Note on Metropolitan Area Definitions:

The Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) compiles metropolitan area data using standard metropolitan area definitions from the Census Bureau (and the Office of Management and Budget) for all areas except those in New England states. For these metros, the BLS uses New England City and Town areas or NECTAs, which do not exactly overlap.

The aggregated metropolitan statistics use the census MSA definition when possible (for all non-NECTAs and some combinations of NECTAs) and only report standard MSAs. The detailed occupational data, however, are presented using raw OES data combined with O\*NET (for knowledge and training requirements). That file includes both the Census metro area title and the BLS metro area title, which differ for some New England areas.

For more information about the differences between NECTA and MSAs see this census webpage: <http://www.census.gov/population/metro/data/def.html>