

# RESEARCH NOTES



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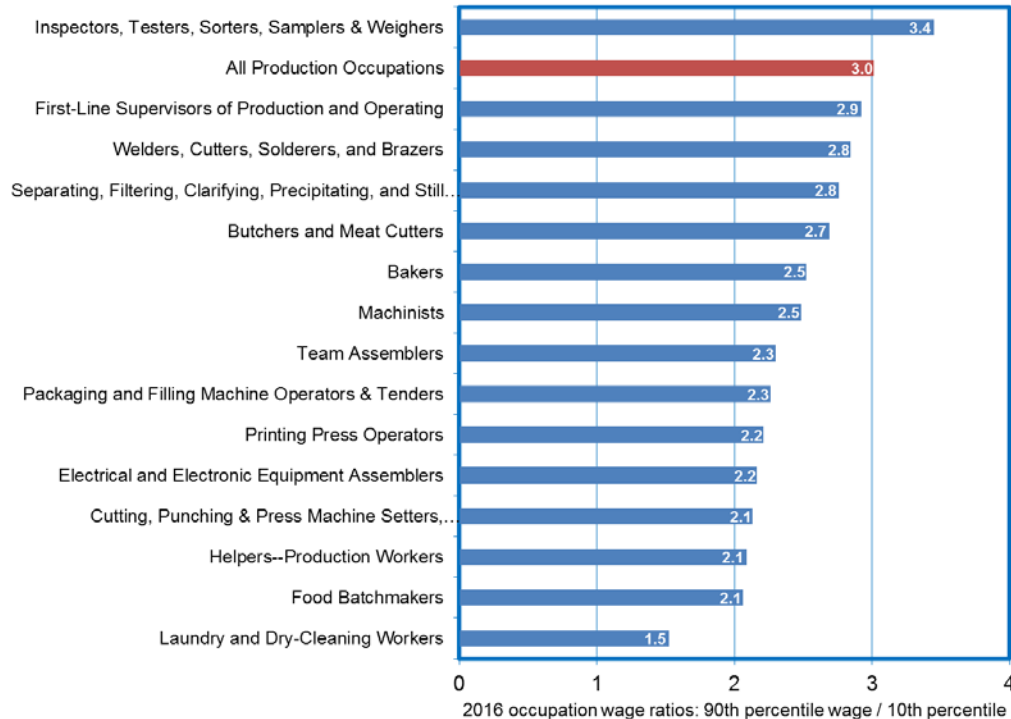
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Wage Disparities in Production Occupations  
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## Inspectors, Supervisors, and Welders Have Highest Wage Disparities Among Production Occupations; Laundry Workers Have Lowest



- The Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) wage survey provides detailed wage information for over 700 occupations in Nevada. This Research Note examines “wage disparity,” defined as the ratio of the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile wage to the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile, across production occupations.
- The largest 15 production occupations have 90-10 ratios that range from 1.5 (laundry/ dry-cleaning workers), to 3.4 (inspectors/testers/sorters/samplers/weighers). Production occupations as a whole have a 90-10 ratio of 3, meaning that top earners take home wages three times higher than the lowest earners.
- The occupations with the smallest wage disparities have 10<sup>th</sup> percentile wages of less than \$10/hr., and 90<sup>th</sup> percentile wages of less than \$20/hr. In general, these occupations require no formal education and only short-term on-the-job training.
- The occupations with the largest wage disparities have 10<sup>th</sup> percentile wages ranging from \$9 to \$15/hr., and 90<sup>th</sup> percentile wages between \$30 and \$45/hr. These occupations require a high school diploma or equivalent in addition to moderate-term on-the-job training or work experience.
- These patterns suggest that as wages increase, so does the disparity between top and bottom earners in an occupation. Typical entry-level education and training requirements increase as wages, and wage disparities, rise.