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Occupational Employment and Wages in Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson — May 2016

Workers in the Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of $22.52 in May 2016, about 6 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 22 major occupational groups, including legal; management; and computer and mathematical. No wages in the local area were higher than their respective national averages.

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 management. Conversely, 10 groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including education, training, and library; personal care and service; and office and administrative support. (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-Anderson Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2016

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	$23.86	$22.52*	-6
Management	5.1	5.6*	56.74	48.06*	-15
Business and financial operations	5.2	5.7*	36.09	31.66*	-12
Computer and mathematical	3.0	3.1	42.25	36.03*	-15
Architecture and engineering	1.8	1.4*	40.53	34.74*	-14
Life, physical, and social science	0.8	1.0	35.06	37.05	6
Community and social service	1.4	1.1*	22.69	21.43*	-6
Legal	0.8	0.7*	50.95	42.12*	-17
Education, training, and library	6.2	4.1*	26.21	23.15*	-12
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media	1.4	1.3	28.07	22.62*	-19
Healthcare practitioners and technical	5.9	6.9*	38.06	38.07	0
Healthcare support	2.9	2.5*	14.65	14.69	0
Protective service	2.4	2.3	22.03	18.34*	-17
Food preparation and serving related	9.2	9.2	11.47	10.57*	-8
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	3.2	2.9*	13.47	12.38*	-8
Personal care and service	3.2	2.5*	12.74	11.53*	-9
Sales and related	10.4	10.2	19.50	20.25	4
Office and administrative support	15.7	15.0*	17.91	17.52*	-2
Farming, fishing, and forestry	0.3	0.1*	13.37	13.73	3

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2016 - Continued

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Indianapolis	United States	Indianapolis	Percent difference (1)
Construction and extraction	4.0	3.7*	23.51	23.28	-1
Installation, maintenance, and repair	3.9	4.0	22.45	21.80*	-3
Production	6.5	6.5	17.88	17.09*	-4
Transportation and material moving	6.9	10.1*	17.34	16.48*	-5

Footnotes:
(1) A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in the Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson 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—transportation and material moving—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson had 102,460 jobs in transportation and material moving, accounting for 10.1 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 6.9-percent share nationally. The average hourly wage for this occupational group locally was $16.48, significantly below the national wage of $17.34.

Some of the largest detailed occupations within the transportation and material moving group included laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand (34,190), heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers (18,730), and packers and packagers, hand (9,910). Among the higher paying jobs were transportation inspectors with mean hourly wages of $41.05 and excavating and loading machine and dragline operators, $28.71. At the lower end of the wage scale were parking lot attendants ($9.09) and cleaners of vehicles and equipment ($10.83). (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/2016/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-Anderson Metropolitan Statistical Area, above-average concentrations of employment were found in many of the occupations within the transportation and material moving group. For instance, packers and packagers, hand in Indianapolis were employed at 1.9 times the national rate, and laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand, at 1.8 times the U.S. average. On the other hand, light truck or delivery services drivers in Indianapolis had a location quotient of 1.1, 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. 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 Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson Metropolitan Statistical Area included 5,433 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 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 **Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson, Ind. Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes Boone, Brown, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Madison, 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/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, Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2016

Occupation [1]	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level [2]	Location quotient [3]	Hourly	Annual [4]
Transportation and material moving occupations	102,460	1.5	$16.48	$34,290
Aircraft cargo handling supervisors	30	0.6	23.59	49,070
First-line supervisors of helpers, laborers, and material movers, hand	2,210	1.7	23.81	49,520
First-line supervisors of transportation and material-moving machine and vehicle operators	1,940	1.3	27.12	56,400
Airline pilots, copilots, and flight engineers	660	1.1	[5]	127,740
Commercial pilots	50	0.2	[5]	80,600
Ambulance drivers and attendants, except emergency medical technicians	80	0.6	13.04	27,120
Bus drivers, transit and intercity	790	0.6	18.59	38,660
Bus drivers, school or special client	5,410	1.5	12.27	25,530
Driver/sales workers	5,460	1.8	11.44	23,790
Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers	18,730	1.5	23.54	48,970
Light truck or delivery services drivers	6,550	1.1	16.06	33,410
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs	720	0.5	11.44	23,790
Motor vehicle operators, all other	610	1.6	15.18	31,580
Parking lot attendants	1,240	1.2	9.09	18,900
Automotive and watercraft service attendants	1,050	1.3	11.89	24,730
Transportation inspectors	160	0.8	41.05	85,390
Transportation workers, all other	230	0.8	19.50	40,550
Conveyor operators and tenders	350	1.7	15.20	31,610
Crane and tower operators	490	1.5	23.14	48,120
Excavating and loading machine and dragline operators	160	0.5	28.71	59,710
Industrial truck and tractor operators	6,090	1.6	15.74	32,740
Cleaners of vehicles and equipment	2,260	0.9	10.83	22,520
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	34,190	1.8	13.77	28,630
Machine feeders and offbearers	1,030	1.6	13.31	27,680
Packers and packagers, hand	9,910	1.9	11.00	22,880
Refuse and recyclable material collectors	650	0.8	15.36	31,960

Footnotes:
(1) For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in the Indianapolis-Carmel-Anderson, 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.