

National Paint and Coatings Association

Paint and Coatings Industry National and State Labor Market Key Findings

National Key Findings

U.S. Paint and Coatings Industry Employment

- The U.S. paint and coatings industry employed 348,900 workers in 2007, a drop of nearly two percent, or almost 6,000 jobs, from 2006.
- The paint and coatings industry comprises the following sectors: painting and wall covering contractors; paint and coatings manufacturing; paint, varnish, and supplies merchant wholesalers; and paint and wallpaper stores.
- The largest paint and coatings industry sector by employment was painting and wall covering contractors with 239,700 jobs in 2007, a decline of 4,200 jobs from 2006.
- The second largest sector was paint and coatings manufacturing with 42,900 jobs in 2007, compared to 44,400 jobs in 2006.
- Paint and wallpaper stores employed 41,000 workers in 2007, while paint, varnish, and supplies merchant wholesalers employed 25,300 individuals nationwide.
- Paint and coatings industry employment grew by 10 percent from 316,300 in 1997 to 348,900 in 2007, adding 32,600 jobs. However, paint and wall covering contractors was the only sector of the four comprising the U.S. paint and coatings industry to add jobs between 1997 and 2007; the other three sectors each shed jobs during the same time period.

U.S. Paint and Coatings Industry Wages

- The U.S. paint and coatings industry workforce earned an average annual wage of \$38,800 in 2007, an increase of nearly two percent over 2006, adjusted for inflation.
- The highest average annual wage was paid by the paint and coating manufacturing sector at \$57,400 in 2007.
- Paint, varnish, and supplies merchant wholesalers had the second highest average annual wage at \$56,000 in 2007.
- Average annual wages in the painting and wall covering contractors sector rose by three percent in 2007 to \$34,000, compared to a two percent inflation-adjusted increase in average annual wages for the total private sector.

U.S. Paint and Coatings Industry Establishments

- The U.S. paint and coatings industry had 54,600 establishments in 2007.
- The painting and wall covering contractors sector was the largest segment, comprising 81 percent of the industry's total establishments in 2007.

U.S. Paint and Coatings Industry Payroll

- The payroll for the U.S. paint and coatings industry reached \$13.5 billion in 2007.
- The U.S. paint and coatings industry payroll grew by less than one percent between 2006 and 2007, compared to three percent growth for the entire private sector, adjusted for inflation.

State Key Findings

State Paint and Coatings Industry Employment

- California ranked first in the nation by paint and coatings industry employment with 47,000 workers in 2007, a decrease of 3,400 jobs from 2006; however, paint and coatings industry employment in California grew by 12,400 jobs between 1997 and 2007.
- Florida was the second ranked state with 26,600 paint and coatings industry jobs in 2007. This represents a six percent decrease from 2006, or a loss of 1,800 jobs; but, between 1997 and 2007, employment in Florida's paint and coatings industry grew by 9,400.
- Texas followed Florida with 24,000 paint and coatings industry jobs in 2007, which grew by 2.5 percent from 2006.
- Ohio and Illinois rounded out the top five leading states by paint and coatings industry employment, with 16,600 and 16,400 jobs in 2007, respectively.
- California posted the strongest job growth nationwide, adding 12,400 jobs between 1997 and 2007.
- Florida and Arizona ranked second and third highest in paint and coatings industry job growth, adding 9,400 and 5,100 jobs to the employment base in their states between 1997 and 2007, respectively.

State Paint and Coatings Industry Wages

- The highest paid paint and coatings industry wages were those in Ohio, where the annual average wage for the state's paint and coatings industry workforce (comprising 16,600 jobs) was \$53,100 in 2007, up by thirteen percent since 1997, adjusted for inflation.
- New Jersey's 9,100 paint and coatings industry workers received the second highest annual average wages at \$48,300 in 2007, an increase of almost five percent between 2003 and 2007, adjusted for inflation.
- Michigan ranked third nationwide by paint and coatings industry average annual wages in 2007, at \$48,100 for its workforce of more than 10,000 workers.
- Illinois and Minnesota rounded out the top five states for paint and coatings industry wages with annual average wages of \$47,700 and \$45,800 in 2007, respectively.

State Paint and Coatings Industry Establishments

- California led the nation in paint and coatings industry establishments with 5,800 in 2007, representing 11 percent of all paint and coatings industry establishments in the United States.
- Florida closely followed California with almost 5,800 paint and coatings industry establishments in 2007.
- New York, Illinois, and Texas completed the top five states in paint and coatings industry establishments in 2007 at 3,000, 2,500, and 2,400, respectively.

State Paint and Coatings Industry Payroll

- California was also the leading state by paint and coatings industry payroll, at \$1.8 billion in 2007, representing 13 percent of all paint and coatings industry payroll nationwide.
- Texas, Ohio, Florida, and Illinois completed the top five states in paint and coatings industry payroll in 2007.

Notes about Methodology

Data are based on the following 4 six-digit North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes:

238320 Painting and Wall Covering Contractors
325510 Paint and Coating Manufacturing
424950 Paint, Varnish, and Supplies Merchant Wholesalers
444120 Paint and Wallpaper Stores

This definition is a conservative representation of the core of the paint and coatings industry. In an effort to produce solid statistics, the National Paint and Coatings Association does not include broad industry categories if the paint and coatings portion does not represent a clear majority.

Establishments are considered any physical location, which are engaged in one, or predominately one, type of economic activity. This one type of activity is then used to classify the establishment. An establishment does not necessarily represent an individual company because companies can have multiple establishments, one for each office or location of that company.

The 2007 data are the most recent available by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The source is the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.