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Occupational Employment and Wages in Davenport-Moline-Rock Island — May 2017

Workers in the Davenport-Moline-Rock Island Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$22.20 in May 2017, about 9 percent below the nationwide average of \$24.34, 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 15 of the 22 major occupational groups, including management; arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media; and life, physical, and social science.

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, 11 groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including office and administrative support; personal care and service; and healthcare practitioners and technical. (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 2017

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	\$24.34	\$22.20*	-9
Management	5.1	5.7*	57.65	47.81*	-17
Business and financial operations.....	5.2	4.8*	36.70	33.64*	-8
Computer and mathematical	3.0	2.5	43.18	38.34*	-11
Architecture and engineering	1.8	2.0	41.44	39.05*	-6
Life, physical, and social science	0.8	0.5*	35.76	30.85*	-14
Community and social service.....	1.5	1.2*	23.10	21.90*	-5
Legal.....	0.8	0.5*	51.62	48.24	-7
Education, training, and library.....	6.1	5.9	26.67	25.88	-3
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media.....	1.4	1.0*	28.34	19.05*	-33
Healthcare practitioners and technical	6.0	5.5*	38.83	34.70*	-11
Healthcare support	2.9	2.6*	15.05	14.11*	-6
Protective service	2.4	2.2*	22.69	21.72	-4
Food preparation and serving related	9.3	9.3	11.88	10.56*	-11
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance ...	3.1	2.7*	13.91	13.01*	-6
Personal care and service.....	3.6	2.6*	13.11	11.82*	-10
Sales and related	10.2	10.3	19.56	16.99*	-13
Office and administrative support.....	15.4	13.9*	18.24	16.77*	-8
Farming, fishing, and forestry.....	0.3	0.3	13.87	15.05*	9
Construction and extraction.....	4.0	4.0	24.01	24.81	3

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 2017 - Continued

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment		Mean hourly wage		
	United States	Davenport	United States	Davenport	Percent difference ⁽¹⁾
Installation, maintenance, and repair	3.9	4.7*	23.02	22.50	-2
Production	6.3	10.2*	18.30	18.49	1
Transportation and material moving	7.0	7.6	17.82	17.09*	-4

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 18,520 jobs in production, accounting for 10.2 percent of local area employment, significantly higher than the 6.3-percent share nationally. The average hourly wage for this occupational group locally was \$18.49, compared to the national wage of \$18.30.

Some of the larger detailed occupations within the production group included assemblers and fabricators, all other, including team assemblers (1,760); helpers--production workers (1,310); and first-line supervisors of production and operating workers (1,030). Among the higher paying jobs in this group were stationary engineers and boiler operators with mean hourly wages of \$35.53 and first-line supervisors of production and operating workers, \$29.94. At the lower end of the wage scale were laundry and dry-cleaning workers (\$10.17) and woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing (\$10.68). (Detailed data for production occupations are presented in [table 1](#); for a complete listing of detailed occupations available go to www.bls.gov/oes/current/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 were employed at 3.5 times the national rate in Davenport, and helpers--production workers, at 2.6 times the U.S. average. On the other hand, cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic had a location quotient of 1.0 in Davenport, 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.

Notes on Occupational Employment Statistics Data

With the release of the May 2017 estimates, the OES program has replaced 21 detailed occupations found in the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) with 10 new aggregations of those occupations. In addition, selected 4- and 5-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) industries previously published by OES will no longer be published separately. Some of the 4-digit NAICS industries that are no longer being published separately will instead be published as OES-specific industry aggregations. More information about the new occupational and industry aggregations is available at www.bls.gov/oes/changes_2017.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 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 2017 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected over a 3-year period: May 2017, November 2016, May 2016, November 2015, May 2015, and November 2014. The overall national response rate for the six panels, based on the 50 states and the District of Columbia, is 72 percent based on establishments and 68 percent based on weighted sampled employment. The unweighted sample employment of 82 million 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 2,561 establishments with a response rate of 75 percent. For more information about OES concepts and methodology, go to www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_tec.htm.

The May 2017 OES estimates are based on the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system and the 2017 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 2017 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 2017

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level ⁽²⁾	Location quotient ⁽³⁾	Hourly	Annual ⁽⁴⁾
Production occupations	18,520	1.6	\$18.49	\$38,450
First-line supervisors of production and operating workers	1,030	1.3	29.94	62,270
Electrical, electronic, and electromechanical assemblers, except coil winders, tapers, and finishers ...	130	0.4	15.59	32,420
Structural metal fabricators and fitters	(5)	(5)	17.70	36,810
Assemblers and fabricators, all other, including team assemblers	1,760	1.1	15.78	32,820
Bakers	130	0.5	13.35	27,780
Butchers and meat cutters	420	2.5	13.34	27,740
Meat, poultry, and fish cutters and trimmers	670	3.5	14.49	30,130
Food batchmakers	90	0.5	13.21	27,470
Food cooking machine operators and tenders	50	1.2	14.97	31,140
Food processing workers, all other	80	1.4	13.84	28,780
Computer-controlled machine tool operators, metal and plastic	430	2.3	18.24	37,940
Computer numerically controlled machine tool programmers, metal and plastic	50	1.6	26.67	55,470
Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	250	1.0	15.35	31,930
Grinding, lapping, polishing, and buffing machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	130	1.4	16.38	34,080
Machinists	1,020	2.1	21.68	45,080
Pourers and casters, metal	110	11.2	15.58	32,420
Patternmakers, metal and plastic	(5)	(5)	24.11	50,140
Foundry mold and coremakers	80	4.3	(5)	(5)
Molding, coremaking, and casting machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	(5)	(5)	17.16	35,690
Multiple machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	330	2.1	17.08	35,520
Tool and die makers	200	2.2	25.55	53,150
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	690	1.4	19.10	39,730
Heat treating equipment setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	70	2.9	18.67	38,830
Plating and coating machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	130	2.7	15.12	31,460
Metal workers and plastic workers, all other	(5)	(5)	20.67	42,990
Printing press operators	100	0.5	19.57	40,710
Print binding and finishing workers	50	0.7	14.23	29,600
Laundry and dry-cleaning workers	350	1.3	10.17	21,160
Sewing machine operators	90	0.6	13.74	28,570
Tailors, dressmakers, and custom sewers	(5)	(5)	11.95	24,850
Cabinetmakers and bench carpenters	60	0.5	16.40	34,110
Woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing	110	1.1	10.68	22,210
Stationary engineers and boiler operators	40	1.0	35.53	73,910
Water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators	230	1.5	22.68	47,170
Crushing, grinding, and polishing machine setters, operators, and tenders	50	1.3	17.61	36,630
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	560	0.8	20.05	41,700
Dental laboratory technicians	100	2.3	18.16	37,780
Ophthalmic laboratory technicians	40	0.9	14.64	30,440
Packaging and filling machine operators and tenders	970	2.0	13.78	28,650
Coating, painting, and spraying machine setters, operators, and tenders	120	1.1	16.82	34,970
Photographic process workers and processing machine operators	(5)	(5)	13.41	27,900
Etchers and engravers	(5)	(5)	13.99	29,110

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 2017 - Continued

Occupation ⁽¹⁾	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level ⁽²⁾	Location quotient ⁽³⁾	Hourly	Annual ⁽⁴⁾
Molders, shapers, and casters, except metal and plastic	40	0.7	16.68	34,700
Paper goods machine setters, operators, and tenders ...	90	0.8	15.12	31,450
Helpers--production workers	1,310	2.6	13.55	28,170
Production workers, all other.....	3,420	10.5	20.56	42,770

Footnotes:

(1) For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in 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.