Office of Personnel Management

§ 532.305

Subpart C—Determining Rates for Principal Types of Positions

§ 532.301 Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart:

Nearest similar wage area means the nearest wage area which is most similar to the local wage area in terms of private employment, population, relative numbers of private employers in major industry categories, and kinds and sizes of industry establishments in which adequate private establishments exist in the survey area whose activities are similar to those in the dominant industry.

Principal types of appropriated or non-appropriated fund positions means those groups of occupations which require work of a specialized nature and which are peculiar to a specific Government industry which is the dominant industry among the total wage employment in the wage area.

Specialized private industry means private industry establishments in those industry groups, comparable to the specialized Government industries listed in § 532.303 of this section, which must be included in a wage survey in order to obtain data comparable to a dominant industry.

§ 532.303 Specialized industry.

(a)(1) Under the appropriated fund wage system, a “specialized industry” is a Federal activity engaged in the production or repair of aircraft, ammunition, ordnance and combat vehicles, communication equipment, electronic equipment, guided missiles, heavy duty equipment, shipbuilding, sighting and fire control equipment, or small arms.

(2) Under the nonappropriated fund wage system a “specialized industry” includes only nonappropriated fund operated eating and drinking places. Additional industries may be considered as specialized industries upon approval of the Office of Personnel Management.

§ 532.305 Dominant industry.

(a)(1) A specialized industry is a “dominant industry” if the number of wage employees in the wage area who are subject to the wage schedule for which the survey is made and employed in occupations which comprise the
§ 532.307 Determinating whether a dominant industry exists in a wage area.

(a) The chairperson of the local wage survey committee shall, before a full-scale wage survey is scheduled to begin, notify all appropriated or nonappropriated fund activities having employees subject to the wage schedules for which the survey is conducted so that organizations and individuals may submit written recommendations and supporting evidence to the local wage survey committee concerning principal types of appropriated or nonappropriated fund positions in the area. Each appropriated or nonappropriated fund activity shall publicize the opportunity to make such recommendations.

(b)(1) Before conducting a full-scale wage survey an occupational inventory of employees subject to the wage schedules for which the survey is conducted shall be obtained from each appropriated or nonappropriated fund activity in the area having such employees.

(2) After reviewing the occupational inventory and considering the recommendations received pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, the local wage survey committee shall formulate its recommendations and prepare a written report concerning the existence of specialized industries within the wage area.

(3) The report of the recommendations, the occupational inventory, and the recommendations and supporting evidence received pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall be forwarded to the lead agency.

(c) The lead agency shall refer the occupational inventory and the reports received pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section to the agency wage committee for its consideration and recommendation if:

(1) The lead agency proposes not to accept the recommendation of the local wage survey committee concerning the specifications of the local wage survey; or

(2) The local wage survey committee’s report is accompanied by a minority report.

(d) The lead agency shall determine, in writing, after taking into consideration the reports and recommendations received under paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, and prior to ordering a full-scale wage survey to begin, whether the principal types of appropriated or nonappropriated fund positions in a local wage area comprise a dominant industry. The determination shall remain in effect until the next full-scale wage survey in the area.


§ 532.309 Determining adequacy of specialized private industry.

(a) Specialized private industry comparable to an appropriated fund dominant industry is adequate when:

(1) The survey area is one of the 25 largest Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, or the total number of employees of private industry establishments in the specialized private industry located in the survey area is at least equal to the total number of appropriated fund wage employees in occupations which comprise the principal types of appropriated positions in the dominant industry who are subject to the wage schedules for which the survey is made; or

(2) For any dominant industry except “ammunition,” the job matches obtained from the specialized private industry include one regular survey job