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Occupational Employment and Wages in Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk — May 2016

Workers in the Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$31.15 in May 2016, about 31 percent above the nationwide average of \$23.86, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Regional Commissioner Deborah A. Brown noted that, after testing for statistical significance, wages in the local area were higher than their respective national averages in 20 of the 22 major occupational groups, including management; legal; and business and financial operations. No other group had an hourly wage significantly lower than its respective national average.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, local employment was more highly concentrated in 8 of the 22 occupational groups, including management; business and financial operations; and building and grounds cleaning and maintenance. Conversely, eight groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including transportation and material moving; production; and construction and extraction. (See [table A](#) and [box note](#) at end of release.)

Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2016

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Bridgeport	United States	Bridgeport	Percent difference ⁽¹⁾
Total, all occupations	100.0	100.0	\$23.86	\$31.15*	31
Management	5.1	8.7*	56.74	75.53*	33
Business and financial operations.....	5.2	7.1*	36.09	44.23*	23
Computer and mathematical	3.0	3.5	42.25	45.62*	8
Architecture and engineering	1.8	1.2*	40.53	41.20	2
Life, physical, and social science	0.8	0.8	35.06	42.82*	22
Community and social service.....	1.4	1.8*	22.69	27.98*	23
Legal.....	0.8	1.0*	50.95	67.66*	33
Education, training, and library.....	6.2	6.7*	26.21	30.80*	18
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media.	1.4	2.0*	28.07	30.62*	9
Healthcare practitioners and technical	5.9	5.3*	38.06	44.96*	18
Healthcare support.....	2.9	2.8	14.65	16.93*	16
Protective service	2.4	2.3	22.03	24.16	10
Food preparation and serving related	9.2	8.0*	11.47	13.26*	16
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance	3.2	3.8*	13.47	16.90*	25
Personal care and service.....	3.2	3.8*	12.74	15.17*	19
Sales and related	10.4	10.7	19.50	26.33*	35
Office and administrative support.....	15.7	15.9	17.91	21.66*	21

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

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

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Bridgeport	United States	Bridgeport	Percent difference (1)
Farming, fishing, and forestry.....	0.3	0.1*	13.37	14.77*	10
Construction and extraction.....	4.0	2.3*	23.51	26.93*	15
Installation, maintenance, and repair	3.9	2.9*	22.45	25.47*	13
Production	6.5	4.7*	17.88	21.08*	18
Transportation and material moving.....	6.9	4.6*	17.34	17.99*	4

Footnotes:

(1) A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in the Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk 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—management—was chosen to illustrate the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk had 36,560 jobs in management, accounting for 8.7 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 5.1-percent share nationally. The average hourly wage for this occupational group locally was \$75.53, significantly above the national wage of \$56.74.

Some of the larger detailed occupations within the management group included general and operations managers (9,490), financial managers (5,940), and sales managers (2,870). Among the higher paying jobs were chief executives and natural sciences managers, with mean hourly wages of \$115.15 and \$95.73, respectively. At the lower end of the wage scale were food service managers (\$32.57) and education administrators, preschool and childcare center/program (\$35.90). (Detailed occupational data for management are presented in [table 1](#); for a complete listing of detailed occupations available go to www.bls.gov/oes/2016/may/oes_71950.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 Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk Metropolitan Statistical Area, above-average concentrations of employment were found in many of the occupations within the management group. For instance, financial managers were employed at 3.7 times the national rate in Bridgeport, and marketing managers, at 3.6 times the U.S. average. On the other hand, construction managers had a location quotient of 1.1 in Bridgeport, 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 Connecticut Department of Labor.

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 Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk Metropolitan Statistical Area included 3,452 establishments with a response rate of 62 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 **Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk, Conn. Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes Ansonia City, Bridgeport City, Darien Town, Derby City, Easton Town, Fairfield Town, Greenwich Town, Milford City, Monroe Town, New Canaan Town, Norwalk City, Oxford Town, Redding Town, Ridgefield Town, Seymour Town, Shelton City, Southbury Town, Stamford City, Stratford Town, Trumbull Town, Weston Town, Westport Town, Wilton Town, and Woodbridge Town in Connecticut.

Additional information

OES data are available on our regional web page at www.bls.gov/regions/new-england. 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, Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2016

Occupation (1)	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level (2)	Location quotient (3)	Hourly	Annual (4)
Management occupations	36,560	1.7	\$75.53	\$157,090
Chief executives	410	0.6	115.15	239,510
General and operations managers.....	9,490	1.5	86.39	179,690
Legislators	40	0.2	(6)	69,970
Advertising and promotions managers.....	140	1.6	64.94	135,070
Marketing managers.....	2,240	3.6	83.31	173,290
Sales managers	2,870	2.6	86.76	180,470
Public relations and fundraising managers	310	1.6	61.57	128,070
Administrative services managers.....	1,210	1.5	54.90	114,200
Computer and information systems managers.....	(5)	(5)	77.65	161,520
Financial managers	5,940	3.7	84.12	174,960
Industrial production managers	580	1.2	56.93	118,420
Purchasing managers	400	1.9	70.20	146,030
Transportation, storage, and distribution managers.	370	1.1	64.95	135,090
Compensation and benefits managers.....	90	1.9	70.79	147,240
Human resources managers	780	2.0	69.14	143,810
Training and development managers.....	310	3.2	61.19	127,270
Construction managers	800	1.1	51.06	106,210
Education administrators, preschool and childcare center/program	250	1.7	35.90	74,680
Education administrators, elementary and secondary school	1,050	1.5	(6)	139,490
Education administrators, postsecondary	210	0.5	52.60	109,410
Education administrators, all other.....	90	0.9	44.62	92,810
Architectural and engineering managers.....	490	0.9	73.50	152,890
Food service managers.....	510	0.9	32.57	67,740
Medical and health services managers.....	1,190	1.2	63.40	131,870
Natural sciences managers.....	270	1.6	95.73	199,110
Property, real estate, and community association managers	890	1.7	39.48	82,110
Social and community service managers.....	820	2.2	37.24	77,470
Managers, all other.....	1,930	1.6	63.30	131,650

Footnotes:

(1) For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in the Bridgeport-Stamford-Norwalk, CT, see www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_71950.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.

(6) Wages for some occupations that do not generally work year-round, full time, are reported either as hourly wages or annual salaries depending on how they are typically paid.