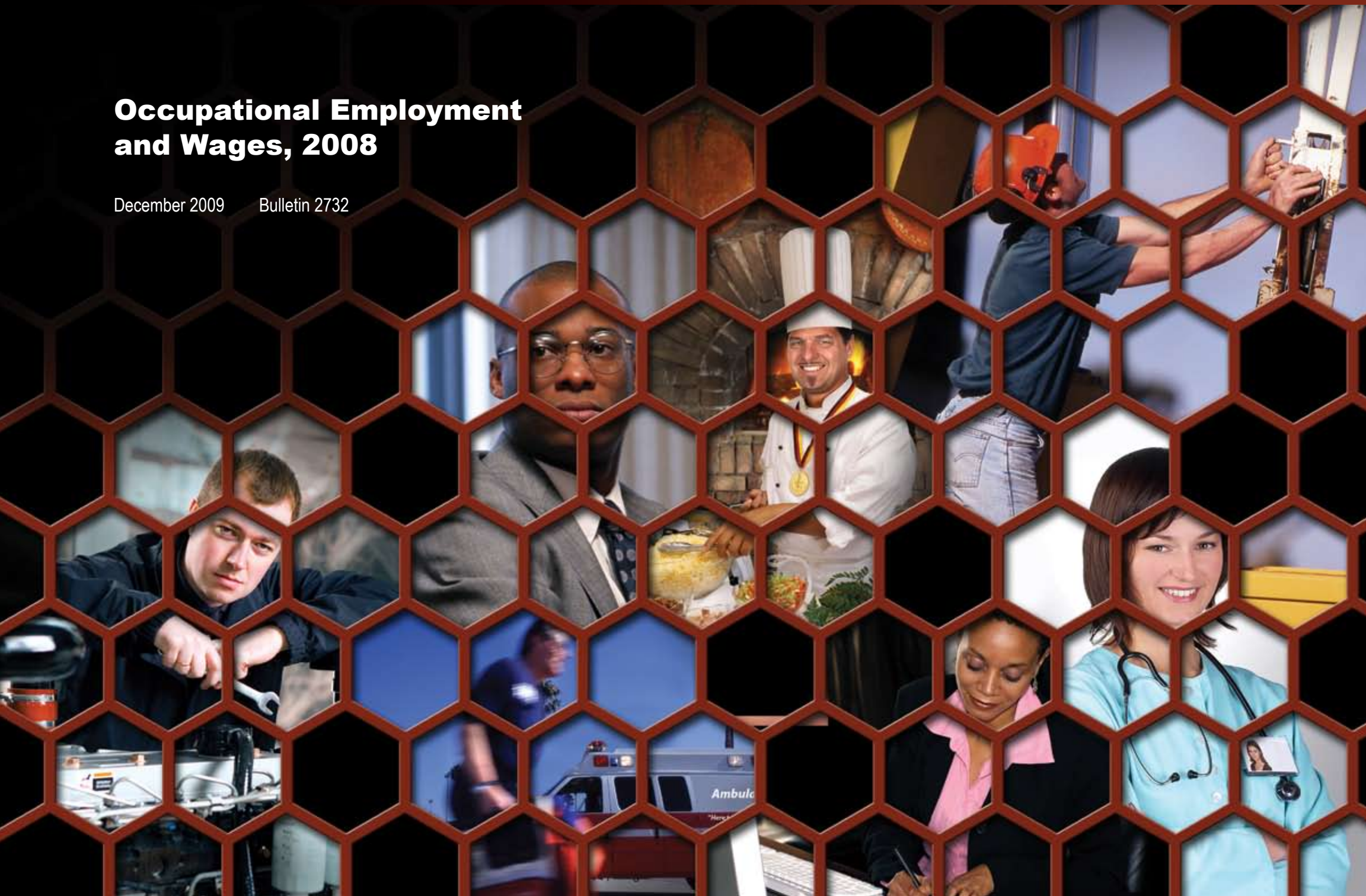


# Occupational Employment and Wages, 2008

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U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics  
U.S. Department of Labor



## **Occupational Employment and Wages, 2008**

U.S. Department of Labor  
Hilda L. Solis, *Secretary*

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

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**Preface**



*This chartbook, **Occupational Employment and Wages, 2008**, 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 are available for 377 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), 34 metropolitan divisions within 11 of the largest MSAs, and 174 nonmetropolitan areas. National industry-specific estimates are available by industry sector and for 290 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 2005 and May 2008. Wage data for all establishments were updated to the May 2008 reference period, and employment data were updated to the average of the November 2007 and the May 2008 reference periods. Information on OES sampling and estimation methods is provided in the survey methods and reliability statement on the enclosed compact disk (CD) and at [http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/methods\\_statement.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/methods_statement.pdf).

The enclosed CD and the OES Web site, <http://www.bls.gov/oes/>, include electronic copies of all charts in this book.

Additional data tables include cross-industry occupational employment and wage data for the Nation, States, metropolitan areas, metropolitan divisions, and nonmetropolitan areas; national occupational employment and wage data by industry; and profiles for all occupations. Data users also can create customized tables using the OES database search tool, or download complete OES data in zipped Excel format from [http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_dl.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/oes_dl.htm). 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](mailto:OESinfo@bls.gov).

## Acknowledgments



The information in this chartbook could not have been produced without the cooperation of more than a million business establishments that provide information on their workers to their State workforce agencies 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 chartbook under the general guidance and direction of Dixie Sommers, Assistant Commissioner for Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections, and George D. Stamas, Chief of the Division of Occupational Employment Statistics. Laurie Salmon, manager of publications and analysis in the Occupational Employment Statistics division, provided planning and day-to-day direction. Dina Itkin and Rebecca Keller coordinated the production of the chartbook. The tables, charts, and maps were prepared by Benjamin Cover, Jeffrey Holt, Dina Itkin, John Jones, Rebecca Keller, Clayton Lindsay, Michael Soloy, Zachary Warren, and Audrey Watson. Cover art, typesetting, and layout were furnished by Keith Tapscott, and editorial services were provided by Casey Homan in the Division of Publishing, of which William Parks II is the Chief.

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