

News

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Highlights of Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News National Compensation Survey July 2007

Workers in the Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News metropolitan area earned an average of \$16.24 per hour in July 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 Sheila Watkins noted that wage data were reported for workers in a wide range of occupational groups, including average hourly earnings of \$16.08 for construction and extraction occupations and \$13.59 for office and administrative support occupations. Another occupational group, protective service, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$13.23. The NCS data available for the Virginia Beach area include earnings for 19 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters part of the construction and extraction occupational group, earned \$18.65 per hour, while operating engineers and other construction equipment operators earned \$14.93. Within the office and administrative support occupational group, executive secretaries and administrative assistants averaged \$15.09 per hour. Police and sheriff's patrol officers, an occupation within the protective service group, registered an average hourly rate of \$19.81, and security guards earned \$8.87 per hour.

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$18.01 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$9.72. Union workers earned \$17.03 and non-union workers, \$16.20. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$13.41 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$15.51, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$22.25.

The occupational wage data available from NCS 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. NCS results also include the work level and respective earnings for occupations determined by a point factor leveling process. The four occupational leveling factors are: knowledge, job controls and complexity, contacts, and physical environment. Details on the NCS are available at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm>.

The NCS data reported here covered 304 establishments with one or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. Agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government were excluded from the survey. This sample of establishments represented 705,700 workers in the Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which is comprised of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and

Williamsburg Cities, and Gloucester, Isle of Wight, James City, Mathews, Surry, and York Counties in Virginia and Currituck County in North Carolina.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Virginia Beach–Norfolk–Newport News, VA–NC National Compensation Survey July 2007 which is available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm>.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey data, as well as other Bureau data, contact the Mid-Atlantic Information Office by calling (215) 597-3282 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC, July 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	\$16.24	2.9	\$18.01	2.7	\$9.72	5.7
Management occupations	36.32	11.5	36.69	11.9	–	–
Financial managers	28.80	5.0	28.11	5.6	–	–
Business and financial operations occupations	25.23	3.4	25.38	3.5	–	–
Buyers and purchasing agents	20.75	9.9	20.75	9.9	–	–
Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists	27.97	15.0	27.97	15.0	–	–
Accountants and auditors	25.07	2.7	25.53	3.0	–	–
Computer and mathematical science occupations	22.49	11.0	22.49	11.0	–	–
Architecture and engineering occupations	26.31	8.5	26.31	8.5	–	–
Engineers	30.85	3.6	30.85	3.6	–	–
Engineering technicians, except drafters	23.00	13.8	23.00	13.8	–	–
Community and social services occupations	18.13	12.3	18.33	12.7	–	–
Counselors	21.01	20.5	–	–	–	–
Education, training, and library occupations	27.89	3.8	29.51	3.2	14.65	15.6
Postsecondary teachers	32.80	12.4	35.92	8.7	15.25	32.8
Miscellaneous postsecondary teachers	26.10	18.5	–	–	–	–
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	31.82	1.3	31.82	1.3	–	–
Elementary and middle school teachers	31.32	2.7	31.32	2.7	–	–
Elementary school teachers, except special education	30.54	1.4	30.54	1.4	–	–
Middle school teachers, except special and vocational education	32.99	4.6	32.99	4.6	–	–
Secondary school teachers	31.87	2.1	31.87	2.1	–	–
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	31.43	1.6	31.43	1.6	–	–
Other teachers and instructors	14.96	13.7	–	–	13.65	19.0
Teacher assistants	12.37	.1	12.37	.1	–	–
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	26.56	7.9	27.35	6.8	–	–
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	22.80	13.0	22.43	14.9	26.94	9.4
Registered nurses	24.12	6.0	23.28	7.0	27.45	1.5
Health diagnosing and treating practitioner support technicians	12.33	8.7	12.33	8.7	–	–
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	16.39	1.0	16.31	1.4	–	–
Healthcare support occupations	11.51	5.6	12.23	9.4	10.05	9.5
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	10.23	3.6	10.68	.8	9.52	4.9
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	10.47	1.2	10.68	.8	10.01	1.5
Miscellaneous healthcare support occupations	10.95	8.6	–	–	–	–
Protective service occupations	13.23	11.7	14.73	11.2	8.00	4.7
Police officers	19.81	5.1	19.81	5.1	–	–
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	19.81	5.1	19.81	5.1	–	–
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers	8.87	4.6	9.46	5.9	–	–
Security guards	8.87	4.6	9.46	5.9	–	–
Food preparation and serving related occupations	8.41	8.5	9.33	19.6	8.15	15.8
Cooks	7.83	1.8	–	–	7.83	1.8
Food service, tipped	8.43	18.6	–	–	9.39	28.1
Waiters and waitresses	3.21	24.6	–	–	2.19	6.4
Fast food and counter workers	6.97	5.2	–	–	6.77	6.4
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	6.95	5.2	–	–	6.75	6.6
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	11.41	8.8	11.36	7.8	11.51	21.2
Building cleaning workers	11.28	10.0	11.14	9.6	11.51	21.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC, July 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)
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations —Continued						
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	\$11.92	14.5	\$12.51	19.0	\$11.51	21.2
Personal care and service occupations						
Recreation and fitness workers	7.53	10.9	—	—	7.05	6.0
Recreation workers	10.86	9.6	—	—	9.03	7.3
	10.79	10.2	—	—	—	—
Sales and related occupations						
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers	12.63	10.0	14.25	10.5	8.10	5.3
First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers	16.58	6.0	16.58	6.0	—	—
Retail sales workers	16.17	5.9	16.17	5.9	—	—
Cashiers, all workers	9.54	2.8	10.39	4.1	7.98	5.0
Cashiers	8.82	4.4	—	—	7.71	4.1
Retail salespersons	8.82	4.4	—	—	7.71	4.1
	10.13	6.4	11.40	2.4	8.15	10.5
Office and administrative support occupations						
Financial clerks	13.59	1.9	13.88	2.1	12.31	2.1
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	15.07	5.0	15.09	8.2	—	—
Customer service representatives	—	—	15.64	14.9	—	—
Order clerks	13.12	3.8	13.16	3.9	—	—
Receptionists and information clerks	9.82	6.5	—	—	—	—
Stock clerks and order fillers	11.10	3.0	11.47	4.5	—	—
Secretaries and administrative assistants	9.53	9.4	10.00	6.7	—	—
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	13.71	4.8	14.11	5.3	11.39	8.9
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	15.09	6.4	15.39	5.7	—	—
Office clerks, general	11.69	7.1	—	—	—	—
	13.51	4.9	14.16	5.2	10.11	2.6
Construction and extraction occupations						
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers	16.08	8.5	16.20	8.5	—	—
Construction laborers	25.54	11.4	25.54	11.4	—	—
Construction equipment operators	10.98	.8	10.98	.8	—	—
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators	14.93	5.5	14.93	5.5	—	—
Electricians	14.93	5.5	14.93	5.5	—	—
Pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	17.55	3.1	17.55	3.1	—	—
Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	17.02	8.7	17.02	8.7	—	—
Helpers, construction trades	18.65	5.1	18.65	5.1	—	—
	9.72	7.0	—	—	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations						
Miscellaneous electrical and electronic equipment mechanics, installers, and repairers	16.25	3.8	16.55	4.0	12.82	11.0
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	15.30	3.5	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous installation, maintenance, and repair workers	20.28	20.4	20.60	20.4	—	—
Helpers--installation, maintenance, and repair workers	13.63	15.7	13.93	18.0	—	—
	11.19	11.9	—	—	—	—
Production occupations						
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	16.81	14.1	17.06	14.5	—	—
Miscellaneous assemblers and fabricators	27.26	16.8	27.26	16.8	—	—
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	16.43	32.1	16.43	32.1	—	—
	10.72	8.7	11.36	14.2	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations						
Bus drivers	11.03	9.7	12.05	6.9	7.87	3.6
Bus drivers, school	14.11	2.3	14.19	2.2	—	—
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	14.11	2.3	14.19	2.2	—	—
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	12.34	10.1	12.36	10.3	—	—
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	12.66	13.3	12.66	13.3	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor operators	14.35	12.5	—	—	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	12.30	7.0	12.91	6.6	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	9.28	9.0	10.73	6.2	7.69	8.6
	9.18	11.7	10.94	10.5	7.53	10.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA-NC, July 2007** — Continued

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	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Transportation and material moving occupations —Continued						
Packers and packagers, hand	\$8.56	4.6	—	—	—	—

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.

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.

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.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Compensation Survey.

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