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MID-ATLANTIC INFORMATION OFFICE: Philadelphia, Pa.

Technical information: (215) 597-3282 BLSInfoPhiladelphia@bls.gov www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic

Media contact: (215) 861-5600 BLSMediaPhiladelphia@bls.gov

Occupational Employment and Wages in York-Hanover – May 2013

Workers in the York-Hanover Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$20.02 in May 2013, 10 percent below the nationwide average of \$22.33, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that, after testing for statistical significance, wages in the local area were significantly lower than their respective national averages in 12 of the 22 major occupational groups, including arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media; architecture and engineering; and community and social service. Only one group had an hourly wage that was significantly higher than its respective national average—production. (See [table A](#) and box note at end of release.)

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, York-Hanover Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2013

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	York	United States	York	Percent difference ⁽¹⁾
Total, all occupations	100.0	100	\$22.33	\$20.02*	-11
Management	4.9	3.3*	53.15	49.22*	-9
Business and financial operations	5.0	3.7*	34.14	31.02*	-7
Computer and mathematical	2.8	1.3*	39.43	35.31*	-12
Architecture and engineering	1.8	1.9	38.51	33.94*	-15
Life, physical, and social science	0.9	0.4*	33.37	28.36*	-9
Community and social service	1.4	1.6	21.50	18.47*	-13
Legal	0.8	0.3*	47.89	32.57*	-35
Education, training, and library	6.3	5.6*	24.76	24.18	-5
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	1.3	0.9*	26.72	16.56*	-33
Healthcare practitioners and technical	5.8	6.1	35.93	34.27	-2
Healthcare support	3.0	2.7*	13.61	13.44	0
Protective service	2.5	1.6*	20.92	20.35	-3
Food preparation and serving related	9.0	8.6*	10.38	9.98*	-2
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	3.2	2.8*	12.51	12.39	-4
Personal care and service	3.0	2.5*	11.88	12.14	4
Sales and related	10.6	10.3	18.37	16.26*	-8
Office and administrative support	16.2	14.9*	16.78	15.85*	-7
Farming, fishing, and forestry	0.3	0.1*	11.70	12.62	18
Construction and extraction	3.8	4.3*	21.94	20.6*	-5
Installation, maintenance, and repair	3.9	4.5*	21.35	21.2	-4
Production	6.6	12.3*	16.79	17.8*	6
Transportation and material moving	6.8	10.2*	16.28	16.72	-3
* The percent share of employment or mean hourly wage for this area is significantly different from the national average of all areas at the 90-percent confidence level.					

Footnotes:

(1) A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in York-Hanover is above the national mean wage, while a negative percent difference reflects a lower wage.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, York employment was more highly concentrated in 4 of the 22 occupational groups—production; transportation and material moving; installation, maintenance, and repair; and construction and extraction. Conversely, 14 groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation; these groups included management, computer and mathematical, and business and financial operations.

One occupational group—production—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. York had 21,380 jobs in production, accounting for 12.3 percent of local area employment, nearly twice the 6.6-percent share nationally. The average hourly wage for this occupational group locally was \$17.80, measurably above the national wage of \$16.79.

With employment of 2,050, team assemblers was the largest occupation within the production group, followed by production helpers (1,330) and first-line supervisors of production and operating workers (1,270). Among the higher-paying jobs were first-line supervisors of production and operating workers and tool and die makers, with mean hourly wages of \$27.75 and \$21.73, respectively. At the lower end of the wage scale were engine and other machine assemblers (\$12.64) and bakers (\$12.13). (Detailed occupational data for production are presented in [table 1](#); for a complete listing of detailed occupations available go to www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_49620.htm.)

Location quotients allow us to explore the occupational make-up of a metropolitan area by comparing the composition of jobs in an area relative to the national average. (See [table 1](#).) For example, a location quotient of 2.0 indicates that an occupation accounts for twice the share of employment in the area as it does nationally. In the York area, above-average concentrations of employment were found in many of the occupations within the production group. For instance, engine and other machine assemblers were employed at over 12 times the national rate in York, and tool and die makers, at nearly three-and-a-half times the U.S. average.

These statistics are from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey, a federal-state cooperative program between BLS and State Workforce Agencies, in this case, the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

Note

OES wage and employment data for the 22 major occupational groups in the York-Hanover Metropolitan Statistical Area were compared to their respective national averages based on statistical significance testing. Only those occupations with wages or employment shares above or below the national wage or share after testing for significance at the 90-percent confidence level meet the criteria.

NOTE: A value that is statistically different from another does not necessarily mean that the difference has economic or practical significance. Statistical significance is concerned with the ability to make confident statements about a universe based on a sample. It is entirely possible that a large difference between two values is not significantly different statistically, while a small difference is, since both the size and heterogeneity of the sample affect the relative error of the data being tested.

Technical Note

The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) survey is a semiannual mail survey measuring occupational employment and wage rates for wage and salary workers in nonfarm establishments in the United States. Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands are also surveyed, but their data are not included in the national estimates. OES estimates are constructed from a sample of about 1.2 million establishments. Forms are mailed to approximately 200,000 sampled establishments in May and November each year for a 3-year period. May 2013 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected in May 2013, November 2012, May 2012, November 2011, May 2011, and November 2010. The overall national response rate for the six panels is 75.3 percent based on establishments and 71.6 percent based on employment. The sample in the York-Hanover Metropolitan Statistical Area included 2,009 establishments with a response rate of 76 percent. For more information about OES concepts and methodology, go to www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.tn.htm.

The OES survey provides estimates of employment and hourly and annual wages for wage and salary workers in 22 major occupational groups and 821 detailed occupations for the nation, states, metropolitan statistical areas, metropolitan divisions, and nonmetropolitan areas. In addition, employment and wage estimates for 94 minor groups and 458 broad occupations are available in the national data. OES data by state and metropolitan/nonmetropolitan area are available from www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcst.htm and www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcma.htm, respectively.

The May 2013 OES estimates are based on the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system and the 2012 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Information about the 2010 SOC is available on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/soc and information about the 2012 NAICS is available at www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm.

Area definitions

The substate area data published in this release reflect the standards and definitions established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

The **York-Hanover, Pa. Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes York County in Pennsylvania.

Additional information

OES data are available on our regional web page at <https://www.bls.gov/regions/mid-atlantic>. Answers to frequently asked questions about the OES data are available at www.bls.gov/oes/oes_ques.htm. Detailed technical information about the OES survey is available in our Survey Methods and Reliability Statement on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/oes/2013/may/methods_statement.pdf. Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request – Voice phone: 202-691-5200; Federal Relay Service: 1-800-877-8339.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, York-Hanover Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2013

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Employment ⁽²⁾		Mean wages	
	Level	Location quotient ⁽³⁾	Hourly	Annual ⁽⁴⁾
Production occupations	21,380	1.9	\$17.80	\$ 37,030
First-line supervisors of production and operating workers	1,270	1.7	27.75	57,720
Coil winders, tapers, and finishers	70	3.5	13.98	29,080
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	410	1.6	13.69	28,480
Electromechanical equipment assemblers	220	3.5	19.34	40,220
Engine and other machine assemblers	660	12.7	12.64	26,280
Structural metal fabricators and fitters	240	2.4	22.44	46,670
Team assemblers	2,050	1.5	16.69	34,720
Assemblers and fabricators, all other	260	0.8	15.29	31,810
Bakers	360	1.7	12.13	25,220
Butchers and meat cutters	320	1.8	12.82	26,670
Meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers	(5)	(5)	11.06	23,010
Food batchmakers	160	1.1	13.89	28,880
Food cooking machine operators and tenders	290	6.4	14.53	30,220
Computer-controlled machine tool operators, metal and plastic	390	2.1	21.19	44,070
Computer numerically controlled machine tool programmers, metal and plastic	30	1.0	24.53	51,020
Extruding and drawing machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	240	2.5	15.50	32,230
Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	730	3.0	16.94	35,230
Grinding, lapping, polishing, and buffering machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	490	5.3	20.25	42,110
Lathe and turning machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	(5)	(5)	17.74	36,910
Milling and planing machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	90	3.0	19.73	41,030
Machinists	990	1.9	19.97	41,550
Molding, coremaking, and casting machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	290	1.8	16.04	33,360
Multiple machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	530	4.3	18.65	38,780
Tool and die makers	350	3.4	21.73	45,210
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	1,030	2.2	20.22	42,070
Welding, soldering, and brazing machine setters, operators, and tenders	210	3.1	20.50	42,640
Heat treating equipment setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	50	1.7	18.15	37,750
Plating and coating machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	110	2.3	19.57	40,720
Tool grinders, filers, and sharpeners	(5)	(5)	16.40	34,120
Metal workers and plastic workers, all other	(5)	(5)	17.01	35,390
Prepress technicians and workers	120	2.5	17.63	36,660
Printing press operators	650	3.0	17.41	36,220
Print binding and finishing workers	150	2.2	15.90	33,070
Laundry and dry-cleaning workers	200	0.8	10.25	21,310
Pressers, textile, garment, and related materials	50	0.8	9.83	20,440
Sewing machine operators	160	0.9	12.58	26,160
Cabinetmakers and bench carpenters	110	1.0	16.76	34,860
Furniture finishers	40	2.0	(5)	(5)
Sawing machine setters, operators, and tenders, wood	60	1.1	12.64	26,290
Woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing	310	3.6	12.65	26,310
Power plant operators	(5)	(5)	29.33	61,010
Stationary engineers and boiler operators	40	0.8	22.67	47,150
Water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators	200	1.4	20.93	43,530

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, York-Hanover Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2013 - Continued

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Employment ⁽²⁾		Mean wages	
	Level	Location quotient ⁽³⁾	Hourly	Annual ⁽⁴⁾
Chemical equipment operators and tenders	140	1.7	19.58	40,720
Grinding and polishing workers, hand	(5)	(5)	13.98	29,090
Mixing and blending machine setters, operators, and tenders	190	1.2	17.66	36,740
Cutting and slicing machine setters, operators, and tenders	330	4.2	15.78	32,830
Extruding, forming, pressing, and compacting machine setters, operators, and tenders	30	0.4	18.39	38,260
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	1,250	2.0	18.86	39,220
Ophthalmic laboratory technicians	70	1.8	11.95	24,860
Packaging and filling machine operators and tenders	1,130	2.3	14.86	30,900
Coating, painting, and spraying machine setters, operators, and tenders	190	1.7	17.56	36,510
Painters, transportation equipment	(5)	(5)	17.76	36,930
Painting, coating, and decorating workers	(5)	(5)	17.41	36,220
Adhesive bonding machine operators and tenders	30	1.4	15.60	32,440
Cleaning, washing, and metal pickling equipment operators and tenders	50	2.1	14.55	30,260
Molders, shapers, and casters, except metal and plastic	(5)	(5)	15.05	31,300
Paper goods machine setters, operators, and tenders ...	950	7.7	21.27	44,240
Helpers--production workers	1,330	2.4	12.83	26,690
Production workers, all other	200	0.7	16.76	34,860

Footnotes:

(1) For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in the York-Hanover MSA, see www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_49620.htm

(2) Estimates for detailed occupations do not sum to the totals because the totals include occupations not shown separately. Estimates do not include self-employed workers.

(3) The location quotient is the ratio of the area concentration of occupational employment to the national average concentration. A location quotient greater than one indicates the occupation has a higher share of employment than average, and a location quotient less than one indicates the occupation is less prevalent in the area than average.

(4) Annual wages have been calculated by multiplying the hourly mean wage by a 'year-round, full-time' hours figure of 2,080 hours; for those occupations where there is not an hourly mean wage published, the annual wage has been directly calculated from the reported survey data.

(5) Estimates not released.