

Employment, Incomes, and Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Merchant Wholesalers in the Gulf of Mexico and the United States. Vol. 8, No. 4, Feb. 23, 2018.

Definition of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Merchant Wholesalers

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Merchant Wholesalers (NAICS 424480) “comprise establishments primarily engaged in the wholesale merchant distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables” (<https://www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/index.html>).

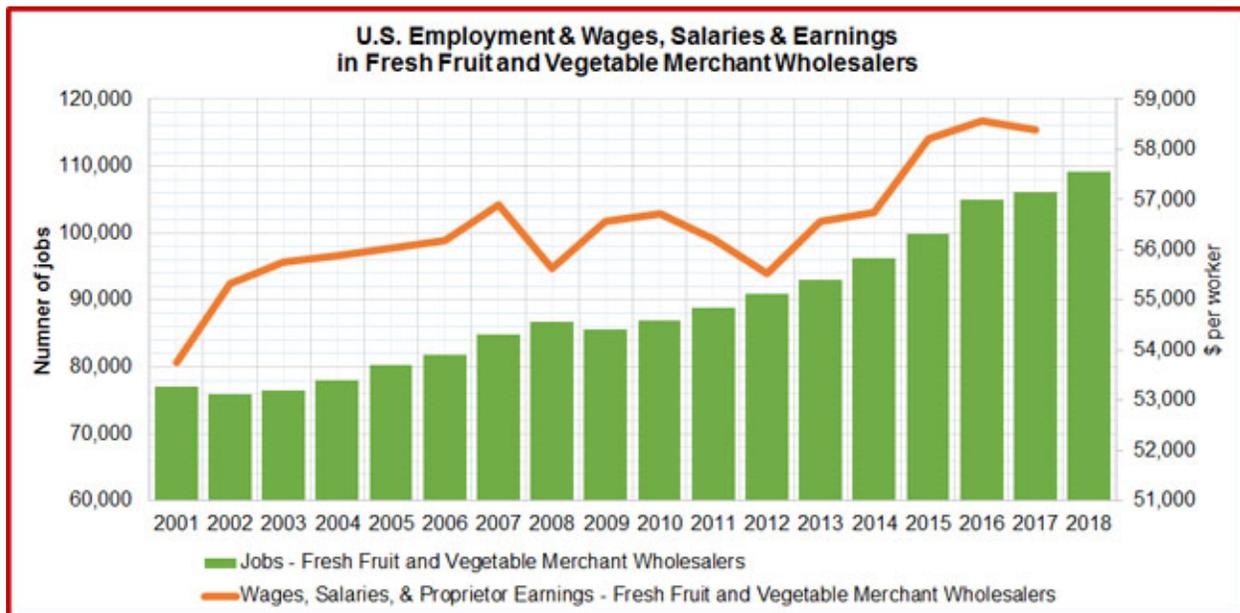


Figure 1. U.S. Annual Employment and Wages, Salaries, and Earnings of QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, Self-Employed, and Extended Proprietors.

Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

Legend: QCEW – U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Examples of establishments listed by the Bureau of Census includes the following:

- Berries, fresh, merchant wholesalers;
- Fresh fruits, vegetables, and berries merchant wholesalers;
- Fruits, fresh, merchant wholesalers;
- Health foods, fresh fruits, and vegetables, merchant wholesalers;
- Produce, fresh, merchant wholesalers;
- Salads, prepackaged, merchant wholesalers; and
- Vegetables, fresh, merchant wholesalers.”

Employment and Wages, Salaries, and Earnings

The number of jobs in the industry has been trending upward. On average, the industry directly created more than 89,000 jobs per year in the United States since 2001 (Figure 1). The five Gulf of Mexico States (AL, FL, LA, MS, and TX) contributed about 17.4 percent of all the jobs during the period (Figure 2). The activities in Mississippi and Alabama during the same period added 0.38 and 0.53 percent of the total number of jobs, respectively.

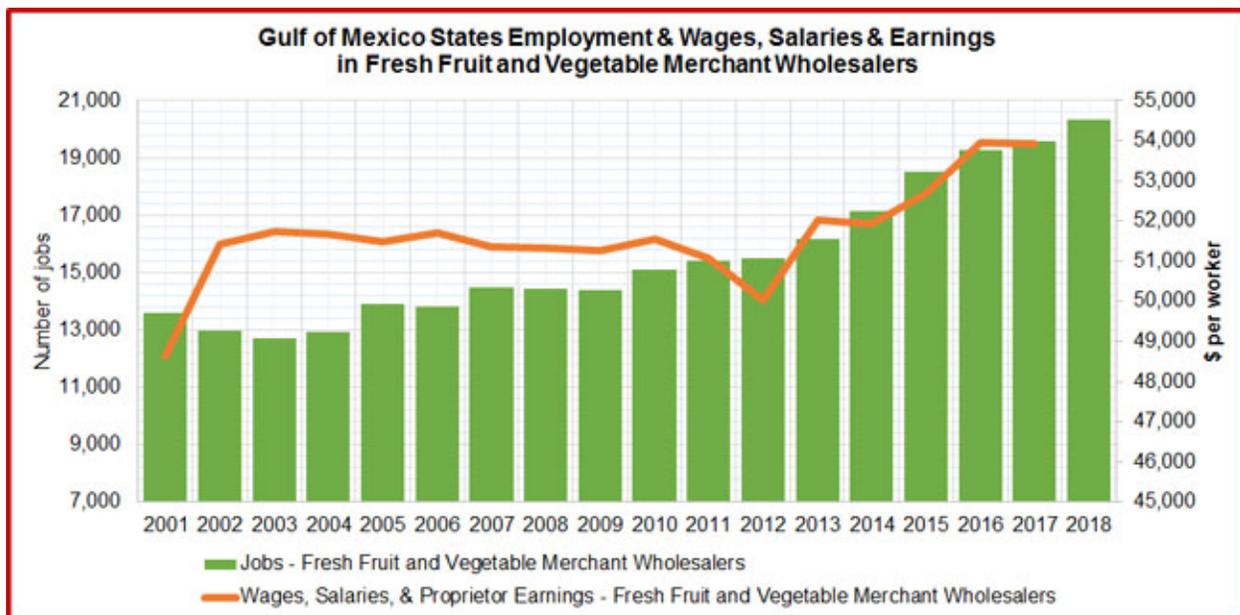


Figure 2. Annual Employment and Wages, Salaries, and Earnings of QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, Self-Employed, and Extended Proprietors in the Gulf of Mexico Region.

Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

Legend: QCEW – U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

The average wages, salaries, and earnings in the industry in the entire United States have been slowly rising during the later part of the period. The combined wages, salaries, and proprietor earnings (at constant 2017 prices) of all the QCEW employees, non-QCEW employees, self-

employed, and extended proprietors averaged \$56,400 per person during the entire period under consideration (Figure 1).

Among the workers in the industry in the Gulf of Mexico States, the average wages, salaries, and earnings have been slowly increasing during the later part of the period. The annual earnings of workers and owners in the Gulf of Mexico States during the period averaged \$51,630 per person or 91.5 percent of the national average (Figure 2). During the same period, Mississippi and Alabama workers and owners received average annual pay amounting to 78.7 and 82.2 percent of the national average, respectively.

Distribution of Workers and Owners by Gender

The most recent industrial overview released by EMSI (Feb. 2018) showed that among workers and owners, 71.9 percent were males (Figure 3). About 28.1 percent of the workers and owners were females. In the Gulf States, relatively more men and fewer women worked and owned these businesses.

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Merchant Wholesalers				
Industry Gender Breakdown	United States		Gulf of Mexico States	
Gender	2017 Jobs	2017 Percent	2017 Jobs	2017 Percent
Males	76,241	71.9%	14,448	73.8%
Females	29,821	28.1%	5,117	26.2%
Total	106,063	100.0%	19,564	100.0%

Figure 3. Gender Distribution of QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, Self-Employed, and Extended Proprietors.

Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

Legend: QCEW – U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Distribution of Workers and Owners by Race or Ethnicity

The latest industrial overview posted by EMSI (Feb. 2018) also grouped workers and owners by race or ethnicity (Figure 4). The majority of the workers and owners are White (54.6%), followed by Hispanic or Latino (27.5%), African American (9.7%), and Asian (6.6%). In the Gulf States, relatively fewer White, (46.6%) and Asian (3.2%), more Hispanic (33.9%) and African American (15.3%) people are working in these businesses.

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Merchant Wholesalers				
Industry Race Breakdown	United States		Gulf of Mexico States	
Race/Ethnicity	2017 Jobs	2017 Percent	2017 Jobs	2017 Percent
White	57,935	54.6%	9,118	46.6%
Hispanic or Latino	29,217	27.5%	6,635	33.9%
Black or African American	10,313	9.7%	3,002	15.3%
Asian	7,043	6.6%	620	3.2%
Two or More Races	959	0.9%	125	0.6%
American Indian or Alaska Native	315	0.3%	45	0.2%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	281	0.3%	20	0.1%
Total	106,063	100.0%	19,564	100.0%

Figure 4. Race or Ethnic Distribution of QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, Self-Employed, and Extended Proprietors.

Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

Legend: QCEW – U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Distribution of Workers and Owners by Age

The technical overview published by EMSI (Feb. 2018) also classified workers and owners by age (Figure 5). Almost one out of 4 of the workers and owners are 55 years old and above. The “45-54” year-old workers and owners comprised of 26.1 percent of the total. The “35-44” year-old group added 23.1 percent of the total. The younger workers and owners comprise 27.3 percent of the rest. The workers and owners in the Gulf States have similar age distribution.

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Merchant Wholesalers				
Industry Age Breakdown	United States		Gulf of Mexico States	
Age	2017 Jobs	2017 Percent	2017 Jobs	2017 Percent
14-18	825	0.8%	128	0.7%
19-24	7,127	6.7%	1,204	6.2%
25-34	21,015	19.8%	3,908	20.0%
35-44	24,519	23.1%	4,699	24.0%
45-54	27,653	26.1%	5,236	26.8%
55-64	19,032	17.9%	3,330	17.0%
65+	5,893	5.6%	1,059	5.4%
Total	106,063	100.0%	19,564	100.0%

Figure 5. Age Distribution of QCEW Employees, Non-QCEW Employees, Self-Employed, and Extended Proprietors.

Source of raw data: EMSI. <https://e.economicmodeling.com>.

Legend: QCEW – U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.

Businesses Registered in MarketMaker

If you need an online database of these businesses, you can perform the following search at the Mississippi MarketMaker (<https://ms.foodmarketmaker.com/>) or other member states (<https://foodmarketmaker.com/>):

States: AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI, or WY » Type: Wholesaler » Profile: Wholesaler > Fruit & Vegetable

More than 5,600 “fruit and vegetable wholesalers“ registered their business profiles in MarketMaker. Click this [LINK](#) to view the search results online. You can sort the results alphabetically, by relevance, or by the distance to your current location. In Mississippi and Alabama, there are 33 and 40 “fruit and vegetable wholesalers registered in MarketMaker, respectively.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is MarketMaker?

[MarketMaker](#) is the most extensive and most in-depth database of its kind featuring a diverse community of food-related businesses: buyers, farmers/ranchers, fisheries, farmers markets, processors/packers, wineries, restaurants and more. [MarketMaker](#) provides simple yet powerful search tools to connect with others across the production and distribution chain (<http://ms.foodmarketmaker.com/>).

Where can you find Mississippi MarketMaker?

MarketMaker is located at <http://ms.foodmarketmaker.com/>. Ask Siri or Cortana to search for “Mississippi MarketMaker” on your smartphone.

How do you register your food business in Mississippi MarketMaker?

Click [Register](#) and type your email address and a password in the spaces under Register. Be prepared to enter information (and pictures) about your business.

What are the benefits of registering your food business in Mississippi MarketMaker?

Producers register their businesses in [MarketMaker](#) because food buyers of all types access our database to find products and services to meet their specific needs. Through [MarketMaker](#), producers can reach more customers and more efficient form successful business alliances.

How do you search for your business profile in Mississippi MarketMaker?

Click [Search](#) and type the name of your company in the space under Search MarketMaker.

How do you update your business profile in Mississippi MarketMaker?

Click [Register](#) and then click UPDATE YOUR PROFILE. Type your email address and password in the spaces under Account Login. Be prepared to enter updated information (and pictures) about your business.

MarketMaker Training Workshops

This training workshop is available upon request by a group of 6-12 producers, extension agents, state regulatory agencies staff, and teachers. Each workshop will best fit the needs of the participants. Email Dr. Ben Posadas for details at ben.posadas@msstate.edu.

How do you search for local food businesses in Mississippi MarketMaker?

Click [Search](#) and type a keyword in the space under Search MarketMaker.

What is the Market Research tool of MarketMaker?

The MarketMaker research tool is an interactive mapping resource for identifying target markets, developing customized census profiles, and mapping food related businesses over demographic maps.

Where do you find the Market Research tool in MarketMaker?

Look for the Market Research section in MarketMaker and click [Research your market now](#) or [Use the previous version](#).

Suggested Citation:

Posadas, B.C., A.E. Jefferson, and B.K.A. Posadas, Jr. 2018. Employment, Incomes, and Characteristics of Workers and Owners of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Merchant Wholesalers in the Gulf of Mexico and the United States. Vol. 8, No. 3, Feb. 23, 2018.

<http://extension.msstate.edu/newsletters/mississippi-marketmaker>