

Occupational Estimates by Industry

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The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program produces estimates of occupational wages and employment. One useful way to analyze these estimates is to categorize them by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code. At the two-digit SIC level, the OES program maintains statistics for 70 major industry groups. These major groupings are further divided into three-digit SIC industry groups. SIC categories identify the principal activities in which establishments are engaged. This article discusses how occupational wages may vary within broad occupational groups by industry.

Text table 1 cross-indexes mean hourly wages by Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) major group and two-digit SIC industry code. This allows comparisons between wages paid for the same occupational group in different industries, as well as between those paid in the same industry for different occupational groups. Data for detailed occupations and specific industries are summed to their respective SOC and SIC major groups. Even though this table may be general, we still are able to see which industries and occupational groups generally offer the highest and lowest rates of pay. If no data were available for a particular industry or occupation, or if the relative standard error of the estimate is too high, a dash appears in the matrix box.

This table displays mean wages for every major group of occupations at the two-digit SIC level and, therefore, makes it possible to examine the range of wages paid across all industries for every occupational group. The largest range, \$40.04, occurs in the legal occupations, where the highest wage is \$53.18 in the amusement and recreation industry and the lowest is \$13.14 in the automotive dealers and service industry. The smallest range, \$7.73, is in the building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations, where the lowest wage is \$7.49 per hour in the motion pictures industry and the highest wage is \$15.22 per hour in the transportation equipment industry. However, only a small number (fewer than 1 percent) of the employees in these two occupations work in either the highest or lowest paying industry cited. Further information on employment for these major occupational groups by industry is available from the OES Web site.

If we look at the highest and lowest paying occupations in each industry, text table 1 demonstrates a significant pat-

tern across the 70 two-digit SIC groups. In fact, the highest paying major occupational group in more than 60 percent (44 out of 70) of the industries is legal occupations, and management occupations are the highest paying in more than 32 percent (23 out of 70) of the industries. This means that these two occupational groups receive the highest salary in more than 90 percent of the major industries, even though the two groups accounted for only 7 percent of total U.S. employment of 127 million in 1999. The lowest paying occupations are fairly evenly divided among food preparation and serving (23 out of 70 industries), personal care and service (16 out of 70 industries), building and grounds cleaning and maintenance (14 out of 70 industries), and farming, fishing, and forestry (11 out of 70 industries). These four occupational groups combined account for approximately 13 percent of total employment.

Text table 1 demonstrates that the same group of occupations can offer a higher wage in some industries than in others. This is possibly an effect of varying pay rates for the same occupation in different industries. Another explanation could be that the same occupational group might have a different mix of detailed occupations due to the differences among industries. For example, in the occupational group "sales and related," there is a great difference between the mean hourly wage of \$7.24 received in the SIC group "eating and drinking places," and the wage of \$36.69 received in the security and commodity brokers industry. This is due to the fact that the vast majority of the sales and related workers in eating and drinking places are cashiers (SOC code 41-2011), whereas, in the security and commodity brokers industry, almost all of the sales workers are employed as security, commodity, and financial services sales agents (SOC code 41-3031)—positions that which presumably require a higher degree of skill and training or experience than does cashiering.

Because occupational groups incorporate data from as many as 75 specific occupations into the mean hourly wages displayed on the table, there can be a large variance in the wages paid within an occupational group. For example, the legal occupations group includes occupations such as lawyers and legal secretaries. The wages and employment for both are included in the overall wage and employment estimates for legal occupations, even though the mean hourly

Table 1. Mean hourly wage by major occupational and industry group, SICs 07 to 47, 1999

| SIC industries | Management | Business and financial operations | Computer and mathematical science | Agricultural and engineering | SOC occupations | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | Life, physical, and social science | Community and social services | Legal | Education, training, and library | Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media | Healthcare practitioner and technical | Healthcare support |
| Agricultural services | \$25.35 | \$18.75 | \$20.57 | \$18.70 | \$15.55 | — | — | \$10.94 | \$13.09 | \$19.80 | \$7.69 |
| Metal mining | 42.69 | 24.00 | 24.21 | 27.66 | 23.59 | — | — | \$35.26 | — | 23.05 | — |
| Coal mining | 36.65 | 20.91 | 23.55 | 25.32 | 23.34 | — | — | — | — | 26.36 | — |
| Oil and gas extraction | 39.60 | 25.55 | 26.78 | 33.20 | 29.32 | — | — | 26.44 | 25.97 | 24.31 | — |
| Nonmetallic minerals, except fuels | 32.09 | 20.91 | 22.37 | 23.87 | 18.55 | — | — | 42.08 | 28.64 | 21.33 | — |
| General building contractors | 30.66 | 23.20 | 23.45 | 23.73 | — | — | — | 45.97 | — | 22.72 | — |
| Heavy construction, except building | 32.92 | 24.64 | 27.51 | 28.47 | 20.62 | — | — | — | 18.56 | 22.72 | — |
| Special trade contractors | 31.90 | 22.90 | 21.70 | 21.49 | 18.28 | — | — | 37.58 | — | 20.55 | 19.33 |
| Food and kindred products | 33.64 | 21.31 | 25.62 | 25.87 | 16.92 | — | — | — | 18.06 | 21.38 | — |
| Tobacco products | — | — | — | 25.53 | 23.73 | — | — | 43.68 | 14.18 | 14.96 | 16.27 |
| Textile mill products | 32.94 | 18.63 | 22.41 | 22.73 | 16.55 | — | — | — | 11.56 | 19.53 | 15.99 |
| Apparel and other textile products | 33.45 | 22.74 | 26.23 | 23.34 | 19.22 | — | — | 44.92 | — | 19.64 | 15.89 |
| Lumber and wood products | 30.11 | 20.18 | 23.52 | 19.21 | 21.44 | — | — | 30.55 | 17.08 | 17.75 | 20.10 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 31.64 | 19.42 | 21.77 | 19.69 | 25.07 | — | — | — | — | 16.98 | 18.28 |
| Paper and allied products | 38.06 | 23.38 | 27.58 | 28.66 | 27.86 | — | — | 52.01 | 23.05 | 20.47 | — |
| Printing and publishing | 34.87 | 22.01 | 23.57 | 21.06 | 23.47 | — | — | 30.58 | 15.25 | 17.15 | 21.40 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 39.34 | 26.04 | 25.44 | 28.73 | 22.64 | — | — | 22.44 | 42.37 | 19.99 | 9.77 |
| Petroleum and coal products | 37.77 | 28.19 | 29.20 | 31.05 | 23.47 | — | — | — | 41.15 | 26.37 | 22.26 |
| Rubber and misc. plastics products | 33.68 | 20.16 | 21.73 | 23.63 | 19.56 | — | — | 47.41 | — | 24.15 | — |
| Leather and leather products | 33.72 | 17.75 | 22.39 | 23.56 | 19.59 | — | — | 37.98 | — | 17.85 | 15.56 |
| Stone, clay, and glass products | 31.79 | 21.56 | 23.78 | 23.21 | 19.42 | — | — | — | 10.52 | 13.48 | — |
| Primary metal industries | 34.87 | 22.13 | 23.30 | 24.14 | 19.30 | — | — | 38.17 | — | 17.33 | 20.26 |
| Fabricated metal products | 34.24 | 21.13 | 22.98 | 22.48 | 22.05 | — | — | 39.77 | — | 17.68 | 21.17 |
| Industrial machinery and equipment | 36.04 | 22.49 | 29.95 | 25.12 | 27.50 | — | — | 21.30 | 42.08 | 21.79 | 23.37 |
| Electronic and other electric equipment | 38.49 | 22.97 | 30.56 | 24.44 | 26.13 | — | — | — | 46.84 | 22.10 | 23.72 |
| Transportation equipment | 37.03 | 27.16 | 27.68 | 28.49 | 27.64 | — | — | — | 45.96 | 20.03 | 24.21 |
| Instruments and related products | 39.50 | 23.59 | 29.62 | 26.92 | 24.52 | — | — | 20.27 | 39.52 | — | 23.68 |
| Miscellaneous manufacturing industries | 34.09 | 20.46 | 24.34 | 21.54 | 24.51 | — | — | — | 43.91 | — | 19.54 |
| Railroad transportation | 32.27 | 23.53 | 25.41 | 27.50 | 24.94 | — | — | — | 37.08 | — | 21.80 |
| Local and interurban passenger transit | 25.24 | 18.80 | 28.31 | 23.87 | — | — | — | — | 18.04 | 14.68 | 13.70 |
| Trucking and warehousing | 28.80 | 20.48 | 21.79 | 19.70 | 23.85 | — | — | 37.58 | — | 15.65 | — |
| Water transportation | 33.64 | 20.88 | 26.17 | 27.46 | 15.96 | — | — | — | — | 19.23 | 19.28 |
| Transportation by air | 29.47 | 21.37 | 23.65 | 24.48 | 23.19 | — | — | 37.65 | 51.16 | 16.85 | 20.35 |
| Pipelines, except natural gas | 35.79 | 27.37 | 29.26 | 29.94 | — | — | — | — | — | 17.50 | 17.88 |
| Transportation services | 31.94 | 20.23 | 22.24 | 27.63 | 18.75 | — | — | — | — | b17.86 | — |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly wage by major occupational and industry group, SICs 07 to 47, 1999—Continued

| SIC Industries | Protective service | SOC occupations | | | | | | Transportation and material moving |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance | Food preparation and serving related | Personal care and service | Sales and related | Office and administrative support | Farming, fishing, and forestry | |
| Agricultural services | \$9.60 | \$8.10 | \$10.00 | \$8.29 | \$14.87 | \$10.07 | \$7.10 | \$14.60 |
| Metal mining | 11.05 | - | 9.74 | - | 15.13 | - | 18.55 | 18.63 |
| Coal mining | 7.49 | - | 14.62 | 7.48 | - | 13.00 | - | 17.32 |
| Oil and gas extraction | 15.31 | 8.63 | 9.32 | - | 30.37 | 14.92 | - | 14.16 |
| Nonmetallic minerals, except fuels | 10.10 | - | 11.15 | - | 24.27 | 12.42 | - | 14.86 |
| General building contractors | - | - | 9.29 | 10.63 | 19.85 | 12.90 | - | 16.07 |
| Heavy construction, except building | 13.35 | - | 9.69 | - | 20.60 | 12.96 | - | 16.27 |
| Special trade contractors | 11.02 | 11.28 | 11.01 | 18.41 | 19.43 | 12.27 | - | 16.66 |
| Food and kindred products | 11.14 | 8.88 | 10.14 | 8.12 | 16.94 | 12.44 | 8.90 | 16.33 |
| Tobacco products | 11.21 | - | 9.73 | - | - | 19.25 | - | 20.58 |
| Textile mill products | 8.98 | - | 8.65 | - | 21.80 | 11.78 | - | 14.96 |
| Apparel and other textile products | 8.63 | - | 9.08 | 10.75 | 18.49 | 11.49 | - | 16.04 |
| Lumber and wood products | 8.71 | 11.55 | 8.89 | - | 20.58 | 11.51 | 13.25 | 12.62 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 10.53 | - | 9.78 | - | 21.91 | 11.85 | 11.11 | 14.35 |
| Paper and allied products | 14.75 | - | 11.69 | - | 27.74 | 14.25 | 16.68 | 19.84 |
| Printing and publishing | 12.02 | 11.00 | 10.04 | 13.48 | 19.28 | 13.36 | - | 13.46 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 14.49 | 8.58 | 12.24 | 18.05 | 26.27 | 14.39 | 10.88 | 18.94 |
| Petroleum and coal products | 17.88 | - | 11.73 | - | 20.76 | 14.61 | - | 18.79 |
| Rubber and misc. plastics products | 12.58 | - | 10.87 | - | 24.86 | 12.72 | - | 15.22 |
| Leather and leather products | 9.47 | - | 9.14 | - | 18.05 | 11.01 | - | 14.09 |
| Stone, clay, and glass products | 14.74 | - | 10.69 | - | 21.20 | 12.93 | 10.78 | 13.53 |
| Primary metal industries | 11.20 | - | 10.99 | 22.61 | 25.86 | 13.56 | - | 17.42 |
| Fabricated metal products | 13.91 | 12.75 | 11.14 | - | 23.55 | 12.99 | 10.39 | 15.44 |
| Industrial machinery and equipment | 12.17 | 9.68 | 9.57 | 7.53 | 24.57 | 13.42 | 9.64 | 14.90 |
| Electronic and other electric equipment | 12.62 | 8.95 | 11.33 | - | 23.89 | 13.83 | - | 18.26 |
| Transportation equipment | 14.09 | - | 15.22 | - | 23.86 | 15.28 | - | 18.07 |
| Instruments and related products | 15.53 | 12.61 | 11.55 | - | 24.91 | 14.40 | - | 16.90 |
| Miscellaneous manufacturing industries | 11.56 | - | 9.57 | 8.13 | 19.59 | 12.05 | - | 15.64 |
| Railroad transportation | 20.19 | 16.22 | 10.84 | 14.43 | 22.58 | 15.43 | - | 17.73 |
| Local and interurban passenger transit | 8.76 | 6.74 | 8.37 | 8.47 | 11.69 | 10.71 | - | 10.71 |
| Trucking and warehousing | 10.17 | 15.19 | 9.34 | - | 18.67 | 12.13 | 11.37 | 16.01 |
| Water transportation | 8.92 | 9.94 | 8.59 | 10.56 | 15.72 | 13.90 | - | 14.64 |
| Transportation by air | 9.69 | 15.90 | 9.63 | 23.76 | 19.40 | 13.67 | - | 16.47 |
| Pipelines, except natural gas | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 17.91 |
| Transportation services | 9.77 | - | 9.89 | - | 11.45 | 13.30 | 13.19 | 14.65 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly wage by major occupational and industry group, SICs 07 to 47, 1999—Continued

| | | SOC occupations | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| SIC industries | Management | Business and financial operations | Computer and mathematical science | Agricultural and engineering | Life, physical, and social science | Community and social services | Legal | Education, training, and library | Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media | Healthcare practitioner and technical | Healthcare support |
| Communication | \$33.24 | \$24.47 | \$24.71 | \$25.05 | \$23.61 | \$39.67 | \$22.31 | \$15.07 | \$20.92 | — | — |
| Electric, gas, and sanitary services | 35.58 | 25.10 | 27.00 | 26.83 | 24.23 | \$15.70 | 41.93 | 24.05 | 26.75 | — | — |
| Wholesale trade-durable goods | 36.16 | 22.02 | 27.37 | 23.37 | 27.59 | — | 47.13 | 20.53 | 18.64 | 19.63 | \$9.19 |
| Wholesale trade-nondurable goods | 34.08 | 21.49 | 24.57 | 24.46 | 23.05 | — | 39.26 | 18.14 | 17.06 | 19.50 | 9.21 |
| Building materials and garden supplies | 26.32 | 18.85 | 26.63 | 16.83 | — | — | 31.03 | — | 10.92 | 25.32 | — |
| General merchandise stores | 22.55 | 16.37 | 24.03 | 24.27 | 23.30 | — | 41.37 | 9.32 | 10.99 | 24.00 | 10.28 |
| Food stores | 22.96 | 17.29 | 17.43 | 18.63 | — | — | 24.61 | — | 9.66 | 23.50 | 8.76 |
| Automotive dealers and service stations | 33.24 | 23.71 | 20.10 | 19.41 | 18.59 | — | 13.14 | 13.56 | 9.40 | — | — |
| Apparel and accessory stores | 26.33 | 20.77 | 21.20 | 18.44 | 20.88 | — | 25.43 | — | 13.41 | — | — |
| Furniture and homefurnishings stores | 30.69 | 19.13 | 21.14 | 23.72 | — | — | — | 14.41 | 16.74 | 10.59 | — |
| Eating and drinking places | 19.44 | 18.96 | 22.06 | — | — | — | 26.67 | — | 9.97 | 14.85 | 17.22 |
| Miscellaneous retail | 25.90 | 18.54 | 21.82 | 24.98 | — | 10.06 | 29.25 | 10.97 | 9.99 | 18.44 | 8.19 |
| Depository institutions | 32.50 | 21.65 | 25.74 | 26.77 | 22.15 | 12.57 | 35.68 | 19.46 | 17.22 | 21.80 | — |
| Nondepository institutions | 35.99 | 21.82 | 26.00 | 22.05 | 23.51 | — | 25.61 | 16.95 | 19.97 | 21.26 | — |
| Security and commodity brokers | 46.77 | 32.18 | 28.65 | — | 27.16 | — | 35.70 | 20.42 | 22.49 | — | — |
| Insurance carriers | 38.55 | 22.17 | 26.53 | 27.57 | 23.00 | — | 23.72 | 21.68 | 20.07 | 22.54 | 11.49 |
| Insurance agents, brokers, and service | 38.16 | 21.34 | 22.61 | 26.24 | 23.57 | 28.10 | 27.78 | 20.00 | 20.01 | 18.85 | 13.20 |
| Real estate | 25.48 | 21.27 | 22.92 | 22.30 | 19.45 | 11.83 | 16.84 | 13.10 | 14.30 | 12.88 | 8.37 |
| Holding and other investment offices | 40.41 | 24.45 | 25.21 | 24.80 | 23.98 | 15.47 | 34.63 | 14.13 | 20.84 | 26.25 | — |
| Hotels and other lodging places | 21.79 | 16.20 | 18.82 | 19.54 | 16.67 | 9.40 | — | 10.01 | 13.25 | 16.06 | 12.80 |
| Personal services | 24.46 | 11.68 | 22.36 | 18.99 | — | 13.78 | — | 10.85 | 10.83 | 14.19 | 11.08 |
| Business services | 35.37 | 22.09 | 27.96 | 25.33 | 18.96 | — | 24.54 | 18.32 | 20.63 | 21.69 | 9.52 |
| Auto repair, services, and parking | 25.56 | 20.06 | 25.02 | 26.40 | — | — | 22.86 | — | 18.04 | — | — |
| Miscellaneous repair services | 28.61 | 19.88 | 20.63 | 20.96 | 21.68 | — | — | — | — | 19.00 | — |
| Motion pictures | 26.96 | 25.22 | 22.21 | 26.08 | 20.95 | — | 21.95 | — | 23.90 | — | — |
| Amusement and recreation services | 24.79 | 21.95 | 20.66 | 25.31 | 15.81 | 14.43 | 53.18 | 13.57 | 16.69 | 15.99 | 17.07 |
| Health services | 27.70 | 19.11 | 21.88 | 21.45 | 22.34 | 15.65 | 25.97 | 14.58 | 16.13 | 22.51 | 9.59 |
| Legal services | 36.73 | 22.41 | 23.43 | — | 33.36 | — | 36.70 | 19.14 | 16.53 | 14.55 | — |
| Educational services | 29.46 | 18.81 | 19.09 | 19.93 | 20.19 | 19.99 | 30.01 | 18.09 | 16.17 | 18.52 | 10.43 |
| Social services | 20.67 | 15.65 | 18.01 | 17.98 | 19.67 | 11.94 | 18.80 | 9.06 | 15.34 | 17.27 | 7.95 |
| Museums, botanical, zoological gardens | 25.74 | 17.23 | 20.00 | 21.43 | 14.32 | 16.10 | — | 14.28 | 15.31 | 21.12 | 9.58 |
| Membership organizations | 25.52 | 18.07 | 22.57 | 17.82 | 19.61 | 12.47 | 29.45 | 11.22 | 15.43 | 23.38 | 10.18 |
| Engineering and management services | 38.52 | 24.62 | 27.76 | 23.31 | 21.13 | 16.48 | 30.20 | 18.00 | 22.17 | 21.31 | 11.38 |
| Services, nec | 33.17 | 27.44 | 32.38 | 24.04 | 22.89 | 20.01 | — | 16.85 | 25.10 | — | — |
| Federal, State, and local government | 27.08 | 21.34 | 24.00 | 24.21 | 22.21 | 16.43 | 25.74 | 15.33 | 19.67 | 20.77 | 11.18 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Text table 1. Mean hourly wage by major occupational and industry group, SICs 48 to 90, 1999—Continued

| | | SOC occupations | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|---|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| SIC industries | | Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance | Personal care and service | Sales and related | Office and administrative support | Farming, fishing, and forestry | Construction and extraction | Installation, maintenance, and repair | Production | Transportation and material moving |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Communication | \$16.14 | \$12.95 | \$12.29 | \$11.54 | \$18.53 | \$15.38 | \$14.83 | \$17.52 | \$20.81 | \$18.86 |
| Electric, gas, and sanitary services | 17.39 | 18.47 | 12.21 | 25.22 | 18.14 | 15.46 | — | 19.71 | 21.97 | 12.70 |
| Wholesale trade-durable goods | 12.46 | 7.10 | 8.77 | 9.67 | 21.53 | 12.46 | 9.67 | 15.29 | 15.49 | 14.39 |
| Wholesale trade-nondurable goods | 12.71 | 8.06 | 8.68 | 7.52 | 19.66 | 11.92 | 8.27 | 12.69 | 14.01 | 10.93 |
| Building materials and garden supplies | 10.15 | 7.83 | 8.78 | 9.81 | 10.94 | 10.40 | 7.83 | 12.49 | 11.65 | 11.73 |
| General merchandise stores | 10.29 | 8.48 | 7.97 | 8.50 | 8.10 | 8.61 | — | 15.55 | 11.91 | 10.88 |
| Food stores | 11.70 | 8.16 | 7.86 | 8.24 | 8.57 | 8.94 | 9.40 | 17.44 | 12.84 | 11.82 |
| Automotive dealers and service stations | 11.22 | 6.69 | 7.57 | 9.05 | 13.21 | 11.08 | 11.25 | 13.79 | 15.08 | 10.31 |
| Apparel and accessory stores | 11.33 | 8.51 | 7.74 | 11.51 | 8.39 | 9.37 | 8.36 | 13.18 | 14.61 | 9.38 |
| Furniture and homefurnishings stores | 10.97 | 7.75 | 7.97 | — | 11.90 | 10.53 | — | 14.16 | 13.36 | 10.31 |
| Eating and drinking places | 9.41 | 7.23 | 7.79 | — | 7.24 | 10.52 | — | — | 12.11 | 9.06 |
| Miscellaneous retail | 11.57 | 7.43 | 7.69 | 7.91 | 8.63 | 9.73 | 8.82 | 13.02 | 12.78 | 10.34 |
| Depository institutions | 13.82 | 8.31 | 8.60 | — | 20.82 | 11.16 | — | 12.82 | 13.86 | 10.00 |
| Nondepositary institutions | 12.20 | — | 9.01 | — | 19.61 | 12.93 | — | 16.32 | 11.73 | 11.27 |
| Security and commodity brokers | 13.86 | 20.18 | 10.37 | 13.05 | 36.69 | 14.90 | — | — | 14.86 | 15.41 |
| Insurance carriers | 16.74 | 9.32 | 9.80 | 12.03 | 22.30 | 14.60 | — | 18.06 | 15.06 | 11.76 |
| Insurance agents, brokers, and service | — | — | 9.27 | — | 23.88 | 12.75 | — | 19.43 | 15.30 | 12.51 |
| Real estate | 10.42 | 8.20 | 9.74 | 10.89 | 16.12 | 11.74 | 9.58 | 13.63 | 11.64 | — |
| Holding and other investment offices | 13.48 | 8.79 | 9.52 | 10.92 | 24.33 | 14.16 | 10.51 | 17.42 | 13.67 | 10.82 |
| Hotels and other lodging places | 10.46 | 8.32 | 7.81 | 8.86 | 9.91 | 9.30 | 9.96 | 16.78 | 12.49 | 17.90 |
| Personal services | 8.65 | 7.26 | 8.75 | 9.98 | 9.12 | 9.32 | — | 11.63 | 13.20 | 8.23 |
| Business services | 8.75 | 7.71 | 7.96 | 9.23 | 15.22 | 10.85 | 8.44 | 12.15 | 14.13 | 8.23 |
| Auto repair, services, and parking | 11.25 | — | 8.60 | — | 11.33 | 10.93 | — | 12.22 | 14.08 | 8.05 |
| Miscellaneous repair services | — | — | 9.40 | 10.60 | 14.75 | 10.87 | — | 15.84 | 14.37 | 10.94 |
| Motion pictures | 6.37 | 6.37 | 7.49 | 6.59 | 7.94 | 11.50 | — | 13.54 | 14.32 | 8.81 |
| Amusement and recreation services | 9.17 | 8.10 | 8.89 | 9.21 | 8.83 | 10.52 | 9.13 | 16.53 | 12.41 | 9.17 |
| Health services | 11.39 | 8.24 | 8.40 | 8.21 | 13.09 | 11.18 | — | 16.83 | 13.41 | 9.70 |
| Legal services | 14.38 | 9.82 | 9.55 | — | — | 14.71 | — | — | 15.25 | — |
| Educational services | 10.49 | 8.07 | 10.68 | 8.62 | 12.79 | 11.80 | 10.51 | 16.57 | 14.31 | 8.95 |
| Social services | 8.97 | 7.70 | 8.02 | 7.89 | 9.03 | 10.76 | 9.28 | 11.17 | 10.60 | 10.03 |
| Museums, botanical, zoological gardens | 9.76 | 8.32 | 10.04 | 8.13 | 8.75 | 10.79 | 9.94 | 15.93 | 13.96 | 7.88 |
| Membership organizations | 8.55 | 7.64 | 8.79 | 8.47 | 12.49 | 11.58 | 10.96 | 16.82 | 11.35 | 9.65 |
| Engineering and management services | 10.58 | 8.57 | 9.27 | 10.37 | 17.56 | 12.75 | 8.95 | 17.29 | 16.04 | 11.85 |
| Services, nec | 13.80 | — | 8.98 | — | 22.97 | 13.16 | 9.06 | 13.92 | 12.10 | 10.05 |
| Federal, State, and local government | 18.00 | 10.81 | 12.13 | 9.94 | 14.37 | 14.67 | 12.97 | 15.09 | 16.85 | 15.87 |

NOTE: Dash indicates data not available. nec means "not elsewhere classified."

wage of lawyers is almost 3 times as high as that of legal secretaries. The shares of employment accounted for by these occupations will affect the wages for the entire legal occupations group.

Sometimes, a specific occupation will offer a range of wages within a broad industry group. This fact highlights the distinction between three-digit and two-digit SIC groupings. As an example, the occupation “accountants and auditors” (SOC 13-2011) has a mean hourly wage of \$19.18 in business services (SIC 73). Also in this occupation, 15,940 people work in the industry “computer related services” (SIC 737) and earn an hourly mean wage of \$20.81. The same occupation has 17,690 people employed in the personnel supply services industry (SIC 736) who earn a wage of only \$18.31. Similarly, “instructional coordinators” (SOC 25-9031) has 18,710 people working in colleges and universities (SIC 822) earning an hourly mean wage of \$19.66, whereas the same occupation has 27,750 people employed at elementary and secondary schools earning a wage of \$23.94. These discrepancies might be accounted for by different levels of responsibility or experience, job duties, or other factors that may vary by more-detailed industry. In addition, employment and wages may vary by area.

Text table 2 lists the 22 major occupational groups in order of total employment in 1999, along with the industry that employs the greatest number of those workers. As shown in this table, the major occupational group with the highest employment total is office and administrative support, with more than 22 million employees. Government (which includes Federal, State and local workers) is the largest employer of this group, and of four other major occupations as well.

Conversely, on a more-detailed occupational level, 9 of the 10 most populous government occupations are either in the protective service group (that is, police and sheriffs, patrol officers and correctional officers, and jailers) or in the office and administrative support group (Postal Service mail carriers and Postal Service mail sorters, processors, and processing machine operators). Although employment in five of the major groups is concentrated in government, there is great variation among the industries employing the largest numbers of workers in the remaining occupational groups: no other industry group appears on the table more than twice.

Data on how wages vary for detailed occupation by two-digit industry can be found in table 2 of this publication. Occupational employment and wage data for three-digit industries are available on the OES Web site.

Table 2. Total employment by major occupational group in 1999

| Rank | Major occupational group | Employment | Largest major industry | Percent employed by main industry |
|------|--|------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Office and administrative support | 22,562,480 | Government | 12 |
| 2 | Sales and related | 12,918,290 | Miscellaneous retail | 13 |
| 3 | Production | 12,620,920 | Industrial and commercial machinery and computer equipment | 9 |
| 4 | Food preparation and serving related | 9,687,970 | Eating and drinking places | 70 |
| 5 | Transportation and material moving | 9,538,820 | Motor freight transportation and warehousing | 13 |
| 6 | Management | 8,063,410 | Government | 7 |
| 7 | Education, training, and library | 7,344,830 | Educational services | 88 |
| 8 | Healthcare practitioner and technical | 6,001,950 | Health services | 75 |
| 9 | Construction and extraction | 5,938,860 | Construction—special trade contractors | 48 |
| 10 | Installation, maintenance, and repair | 5,140,210 | Automotive dealers and gasoline service stations | 11 |
| 11 | Business and financial operations | 4,361,980 | Government | 17 |
| 12 | Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance | 4,274,200 | Business services | 23 |
| 13 | Healthcare support | 2,970,780 | Health services | 75 |
| 14 | Protective service | 2,958,730 | Government | 56 |
| 15 | Computer and mathematical science | 2,620,080 | Business services | 38 |
| 16 | Personal care and service | 2,556,920 | Social services | 18 |
| 17 | Architecture and engineering | 2,506,380 | Engineering, accounting, research, management, and related services | 25 |
| 18 | Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media | 1,551,600 | Motion pictures | 15 |
| 19 | Community and social services | 1,404,540 | Social services | 33 |
| 20 | Life, physical, and social science | 909,530 | Government | 26 |
| 21 | Legal | 858,320 | Legal services | 56 |
| 22 | Farming, fishing, and forestry | 463,360 | Agricultural services | 55 |