



**SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, ROOM 7T50
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303
TELEPHONE: (404) 893-4222**

**FOR RELEASE:
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2007**

Media Contact: Karen Ransom
(404) 893-4220
Internet address: www.bls.gov/ro4/home.htm

HIGHLIGHTS OF KNOXVILLE, TN NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY MAY 2007

Workers in the Knoxville metropolitan area averaged \$16.25 per hour during May 2007, according to new survey results from the National Compensation Survey (NCS) released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin reported average hourly earnings of \$29.68 for management, professional, and related workers and \$15.71 for natural resources, construction, and maintenance workers. Sales and office workers averaged \$13.65 an hour; production, transportation, and material moving workers, \$13.32; and service workers, \$9.07. [See table 1. Note: Occupational aggregations are now based on the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system.]

In the Knoxville area, sales and office workers represented the largest occupational group in the survey at 32 percent. Service workers accounted for 22 percent; management, professional, and related workers, 21 percent; and production, transportation and material moving workers, 17 percent. Natural resources, construction, and maintenance represented the smallest group in the survey at 8 percent.

The NCS provides straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments with one or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. This NCS survey covered 338 establishments representing 347,800 workers in the Knoxville Metropolitan Statistical Area which is comprised of Anderson, Blount, Knox, Loudon, and Union Counties in Tennessee. Agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government were excluded from the survey.

In the Knoxville area, average hourly wages were published a number of detailed occupations. Within the management, professional, and related occupations, radiologic technologists and technicians averaged \$20.22 per hour. In the service occupations, restaurant cooks earned \$10.53 and maids and housekeeping cleaners \$8.50. Cashiers, part of the sales and office occupational group, earned \$8.91. (See table 2.)

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. Establishments in the Knoxville area with 1-99 workers averaged \$16.86 per hour and those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$14.83; workers in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$17.20. Full-time workers averaged \$17.12 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$9.71. (See table 1.)

The NCS is a comprehensive survey that measures occupational earnings, occupational levels based on duties and responsibilities, compensation cost trends, and benefit incidences. The Employment Cost Index (ECI) component measures changes in labor costs. Average employer costs for employee compensation are available from the Employer Cost for Employee Compensation (ECEC) series. Details on benefits incidences and provisions are available from the Employee Benefits Survey (EBS). The occupational wage data may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Details on the NCS are available at www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the [Knoxville, TN National Compensation Survey May 2007](#) (Bulletin 3140-04). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Atlanta Information Office by calling 404-893-4222. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Atlanta Information Office at 404-893-4222 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Table 1. Summary: Mean hourly earnings¹ and weekly hours for selected worker and establishment characteristics, Knoxville, TN, May 2007

Worker and establishment characteristics	Civilian workers			Private industry workers			State and local government workers		
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours ³	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours ³	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours ³
	Mean	Relative error ² (percent)		Mean	Relative error ² (percent)		Mean	Relative error ² (percent)	
All workers	\$16.25	4.4	36.4	\$15.84	4.9	36.2	\$19.34	6.4	38.0
Worker characteristics^{4,5}									
Management, professional, and related	29.68	8.8	37.3	32.20	11.3	37.4	23.36	4.3	37.1
Management, business, and financial	38.76	17.0	38.6	41.56	18.7	39.5	28.48	13.9	35.4
Professional and related	27.00	4.8	37.0	29.06	6.8	36.7	22.30	5.3	37.5
Service	9.07	4.3	34.3	8.04	4.0	33.7	15.26	12.7	38.7
Sales and office	13.65	4.3	36.4	13.66	4.5	36.2	13.41	13.3	39.6
Sales and related	15.43	10.8	35.4	15.43	10.8	35.4	—	—	—
Office and administrative support	12.73	2.4	36.9	12.67	2.3	36.7	13.41	13.3	39.6
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance	15.71	8.1	39.2	15.49	8.7	39.2	18.30	8.9	39.6
Construction and extraction	15.62	13.8	40.0	15.15	15.0	40.0	—	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair	15.79	4.8	38.6	15.74	5.1	38.6	—	—	—
Production, transportation, and material moving	13.32	2.8	36.7	13.30	2.9	36.6	—	—	—
Production	13.17	2.5	37.9	13.17	2.5	37.9	—	—	—
Transportation and material moving	13.44	4.7	35.8	13.40	4.8	35.6	—	—	—
Full time	17.12	4.6	40.0	16.79	5.3	40.1	19.38	6.8	39.4
Part time	9.71	6.4	21.6	9.52	6.5	21.9	17.69	16.9	15.2
Union	18.24	8.8	39.5	14.80	9.0	39.9	29.51	6.7	38.4
Nonunion	16.12	4.7	36.2	15.90	5.2	36.0	17.85	7.4	38.0
Time	15.95	4.5	36.3	15.48	5.1	36.1	19.34	6.4	38.0
Incentive	23.17	13.0	38.8	23.17	13.0	38.8	—	—	—
Establishment characteristics									
Goods producing	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	—	—	—	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
Service providing	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)	—	—	—	(⁶)	(⁶)	(⁶)
1-99 workers	16.86	8.6	35.3	16.64	8.8	35.3	—	—	—
100-499 workers	14.83	6.9	37.4	14.61	7.4	37.4	18.77	14.2	36.5
500 workers or more	17.20	5.2	37.5	16.00	8.9	36.5	18.56	5.0	38.7

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours. See appendix A in Bulletin 3140-04 for more information.

² The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

³ Mean weekly hours are the hours an employee is scheduled to work in a week, exclusive of overtime.

⁴ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining. Wages of time workers are based solely on

hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁵ Workers are classified by occupation using the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. See appendix B for more information.

⁶ Classification of establishments into goods-producing and service-providing industries applies to private industry only. Industries are determined by the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Compensation Survey.

Table 2. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Knoxville, TN, May 2007**

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All workers	\$16.25	4.4	\$17.12	4.6	\$9.71	6.4
Management occupations	43.58	17.0	43.53	17.1	–	–
Education administrators	39.31	2.2	39.31	2.2	–	–
Business and financial operations occupations	24.75	13.6	21.72	3.3	–	–
Computer and mathematical science occupations	23.62	3.8	23.62	3.8	–	–
Architecture and engineering occupations	38.56	11.7	38.56	11.7	–	–
Engineers	44.85	25.2	44.85	25.2	–	–
Education, training, and library occupations	19.44	14.0	20.36	11.6	–	–
Postsecondary teachers	28.26	4.6	28.60	4.3	–	–
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	23.49	15.9	23.42	15.9	–	–
Elementary and middle school teachers	28.09	2.5	28.04	2.4	–	–
Elementary school teachers, except special education	27.78	1.6	27.72	1.4	–	–
Teacher assistants	9.73	12.3	11.20	3.7	–	–
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	20.20	9.7	20.20	9.7	–	–
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	28.68	4.6	29.21	4.8	24.46	19.0
Pharmacists	48.07	2.2	48.07	2.2	–	–
Registered nurses	27.31	21.1	26.87	19.5	–	–
Therapists	27.63	18.0	28.62	17.3	–	–
Diagnostic related technologists and technicians	22.21	3.9	–	–	–	–
Radiologic technologists and technicians	20.22	4.2	–	–	–	–
Health diagnosing and treating practitioner support technicians	14.14	2.9	14.14	2.9	–	–
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	15.07	2.4	15.02	1.8	–	–
Healthcare support occupations	12.08	9.6	12.34	10.4	–	–
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	9.63	1.5	9.59	1.8	–	–
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	9.63	1.5	9.59	1.8	–	–
Miscellaneous healthcare support occupations	13.78	8.5	14.78	6.2	–	–
Protective service occupations	15.79	12.7	15.90	14.8	–	–
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers	–	–	11.98	4.2	–	–
Security guards	–	–	11.98	4.2	–	–
Food preparation and serving related occupations	6.27	4.8	7.19	7.3	4.42	8.8
First-line supervisors/managers, food preparation and serving workers	12.63	16.4	12.63	16.4	–	–
First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers	12.63	16.4	12.63	16.4	–	–
Cooks	10.18	2.3	10.24	3.1	–	–
Cooks, restaurant	10.53	3.9	–	–	–	–
Food preparation workers	9.27	4.0	9.71	7.3	–	–
Food service, tipped	2.46	2.3	2.44	3.3	2.49	3.2
Waiters and waitresses	2.31	.3	2.27	1.0	2.36	1.0
Fast food and counter workers	8.16	4.5	–	–	–	–
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	8.16	4.5	–	–	–	–
Dishwashers	8.36	3.4	–	–	–	–
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	9.04	2.8	9.36	1.8	–	–
Building cleaning workers	8.72	3.3	9.04	3.3	–	–
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	8.91	5.7	9.54	4.4	–	–
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	8.50	1.9	8.58	3.1	–	–
Personal care and service occupations	10.07	3.6	10.25	4.1	–	–

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Knoxville, TN, May 2007** — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Sales and related occupations	\$15.43	10.8	\$16.97	10.7	\$8.61	5.6
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers	16.59	33.0	16.59	33.0	—	—
Retail sales workers	9.75	4.8	10.23	5.4	8.61	5.6
Cashiers, all workers	8.91	4.1	9.39	3.2	7.37	7.6
Cashiers	8.91	4.1	9.39	3.2	7.37	7.6
Retail salespersons	10.09	5.2	10.03	4.7	10.20	6.3
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	24.75	6.8	24.75	6.8	—	—
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	22.64	8.9	22.64	8.9	—	—
Office and administrative support occupations	12.73	2.4	13.00	2.7	9.89	2.7
Financial clerks	14.35	6.4	14.36	6.4	—	—
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	13.41	5.0	13.41	5.0	—	—
Customer service representatives	12.47	7.3	14.36	8.2	—	—
Hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks	9.52	4.6	—	—	—	—
Receptionists and information clerks	11.02	2.6	11.10	2.9	—	—
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks	11.10	5.8	11.20	6.8	—	—
Stock clerks and order fillers	12.42	4.6	12.63	5.2	—	—
Secretaries and administrative assistants	16.12	6.4	16.14	6.4	—	—
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	18.28	11.1	18.28	11.1	—	—
Medical secretaries	11.39	3.3	11.29	3.4	—	—
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	16.02	10.6	16.02	10.6	—	—
Office clerks, general	12.78	9.1	12.76	9.2	—	—
Construction and extraction occupations	15.62	13.8	15.62	13.8	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	15.79	4.8	16.06	5.5	—	—
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	15.60	5.6	15.60	5.6	—	—
Industrial machinery mechanics	20.63	3.1	20.63	3.1	—	—
Maintenance and repair workers, general	14.48	8.2	14.48	8.2	—	—
Production occupations	13.17	2.5	13.30	2.1	10.31	21.1
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	16.90	9.7	16.90	9.7	—	—
Miscellaneous assemblers and fabricators	14.50	5.3	14.50	5.3	—	—
Machine tool cutting setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	16.35	25.4	16.35	25.4	—	—
Welding, soldering, and brazing workers	17.07	5.4	17.07	5.4	—	—
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	17.74	6.2	17.74	6.2	—	—
Laundry and dry-cleaning workers	7.73	4.9	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous production workers	11.92	1.0	12.00	1.2	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations	13.44	4.7	14.00	5.0	11.07	11.6
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	15.04	7.5	15.17	7.3	—	—
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	15.79	9.1	15.79	9.2	—	—
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	12.04	10.6	—	—	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor operators	13.41	7.0	13.41	7.0	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	11.79	7.6	11.91	7.0	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	12.79	3.9	12.70	6.1	—	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours. See appendix A in Bulletin 3140-04 for more information.

² Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

³ Workers are classified by occupation using the 2000 Standard

Occupational Classification (SOC) system. See appendix B for more information.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria. Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Compensation Survey.