

# Connecticut Occupational Employment and Wages in 2013

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The 2013 estimates from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) Program were recently released. The estimates show Connecticut's total nonfarm employment at 1,620,620. The two largest occupations in the state are Retail Salespersons (50,070) and Cashiers (39,050), comprising 3.1% and 2.4% of total employment, respectively. The remaining top ten occupations are Registered Nurses; Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical, and Executive; General and Operations Managers; Customer Service Representatives; Waiters and Waitresses; Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeepers; Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food; and Office Clerks, General. These occupations represent just under 20% of total employment in the state. Ninety-two percent of the employees in the ten largest occupations are employed in the private sector. The percentages range from nearly 100% private employment for Retail Salespersons to 74% for Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners. The overall percentage of

private employment in the state is slightly lower at 85%.

The state's largest occupational group is Office and Administrative Support Occupations with employment of 262,300 (16.2%), while the smallest occupational group is Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations with total employment of just 740 (<0.1%).

Overall, the average salary for Connecticut employees is \$54,409, which is 18% higher than the national average of \$45,790. The occupational group with the highest average salaries is Management Occupations (\$122,669) which have average salaries ranging from \$212,230 for Chief Executives to \$52,120 for Education Administrators, Preschool and Child Care Centers/Programs. The next two highest salaried occupational groups are Legal Occupations (\$110,032), ranging from Judges, Magistrate Judges, and Magistrates (\$158,353) to Paralegals and Legal Assistants (\$53,237), and Computer and Mathematical Occupations (\$84,599), Actuaries (\$116,996) to Computer Support Specialists (\$60,779). The occupational group

with the lowest average salary is Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations at \$24,432. Within this group, occupations range from a high average salary of \$57,973 for Chefs and Head Cooks to \$20,232 for Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers.

OES provides accurate and meaningful wage information to employers, job seekers, counselors, students, planners of vocational education programs, economic developers, Regional Workforce Development Boards, and others. Employers may find the data useful as a guide in analyzing pay scales; job seekers and students could utilize the information in making employment and career decisions; program planners should be aware of employment and wage levels in determining training programs to be offered.

The most recent OES data can be found on the Connecticut Department of Labor's Office of Research website at <http://www1.ctdol.state.ct.us/lmi/wages/oesmain.asp>. ■

**CT Average Annual Salaries for the Highest and Lowest Paying Occupational Groups, 2013Q1**

