

# News

United States  
Department  
of Labor



---

Bureau of Labor Statistics

Washington, D.C. 20212

---

Technical Contact:

(202) 691-6199 ocltinfo@bls.gov

Media Contact:

(202) 691-5902

Internet address:

<http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/home.htm>

USDL: 04-1105

FOR RELEASE: 10:00 A.M. EDT

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2004

## **EMPLOYER COSTS FOR EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION—MARCH 2004**

Employer costs for employee compensation averaged \$24.95 per hour worked in March 2004, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Wages and salaries, which averaged \$17.71, accounted for 71.0 percent of these costs, while benefits, which averaged \$7.23, accounted for the remaining 29.0 percent. (See table 1.) Benefits, as a percentage of total compensation, have risen in the past three years from 27.4 percent of total compensation in March 2001. Employer Costs for Employee Compensation, based on the Bureau's National Compensation Survey, measures employer costs for wages, salaries, and employee benefits for nonfarm private and State and local government workers.

Beginning with this release, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation data are based on new classifications of industry and occupation: the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), and the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC). These systems replace the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC) and the Occupational Classification System (OCS). Effective with this release, estimates for employer costs will no longer be available by SIC and OCS. See page 24 for more details.

### Compensation costs in private industry

In March 2004, private industry employer compensation costs averaged \$23.29 per hour worked. Wages and salaries averaged \$16.64 per hour (71.5 percent), while benefits averaged \$6.65 (28.5 percent.) (See table 5.) Wages and salaries, as a percentage of total compensation in the private sector, have dropped in the past five years from 73.0 percent of total compensation in March 1999.

Employer costs for paid leave averaged \$1.50 per hour worked (6.4 percent), supplemental pay averaged 66 cents (2.8 percent), insurance benefits averaged \$1.65 (7.1 percent), retirement and savings averaged 80 cents (3.4 percent), and legally required benefits averaged \$2.01 (8.6 percent) per hour worked. Among legally required benefits, Social Security and Medicare (formerly titled Social Security) averaged \$1.39 (6.0 percent), Social Security (formerly titled OASDI) averaged \$1.12 (4.8 percent), and Medicare averaged 27 cents (1.2 percent). (See table 5.)

Employer costs per hour worked are available for five major occupational groups in SOC. Total compensation costs ranged from \$11.66 for service workers to \$40.23 for management, professional, and related workers. Total compensation costs averaged \$18.42 for sales and office workers, \$20.21 for production, transportation, and material moving workers, and \$26.55 for natural resources, construction, and maintenance workers. Employer costs for total compensation were higher for union workers, averaging \$31.94 per hour, than for nonunion workers, averaging \$22.28. (See table 5.)

Employer compensation costs also varied by industry, region, and establishment size. In goods-producing industries, employer compensation costs were higher, \$27.19 per hour, than in service-providing industries, \$22.33 per hour. (See table 6.)

Within goods-producing industries, costs were \$27.17 per hour for construction workers, compared with the cost for manufacturing workers \$26.97. The classifications of service-providing industries have changed considerably under NAICS. Service-providing industries varied greatly in costs, ranging from \$10.39 in leisure and hospitality, to \$31.03 in the financial activities industry and \$33.66 in the information industry. (See table 6.)

Among the four regions, total compensation costs ranged from \$20.80 per hour in the South to \$26.29 in the Northeast. Total compensation costs were \$23.26 in the Midwest and \$24.54 in the West. In addition to regional estimates, employer costs for the nine census divisions are now available. Within census divisions, total compensation costs ranged from \$19.98 in the Mountain division, to \$27.18 in the Middle Atlantic division. (See table 7.)

Total compensation costs were \$19.47 per hour worked in establishments with fewer than 100 workers, less than the compensation costs for establishments with 100 workers or more, \$27.81. Additional detail is now available by establishment size. Establishments with fewer than 50 workers averaged \$19.37, those with 50-99 workers averaged \$19.81, those with 100-499 employees averaged \$23.91, and those with 500 or more employees averaged \$32.54. (See table 8.)

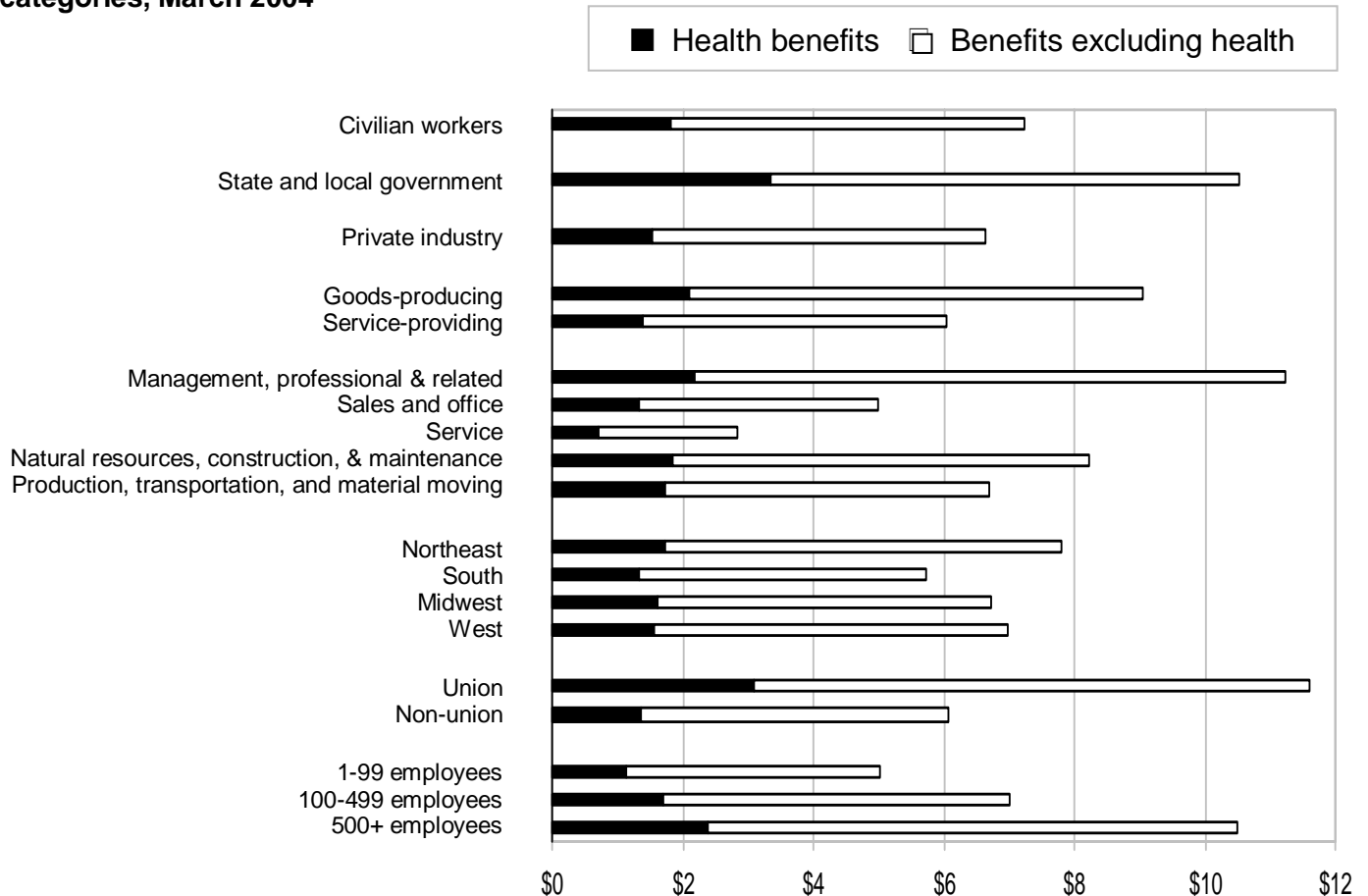
Additional occupational and industrial series have been introduced this quarter based on the NAICS and SOC definitions. Several publications have been prepared to provide more information on the transitions of the ECEC to NAICS and SOC, including a brief overview, a question and answer document, and a more detailed overview on the differences in series due to the changes in industry and occupational classification systems. More information on the transition may be obtained by calling (202) 691-6199, sending an e-mail message to [ocltinfo@bls.gov](mailto:ocltinfo@bls.gov), or visiting the BLS website at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/#notices>.

# Employer Costs for Employee Compensation, March 2004

## Relative importance of employer costs for employee compensation, March 2004

Compensation component	Civilian workers	State and local government	Private industry
Wages and salaries	71.0%	69.2%	71.5%
Benefits	29.0	30.8	28.5
Paid leave	6.7	7.6	6.4
Supplemental pay	2.4	0.9	2.8
Insurance	7.7	10.2	7.1
Health benefits	7.2	9.8	6.6
Retirement & savings	4.0	6.1	3.4
Defined benefit	2.4	5.3	1.6
Defined contribution	1.6	0.7	1.8
Legally required	8.1	5.9	8.6
Other benefits	0.2	0.2	0.2

## Employer costs per hour worked for health benefits and benefits excluding health, by various categories, March 2004



### Table of Contents:

Table 1.	Civilian workers, by major occupational and industry group	5
Table 2.	Civilian workers, by occupational and industry group	7
Table 3.	State and local government workers, by major occupational and industry group	8
Table 4.	State and local government workers, by occupational and industry group	9
Table 5.	Private industry workers, by major occupational group and bargaining status	10
Table 6.	Private industry workers, by major industry group	12
Table 7.	Private industry workers, by census region and division, and area	14
Table 8.	Private industry workers, by establishment employment size	17
Table 9.	Private industry workers, goods-producing and service-providing industries, by occupational group	18
Table 10.	Private industry workers, by industry group	19
Table 11.	Private industry workers, by occupational group and full-time and part-time status	20
Table 12.	Private industry workers, by industry group and full-time and part-time status	21
Table 13.	Private industry workers, by major industry group and establishment employment size and bargaining status	22
Table 14.	Private industry health care and social assistance workers, by industry and occupational group	23
	Explanatory notes	24

**Table 1. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Civilian workers, by major occupational and industry group, March 2004**

Compensation component	Occupational group							
	All workers <sup>1</sup>		Management, professional, and related		Sales and office		Service	
	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$24.95	100.0	\$40.64	100.0	\$18.81	100.0	\$14.00	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	17.71	71.0	29.31	72.1	13.56	72.1	10.08	72.0
Total benefits .....	7.23	29.0	11.34	27.9	5.24	27.9	3.92	28.0
Paid leave .....	1.66	6.7	3.06	7.5	1.19	6.4	.79	5.7
Vacation .....	.76	3.1	1.37	3.4	.54	2.9	.36	2.6
Holiday .....	.57	2.3	1.03	2.5	.42	2.2	.26	1.8
Sick .....	.25	1.0	.49	1.2	.18	1.0	.14	1.0
Other .....	.08	.3	.17	.4	.05	.3	.04	.3
Supplemental pay .....	.60	2.4	.92	2.3	.38	2.0	.24	1.7
Overtime and premium <sup>4</sup> .....	.22	.9	.12	.3	.11	.6	.13	.9
Shift differentials .....	.06	.2	.08	.2	.02	.1	.05	.4
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.32	1.3	.72	1.8	.25	1.3	.06	.4
Insurance .....	1.93	7.7	2.83	7.0	1.57	8.3	1.08	7.7
Life .....	.04	.2	.08	.2	.03	.2	.02	.1
Health .....	1.81	7.2	2.62	6.5	1.48	7.8	1.03	7.3
Short-term disability .....	.04	.2	.06	.2	.03	.2	.02	.2
Long-term disability .....	.03	.1	.07	.2	.02	.1	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )
Retirement and savings .....	.99	4.0	1.75	4.3	.57	3.1	.48	3.4
Defined benefit .....	.59	2.4	.99	2.4	.26	1.4	.36	2.6
Defined contribution .....	.40	1.6	.76	1.9	.31	1.7	.11	.8
Legally required benefits .....	2.01	8.1	2.71	6.7	1.51	8.0	1.32	9.4
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.42	5.7	2.23	5.5	1.13	6.0	.83	6.0
Social Security <sup>7</sup> .....	1.13	4.5	1.76	4.3	.91	4.8	.67	4.8
Medicare .....	.29	1.2	.47	1.2	.22	1.2	.17	1.2
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.03	.1	.02	.1	.03	.2	.03	.2
State unemployment insurance .....	.12	.5	.12	.3	.11	.6	.11	.8
Workers' compensation .....	.44	1.8	.34	.8	.23	1.2	.35	2.5
Other benefits <sup>8</sup> .....	.04	.2	.07	.2	.02	.1	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Civilian workers, by major occupational and industry group, March 2004 — Continued**

Compensation component	Occupational group				Industry group			
	Natural resources, construction, and maintenance		Production, transportation, and material moving		Goods-producing <sup>2</sup>		Service-providing <sup>3</sup>	
	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$26.74	100.0	\$20.55	100.0	\$27.16	100.0	\$24.49	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	18.34	68.6	13.70	66.6	18.09	66.6	17.64	72.0
Total benefits .....	8.40	31.4	6.86	33.4	9.08	33.4	6.86	28.0
Paid leave .....	1.46	5.4	1.24	6.0	1.70	6.2	1.66	6.8
Vacation .....	.74	2.8	.60	2.9	.87	3.2	.74	3.0
Holiday .....	.48	1.8	.45	2.2	.62	2.3	.56	2.3
Sick .....	.16	.6	.14	.7	.14	.5	.27	1.1
Other .....	.07	.3	.05	.2	.07	.3	.09	.4
Supplemental pay .....	.80	3.0	.75	3.7	1.11	4.1	.50	2.0
Overtime and premium <sup>4</sup> .....	.59	2.2	.49	2.4	.56	2.1	.15	.6
Shift differentials .....	.04	.2	.09	.4	.08	.3	.05	.2
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.17	.7	.17	.8	.47	1.7	.29	1.2
Insurance .....	2.05	7.7	1.93	9.4	2.28	8.4	1.86	7.6
Life .....	.04	.2	.04	.2	.06	.2	.04	.2
Health .....	1.94	7.3	1.82	8.9	2.12	7.8	1.74	7.1
Short-term disability .....	.05	.2	.06	.3	.07	.3	.04	.2
Long-term disability .....	.02	.1	.02	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1
Retirement and savings .....	1.24	4.6	.86	4.2	1.32	4.9	.92	3.8
Defined benefit .....	.83	3.1	.59	2.9	.84	3.1	.54	2.2
Defined contribution .....	.41	1.5	.27	1.3	.49	1.8	.38	1.6
Legally required benefits .....	2.81	10.5	2.03	9.9	2.58	9.5	1.89	7.7
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.54	5.8	1.17	5.7	1.55	5.7	1.39	5.7
Social Security <sup>7</sup> .....	1.24	4.6	.94	4.6	1.25	4.6	1.11	4.5
Medicare .....	.29	1.1	.22	1.1	.30	1.1	.29	1.2
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1
State unemployment insurance .....	.15	.5	.15	.7	.17	.6	.11	.5
Workers' compensation .....	1.10	4.1	.68	3.3	.83	3.1	.36	1.5
Other benefits <sup>8</sup> .....	.03	.1	.05	.2	.08	.3	.03	.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes workers in the private nonfarm economy excluding households and the public sector excluding the Federal government.

<sup>2</sup> Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing. The agriculture, forestry, farming, and hunting sector is excluded.

<sup>3</sup> Includes utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; transportation and warehousing; information; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; professional and technical services; management of companies and enterprises; administrative and waste services; educational services; health care and social assistance; arts, entertainment and recreation; accommodation and food services; and other services, except public administration.

<sup>4</sup> Includes premium pay for work in addition to the regular work schedule (such as overtime, weekends, and holidays).

<sup>5</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>6</sup> Less than .05 percent.

<sup>7</sup> Comprises the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program.

<sup>8</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 2. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Civilian workers, by occupational and industry group, March 2004**

Series	Total compensation	Wages and salaries	Benefit costs						
			Total	Paid leave	Supplemental pay	Insurance	Retirement and savings	Legally required benefits	Other benefits <sup>1</sup>
<b>Cost per hour worked</b>									
Civilian workers <sup>2</sup> .....	\$24.95	\$17.71	\$7.23	\$1.66	\$0.60	\$1.93	\$0.99	\$2.01	\$0.04
<b>Occupational group</b>									
Management, professional, and related .....	40.64	29.31	11.34	3.06	.92	2.83	1.75	2.71	.07
Management, business, and financial .....	45.25	32.05	13.20	3.77	1.67	2.87	1.84	2.94	.10
Professional and related .....	38.52	28.04	10.48	2.73	.58	2.82	1.71	2.60	.06
Teachers <sup>3</sup> .....	44.50	33.48	11.03	2.28	.10	3.46	2.52	2.60	.06
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers .....	42.45	31.56	10.89	2.25	.11	3.76	2.38	2.31	.08
Registered nurses .....	37.23	26.53	10.69	3.06	1.28	2.28	1.21	2.85	.02
Sales and office .....	18.81	13.56	5.24	1.19	.38	1.57	.57	1.51	.02
Sales and related .....	17.16	13.14	4.02	.81	.39	.96	.36	1.49	( <sup>4</sup> )
Office and administrative support .....	19.70	13.79	5.91	1.41	.37	1.90	.69	1.51	.03
Service .....	14.00	10.08	3.92	.79	.24	1.08	.48	1.32	( <sup>4</sup> )
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	26.74	18.34	8.40	1.46	.80	2.05	1.24	2.81	.03
Construction and extraction .....	27.05	18.47	8.57	1.12	.76	2.01	1.47	3.18	.03
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	26.80	18.46	8.34	1.86	.86	2.13	1.01	2.43	.04
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	20.55	13.70	6.86	1.24	.75	1.93	.86	2.03	.05
Production .....	21.33	13.90	7.43	1.38	.96	2.04	.96	2.02	.07
Transportation and material moving .....	19.74	13.48	6.26	1.08	.54	1.82	.76	2.03	.02
<b>Industry group</b>									
Education and health services .....	29.65	21.49	8.16	2.05	.32	2.48	1.26	2.02	.02
Educational services .....	35.91	26.14	9.77	2.25	.13	3.25	1.96	2.14	.04
Elementary and secondary schools .....	35.24	25.67	9.57	2.01	.11	3.52	1.89	1.98	.06
Junior colleges, colleges, and universities .....	38.65	27.97	10.68	2.87	.15	2.94	2.29	2.43	( <sup>4</sup> )
Health care and social assistance .....	24.28	17.50	6.78	1.88	.49	1.81	.65	1.93	( <sup>4</sup> )
Hospitals .....	29.53	20.37	9.16	2.59	.80	2.54	1.01	2.20	.02
<b>Percent of total compensation</b>									
Civilian workers <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	71.0	29.0	6.7	2.4	7.7	4.0	8.1	0.2
<b>Occupational group</b>									
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	72.1	27.9	7.5	2.3	7.0	4.3	6.7	.2
Management, business, and financial .....	100.0	70.8	29.2	8.3	3.7	6.4	4.1	6.5	.2
Professional and related .....	100.0	72.8	27.2	7.1	1.5	7.3	4.4	6.7	.1
Teachers <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	75.2	24.8	5.1	.2	7.8	5.7	5.9	.1
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers .....	100.0	74.3	25.7	5.3	.2	8.9	5.6	5.4	.2
Registered nurses .....	100.0	71.3	28.7	8.2	3.4	6.1	3.2	7.7	.1
Sales and office .....	100.0	72.1	27.9	6.4	2.0	8.3	3.1	8.0	.1
Sales and related .....	100.0	76.6	23.4	4.7	2.3	5.6	2.1	8.7	( <sup>5</sup> )
Office and administrative support .....	100.0	70.0	30.0	7.1	1.9	9.6	3.5	7.7	.2
Service .....	100.0	72.0	28.0	5.7	1.7	7.7	3.4	9.4	( <sup>5</sup> )
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	100.0	68.6	31.4	5.4	3.0	7.7	4.6	10.5	.1
Construction and extraction .....	100.0	68.3	31.7	4.2	2.8	7.4	5.4	11.8	.1
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	100.0	68.9	31.1	7.0	3.2	7.9	3.8	9.1	.2
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	100.0	66.6	33.4	6.0	3.7	9.4	4.2	9.9	.2
Production .....	100.0	65.2	34.8	6.5	4.5	9.6	4.5	9.5	.3
Transportation and material moving .....	100.0	68.3	31.7	5.5	2.7	9.2	3.9	10.3	.1
<b>Industry group</b>									
Education and health services .....	100.0	72.5	27.5	6.9	1.1	8.4	4.2	6.8	.1
Educational services .....	100.0	72.8	27.2	6.3	.4	9.1	5.5	6.0	.1
Elementary and secondary schools .....	100.0	72.8	27.2	5.7	.3	10.0	5.4	5.6	.2
Junior colleges, colleges, and universities .....	100.0	72.4	27.6	7.4	.4	7.6	5.9	6.3	( <sup>5</sup> )
Health care and social assistance .....	100.0	72.1	27.9	7.8	2.0	7.5	2.7	7.9	( <sup>5</sup> )
Hospitals .....	100.0	69.0	31.0	8.8	2.7	8.6	3.4	7.4	.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.<sup>2</sup> Includes workers in the private nonfarm economy excluding households and the public sector excluding the Federal government.<sup>3</sup> Includes postsecondary teachers; primary, secondary, and special education teachers; and other teachers and instructors.<sup>4</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.<sup>5</sup> Less than .05 percent.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 3. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: State and local government workers, by major occupational and industry group, March 2004**

Compensation component	Occupational group <sup>1</sup>								Industry group	
	All workers		Management, professional, and related		Sales and office		Service		Service-providing <sup>2</sup>	
	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$34.21	100.0	\$41.63	100.0	\$23.32	100.0	\$25.94	100.0	\$34.36	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	23.69	69.2	30.05	72.2	14.97	64.2	16.44	63.4	23.82	69.3
Total benefits .....	10.52	30.8	11.59	27.8	8.35	35.8	9.50	36.6	10.53	30.7
Paid leave .....	2.60	7.6	2.79	6.7	2.23	9.5	2.38	9.2	2.60	7.6
Vacation .....	.90	2.6	.80	1.9	.90	3.9	1.02	3.9	.89	2.6
Holiday .....	.86	2.5	.94	2.3	.73	3.1	.76	2.9	.86	2.5
Sick .....	.64	1.9	.80	1.9	.46	2.0	.43	1.7	.64	1.9
Other .....	.20	.6	.25	.6	.13	.6	.16	.6	.21	.6
Supplemental pay .....	.30	.9	.18	.4	.16	.7	.61	2.3	.30	.9
Overtime and premium <sup>3</sup> .....	.14	.4	.04	.1	.07	.3	.32	1.2	.13	.4
Shift differentials .....	.06	.2	.05	.1	.02	.1	.14	.5	.06	.2
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.10	.3	.10	.2	.07	.3	.16	.6	.10	.3
Insurance .....	3.48	10.2	3.82	9.2	3.18	13.6	2.82	10.9	3.48	10.1
Life .....	.06	.2	.07	.2	.05	.2	.04	.2	.06	.2
Health .....	3.35	9.8	3.68	8.8	3.08	13.2	2.68	10.3	3.35	9.7
Short-term disability .....	.03	.1	.02	.1	.02	.1	.08	.3	.04	.1
Long-term disability .....	.04	.1	.05	.1	.03	.1	.02	.1	.04	.1
Retirement and savings .....	2.07	6.1	2.43	5.8	1.27	5.4	2.00	7.7	2.08	6.1
Defined benefit .....	1.83	5.3	2.11	5.1	1.11	4.8	1.86	7.2	1.83	5.3
Defined contribution .....	.25	.7	.32	.8	.15	.7	.13	.5	.25	.7
Legally required benefits .....	2.02	5.9	2.31	5.6	1.48	6.4	1.64	6.3	2.02	5.9
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.57	4.6	1.95	4.7	1.14	4.9	1.02	3.9	1.58	4.6
Social Security <sup>4</sup> .....	1.21	3.5	1.50	3.6	.90	3.9	.77	3.0	1.22	3.5
Medicare .....	.36	1.0	.45	1.1	.24	1.0	.25	1.0	.36	1.1
Federal unemployment insurance .....	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )
State unemployment insurance .....	.06	.2	.05	.1	.05	.2	.07	.3	.06	.2
Workers' compensation .....	.39	1.1	.31	.8	.29	1.2	.55	2.1	.39	1.1
Other benefits <sup>7</sup> .....	.05	.2	.06	.1	.03	.1	.05	.2	.05	.2

<sup>1</sup> This table presents data for the three major occupational groups in State and local government: management, professional, and related occupations, including teachers; sales and office occupations, including clerical workers; and service occupations, including police and firefighters.

<sup>2</sup> Service-providing industries, which include health and educational services, employ a large part of the State and local government workforce.

<sup>3</sup> Includes premium pay for work in addition to the regular work schedule (such as overtime, weekends, and holidays).

<sup>4</sup> Comprises the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program.

<sup>5</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>6</sup> Less than .05 percent.

<sup>7</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.



**Table 4. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: State and local government workers, by occupational and industry group, March 2004**

Series	Total compensation	Wages and salaries	Benefit costs						
			Total	Paid leave	Supplemental pay	Insurance	Retirement and savings	Legally required benefits	Other benefits <sup>1</sup>
Cost per hour worked									
State and local government workers .....	\$34.21	\$23.69	\$10.52	\$2.60	\$0.30	\$3.48	\$2.07	\$2.02	\$0.05
<b>Occupational group</b>									
Management, professional, and related .....	41.63	30.05	11.59	2.79	.18	3.82	2.43	2.31	.06
Professional and related .....	41.36	30.17	11.19	2.49	.18	3.77	2.39	2.29	.06
Teachers <sup>2</sup> .....	46.41	34.69	11.73	2.37	.10	3.87	2.84	2.48	.07
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers .....	45.08	33.47	11.61	2.35	.10	4.08	2.66	2.33	.09
Sales and office .....	23.32	14.97	8.35	2.23	.16	3.18	1.27	1.48	.03
Office and administrative support .....	23.31	14.97	8.35	2.22	.16	3.18	1.27	1.48	.03
Service .....	25.94	16.44	9.50	2.38	.61	2.82	2.00	1.64	.05
<b>Industry group</b>									
Education and health services .....	36.08	25.95	10.13	2.37	.20	3.46	2.02	2.02	.05
Educational services .....	36.76	26.62	10.14	2.27	.13	3.54	2.12	2.02	.05
Elementary and secondary schools .....	35.96	26.13	9.83	2.03	.11	3.69	2.00	1.94	.07
Junior colleges, colleges, and universities .....	39.37	28.27	11.10	2.98	.17	3.14	2.52	2.28	( <sup>3</sup> )
Health care and social assistance .....	31.51	21.45	10.06	3.06	.68	2.93	1.32	2.04	.04
Hospitals .....	28.80	19.19	9.61	2.90	.70	2.69	1.26	2.01	.05
Public administration .....	31.39	20.25	11.15	2.98	.46	3.47	2.24	1.93	.06
Percent of total compensation									
State and local government workers .....	100.0	69.2	30.8	7.6	0.9	10.2	6.1	5.9	0.2
<b>Occupational group</b>									
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	72.2	27.8	6.7	.4	9.2	5.8	5.6	.1
Professional and related .....	100.0	72.9	27.1	6.0	.4	9.1	5.8	5.5	.2
Teachers <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	74.7	25.3	5.1	.2	8.3	6.1	5.3	.2
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers .....	100.0	74.2	25.8	5.2	.2	9.1	5.9	5.2	.2
Sales and office .....	100.0	64.2	35.8	9.5	.7	13.6	5.4	6.4	.1
Office and administrative support .....	100.0	64.2	35.8	9.5	.7	13.6	5.5	6.3	.1
Service .....	100.0	63.4	36.6	9.2	2.3	10.9	7.7	6.3	.2
<b>Industry group</b>									
Education and health services .....	100.0	71.9	28.1	6.6	.5	9.6	5.6	5.6	.1
Educational services .....	100.0	72.4	27.6	6.2	.3	9.6	5.8	5.5	.1
Elementary and secondary schools .....	100.0	72.7	27.3	5.6	.3	10.3	5.5	5.4	.2
Junior colleges, colleges, and universities .....	100.0	71.8	28.2	7.6	.4	8.0	6.4	5.8	( <sup>4</sup> )
Health care and social assistance .....	100.0	68.1	31.9	9.7	2.1	9.3	4.2	6.5	.1
Hospitals .....	100.0	66.6	33.4	10.1	2.4	9.3	4.4	7.0	.2
Public administration .....	100.0	64.5	35.5	9.5	1.5	11.1	7.1	6.1	.2

<sup>1</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

<sup>2</sup> Includes postsecondary teachers; primary, secondary, and special education teachers; and other teachers and instructors.

<sup>3</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>4</sup> Less than .05 percent.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 5. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by major occupational group and bargaining status, March 2004**

Compensation component	Occupational group							
	All workers		Management, professional, and related		Sales and office		Service	
	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$23.29	100.0	\$40.23	100.0	\$18.42	100.0	\$11.66	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	16.64	71.5	29.00	72.1	13.44	73.0	8.83	75.8
Total benefits .....	6.65	28.5	11.24	27.9	4.98	27.0	2.83	24.2
Paid leave .....	1.50	6.4	3.17	7.9	1.11	6.0	.48	4.1
Vacation .....	.74	3.2	1.61	4.0	.51	2.8	.23	2.0
Holiday .....	.52	2.2	1.06	2.6	.39	2.1	.16	1.3
Sick .....	.18	.8	.36	.9	.16	.8	.08	.7
Other .....	.06	.3	.14	.3	.05	.2	.02	.2
Supplemental pay .....	.66	2.8	1.23	3.1	.40	2.2	.17	1.5
Overtime and premium <sup>1</sup> .....	.24	1.0	.15	.4	.12	.6	.10	.8
Shift differentials .....	.06	.2	.10	.2	.02	.1	.03	.3
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.36	1.6	.98	2.4	.26	1.4	.04	.4
Insurance .....	1.65	7.1	2.43	6.0	1.43	7.7	.74	6.3
Life .....	.04	.2	.08	.2	.03	.2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Health .....	1.53	6.6	2.19	5.4	1.34	7.3	.70	6.0
Short-term disability .....	.05	.2	.08	.2	.03	.2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Long-term disability .....	.03	.1	.08	.2	.02	.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Retirement and savings .....	.80	3.4	1.47	3.6	.51	2.8	.18	1.5
Defined benefit .....	.37	1.6	.52	1.3	.19	1.0	.07	.6
Defined contribution .....	.43	1.8	.95	2.3	.32	1.8	.11	.9
Legally required benefits .....	2.01	8.6	2.87	7.1	1.51	8.2	1.25	10.8
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.39	6.0	2.35	5.8	1.13	6.1	.80	6.8
Social Security <sup>4</sup> .....	1.12	4.8	1.86	4.6	.91	4.9	.65	5.5
Medicare .....	.27	1.2	.49	1.2	.22	1.2	.15	1.3
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.2	.04	.3
State unemployment insurance .....	.13	.6	.14	.4	.12	.6	.12	1.0
Workers' compensation .....	.45	1.9	.35	.9	.23	1.2	.31	2.6
Other benefits <sup>5</sup> .....	.04	.2	.07	.2	.02	.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 5. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by major occupational group and bargaining status, March 2004 — Continued**

Compensation component	Occupational group				Bargaining status			
	Natural resources, construction, and maintenance		Production, transportation, and material moving		Union		Nonunion	
	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$26.55	100.0	\$20.21	100.0	\$31.94	100.0	\$22.28	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	18.34	69.1	13.52	66.9	20.32	63.6	16.21	72.8
Total benefits .....	8.22	30.9	6.70	33.1	11.61	36.4	6.06	27.2
Paid leave .....	1.32	5.0	1.18	5.8	2.22	7.0	1.41	6.3
Vacation .....	.69	2.6	.58	2.8	1.12	3.5	.69	3.1
Holiday .....	.43	1.6	.44	2.2	.72	2.3	.49	2.2
Sick .....	.13	.5	.12	.6	.27	.9	.17	.8
Other .....	.06	.2	.04	.2	.10	.3	.06	.3
Supplemental pay .....	.84	3.1	.77	3.8	1.07	3.3	.61	2.7
Overtime and premium <sup>1</sup> .....	.61	2.3	.50	2.5	.65	2.0	.19	.9
Shift differentials .....	.04	.2	.09	.5	.17	.5	.04	.2
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.18	.7	.18	.9	.24	.7	.38	1.7
Insurance .....	1.95	7.3	1.83	9.1	3.27	10.2	1.46	6.6
Life .....	.04	.1	.04	.2	.06	.2	.04	.2
Health .....	1.84	6.9	1.72	8.5	3.08	9.6	1.35	6.1
Short-term disability .....	.05	.2	.06	.3	.09	.3	.04	.2
Long-term disability .....	.02	.1	.02	.1	.05	.1	.03	.1
Retirement and savings .....	1.20	4.5	.83	4.1	2.15	6.7	.64	2.9
Defined benefit .....	.76	2.9	.57	2.8	1.67	5.2	.22	1.0
Defined contribution .....	.43	1.6	.27	1.3	.48	1.5	.42	1.9
Legally required benefits .....	2.89	10.9	2.03	10.1	2.79	8.7	1.92	8.6
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.55	5.9	1.16	5.7	1.76	5.5	1.35	6.1
Social Security <sup>4</sup> .....	1.26	4.7	.94	4.6	1.42	4.4	1.08	4.9
Medicare .....	.30	1.1	.22	1.1	.34	1.1	.27	1.2
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.03	.1	.03	.2	.03	.1	.03	.1
State unemployment insurance .....	.15	.6	.15	.7	.18	.6	.13	.6
Workers' compensation .....	1.15	4.3	.69	3.4	.82	2.6	.40	1.8
Other benefits <sup>5</sup> .....	.03	.1	.05	.2	.10	.3	.03	.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes premium pay for work in addition to the regular work schedule (such as overtime, weekends, and holidays).

<sup>2</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>3</sup> Less than .05 percent.

<sup>4</sup> Comprises the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program.

<sup>5</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 6. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by major industry group, March 2004**

Compensation component	Goods-producing <sup>1</sup>						Service-providing <sup>2</sup>					
	All goods-producing <sup>1</sup>		Construction		Manufacturing		All service-providing <sup>2</sup>		Trade, transportation, and utilities		Information	
	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$27.19	100.0	\$27.17	100.0	\$26.97	100.0	\$22.33	100.0	\$19.45	100.0	\$33.66	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	18.12	66.7	19.02	70.0	17.59	65.2	16.28	72.9	14.07	72.3	23.73	70.5
Total benefits .....	9.06	33.3	8.15	30.0	9.39	34.8	6.05	27.1	5.38	27.7	9.94	29.5
Paid leave .....	1.68	6.2	.94	3.5	1.99	7.4	1.45	6.5	1.11	5.7	2.76	8.2
Vacation .....	.86	3.2	.54	2.0	.99	3.7	.71	3.2	.54	2.8	1.35	4.0
Holiday .....	.61	2.3	.32	1.2	.74	2.7	.49	2.2	.37	1.9	.90	2.7
Sick .....	.13	.5	.06	.2	.17	.6	.19	.9	.15	.8	.30	.9
Other .....	.07	.3	.02	.1	.10	.4	.06	.3	.04	.2	.21	.6
Supplemental pay .....	1.12	4.1	1.01	3.7	1.17	4.4	.54	2.4	.44	2.2	1.02	3.0
Overtime and premium <sup>5</sup> .....	.56	2.1	.49	1.8	.59	2.2	.16	.7	.21	1.1	.31	.9
Shift differentials .....	.08	.3	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.12	.4	.05	.2	.02	.1	.05	.2
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.48	1.8	.50	1.8	.47	1.7	.33	1.5	.20	1.0	.66	2.0
Insurance .....	2.26	8.3	1.76	6.5	2.45	9.1	1.50	6.7	1.43	7.4	2.57	7.6
Life .....	.06	.2	.03	.1	.06	.2	.04	.2	.04	.2	.06	.2
Health .....	2.11	7.8	1.69	6.2	2.27	8.4	1.39	6.2	1.33	6.9	2.33	6.9
Short-term disability .....	.07	.3	.03	.1	.08	.3	.04	.2	.04	.2	.11	.3
Long-term disability .....	.03	.1	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.04	.1	.03	.2	.02	.1	.08	.2
Retirement and savings .....	1.32	4.8	1.25	4.6	1.33	4.9	.67	3.0	.62	3.2	1.12	3.3
Defined benefit .....	.82	3.0	.77	2.8	.84	3.1	.26	1.2	.33	1.7	.52	1.5
Defined contribution .....	.49	1.8	.48	1.7	.50	1.8	.41	1.8	.29	1.5	.60	1.8
Legally required benefits .....	2.59	9.5	3.19	11.8	2.31	8.6	1.86	8.3	1.77	9.1	2.36	7.0
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.56	5.7	1.59	5.8	1.53	5.7	1.35	6.1	1.16	6.0	1.94	5.8
Social Security <sup>6</sup> .....	1.26	4.6	1.28	4.7	1.24	4.6	1.09	4.9	.94	4.8	1.55	4.6
Medicare .....	.30	1.1	.31	1.1	.30	1.1	.27	1.2	.22	1.2	.39	1.2
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.2	.04	.2	.03	.1
State unemployment insurance .....	.17	.6	.19	.7	.16	.6	.12	.6	.12	.6	.12	.4
Workers' compensation .....	.84	3.1	1.39	5.1	.58	2.2	.35	1.6	.46	2.3	.27	.8
Other benefits <sup>7</sup> .....	.08	.3	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.12	.5	.02	.1	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.09	.3

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 6. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by major industry group, March 2004 — Continued**

Compensation component	Service-providing <sup>2</sup>									
	Financial activities		Professional and business services		Education and health services		Leisure and hospitality		Other services	
	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$31.03	100.0	\$26.98	100.0	\$25.08	100.0	\$10.39	100.0	\$20.27	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	21.70	69.9	19.90	73.8	18.31	73.0	8.23	79.3	14.90	73.5
Total benefits .....	9.33	30.1	7.08	26.2	6.76	27.0	2.16	20.7	5.37	26.5
Paid leave .....	2.21	7.1	1.86	6.9	1.83	7.3	.32	3.1	1.28	6.3
Vacation .....	1.07	3.5	.88	3.3	.91	3.6	.17	1.7	.60	3.0
Holiday .....	.75	2.4	.67	2.5	.59	2.4	.10	1.0	.45	2.2
Sick .....	.29	.9	.23	.9	.25	1.0	.04	.4	.19	.9
Other .....	.10	.3	.08	.3	.07	.3	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.04	.2
Supplemental pay .....	1.34	4.3	.74	2.8	.41	1.6	.13	1.2	.32	1.6
Overtime and premium <sup>5</sup> .....	.09	.3	.16	.6	.16	.6	.08	.8	.12	.6
Shift differentials .....	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.03	.1	.15	.6	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.03	.2
Nonproduction bonuses .....	1.24	4.0	.55	2.0	.10	.4	.04	.4	.17	.9
Insurance .....	2.31	7.4	1.56	5.8	1.77	7.1	.42	4.0	1.34	6.6
Life .....	.07	.2	.05	.2	.04	.1	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.03	.2
Health .....	2.12	6.8	1.42	5.3	1.66	6.6	.40	3.8	1.26	6.2
Short-term disability .....	.06	.2	.05	.2	.04	.1	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.02	.1
Long-term disability .....	.06	.2	.05	.2	.04	.2	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	.03	.1
Retirement and savings .....	1.26	4.1	.75	2.8	.72	2.9	.10	1.0	.59	2.9
Defined benefit .....	.47	1.5	.28	1.0	.16	.7	.03	.3	.20	1.0
Defined contribution .....	.80	2.6	.47	1.8	.55	2.2	.08	.7	.39	1.9
Legally required benefits .....	2.11	6.8	2.13	7.9	2.02	8.1	1.18	11.4	1.83	9.0
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.72	5.6	1.63	6.0	1.54	6.1	.78	7.5	1.24	6.1
Social Security <sup>6</sup> .....	1.36	4.4	1.30	4.8	1.24	4.9	.63	6.1	1.00	4.9
Medicare .....	.37	1.2	.33	1.2	.30	1.2	.15	1.4	.24	1.2
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1	.04	.4	.03	.2
State unemployment insurance .....	.13	.4	.15	.6	.12	.5	.10	1.0	.13	.6
Workers' compensation .....	.22	.7	.32	1.2	.34	1.3	.26	2.5	.43	2.1
Other benefits <sup>7</sup> .....	.10	.3	.03	.1	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing. The agriculture, forestry, farming, and hunting sector is excluded.

<sup>2</sup> Includes utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; transportation and warehousing; information; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; professional and technical services; management of companies and enterprises; administrative and waste services; educational services; health care and social assistance; arts, entertainment and recreation; accommodation and food services; and other services, except public administration.

<sup>3</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>4</sup> Less than .05 percent.

<sup>5</sup> Includes premium pay for work in addition to the regular work schedule (such as overtime, weekends, and holidays).

<sup>6</sup> Comprises the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program.

<sup>7</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 7. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by census region and division, and area, March 2004**

Compensation component	Census region and division <sup>1</sup>									
	Northeast		Northeast divisions				South		South divisions	
	Cost	Percent	New England		Middle Atlantic		Cost	Percent	South Atlantic	
			Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent			Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$26.29	100.0	\$24.19	100.0	\$27.18	100.0	\$20.80	100.0	\$21.33	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	18.49	70.4	17.41	72.0	18.95	69.7	15.08	72.5	15.61	73.2
Total benefits .....	7.79	29.6	6.77	28.0	8.23	30.3	5.72	27.5	5.71	26.8
Paid leave .....	1.83	6.9	1.52	6.3	1.96	7.2	1.29	6.2	1.36	6.4
Vacation .....	.88	3.3	.73	3.0	.94	3.5	.64	3.1	.68	3.2
Holiday .....	.64	2.4	.55	2.3	.68	2.5	.44	2.1	.46	2.2
Sick .....	.23	.9	.18	.7	.25	.9	.15	.7	.16	.8
Other .....	.08	.3	.06	.3	.09	.3	.05	.3	.05	.3
Supplemental pay .....	.92	3.5	.68	2.8	1.02	3.8	.52	2.5	.48	2.2
Overtime and premium <sup>2</sup> .....	.22	.8	.22	.9	.22	.8	.22	1.1	.21	1.0
Shift differentials .....	.06	.2	.06	.3	.06	.2	.05	.2	.05	.2
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.64	2.4	.40	1.6	.74	2.7	.26	1.2	.23	1.1
Insurance .....	1.87	7.1	1.61	6.7	1.97	7.3	1.46	7.0	1.43	6.7
Life .....	.05	.2	.04	.2	.05	.2	.04	.2	.04	.2
Health .....	1.72	6.5	1.50	6.2	1.81	6.7	1.34	6.5	1.31	6.2
Short-term disability .....	.06	.2	.04	.2	.07	.3	.04	.2	.04	.2
Long-term disability .....	.04	.1	.03	.1	.04	.2	.03	.2	.03	.2
Retirement and savings .....	.94	3.6	.81	3.4	.99	3.7	.66	3.2	.63	3.0
Defined benefit .....	.40	1.5	.32	1.3	.44	1.6	.29	1.4	.23	1.1
Defined contribution .....	.54	2.0	.50	2.1	.55	2.0	.38	1.8	.40	1.9
Legally required benefits .....	2.19	8.3	2.11	8.7	2.23	8.2	1.76	8.4	1.79	8.4
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.56	5.9	1.48	6.1	1.59	5.8	1.27	6.1	1.31	6.2
Social Security <sup>3</sup> .....	1.25	4.7	1.19	4.9	1.27	4.7	1.02	4.9	1.06	5.0
Medicare .....	.31	1.2	.29	1.2	.32	1.2	.25	1.2	.26	1.2
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.2	.03	.2
State unemployment insurance .....	.18	.7	.19	.8	.18	.7	.09	.4	.08	.4
Workers' compensation .....	.42	1.6	.40	1.7	.43	1.6	.36	1.7	.36	1.7
Other benefits <sup>4</sup> .....	.05	.2	.03	.1	.06	.2	.03	.1	.03	.1

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 7. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by census region and division, and area, March 2004 — Continued**

Compensation component	Census region and division <sup>1</sup>									
	South divisions				Midwest		Midwest divisions			
	East South Central		West South Central		Cost	Percent	East North Central		West North Central	
	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent			Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$20.29	100.0	\$20.16	100.0	\$23.26	100.0	\$23.88	100.0	\$21.79	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	14.30	70.5	14.55	72.2	16.53	71.1	16.76	70.2	16.00	73.4
Total benefits .....	5.98	29.5	5.61	27.8	6.73	28.9	7.13	29.8	5.80	26.6
Paid leave .....	1.26	6.2	1.20	5.9	1.44	6.2	1.52	6.4	1.27	5.8
Vacation .....	.64	3.2	.58	2.9	.71	3.1	.74	3.1	.64	2.9
Holiday .....	.42	2.1	.43	2.1	.50	2.2	.53	2.2	.43	2.0
Sick .....	.14	.7	.14	.7	.16	.7	.17	.7	.14	.7
Other .....	.06	.3	.05	.2	.07	.3	.08	.3	.05	.2
Supplemental pay .....	.69	3.4	.52	2.6	.71	3.0	.78	3.3	.54	2.5
Overtime and premium <sup>2</sup> .....	.24	1.2	.23	1.1	.28	1.2	.30	1.3	.24	1.1
Shift differentials .....	.07	.3	.04	.2	.07	.3	.08	.3	.06	.3
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.39	1.9	.25	1.2	.35	1.5	.40	1.7	.24	1.1
Insurance .....	1.60	7.9	1.44	7.1	1.75	7.5	1.86	7.8	1.48	6.8
Life .....	.04	.2	.04	.2	.04	.2	.05	.2	.04	.2
Health .....	1.48	7.3	1.33	6.6	1.62	7.0	1.73	7.2	1.37	6.3
Short-term disability .....	.05	.3	.04	.2	.05	.2	.05	.2	.05	.2
Long-term disability .....	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1
Retirement and savings .....	.65	3.2	.72	3.6	.84	3.6	.90	3.8	.69	3.2
Defined benefit .....	.28	1.4	.38	1.9	.45	1.9	.49	2.1	.34	1.6
Defined contribution .....	.37	1.8	.34	1.7	.39	1.7	.41	1.7	.35	1.6
Legally required benefits .....	1.75	8.6	1.71	8.5	1.94	8.3	2.00	8.4	1.78	8.2
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.23	6.0	1.22	6.0	1.38	5.9	1.42	5.9	1.27	5.8
Social Security <sup>3</sup> .....	.99	4.9	.98	4.9	1.10	4.7	1.14	4.8	1.00	4.6
Medicare .....	.24	1.2	.24	1.2	.27	1.2	.28	1.2	.27	1.2
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.03	.2	.03	.2	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.2
State unemployment insurance .....	.10	.5	.11	.5	.13	.6	.14	.6	.11	.5
Workers' compensation .....	.39	1.9	.36	1.8	.40	1.7	.41	1.7	.37	1.7
Other benefits <sup>4</sup> .....	.02	.1	.02	.1	.05	.2	.06	.3	.03	.1

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 7. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by census region and division, and area, March 2004 — Continued**

Compensation component	Census region and division <sup>1</sup>						Area			
	West		West divisions				Metropolitan area		Nonmetropolitan area	
	Cost	Percent	Mountain		Pacific		Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
			Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent				
Total compensation .....	\$24.54	100.0	\$19.98	100.0	\$26.40	100.0	\$23.66	100.0	\$19.00	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	17.58	71.6	14.61	73.1	18.79	71.2	16.93	71.6	13.30	70.0
Total benefits .....	6.97	28.4	5.37	26.9	7.62	28.8	6.73	28.4	5.70	30.0
Paid leave .....	1.58	6.4	1.17	5.9	1.75	6.6	1.53	6.5	1.16	6.1
Vacation .....	.80	3.2	.58	2.9	.88	3.3	.75	3.2	.61	3.2
Holiday .....	.53	2.2	.38	1.9	.59	2.2	.53	2.2	.39	2.1
Sick .....	.20	.8	.17	.8	.21	.8	.19	.8	.11	.6
Other .....	.05	.2	.04	.2	.06	.2	.06	.3	.05	.3
Supplemental pay .....	.57	2.3	.47	2.4	.61	2.3	.67	2.8	.56	2.9
Overtime and premium <sup>2</sup> .....	.24	1.0	.21	1.1	.25	1.0	.23	1.0	.30	1.6
Shift differentials .....	.05	.2	.05	.2	.05	.2	.06	.2	.07	.4
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.28	1.2	.21	1.1	.31	1.2	.38	1.6	.18	1.0
Insurance .....	1.65	6.7	1.33	6.6	1.78	6.7	1.65	7.0	1.63	8.6
Life .....	.04	.1	.03	.1	.04	.2	.04	.2	.04	.2
Health .....	1.55	6.3	1.25	6.3	1.67	6.3	1.53	6.5	1.52	8.0
Short-term disability .....	.03	.1	.02	.1	.03	.1	.05	.2	.05	.2
Long-term disability .....	.03	.1	.02	.1	.04	.1	.03	.1	.02	.1
Retirement and savings .....	.82	3.4	.57	2.9	.92	3.5	.81	3.4	.61	3.2
Defined benefit .....	.38	1.6	.19	.9	.46	1.7	.38	1.6	.28	1.5
Defined contribution .....	.44	1.8	.38	1.9	.47	1.8	.44	1.8	.33	1.7
Legally required benefits .....	2.33	9.5	1.82	9.1	2.53	9.6	2.03	8.6	1.73	9.1
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.47	6.0	1.24	6.2	1.56	5.9	1.42	6.0	1.15	6.1
Social Security <sup>3</sup> .....	1.18	4.8	1.00	5.0	1.25	4.8	1.14	4.8	.93	4.9
Medicare .....	.29	1.2	.24	1.2	.31	1.2	.28	1.2	.22	1.2
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.03	.1	.03	.2	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.2
State unemployment insurance .....	.16	.6	.10	.5	.18	.7	.13	.6	.13	.7
Workers' compensation .....	.67	2.7	.45	2.2	.76	2.9	.45	1.9	.42	2.2
Other benefits <sup>4</sup> .....	.02	.1	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	.02	.1	.04	.2	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> The States that comprise the census divisions are: New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont; Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania; South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee; West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas; East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota; Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and Pacific: Alaska,

California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

<sup>2</sup> Includes premium pay for work in addition to the regular work schedule (such as overtime, weekends, and holidays).

<sup>3</sup> Comprises the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program.

<sup>4</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

<sup>5</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>6</sup> Less than .05 percent.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.



**Table 8. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by establishment employment size, March 2004**

Compensation component	1-99 workers						100 workers or more					
	1-99 workers		1-49 workers		50-99 workers		100 workers or more		100-499 workers		500 workers or more	
	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent	Cost	Percent
Total compensation .....	\$19.47	100.0	\$19.37	100.0	\$19.81	100.0	\$27.81	100.0	\$23.91	100.0	\$32.54	100.0
Wages and salaries .....	14.46	74.3	14.51	74.9	14.32	72.3	19.23	69.1	16.91	70.7	22.04	67.7
Total benefits .....	5.01	25.7	4.86	25.1	5.49	27.7	8.59	30.9	7.01	29.3	10.50	32.3
Paid leave .....	1.04	5.3	.99	5.1	1.20	6.1	2.04	7.3	1.56	6.5	2.62	8.1
Vacation .....	.51	2.6	.48	2.5	.58	2.9	1.02	3.7	.78	3.3	1.31	4.0
Holiday .....	.37	1.9	.35	1.8	.42	2.1	.69	2.5	.54	2.3	.87	2.7
Sick .....	.13	.7	.12	.6	.14	.7	.24	.9	.17	.7	.32	1.0
Other .....	.04	.2	.04	.2	.05	.3	.09	.3	.06	.3	.12	.4
Supplemental pay .....	.48	2.5	.47	2.4	.51	2.6	.87	3.1	.77	3.2	.99	3.0
Overtime and premium <sup>1</sup> .....	.19	1.0	.17	.9	.23	1.2	.30	1.1	.26	1.1	.35	1.1
Shift differentials .....	.02	.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	.03	.2	.10	.4	.05	.2	.16	.5
Nonproduction bonuses .....	.27	1.4	.28	1.5	.24	1.2	.47	1.7	.46	1.9	.48	1.5
Insurance .....	1.20	6.2	1.13	5.8	1.45	7.3	2.18	7.8	1.84	7.7	2.59	8.0
Life .....	.03	.2	.03	.1	.04	.2	.06	.2	.04	.2	.07	.2
Health .....	1.13	5.8	1.06	5.5	1.35	6.8	2.01	7.2	1.70	7.1	2.37	7.3
Short-term disability .....	.03	.1	.02	.1	.04	.2	.07	.2	.06	.2	.08	.3
Long-term disability .....	.02	.1	.02	.1	.02	.1	.05	.2	.04	.2	.07	.2
Retirement and savings .....	.44	2.2	.42	2.2	.49	2.5	1.22	4.4	.79	3.3	1.75	5.4
Defined benefit .....	.14	.7	.14	.7	.15	.8	.64	2.3	.38	1.6	.97	3.0
Defined contribution .....	.30	1.5	.28	1.5	.33	1.7	.58	2.1	.42	1.7	.78	2.4
Legally required benefits .....	1.84	9.4	1.84	9.5	1.83	9.2	2.21	7.9	2.02	8.4	2.43	7.5
Social Security and Medicare .....	1.21	6.2	1.21	6.2	1.20	6.1	1.62	5.8	1.41	5.9	1.88	5.8
Social Security <sup>4</sup> .....	.97	5.0	.97	5.0	.97	4.9	1.30	4.7	1.13	4.7	1.51	4.6
Medicare .....	.24	1.2	.24	1.2	.24	1.2	.32	1.2	.28	1.2	.37	1.1
Federal unemployment insurance .....	.04	.2	.04	.2	.03	.2	.03	.1	.03	.1	.03	.1
State unemployment insurance .....	.13	.6	.13	.6	.12	.6	.14	.5	.15	.6	.13	.4
Workers' compensation .....	.47	2.4	.47	2.4	.47	2.4	.42	1.5	.43	1.8	.40	1.2
Other benefits <sup>5</sup> .....	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	.07	.2	.03	.1	.12	.4

<sup>1</sup> Includes premium pay for work in addition to the regular work schedule (such as overtime, weekends, and holidays).

<sup>2</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>3</sup> Less than .05 percent.

<sup>4</sup> Comprises the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) program.

<sup>5</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 9. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, goods-producing and service-providing industries, by occupational group, March 2004**

Series	Total compensation	Wages and salaries	Benefit costs						
			Total	Paid leave	Supplemental pay	Insurance	Retirement and savings	Legally required benefits	Other benefits <sup>1</sup>
Cost per hour worked									
<b>All workers in private industry</b> .....	\$23.29	\$16.64	\$6.65	\$1.50	\$0.66	\$1.65	\$0.80	\$2.01	\$0.04
Management, professional, and related .....	40.23	29.00	11.24	3.17	1.23	2.43	1.47	2.87	.07
Management, business, and financial .....	45.68	32.55	13.13	3.69	1.95	2.65	1.69	3.05	.11
Professional and related .....	36.96	26.87	10.10	2.86	.79	2.29	1.33	2.76	.05
Sales and office .....	18.42	13.44	4.98	1.11	.40	1.43	.51	1.51	.02
Sales and related .....	17.15	13.14	4.01	.80	.39	.95	.36	1.49	( <sup>2</sup> )
Office and administrative support .....	19.20	13.63	5.58	1.29	.40	1.72	.61	1.52	.03
Service .....	11.66	8.83	2.83	.48	.17	.74	.18	1.25	( <sup>2</sup> )
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	26.55	18.34	8.22	1.32	.84	1.95	1.20	2.89	.03
Construction and extraction .....	27.04	18.59	8.45	.97	.80	1.91	1.46	3.29	.02
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	26.43	18.33	8.10	1.75	.89	2.04	.93	2.46	.04
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	20.21	13.52	6.70	1.18	.77	1.83	.83	2.03	.05
Production .....	21.14	13.79	7.34	1.35	.96	1.99	.93	2.03	.07
Transportation and material moving .....	19.19	13.21	5.98	.98	.55	1.66	.72	2.04	.02
<b>All workers, goods-producing industries<sup>3</sup></b> .....	27.19	18.12	9.06	1.68	1.12	2.26	1.32	2.59	.08
Management, professional, and related .....	45.27	30.65	14.62	3.83	2.09	3.13	2.18	3.24	.16
Sales and office .....	23.30	16.27	7.03	1.54	.66	2.09	.79	1.84	.10
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	27.36	18.61	8.75	1.08	.89	2.02	1.50	3.23	.04
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	22.35	14.31	8.04	1.43	1.09	2.20	1.06	2.18	.09
<b>All workers, service-providing industries<sup>4</sup></b> .....	22.33	16.28	6.05	1.45	.54	1.50	.67	1.86	.02
Management, professional, and related .....	39.51	28.76	10.75	3.08	1.10	2.33	1.36	2.82	.06
Sales and office .....	18.04	13.22	4.82	1.07	.38	1.38	.49	1.48	.02
Service .....	11.61	8.81	2.80	.48	.17	.73	.17	1.25	( <sup>2</sup> )
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	25.41	17.95	7.46	1.66	.76	1.84	.77	2.40	.02
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	18.30	12.80	5.50	.95	.48	1.51	.64	1.91	( <sup>2</sup> )
Percent of total compensation									
<b>All workers in private industry</b> .....	100.0	71.5	28.5	6.4	2.8	7.1	3.4	8.6	0.2
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	72.1	27.9	7.9	3.1	6.0	3.6	7.1	.2
Management, business, and financial .....	100.0	71.2	28.8	8.1	4.3	5.8	3.7	6.7	.2
Professional and related .....	100.0	72.7	27.3	7.7	2.1	6.2	3.6	7.5	.1
Sales and office .....	100.0	73.0	27.0	6.0	2.2	7.7	2.8	8.2	.1
Sales and related .....	100.0	76.6	23.4	4.7	2.3	5.5	2.1	8.7	( <sup>5</sup> )
Office and administrative support .....	100.0	71.0	29.0	6.7	2.1	9.0	3.2	7.9	.2
Service .....	100.0	75.8	24.2	4.1	1.5	6.3	1.5	10.8	( <sup>5</sup> )
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	100.0	69.1	30.9	5.0	3.1	7.3	4.5	10.9	.1
Construction and extraction .....	100.0	68.7	31.3	3.6	2.9	7.1	5.4	12.2	.1
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	100.0	69.3	30.7	6.6	3.4	7.7	3.5	9.3	.2
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	100.0	66.9	33.1	5.8	3.8	9.1	4.1	10.1	.2
Production .....	100.0	65.3	34.7	6.4	4.6	9.4	4.4	9.6	.4
Transportation and material moving .....	100.0	68.8	31.2	5.1	2.9	8.6	3.8	10.6	.1
<b>All workers, goods-producing industries<sup>3</sup></b> .....	100.0	66.7	33.3	6.2	4.1	8.3	4.8	9.5	.3
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	67.7	32.3	8.5	4.6	6.9	4.8	7.2	.4
Sales and office .....	100.0	69.8	30.2	6.6	2.8	9.0	3.4	7.9	.4
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	100.0	68.0	32.0	3.9	3.2	7.4	5.5	11.8	.1
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	100.0	64.0	36.0	6.4	4.9	9.9	4.7	9.7	.4
<b>All workers, service-providing industries<sup>4</sup></b> .....	100.0	72.9	27.1	6.5	2.4	6.7	3.0	8.3	.1
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	72.8	27.2	7.8	2.8	5.9	3.5	7.1	.2
Sales and office .....	100.0	73.3	26.7	5.9	2.1	7.6	2.7	8.2	.1
Service .....	100.0	75.9	24.1	4.1	1.5	6.3	1.5	10.8	( <sup>5</sup> )
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	100.0	70.7	29.3	6.5	3.0	7.2	3.0	9.5	.1
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	100.0	70.0	30.0	5.2	2.6	8.2	3.5	10.4	( <sup>5</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.<sup>2</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.<sup>3</sup> Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing. The agriculture, forestry, farming, and hunting sector is excluded.<sup>4</sup> Includes utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; transportation and warehousing; information; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; professional and technical services; management of companies and

enterprises; administrative and waste services; educational services; health care and social assistance; arts, entertainment and recreation; accommodation and food services; and other services, except public administration.

<sup>5</sup> Less than .05 percent.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 10. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by industry group, March 2004**

Series	Total compensation	Wages and salaries	Benefit costs						
			Total	Paid leave	Supplemental pay	Insurance	Retirement and savings	Legally required benefits	Other benefits <sup>1</sup>
Cost per hour worked									
<b>All workers, goods-producing industries<sup>2</sup></b> .....	\$27.19	\$18.12	\$9.06	\$1.68	\$1.12	\$2.26	\$1.32	\$2.59	\$0.08
Construction .....	27.17	19.02	8.15	.94	1.01	1.76	1.25	3.19	( <sup>3</sup> )
Manufacturing .....	26.97	17.59	9.39	1.99	1.17	2.45	1.33	2.31	.12
<b>All workers, service-providing industries<sup>4</sup></b> .....	22.33	16.28	6.05	1.45	.54	1.50	.67	1.86	.02
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	19.45	14.07	5.38	1.11	.44	1.43	.62	1.77	( <sup>3</sup> )
Wholesale trade .....	25.01	17.62	7.39	1.59	.74	2.05	.86	2.12	.03
Retail trade .....	14.51	11.13	3.39	.65	.21	.85	.28	1.40	( <sup>3</sup> )
Transportation and warehousing .....	26.53	18.11	8.41	1.68	.62	2.36	1.30	2.45	( <sup>3</sup> )
Utilities .....	40.56	25.65	14.91	3.93	1.94	3.65	2.24	2.98	.17
Information .....	33.66	23.73	9.94	2.76	1.02	2.57	1.12	2.36	.09
Financial activities .....	31.03	21.70	9.33	2.21	1.34	2.31	1.26	2.11	.10
Finance and insurance .....	35.01	24.34	10.67	2.56	1.64	2.55	1.59	2.20	.13
Credit intermediation and related activities .....	32.02	22.87	9.15	2.21	1.11	2.35	1.40	1.94	.13
Insurance carriers and related activities .....	32.84	22.43	10.42	2.61	1.29	2.64	1.51	2.25	.13
Real estate and rental and leasing .....	19.51	14.05	5.46	1.21	.46	1.61	.33	1.84	( <sup>3</sup> )
Professional and business services .....	26.98	19.90	7.08	1.86	.74	1.56	.75	2.13	.03
Professional and technical services .....	34.27	25.25	9.02	2.74	.63	2.09	.97	2.55	.04
Administrative and waste services .....	17.01	13.09	3.92	.78	.31	.88	.32	1.63	( <sup>3</sup> )
Education and health services .....	25.08	18.31	6.76	1.83	.41	1.77	.72	2.02	( <sup>3</sup> )
Educational services .....	32.84	24.40	8.44	2.18	.13	2.19	1.38	2.55	( <sup>3</sup> )
Junior colleges, colleges, and universities .....	37.44	27.47	9.97	2.67	.11	2.60	1.89	2.68	( <sup>3</sup> )
Health care and social assistance .....	23.48	17.06	6.42	1.76	.47	1.69	.58	1.92	( <sup>3</sup> )
Leisure and hospitality .....	10.39	8.23	2.16	.32	.13	.42	.10	1.18	( <sup>3</sup> )
Accommodation and food services .....	9.53	7.59	1.94	.27	.12	.36	.07	1.12	( <sup>3</sup> )
Other services .....	20.27	14.90	5.37	1.28	.32	1.34	.59	1.83	( <sup>3</sup> )
Percent of total compensation									
<b>All workers, goods-producing industries<sup>2</sup></b> .....	100.0	66.7	33.3	6.2	4.1	8.3	4.8	9.5	0.3
Construction .....	100.0	70.0	30.0	3.5	3.7	6.5	4.6	11.8	( <sup>5</sup> )
Manufacturing .....	100.0	65.2	34.8	7.4	4.4	9.1	4.9	8.6	.5
<b>All workers, service-providing industries<sup>4</sup></b> .....	100.0	72.9	27.1	6.5	2.4	6.7	3.0	8.3	.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	100.0	72.3	27.7	5.7	2.2	7.4	3.2	9.1	( <sup>5</sup> )
Wholesale trade .....	100.0	70.4	29.6	6.4	3.0	8.2	3.4	8.5	.1
Retail trade .....	100.0	76.7	23.3	4.5	1.5	5.9	1.9	9.6	( <sup>5</sup> )
Transportation and warehousing .....	100.0	68.3	31.7	6.3	2.3	8.9	4.9	9.2	( <sup>5</sup> )
Utilities .....	100.0	63.2	36.8	9.7	4.8	9.0	5.5	7.4	.4
Information .....	100.0	70.5	29.5	8.2	3.0	7.6	3.3	7.0	.3
Financial activities .....	100.0	69.9	30.1	7.1	4.3	7.4	4.1	6.8	.3
Finance and insurance .....	100.0	69.5	30.5	7.3	4.7	7.3	4.5	6.3	.4
Credit intermediation and related activities .....	100.0	71.4	28.6	6.9	3.5	7.3	4.4	6.1	.4
Insurance carriers and related activities .....	100.0	68.3	31.7	7.9	3.9	8.0	4.6	6.8	.4
Real estate and rental and leasing .....	100.0	72.0	28.0	6.2	2.4	8.2	1.7	9.4	( <sup>5</sup> )
Professional and business services .....	100.0	73.8	26.2	6.9	2.8	5.8	2.8	7.9	.1
Professional and technical services .....	100.0	73.7	26.3	8.0	1.8	6.1	2.8	7.5	.1
Administrative and waste services .....	100.0	77.0	23.0	4.6	1.8	5.2	1.9	9.6	( <sup>5</sup> )
Education and health services .....	100.0	73.0	27.0	7.3	1.6	7.1	2.9	8.1	( <sup>5</sup> )
Educational services .....	100.0	74.3	25.7	6.6	.4	6.7	4.2	7.8	( <sup>5</sup> )
Junior colleges, colleges, and universities .....	100.0	73.4	26.6	7.1	.3	7.0	5.0	7.2	( <sup>5</sup> )
Health care and social assistance .....	100.0	72.7	27.3	7.5	2.0	7.2	2.5	8.2	( <sup>5</sup> )
Leisure and hospitality .....	100.0	79.3	20.7	3.1	1.2	4.0	1.0	11.4	( <sup>5</sup> )
Accommodation and food services .....	100.0	79.6	20.4	2.8	1.2	3.8	.8	11.7	( <sup>5</sup> )
Other services .....	100.0	73.5	26.5	6.3	1.6	6.6	2.9	9.0	( <sup>5</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

<sup>2</sup> Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing. The agriculture, forestry, farming, and hunting sector is excluded.

<sup>3</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>4</sup> Includes utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; transportation and warehousing; information; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; professional and technical services; management of companies and

enterprises; administrative and waste services; educational services; health care and social assistance; arts, entertainment and recreation; accommodation and food services; and other services, except public administration.

<sup>5</sup> Less than .05 percent.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 11. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by occupational group and full-time and part-time status, March 2004**

Series	Total compensation	Wages and salaries	Benefit costs						
			Total	Paid leave	Supplemental pay	Insurance	Retirement and savings	Legally required benefits	Other benefits <sup>1</sup>
Cost per hour worked									
<b>All full-time workers in private industry</b> .....	\$26.50	\$18.62	\$7.88	\$1.84	\$0.81	\$2.01	\$0.98	\$2.20	\$0.05
Management, professional, and related .....	41.59	29.69	11.90	3.41	1.32	2.61	1.59	2.89	.08
Management, business, and financial .....	46.08	32.77	13.31	3.74	1.99	2.69	1.71	3.06	.11
Professional and related .....	38.43	27.53	10.91	3.18	.85	2.55	1.51	2.77	.06
Sales and office .....	21.24	15.21	6.03	1.41	.50	1.80	.65	1.64	.03
Sales and related .....	22.63	17.00	5.63	1.24	.60	1.45	.53	1.79	( <sup>2</sup> )
Office and administrative support .....	20.61	14.40	6.21	1.49	.45	1.96	.70	1.57	.03
Service .....	14.02	10.11	3.91	.77	.25	1.20	.29	1.39	( <sup>2</sup> )
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	27.03	18.59	8.44	1.37	.86	2.02	1.24	2.91	.03
Construction and extraction .....	27.05	18.58	8.47	.97	.80	1.93	1.48	3.27	.02
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	27.17	18.71	8.45	1.84	.94	2.15	.98	2.50	.04
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	21.62	14.29	7.33	1.32	.87	2.02	.93	2.13	.06
Production .....	21.74	14.08	7.66	1.42	1.01	2.10	.99	2.06	.08
Transportation and material moving .....	21.46	14.59	6.87	1.19	.67	1.91	.85	2.22	.03
<b>All part-time workers in private industry</b> .....	12.63	10.07	2.56	.37	.17	.47	.18	1.38	( <sup>2</sup> )
Management, professional, and related .....	29.49	23.50	5.99	1.28	.50	.99	.48	2.72	( <sup>2</sup> )
Professional and related .....	29.53	23.53	6.00	1.28	.52	1.00	.44	2.75	( <sup>2</sup> )
Sales and office .....	11.40	9.04	2.36	.34	.15	.50	.18	1.18	( <sup>2</sup> )
Sales and related .....	9.61	7.84	1.77	.20	.09	.26	.13	1.08	( <sup>2</sup> )
Office and administrative support .....	13.69	10.59	3.10	.52	.21	.80	.25	1.31	.02
Service .....	8.94	7.36	1.58	.15	.08	.20	.05	1.10	( <sup>2</sup> )
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	12.08	9.03	3.05	.33	.18	.76	.28	1.49	( <sup>2</sup> )
Transportation and material moving .....	12.23	8.99	3.25	.35	.18	.87	.33	1.51	( <sup>2</sup> )
Percent of total compensation									
<b>All full-time workers in private industry</b> .....	100.0	70.3	29.7	6.9	3.0	7.6	3.7	8.3	0.2
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	71.4	28.6	8.2	3.2	6.3	3.8	6.9	.2
Management, business, and financial .....	100.0	71.1	28.9	8.1	4.3	5.8	3.7	6.6	.2
Professional and related .....	100.0	71.6	28.4	8.3	2.2	6.6	3.9	7.2	.2
Sales and office .....	100.0	71.6	28.4	6.7	2.3	8.5	3.1	7.7	.1
Sales and related .....	100.0	75.1	24.9	5.5	2.6	6.4	2.3	7.9	( <sup>3</sup> )
Office and administrative support .....	100.0	69.9	30.1	7.2	2.2	9.5	3.4	7.6	.2
Service .....	100.0	72.1	27.9	5.5	1.8	8.5	2.1	9.9	( <sup>3</sup> )
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance .....	100.0	68.8	31.2	5.1	3.2	7.5	4.6	10.8	.1
Construction and extraction .....	100.0	68.7	31.3	3.6	3.0	7.1	5.5	12.1	.1
Installation, maintenance, and repair .....	100.0	68.9	31.1	6.8	3.4	7.9	3.6	9.2	.2
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	100.0	66.1	33.9	6.1	4.0	9.3	4.3	9.8	.3
Production .....	100.0	64.8	35.2	6.5	4.7	9.6	4.5	9.5	.4
Transportation and material moving .....	100.0	68.0	32.0	5.5	3.1	8.9	4.0	10.3	.1
<b>All part-time workers in private industry</b> .....	100.0	79.7	20.3	2.9	1.3	3.7	1.4	10.9	( <sup>3</sup> )
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	79.7	20.3	4.3	1.7	3.4	1.6	9.2	( <sup>3</sup> )
Professional and related .....	100.0	79.7	20.3	4.3	1.8	3.4	1.5	9.3	( <sup>3</sup> )
Sales and office .....	100.0	79.3	20.7	3.0	1.3	4.4	1.6	10.4	( <sup>3</sup> )
Sales and related .....	100.0	81.5	18.5	2.1	1.0	2.7	1.4	11.3	( <sup>3</sup> )
Office and administrative support .....	100.0	77.3	22.7	3.8	1.5	5.8	1.8	9.5	.1
Service .....	100.0	82.3	17.7	1.7	.9	2.3	.5	12.3	( <sup>3</sup> )
Production, transportation, and material moving .....	100.0	74.7	25.3	2.8	1.5	6.3	2.3	12.3	( <sup>3</sup> )
Transportation and material moving .....	100.0	73.5	26.5	2.8	1.5	7.1	2.7	12.4	( <sup>3</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.<sup>2</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.<sup>3</sup> Less than .05 percent.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 12. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by industry group and full-time and part-time status, March 2004**

Series	Total compensation	Wages and salaries	Benefit costs						
			Total	Paid leave	Supplemental pay	Insurance	Retirement and savings	Legally required benefits	Other benefits <sup>1</sup>
Cost per hour worked									
<b>All full-time workers in private industry</b> .....	\$26.50	\$18.62	\$7.88	\$1.84	\$0.81	\$2.01	\$0.98	\$2.20	\$0.05
Goods-producing <sup>2</sup> .....	27.62	18.36	9.26	1.73	1.15	2.32	1.35	2.62	.09
Construction .....	27.49	19.20	8.29	.96	1.03	1.80	1.28	3.21	( <sup>3</sup> )
Manufacturing .....	27.46	17.85	9.61	2.05	1.21	2.52	1.37	2.34	.13
Service-providing <sup>4</sup> .....	26.13	18.71	7.42	1.87	.69	1.90	.86	2.06	.03
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	23.09	16.46	6.63	1.46	.57	1.81	.79	1.99	.02
Information .....	37.56	26.30	11.26	3.18	1.17	2.94	1.27	2.59	.10
Financial activities .....	33.36	23.25	10.11	2.43	1.48	2.48	1.39	2.22	.11
Professional and business services .....	30.02	21.85	8.18	2.22	.87	1.86	.91	2.28	.03
Education and health services .....	26.29	18.84	7.45	2.10	.43	2.03	.85	2.02	( <sup>3</sup> )
Leisure and hospitality .....	12.96	9.87	3.09	.59	.19	.80	.17	1.33	( <sup>3</sup> )
Other services .....	23.77	16.90	6.87	1.74	.43	1.80	.81	2.07	.02
<b>All part-time workers in private industry</b> .....	12.63	10.07	2.56	.37	.17	.47	.18	1.38	( <sup>3</sup> )
Service-providing <sup>4</sup> .....	12.63	10.07	2.56	.37	.17	.47	.18	1.37	( <sup>3</sup> )
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	11.06	8.56	2.50	.30	.14	.57	.23	1.27	( <sup>3</sup> )
Professional and business services .....	14.19	11.72	2.48	.35	.21	.31	.09	1.50	( <sup>3</sup> )
Education and health services .....	21.24	16.64	4.60	.95	.34	.95	.31	2.05	( <sup>3</sup> )
Leisure and hospitality .....	8.21	6.85	1.36	.09	.07	.09	.05	1.05	( <sup>3</sup> )
Percent of total compensation									
<b>All full-time workers in private industry</b> .....	100.0	70.3	29.7	6.9	3.0	7.6	3.7	8.3	0.2
Goods-producing <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	66.5	33.5	6.3	4.2	8.4	4.9	9.5	.3
Construction .....	100.0	69.8	30.2	3.5	3.7	6.6	4.6	11.7	( <sup>5</sup> )
Manufacturing .....	100.0	65.0	35.0	7.5	4.4	9.2	5.0	8.5	.5
Service-providing <sup>4</sup> .....	100.0	71.6	28.4	7.2	2.6	7.3	3.3	7.9	.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	100.0	71.3	28.7	6.3	2.5	7.8	3.4	8.6	.1
Information .....	100.0	70.0	30.0	8.5	3.1	7.8	3.4	6.9	.3
Financial activities .....	100.0	69.7	30.3	7.3	4.4	7.4	4.2	6.7	.3
Professional and business services .....	100.0	72.8	27.2	7.4	2.9	6.2	3.0	7.6	.1
Education and health services .....	100.0	71.7	28.3	8.0	1.6	7.7	3.2	7.7	( <sup>5</sup> )
Leisure and hospitality .....	100.0	76.2	23.8	4.5	1.5	6.2	1.3	10.3	( <sup>5</sup> )
Other services .....	100.0	71.1	28.9	7.3	1.8	7.6	3.4	8.7	.1
<b>All part-time workers in private industry</b> .....	100.0	79.7	20.3	2.9	1.3	3.7	1.4	10.9	( <sup>5</sup> )
Service-providing <sup>4</sup> .....	100.0	79.7	20.3	3.0	1.3	3.7	1.4	10.8	( <sup>5</sup> )
Trade, transportation, and utilities .....	100.0	77.4	22.6	2.7	1.2	5.1	2.1	11.4	( <sup>5</sup> )
Professional and business services .....	100.0	82.6	17.4	2.5	1.5	2.2	.7	10.5	( <sup>5</sup> )
Education and health services .....	100.0	78.3	21.7	4.5	1.6	4.5	1.5	9.6	( <sup>5</sup> )
Leisure and hospitality .....	100.0	83.4	16.6	1.1	.9	1.1	.6	12.8	( <sup>5</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

<sup>2</sup> Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing. The agriculture, forestry, farming, and hunting sector is excluded.

<sup>3</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>4</sup> Includes utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; transportation and warehousing; information; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; professional and technical services; management of

companies and enterprises; administrative and waste services; educational services; health care and social assistance; arts, entertainment and recreation; accommodation and food services; and other services, except public administration.

<sup>5</sup> Less than .05 percent.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 13. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry workers, by major industry group and establishment employment size and bargaining status, March 2004**

Series	Total compensation	Wages and salaries	Benefit costs						
			Total	Paid leave	Supplemental pay	Insurance	Retirement and savings	Legally required benefits	Other benefits <sup>1</sup>
Cost per hour worked									
<b>All workers, goods-producing industries<sup>2</sup> ...</b>	\$27.19	\$18.12	\$9.06	\$1.68	\$1.12	\$2.26	\$1.32	\$2.59	\$0.08
1-99 workers .....	23.14	16.29	6.86	1.06	.86	1.63	.68	2.61	( <sup>3</sup> )
1-49 workers .....	22.97	16.30	6.68	.96	.86	1.48	.68	2.70	( <sup>3</sup> )
50-99 workers .....	23.58	16.26	7.33	1.32	.87	2.03	.68	2.40	( <sup>3</sup> )
100 workers or more .....	31.03	19.86	11.16	2.27	1.37	2.87	1.92	2.58	.16
100-499 workers .....	25.44	16.88	8.56	1.56	1.12	2.45	1.07	2.31	.04
500 workers or more .....	37.89	23.54	14.36	3.15	1.67	3.37	2.96	2.90	.31
Union .....	35.78	21.41	14.37	2.19	1.72	3.75	3.18	3.33	.20
Non-union .....	24.93	17.26	7.67	1.55	.96	1.87	.83	2.40	.05
<b>All workers, service-providing industries<sup>4</sup> ...</b>	22.33	16.28	6.05	1.45	.54	1.50	.67	1.86	.02
1-99 workers .....	18.68	14.07	4.61	1.04	.40	1.11	.38	1.67	( <sup>3</sup> )
1-49 workers .....	18.64	14.15	4.49	1.00	.39	1.06	.37	1.67	( <sup>3</sup> )
50-99 workers .....	18.81	13.80	5.01	1.17	.41	1.30	.43	1.68	( <sup>3</sup> )
100 workers or more .....	26.90	19.04	7.85	1.97	.73	1.99	1.03	2.10	.04
100-499 workers .....	23.48	16.91	6.56	1.55	.67	1.67	.71	1.94	.03
500 workers or more .....	31.03	21.62	9.41	2.48	.79	2.37	1.40	2.30	.06
Union .....	29.46	19.62	9.84	2.24	.64	2.97	1.50	2.45	.04
Non-union .....	21.72	15.99	5.72	1.38	.53	1.37	.60	1.81	.02
Percent of total compensation									
<b>All workers, goods-producing industries<sup>2</sup> ...</b>	100.0	66.7	33.3	6.2	4.1	8.3	4.8	9.5	0.3
1-99 workers .....	100.0	70.4	29.6	4.6	3.7	7.0	3.0	11.3	( <sup>5</sup> )
1-49 workers .....	100.0	70.9	29.1	4.2	3.7	6.4	3.0	11.7	( <sup>5</sup> )
50-99 workers .....	100.0	68.9	31.1	5.6	3.7	8.6	2.9	10.2	( <sup>5</sup> )
100 workers or more .....	100.0	64.0	36.0	7.3	4.4	9.2	6.2	8.3	.5
100-499 workers .....	100.0	66.3	33.7	6.1	4.4	9.6	4.2	9.1	.2
500 workers or more .....	100.0	62.1	37.9	8.3	4.4	8.9	7.8	7.7	.8
Union .....	100.0	59.8	40.2	6.1	4.8	10.5	8.9	9.3	.6
Non-union .....	100.0	69.2	30.8	6.2	3.9	7.5	3.3	9.6	.2
<b>All workers, service-providing industries<sup>4</sup> ...</b>	100.0	72.9	27.1	6.5	2.4	6.7	3.0	8.3	.1
1-99 workers .....	100.0	75.3	24.7	5.5	2.1	6.0	2.0	8.9	( <sup>5</sup> )
1-49 workers .....	100.0	75.9	24.1	5.4	2.1	5.7	2.0	9.0	( <sup>5</sup> )
50-99 workers .....	100.0	73.4	26.6	6.2	2.2	6.9	2.3	8.9	( <sup>5</sup> )
100 workers or more .....	100.0	70.8	29.2	7.3	2.7	7.4	3.8	7.8	.2
100-499 workers .....	100.0	72.0	28.0	6.6	2.8	7.1	3.0	8.2	.1
500 workers or more .....	100.0	69.7	30.3	8.0	2.6	7.6	4.5	7.4	.2
Union .....	100.0	66.6	33.4	7.6	2.2	10.1	5.1	8.3	.1
Non-union .....	100.0	73.6	26.4	6.4	2.5	6.3	2.7	8.3	.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

<sup>2</sup> Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing. The agriculture, forestry, farming, and hunting sector is excluded.

<sup>3</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>4</sup> Includes utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; transportation and warehousing; information; finance and insurance; real estate and rental and leasing; professional and technical services; management of

companies and enterprises; administrative and waste services; educational services; health care and social assistance; arts, entertainment and recreation; accommodation and food services; and other services, except public administration.

<sup>5</sup> Less than .05 percent.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

**Table 14. Employer costs per hour worked for employee compensation and costs as a percent of total compensation: Private industry health care and social assistance workers, by industry and occupational group, March 2004**

Series	Total compensation	Wages and salaries	Benefit costs						
			Total	Paid leave	Supplemental pay	Insurance	Retirement and savings	Legally required benefits	Other benefits <sup>1</sup>
Cost per hour worked									
<b>Health care and social assistance</b> .....	\$23.48	\$17.06	\$6.42	\$1.76	\$0.47	\$1.69	\$0.58	\$1.92	( <sup>2</sup> )
Management, professional, and related .....	32.53	23.76	8.77	2.64	.70	2.02	.86	2.52	( <sup>2</sup> )
Registered nurses .....	36.21	25.74	10.47	3.03	1.27	2.25	1.08	2.82	( <sup>2</sup> )
Sales and office .....	17.36	12.52	4.83	1.16	.24	1.57	.41	1.45	( <sup>2</sup> )
Service .....	14.41	10.36	4.05	.86	.28	1.30	.28	1.34	( <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Hospitals</b> .....	29.70	20.65	9.05	2.52	.83	2.50	.95	2.24	.02
Management, professional, and related .....	36.78	25.98	10.81	3.24	1.10	2.54	1.18	2.73	.02
Registered nurses .....	39.34	27.53	11.81	3.50	1.49	2.58	1.28	2.95	( <sup>2</sup> )
Service .....	17.68	11.67	6.01	1.26	.45	2.36	.48	1.45	( <sup>2</sup> )
<b>Nursing and residential care facilities</b> .....	17.50	12.70	4.79	1.20	.37	1.29	.26	1.67	( <sup>2</sup> )
Management, professional, and related .....	26.95	19.76	7.19	2.11	.58	1.56	.45	2.48	( <sup>2</sup> )
Service .....	13.30	9.55	3.74	.78	.31	1.16	.17	1.32	( <sup>2</sup> )
Percent of total compensation									
<b>Health care and social assistance</b> .....	100.0	72.7	27.3	7.5	2.0	7.2	2.5	8.2	( <sup>3</sup> )
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	73.0	27.0	8.1	2.2	6.2	2.7	7.8	( <sup>3</sup> )
Registered nurses .....	100.0	71.1	28.9	8.4	3.5	6.2	3.0	7.8	( <sup>3</sup> )
Sales and office .....	100.0	72.1	27.9	6.7	1.4	9.1	2.4	8.3	( <sup>3</sup> )
Service .....	100.0	71.9	28.1	5.9	1.9	9.0	1.9	9.3	( <sup>3</sup> )
<b>Hospitals</b> .....	100.0	69.5	30.5	8.5	2.8	8.4	3.2	7.5	.1
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	70.6	29.4	8.8	3.0	6.9	3.2	7.4	.1
Registered nurses .....	100.0	70.0	30.0	8.9	3.8	6.6	3.3	7.5	( <sup>3</sup> )
Service .....	100.0	66.0	34.0	7.1	2.5	13.4	2.7	8.2	( <sup>3</sup> )
<b>Nursing and residential care facilities</b> .....	100.0	72.6	27.4	6.9	2.1	7.4	1.5	9.5	( <sup>3</sup> )
Management, professional, and related .....	100.0	73.3	26.7	7.8	2.1	5.8	1.7	9.2	( <sup>3</sup> )
Service .....	100.0	71.8	28.2	5.9	2.3	8.7	1.3	10.0	( <sup>3</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Includes severance pay and supplemental unemployment benefits.

<sup>2</sup> Cost per hour worked is \$0.01 or less.

<sup>3</sup> Less than .05 percent.

Note: The sum of individual items may not equal totals due to rounding.

## **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

Employer Costs for Employee Compensation (ECEC) measures the average cost per employee hour worked that employers pay for wages and salaries and benefits.

Wages and salaries are defined as the hourly straight-time wage rate or, for workers not paid on an hourly basis, straight-time earnings divided by the corresponding hours. Straight-time wage and salary rates are total earnings before payroll deductions and include production bonuses, incentive earnings, commission payments, and cost-of-living adjustments. Not included in straight-time earnings are nonproduction bonuses such as lump-sum payments provided in lieu of wage increases, shift differentials, and premium pay for overtime and for work on weekends and holidays; these payments are included in the benefits component.

Benefits include: Paid leave—vacations, holidays, sick leave, and other leave; supplemental pay—overtime and premium pay for work in addition to the regular work schedule (such as weekends and holidays), shift differentials, and nonproduction bonuses (such as referral bonuses and lump-sum payments provided in lieu of wage increases); insurance benefits—life, health, short-term disability, and long-term disability; retirement and savings benefits—defined benefit and defined contribution plans; legally required benefits—Social Security, Medicare, Federal and State unemployment insurance, and workers' compensation; and other benefits—severance pay and supplemental unemployment plans.

The Employer Costs for Employee Compensation includes data for the civilian economy, which includes data from both private industry and State and local government. Excluded from private industry are the self-employed and farm and private household workers. Federal government workers are excluded from the public sector. The private industry series and the State and local government series provide data for the two sectors separately.

The cost levels for this quarter were collected from a probability sample of about 35,600 occupations within approximately 8,200 sample establishments in private industry and about 3,600 occupations within approximately 800 sample establishments in State and local governments. Data are collected for the pay period including the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the survey months of March, June, September, and December.

Beginning with the March 2004 estimates, the ECEC percent of total compensation estimates are calculated from dollar aggregates and then rounded to the published level of precision. This change in method will provide the most precise estimates of the percent of total compensation; however, estimates of the percentage of total compensation calculated from the published cost estimates may differ slightly from those calculated from the unpublished dollar aggregates.

Sample establishments are classified by industry categories based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification (NAICS) system, as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Within a sample establishment, specific job categories are selected and classified into about 800 occupational classifications according to the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system. Individual occupations are combined to represent one of ten intermediate aggregations such as professional and related occupations, or one of five higher-level aggregations such as management, professional, and related occupations. For more detailed information on NAICS and SOC, including background and definitions, see the BLS websites: (<http://www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm> and <http://www.bls.gov/soc/home.htm>.)

Current employment weights are used to calculate cost levels. The March 2004 cost levels were calculated using the March 2004 employment counts from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Employment Statistics (CES) program, benchmarked to the 2003 universe of all private nonfarm establishments. For more



information on the CES updating of employment estimates, see “BLS National Establishment Estimates Revised to Incorporate March 2003 Benchmarks” in the February 2004 issue of Employment and Earnings.

In most instances, private industry employment counts used in the ECEC were total employment estimates for 3-digit sub-sector industry groups, such as machinery manufacturing (NAICS 333) or gasoline stations (NAICS 447), as defined by the NAICS system. In a few cases, more detailed private industry employment counts were used. These include 4-digit educational establishments--elementary and secondary schools (6111), junior colleges (6112), and colleges and universities (6113)--as well as the 6-digit aircraft manufacturing industry (336411). For State and local governments, a more aggregated level was used reflecting the level of detailed published by the CES program. For both private and government establishments, the employment data were apportioned based on the sampling weights assigned to the Employment Cost Index (ECI) sample. For more information on NAICS coding, see “Recent changes in the national Current Employment Statistics survey” in the June 2003 issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

The ECI, which measures the change in employer costs for employee compensation, is calculated with fixed 1990 employment counts to prevent employment shifts among occupations and industries from influencing the changes. Therefore, year-to-year changes in Employer Costs for Employee Compensation will differ from those in the ECI.

Historical ECEC data, using the industry categories based on the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification System and classifying jobs into occupational classifications according to the 1990 Census of Population, are available from several sources. Data and related articles are included in the bulletin, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation, 1986-99 (Bulletin 2508). An annual historical summary from March 1986 through March 2002 is also available on the Internet site (<http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/home.htm>) or upon request. Data on a quarterly basis from June 2002 through December 2003 is also available. Information on how costs are calculated appears in “Measuring Trends in the Structure and Levels of Employer Costs for Employee Compensation,” Compensation and Working Conditions, Summer 1997. An article on changes in employer compensation costs, “Tracking Changes in Benefit Costs,” appears in Compensation and Working Conditions, Spring 1999.

### Relative Standard Errors

Because the ECEC is a sample survey, it is subject to sampling errors. Sampling errors are differences that occur between the results computed from a sample of observations and those computed from all observations in the population. The estimates derived from different samples selected using the same sample design may differ from one another. A measure of the variation among these differing estimates is the standard error. It can be used to measure the precision with which an estimate from a particular sample approximates the expected result of all possible samples. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a complete population figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that this difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error. All the statements of comparisons appearing in this publication are significant at a 1.6 standard error level or better, unless otherwise indicated. This means that for differences cited, the estimated difference is greater than 1.6 times the standard error of the difference.

The relative standard error (RSE) for all estimates will be available shortly after the release is issued. This information can be obtained directly from the BLS Internet site (<http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/home.htm>), by e-mail request ([ocltinfo@bls.gov](mailto:ocltinfo@bls.gov)), or by telephone (202) 691-6199.

For a more detailed explanation of relative standard errors, see “Measuring Trends in the Structure and Levels of Employer Costs for Employee Compensation,” Compensation and Working Conditions, Summer

1997. For a detailed explanation of how to use standard error data to analyze differences in year-to-year changes, see "Analyzing Year-to-Year Changes in Employer Costs for Employee Compensation," Compensation and Working Conditions, Spring 1998. This article supplements an article from the Summer 1997 issue of Compensation and Working Conditions, "Explaining the Differential Growth Rates of the ECI and ECEC," which examined how differences in the construction of these measures contribute to differing trends.

Standard errors relate to differences that occur from sampling errors, but not from nonsampling errors. Nonsampling errors are not measured and include survey nonresponse and data collection and processing errors. Survey nonresponse occurs when sample members are unwilling or unable to participate in the survey. Data collection errors include inaccurate data by respondents and definitional difficulties. Processing errors include errors in recording, coding, and entering data. Although nonsampling errors are not measured, BLS quality assurance programs contain procedures for reducing such errors. These procedures include data collection reinterviews, observed interviews, computer data edits, and systematic review of reports on which data are recorded. Extensive field economist training also is conducted to maintain high data collection standards.

#### Comparing private and public sector data

Aggregate compensation cost levels in State and local government should not be directly compared with those in private industry. Differences between these sectors stem from factors such as variation in work activities and occupational structures. Manufacturing and sales, for example, make up a large part of private industry work activities, but are rare in State and local government. Professional and administrative support occupations (including teachers) account for two-thirds of the State and local government workforce, compared with one-half of private industry.

A detailed examination of differences in compensation levels and trends between private industry and State and local government may be found in "Cost of Employee Compensation in Public and Private Sectors," Monthly Labor Review, May 1993, and "Compensation Cost Trends in Private Industry and State and Local Governments," Compensation and Working Conditions, Fall 1999.

#### Obtaining information

Articles, bulletins, and other information may be obtained by calling (202) 691-6199, sending an e-mail message to [ocltinfo@bls.gov](mailto:ocltinfo@bls.gov), or visiting the Internet site (<http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/home.htm>). Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service Number: 1-800-877-8339.