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Occupational Employment and Wages in Cincinnati-Middletown — May 2015

Workers in the Cincinnati-Middletown Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$22.61 in May 2015, about 3 percent below the nationwide average of \$23.23, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Charlene Peiffer noted that, after testing for statistical significance, wages in the local area were lower than their respective national averages in 17 of the 22 major occupational groups including arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media; life, physical, and social science; and computer and mathematical. Three groups had significantly higher wages than their respective national averages.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, local employment was more highly concentrated in 7 of the 22 occupational groups, including production; healthcare practitioners and technical; and business and financial operations. Conversely, 10 groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including sales and related; construction and extraction; and education, training, and library. (See [table A](#) and [box note](#) at end of release.)

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Cincinnati Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2015

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Cincinnati	United States	Cincinnati	Percent difference ⁽¹⁾
Total, all occupations	100.0%	100.0%	\$23.23	\$22.61*	-3
Management	5.0	5.2	55.30	52.71*	-5
Business and Financial Operations	5.1	5.7*	35.48	32.23*	-9
Computer and Mathematical	2.9	3.1	41.43	37.49*	-10
Architecture and Engineering	1.8	1.9*	39.89	38.49	-4
Life, Physical, and Social Science	0.8	0.7	34.24	30.07*	-12
Community and Social Services	1.4	1.2*	22.19	21.20*	-4
Legal	0.8	0.6*	49.74	45.84*	-8
Education, Training, and Library	6.2	5.6*	25.48	27.78	9
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media	1.3	1.2*	27.39	21.32*	-22
Healthcare Practitioner and Technical	5.8	6.6*	37.40	34.61*	-7
Healthcare Support	2.9	3.0*	14.19	13.69*	-4
Protective Service	2.4	2.0*	21.45	19.73*	-8
Food Preparation and Serving Related	9.1	9.6*	10.98	10.27*	-6
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	3.2	2.9*	13.02	12.29*	-6
Personal Care and Service	3.1	2.6*	12.33	11.83*	-4
Sales and Related	10.5	9.7*	18.90	20.18*	7
Office and Administrative Support	15.8	16.0	17.47	17.08*	-2
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry	0.3	(2)*	12.67	13.93*	10
Construction and Extraction	4.0	3.2*	22.88	21.75*	-5
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	3.9	3.9	22.11	21.58*	-2

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Cincinnati Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2015 - Continued

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Cincinnati	United States	Cincinnati	Percent difference ⁽¹⁾
Production	6.6	7.9*	17.41	18.21*	5
Transportation and Material Moving	6.9	7.4*	16.90	16.15*	-4

Footnotes:

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

(2) Indicates a value of less than 0.05 percent

* 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—production—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. Cincinnati had 80,940 jobs in production, accounting for 7.9 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 6.6-percent share nationally. The average hourly wage for this occupational group locally was \$18.21, significantly above the national wage of \$17.41.

Some of the larger detailed occupations within the production group included team assemblers (6,720); packaging and filling machine operators and tenders (5,550); and machinists (5,310). Among the higher paying jobs were power distributors and dispatchers; and power plant operators, with mean hourly wages of \$34.89 and \$33.80, respectively. At the lower end of the wage scale were pressers, textile, garment, and related materials (\$10.15) and laundry and dry-cleaning workers (\$10.50). (Detailed occupational data for production are presented in [table 1](#); for a complete listing of detailed occupations available go to www.bls.gov/oes/2015/may/oes_17140.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 Cincinnati Metropolitan Statistical Area, above-average concentrations of employment were found in some of the occupations within the production group. For instance, engine and other machine assemblers were employed at 3.6 times the national rate in Cincinnati, and pressers, textile, garment, and related materials, at 2.7 times the U.S. average. On the other hand, laundry and dry-cleaning workers had a location quotient of 1.0 in Cincinnati, 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; the Kentucky Department for Workforce Investment; and the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services.

Notes on Occupational Employment Statistics Data

With the issuance of data for May 2015, the OES program has incorporated redefined metropolitan area definitions as designated by the Office of Management and Budget. OES data are available for 394 metropolitan areas, 38 metropolitan divisions, and 167 OES-defined nonmetropolitan areas. A listing of the areas and their definitions can be found at www.bls.gov/oes/current/msa_def.htm.

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. The OES program produces employment and wage estimates for over 800 occupations for all industries combined in the nation; the 50 states and the District of Columbia; 432 metropolitan areas and divisions; 167 nonmetropolitan areas; and Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. National estimates are also available by industry for NAICS sectors, 3-, 4-, and selected 5- and 6-digit industries, and by ownership across all industries and for schools and hospitals. OES data are available at www.bls.gov/oes/tables.htm.

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 2015 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected over a 3-year period: May 2015, November 2014, May 2014, November 2013, May 2013, and November 2012. The overall national response rate for the six panels is 73.5 percent based on establishments and 69.6 percent based on weighted sampled employment. The unweighted employment of sampled establishments across all six semiannual panels represents approximately 57.9 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 Cincinnati Metropolitan Statistical Area included 7,342 establishments with a response rate of 74 percent. For more information about OES concepts and methodology, go to www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.tn.htm.

The May 2015 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.

Metropolitan 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 **Cincinnati-Middletown Ind.-Ky.-Ohio Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties of Ohio, and Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, and Pendleton Counties of Kentucky, and Dearborn, Ohio, and Union Counties of Indiana.

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/2015/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, Cincinnati Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2015

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level ⁽²⁾	Location quotient ⁽³⁾	Hourly	Annual ⁽⁴⁾
Production Occupations	80,940	1.2	\$18.21	\$37,870
First-Line Supervisors of Production and Operating Workers	4,910	1.1	29.33	61,000
Aircraft Structure, Surfaces, Rigging, and Systems Assemblers	90	0.3	20.18	41,980
Coil Winders, Tapers, and Finishers	280	2.6	20.35	42,330
Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	1,690	1.1	16.66	34,660
Electromechanical Equipment Assemblers	210	0.6	18.85	39,220
Engine and Other Machine Assemblers	1,020	3.6	24.75	51,470
Structural Metal Fabricators and Fitters	480	0.8	17.19	35,760
Fiberglass Laminators and Fabricators	120	0.8	13.96	29,030
Team Assemblers	6,720	0.8	15.12	31,440
Assemblers and Fabricators, All Other	3,550	2.1	15.14	31,480
Bakers	920	0.7	12.82	26,670
Butchers and Meat Cutters	1,110	1.1	15.77	32,790
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	590	0.5	11.67	24,280
Slaughterers and Meat Packers	440	0.7	11.78	24,500
Food and Tobacco Roasting, Baking, and Drying Machine Operators and Tenders	(5)	(5)	12.45	25,900
Food Batchmakers	890	0.9	14.33	29,800
Food Cooking Machine Operators and Tenders	(5)	(5)	12.56	26,130
Food Processing Workers, All Other	180	0.5	12.92	26,870
Computer-Controlled Machine Tool Operators, Metal and Plastic	1,710	1.6	19.21	39,970
Computer Numerically Controlled Machine Tool Programmers, Metal and Plastic	180	0.9	27.06	56,280
Extruding and Drawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	980	1.8	16.97	35,300
Forging Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	(5)	(5)	19.28	40,100
Rolling Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	(5)	(5)	21.96	45,680
Cutting, Punching, and Press Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	1,770	1.2	16.35	34,010
Drilling and Boring Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	80	0.7	18.07	37,590
Grinding, Lapping, Polishing, and Buffing Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	800	1.5	15.77	32,800
Lathe and Turning Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	330	1.1	18.98	39,470
Milling and Planing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	200	1.4	18.90	39,300
Machinists	5,310	1.8	21.14	43,970
Metal-Refining Furnace Operators and Tenders	(5)	(5)	17.87	37,170
Pourers and Casters, Metal	(5)	(5)	18.15	37,750
Model Makers, Metal and Plastic	(5)	(5)	25.54	53,130
Patternmakers, Metal and Plastic	(5)	(5)	21.16	44,000
Foundry Mold and Coremakers	130	1.3	16.20	33,700
Molding, Coremaking, and Casting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	2,110	2.1	16.19	33,670
Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	1,520	1.9	22.18	46,140
Tool and Die Makers	810	1.5	26.49	55,110
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	2,740	1.0	18.54	38,570
Welding, Soldering, and Brazing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders	360	0.9	18.42	38,310
Heat Treating Equipment Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	110	0.7	22.54	46,880
Layout Workers, Metal and Plastic	30	0.4	18.95	39,420

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Cincinnati Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2015 - Continued

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level ⁽²⁾	Location quotient ⁽³⁾	Hourly	Annual ⁽⁴⁾
Plating and Coating Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	420	1.6	16.99	35,340
Tool Grinders, Filers, and Sharpeners.....	100	1.3	19.71	41,000
Metal Workers and Plastic Workers, All Other	450	2.7	25.04	52,070
Prepress Technicians and Workers.....	480	1.8	20.11	41,830
Printing Press Operators.....	2,300	1.8	18.41	38,300
Print Binding and Finishing Workers	490	1.3	14.98	31,150
Laundry and Dry-Cleaning Workers	1,440	1.0	10.50	21,840
Pressers, Textile, Garment, and Related Materials	970	2.7	10.15	21,120
Sewing Machine Operators	550	0.5	12.92	26,870
Shoe and Leather Workers and Repairers.....	40	0.7	11.84	24,620
Tailors, Dressmakers, and Custom Sewers	60	0.4	12.32	25,630
Textile Cutting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders.....	30	0.3	12.03	25,020
Extruding and Forming Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Synthetic and Glass Fibers.....	50	0.4	15.06	31,320
Upholsterers	100	0.5	15.25	31,710
Textile, Apparel, and Furnishings Workers, All Other	40	0.3	11.81	24,570
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	530	0.8	16.80	34,930
Sawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Wood.....	110	0.3	14.09	29,320
Woodworking Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Except Sawing.....	370	0.7	13.47	28,010
Power Distributors and Dispatchers	60	0.7	34.89	72,570
Power Plant Operators	490	1.7	33.80	70,310
Stationary Engineers and Boiler Operators.....	270	1.1	25.32	52,660
Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant and System Operators	650	0.8	20.91	43,490
Chemical Plant and System Operators	600	2.3	24.95	51,900
Plant and System Operators, All Other	100	1.2	(5)	(5)
Chemical Equipment Operators and Tenders	920	1.8	23.31	48,480
Separating, Filtering, Clarifying, Precipitating, and Still Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders.....	(5)	(5)	19.32	40,190
Crushing, Grinding, and Polishing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders.....	180	0.8	15.94	33,160
Grinding and Polishing Workers, Hand	160	0.8	15.64	32,540
Mixing and Blending Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders.....	2,000	2.1	19.72	41,030
Cutters and Trimmers, Hand	60	0.5	12.89	26,820
Cutting and Slicing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders.....	650	1.4	15.62	32,480
Extruding, Forming, Pressing, and Compacting Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders.....	340	0.6	18.14	37,730
Furnace, Kiln, Oven, Drier, and Kettle Operators and Tenders.....	160	1.1	18.20	37,850
Inspectors, Testers, Sorters, Samplers, and Weighers ...	4,790	1.3	19.89	41,370
Jewelers and Precious Stone and Metal Workers.....	100	0.6	16.78	34,900
Dental Laboratory Technicians	210	0.8	19.83	41,250
Ophthalmic Laboratory Technicians	(5)	(5)	13.77	28,650
Packaging and Filling Machine Operators and Tenders..	5,550	2.0	16.39	34,090
Coating, Painting, and Spraying Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders.....	780	1.2	17.76	36,950
Painters, Transportation Equipment.....	240	0.6	20.21	42,030
Photographic Process Workers and Processing Machine Operators	150	0.8	13.61	28,310
Adhesive Bonding Machine Operators and Tenders.....	260	2.0	15.72	32,690
Cleaning, Washing, and Metal Pickling Equipment Operators and Tenders.....	160	1.2	14.96	31,110

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Cincinnati Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2015 - Continued

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level ⁽²⁾	Location quotient ⁽³⁾	Hourly	Annual ⁽⁴⁾
Cooling and Freezing Equipment Operators and Tenders.....	30	0.5	11.49	23,910
Etchers and Engravers.....	40	0.5	14.01	29,150
Molders, Shapers, and Casters, Except Metal and Plastic.....	140	0.5	15.45	32,140
Paper Goods Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders .	1,380	2.0	16.91	35,170
Tire Builders	110	0.8	15.59	32,430
Helpers--Production Workers	4,340	1.3	12.82	26,670
Production Workers, All Other	1,980	1.1	17.03	35,430

Footnotes:

(1) For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in the Cincinnati-Middletown Metropolitan Statistical Area, see www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_17140.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.