NEWS RELEASE
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

For Release: Monday, July 27, 2015 15-898-CHI

MIDWEST INFORMATION OFFICE: Chicago, Ill.
Technical information: (312) 353-1880 • BLSInfoChicago@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/regions/midwest
Media contact: (312) 353-1138

Occupational Employment and Wages in Indianapolis-Carmel — May 2014

Workers in the Indianapolis-Carmel Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of $21.91 in May 2014, about 4 percent below the nationwide average of $22.71, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Regional Commissioner Charlene Peiffer noted that, after testing for statistical significance, wages in the local area were higher than their respective national averages in 3 of the 22 major occupational groups. Twelve groups had significantly lower wages than their respective national averages, including legal; management; and architecture and engineering.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, local employment was more highly concentrated in 4 of the 22 occupational groups, including transportation and material moving; healthcare practitioners and technical; and production. Conversely, 10 groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including education, training, and library; office and administrative support; and personal care and service. (See table A and box note at end of release.)

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Indianapolis-Carmel Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2014

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Indianapolis	United States	Indianapolis	Percent difference [1]
Total, all occupations	100.0%	100.0%	$22.71	$21.91*	-4
Management	5.0	5.3*	54.08	47.34*	-12
Business and financial operations	5.1	5.4	34.81	32.15*	-8
Computer and mathematical	2.8	3.0	40.37	35.64*	-12
Architecture and engineering	1.8	1.5*	39.19	34.43*	-12
Life, physical, and social science	0.8	1.1	33.69	29.37*	-13
Community and social services	1.4	1.0*	21.79	22.30	2
Legal	0.8	0.7	48.61	38.66*	-20
Education, training, and library	6.2	4.5*	25.10	23.20	-8
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	1.3	1.3	26.82	23.67*	-12
Healthcare practitioners and technical	5.8	7.0*	36.54	36.23	-1
Healthcare support	2.9	2.6*	13.86	13.59	-2
Protective service	2.4	2.3*	21.14	18.34*	-13
Food preparation and serving related	9.1	9.1	10.57	10.10*	-4
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	3.2	2.9*	12.68	12.25	-3
Personal care and service	3.1	2.3*	12.01	11.33*	-6
Sales and related	10.5	10.3	18.59	19.83*	7
Office and administrative support	16.0	15.0*	17.08	16.84*	-1
Farming, fishing, and forestry	0.3	0.1*	12.09	13.94*	15

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Indianapolis-Carmel Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2014 - Continued

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Indianapolis	United States	Indianapolis	Percent difference [1]
Construction and extraction	3.9	3.6*	22.40	23.56*	5
Installation, maintenance, and repair	3.9	3.9	21.74	21.44	-1
Production	6.6	7.4*	17.06	15.99*	-6
Transportation and material moving	6.8	9.5*	16.57	16.32	-2

[1] A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in Indianapolis is above the national mean wage, while a negative difference reflects a lower wage.

* 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.

One occupational group—transportation and material moving—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. Indianapolis-Carmel had 88,880 jobs in transportation and material moving, accounting for 9.5 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 6.8-percent share nationally. The average hourly wage for this occupational group locally was $16.32, compared to the national wage of $16.57.

Some of the largest detailed occupations within the transportation and material moving group included laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand (28,370); heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers (14,800); and industrial truck and tractor operators (7,610). Among the higher paying jobs were air traffic controllers and transportation inspectors, with mean hourly wages of $56.95 and $31.42, respectively. At the lower end of the wage scale were parking lot attendants ($9.04) and taxi drivers and chauffeurs ($10.45). (Detailed occupational data for transportation and material moving are presented in table 1; for a complete listing of detailed occupations available go to www.bls.gov/oes/2014/may/oes_26900.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 than it does nationally. In the Indianapolis-Carmel Metropolitan Statistical Area, above-average concentrations of employment were found in some of the occupations within the transportation and material moving group. For instance, airline pilots, copilots, and flight engineers were employed at 2.8 times the national rate in Indianapolis; and industrial truck and tractor operators, at 2.1 times the U.S. average. On the other hand, light truck or delivery services drivers had a location quotient of 1.2 in Indianapolis, indicating that this particular occupation's local and national employment shares were similar.

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 Indiana Department of Workforce Development.

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. May 2014 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected over a 3-year period: May 2014, November 2013, May 2013, November 2012, May 2012, and November 2011. The overall national response rate for the six panels is 74.3 percent based on establishments and 70.5 percent based on weighted sampled employment. The unweighted employment of sampled establishments across all six semiannual panels represents approximately 57.1 percent of total national employment. (Response rates are slightly lower for these estimates due to the federal shutdown in October 2013.) The sample in the Indianapolis-Carmel Metropolitan Statistical Area included 5,101 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 2014 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 **Indianapolis-Carmel, Ind. Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes Boone, Brown, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Morgan, Putnam, and Shelby Counties.

Additional information

OES data are available on our regional web page at www.bls.gov/regions/midwest. 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/2014/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: 800-877-8339.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Indianapolis-Carmel Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2014

Occupation [1]	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level [2]	Location quotient [3]	Hourly	Annual [4]
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	88,880	1.4	$16.32	$33,950
Aircraft Cargo Handling Supervisors	[5]	[5]	21.48	44,690
First-Line Supervisors of Helpers, Laborers, and Material Movers, Hand	1,980	1.7	23.76	49,420
First-Line Supervisors of Transportation and Material-Moving Machine and Vehicle Operators	1,930	1.4	29.28	60,910
Airline Pilots, Copilots, and Flight Engineers	1,460	2.8	[5]	114,770
Commercial Pilots	120	0.5	[5]	72,500
Air Traffic Controllers	670	4.2	56.95	118,450
Flight Attendants	1,330	2.0	[5]	47,170
Bus Drivers, Transit and Intercity	510	0.5	14.32	29,790
Bus Drivers, School or Special Client	4,170	1.2	12.80	26,620
Driver/Sales Workers	[5]	[5]	11.36	23,630
Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	14,800	1.3	22.03	45,820
Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers	6,470	1.2	17.09	35,550
Taxi Drivers and Chauffeurs	1,120	0.9	10.45	21,740
Motor Vehicle Operators, All Other	1,030	2.6	11.07	23,030
Parking Lot Attendants	1,120	1.2	9.04	18,800
Automotive and Watercraft Service Attendants	1,100	1.5	10.56	21,960
Transportation Inspectors	240	1.4	31.42	65,360
Transportation Workers, All Other	[5]	[5]	16.93	35,210
Conveyor Operators and Tenders	[5]	[5]	15.87	33,020
Crane and Tower Operators	[5]	[5]	25.39	52,820
Excavating and Loading Machine and Dragline Operators	120	0.4	20.03	41,660
Industrial Truck and Tractor Operators	7,610	2.1	15.69	32,640
Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment	[5]	[5]	10.90	22,670
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand	28,370	1.7	12.20	25,370
Machine Feeders and Offbearers	1,080	1.5	12.76	26,550
Packers and Packagers, Hand	6,020	1.3	10.65	22,150
Refuse and Recyclable Material Collectors	[5]	[5]	15.13	31,470
Tank Car, Truck, and Ship Loaders	[5]	[5]	17.87	37,160

[1] For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in Indianapolis-Carmel, IN, see www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_26900.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] Estimate not released.