

# Research Notes



Industry/Wage Comparison: Reno and Similar Cities  
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## Reno/Sparks Wages Compare Favorably With Similar Metro Areas

Industry	Reno	Fort Collins	Provo	Spokane	Vallejo
Accommodation and Food Services	\$467	\$287	\$380	\$368	\$374
Health Care and Social Assistance	1055	746	926	897	1214
Retail Trade	629	601	608	545	604
Transportation and Warehousing	834	783	909	831	944
Manufacturing	1130	1017	1026	1707	1932
Administrative and Waste Services	613	617	639	715	976
Construction	1148	910	951	1049	1398
Professional and Technical Services	1470	1330	1143	1663	1206
Wholesale Trade	1264	1251	1106	1406	1276
Finance and Insurance	1782	1230	1438	1348	1316

- In the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) Program, the Research and Analysis Bureau collects and compiles employment and wage data for workers covered by Nevada unemployment insurance laws, and federal civilian workers covered by Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees
- These cities were chosen on the basis of being of similar population (2015) and geography to the Reno-Sparks Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The table above is a comparison of average weekly wages paid by the top ten industries (2-digit NAICS level) by share of total employment in the Reno Sparks MSA.
- Accommodation and food services is the number one in terms of share of total employment in Reno-Sparks. Comparatively, those in that industry earn more in Reno than in the other cities. This is partly explained by its relatively high concentration (16.1% of total employment). No other metro area listed exceeds 14.9% with two of them, Provo and Spokane, being under 10%. Accommodation (NAICS code 721) pays an average weekly wage of \$590 and employs nearly 16,000. This compares to the other areas which pay no more than \$473 and each employing less than 3,000 in this industry.
- Administrative and Waste Services is the lone industry listed where Reno-Sparks pays the lowest average weekly wage amongst the cities given. This industry (NAICS 56) comprises establishments of two types: those primarily engaged in support activities for day-to-day operations of other organizations; and those primarily engaged in waste management activities. The relatively low wages are likely attributable to a high amount of employment in temporary help (561320) and janitorial services (561720). For 2017, these two industries accounted for a nearly 50% of employment in the Administrative and Waste Services sector. In the other four metro areas, this ratio did not exceed 39%. Lastly, wages for the Temporary Help Services industry in Reno-Sparks were the lowest.