



# NEWS RELEASE



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## Occupational Employment and Wages in San Antonio–New Braunfels, May 2013

Workers in the San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area had an average (mean) hourly wage of \$19.88 in May 2013, about 11 percent below the nationwide average of \$22.33, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that, after testing for statistical significance, 17 of 22 major occupational groups had significantly lower wages than their respective national averages, including construction and extraction; personal care and service; and protective service. No major occupational group in the local area had wages that were significantly above their respective national averages.

When compared to the nationwide distribution, San Antonio employment was more highly concentrated in 4 of the 22 occupational groups, including office and administrative support; food preparation and serving related; and personal care and service. Conversely, nine groups had employment shares significantly below their national representation, including production, transportation and material moving, and management. (See [table A](#) and [box note](#) at end of release.)

**Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2013**

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment			Mean hourly wage			Percent difference ( <sup>1</sup> )
	United States	San Antonio-New Braunfels		United States	San Antonio-New Braunfels		
Total, all occupations .....	100.0%	100.0%		\$22.33	\$19.88	*	-11
Management .....	4.9	4.1	*	53.15	48.33	*	-9
Business and financial operations.....	5.0	5.1		34.14	32.65	*	-4
Computer and mathematical .....	2.8	2.7		39.43	35.94	*	-9
Architecture and engineering .....	1.8	1.4	*	38.51	36.09		-6
Life, physical, and social science .....	0.9	0.7	*	33.37	31.80		-5
Community and social service .....	1.4	1.0	*	21.50	21.22		-1
Legal .....	0.8	0.6	*	47.89	41.73	*	-13
Education, training, and library.....	6.3	6.4		24.76	24.72		0
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media..	1.3	0.9	*	26.72	20.83	*	-22
Healthcare practitioners and technical .....	5.8	5.9		35.93	34.19	*	-5
Healthcare support.....	3.0	3.0		13.61	12.75	*	-6

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table A. Occupational employment and wages by major occupational group, United States and the San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area, and measures of statistical significance, May 2013 - Continued**

Major occupational group	Percent of total employment			Mean hourly wage			
	United States	San Antonio-New Braunfels		United States	San Antonio-New Braunfels		Percent difference <sup>(1)</sup>
Protective service.....	2.5	2.6		20.92	17.46	*	-17
Food preparation and serving related .....	9.0	11.0	*	10.38	9.71	*	-6
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance.....	3.2	3.2		12.51	10.87	*	-13
Personal care and service.....	3.0	4.1	*	11.88	9.73	*	-18
Sales and related .....	10.6	11.2	*	18.37	16.92	*	-8
Office and administrative support.....	16.2	18.2	*	16.78	15.63	*	-7
Farming, fishing, and forestry.....	0.3	<sup>(2)</sup>	*	11.70	11.43		-2
Construction and extraction .....	3.8	3.8		21.94	17.36	*	-21
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	3.9	4.0		21.35	19.30	*	-10
Production .....	6.6	4.4	*	16.79	15.08	*	-10
Transportation and material moving.....	6.8	5.7	*	16.28	13.89	*	-15

<sup>(1)</sup> A positive percent difference measures how much the mean wage in San Antonio-New Braunfels is above the national mean wage, while a negative difference reflects a lower wage.

<sup>(2)</sup> 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 – office and administrative support – illustrates the diversity of data available for any of the 22 major occupational categories. San Antonio had 161,480 jobs in office and administrative support, accounting for 18.2 percent of local area employment, significantly above the 16.2-percent national share. However, at \$15.63 per hour, the local average hourly wage for this occupational group was 7 percent below the national average of \$16.78.

Some of the largest occupations within the office and administrative support group included customer service representatives (26,420), general office clerks (22,550), and secretaries and administrative assistants, excluding legal, medical, and executive (13,380). Among the higher paying jobs were first-line supervisors of office and administrative support workers and executive secretaries and executive administrative assistants, with mean hourly wages of \$25.83 and \$22.97, respectively. At the lower end of the wage scale were hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks (\$10.04) and receptionists and information clerks (\$11.73). (Detailed occupational data for the office and administrative support group are shown in [table 1](#); for a listing of all occupations see [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_41700.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_41700.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 San Antonio-New Braunfels metropolitan area, above average concentrations of employment were found in a number of the detailed occupations within the office and administrative support group. For instance, medical secretaries were employed at slightly more than twice the national rate in San Antonio, and credit authorizers, checkers, and clerks at nearly eight times the U.S. average (location quotients of 2.1 and 7.8, respectively). On the other hand, bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks had a location quotient of 1.0 in San Antonio, meaning the local employment share in this particular occupation matched the national average.

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 Texas Workforce Commission.

#### **Note**

OES wage and employment data for the 22 major occupational groups in the San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area were compared to their respective national averages based on statistical significance testing. Only those occupations with wages or employment shares above or below the national wage or share after testing for significance at the 90-percent confidence level meet the criteria.

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. Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands are also surveyed, but their data are not included in the national estimates. 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 for a 3-year period. May 2013 estimates are based on responses from six semiannual panels collected in May 2013, November 2012, May 2012, November 2011, May 2011, and November 2010. The overall national response rate for the six panels is 75.3 percent based on establishments and 71.6 percent based on employment. The sample in the San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area included 4,938 establishments with a response rate of 63 percent. For more information about OES concepts and methodology, go to [www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.tn.htm](http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ocwage.tn.htm).

The OES survey provides estimates of employment and hourly and annual wages for wage and salary workers in 22 major occupational groups and 821 detailed occupations for the nation, states, metropolitan statistical areas, metropolitan divisions, and nonmetropolitan areas. In addition, employment and wage estimates for 94 minor groups and 458 broad occupations are available in the national data. OES data by state and metropolitan/nonmetropolitan area are available from [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcst.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcst.htm) and [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcma.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oessrcma.htm), respectively.

The May 2013 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 <http://www.bls.gov/soc> and information about the 2012 NAICS is available at [www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm](http://www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm).

**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 **San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area** includes Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Kendall, Medina, and Wilson Counties in Texas.**Additional information**

OES data are available on our regional web page at [www.bls.gov/regions/southwest/home.htm](http://www.bls.gov/regions/southwest/home.htm). Answers to frequently asked questions about the OES data are available at [www.bls.gov/oes/oes\\_ques.htm](http://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/2013/may/methods\\_statement.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/oes/2013/may/methods_statement.pdf).

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**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2013**

Occupation <sup>(1)</sup>	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level <sup>(2)</sup>	Location quotient <sup>(3)</sup>	Hourly	Annual <sup>(4)</sup>
Office and Administrative Support Occupations .....	161,480	1.1	\$15.63	\$32,520
First-line supervisors of office and administrative support workers...	9,620	1.1	25.83	53,720
Switchboard operators, including answering service .....	910	1.2	12.00	24,960
Telephone operators .....	<sup>(5)</sup>	<sup>(5)</sup>	19.83	41,240
Bill and account collectors .....	3,210	1.3	16.60	34,520
Billing and posting clerks .....	3,950	1.2	15.24	31,690
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks .....	10,180	1.0	17.72	36,850
Payroll and timekeeping clerks .....	1,010	0.9	17.19	35,760
Procurement clerks .....	630	1.4	19.04	39,600
Tellers.....	2,790	0.8	11.90	24,750
Financial clerks, all other .....	90	0.3	19.18	39,890
Brokerage clerks .....	320	0.8	23.00	47,840
Court, municipal, and license clerks.....	670	0.8	14.73	30,630
Credit authorizers, checkers, and clerks .....	2,620	7.8	14.75	30,670
Customer service representatives.....	26,420	1.7	13.78	28,660
Eligibility interviewers, government programs.....	1,040	1.3	15.31	31,850
File clerks.....	1,110	1.1	14.13	29,400
Hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks.....	1,820	1.2	10.04	20,890
Interviewers, except eligibility and loan.....	1,000	0.8	14.57	30,310
Library assistants, clerical.....	440	0.6	11.88	24,720
Loan interviewers and clerks .....	2,670	1.9	17.85	37,130
New accounts clerks .....	640	1.7	14.97	31,130
Order clerks .....	950	0.7	13.10	27,250
Human resources assistants, except payroll and timekeeping .....	1,240	1.4	17.97	37,390
Receptionists and information clerks .....	4,940	0.8	11.73	24,400
Reservation and transportation ticket agents and travel clerks.....	1,140	1.2	16.92	35,180
Information and record clerks, all other.....	1,560	1.3	17.15	35,680
Cargo and freight agents .....	210	0.4	18.57	38,620
Couriers and messengers .....	480	1.0	12.65	26,300
Police, fire, and ambulance dispatchers .....	400	0.6	15.36	31,940
Dispatchers, except police, fire, and ambulance.....	1,280	1.0	18.10	37,660
Meter readers, utilities.....	230	0.9	17.07	35,510
Postal service clerks .....	290	0.6	23.31	48,480
Postal service mail carriers .....	1,560	0.8	24.66	51,280
Postal service mail sorters, processors, and processing machine operators .....	610	0.75	23.81	49,530
Production, planning, and expediting clerks.....	2,120	1.1	18.61	38,700
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks.....	4,410	1.0	13.09	27,220
Stock clerks and order fillers .....	11,960	1.0	11.82	24,580
Weighers, measurers, checkers, and samplers, recordkeeping .....	360	0.8	13.02	27,080

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment and wage data from the Occupational Employment Statistics survey, by occupation, San Antonio-New Braunfels Metropolitan Statistical Area, May 2013 - Continued**

Occupation <sup>(1)</sup>	Employment		Mean wages	
	Level <sup>(2)</sup>	Location quotient <sup>(3)</sup>	Hourly	Annual <sup>(4)</sup>
Executive secretaries and executive administrative assistants.....	4,630	0.9	22.97	47,790
Legal secretaries.....	1,380	0.9	19.43	40,420
Medical secretaries.....	7,260	2.1	13.83	28,760
Secretaries and administrative assistants, except legal, medical, and executive.....	13,380	0.9	15.25	31,720
Computer operators.....	520	1.2	15.73	32,710
Data entry keyers.....	1,780	1.3	13.73	28,560
Word processors and typists.....	340	0.6	16.23	33,750
Insurance claims and policy processing clerks.....	2,990	1.9	15.96	33,210
Mail clerks and mail machine operators, except postal service.....	510	0.8	12.89	26,810
Office clerks, general.....	22,550	1.2	14.41	29,970
Office machine operators, except computer.....	410	0.9	13.91	28,940
Office and administrative support workers, all other.....	550	0.3	17.81	37,050

<sup>(1)</sup> For a complete listing of all detailed occupations in the San Antonio-New Braunfels MSA, see [www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_41700.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_41700.htm).

<sup>(2)</sup> 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.

<sup>(3)</sup> 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.

<sup>(4)</sup> 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.

<sup>(5)</sup> Estimates not released.