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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 Davenport-Moline-Rock Island — May 2016

Workers in the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$21.56 in May 2016, about 10 percent below the nationwide average of \$23.86, 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 16 of the 22 major occupational groups, including management; arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media; and computer and mathematical.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, local employment was more highly concentrated in 3 of the 22 occupational groups: production; installation, maintenance, and repair; and management. Conversely, eight groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including personal care and service; sales and related; and computer and mathematical. (See [table A](#) and [box note](#) at end of release.)

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2016

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Davenport	United States	Davenport	Percent difference ⁽¹⁾
Total, all occupations	100.0	100.0	\$23.86	\$21.56*	-10
Management	5.1	5.6*	56.74	44.66*	-21
Business and financial operations	5.2	4.8*	36.09	32.35*	-10
Computer and mathematical	3.0	2.4*	42.25	35.94*	-15
Architecture and engineering	1.8	1.9	40.53	37.87*	-7
Life, physical, and social science	0.8	0.6*	35.06	30.73*	-12
Community and social service	1.4	1.3	22.69	22.09	-3
Legal	0.8	0.5*	50.95	44.85*	-12
Education, training, and library	6.2	5.9	26.21	25.77	-2
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	1.4	1.1*	28.07	19.17*	-32
Healthcare practitioners and technical	5.9	5.4	38.06	35.55*	-7
Healthcare support	2.9	2.9	14.65	13.84*	-6
Protective service	2.4	2.1*	22.03	21.76	-1
Food preparation and serving related	9.2	9.3	11.47	10.19*	-11
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	3.2	2.9	13.47	12.74*	-5
Personal care and service	3.2	2.4*	12.74	11.87*	-7
Sales and related	10.4	9.7*	19.50	17.20*	-12
Office and administrative support	15.7	14.9	17.91	16.25*	-9
Farming, fishing, and forestry	0.3	0.3	13.37	14.55*	9
Construction and extraction	4.0	3.8	23.51	23.93	2
Installation, maintenance, and repair	3.9	4.7*	22.45	21.52*	-4
Production	6.5	10.5*	17.88	18.10	1

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2016 - Continued

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Davenport	United States	Davenport	Percent difference ⁽¹⁾
Transportation and material moving	6.9	7.0	17.34	16.52*	-5

Footnotes:

(1) A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area 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—production—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. Davenport-Moline-Rock Island had 18,990 jobs in production, accounting for 10.5 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 6.5-percent share nationally. The average hourly wage for this occupational group locally was \$18.10, compared to the national wage of \$17.88.

Some of the largest detailed occupations within the production group included team assemblers (1,390), packaging and filling machine operators and tenders (1,100), and first-line supervisors of production and operating workers (1,080). Among the higher paying jobs were stationary engineers and boiler operators with mean hourly wages of \$36.23 and first-line supervisors of production and operating workers, \$29.58. At the lower end of the wage scale were laundry and dry-cleaning workers (\$10.11) and woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing (\$10.60). (Detailed occupational data for production are presented in [table 1](#); for a complete listing of detailed occupations available go to www.bls.gov/oes/2016/may/oes_19340.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 Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area, above-average concentrations of employment were found in many of the occupations within the production group. For instance, meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers in Davenport were employed at 3.7 times the national rate, and lathe and turning machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic, at 2.9 times the U.S. average. On the other hand, team assemblers in Davenport had a location quotient of 1.0, 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 Iowa Department of Workforce Development and the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

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. The OES data available from BLS include cross-industry occupational employment and wage estimates for the nation; over 650 areas, including states and the District of Columbia, metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs), metropolitan divisions, nonmetropolitan areas, and territories; national industry-specific estimates at the NAICS sector, 3-, 4-, and selected 5- and 6-digit industry levels, and national estimates 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. Each year, two semiannual panels of approximately 200,000 sampled establishments are contacted, one panel in May and the other in November. Responses are obtained by mail, Internet or other electronic means, email, telephone, or personal visit. The May 2016 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected over a 3-year period: May 2016, November 2015, May 2015, November 2014, May 2014, and November 2013. The overall national response rate for the six panels, based on the 50 states and the District of Columbia, is 73 percent based on establishments and 69 percent based on weighted sampled employment. The unweighted employment of sampled establishments across all six semiannual panels represents approximately 58 percent of total national employment. The sample in the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area included 2,590 establishments with a response rate of 75 percent. For more information about OES concepts and methodology, go to www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.tn.htm.

The May 2016 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 **Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, Iowa-Ill. Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes Scott County of Iowa and Henry, Mercer, and Rock Island Counties of Illinois.

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/current/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, Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2016

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level ⁽²⁾	Location quotient ⁽³⁾	Hourly	Annual ⁽⁴⁾
Production occupations	18,990	1.6	\$18.10	\$37,660
First-line supervisors of production and operating workers	1,080	1.4	29.58	61,530
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	100	0.3	15.58	32,410
Structural metal fabricators and fitters	(5)	(5)	19.56	40,690
Team assemblers	1,390	1.0	15.30	31,830
Assemblers and fabricators, all other	420	1.4	13.63	28,360
Bakers	130	0.5	13.01	27,070
Butchers and meat cutters	450	2.6	13.22	27,500
Meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers	710	3.7	14.11	29,350
Food batchmakers	120	0.7	13.67	28,440
Food cooking machine operators and tenders	50	1.1	14.58	30,340
Food processing workers, all other	100	1.8	13.49	28,050
Computer-controlled machine tool operators, metal and plastic	480	2.6	18.47	38,430
Computer numerically controlled machine tool programmers, metal and plastic	90	2.7	25.78	53,620
Extruding and drawing machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	(5)	(5)	16.81	34,970
Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	200	0.8	15.93	33,140
Drilling and boring machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	(5)	(5)	15.93	33,140
Grinding, lapping, polishing, and buffing machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	150	1.5	16.12	33,520
Lathe and turning machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	130	2.9	15.15	31,510
Machinists	990	2.0	21.73	45,200
Foundry mold and coremakers	60	3.7	18.21	37,880
Molding, coremaking, and casting machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	250	1.3	17.09	35,550
Multiple machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	(5)	(5)	17.04	35,440
Tool and die makers	170	1.8	26.83	55,800
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	750	1.5	19.38	40,320
Heat treating equipment setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	60	2.2	18.60	38,690
Plating and coating machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	100	2.2	14.40	29,960
Metal workers and plastic workers, all other	(5)	(5)	19.80	41,180
Prepress technicians and workers	30	0.7	16.21	33,720
Printing press operators	110	0.5	17.50	36,400
Print binding and finishing workers	60	0.9	12.25	25,490
Laundry and dry-cleaning workers	280	1.1	10.11	21,020
Sewing machine operators	100	0.6	12.93	26,900
Cabinetmakers and bench carpenters	70	0.6	15.87	33,010
Woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing	110	1.1	10.60	22,050
Stationary engineers and boiler operators	60	1.5	36.23	75,350
Water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators	190	1.3	22.93	47,700
Crushing, grinding, and polishing machine setters, operators, and tenders	30	0.9	16.22	33,730
Mixing and blending machine setters, operators, and tenders	70	0.4	15.98	33,240
Extruding, forming, pressing, and compacting machine setters, operators, and tenders	40	0.5	18.78	39,070
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	550	0.8	19.06	39,640
Dental laboratory technicians	120	2.5	17.18	35,730

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2016 - Continued

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level ⁽²⁾	Location quotient ⁽³⁾	Hourly	Annual ⁽⁴⁾
Ophthalmic laboratory technicians	50	1.4	14.74	30,650
Packaging and filling machine operators and tenders	1,100	2.2	13.46	28,000
Coating, painting, and spraying machine setters, operators, and tenders	100	0.9	15.68	32,620
Painters, transportation equipment	100	1.4	23.86	49,620
Etchers and engravers	(5)	(5)	13.20	27,460
Helpers--production workers	1,020	1.8	13.07	27,190
Production workers, all other	3,600	11.1	19.45	40,460

Footnotes:

(1) For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL, see www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_19340.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.