

Census 2000 Brief

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management, professional, and related occupations, followed by 26.7 percent in sales and office occupations.² The occupational group made up of farming, fishing, and forestry occupations had the lowest proportion of workers (0.7 percent).³ The proportion of workers in the other summary level occupational groups were: service occupations, 14.9 percent; production, transportation, and material moving occupations, 14.6 percent; and construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations, 9.4 percent.

This report is part of a series that presents population and housing data collected by Census 2000, and highlights the occupations of American workers in 2000 for the United States, regions, states, metropolitan areas, and counties. Because of the importance of occupation data in understanding the economy and the changes taking place in society, the Census Bureau has asked questions on occupation in every decennial census since 1850. In Census 2000, two questions on occupation (Figure 1) were asked of everyone 15 or older (with responses tabulated for those 16 and older). The first question (28a) focused on the kind of work done, while the second (28b) asked about the duties of the job. Both questions allowed respondents to write a description of their occupation

and its duties. The descriptions provided in these two questions, along with the answers to the questions on type of industry and whether an occupation was with the government, a private for-profit organization, a nonprofit organization, or a family business enabled the Census Bureau to classify the responses into one of 509 occupation categories.

Differences still exist in the jobs held by men and women.

Despite the movement into nontraditional occupations, men and women still showed differences in the types of jobs they held in 2000. For example, 36.7 percent of women but only 17.9 percent of men worked in sales and office occupations. The proportions of men and women were also substantially different in construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations where 17.1 percent of men and only 0.7 percent of women were employed; production, transportation, and material moving occupations where 20.5 percent of men and 8.0 percent of women worked; and service occupations where 12.1 percent of men were employed compared with 18.0 percent of women.

Approximately 31.4 percent of all employed men 16 and older worked in management, professional, and related occupations. The next highest categories were production, transportation, and material moving occupations with 20.5 percent; sales and office occupations at 17.9 percent; and construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations with 17.1 percent. Only 1.1 percent of men were employed in farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.

More than one-third (36.7 percent) of women 16 and older worked in sales and office occupations in

2000, closely followed by management, professional, and related occupations (36.2 percent). The only other group employing more than 10 percent of women was service occupations, at 18.0 percent. Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations and farming, fishing, and forestry occupations employed the lowest percentage of women at 0.7 percent and 0.3 percent, respectively.

Tables 2 and 3 present the ten occupations employing the most men and the most women, based on occupations at the most detailed level available from Census 2000 — 509 occupation categories. Once again differences appear in the type of jobs held by men and women 16 and older. Only one occupation, retail salespersons, appears on both lists.

The top occupations for men included drivers/sales workers and truck drivers; first-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers; retail salespersons; laborers and freight, stock, and material movers; carpenters; and janitors and building cleaners. For women, the top occupations included secretaries and administrative assistants; elementary and middle school teachers; registered nurses; cashiers; and retail salespersons.

The diversity of the ten most popular occupations was greater for men than for women. For men, five of the six major occupational groups are represented on their top ten list with only farming, fishing, and forestry occupations not included. In contrast, only three of the six major occupational groups are represented on the women's list of the ten most popular occupations: management, professional, and related occupations; service occupations; and sales and related occupations.

² The estimates in this report are based on responses from a sample of the population. As with all surveys, estimates may vary from the actual values because of sampling variation or other factors. All statements in this report have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

³ This surprisingly low percentage requires further explanation. Prior to the overhaul of the SOC, farm and ranch owners and renters were classified in the farming, fishing, and forestry occupations group. After the reclassification, they were put into the management, professional, and related occupations group.

Table 1.
Selected Occupational Groups and Subgroups by Sex for the United States: 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Occupational groups and subgroups	Total		Men		Women	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total population	281,421,906	—	137,916,186	—	143,505,720	—
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	129,721,512	100.0	69,091,443	100.0	60,630,069	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations ...	43,646,731	33.6	21,708,758	31.4	21,937,973	36.2
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	17,448,038	13.5	10,131,223	14.7	7,316,815	12.1
Management occupations, except farmers and farm managers	11,115,046	8.6	6,910,883	10.0	4,204,163	6.9
Farmers and farm managers	773,218	0.6	661,288	1.0	111,930	0.2
Business and financial operations occupations	5,559,774	4.3	2,559,052	3.7	3,000,722	4.9
Business operations specialists	2,718,121	2.1	1,248,755	1.8	1,469,366	2.4
Financial specialists	2,841,653	2.2	1,310,297	1.9	1,531,356	2.5
Professional and related occupations	26,198,693	20.2	11,577,535	16.8	14,621,158	24.1
Computer and mathematical occupations	3,168,447	2.4	2,218,400	3.2	950,047	1.6
Architecture and engineering occupations	2,659,298	2.1	2,301,953	3.3	357,345	0.6
Architects, surveyors, cartographers, and engineers .	1,926,689	1.5	1,702,234	2.5	224,455	0.4
Drafters, engineering, and mapping technicians	732,609	0.6	599,719	0.9	132,890	0.2
Life, physical, and social science occupations	1,203,443	0.9	709,392	1.0	494,051	0.8
Community and social services occupations	1,953,184	1.5	787,587	1.1	1,165,597	1.9
Legal occupations	1,412,737	1.1	747,170	1.1	665,567	1.1
Education, training, and library occupations	7,337,276	5.7	1,930,948	2.8	5,406,328	8.9
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	2,484,201	1.9	1,302,419	1.9	1,181,782	1.9
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations ...	5,980,107	4.6	1,579,666	2.3	4,400,441	7.3
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners and technical occupations	4,144,065	3.2	1,210,571	1.8	2,933,494	4.8
Health technologists and technicians	1,836,042	1.4	369,095	0.5	1,466,947	2.4
Service occupations	19,276,947	14.9	8,346,408	12.1	10,930,539	18.0
Healthcare support occupations	2,592,815	2.0	305,247	0.4	2,287,568	3.8
Protective service occupations	2,549,906	2.0	2,041,698	3.0	508,208	0.8
Fire fighting, prevention, and law enforcement workers, including supervisors	1,536,287	1.2	1,300,671	1.9	235,616	0.4
Other protective service workers, including supervisors	1,013,619	0.8	741,027	1.1	272,592	0.4
Food preparation and serving related occupations	6,251,618	4.8	2,663,418	3.9	3,588,200	5.9
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	4,254,365	3.3	2,565,933	3.7	1,688,432	2.8
Personal care and service occupations	3,628,243	2.8	770,112	1.1	2,858,131	4.7
Sales and office occupations	34,621,390	26.7	12,341,968	17.9	22,279,422	36.7
Sales and related occupations	14,592,699	11.2	7,364,006	10.7	7,228,693	11.9
Office and administrative support occupations	20,028,691	15.4	4,977,962	7.2	15,050,729	24.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	951,810	0.7	750,915	1.1	200,895	0.3
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	12,256,138	9.4	11,802,699	17.1	453,439	0.7
Construction and extraction occupations	7,149,269	5.5	6,937,857	10.0	211,412	0.3
Supervisors, construction and extraction workers	911,013	0.7	886,001	1.3	25,012	0.0
Construction trades workers	6,116,087	4.7	5,933,117	8.6	182,970	0.3
Extraction workers	122,169	0.1	118,739	0.2	3,430	0.0
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	5,106,869	3.9	4,864,842	7.0	242,027	0.4
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	18,968,496	14.6	14,140,695	20.5	4,827,801	8.0
Production occupations	11,008,625	8.5	7,437,071	10.8	3,571,554	5.9
Transportation and material moving occupations	7,959,871	6.1	6,703,624	9.7	1,256,247	2.1
Supervisors, transportation and material moving workers	237,902	0.2	193,527	0.3	44,375	0.1
Aircraft and traffic control occupations	158,481	0.1	147,143	0.2	11,338	0.0
Motor vehicle operators	3,852,820	3.0	3,394,798	4.9	458,022	0.8
Rail, water and other transportation occupations	400,826	0.3	352,303	0.5	48,523	0.1
Material moving workers	3,309,842	2.6	2,615,853	3.8	693,989	1.1

— Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Summary File 3.

Management, professional, and related occupations paid the most to both men and women.

At the least-detailed summary level (six occupational groups) for employed civilian men and women 16 and older, management, professional, and related occupations paid the most. The median 1999 earnings⁴ in these occupations were \$50,034 for men and \$35,654 for women (Figure 2 and Table 4). The second highest paying occupational group for men, with a median of \$35,079, was sales and office occupations; followed by construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations at \$32,000; production, transportation, and material moving occupations at \$30,992; and service occupations at \$26,000. The lowest paying occupational group for men was farming, fishing, and forestry occupations, with a median of only \$20,000 in 1999 earnings.

The second highest paying occupational group for women was construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations, where the median earnings were \$29,000. This category was followed by sales and office occupations at \$24,497; production, transportation, and material moving occupations at \$20,850; and service occupations at \$17,805. As with men, the lowest paying occupational group for women was farming, fishing, and forestry occupations, with a median earnings of only \$15,996.

Women earned less than men in all occupations, but construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations was closest to parity.

In each of the summary level occupational groups, men earned more

⁴ Earnings is calculated for year-round, full-time workers, defined as employed civilians 16 years and older who worked 50 weeks or more in 1999 and usually 35 hours or more a week.

Table 2.
The Ten Occupations¹ Employing the Most Men for the United States: 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Occupations	Number	Percent
Employed civilian males 16 years and over.....	69,091,443	100.0
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	2,925,936	4.2
First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers...	1,606,310	2.3
Retail salespersons	1,605,860	2.3
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand..	1,448,035	2.1
Carpenters	1,317,690	1.9
Janitors and building cleaners	1,308,889	1.9
Managers, all other.....	1,253,965	1.8
Construction laborers.....	1,066,404	1.5
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	1,026,745	1.5
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers.....	1,008,876	1.5

¹Based on the most detailed level of occupations available in Census 2000 – 509 occupations.

Note: Confidence intervals are not displayed because they round to the percentages shown in the table.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Sample Edited Detail File.

Table 3.
The Ten Occupations¹ Employing the Most Women for the United States: 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Occupations	Number	Percent
Employed civilian females 16 years and over	60,630,069	100.0
Secretaries and administrative assistants	3,597,535	5.9
Elementary and middle school teachers.....	2,442,104	4.0
Registered nurses.....	2,065,238	3.4
Cashiers	2,030,805	3.3
Retail salespersons	1,775,889	2.9
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	1,526,803	2.5
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides.....	1,469,736	2.4
Customer service representatives	1,396,105	2.3
Child care workers	1,253,306	2.1
Waiters and waitresses	1,228,977	2.0

¹Based on the most detailed level of occupations available in Census 2000 – 509 occupations.

Note: Confidence intervals are not displayed because they round to the percentages shown in the table.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Sample Edited Detail File.

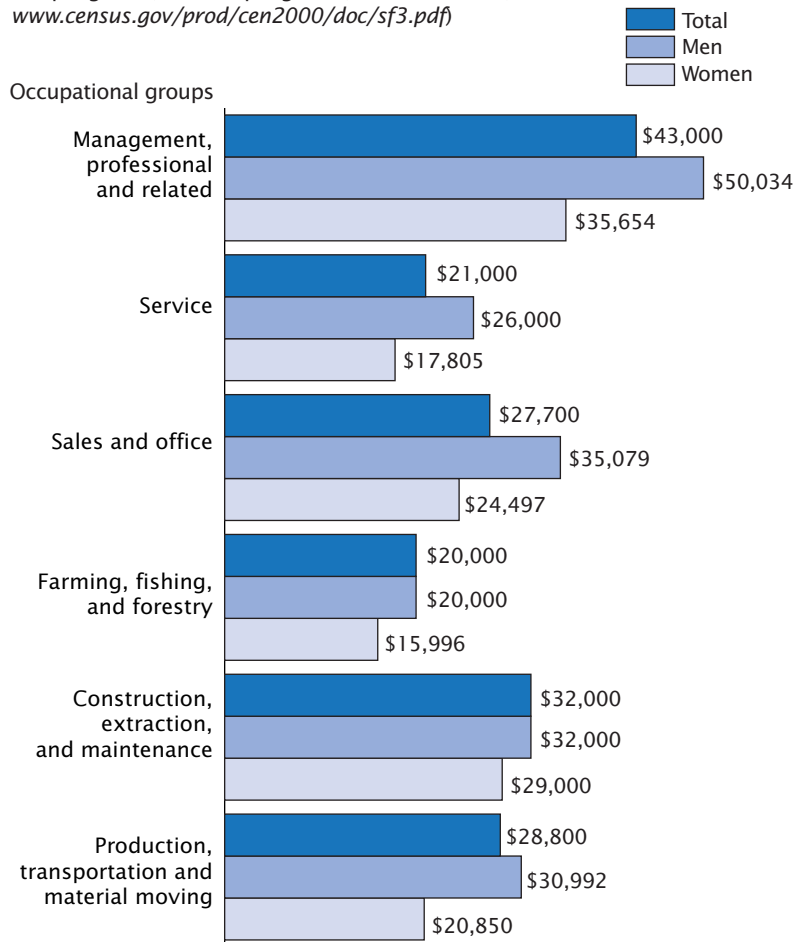
than women as measured by median earnings in 1999. The occupational group closest to parity was the traditional “blue collar” group, represented by construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations, where women earned 90.6 percent of men’s earnings (Table 4). In

farming, fishing, and forestry occupations, women earned 80.0 percent of their male counterparts’ pay. However, both these occupational groups employed very few women in 2000. Of all employed civilians 16 and older employed in construction, extraction, and maintenance

Figure 2.

Selected Occupational Groups by Median 1999 Earnings by Sex: 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Sample Edited Detail File.

occupations in 2000, 96.3 percent were men and only 3.7 percent were women, representing about 0.7 percent of all employed women. Similarly, only about 0.3 percent of employed women were in farming, fishing, and forestry occupations. In the occupational groups employing the most women — sales and office occupations and management, professional, and related occupations — women earned 69.8 percent and 71.3 percent compared with their male colleagues, respectively.

The occupational group where women earned the least compared to men was production, transportation, and material moving occupations, where the median earnings for women were only 67.3 percent of men's earnings.

Asians and non-Hispanic Whites (who reported no other race) were more often in management, professional, and related occupations than people reporting other races.

Census 2000 allowed respondents to choose more than one race. With the exception of the Two or more races group, all race groups discussed in this report refer to people who indicated *only one* racial identity among the six major categories:

Table 4.

Median 1999 Earnings of Men and Women and Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings by Selected Occupation Groups for the United States: 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Occupational groups	Men	Women	
	Median earnings	Median earnings	Percent of men's earnings
Management, professional, and related occupations	\$50,034	\$35,654	71.3
Service occupations	\$26,000	\$17,805	68.5
Sales and office occupations	\$35,079	\$24,497	69.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	\$20,000	\$15,996	80.0
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	\$32,000	\$29,000	90.6
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	\$30,992	\$20,850	67.3

Note: Confidence intervals are not displayed because they round to the percentages shown in the table.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Sample Edited Detail File.

Table 5.
Selected Occupational Groups by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin	Occupational groups						
	Employed civilian population 16 years and over	Management, professional, and related occupations	Service	Sales and office	Farming, fishing, and forestry	Construction, extraction, and maintenance	Production, transportation, and material moving
Total.....	129,721,512	33.6	14.9	26.7	0.7	9.4	14.6
White alone.....	102,324,962	35.6	13.4	27.0	0.6	9.8	13.6
Black or African American alone.....	13,001,795	25.2	22.0	27.3	0.4	6.5	18.6
American Indian and Alaska Native alone.....	914,484	24.3	20.6	24.0	1.3	12.9	16.8
Asian alone.....	4,786,782	44.6	14.1	24.0	0.3	3.6	13.4
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone.....	157,119	23.3	20.8	28.8	0.9	9.6	16.5
Some other race.....	5,886,427	14.2	22.7	21.7	3.5	14.0	24.0
Two or more races.....	2,649,943	26.7	19.8	27.1	0.9	9.8	15.7
Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	13,347,876	18.1	21.8	23.1	2.7	13.1	21.2
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino.....	95,834,018	36.6	12.8	27.2	0.5	9.6	13.2

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Sample Edited Detail File.

White, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Some other race.⁵ The use of the single-race population in this report does not imply that it is the preferred method of presenting or analyzing data. The Census Bureau uses a variety of approaches.⁶

The percentage of workers employed in management, professional, and related occupations was higher (44.6 percent) for

Asians (who reported no other race) than for people reporting any other race group shown in Table 5. Non-Hispanic Whites (who reported no other race) had the second highest percentage of workers in this occupational group (36.6 percent), followed by people who reported Black or African American only (25.2 percent), American Indian and Alaska Native only (24.3 percent), and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander only (23.3 percent).⁷ About

18.1 percent of Hispanics were employed in management, professional, and related occupations.

Blacks (who reported no other race) were prominent in production, transportation, and material moving occupations.

About 18.6 percent of Black workers (who reported no other race) were employed in production, transportation, and material moving occupations. This percentage was higher than for people reporting any other race group except Some other race only (24.0 percent), a residual category used in the census to classify individuals who did not identify themselves as being in one of the other race groups. Approximately one-fifth (21.2 percent) of Hispanics were employed in production, transportation, and material moving occupations. In contrast, only 13.2 percent of non-Hispanic Whites were in this group.

⁵ For further information on each of the six major race groups and the Two or more races population, see reports from the Census 2000 Brief series (C2KBR/01), available on the Census 2000 Web site at www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html

⁶ This report draws heavily on Summary File 3, a Census 2000 product that can be accessed through American FactFinder, available from the Census Bureau's Web site, www.census.gov. Information on people who reported more than one race, such as "White and American Indian and Alaska Native" or "Asian and Black or African American" is forthcoming in Summary File 4, which will also be available through American FactFinder in 2003. About 2.6 percent of people reported more than one race.

⁷ Hereafter this report uses the term Black to refer to people who are Black or African American, the term Pacific Islander to refer to people who are Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, and the term Hispanic to refer to people who are Hispanic or Latino.

Because Hispanics may be of any race, data in this report for Hispanics overlap with data for racial groups. Based on Census 2000 sample data, the proportion Hispanic was 8.0 percent for Whites, 1.9 percent for Blacks, 14.6 percent for American Indians and Alaska Natives, 1.0 percent for Asians, 9.5 percent for Pacific Islanders, 97.1 percent for those reporting Some other race, and 31.1 percent for those reporting Two or more races.

⁸ The difference between American Indian and Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders was not statistically significant.

Blacks were also well represented in sales and office occupations, where 27.3 percent were employed in 2000. This was second only to Pacific Islanders at 28.8 percent, and about the same as non-Hispanic Whites at 27.2 percent. Sales and office occupations employed 23.1 percent of Hispanic workers.

Hispanics led in farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.

Although the percentage of people working in farming, fishing, and forestry occupations was much smaller than in the other summary level occupational groups, the percentage of each race and ethnic group in this category is interesting. These occupations claimed a higher percentage of Hispanic workers, 2.7 percent, than any of the race groups examined in this brief (except the residual Some other race category, which had 3.5 percent). This percentage was about double that of American Indians and Alaska Natives, 1.3 percent; and was far higher than the percentage of Pacific Islanders, 0.9 percent; non-Hispanic Whites, 0.5 percent; Blacks, 0.4 percent; and Asians 0.3 percent.

THE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF OCCUPATIONS

The following discussion focuses on the employed civilian population 16 and over.

The four regions did not differ greatly in the distribution of occupations.

Table 6 shows occupational groups for the four census regions, the 50 states, and the District of

Columbia.⁹ In each region the pattern was similar: the highest percentages of workers were in management, professional and related occupations, followed by sales and office occupations. Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations and farming, fishing, and forestry occupations had the lowest percentage of workers. The only regional differences involved service occupations and production, transportation and material moving occupations. The percentage of workers in service occupations in the Northeast and West was higher than the percentage for production, transportation and material moving occupations, while in the Midwest and the South, the opposite was true.

The District of Columbia had the highest percentage of workers in management, professional, and related occupations.

Over half (51.1 percent) the workers in the District of Columbia were in management, professional, and related occupations in 2000, followed at some distance behind by the state of Maryland, where 41.3 percent of workers were in that occupational group. These

high percentages in the District of Columbia and Maryland likely reflect the large presence of federal workers and related support occupations in those areas. Another state with a high percentage of workers in management, professional, and related occupations was Massachusetts (41.1 percent).¹⁰ The state with the lowest percentage of workers in this occupational group was Nevada with 25.7 percent.

Nevada and Hawaii, two states that cater to vacation and recreation travelers, led all states in the percentage of workers employed in service occupations with 24.6 percent and 20.9 percent, respectively. New Hampshire, with only 13.0 percent, had the lowest proportion of workers in this occupational group.

The range between the states with the highest and the lowest percentage values was smaller for sales and office occupations than for any other occupational group.¹¹ Florida led in sales and office occupations, with 29.5 percent of workers employed in this area. Only 22.8 percent of the workers in the District of Columbia were employed in these occupations.

Seven out of the ten states with the highest percentage of workers in production, transportation, and material moving occupations were in the South, although the state with the highest percentage was Indiana (21.4 percent) in the Midwest. The seven southern

⁹ The Northeast region includes the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The Midwest region includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. The South region includes the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia, a state equivalent. The West region includes the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

¹⁰ The difference between Maryland and Massachusetts was not statistically significant.

¹¹ Except for the farming, fishing, and forestry occupational group, which had so few workers that it is not included.

Table 6.

Selected Occupational Groups as a Percentage of the Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over for the United States, Regions, States, and for Puerto Rico: 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Area	Occupational groups						
	Employed civilian population 16 years and over	Management, professional, and related occupations	Service	Sales and office	Farming, fishing, and forestry	Construction, extraction, and maintenance	Production, transportation, and material moving
United States	129,721,512	33.6	14.9	26.7	0.7	9.4	14.6
Region							
Northeast	24,904,791	36.5	15.1	27.0	0.4	8.0	13.0
Midwest	31,185,231	32.1	14.4	26.3	0.6	9.0	17.6
South	45,226,189	32.4	14.7	26.7	0.7	10.6	14.9
West	28,405,301	34.8	15.4	26.8	1.2	9.4	12.3
State							
Alabama	1,920,189	29.5	13.5	25.9	0.8	11.3	19.0
Alaska	281,532	34.4	15.6	26.1	1.5	11.6	10.8
Arizona	2,233,004	32.7	16.2	28.5	0.6	11.0	10.9
Arkansas	1,173,399	27.7	14.1	25.1	1.5	10.6	21.0
California	14,718,928	36.0	14.8	26.8	1.3	8.4	12.7
Colorado	2,205,194	37.4	13.9	27.2	0.6	10.5	10.5
Connecticut	1,664,440	39.1	14.3	26.5	0.2	8.0	12.0
Delaware	376,811	35.3	14.6	27.6	0.5	9.5	12.5
District of Columbia	263,108	51.1	16.1	22.8	0.1	4.8	5.2
Florida	6,995,047	31.5	16.9	29.5	0.9	10.3	10.8
Georgia	3,839,756	32.7	13.4	26.8	0.6	10.8	15.7
Hawaii	537,909	32.2	20.9	28.1	1.3	8.6	8.9
Idaho	599,453	31.4	15.6	25.3	2.7	10.8	14.2
Illinois	5,833,185	34.2	13.9	27.6	0.3	8.2	15.7
Indiana	2,965,174	28.7	14.2	25.3	0.4	10.0	21.4
Iowa	1,489,816	31.3	14.8	25.9	1.1	8.9	18.1
Kansas	1,316,283	33.9	14.4	25.8	1.0	9.9	15.0
Kentucky	1,798,264	28.7	14.3	25.4	0.9	11.0	19.7
Louisiana	1,851,777	29.9	16.7	26.8	0.8	11.7	14.1
Maine	624,011	31.5	15.3	25.9	1.7	10.3	15.3
Maryland	2,608,457	41.3	13.9	26.4	0.3	8.6	9.5
Massachusetts	3,161,087	41.1	14.1	25.9	0.2	7.5	11.3
Michigan	4,637,461	31.5	14.8	25.6	0.5	9.2	18.5
Minnesota	2,580,046	35.8	13.7	26.5	0.7	8.4	14.9
Mississippi	1,173,314	27.4	14.9	24.9	1.2	11.2	20.4
Missouri	2,657,924	31.5	15.0	26.9	0.6	9.8	16.3
Montana	425,977	33.1	17.2	25.5	2.2	10.7	11.2
Nebraska	877,237	33.0	14.6	26.4	1.6	9.3	15.1
Nevada	933,280	25.7	24.6	27.6	0.3	11.4	10.4
New Hampshire	650,871	35.8	13.0	26.6	0.4	9.4	14.8
New Jersey	3,950,029	38.0	13.6	28.5	0.2	7.8	12.0
New Mexico	763,116	34.0	17.0	25.9	1.0	11.4	10.7
New York	8,382,988	36.7	16.6	27.1	0.3	7.6	11.7
North Carolina	3,824,741	31.2	13.5	24.8	0.8	11.0	18.7
North Dakota	316,632	33.3	16.7	26.1	1.7	9.8	12.4
Ohio	5,402,175	31.0	14.6	26.4	0.3	8.7	19.0
Oklahoma	1,545,296	30.3	15.5	26.6	0.9	11.3	15.4
Oregon	1,627,769	33.1	15.3	26.1	1.7	9.1	14.7
Pennsylvania	5,653,500	32.6	14.8	27.0	0.5	8.9	16.3
Rhode Island	500,731	33.9	15.7	27.1	0.3	7.7	15.2
South Carolina	1,824,700	29.1	14.7	25.2	0.6	11.5	19.0
South Dakota	374,373	32.6	15.6	26.5	1.9	9.1	14.2
Tennessee	2,651,638	29.5	13.7	26.1	0.6	10.3	19.9
Texas	9,234,372	33.3	14.6	27.2	0.7	10.9	13.2
Utah	1,044,362	32.5	14.0	28.9	0.5	10.6	13.5
Vermont	317,134	36.3	14.6	24.5	1.3	9.3	14.0
Virginia	3,412,647	38.2	13.7	25.5	0.5	9.6	12.5
Washington	2,793,722	35.6	14.9	25.9	1.6	9.4	12.7
West Virginia	732,673	27.9	16.6	26.1	0.7	12.3	16.4
Wisconsin	2,734,925	31.3	14.0	25.2	0.9	8.7	19.8
Wyoming	241,055	30.0	16.7	24.2	1.5	14.8	12.8
Puerto Rico	930,865	27.4	16.2	28.0	1.1	12.1	15.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Summary File 3.

states were Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, South Carolina, and North Carolina. The District of Columbia with 5.2 percent had the lowest percentage of production, transportation and material moving workers.

Wyoming (14.8 percent) had the highest percentage of workers in the traditional “blue collar” occupational group: construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations, followed by West Virginia at 12.3 percent. Once again, the District of Columbia had the lowest percentage of workers in this occupational group (4.8 percent). Five of the next six states with the lowest percentage were Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, New Jersey, and Connecticut, all in the Northeast.

Sales and office occupations were predominant in more counties than any other occupational group.

Figure 3, a graphical representation of occupations throughout the United States and Puerto Rico, shows which of the least detailed summary-level occupational groups¹² employed the most civilian workers 16 and over in each state and county in the country.

At the county level, sales and office occupations (yellow) were the primary occupational group in more

counties than any other group and every state had at least one county where this group was primary. This occupational group was most predominant in the Northeast and the West and less so in the Midwest and parts of the South.

Production, transportation and material moving occupations (brown) tended to be popular in nonmetropolitan counties in the Midwest and the South, particularly in Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, and Arkansas. Service occupations (red) were the primary group in a small number of widely scattered counties throughout the United States. Interestingly, several of these counties were in the upper Midwest along or near the border with Canada, and in Texas and New Mexico along or near the border with Mexico, suggesting that considerable employment in these counties was in services related to our nearest neighbors.

Figure 3 also shows that professional and related occupations (purple) were predominant in several isolated counties or small groups of counties throughout the United States, many where universities or colleges are located. Examples are Dane County, Wisconsin (University of Wisconsin), Tippecanoe and Monroe Counties, Indiana (Purdue and Indiana University), and Centre County, Pennsylvania (Pennsylvania State University).

A second interesting pattern from Figure 3 appears with management, business, and financial operations occupations (blue). That this group would predominate in several rural and sparsely populated counties in states such as Montana, the Dakotas, and Nebraska might seem odd, but the pattern becomes more understandable given the overhaul

of the Standard Occupation Classification system in 1998 that moved farm and ranch owners to this group (see footnote 3).

The Washington-Baltimore and San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose metropolitan areas led in management, professional, and related occupations.

Among the ten metropolitan areas with the highest percentage of their workers in management, professional, and related occupations in 2000, two — Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV, and San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA, — had more than 3 million employed civilians 16 and over. (Table 7).¹³ Six of the remaining eight were “college towns”: Corvallis, OR; Charlottesville, VA; Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC; Madison, WI; Gainesville, FL; and Iowa City, IA.

About 26.7 percent of the workers in the Las Vegas, NV, metropolitan area were employed in service occupations in 2000, the highest percentage for any metropolitan area in the country. Several of the ten metropolitan areas shown in Table 7 with high percentages of service occupation workers cater to tourists and vacationers. These include not only Las Vegas, but also the Punta Gorda, Naples, and Panama City, FL; Reno, NV; Myrtle Beach, SC; and Honolulu, HI metropolitan areas.

Three metropolitan areas in Florida, Jacksonville, Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, and Miami-Fort Lauderdale, were among the ten with the highest percentage of sales and office occupation workers. Each of the metropolitan

¹² The highest level or least detailed summary level comprises six occupational groups: management, professional, and related occupations; service occupations; sales and office occupations; farming, fishing, and forestry occupations; construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations; and production, transportation, and material moving occupations. However, Figure 3 shows seven groups. The management, professional, and related occupations group was split into two sub-groups: management, business, and financial operations occupations and professional and related occupations. This was done to present a more representative picture.

¹³ Because of sampling error, the estimates for the metropolitan areas shown in Table 7 may not be significantly different from one another or from metropolitan areas not shown.

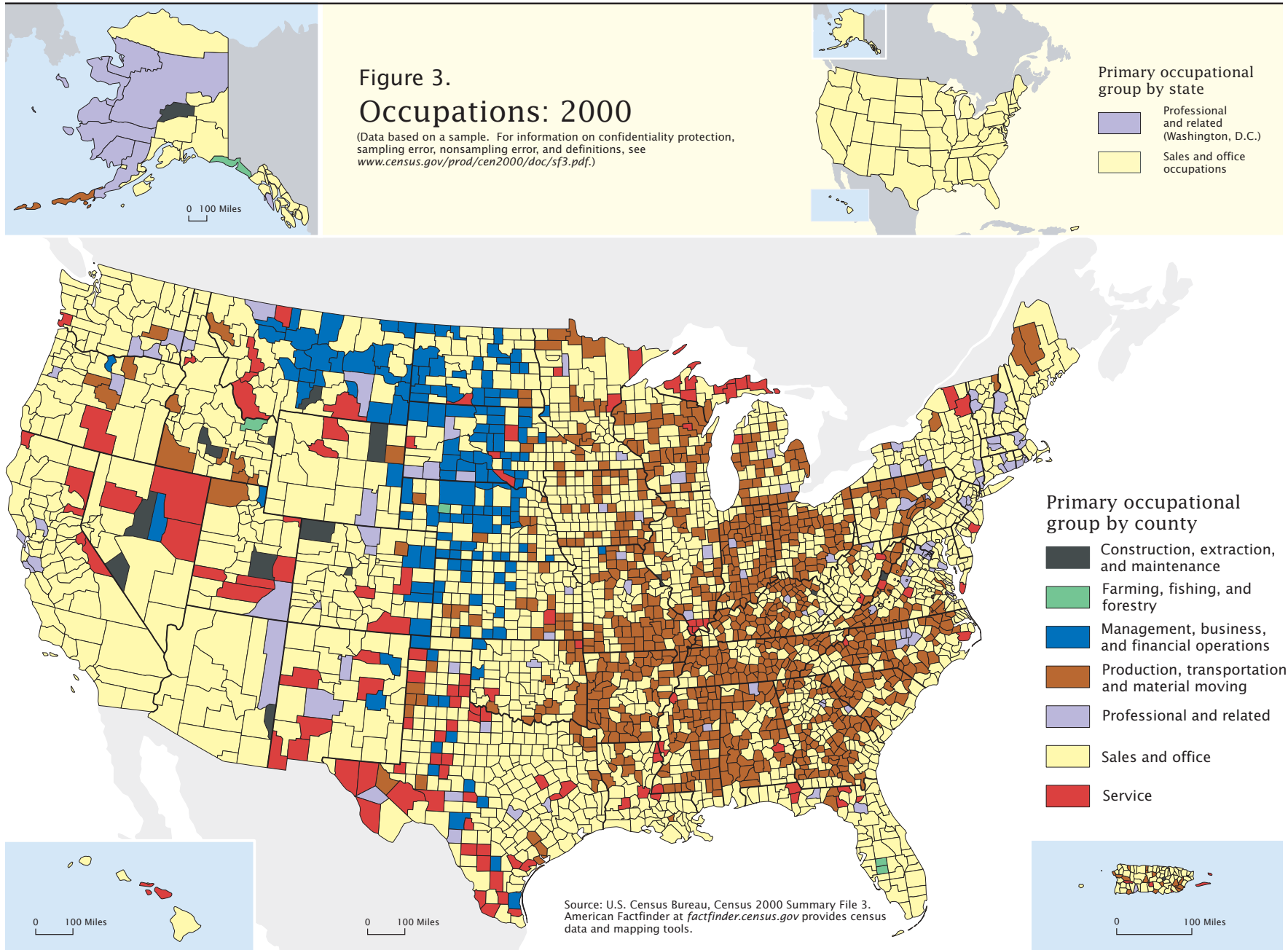


Table 7.
Ten Metropolitan Areas With the Highest Percentage of Civilians Employed in Selected Occupational Groups: 2000¹

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Metropolitan areas	Total employed civilian population 16 years and over in area	Percent in occupation group	90-percent confidence interval
Management, professional, and related occupations			
Corvallis, OR	38,356	46.9	45.7 - 48.1
Washington-Baltimore, DC-MD-VA-WV	3,843,329	45.4	45.3 - 45.5
Charlottesville, VA	78,424	45.4	44.6 - 46.3
Santa Fe, NM	74,586	45.2	44.3 - 46.1
Rochester, MN	66,973	44.5	43.7 - 45.3
Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC	627,772	44.3	44.1 - 44.6
Gainesville, FL	105,293	44.0	43.3 - 44.7
Madison, WI	246,064	43.6	43.2 - 44.0
San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, CA	3,495,883	43.6	43.5 - 43.7
Iowa City, IA	64,255	43.3	42.5 - 44.1
Service occupations			
Las Vegas, NV-AZ	710,179	26.7	26.5 - 27.0
Punta Gorda, FL	50,690	20.9	20.0 - 21.8
Biloxi-Gulfport-Pascagoula, MS	155,970	20.1	19.6 - 20.6
Myrtle Beach, SC	97,577	20.1	19.5 - 20.7
New London-Norwich, CT-RI	141,736	20.0	19.5 - 20.5
Naples, FL	105,436	19.9	19.3 - 20.5
Reno, NV	171,723	19.9	19.4 - 20.4
Brownsville-Harlingen-San Benito, TX	108,904	19.8	19.2 - 20.4
Panama City, FL	64,883	19.7	19.0 - 20.5
Honolulu, HI	383,148	19.6	19.3 - 19.9
Sales and office occupations			
Sioux Falls, SD	96,177	32.2	31.6 - 32.8
Jacksonville, FL	519,840	31.4	31.1 - 31.7
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	1,079,627	31.1	30.9 - 31.3
Miami-Fort Lauderdale, FL	1,680,147	31.0	30.9 - 31.3
Billings, MT	65,512	30.8	30.1 - 31.5
Salt Lake City-Ogden, UT	648,104	30.8	30.5 - 31.1
Des Moines, IA	244,649	30.6	30.2 - 31.1
Roanoke, VA	116,592	30.3	29.7 - 30.9
Charleston, WV	112,867	30.1	29.6 - 30.7
Omaha, NE-IA	368,142	30.1	29.8 - 30.4
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations			
Houma, LA	78,613	14.3	13.8 - 14.9
Jacksonville, NC	49,020	14.1	13.4 - 14.9
Lake Charles, LA	79,408	13.9	13.4 - 14.4
Fort Myers-Cape Coral, FL	186,417	13.5	13.1 - 13.9
Casper, WY	33,213	13.5	12.7 - 14.3
Beaumont-Port Arthur, TX	155,964	13.4	13.1 - 13.8
Victoria, TX	38,464	13.4	12.6 - 14.2
Myrtle Beach, SC	97,577	13.3	12.8 - 13.8
Biloxi-Gulfport-Pascagoula, MS	155,970	13.2	12.8 - 13.6
Wilmington, NC	113,593	13.1	12.7 - 13.5
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations			
Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC	176,415	34.3	33.8 - 34.8
Elkhart-Goshen, IN	93,074	32.7	32.0 - 33.4
Sheboygan, WI	59,454	29.8	29.0 - 30.6
Danville, VA	49,261	28.7	27.9 - 29.5
Mansfield, OH	79,992	27.7	27.1 - 28.3
Kokomo, IN	47,717	26.8	26.0 - 27.6
Janesville-Beloit, WI	76,336	26.8	26.2 - 27.5
Lima, OH	71,550	26.3	25.6 - 27.0
Decatur, AL	65,388	25.6	24.9 - 26.3
Fort Smith, AR-OK	92,135	25.4	24.8 - 26.0

¹Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations are not shown in this table because of the small number of employed people in this group.

Note: Because of sampling error, the estimates in this table may not be significantly different from one another or from rates for other geographic areas not listed in this table.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Summary File 3.

Table 8.
Occupational Groups by Industry Groups for the United States: 2000

(Data based on a sample. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf)

Industry groups	Occupational groups						
	Employed civilian population 16 years and over	Management, professional and related occupations	Service	Sales and office	Farming, fishing, and forestry	Construction, extraction, and maintenance	Production, transportation, and material moving
Totals	129,721,512	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining. . . .	2,426,053	2.2	0.4	0.4	82.2	1.9	1.2
Construction	8,801,507	2.9	0.4	1.9	0.4	51.4	2.6
Manufacturing.	18,286,005	10.3	1.6	7.5	2.9	10.6	50.5
Wholesale trade.	4,666,757	1.9	0.3	6.8	6.2	2.3	5.7
Retail trade	15,221,716	4.1	2.9	30.0	2.4	6.1	9.0
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	6,740,102	2.0	1.5	5.5	0.7	5.3	15.8
Information	3,996,564	4.5	0.4	3.9	0.0	3.3	1.0
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing .	8,934,972	8.0	1.6	13.8	0.0	1.6	0.7
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services.	12,061,865	14.3	9.9	8.5	2.3	2.3	3.6
Educational, health and social services	25,843,029	36.7	28.4	10.1	0.5	2.3	3.0
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	10,210,295	4.2	33.5	4.0	0.6	1.2	2.0
Other services (except public administration)	6,320,632	3.3	9.7	3.0	0.3	9.9	4.0
Public administration.	6,212,015	5.5	9.4	4.6	1.5	1.9	0.9

Source: United States Census 2000, Sample Edited Detail File.

areas in the ten highest had about 3 out of 10 workers employed in sales and office occupations.

Nine out of ten metropolitan areas with the highest percentage of construction, extraction, and maintenance workers were in the South.

Nine out of ten metropolitan areas with the highest percentage of workers in construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations were in the South in 2000. The only area not in the South was Casper, WY, which was in the West. All of the ten were relatively small, with none having more than 200,000 workers.

Similarly, each of the ten metropolitan areas with the highest percentage of workers in production, transportation, and material moving occupations in 2000 was small: only one had more than 100,000

workers. The leading metropolitan areas in this group were Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, and Elkhart-Goshen, IN, with 34.3 percent and 32.7 percent¹⁴ of their workforce in production, transportation, and material moving occupations.

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

How does occupation differ from industry?

People often confuse industry and occupation data. Industry refers to the kind of business conducted by a person's employing organization; occupation describes the kind of work that person does on the job.

Some occupation groups are related closely to certain industries. Operators of transportation

¹⁴ The difference between these two metropolitan areas was not statistically significant.

equipment, farm operators and workers, and health care providers account for major portions of their respective industries of transportation, agriculture, and health care. However, the industry categories include people in other occupations. For example, people employed in agriculture include truck drivers and bookkeepers; people employed in transportation include mechanics, freight handlers, and payroll clerks; and people in the health care industry include occupations such as security guard and secretary.

The industry classification system used during Census 2000 was developed for the census and consists of 265 categories classified into 13 major industry groups. The Census 2000 industry classification was developed from the 1997

North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), which is an industry description system that groups establishments into industries based on activities in which they are primarily engaged. Several census data products use the aggregation structure shown in this report, while others, such as Summary File 3 and Summary File 4, use more detail.

Some occupational groups have a closely related industry counterpart.

About 82.2 percent of farming, fishing, and forestry workers were employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining industries. A little more than half (51.4 percent) of construction, extraction, and maintenance occupation workers were in the construction industry. Similarly, over half (50.5 percent) of workers in production, transportation, and material moving occupations were in manufacturing industries. Service occupations was the only occupational group to have a substantial percent of workers in two industry areas — arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food service, with 33.5 percent; and educational, health and social services, with 28.4 percent. More than one-third (36.7 percent) of workers in management, professional and related occupations worked in the educational, health and social services industries. About 30.0 percent of sales and office workers worked in retail trade industries.

ABOUT CENSUS 2000

Why Census 2000 asked about occupation.

The study of occupations is important because it facilitates a better understanding of the economy by tracking labor force trends and identifying new and emerging occupations, such as those related to computers or the Internet. It also provides a window on changes taking place in society, reflected by the work people do.

Specifically, information on occupations is used by a number of federal agencies to distribute funds, to develop policy, and to measure compliance with laws and regulations. For example, occupation data are required by the Bureau of Economic Analysis to develop state per capita income estimates, which are used in the allocation formulas or eligibility criteria of more than 20 federal programs. Data are used to help the Environmental Protection Agency, under the Toxic Substances Control Act, to identify occupations that expose people to harmful chemicals and that adversely affect the environment. They are also used by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, under the Civil Rights and Equal Pay Acts, to monitor compliance with federal law and to investigate complaints where employment discrimination is alleged. Occupation data are used by the Department of Labor to formulate policies and programs for employment, career development, and training.

Accuracy of the Estimates

The data contained in this product are based on the sample of households who reported to the Census 2000 long form. Nationally, approximately 1 out of every 6 housing units was included in this sample. As a result, the sample estimates may differ somewhat from the 100-percent figures that would have been obtained if all housing units, people within those housing units, and people living in group quarters had been enumerated using the same questionnaires, instructions, enumerators, and so forth. The sample estimates also differ from the values that would have been obtained from different samples of housing units, people within those housing units, and people living in group quarters. The deviation of a sample estimate from the average of all possible samples is called the sampling error.

In addition to the variability that arises from the sampling procedures, both sample data and 100-percent data are subject to nonsampling error. Nonsampling error may be introduced during any of the various complex operations used to collect and process census data. Such errors may include: not enumerating every household or every person in the population, failing to obtain all required information from the respondents, obtaining incorrect or inconsistent information, and recording information incorrectly. In addition, errors can occur during the field review of the enumerators' work, during clerical handling of

the census questionnaires, or during the electronic processing of the questionnaires.

Nonsampling error may affect the data in two ways: (1) errors that are introduced randomly will increase the variability of the data and, therefore, should be reflected in the standard errors; and (2) errors that tend to be consistent in one direction will bias both sample and 100-percent data in that direction. For example, if respondents consistently tend to underreport their incomes, then the resulting estimates of households or families by income category will tend to be understated for the higher income categories and overstated for the lower income categories. Such biases are not reflected in the standard errors.

While it is impossible to completely eliminate error from an operation as large and complex as the decennial census, the Census Bureau attempts to control the sources of such error during the data collection and processing operations. The primary sources of error and the programs instituted to control error in Census 2000 are described in detail in *Summary File 3*

Technical Documentation under Chapter 8, "Accuracy of the Data," located at www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf.

All statements in this Census 2000 Brief have undergone statistical testing and all comparisons are significant at the 90-percent confidence level, unless otherwise noted. The estimates in tables, maps, and other figures may vary from actual values due to sampling and nonsampling errors. As a result, estimates in one category may not be significantly different from estimates assigned to a different category. Further information on the accuracy of the data is located at www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf. For further information on the computation and use of standard errors, contact the Decennial Statistical Studies Division at 301-763-4242.

For More Information.

The Census 2000 Summary File 3 data are available from the American Factfinder on the Internet (factfinder.census.gov). They were released on a state-by-state basis during 2002. For information on confidentiality protection,

nonsampling error, sampling error, and definitions, also see www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf or contact the Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636).

Information on population and housing topics is presented in the Census 2000 Brief series, located on the Census Bureau's Web site at www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html. This series, which will be completed in 2003, presents information on race, Hispanic origin, age, sex, household type, housing tenure, and social, economic, and housing characteristics, such as ancestry, income, and housing costs.

For additional information on occupations in the United States, including reports and survey data, visit the Census Bureau's Internet site at www.census.gov/hhes/www/occupation.html.

To find information about the availability of data products, including reports, CD-ROMs, and DVDs, call the Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636), or e-mail webmaster@census.gov.