

### WAGE RATES OF PLANT AND MACHINE OPERATORS AND ASSEMBLERS IN SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES (17th of an 18-Part Series on 2006 OWS)

This issue of the LABSTAT Updates on the results of the 2006 Occupational Wages Survey (OWS) focuses on the wage rates of 31 categories of plant and machine operators and assemblers in 18 industry groups of manufacturing.

The wage rates of 169 occupations across 45 industry groups were covered in the OWS. These are posted on the BLES website.

#### Chemical-filtering and separating equipment operators in manufacture of coke, petroleum and other fuel products recorded highest average wage rate among selected plant and machine operators

In August 2006, the OWS covered 31 occupations classified as plant and machine operators and assemblers in manufacturing. Among these, five plant and machine operator occupations posted average wage rates above the all occupation average of ₱10,629 as follows:

- *chemical-filtering and separating equipment operators* (₱27,000) in the manufacture of coke, refined petroleum and other fuel products
- *pharmaceutical and toiletry products machine operators* (₱16,571) in the manufacture of chemicals and chemical products
- *petroleum refining plant operators* (₱14,468) in the manufacture of coke, refined petroleum and other fuel products
- *food and related products machine operators* (₱11,943) in the manufacture of food products and beverages
- *coke production plant operators* (₱11,130) in the manufacture of coke, refined petroleum and other fuel products.



In contrast, low average wage rates were noted in the manufacture of wood and wood products except furniture for:

- *wood products machine operators* (₱6,755)
- *wood and related products assemblers* (₱6,421).

Wage rates of the rest of plant and machine operators and assemblers ranged from ₱7,061 to ₱10,552.

Below is the complete list of the monitored specific occupations and their corresponding average monthly wage rates (in pesos).

#### Manufacture of Food Products and Beverages

Food and Related Products	
Machine Operators	11,943

#### Manufacture of Textiles

Fiber Preparing, Spinning and Winding	
Machine Operators	8,990
Weaving and Knitting	
Machine Operators	8,346
Bleaching, Dyeing and Cleaning	
Machine Operators	9,370

#### Manufacture of Wearing Apparel

Sewing Machine Operators	7,298
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**Tanning and Dressing of Leather; Manufacture of Luggage, Handbags and Footwear**

Leather Preparing Machine Operators	8,454
Shoemaking and Related Machine Operators	7,683

**Manufacture of Wood, Wood Products except Furniture**

Wood Processing Plant Operators	7,887
Wood Products Machine Operators	6,755
Wood and Related Products Assemblers	6,421

**Manufacture of Paper and Paper Products**

Paper Pulp Plant Operators	10,396
Papermaking Plant Operators	9,544
Paperboard and Related Products Assemblers	8,643

**Manufacture of Coke, Refined Petroleum and Other Fuel Products**

Chemical-Filtering and Separating Equipment Operators	27,000
Petroleum Refining Plant Operators	14,468
Coke Production Plant Operators	11,130

**Manufacture of Chemicals and Chemical Products**

Crushing, Grinding and Chemical-Mixing Machinery Operators	9,746
Chemical Heat-Treating Plant Operators	9,956
Chemical-Filtering and Separating Equipment Operators	10,552
Pharmaceutical and Toiletry Products Machine Operators	16,571

**Manufacture of Rubber Products**

Rubber Products Machine Operators	10,010
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**Manufacture of Plastic Products**

Plastic Products Machine Operators	8,425
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**Manufacture of Other Non-Metallic Mineral Products**

Glass, Ceramics and Related Plant Operators	9,864
Cement and Other Mineral Products Machine Operators	10,124

**Manufacture of Basic Metals**

Ore and Metal Furnace Operators	10,456
Metal Melters, Casters and Rolling-Mill Operators	10,134
Metal Heat Treating Plant Operators	9,183
Metal Drawers and Extruders	10,392

**Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products, except Machinery and Equipment**

Machine Tool Operators	9,526
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**Manufacture of Machinery and Equipment, n.e.c.**

Mechanical Machinery Assemblers	9,652
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**Manufacture of Electrical Machinery and Apparatus, n.e.c.**

Electrical Equipment Assemblers	9,125
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**Manufacture of Radio, Television and Communication Equipment and Apparatus**

Electronic Equipment Assemblers	8,711
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**Manufacture of Motor Vehicles, Trailers and Semi-Trailers**

Mechanical Machinery Assemblers	9,390
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**Manufacture and Repair of Furniture**

Wood Products Machine Operators	7,061
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**Definition of Terms:**

- o **Wage rate** refers to the sum of basic pay and regular/guaranteed cash allowances.
- o **Basic pay** refers to pay for normal/regular working time before deductions for employees' social security contributions and withholding taxes. It excludes overtime, night shift differential and other premium pay; commissions, tips and share of employees in service charge; and payment in kind.
- o **Allowances** refer to regular/guaranteed cash payments. These include living allowance but exclude reimbursements for travel, entertainment, meals and other expenses, etc. incurred in conducting the business of the employer; cost of uniform/working clothes; bonuses and gratuities; family allowances.

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