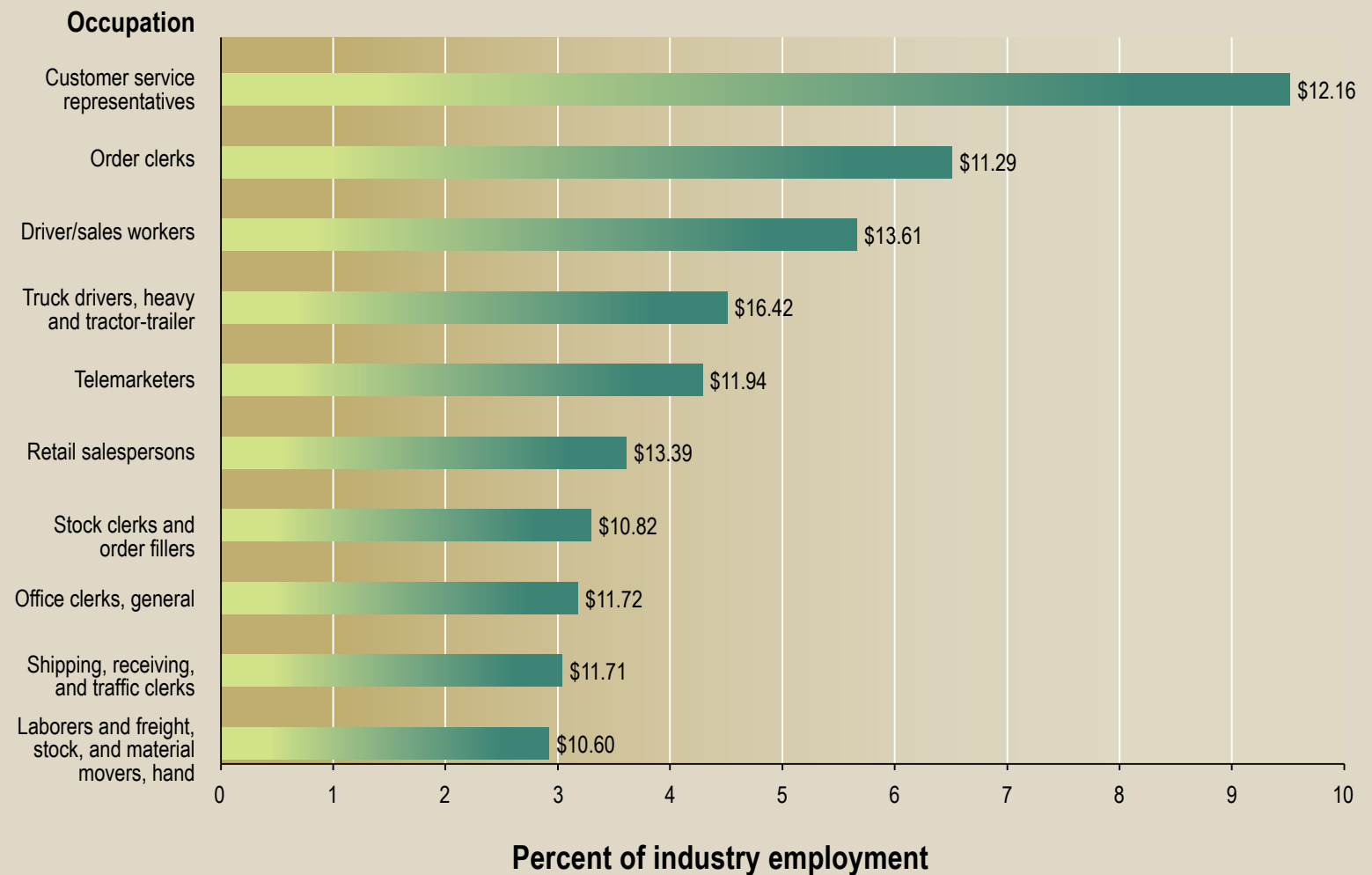
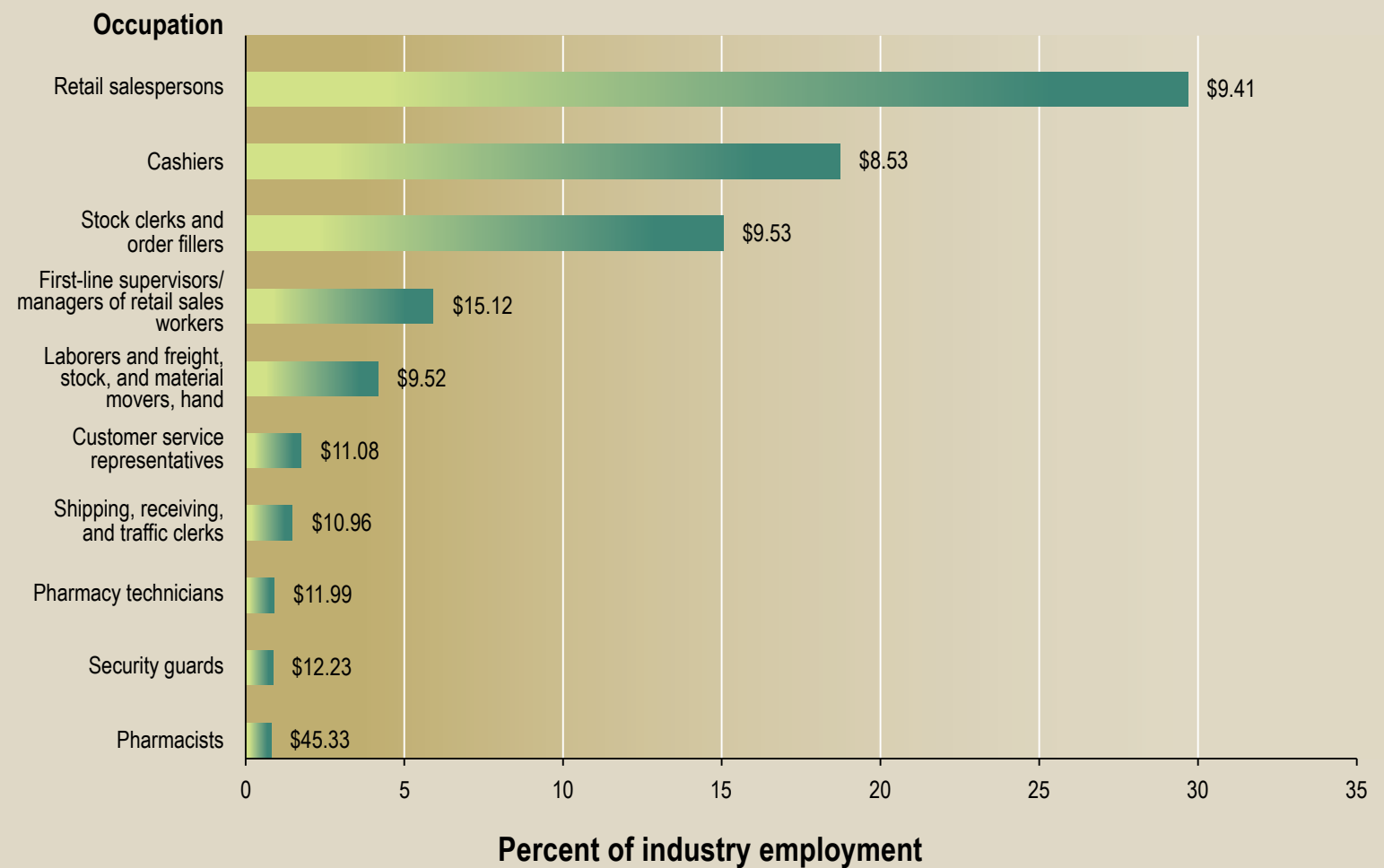




Figure 11 Largest occupations in general merchandise stores and their mean wages, May 2006

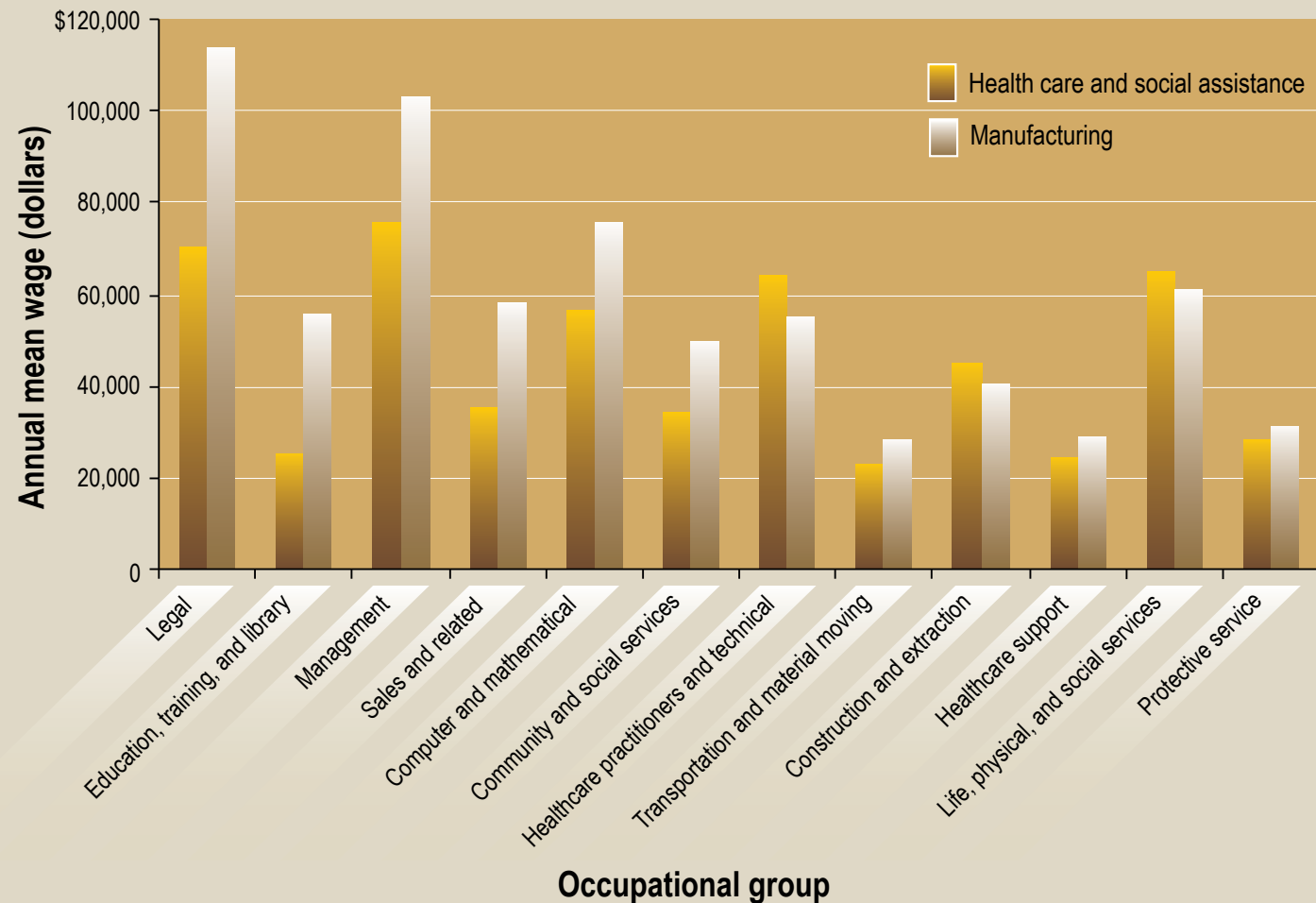
- The average wages of the largest occupations were higher in nonstore retailers than in general merchandise stores.



Although average wages in health care and social assistance and manufacturing were similar, manufacturing had higher wages in most occupational groups.

- Health care and social assistance was one of the fastest growing sectors in the United States in May 2006. Manufacturing was one of the few sectors that saw employment declines.
- Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations earned higher average wages in the health care and social assistance sector than in manufacturing. Healthcare support occupations, however, earned higher average wages in manufacturing than in health care and social assistance.

Figure 12 Wages for selected occupational groups in the health care and social assistance and manufacturing sectors, May 2006

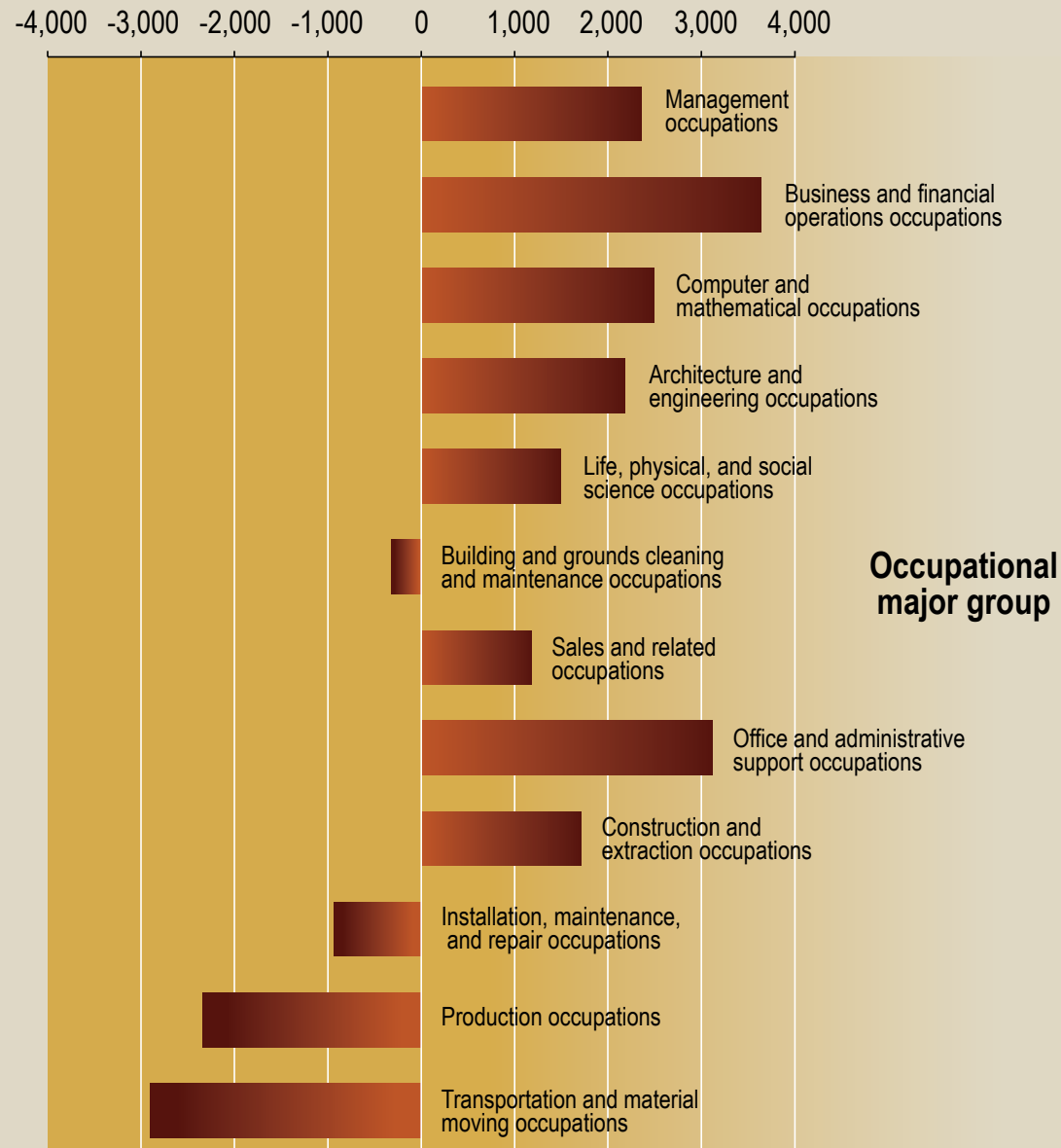




In the oil and gas extraction industry, employment in exploration occupations grew faster than employment in output-related occupations.

Figure 13 Employment changes in the oil and gas extraction industry, 2003-2006

- Employment in oil and gas extraction grew 9 percent overall between 2003 and 2006. This chart shows the shifting concentration of employment within the oil and gas extraction industry at a time of increasing prices and declining output. Employment increased by a larger percent in higher-skilled occupations and in occupations related to oil exploration than in occupations directly related to output.









State Focus

Local economy and workforce distribution varies by State. What does the workforce of Pennsylvania look like?

- The employment distribution of major occupational groups in Pennsylvania was similar to that of the United States. About 17.4 percent of both the United States' and Pennsylvania's total employment came from office and administrative support occupations, followed by about 11 percent from sales and related occupations.

Figure 14 A look at Pennsylvania's occupational workforce, in percent, May 2006

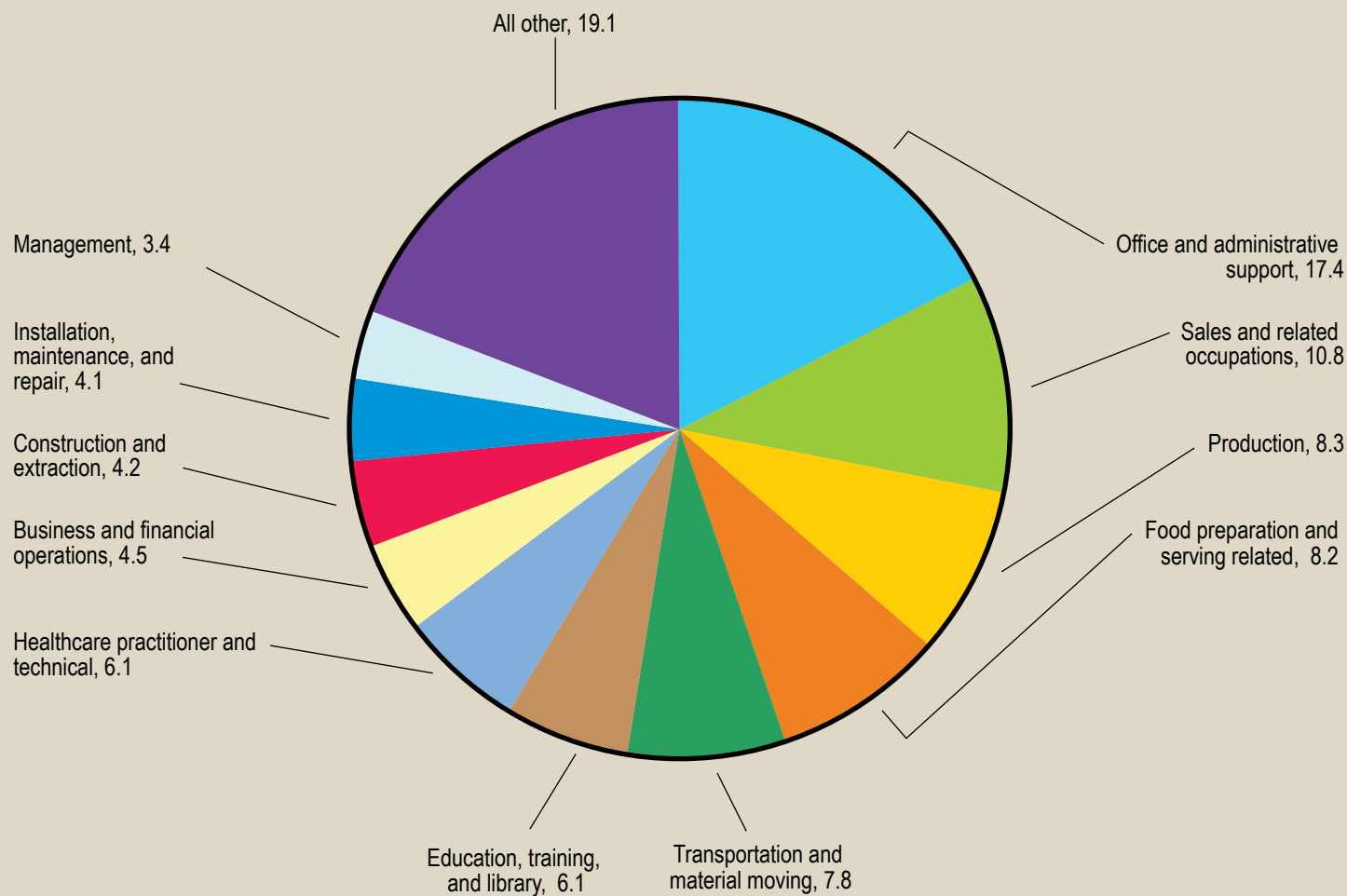




Figure 15 Selected occupations in Pennsylvania, May 2006

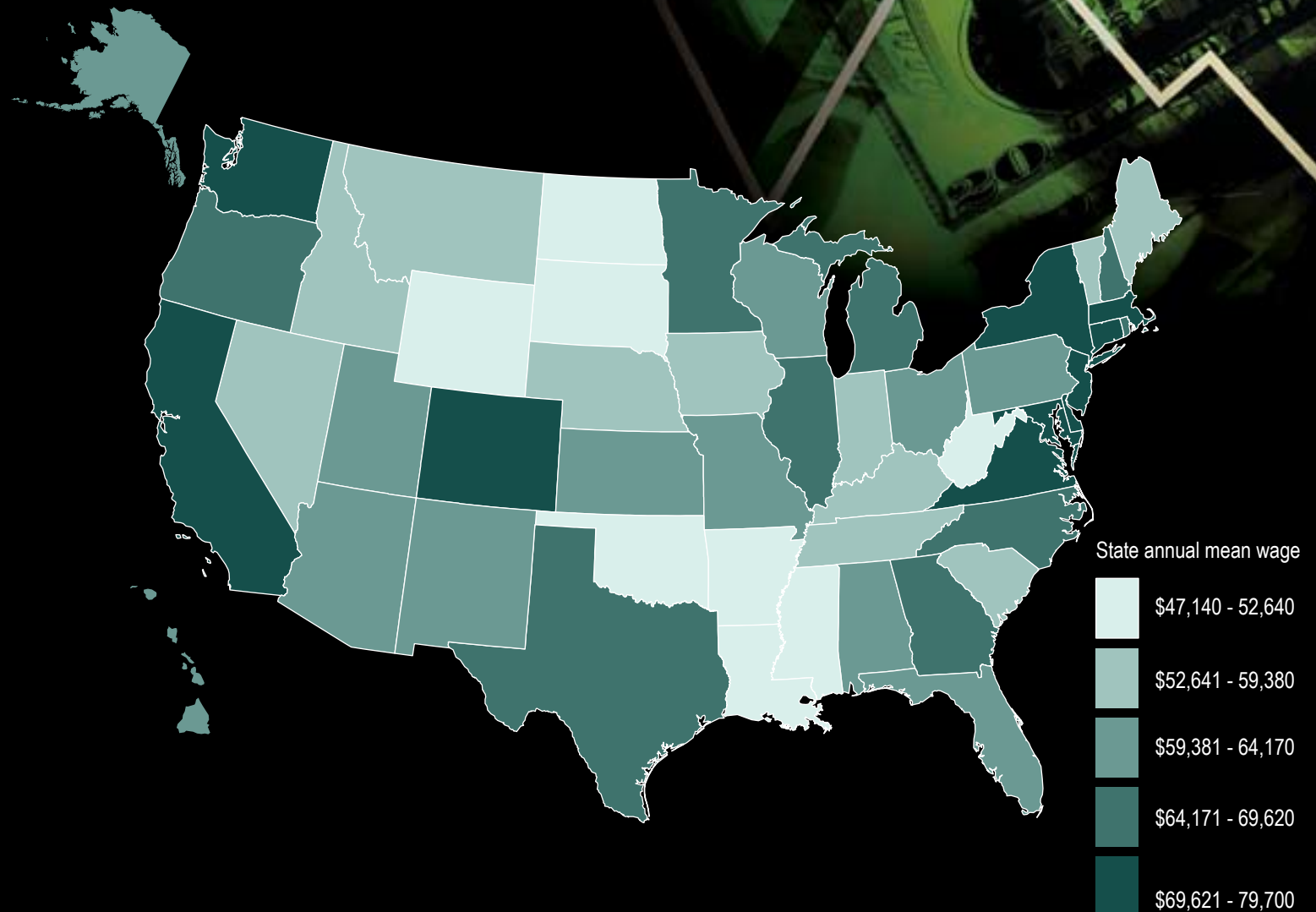
Production 8.3 percent				
	2006 Employment	2006 Average Wage	25th Percentile Wage	75th Percentile Wage
Team assemblers	48,930	\$13.19	\$9.74	\$16.13
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	29,450	25.40	18.72	29.91
Helpers--production workers	26,810	11.69	8.91	14.41
Food preparation and serving related 8.2 percent				
	2006 Employment	2006 Average Wage	25th Percentile Wage	75th Percentile Wage
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	109,310	7.70	6.22	8.64
Waiters and waitresses	96,030	7.34	5.99	7.95
Food preparation workers	39,800	8.71	7.22	10.11
Transportation and material moving 7.8 percent				
	2006 Employment	2006 Average Wage	25th Percentile Wage	75th Percentile Wage
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	105,290	11.71	8.59	14.29
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	73,720	17.66	13.63	21.24
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	42,960	13.25	8.97	16.71
Business and financial operations 4.5 percent				
	2006 Employment	2006 Average Wage	25th Percentile Wage	75th Percentile Wage
Accountants and auditors	49,070	29.21	19.41	35.05
Business operations specialists, all other	24,550	30.53	20.44	37.45
Management analysts	18,830	40.36	25.25	48.34
Construction and extraction 4.2 percent				
	2006 Employment	2006 Average Wage	25th Percentile Wage	75th Percentile Wage
Carpenters	45,210	18.68	13.48	22.71
Construction laborers	35,180	15.38	11.04	19.55
Electricians	23,440	25.20	17.36	31.26
Installation, maintenance, and repair 4.1 percent				
	2006 Employment	2006 Average Wage	25th Percentile Wage	75th Percentile Wage
Maintenance and repair workers, general	59,820	16.02	11.96	19.65
Automotive service technicians and mechanics	34,260	16.39	11.92	20.13
First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, and repairers	15,610	28.29	21.23	33.66

The highest wages were paid to computer and mathematical workers on the East and West Coasts and in Colorado.



Figure 17 Annual mean wage for computer and mathematical occupations, by State, May 2006

- Combined, workers in computer and mathematical occupations were the third-highest paid among all occupation groups nationwide.
- Wages for computer and mathematical occupations were highest in Massachusetts, Virginia, New Jersey, California, and Maryland.



Per capita employment of different service occupations varies widely by State.

- Iowa had one of the highest per capita employment levels of marriage and family therapists.
- North Dakota and Wisconsin employed roughly 4 times as many hairdressers, hairstylists, and cosmetologists per capita as did Arkansas and Oklahoma.
- Three New England States, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine, employed almost twice as many automotive and service technicians and mechanics per capita as did Washington.

Figure18 States that employed the most and fewest selected service occupations per capita, May 2006

Bartenders		Loan counselors	
Top 3 States	Employment per 1,000 residents	Top 3 States	Employment per 1,000 residents
Nevada	4.829	Utah	0.333
Montana	4.680	Maryland	0.196
Wisconsin	4.170	Nevada	0.188
Bottom 3 States		Bottom 3 States	
Alabama	0.674	Arkansas	0.043
Mississippi	0.670	Louisiana	0.042
Arkansas	0.509	Wisconsin	0.032

Automotive service technicians and mechanics		Marriage and family therapists	
Top 3 States	Employment per 1,000 residents	Top 3 States	Employment per 1,000 residents
New Hampshire	3.141	New Jersey	0.406
Vermont	2.965	Maryland	0.223
Maine	2.951	Iowa	0.107
Bottom 3 States		Bottom 3 States	
California	1.808	Georgia	0.018
Arkansas	1.804	Nevada	0.016
Washington	1.736	Texas	0.015

Hairdressers, hairstylists, and cosmetologists			
Top 3 States	Employment per 1,000 residents	Bottom 3 States	Employment per 1,000 residents
North Dakota	2.092	Alabama	0.644
Wisconsin	2.035	Oklahoma	0.617
New Jersey	1.871	Arkansas	0.569



Differences in employment composition help explain differences in State average wages.

Figure 19 Wages and percent of employment by selected State and occupational group, May 2006

Occupational composition varies by State.

- Virginia had one of the highest concentrations of business and financial operations occupations and one of the lowest concentrations of healthcare support occupations, and West Virginia had one of the lowest concentrations of business and financial operations occupations and one of the highest concentrations of health care support occupations.
- California had one of the highest employment concentrations of arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations, and one of the lowest employment concentrations of installation, maintenance, and repair occupations. West Virginia and Louisiana, on the other hand, had the opposite distribution.

State	Occupational group											
	Mean hourly wage	Business and financial operations	Computer and mathematical science	Life, physical, and social science	Education, training, and library	Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	Health-care support	Protective service	Food preparation and serving	Construction and extraction	Production	Transportation and material moving
United States	\$18.84	4.4	2.3	0.9	6.2	1.3	2.6	2.3	8.3	5.0	7.7	7.3
Alabama	16.08	3.2	1.8	0.5	5.6	0.9	2.5	2.2	8.0	5.3	11.9	8.4
Arkansas	14.84	3.0	1.2	0.6	6.0	0.7	2.7	1.9	7.9	4.3	13.0	10.9
Colorado	19.93	5.2	3.5	1.3	5.5	1.4	1.9	2.1	8.9	6.4	4.7	6.2
Florida	17.22	4.6	1.9	0.6	5.0	1.2	2.5	2.6	9.4	6.5	4.5	6.6
Hawaii	18.57	3.9	1.4	1.0	6.5	1.6	2.2	3.2	11.9	5.1	3.0	7.0
Idaho	16.73	3.3	1.7	1.6	5.6	1.2	2.7	1.8	8.1	6.6	6.5	7.5
Indiana	16.92	3.1	1.3	0.6	5.6	1.0	2.3	1.8	8.8	4.9	13.7	9.0
Kentucky	16.10	2.9	1.3	0.6	6.0	0.9	2.7	2.0	8.7	4.8	11.8	8.9
Massachusetts	22.76	5.3	3.6	1.5	6.7	1.5	3.0	2.2	8.2	3.7	5.6	5.2
Michigan	19.82	4.6	2.2	0.8	6.1	1.2	2.9	1.9	8.4	3.8	10.8	6.9
Nebraska	16.49	4.2	2.4	0.9	6.0	1.2	2.8	1.5	8.3	4.8	9.0	8.8
Nevada	17.31	3.1	1.1	0.6	3.8	1.3	1.5	2.9	12.8	9.7	3.6	8.0
New Hampshire	18.87	4.4	2.6	0.7	7.3	0.9	2.4	1.7	8.4	4.1	7.9	5.7
New Mexico	16.34	3.0	1.5	1.2	6.9	1.0	2.6	2.8	9.6	7.9	4.3	5.8
North Carolina	17.08	3.5	2.1	1.0	6.4	0.9	3.2	2.1	8.4	4.9	10.5	7.9
Oklahoma	15.66	3.7	1.8	0.9	6.6	1.0	3.0	2.3	8.3	5.5	8.1	7.0
Pennsylvania	18.07	4.5	2.0	1.0	6.1	1.1	3.1	2.0	8.2	4.2	8.3	7.8
South Dakota	14.65	3.7	1.4	0.9	5.8	1.3	2.8	1.5	10.2	5.6	7.9	7.5
Utah	17.09	4.2	2.7	1.2	5.7	1.4	2.2	1.7	7.3	7.4	8.0	6.9
Washington	20.63	4.6	3.4	1.6	5.8	1.4	2.5	1.8	8.6	5.5	6.2	7.5
Wisconsin	17.66	4.2	1.8	0.9	5.6	1.2	2.9	1.8	8.6	4.2	12.6	8.2

See Web site for full table containing all States and occupations.



Some of the highest-paying States (The District of Columbia, Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, and Alaska) have high employment concentrations of community and social services; legal; education, training, and library; arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media; and protective service occupations.

Some of the lowest-paying States (Mississippi, South Dakota, Montana, West Virginia, North Dakota, and Louisiana) have relatively high employment concentrations of food preparation and serving; and installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.



NOESEN

MEATS

BATHRICK'S

Art Gallery

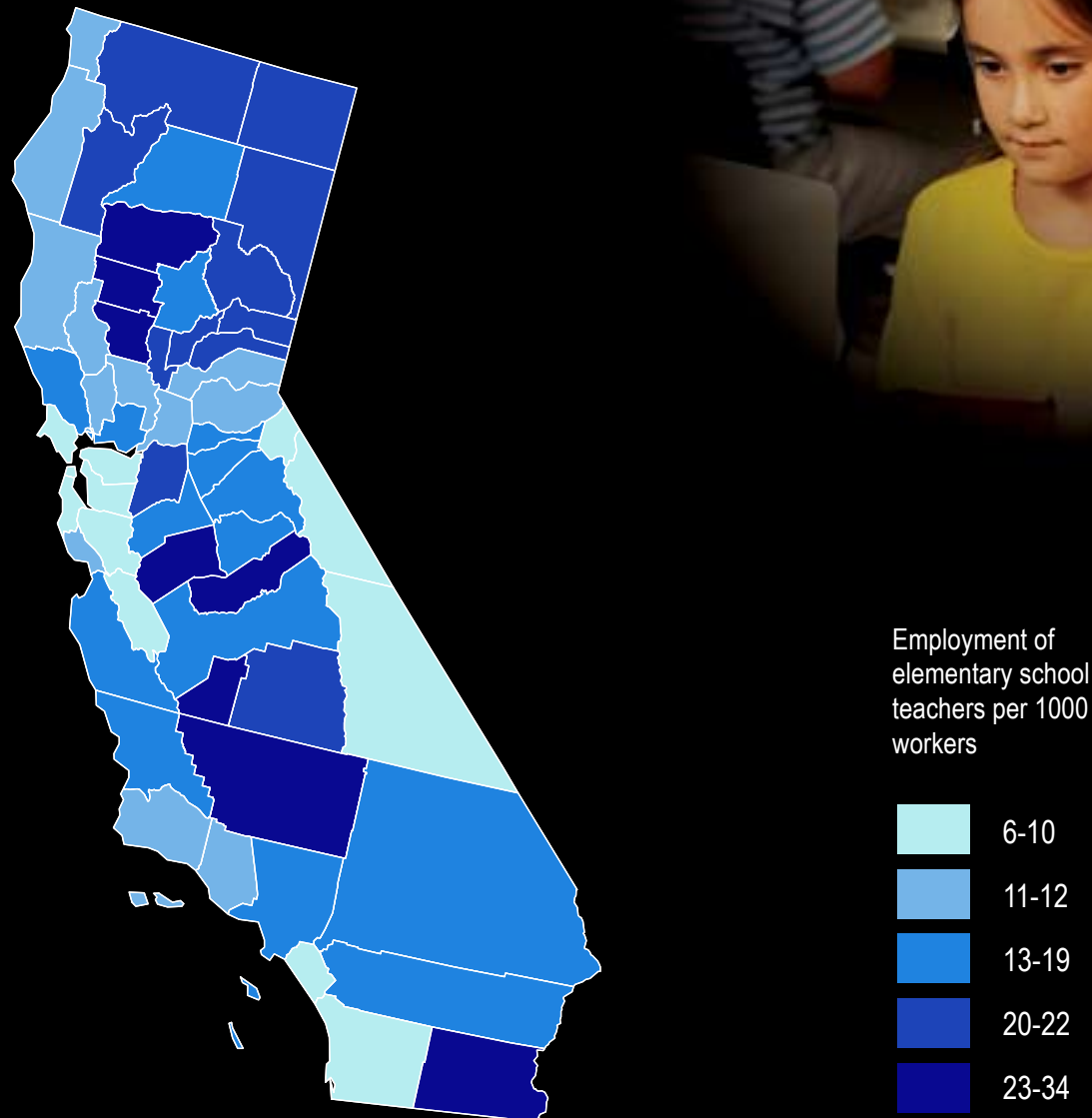


Area Focus

Some metropolitan areas within California employed high concentrations of teachers and paid them relatively low mean wages, while in other areas the reverse was true.

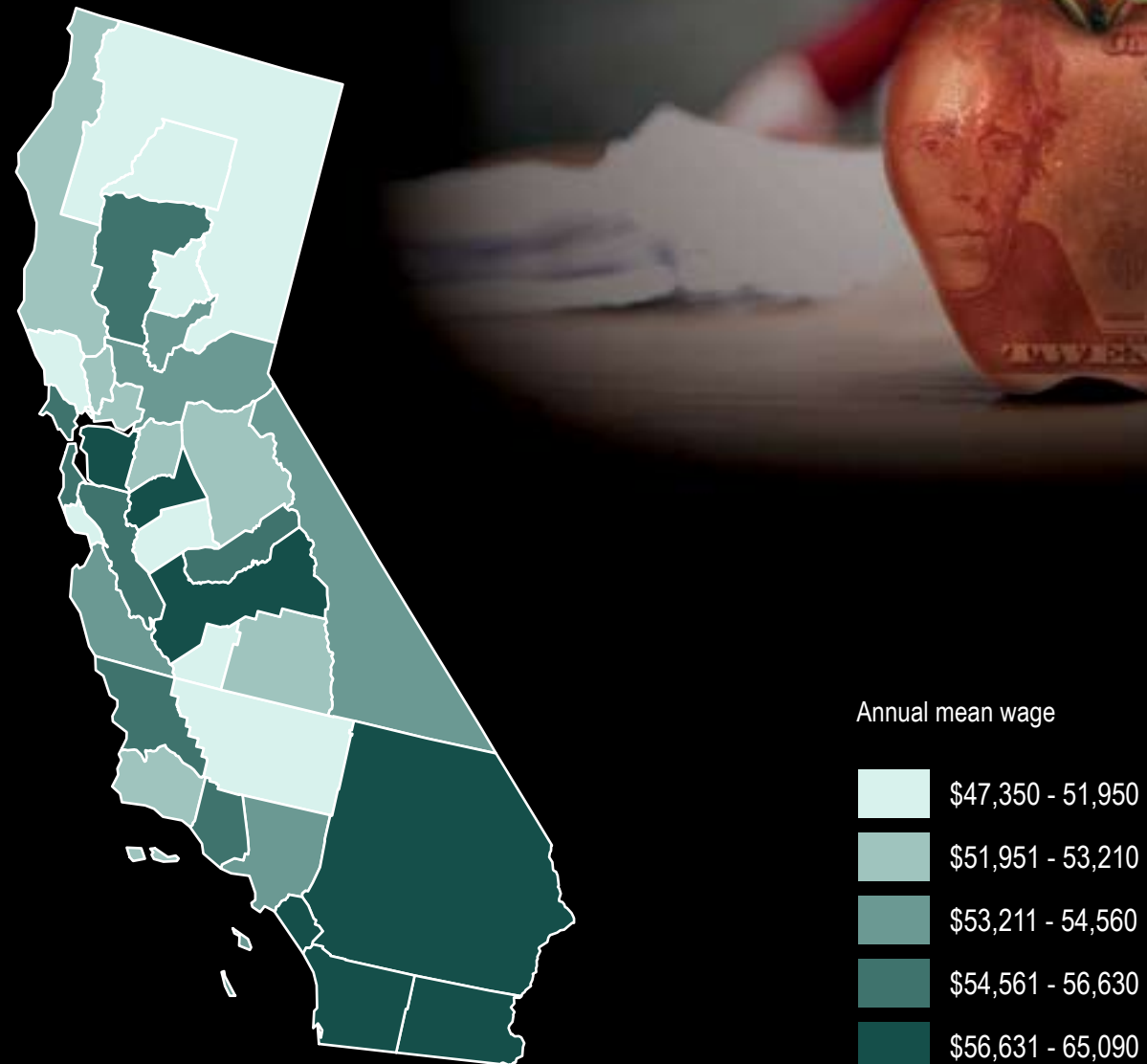
- In the United States, there were 11 elementary school teachers (except special education) for every 1,000 workers.
- In the entire State of California, the number was slightly higher with 12 elementary school teachers for every 1,000 workers.
- Within California, the proportion of elementary school teachers varied by area.

Figure 20 Share of employment of elementary school teachers in California, May 2006



- Elementary school teachers (except special education) were paid an average of \$55,700 in the State of California. Their wages varied by area within the State.
- The Northern Mountains Region of California had among the highest concentrations of elementary school teachers in California and one of the lowest wage rates. In contrast, San Diego-Carlsbad-San Marcos, CA had one of the lowest concentrations of elementary school teachers and one of the highest wage rates.

Figure 21 Average mean wages for elementary school teachers in California, May 2006



With almost 8 percent of its employment in architecture and engineering occupations, Huntsville, Alabama, has the greatest share of its employment in these occupations.

Architecture and engineering occupations made up 1.8 percent of total employment in the United States.

Figure 22 Percentage of employment of architecture and engineering occupations by area, May 2006

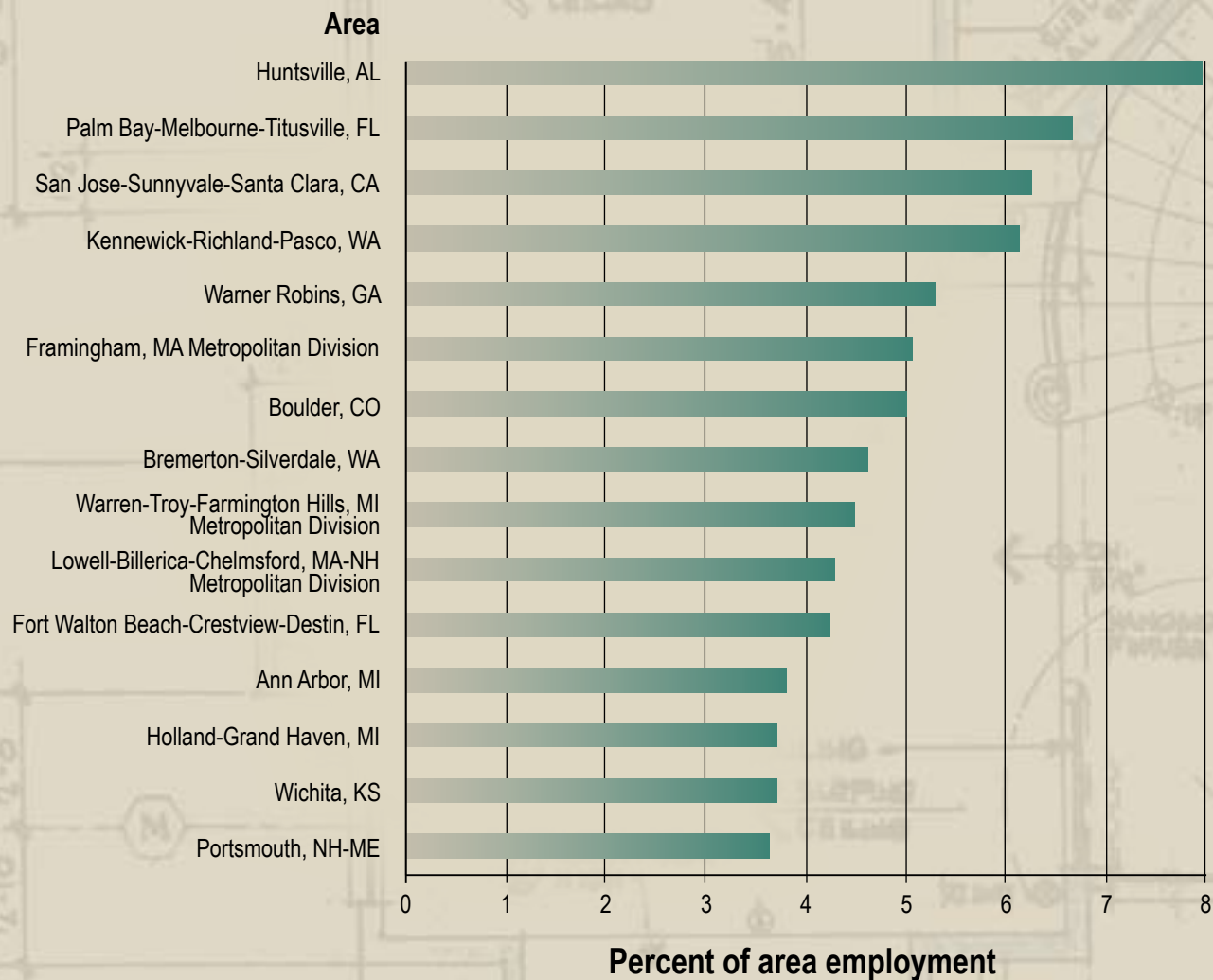
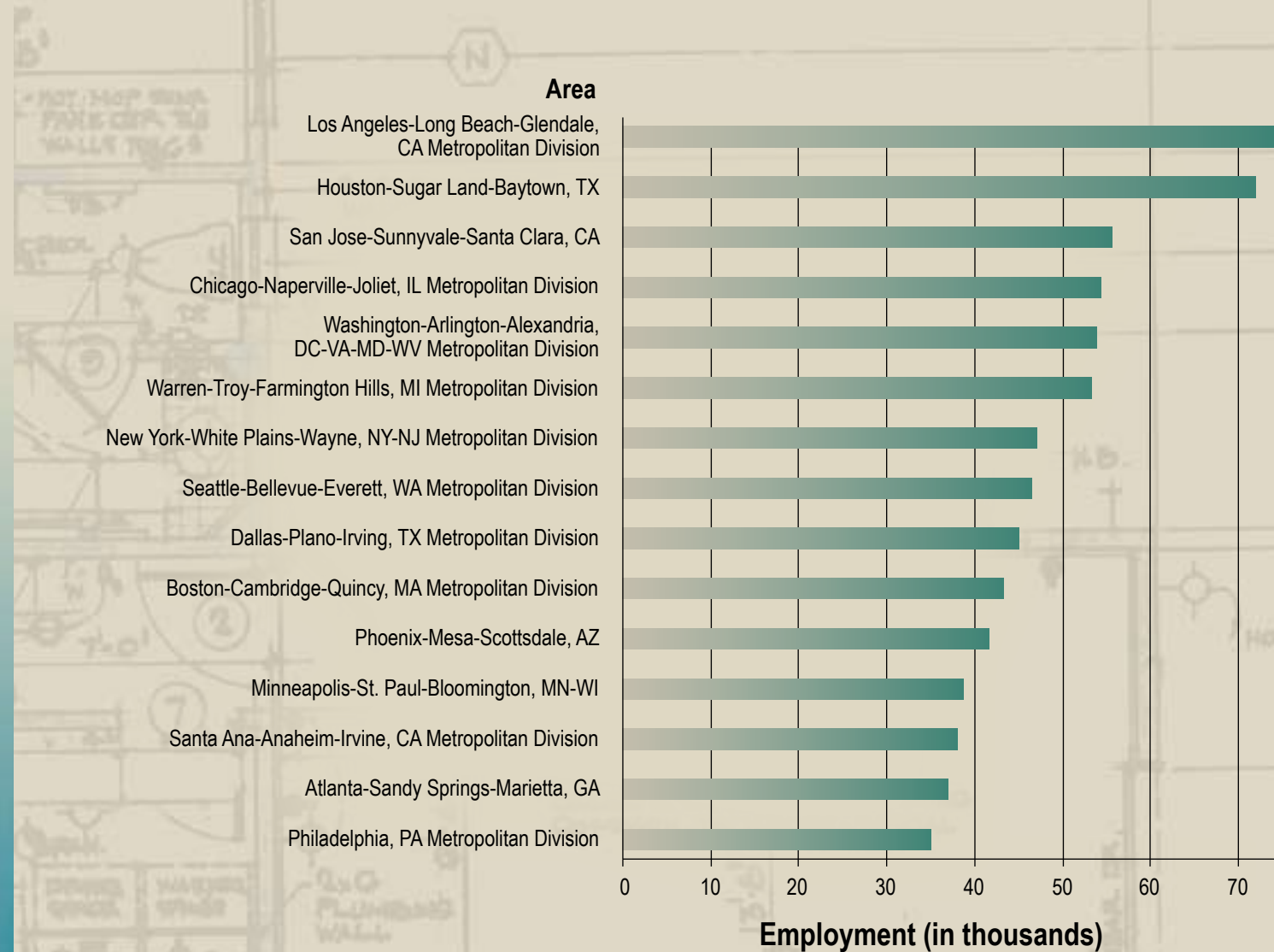




Figure 23 Employment of architecture and engineering occupations by area, May 2006

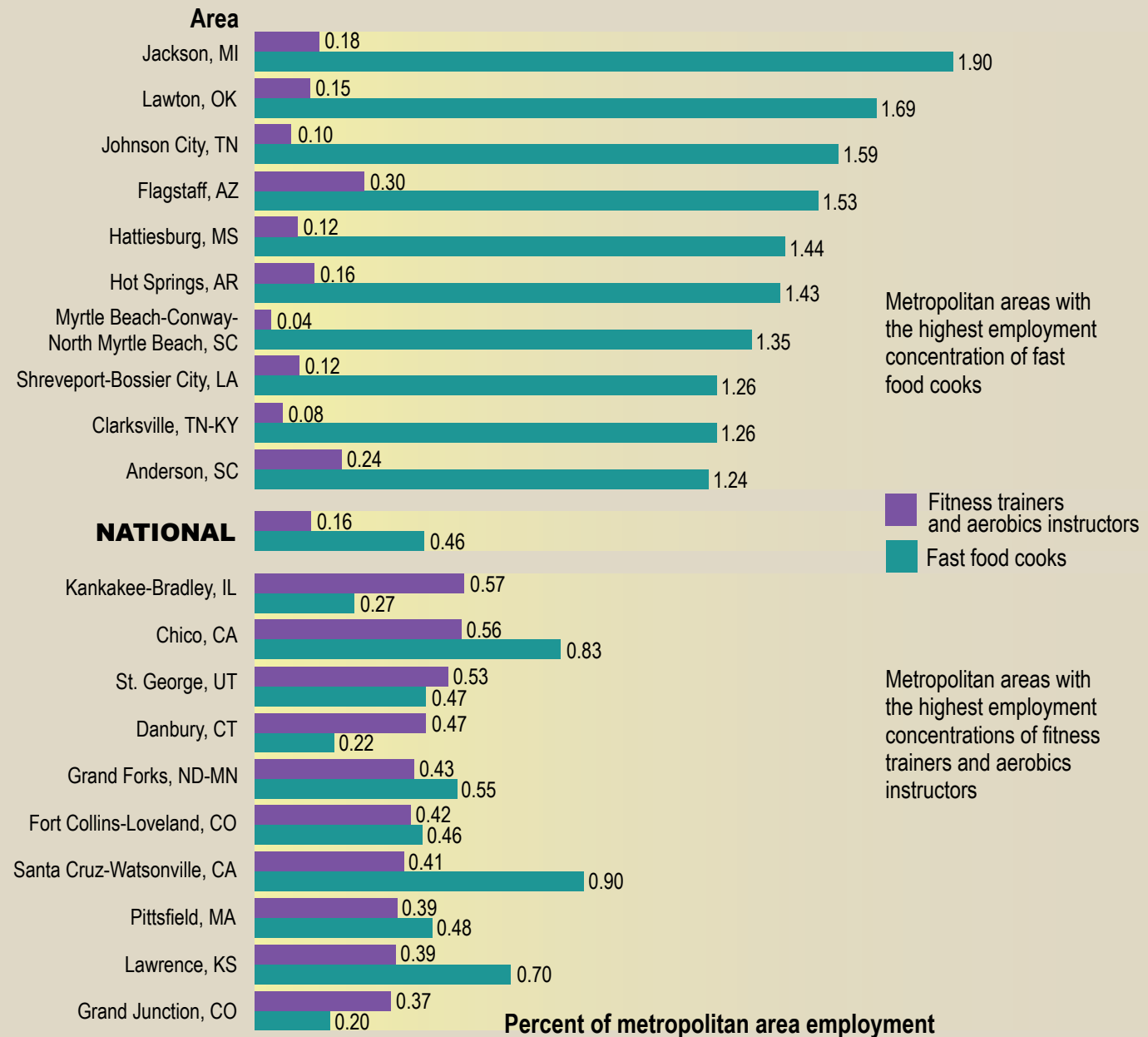
With 73,920 employees, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, CA Metropolitan Division was the area with the most employment in architecture and engineering occupations.



There were 4.6 fast food cooks per 1,000 workers in the United States and 19 fast food cooks per 1,000 workers in Jackson, Mississippi.

- There were 4.6 fast food cooks and 1.6 fitness trainers and aerobic instructors per 1,000 workers in the United States. In Jackson, Mississippi, there were 19 fast food cooks per 1,000 workers. Other areas with high concentrations of fast food cooks tended to be in the South.
- Areas with high concentrations of fitness instructors and aerobics instructors were spread across the United States, with the highest in Kankakee-Bradley, Illinois, where there were 5.7 aerobics instructors for every thousand workers. Kankakee-Bradley, St. George, Utah, Danbury, Connecticut, and Grand Junction, Colorado, have more fitness trainers than they had fast food cooks.

Figure 24 Metropolitan areas with the highest concentrations of fast food cooks and fitness trainers and aerobics instructors, May 2006





Employment concentration and mean wages of arts, design, entertainment, and sports occupations vary by metropolitan area.

Figure 25 Metropolitan areas and divisions with the highest concentration of selected arts, entertainment, and sports occupations, May 2006

- Santa Fe, New Mexico, employed the highest concentration of actors and fine artists, including painters, sculptors, and illustrators.
- Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro, Tennessee, employed three times as many musicians and singers as did Honolulu, Hawaii. (These two areas have the highest concentrations of this occupation.)
- Nassau-Suffolk, New York Metropolitan Division was the highest paying area for athletes and sports competitors, and it was among the areas with the highest employment concentrations of this occupation.

Musicians and singers			Athletes and sports competitors		
Metropolitan area or division	Percent of area employment	Hourly mean wage	Metropolitan area or division	Percent of area employment	Annual mean wage
Nashville-Davidson-Murfreesboro, TN	0.21	\$17.43	Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL	0.08	\$33,640
Honolulu, HI	0.12	30.73	Lake County-Kenosha County, IL-WI Metropolitan Division	0.04	39,670
New York-White Plains-Wayne, NY-NJ Metropolitan Division	0.11	34.68	Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI	0.04	*
Eugene-Springfield, OR	0.11	32.40	Nassau-Suffolk, NY Metropolitan Division	0.03	180,750
Rochester, NY	0.09	11.61	Boise City-Nampa, ID	0.03	47,020
Fine artists, including painters, sculptors, and illustrators			Fashion designers		
Metropolitan area or division	Percent of area employment	Hourly mean wage	Metropolitan area or division	Percent of area employment	Hourly mean wage
Santa Fe, NM	0.08	\$22.74	New York-White Plains-Wayne, NY-NJ Metropolitan Division	0.14	\$37.70
Orlando-Kissimmee, FL	0.05	24.61	Brockton-Bridgewater-Easton, MA NECTA** Division	0.07	27.33
Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville, FL	0.03	13.07	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, CA Metropolitan Division	0.06	34.34
Seattle-Bellevue-Everett, WA Metropolitan Division	0.03	22.43	Nassau-Suffolk, NY Metropolitan Division	0.03	37.28
Huntsville, AL	0.03	23.35	Boston-Cambridge-Quincy, MA NECTA** Division	0.03	29.61

* Data not released

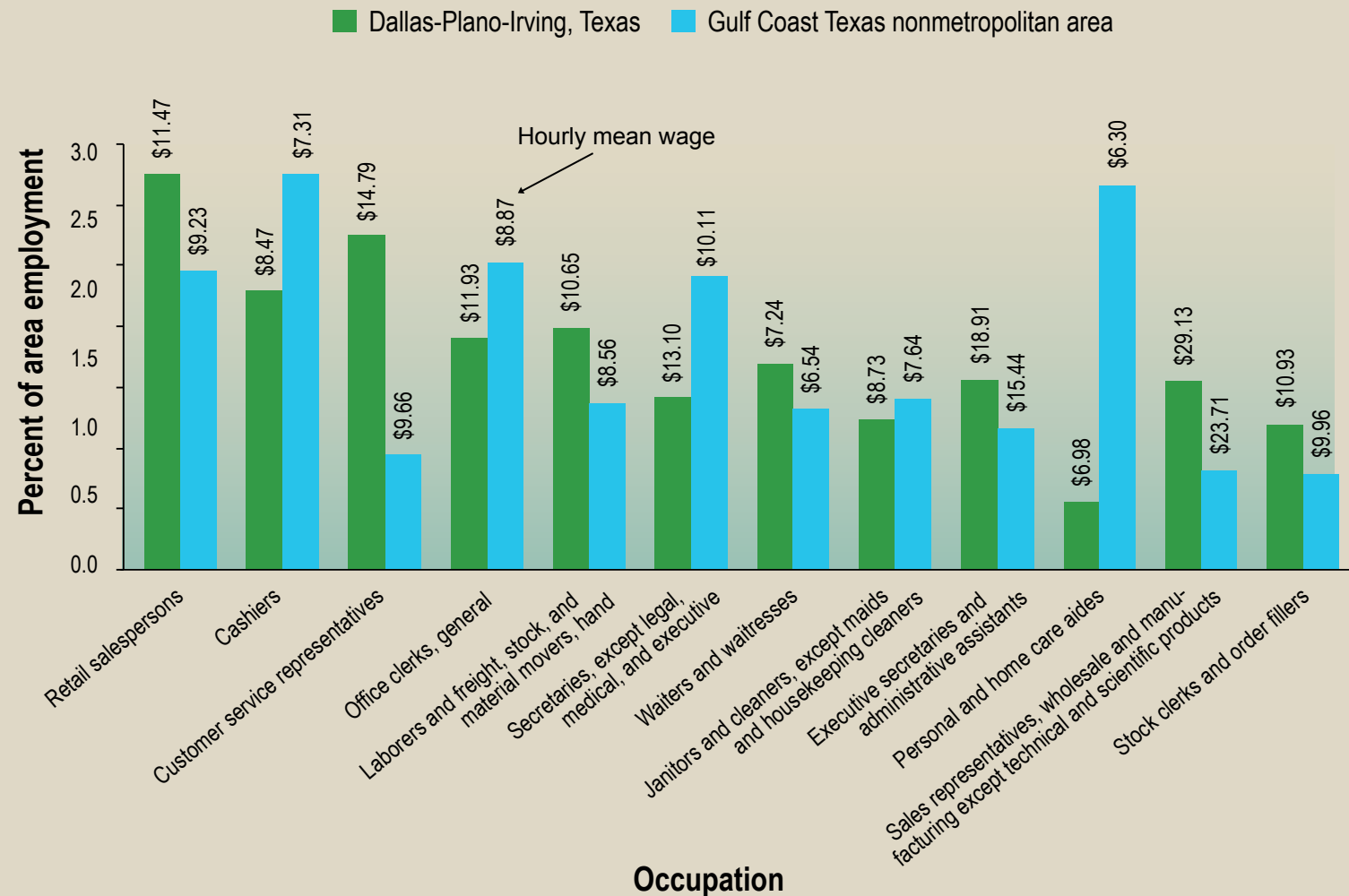
** New England City and Town Area



For the 12 largest occupations in Texas, the Dallas-Plano-Irving metropolitan area pays higher wages, on average, than Texas State-wide and the Gulf Coast Texas nonmetropolitan area.

- The Dallas-Plano-Irving metropolitan area paid higher wages, on average, than both Texas State-wide and the Gulf Coast Texas nonmetropolitan area for the largest occupations in Texas.
- On average, the Gulf Coast Texas nonmetropolitan area paid the least of these three geographic divisions for the largest occupations in Texas.

Figure 26 Occupational employment and wages in metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas in Texas, May 2006



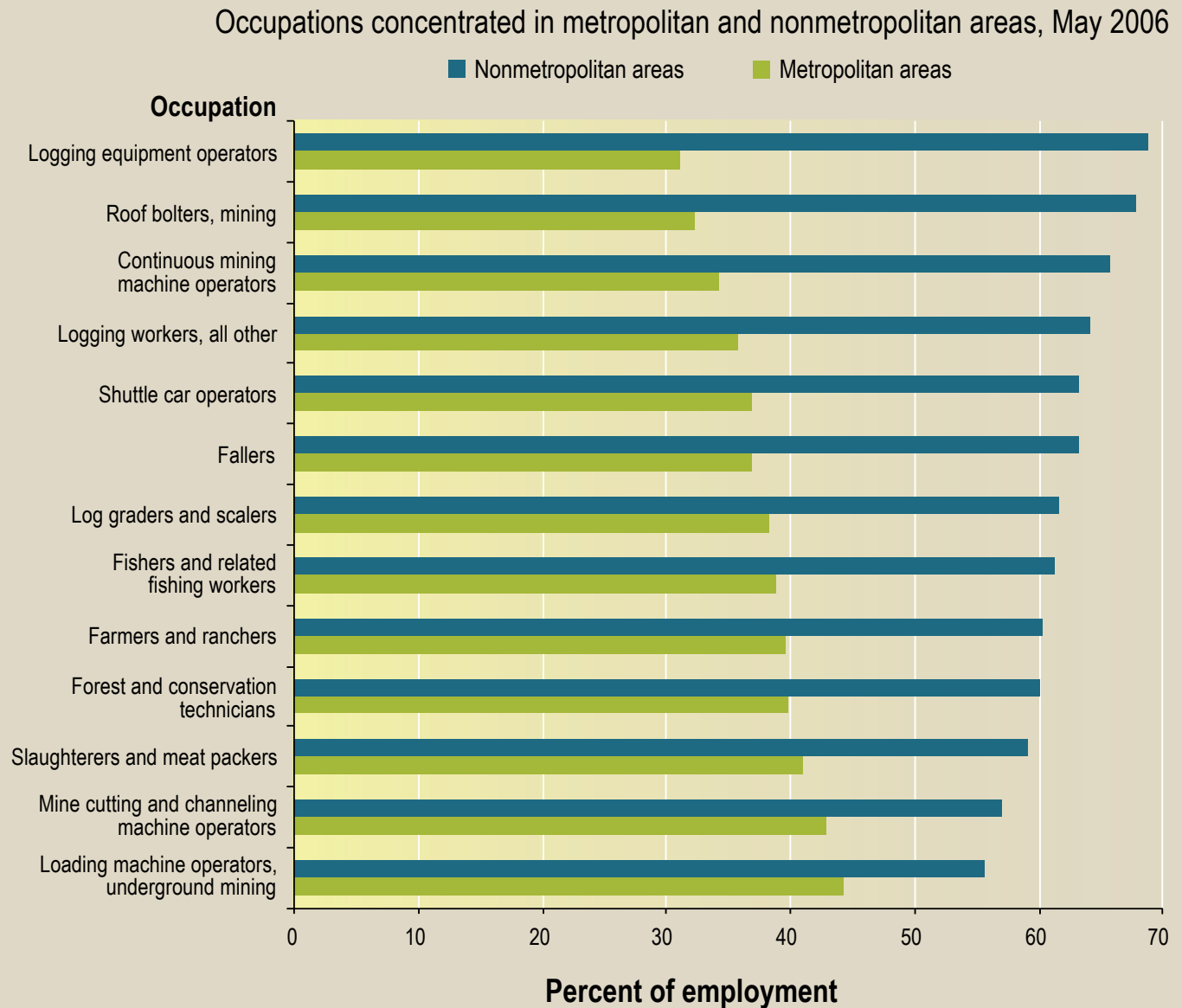


- In terms of employment distribution, the Gulf Coast Texas nonmetropolitan area has higher concentrations of personal and home care aides and general office clerks.
- The Dallas-Plano-Irving, Texas Metropolitan Division has higher concentrations of customer service representatives and retail salespersons.

Although eighty-six percent of U.S. employment was found in metropolitan areas, some occupations were concentrated in nonmetropolitan areas.

Figure 27 Occupations most likely found in nonmetropolitan areas, May 2006

Eighty-six percent of U.S. employment is found in metropolitan areas, but some occupations were concentrated in nonmetropolitan areas. (Over half as many logging, mining, and extraction workers are found in nonmetropolitan areas.)







Find all OES data on our Web site:
www.bls.gov/oes

- Create customized data tables using our query tool:
http://data.bls.gov/oes/search.jsp?data_tool=OES
- Download data from previous years as Excel files:
http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_dl.htm
- Find economic news releases:
<http://www.bls.gov/oes/home.htm#news>
- Read analytical articles:
<http://www.bls.gov/oes/home.htm#publications>
- View this chart book online:
<http://www.bls.gov/oes/2006/may/chartbook.pdf>



U.S. Department of Labor



U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics