

NEW MEXICO'S TOP EARNERS IN MANAGEMENT OCCUPATIONS

New Mexico's management workers are in the highest paid occupational category according to the most recent Occupational Employment Statistics survey conducted by the New Mexico Department of Labor. On average, **Management** workers in New Mexico earned an average wage of \$34.15 per hour, which is roughly double the \$18.02 per hour for all occupations. Management occupations include a variety of job titles, such as: chief executives, general and operational managers, marketing and sales managers, financial managers, human resources managers, education administrators among many other titles.

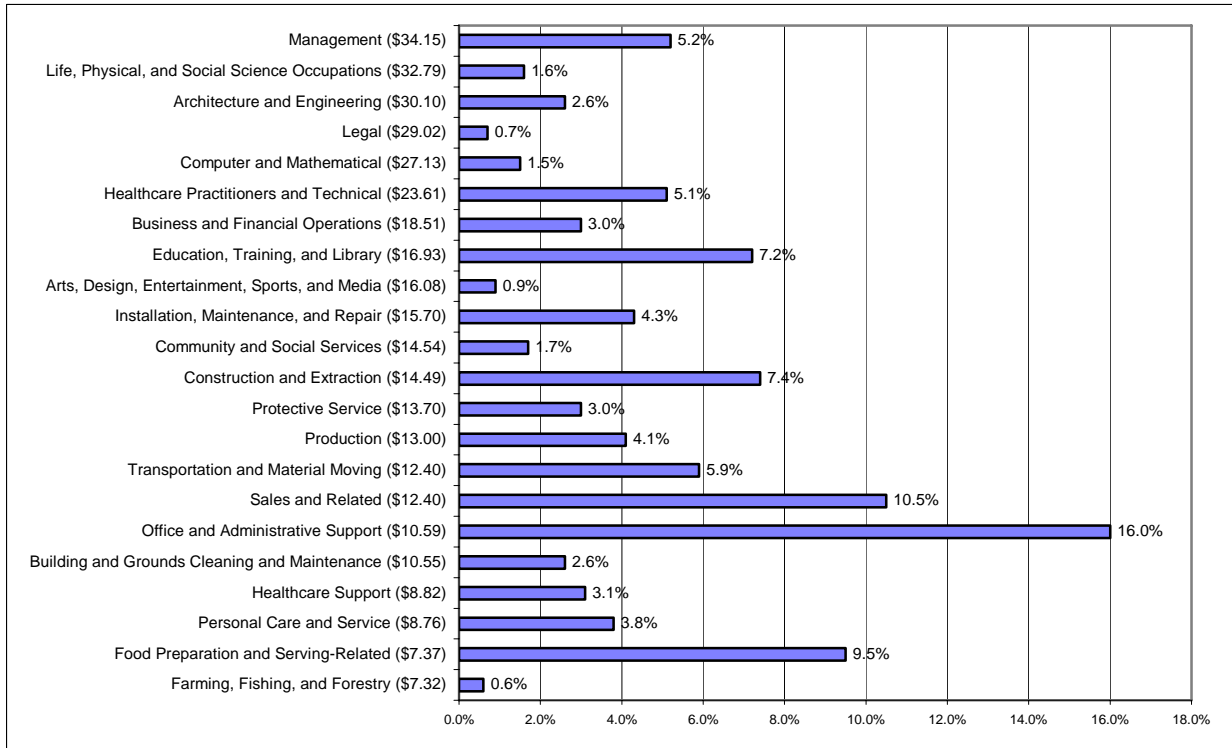
Other notable occupational categories with relatively high average wages include: **Life, Physical & Social Science** (\$32.79), **Architecture & Engineering** (\$30.10), **Legal** (\$29.05), **Computer & Mathematical** (\$29.02), and **Healthcare Practitioners & Technical** (\$27.13) all earning above \$25.00 per hour on average.

Comparing New Mexico to the United States reveals similar results. **Management** is the highest paid occupational group in the U.S. at an hourly mean of \$42.52. Similarly, **Legal** (\$38.98), **Computer & Mathematical** (\$32.26), **Architecture & Engineering** (\$30.73), **Healthcare Practitioners & Technical** (\$28.45), **Life, Physical & Social Science** (\$27.90), and **Business & Financial Operations** (\$27.85) all earn above \$25.00 per hour on average.

The following chart shows the mean hourly wage and the estimated percent of total employment by major occupational group for New Mexico.

Percent of Total Occupational Group
(Average Hourly Wage)

Chart 1



MOST WORKERS EARNING LESS

The median hourly wage (the point at which an equal number of workers earns above and below that rate) of New Mexico workers is \$15.95 per hour. Whereas the average, or mean, hourly wage is \$18.02 per hour, indicating the majority of workers earn below the state's average wage. Nationally a similar relationship exists with a weighted average hourly wage of \$18.21 and a median wage of \$14.15 per hour.

Sixteen percent of New Mexico workers are employed in occupations within the **Office & Administrative Support** category, which has an average hourly wage of \$10.59. Jobs in this occupational group include general office clerks, administrative assistants, secretaries, bookkeeping, accounting & auditing clerks, and customer service representatives among others. **Sales & Related** workers and **Food Preparation & Serving** workers are the next largest occupational groups each comprising roughly 10 percent of the total employment with average wages of \$12.40 and \$7.37 per hour, respectively.

The table below illustrates the estimated employment, the percent of total employment, and the mean hourly wage for each major occupational group.

**Major Occupational Groups
Employment, Percent of Total Employment and Mean Hourly Wage**

Table 1

Major Occupational Groups	Employment		Average Hourly Wage
	Number	Percent of Total	
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	121,870	16.0%	\$12.40
Sales and Related Occupations	80,300	10.5%	\$12.40
Food Preparation and Serving-Related Occupations	72,560	9.5%	\$7.37
Construction and Extraction Occupations	56,510	7.4%	\$14.54
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	54,670	7.2%	\$18.51
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	44,760	5.9%	\$13.00
Management Occupations	39,760	5.2%	\$34.15
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	38,810	5.1%	\$27.13
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	32,750	4.3%	\$16.08
Production Occupations	31,310	4.1%	\$13.70
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance	28,880	3.8%	\$8.76
Personal Care and Service Occupations	23,440	3.1%	\$8.82
Protective Service Occupations	22,920	3.0%	\$14.49
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	22,700	3.0%	\$23.61
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	19,670	2.6%	\$30.10
Healthcare Support Occupations	19,490	2.6%	\$10.59
Community and Social Services Occupations	12,760	1.7%	\$15.70
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	11,920	1.6%	\$32.79
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	11,150	1.5%	\$29.02
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	7,250	0.9%	\$16.93
Legal Occupations	5,470	0.7%	\$29.05
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	4,460	0.6%	\$7.32
Total All Occupations	763,410	100.0%	\$18.02

Additional information and detailed results of the latest Occupational Employment Statistics survey can be accessed on the New Mexico Department of Labor's web site at www.dol.state.nm.us, under labor market information and wage information – estimate delivery system.