

# Hickory–Morganton–Lenoir, NC National Compensation Survey October 1999

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# Preface

Data shown in this bulletin were collected as part of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) National Compensation Survey (NCS). The survey could not have been conducted without the cooperation of the many private firms and government jurisdictions that provided pay data included in this bulletin. The Bureau thanks these respondents for their cooperation.

Field economists of the Bureau of Labor Statistics collected and reviewed the survey data. The Office of Compensation and Working Conditions, in cooperation with the Office of Field Operations and the Office of Technology and Survey Processing in the BLS National Office, designed the survey, processed the data, and prepared the survey for publication.

For additional information regarding this survey, please contact any BLS regional office at the address and telephone number listed on the back cover of this bulletin. You may also write to the Bureau of Labor Statistics at: Division of Compensation Data Analysis and Planning,

2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Room 4175, Washington, DC 20212-0001, or call (202) 691-6199, or send e-mail to [ocltinfo@bls.gov](mailto:ocltinfo@bls.gov).

The data contained in this bulletin are also available at <http://stats.bls.gov/comhome.htm>, the BLS Internet site. Data are in three formats: An ASCII file containing the published table formats; an ASCII file containing positional columns of data for manipulation as a data base or spreadsheet; and a Portable Document Format (PDF) file containing the entire bulletin.

Results of earlier surveys of this area are also available from BLS regional offices, the Division of Compensation Data Analysis and Planning, or at the BLS Internet site.

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# Introduction

The tables in this bulletin summarize the NCS results for the Hickory–Morganton–Lenoir, NC, metropolitan area. Tabulations provide information on earnings of workers in a variety of occupations and at different work levels. Also contained in this bulletin are information on the program, a technical note describing survey procedures, and several appendixes with detailed information on occupational classifications and the generic leveling methodology.

## NCS products

The Bureau's National Compensation Survey provides data on occupational wages and employee benefits for localities, broad geographic regions, and the Nation as a whole. The Employment Cost Index, a quarterly measure of the change in employer costs for wages and benefits, is derived from the NCS. Another product, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation, measures employers' average hourly costs for total compensation, that is, wages and benefits. Still another NCS product measures the incidence of benefit plans and their provisions. This bulletin is limited to data on occupational wages and salaries.

## About the tables

The tables that follow present data on straight-time occupational earnings, which include wages and salaries, incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. These earnings exclude premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. About 480 detailed occupations are used to describe all occupations in the civilian nonfarm economy (excluding the Federal Government and private households), as explained in Appendix A. Data are not shown for any occupations if they would raise concerns about the confidentiality of the survey respondents or if the data are insufficient to support reliable estimates.

Table 1–1 presents an overview of all tables in this bulletin. Mean hourly earnings, weekly hours, and relative standard errors are given for all industries, private industry, and State and local government for selected worker and establishment characteristics. The worker characteristics include major occupational group, full-time or part-time status, union or nonunion status, and time or incentive pay. Establishment characteristics include goods and service producing and size of establishment.

Table 2–1 presents estimates of mean hourly earnings, and the relative standard errors associated with them, for

detailed occupations within all industries, private industry, and State and local government. Table 2–2 presents the same type of information for full-time workers only. Table 2–3 provides similar data for workers designated as part-time.

Table 3–1 provides mean weekly earnings data, with relative standard errors, and weekly hours for full-time employees in specific occupations across all industries, private industry, and State and local government. Table 3–2 provides annual earnings, relative standard errors, and annual hours for full-time employees in specific occupations.

Table 4–1 provides mean hourly earnings data by work level for occupational groups and for detailed occupations. Separate data are also shown for private industry and government workers. Table 4–2 provides work level data for full-time workers. Table 4–3 provides similar data for workers designated as part-time.

Table 5–1 presents mean hourly earnings data for selected worker characteristics by major occupational groups. The worker characteristics include full-time or part-time designation, union or nonunion status, and time or incentive pay. Table 5–2 presents mean hourly earnings data for major industry divisions by occupational groups; these estimates are limited to the private sector. Table 5–3 presents mean hourly earnings data for establishment employment sizes by major occupational groups; these estimates also are limited to the private sector.

Tables 6–1 through 6–5 present hourly wage percentiles that describe the distribution of hourly earnings for each published occupation. Data are provided for the 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles for detailed occupations within all industries, private industry, State and local government, full-time workers, and part-time workers. These iterations correspond to those presented in tables 2–1, 2–2, and 2–3. For each published occupation, these percentiles relate to the average hourly earnings of jobs surveyed in establishments. The percentiles do not relate to the hourly earnings of individual workers in these establishment jobs.

Appendix table 1 provides the employment scope of this survey. The occupation employment estimates relate to all employers in the area, rather than just to those surveyed. Appendix table 2 presents the number of establishments studied by industry group and employment size. The median work levels for published occupations are presented in appendix table 3.

**Table 1-1. Summary: Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup> and weekly hours by selected characteristics, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999**

Worker and establishment characteristics	Total			Private industry			State and local government		
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>3</sup>	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>3</sup>	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>3</sup>
	Mean	Relative error <sup>2</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>2</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>2</sup> (percent)	
<b>Total</b> .....	\$12.64	2.0	38.7	\$12.19	2.1	38.8	\$15.23	4.7	38.0
<b>Worker characteristics:<sup>4</sup></b>									
White-collar occupations <sup>5</sup> .....	17.44	3.7	37.9	16.80	4.5	38.0	18.93	6.5	37.9
Professional specialty and technical .....	20.30	4.1	36.8	20.14	5.2	36.8	20.43	6.1	36.9
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	28.31	6.3	42.1	28.10	7.1	42.6	29.13	12.9	40.5
Sales .....	14.46	12.9	32.7	14.46	12.9	32.7	-	-	-
Administrative support .....	10.79	2.3	39.3	10.91	2.6	39.3	10.28	5.4	39.4
Blue-collar occupations <sup>5</sup> .....	11.17	1.5	39.7	11.22	1.5	39.7	9.80	5.8	39.2
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	14.42	2.5	40.1	14.65	2.6	40.1	-	-	-
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	10.60	1.7	39.7	10.60	1.7	39.7	-	-	-
Transportation and material moving .....	12.83	4.4	43.0	13.13	4.3	43.7	-	-	-
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	8.98	2.2	38.0	9.07	2.3	37.9	-	-	-
Service occupations <sup>5</sup> .....	9.47	5.4	34.9	7.69	5.4	32.9	11.60	7.0	37.5
Full time .....	12.80	2.0	40.2	12.35	2.2	40.3	15.40	4.9	39.7
Part time .....	8.36	5.6	19.1	7.78	5.2	19.2	11.17	14.9	18.9
Union .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nonunion .....	12.64	2.0	38.7	12.19	2.2	38.8	15.23	4.7	38.0
Time .....	12.41	2.2	38.4	11.84	2.4	38.5	15.23	4.7	38.0
Incentive .....	14.20	4.1	40.6	14.20	4.1	40.6	-	-	-
<b>Establishment characteristics:</b>									
Goods producing .....	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	12.38	2.4	40.0	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )
Service producing .....	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	11.70	4.4	36.0	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )	( <sup>6</sup> )
50-99 workers <sup>7</sup> .....	10.71	6.3	35.9	10.71	6.3	35.9	-	-	-
100-499 workers .....	12.37	3.2	39.8	12.32	3.3	39.8	-	-	-
500 workers or more .....	13.94	2.9	38.6	13.00	3.3	39.3	15.75	4.9	37.4

<sup>1</sup> 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, and 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.

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

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

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

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

<sup>5</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>6</sup> Classification of establishments into goods-producing and service-producing industries applies to private industry only.

<sup>7</sup> Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

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

Table 2-1. Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup>, all workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>All</b> .....	\$12.64	2.0	\$12.19	2.1	\$15.23	4.7
All excluding sales .....	12.58	1.9	12.10	2.0	15.23	4.7
<b>White collar</b> .....	17.44	3.7	16.80	4.5	18.93	6.5
White collar excluding sales .....	17.87	3.7	17.31	4.6	18.93	6.5
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	20.30	4.1	20.14	5.2	20.43	6.1
Professional specialty .....	21.27	4.6	21.80	6.1	20.94	6.5
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	26.95	11.8	26.95	11.8	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Natural scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related .....	21.89	15.1	17.83	3.3	28.88	27.2
Registered nurses .....	18.61	1.1	18.52	1.4	—	—
Teachers, college and university .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university .....	19.38	3.3	—	—	19.39	3.3
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Technical .....	16.15	4.6	15.81	5.5	16.73	7.6
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	28.31	6.3	28.10	7.1	29.13	12.9
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	28.89	7.2	28.89	8.3	28.88	14.3
Managers, medicine and health .....	32.33	18.9	—	—	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	28.03	11.2	28.25	11.5	—	—
Management related .....	25.65	14.0	25.00	15.7	—	—
<b>Sales</b> .....	14.46	12.9	14.46	12.9	—	—
Supervisors, sales .....	14.09	10.4	14.09	10.4	—	—
Cashiers .....	6.81	4.0	6.81	4.0	—	—
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	10.79	2.3	10.91	2.6	10.28	5.4
Secretaries .....	11.07	3.9	—	—	—	—
Order clerks .....	10.85	2.6	10.85	2.6	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	10.39	5.1	10.22	5.8	—	—
Production coordinators .....	14.99	15.7	14.99	15.7	—	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	10.05	4.3	10.05	4.3	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks .....	10.83	5.1	10.83	5.1	—	—
General office clerks .....	11.02	6.8	9.57	7.9	—	—
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	11.17	1.5	11.22	1.5	9.80	5.8
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	14.42	2.5	14.65	2.6	—	—
Industrial machinery repairers .....	12.43	3.6	12.43	3.6	—	—
Machinery maintenance .....	10.69	3.8	10.69	3.8	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	15.34	14.3	15.34	14.3	—	—
Supervisors, production .....	15.34	4.3	15.34	4.3	—	—
Furniture and wood finishers .....	11.87	8.0	11.87	8.0	—	—
Upholsterers .....	17.16	2.5	17.16	2.5	—	—
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	10.60	1.7	10.60	1.7	—	—
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	9.48	5.2	9.48	5.2	—	—
Numerical control machine operators .....	13.67	6.6	13.67	6.6	—	—
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	10.70	4.1	10.70	4.1	—	—
Sawing machine operators .....	10.78	2.2	10.78	2.2	—	—
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	9.92	7.9	9.92	7.9	—	—
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	8.50	6.2	8.50	6.2	—	—
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	10.73	9.7	10.73	9.7	—	—
Textile cutting machine operators .....	11.35	8.1	11.35	8.1	—	—
Textile sewing machine operators .....	11.21	5.6	11.21	5.6	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	9.47	7.5	9.47	7.5	—	—
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	13.54	3.8	13.54	3.8	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2-1. Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup>, all workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>Blue collar</b> —Continued						
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b>						
—Continued						
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	\$10.25	3.2	\$10.25	3.2	—	—
Painting and paint spraying machine operators ...	10.00	3.5	10.00	3.5	—	—
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	11.14	3.5	11.14	3.5	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	11.34	3.1	11.34	3.1	—	—
Welders and cutters .....	12.48	10.2	12.48	10.2	—	—
Assemblers .....	9.69	2.6	9.69	2.6	—	—
Hand cutting and trimming .....	11.94	5.2	11.94	5.2	—	—
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	9.98	3.7	9.98	3.7	—	—
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	10.42	5.1	10.42	5.1	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	9.66	3.3	9.66	3.3	—	—
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	9.41	13.2	9.41	13.2	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	12.83	4.4	13.13	4.3	—	—
Truck drivers .....	13.57	4.5	13.95	4.2	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	10.48	5.0	10.48	5.0	—	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b>	8.98	2.2	9.07	2.3	—	—
Production helpers .....	8.85	3.7	8.85	3.7	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers .....	8.50	5.0	8.50	5.0	—	—
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	9.05	3.1	9.05	3.1	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	9.24	5.7	9.24	5.7	—	—
Hand packers and packagers .....	9.19	5.6	9.19	5.6	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	8.86	5.6	9.03	6.2	—	—
<b>Service</b> .....	9.47	5.4	7.69	5.4	\$11.60	7.0
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	7.67	10.9	7.15	13.5	9.41	7.0
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other food service .....	8.39	6.1	7.89	7.5	9.41	7.0
Cooks .....	10.00	4.8	—	—	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	8.63	6.5	—	—	—	—
Health service .....	9.64	3.3	8.63	2.9	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	9.68	3.5	8.65	3.0	—	—
Cleaning and building service .....	9.63	18.4	8.32	13.8	12.63	33.5
Janitors and cleaners .....	8.82	4.8	9.49	6.1	—	—
Personal service .....	7.19	8.8	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

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

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2-2. Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>All</b> .....	\$12.80	2.0	\$12.35	2.2	\$15.40	4.9
All excluding sales .....	12.69	1.9	12.20	2.0	15.40	4.9
<b>White collar</b> .....	17.85	3.7	17.37	4.6	18.91	6.6
White collar excluding sales .....	17.94	3.8	17.42	4.6	18.91	6.6
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	20.37	4.3	20.26	5.5	20.44	6.1
Professional specialty .....	21.40	4.8	22.14	6.5	20.98	6.6
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	26.95	11.8	26.95	11.8	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Natural scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related .....	22.05	17.4	17.70	4.0	—	—
Registered nurses .....	18.53	1.2	18.52	1.7	—	—
Teachers, college and university .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university .....	19.55	2.8	—	—	19.55	2.8
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Technical .....	16.15	4.6	15.81	5.5	16.73	7.6
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	28.31	6.3	28.10	7.1	29.13	12.9
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	28.89	7.2	28.89	8.3	28.88	14.3
Managers, medicine and health .....	32.33	18.9	—	—	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	28.03	11.2	28.25	11.5	—	—
Management related .....	25.65	14.0	25.00	15.7	—	—
<b>Sales</b> .....	17.09	14.4	17.09	14.4	—	—
Supervisors, sales .....	14.09	10.4	14.09	10.4	—	—
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	10.86	2.4	11.00	2.6	10.28	5.4
Secretaries .....	11.07	3.9	—	—	—	—
Order clerks .....	10.85	2.6	10.85	2.6	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	10.67	5.1	10.53	5.9	—	—
Production coordinators .....	14.99	15.7	14.99	15.7	—	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	10.05	4.3	10.05	4.3	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks .....	10.83	5.1	10.83	5.1	—	—
General office clerks .....	11.02	6.8	9.57	7.9	—	—
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	11.23	1.5	11.29	1.5	9.82	5.9
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	14.44	2.5	14.67	2.6	—	—
Industrial machinery repairers .....	12.43	3.6	12.43	3.6	—	—
Machinery maintenance .....	10.69	3.8	10.69	3.8	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	15.34	14.3	15.34	14.3	—	—
Supervisors, production .....	15.34	4.3	15.34	4.3	—	—
Furniture and wood finishers .....	11.87	8.0	11.87	8.0	—	—
Upholsterers .....	17.16	2.5	17.16	2.5	—	—
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	10.61	1.7	10.61	1.7	—	—
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	9.48	5.2	9.48	5.2	—	—
Numerical control machine operators .....	13.67	6.6	13.67	6.6	—	—
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	10.74	4.1	10.74	4.1	—	—
Sawing machine operators .....	10.81	2.2	10.81	2.2	—	—
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	9.92	7.9	9.92	7.9	—	—
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	8.50	6.2	8.50	6.2	—	—
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	10.73	9.7	10.73	9.7	—	—
Textile cutting machine operators .....	11.35	8.1	11.35	8.1	—	—
Textile sewing machine operators .....	11.21	5.6	11.21	5.6	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	9.47	7.5	9.47	7.5	—	—
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	13.54	3.8	13.54	3.8	—	—
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	10.25	3.2	10.25	3.2	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.



Table 2-2. Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>Blue collar</b> —Continued						
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b>						
—Continued						
Painting and paint spraying machine operators ...	\$10.00	3.5	\$10.00	3.5	—	—
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	11.14	3.5	11.14	3.5	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	11.40	3.0	11.40	3.0	—	—
Welders and cutters .....	12.48	10.2	12.48	10.2	—	—
Assemblers .....	9.69	2.6	9.69	2.6	—	—
Hand cutting and trimming .....	11.94	5.2	11.94	5.2	—	—
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	9.98	3.7	9.98	3.7	—	—
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	10.42	5.1	10.42	5.1	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	9.66	3.3	9.66	3.3	—	—
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	9.41	13.2	9.41	13.2	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	12.89	4.4	13.14	4.4	—	—
Truck drivers .....	13.57	4.5	13.95	4.2	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	10.48	5.0	10.48	5.0	—	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b>	9.12	2.4	9.23	2.5	—	—
Production helpers .....	8.85	3.7	8.85	3.7	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers .....	9.70	3.8	9.70	3.8	—	—
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	9.05	3.1	9.05	3.1	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	9.29	6.3	9.29	6.3	—	—
Hand packers and packagers .....	9.19	5.6	9.19	5.6	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	8.86	5.7	9.02	6.3	—	—
<b>Service</b> .....	9.74	6.1	7.83	6.1	\$11.90	7.3
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	7.98	13.9	7.42	16.4	—	—
Other food service .....	9.21	4.5	8.70	5.4	—	—
Cooks .....	10.00	4.8	—	—	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	8.97	7.5	—	—	—	—
Health service .....	9.64	3.5	8.46	2.6	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	9.65	3.6	8.46	2.6	—	—
Cleaning and building service .....	9.64	18.6	8.31	14.0	12.63	33.5
Janitors and cleaners .....	8.82	4.9	9.53	6.3	—	—
Personal service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

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

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2-3. Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup>, part-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>All</b> .....	\$8.36	5.6	\$7.78	5.2	\$11.17	14.9
All excluding sales .....	8.93	6.7	8.29	6.5	11.17	14.9
<b>White collar</b> .....	10.13	9.1	9.06	7.9	—	—
White collar excluding sales .....	15.19	12.6	13.74	12.6	—	—
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	18.97	9.0	18.47	3.8	—	—
Professional specialty .....	18.97	9.0	18.47	3.8	—	—
Natural scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related .....	20.95	8.4	18.49	1.9	—	—
Registered nurses .....	19.03	3.0	18.49	1.9	—	—
Teachers, college and university .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Sales</b> .....	6.47	4.8	6.47	4.8	—	—
Cashiers .....	6.07	1.3	6.07	1.3	—	—
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	6.99	3.8	6.80	3.1	—	—
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b> .....	6.74	2.8	6.74	2.8	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers .....	6.47	2.2	6.47	2.2	—	—
<b>Service</b> .....	7.37	6.6	6.81	6.4	—	—
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	6.47	5.2	—	—	—	—
Other food service .....	6.47	5.2	—	—	—	—
Health service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and building service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Personal service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

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

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 3-1. Mean weekly earnings<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total			Private industry			State and local government		
	Weekly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>5</sup>	Weekly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>5</sup>	Weekly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>5</sup>
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	
<b>All</b> .....	\$515	2.1	40.2	\$498	2.3	40.3	\$611	4.9	39.7
All excluding sales .....	509	2.0	40.2	491	2.2	40.2	611	4.9	39.7
<b>White collar</b> .....	721	3.9	40.4	711	4.8	40.9	741	6.7	39.2
White collar excluding sales .....	720	3.9	40.2	709	4.9	40.7	741	6.7	39.2
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	803	4.4	39.4	815	5.8	40.2	795	6.3	38.9
Professional specialty .....	841	5.0	39.3	891	7.0	40.2	813	6.9	38.8
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	1,111	13.7	41.2	1,111	13.7	41.2	-	-	-
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Natural scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health related .....	860	17.5	39.0	698	3.8	39.4	-	-	-
Registered nurses .....	719	1.4	38.8	728	1.7	39.3	-	-	-
Teachers, college and university .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Teachers, except college and university .....	752	3.6	38.4	-	-	-	752	3.6	38.4
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social scientists and urban planners .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Technical .....	646	4.6	40.0	636	5.5	40.2	664	7.6	39.7
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	1,193	6.6	42.1	1,196	7.5	42.6	1,181	13.5	40.5
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	1,223	7.7	42.3	1,242	8.9	43.0	1,160	14.8	40.1
Managers, medicine and health .....	1,381	15.0	42.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	1,219	11.9	43.5	1,232	12.2	43.6	-	-	-
Management related .....	1,060	13.3	41.3	1,024	14.8	41.0	-	-	-
<b>Sales</b> .....	723	16.1	42.3	723	16.1	42.3	-	-	-
Supervisors, sales .....	605	12.4	42.9	605	12.4	42.9	-	-	-
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	434	2.5	40.0	441	2.7	40.1	405	6.2	39.4
Secretaries .....	443	3.9	40.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Order clerks .....	434	2.6	40.0	434	2.6	40.0	-	-	-
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	427	5.1	40.0	421	5.9	40.0	-	-	-
Production coordinators .....	600	15.7	40.0	600	15.7	40.0	-	-	-
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	402	4.3	40.0	402	4.3	40.0	-	-	-
Stock and inventory clerks .....	433	5.1	40.0	433	5.1	40.0	-	-	-
General office clerks .....	441	6.8	40.0	383	7.9	40.0	-	-	-
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	452	1.6	40.3	455	1.7	40.3	393	5.9	40.0
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	580	2.5	40.2	589	2.6	40.2	-	-	-
Industrial machinery repairers .....	497	3.6	40.0	497	3.6	40.0	-	-	-
Machinery maintenance .....	428	3.8	40.0	428	3.8	40.0	-	-	-
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	613	14.3	40.0	613	14.3	40.0	-	-	-
Supervisors, production .....	625	4.5	40.7	625	4.5	40.7	-	-	-

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3-1. Mean weekly earnings<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total			Private industry			State and local government		
	Weekly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>5</sup>	Weekly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>5</sup>	Weekly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>5</sup>
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	
<b>Blue collar</b> —Continued									
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> —Continued									
Furniture and wood finishers ..	\$475	8.0	40.0	\$475	8.0	40.0	—	—	—
Upholsterers .....	687	2.5	40.0	687	2.5	40.0	—	—	—
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	424	1.7	39.9	424	1.7	39.9	—	—	—
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	379	5.2	40.0	379	5.2	40.0	—	—	—
Numerical control machine operators .....	541	7.1	39.6	541	7.1	39.6	—	—	—
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	430	4.1	40.0	430	4.1	40.0	—	—	—
Sawing machine operators .....	432	2.2	40.0	432	2.2	40.0	—	—	—
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	397	7.9	40.0	397	7.9	40.0	—	—	—
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	340	6.2	40.0	340	6.2	40.0	—	—	—
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	429	9.7	40.0	429	9.7	40.0	—	—	—
Textile cutting machine operators .....	454	8.1	40.0	454	8.1	40.0	—	—	—
Textile sewing machine operators .....	448	5.6	40.0	448	5.6	40.0	—	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	374	6.7	39.5	374	6.7	39.5	—	—	—
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	542	3.8	40.0	542	3.8	40.0	—	—	—
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	410	3.2	40.0	410	3.2	40.0	—	—	—
Painting and paint spraying machine operators .....	398	3.6	39.8	398	3.6	39.8	—	—	—
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	446	3.5	40.0	446	3.5	40.0	—	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	452	3.2	39.7	452	3.2	39.7	—	—	—
Welders and cutters .....	499	10.2	40.0	499	10.2	40.0	—	—	—
Assemblers .....	387	2.6	40.0	387	2.6	40.0	—	—	—
Hand cutting and trimming .....	477	5.2	40.0	477	5.2	40.0	—	—	—
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	399	3.7	40.0	399	3.7	40.0	—	—	—
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	416	5.1	39.9	416	5.1	39.9	—	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ...	386	3.4	39.9	386	3.4	39.9	—	—	—
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	376	13.2	40.0	376	13.2	40.0	—	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	564	5.9	43.8	579	5.8	44.0	—	—	—
Truck drivers .....	618	6.4	45.5	642	5.6	46.1	—	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators .....	419	5.0	40.0	419	5.0	40.0	—	—	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b> .....	364	2.3	39.9	368	2.5	39.9	—	—	—
Production helpers .....	354	3.7	40.0	354	3.7	40.0	—	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers ...	388	3.8	40.0	388	3.8	40.0	—	—	—
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	362	3.1	40.0	362	3.1	40.0	—	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3-1. Mean weekly earnings<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total			Private industry			State and local government		
	Weekly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>5</sup>	Weekly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>5</sup>	Weekly earnings		Mean weekly hours <sup>5</sup>
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	
<b>Blue collar</b> —Continued									
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b> —Continued									
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	\$374	6.4	40.3	\$374	6.4	40.3	—	—	—
Hand packers and packagers	358	5.7	39.0	358	5.7	39.0	—	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	354	5.7	40.0	361	6.3	40.0	—	—	—
<b>Service</b> .....	383	7.2	39.3	300	8.9	38.3	\$481	7.3	40.4
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	291	19.5	36.5	265	22.6	35.7	—	—	—
Other food service .....	346	7.7	37.6	318	9.3	36.6	—	—	—
Cooks .....	400	4.8	40.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	317	13.1	35.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health service .....	382	3.6	39.7	332	2.5	39.2	—	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	383	3.7	39.7	332	2.5	39.2	—	—	—
Cleaning and building service .....	386	18.6	40.0	332	14.0	40.0	505	33.5	40.0
Janitors and cleaners .....	353	4.9	40.0	381	6.3	40.0	—	—	—
Personal service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> Earnings are the straight-time weekly 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to

cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

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

<sup>5</sup> Mean weekly hours are the hours an employee is scheduled to work in a week, exclusive of overtime.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 3-2. Mean annual earnings<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total			Private industry			State and local government		
	Annual earnings		Mean annual hours <sup>5</sup>	Annual earnings		Mean annual hours <sup>5</sup>	Annual earnings		Mean annual hours <sup>5</sup>
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	
<b>All</b> .....	\$26,515	2.1	2,072	\$25,859	2.3	2,094	\$30,074	4.9	1,953
All excluding sales .....	26,243	2.0	2,069	25,516	2.2	2,091	30,074	4.9	1,953
<b>White collar</b> .....	36,267	3.9	2,031	36,861	4.8	2,122	35,126	6.7	1,857
White collar excluding sales .....	36,135	3.9	2,015	36,746	4.9	2,110	35,126	6.7	1,857
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	38,976	4.4	1,914	42,033	5.8	2,075	37,054	6.3	1,813
Professional specialty .....	40,164	5.0	1,877	45,763	7.0	2,067	37,371	6.9	1,782
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	57,766	13.7	2,143	57,766	13.7	2,143	-	-	-
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Natural scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health related .....	44,746	17.5	2,030	36,275	3.8	2,050	-	-	-
Registered nurses .....	37,397	1.4	2,018	37,851	1.7	2,044	-	-	-
Teachers, college and university .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Teachers, except college and university .....	32,897	3.6	1,683	-	-	-	32,897	3.6	1,683
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social scientists and urban planners .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Technical .....	33,617	4.6	2,081	33,084	5.5	2,093	34,507	7.6	2,062
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	61,790	6.6	2,183	62,200	7.5	2,213	60,226	13.5	2,068
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	63,288	7.7	2,191	64,585	8.9	2,236	59,043	14.8	2,044
Managers, medicine and health .....	71,831	15.0	2,222	-	-	-	-	-	-
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	63,376	11.9	2,261	64,071	12.2	2,268	-	-	-
Management related .....	55,115	13.3	2,149	53,251	14.8	2,130	-	-	-
<b>Sales</b> .....	37,570	16.1	2,199	37,570	16.1	2,199	-	-	-
Supervisors, sales .....	31,470	12.4	2,233	31,470	12.4	2,233	-	-	-
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	22,141	2.5	2,039	22,895	2.7	2,081	19,457	6.2	1,893
Secretaries .....	22,655	3.9	2,047	-	-	-	-	-	-
Order clerks .....	22,559	2.6	2,080	22,559	2.6	2,080	-	-	-
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	22,189	5.1	2,080	21,896	5.9	2,080	-	-	-
Production coordinators .....	31,188	15.7	2,080	31,188	15.7	2,080	-	-	-
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	20,906	4.3	2,080	20,906	4.3	2,080	-	-	-
Stock and inventory clerks .....	22,525	5.1	2,080	22,525	5.1	2,080	-	-	-
General office clerks .....	22,911	6.8	2,080	19,905	7.9	2,080	-	-	-
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	23,513	1.6	2,093	23,638	1.7	2,094	20,282	5.9	2,065
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	30,138	2.5	2,088	30,624	2.6	2,088	-	-	-
Industrial machinery repairers .....	25,815	3.6	2,076	25,815	3.6	2,076	-	-	-
Machinery maintenance .....	22,234	3.8	2,080	22,234	3.8	2,080	-	-	-
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	31,901	14.3	2,080	31,901	14.3	2,080	-	-	-
Supervisors, production .....	32,493	4.5	2,119	32,493	4.5	2,119	-	-	-

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3-2. Mean annual earnings<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total			Private industry			State and local government		
	Annual earnings		Mean annual hours <sup>5</sup>	Annual earnings		Mean annual hours <sup>5</sup>	Annual earnings		Mean annual hours <sup>5</sup>
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	
<b>Blue collar</b> —Continued									
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> —Continued									
Furniture and wood finishers ..	\$24,684	8.0	2,080	\$24,684	8.0	2,080	—	—	—
Upholsterers .....	35,699	2.5	2,080	35,699	2.5	2,080	—	—	—
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	22,019	1.7	2,075	22,019	1.7	2,075	—	—	—
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	19,715	5.2	2,080	19,715	5.2	2,080	—	—	—
Numerical control machine operators .....	28,115	7.1	2,057	28,115	7.1	2,057	—	—	—
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	22,343	4.1	2,080	22,343	4.1	2,080	—	—	—
Sawing machine operators .....	22,484	2.2	2,080	22,484	2.2	2,080	—	—	—
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	20,636	7.9	2,080	20,636	7.9	2,080	—	—	—
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	17,687	6.2	2,080	17,687	6.2	2,080	—	—	—
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	22,313	9.7	2,080	22,313	9.7	2,080	—	—	—
Textile cutting machine operators .....	23,608	8.1	2,080	23,608	8.1	2,080	—	—	—
Textile sewing machine operators .....	23,287	5.6	2,077	23,287	5.6	2,077	—	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	19,382	6.7	2,046	19,382	6.7	2,046	—	—	—
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	28,171	3.8	2,080	28,171	3.8	2,080	—	—	—
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	21,257	3.2	2,073	21,257	3.2	2,073	—	—	—
Painting and paint spraying machine operators .....	20,699	3.6	2,070	20,699	3.6	2,070	—	—	—
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	23,178	3.5	2,080	23,178	3.5	2,080	—	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	23,515	3.2	2,063	23,515	3.2	2,063	—	—	—
Welders and cutters .....	25,957	10.2	2,080	25,957	10.2	2,080	—	—	—
Assemblers .....	20,143	2.6	2,078	20,143	2.6	2,078	—	—	—
Hand cutting and trimming .....	24,828	5.2	2,080	24,828	5.2	2,080	—	—	—
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	20,752	3.7	2,080	20,752	3.7	2,080	—	—	—
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	21,626	5.1	2,076	21,626	5.1	2,076	—	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ...	20,052	3.4	2,076	20,052	3.4	2,076	—	—	—
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	19,570	13.2	2,080	19,570	13.2	2,080	—	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	29,184	5.9	2,264	30,054	5.8	2,287	—	—	—
Truck drivers .....	32,118	6.4	2,368	33,408	5.6	2,395	—	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators .....	21,691	5.0	2,070	21,691	5.0	2,070	—	—	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b> .....	18,939	2.3	2,076	19,153	2.5	2,076	—	—	—
Production helpers .....	18,402	3.7	2,080	18,402	3.7	2,080	—	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers ...	20,168	3.8	2,080	20,168	3.8	2,080	—	—	—
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	18,816	3.1	2,080	18,816	3.1	2,080	—	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3-2. Mean annual earnings<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total			Private industry			State and local government		
	Annual earnings		Mean annual hours <sup>5</sup>	Annual earnings		Mean annual hours <sup>5</sup>	Annual earnings		Mean annual hours <sup>5</sup>
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)		Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	
<b>Blue collar</b> —Continued									
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b> —Continued									
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	\$19,470	6.4	2,095	\$19,470	6.4	2,095	—	—	—
Hand packers and packagers	18,633	5.7	2,028	18,633	5.7	2,028	—	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	18,426	5.7	2,080	18,766	6.3	2,080	—	—	—
<b>Service</b> .....	19,845	7.2	2,038	15,588	8.9	1,991	\$24,916	7.3	2,093
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	15,026	19.5	1,882	13,775	22.6	1,857	—	—	—
Other food service .....	17,783	7.7	1,930	16,562	9.3	1,903	—	—	—
Cooks .....	20,032	4.8	2,002	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	16,500	13.1	1,840	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health service .....	19,888	3.6	2,064	17,261	2.5	2,040	—	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	19,909	3.7	2,063	17,261	2.5	2,040	—	—	—
Cleaning and building service .....	19,990	18.6	2,074	17,213	14.0	2,071	26,280	33.5	2,080
Janitors and cleaners .....	18,211	4.9	2,064	19,550	6.3	2,051	—	—	—
Personal service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> Earnings are the straight-time annual 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to

cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

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

<sup>5</sup> Mean annual hours are the hours an employee is scheduled to work in a year, exclusive of overtime.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.



Table 4-1. Selected occupations<sup>1</sup> and levels,<sup>2</sup> all workers:<sup>3</sup> Mean hourly earnings,<sup>4</sup> private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation and level	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)
<b>All</b> .....	\$12.64	2.0	\$12.19	2.1	\$15.23	4.7
All excluding sales .....	12.58	1.9	12.10	2.0	15.23	4.7
<b>White collar</b> .....	17.44	3.7	16.80	4.5	18.93	6.5
2 .....	8.00	2.8	7.97	4.2	—	—
3 .....	9.85	2.8	9.85	2.8	—	—
4 .....	11.63	3.0	11.71	3.6	11.35	3.9
5 .....	14.61	5.9	15.39	7.8	—	—
6 .....	16.75	4.3	16.55	5.3	—	—
7 .....	19.35	2.6	19.72	6.6	19.22	2.6
8 .....	20.72	2.5	20.31	3.7	21.33	2.7
9 .....	23.13	5.2	23.33	6.0	—	—
10 .....	25.80	8.4	27.87	5.7	—	—
11 .....	36.47	5.5	34.18	8.7	—	—
12 .....	46.65	6.9	48.45	6.3	—	—
White collar excluding sales .....	17.87	3.7	17.31	4.6	18.93	6.5
2 .....	8.38	2.3	8.64	3.1	—	—
3 .....	9.99	1.9	9.99	1.9	—	—
4 .....	11.71	3.4	11.83	4.3	11.35	3.9
5 .....	13.29	3.5	13.53	5.5	—	—
6 .....	16.29	3.1	15.94	3.9	—	—
7 .....	19.42	2.5	20.10	6.0	19.22	2.6
8 .....	20.36	2.5	19.60	3.7	21.33	2.7
9 .....	22.49	4.8	22.56	5.5	—	—
10 .....	25.80	8.4	27.87	5.7	—	—
11 .....	36.47	5.5	34.18	8.7	—	—
12 .....	45.81	7.8	47.82	7.4	—	—
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	20.30	4.1	20.14	5.2	20.43	6.1
Professional specialty .....	21.27	4.6	21.80	6.1	20.94	6.5
6 .....	17.40	4.4	—	—	—	—
7 .....	19.63	2.7	22.11	9.6	19.29	2.7
8 .....	20.76	2.5	19.39	2.1	21.63	3.0
9 .....	23.90	12.7	25.85	14.9	—	—
10 .....	26.63	9.3	26.63	9.3	—	—
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	26.95	11.8	26.95	11.8	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Natural scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related .....	21.89	15.1	17.83	3.3	28.88	27.2
6 .....	17.68	4.5	—	—	—	—
Registered nurses .....	18.61	1.1	18.52	1.4	—	—
Teachers, college and university .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university .....	19.38	3.3	—	—	19.39	3.3
7 .....	19.44	2.9	—	—	19.44	2.9
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Technical .....	16.15	4.6	15.81	5.5	16.73	7.6
6 .....	15.88	2.8	—	—	—	—
7 .....	18.31	3.0	—	—	—	—
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	28.31	6.3	28.10	7.1	29.13	12.9
8 .....	19.43	6.8	19.43	6.8	—	—
9 .....	21.93	3.8	21.58	4.0	—	—
11 .....	38.02	5.6	—	—	—	—
12 .....	46.67	8.0	48.96	7.5	—	—
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	28.89	7.2	28.89	8.3	28.88	14.3
8 .....	18.71	6.8	18.71	6.8	—	—
9 .....	22.21	4.1	21.75	4.3	—	—
11 .....	38.02	5.6	—	—	—	—
12 .....	50.31	9.3	50.31	9.3	—	—
Managers, medicine and health .....	32.33	18.9	—	—	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	28.03	11.2	28.25	11.5	—	—
8 .....	17.15	4.6	17.15	4.6	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4-1. Selected occupations<sup>1</sup> and levels,<sup>2</sup> all workers:<sup>3</sup> Mean hourly earnings,<sup>4</sup> private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation and level	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)
<b>White collar</b> –Continued						
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> –Continued						
Executives, administrators, and managers –Continued						
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. –Continued						
9 .....	\$22.01	4.9	\$21.96	5.5	–	–
Management related .....	25.65	14.0	25.00	15.7	–	–
9 .....	21.21	8.4	21.21	8.4	–	–
<b>Sales</b> .....	14.46	12.9	14.46	12.9	–	–
5 .....	18.22	10.8	18.22	10.8	–	–
Supervisors, sales .....	14.09	10.4	14.09	10.4	–	–
Cashiers .....	6.81	4.0	6.81	4.0	–	–
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	10.79	2.3	10.91	2.6	\$10.28	5.4
2 .....	8.38	2.3	8.64	3.1	–	–
3 .....	10.01	1.9	10.01	1.9	–	–
4 .....	11.79	3.7	11.98	4.5	–	–
5 .....	12.80	2.5	12.67	5.3	–	–
6 .....	14.38	7.0	14.38	7.0	–	–
Secretaries .....	11.07	3.9	–	–	–	–
4 .....	11.16	4.3	–	–	–	–
Order clerks .....	10.85	2.6	10.85	2.6	–	–
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	10.39	5.1	10.22	5.8	–	–
4 .....	11.32	4.1	11.27	5.5	–	–
Production coordinators .....	14.99	15.7	14.99	15.7	–	–
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	10.05	4.3	10.05	4.3	–	–
3 .....	9.84	3.4	9.84	3.4	–	–
Stock and inventory clerks .....	10.83	5.1	10.83	5.1	–	–
General office clerks .....	11.02	6.8	9.57	7.9	–	–
3 .....	11.03	3.9	11.03	3.9	–	–
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	11.17	1.5	11.22	1.5	9.80	5.8
1 .....	7.98	1.9	8.02	2.1	–	–
2 .....	9.33	1.7	9.32	1.8	–	–
3 .....	10.56	1.7	10.55	1.7	–	–
4 .....	13.14	2.0	13.21	2.0	–	–
5 .....	14.22	2.9	14.36	2.9	–	–
6 .....	14.99	3.1	14.99	3.5	–	–
7 .....	16.33	2.2	16.33	2.2	–	–
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	14.42	2.5	14.65	2.6	–	–
3 .....	11.21	4.3	11.39	5.3	–	–
4 .....	12.02	4.2	12.27	4.5	–	–
5 .....	14.30	4.4	14.59	4.5	–	–
6 .....	15.12	3.4	15.15	3.8	–	–
7 .....	16.23	2.2	16.23	2.2	–	–
Industrial machinery repairers .....	12.43	3.6	12.43	3.6	–	–
6 .....	13.23	5.4	13.23	5.4	–	–
Machinery maintenance .....	10.69	3.8	10.69	3.8	–	–
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. .....	15.34	14.3	15.34	14.3	–	–
Supervisors, production .....	15.34	4.3	15.34	4.3	–	–
5 .....	12.70	2.9	12.70	2.9	–	–
7 .....	16.50	2.6	16.50	2.6	–	–
Furniture and wood finishers .....	11.87	8.0	11.87	8.0	–	–
Upholsterers .....	17.16	2.5	17.16	2.5	–	–
4 .....	17.48	4.8	17.48	4.8	–	–
5 .....	16.84	3.3	16.84	3.3	–	–
6 .....	18.64	3.4	18.64	3.4	–	–
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	10.60	1.7	10.60	1.7	–	–
1 .....	8.07	2.0	8.07	2.0	–	–
2 .....	9.13	2.1	9.13	2.1	–	–
3 .....	10.61	2.0	10.61	2.0	–	–

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4-1. Selected occupations<sup>1</sup> and levels,<sup>2</sup> all workers:<sup>3</sup> Mean hourly earnings,<sup>4</sup> private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation and level	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)
<b>Blue collar</b> —Continued						
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b>						
—Continued						
4 .....	\$12.98	2.1	\$12.98	2.1	—	—
5 .....	13.43	2.2	13.43	2.2	—	—
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	9.48	5.2	9.48	5.2	—	—
2 .....	8.44	5.4	8.44	5.4	—	—
Numerical control machine operators .....	13.67	6.6	13.67	6.6	—	—
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	10.70	4.1	10.70	4.1	—	—
Sawing machine operators .....	10.78	2.2	10.78	2.2	—	—
3 .....	10.49	3.5	10.49	3.5	—	—
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	9.92	7.9	9.92	7.9	—	—
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	8.50	6.2	8.50	6.2	—	—
2 .....	7.77	6.8	7.77	6.8	—	—
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	10.73	9.7	10.73	9.7	—	—
2 .....	9.07	11.3	9.07	11.3	—	—
Textile cutting machine operators .....	11.35	8.1	11.35	8.1	—	—
3 .....	10.00	8.4	10.00	8.4	—	—
Textile sewing machine operators .....	11.21	5.6	11.21	5.6	—	—
2 .....	8.49	5.8	8.49	5.8	—	—
3 .....	11.77	5.2	11.77	5.2	—	—
4 .....	14.74	5.0	14.74	5.0	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	9.47	7.5	9.47	7.5	—	—
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	13.54	3.8	13.54	3.8	—	—
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	10.25	3.2	10.25	3.2	—	—
Painting and paint spraying machine operators ...	10.00	3.5	10.00	3.5	—	—
2 .....	9.23	2.7	9.23	2.7	—	—
3 .....	9.71	3.3	9.71	3.3	—	—
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	11.14	3.5	11.14	3.5	—	—
4 .....	11.52	2.0	11.52	2.0	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	11.34	3.1	11.34	3.1	—	—
1 .....	8.11	6.2	8.11	6.2	—	—
2 .....	9.38	5.5	9.38	5.5	—	—
3 .....	10.98	3.4	10.98	3.4	—	—
4 .....	12.83	4.0	12.83	4.0	—	—
5 .....	12.87	2.6	12.87	2.6	—	—
Welders and cutters .....	12.48	10.2	12.48	10.2	—	—
Assemblers .....	9.69	2.6	9.69	2.6	—	—
1 .....	8.18	2.9	8.18	2.9	—	—
2 .....	9.37	1.5	9.37	1.5	—	—
3 .....	10.64	2.8	10.64	2.8	—	—
Hand cutting and trimming .....	11.94	5.2	11.94	5.2	—	—
2 .....	9.77	3.3	9.77	3.3	—	—
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	9.98	3.7	9.98	3.7	—	—
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	10.42	5.1	10.42	5.1	—	—
1 .....	8.31	2.3	8.31	2.3	—	—
2 .....	8.90	4.6	8.90	4.6	—	—
3 .....	10.26	2.5	10.26	2.5	—	—
4 .....	14.38	6.5	14.38	6.5	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ...	9.66	3.3	9.66	3.3	—	—
2 .....	8.89	5.1	8.89	5.1	—	—
3 .....	9.79	2.5	9.79	2.5	—	—
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	9.41	13.2	9.41	13.2	—	—
2 .....	10.04	11.0	10.04	11.0	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	12.83	4.4	13.13	4.3	—	—
2 .....	9.66	2.4	9.92	2.1	—	—
3 .....	10.10	3.5	10.10	3.5	—	—
4 .....	14.65	3.6	14.65	3.6	—	—
Truck drivers .....	13.57	4.5	13.95	4.2	—	—
3 .....	10.53	3.6	10.53	3.6	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4-1. Selected occupations<sup>1</sup> and levels,<sup>2</sup> all workers:<sup>3</sup> Mean hourly earnings,<sup>4</sup> private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation and level	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)
<b>Blue collar —Continued</b>						
<b>Transportation and material moving —Continued</b>						
Truck drivers —Continued						
4 .....	\$14.72	3.8	\$14.72	3.8	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	10.48	5.0	10.48	5.0	—	—
2 .....	9.93	3.0	9.93	3.0	—	—
3 .....	9.83	6.8	9.83	6.8	—	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b>						
8.98	2.2	9.07	2.3	—	—	
1 .....	7.94	2.5	8.00	2.8	—	—
2 .....	9.82	2.3	9.79	2.4	—	—
3 .....	10.42	3.8	10.42	3.8	—	—
Production helpers .....	8.85	3.7	8.85	3.7	—	—
1 .....	7.92	3.3	7.92	3.3	—	—
2 .....	9.14	2.6	9.14	2.6	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers .....	8.50	5.0	8.50	5.0	—	—
1 .....	6.83	4.6	6.83	4.6	—	—
2 .....	8.92	4.9	8.92	4.9	—	—
3 .....	10.12	5.8	10.12	5.8	—	—
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	9.05	3.1	9.05	3.1	—	—
1 .....	8.24	2.7	8.24	2.7	—	—
2 .....	9.61	3.6	9.61	3.6	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	9.24	5.7	9.24	5.7	—	—
1 .....	8.88	8.8	8.88	8.8	—	—
2 .....	9.43	4.9	9.43	4.9	—	—
Hand packers and packagers .....	9.19	5.6	9.19	5.6	—	—
1 .....	8.14	4.4	8.14	4.4	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	8.86	5.6	9.03	6.2	—	—
1 .....	7.69	3.4	7.77	4.1	—	—
2 .....	11.09	4.6	11.09	4.6	—	—
<b>Service</b> .....	9.47	5.4	7.69	5.4	\$11.60	7.0
1 .....	7.07	3.3	6.91	3.3	—	—
2 .....	6.63	11.4	6.35	14.3	—	—
3 .....	8.22	4.4	7.88	4.4	—	—
4 .....	10.12	3.5	10.00	10.4	—	—
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	7.67	10.9	7.15	13.5	9.41	7.0
1 .....	6.50	4.0	—	—	—	—
3 .....	8.46	4.5	8.30	5.4	—	—
Other food service .....	8.39	6.1	7.89	7.5	9.41	7.0
1 .....	6.28	4.4	—	—	—	—
3 .....	8.46	4.5	8.30	5.4	—	—
Cooks .....	10.00	4.8	—	—	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	8.63	6.5	—	—	—	—
Health service .....	9.64	3.3	8.63	2.9	—	—
2 .....	8.36	1.1	8.36	1.1	—	—
4 .....	9.90	1.2	—	—	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	9.68	3.5	8.65	3.0	—	—
Cleaning and building service .....	9.63	18.4	8.32	13.8	12.63	33.5
1 .....	7.31	5.7	—	—	—	—
Janitors and cleaners .....	8.82	4.8	9.49	6.1	—	—
1 .....	8.27	3.4	8.53	4.2	—	—
Personal service .....	7.19	8.8	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>2</sup> Each occupation for which data are collected in an establishment is evaluated based on 10 factors, including knowledge, complexity, work environment, etc. Points are assigned based on the occupation's rank within each factor. The points are summed to determine the overall level of the occupation. See appendixes C and D for more information.

<sup>3</sup> All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 4-2. Selected occupations<sup>1</sup> and levels,<sup>2</sup> full-time workers:<sup>3</sup> Mean hourly earnings,<sup>4</sup> private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation and level	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)
<b>All</b> .....	\$12.80	2.0	\$12.35	2.2	\$15.40	4.9
All excluding sales .....	12.69	1.9	12.20	2.0	15.40	4.9
<b>White collar</b> .....	17.85	3.7	17.37	4.6	18.91	6.6
2 .....	8.47	2.4	8.83	3.3	—	—
3 .....	9.92	2.7	9.92	2.7	—	—
4 .....	11.65	3.0	11.73	3.6	11.35	3.9
5 .....	14.74	5.9	15.39	7.8	—	—
6 .....	16.58	4.6	16.43	5.7	—	—
7 .....	19.35	2.6	19.72	6.6	19.22	2.6
8 .....	20.63	2.4	20.39	3.8	21.01	2.1
9 .....	23.27	5.3	23.51	6.1	—	—
10 .....	25.80	8.4	27.87	5.7	—	—
11 .....	36.47	5.5	34.18	8.7	—	—
12 .....	46.65	6.9	48.45	6.3	—	—
White collar excluding sales .....	17.94	3.8	17.42	4.6	18.91	6.6
2 .....	8.47	2.4	8.83	3.3	—	—
3 .....	10.03	1.8	10.03	1.8	—	—
4 .....	11.73	3.4	11.85	4.3	11.35	3.9
5 .....	13.43	3.4	13.53	5.5	—	—
6 .....	16.07	3.3	15.76	4.2	—	—
7 .....	19.42	2.5	20.10	6.0	19.22	2.6
8 .....	20.24	2.5	19.66	3.8	21.01	2.1
9 .....	22.61	4.9	22.72	5.7	—	—
10 .....	25.80	8.4	27.87	5.7	—	—
11 .....	36.47	5.5	34.18	8.7	—	—
12 .....	45.81	7.8	47.82	7.4	—	—
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	20.37	4.3	20.26	5.5	20.44	6.1
Professional specialty .....	21.40	4.8	22.14	6.5	20.98	6.6
6 .....	17.12	5.1	—	—	—	—
7 .....	19.63	2.7	22.11	9.6	19.29	2.7
8 .....	20.58	2.2	—	—	—	—
9 .....	24.58	13.8	—	—	—	—
10 .....	26.63	9.3	26.63	9.3	—	—
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	26.95	11.8	26.95	11.8	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Natural scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related .....	22.05	17.4	17.70	4.0	—	—
6 .....	17.43	5.1	—	—	—	—
Registered nurses .....	18.53	1.2	18.52	1.7	—	—
Teachers, college and university .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university .....	19.55	2.8	—	—	19.55	2.8
7 .....	19.44	2.9	—	—	19.44	2.9
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Technical .....	16.15	4.6	15.81	5.5	16.73	7.6
6 .....	15.88	2.8	—	—	—	—
7 .....	18.31	3.0	—	—	—	—
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	28.31	6.3	28.10	7.1	29.13	12.9
8 .....	19.43	6.8	19.43	6.8	—	—
9 .....	21.93	3.8	21.58	4.0	—	—
11 .....	38.02	5.6	—	—	—	—
12 .....	46.67	8.0	48.96	7.5	—	—
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	28.89	7.2	28.89	8.3	28.88	14.3
8 .....	18.71	6.8	18.71	6.8	—	—
9 .....	22.21	4.1	21.75	4.3	—	—
11 .....	38.02	5.6	—	—	—	—
12 .....	50.31	9.3	50.31	9.3	—	—
Managers, medicine and health .....	32.33	18.9	—	—	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	28.03	11.2	28.25	11.5	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4-2. **Selected occupations<sup>1</sup> and levels,<sup>2</sup> full-time workers:<sup>3</sup> Mean hourly earnings,<sup>4</sup> private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued**

Occupation and level	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)
<b>White collar —Continued</b>						
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial —Continued</b>						
Executives, administrators, and managers —Continued						
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. —Continued						
8 .....	\$17.15	4.6	\$17.15	4.6	—	—
9 .....	22.01	4.9	21.96	5.5	—	—
Management related .....	25.65	14.0	25.00	15.7	—	—
9 .....	21.21	8.4	21.21	8.4	—	—
<b>Sales</b> .....	17.09	14.4	17.09	14.4	—	—
5 .....	18.22	10.8	18.22	10.8	—	—
Supervisors, sales .....	14.09	10.4	14.09	10.4	—	—
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	10.86	2.4	11.00	2.6	\$10.28	5.4
2 .....	8.47	2.4	8.83	3.3	—	—
3 .....	10.05	1.9	10.05	1.9	—	—
4 .....	11.79	3.7	11.98	4.5	—	—
5 .....	12.80	2.5	12.67	5.3	—	—
6 .....	14.38	7.0	14.38	7.0	—	—
Secretaries .....	11.07	3.9	—	—	—	—
4 .....	11.16	4.3	—	—	—	—
Order clerks .....	10.85	2.6	10.85	2.6	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	10.67	5.1	10.53	5.9	—	—
4 .....	11.32	4.1	11.27	5.5	—	—
Production coordinators .....	14.99	15.7	14.99	15.7	—	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	10.05	4.3	10.05	4.3	—	—
3 .....	9.84	3.4	9.84	3.4	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks .....	10.83	5.1	10.83	5.1	—	—
General office clerks .....	11.02	6.8	9.57	7.9	—	—
3 .....	11.03	3.9	11.03	3.9	—	—
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	11.23	1.5	11.29	1.5	9.82	5.9
1 .....	8.09	2.1	8.15	2.3	—	—
2 .....	9.33	1.7	9.32	1.8	—	—
3 .....	10.57	1.7	10.57	1.7	—	—
4 .....	13.14	2.0	13.21	2.0	—	—
5 .....	14.22	2.9	14.36	2.9	—	—
6 .....	14.99	3.1	14.99	3.5	—	—
7 .....	16.33	2.2	16.33	2.2	—	—
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	14.44	2.5	14.67	2.6	—	—
3 .....	11.21	4.3	11.39	5.3	—	—
4 .....	12.02	4.2	12.27	4.5	—	—
5 .....	14.30	4.4	14.59	4.5	—	—
6 .....	15.12	3.4	15.15	3.8	—	—
7 .....	16.23	2.2	16.23	2.2	—	—
Industrial machinery repairers .....	12.43	3.6	12.43	3.6	—	—
6 .....	13.23	5.4	13.23	5.4	—	—
Machinery maintenance .....	10.69	3.8	10.69	3.8	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	15.34	14.3	15.34	14.3	—	—
Supervisors, production .....	15.34	4.3	15.34	4.3	—	—
5 .....	12.70	2.9	12.70	2.9	—	—
7 .....	16.50	2.6	16.50	2.6	—	—
Furniture and wood finishers .....	11.87	8.0	11.87	8.0	—	—
Upholsterers .....	17.16	2.5	17.16	2.5	—	—
4 .....	17.48	4.8	17.48	4.8	—	—
5 .....	16.84	3.3	16.84	3.3	—	—
6 .....	18.64	3.4	18.64	3.4	—	—
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	10.61	1.7	10.61	1.7	—	—
1 .....	8.13	1.9	8.13	1.9	—	—
2 .....	9.13	2.1	9.13	2.1	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4-2. **Selected occupations<sup>1</sup> and levels,<sup>2</sup> full-time workers:<sup>3</sup> Mean hourly earnings,<sup>4</sup> private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued**

Occupation and level	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)
<b>Blue collar —Continued</b>						
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b>						
—Continued						
3 .....	\$10.61	2.0	\$10.61	2.0	—	—
4 .....	12.98	2.1	12.98	2.1	—	—
5 .....	13.43	2.2	13.43	2.2	—	—
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	9.48	5.2	9.48	5.2	—	—
2 .....	8.44	5.4	8.44	5.4	—	—
Numerical control machine operators .....	13.67	6.6	13.67	6.6	—	—
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	10.74	4.1	10.74	4.1	—	—
Sawing machine operators .....	10.81	2.2	10.81	2.2	—	—
3 .....	10.49	3.5	10.49	3.5	—	—
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	9.92	7.9	9.92	7.9	—	—
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	8.50	6.2	8.50	6.2	—	—
2 .....	7.77	6.8	7.77	6.8	—	—
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	10.73	9.7	10.73	9.7	—	—
2 .....	9.07	11.3	9.07	11.3	—	—
Textile cutting machine operators .....	11.35	8.1	11.35	8.1	—	—
3 .....	10.00	8.4	10.00	8.4	—	—
Textile sewing machine operators .....	11.21	5.6	11.21	5.6	—	—
2 .....	8.49	5.8	8.49	5.8	—	—
3 .....	11.77	5.2	11.77	5.2	—	—
4 .....	14.74	5.0	14.74	5.0	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	9.47	7.5	9.47	7.5	—	—
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	13.54	3.8	13.54	3.8	—	—
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	10.25	3.2	10.25	3.2	—	—
Painting and paint spraying machine operators .....	10.00	3.5	10.00	3.5	—	—
2 .....	9.23	2.7	9.23	2.7	—	—
3 .....	9.71	3.3	9.71	3.3	—	—
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	11.14	3.5	11.14	3.5	—	—
4 .....	11.52	2.0	11.52	2.0	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	11.40	3.0	11.40	3.0	—	—
2 .....	9.38	5.5	9.38	5.5	—	—
3 .....	10.98	3.4	10.98	3.4	—	—
4 .....	12.83	4.0	12.83	4.0	—	—
5 .....	12.87	2.6	12.87	2.6	—	—
Welders and cutters .....	12.48	10.2	12.48	10.2	—	—
Assemblers .....	9.69	2.6	9.69	2.6	—	—
1 .....	8.18	2.9	8.18	2.9	—	—
2 .....	9.37	1.5	9.37	1.5	—	—
3 .....	10.64	2.8	10.64	2.8	—	—
Hand cutting and trimming .....	11.94	5.2	11.94	5.2	—	—
2 .....	9.77	3.3	9.77	3.3	—	—
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	9.98	3.7	9.98	3.7	—	—
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	10.42	5.1	10.42	5.1	—	—
1 .....	8.31	2.3	8.31	2.3	—	—
2 .....	8.90	4.6	8.90	4.6	—	—
3 .....	10.26	2.5	10.26	2.5	—	—
4 .....	14.38	6.5	14.38	6.5	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	9.66	3.3	9.66	3.3	—	—
2 .....	8.89	5.1	8.89	5.1	—	—
3 .....	9.79	2.5	9.79	2.5	—	—
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	9.41	13.2	9.41	13.2	—	—
2 .....	10.04	11.0	10.04	11.0	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	12.89	4.4	13.14	4.4	—	—
2 .....	9.69	2.5	9.92	2.1	—	—
3 .....	10.10	3.5	10.10	3.5	—	—
4 .....	14.65	3.6	14.65	3.6	—	—
Truck drivers .....	13.57	4.5	13.95	4.2	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4-2. **Selected occupations<sup>1</sup> and levels,<sup>2</sup> full-time workers:<sup>3</sup> Mean hourly earnings,<sup>4</sup> private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued**

Occupation and level	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)
<b>Blue collar —Continued</b>						
<b>Transportation and material moving —Continued</b>						
Truck drivers —Continued						
3 .....	\$10.53	3.6	\$10.53	3.6	—	—
4 .....	14.72	3.8	14.72	3.8	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	10.48	5.0	10.48	5.0	—	—
2 .....	9.93	3.0	9.93	3.0	—	—
3 .....	9.83	6.8	9.83	6.8	—	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b>						
1 .....	9.12	2.4	9.23	2.5	—	—
2 .....	8.08	2.8	8.17	3.2	—	—
3 .....	9.82	2.3	9.79	2.4	—	—
10.55	3.8	10.55	3.8	—	—	
Production helpers .....	8.85	3.7	8.85	3.7	—	—
1 .....	7.92	3.3	7.92	3.3	—	—
2 .....	9.14	2.6	9.14	2.6	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers .....	9.70	3.8	9.70	3.8	—	—
2 .....	8.92	4.9	8.92	4.9	—	—
3 .....	10.53	5.2	10.53	5.2	—	—
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	9.05	3.1	9.05	3.1	—	—
1 .....	8.24	2.7	8.24	2.7	—	—
2 .....	9.61	3.6	9.61	3.6	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	9.29	6.3	9.29	6.3	—	—
1 .....	8.94	9.7	8.94	9.7	—	—
2 .....	9.43	4.9	9.43	4.9	—	—
Hand packers and packagers .....	9.19	5.6	9.19	5.6	—	—
1 .....	8.14	4.4	8.14	4.4	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	8.86	5.7	9.02	6.3	—	—
1 .....	7.69	3.4	7.77	4.1	—	—
2 .....	11.15	4.7	11.15	4.7	—	—
<b>Service</b> .....	9.74	6.1	7.83	6.1	\$11.90	7.3
1 .....	7.21	4.1	7.07	4.0	—	—
2 .....	6.53	13.9	6.23	17.3	—	—
3 .....	8.13	4.4	7.99	4.7	—	—
4 .....	10.11	3.6	—	—	—	—
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	7.98	13.9	7.42	16.4	—	—
3 .....	8.54	4.6	8.39	5.6	—	—
Other food service .....	9.21	4.5	8.70	5.4	—	—
3 .....	8.54	4.6	8.39	5.6	—	—
Cooks .....	10.00	4.8	—	—	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	8.97	7.5	—	—	—	—
Health service .....	9.64	3.5	8.46	2.6	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	9.65	3.6	8.46	2.6	—	—
Cleaning and building service .....	9.64	18.6	8.31	14.0	12.63	33.5
1 .....	7.29	5.6	—	—	—	—
Janitors and cleaners .....	8.82	4.9	9.53	6.3	—	—
1 .....	8.26	3.5	8.53	4.5	—	—
Personal service .....	—	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>2</sup> Each occupation for which data are collected in an establishment is evaluated based on 10 factors, including knowledge, complexity, work environment, etc. Points are assigned based on the occupation's rank within each factor. The points are summed to determine the overall level of the occupation. See appendixes C and D for more information.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.



Table 4-3. Selected occupations<sup>1</sup> and levels,<sup>2</sup> part-time workers:<sup>3</sup> Mean hourly earnings,<sup>4</sup> private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation and level	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)
<b>All</b> .....	\$8.36	5.6	\$7.78	5.2	\$11.17	14.9
All excluding sales .....	8.93	6.7	8.29	6.5	11.17	14.9
<b>White collar</b> .....	10.13	9.1	9.06	7.9	-	-
2 .....	6.34	2.9	6.34	2.9	-	-
White collar excluding sales .....	15.19	12.6	13.74	12.6	-	-
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	18.97	9.0	18.47	3.8	-	-
Professional specialty .....	18.97	9.0	18.47	3.8	-	-
Natural scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health related .....	20.95	8.4	18.49	1.9	-	-
Registered nurses .....	19.03	3.0	18.49	1.9	-	-
Teachers, college and university .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Teachers, except college and university .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sales</b> .....	6.47	4.8	6.47	4.8	-	-
Cashiers .....	6.07	1.3	6.07	1.3	-	-
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	6.99	3.8	6.80	3.1	-	-
1 .....	6.53	2.7	6.53	2.7	-	-
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b> .....	6.74	2.8	6.74	2.8	-	-
1 .....	6.58	2.8	6.58	2.8	-	-
Stock handlers and baggers .....	6.47	2.2	6.47	2.2	-	-
1 .....	6.41	2.6	6.41	2.6	-	-
<b>Service</b> .....	7.37	6.6	6.81	6.4	-	-
1 .....	6.43	5.5	-	-	-	-
2 .....	7.07	5.6	-	-	-	-
Protective service .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food service .....	6.47	5.2	-	-	-	-
Other food service .....	6.47	5.2	-	-	-	-
Health service .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and building service .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Personal service .....	-	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>2</sup> Each occupation for which data are collected in an establishment is evaluated based on 10 factors, including knowledge, complexity, work environment, etc. Points are assigned based on the occupation's rank within each factor. The points are summed to determine the overall level of the occupation. See appendixes C and D for more information.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup> The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 5-1. **Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup> by occupational group,<sup>2</sup> National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999**

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers <sup>3</sup>	Part-time workers <sup>3</sup>	Union <sup>4</sup>	Nonunion <sup>4</sup>	Time <sup>5</sup>	Incentive <sup>5</sup>
	Mean					
<b>All occupations</b> .....	\$12.80	\$8.36	–	\$12.64	\$12.41	\$14.20
All excluding sales .....	12.69	8.93	–	12.57	12.39	13.99
<b>White collar</b> .....	17.85	10.13	–	17.44	17.49	16.70
White-collar excluding sales .....	17.94	15.19	–	17.87	17.81	–
Professional specialty and technical .....	20.37	18.97	–	20.30	20.30	–
Professional specialty .....	21.40	18.97	–	21.27	21.27	–
Technical .....	16.15	–	–	16.15	16.15	–
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	28.31	–	–	28.31	28.31	–
Sales .....	17.09	6.47	–	14.46	13.32	15.79
Administrative support, including clerical .....	10.86	–	–	10.79	10.79	–
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	11.23	6.99	–	11.15	10.61	13.86
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	14.44	–	–	14.41	13.64	18.11
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	10.61	–	–	10.59	10.30	12.10
Transportation and material moving .....	12.89	–	–	12.81	11.29	15.88
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	9.12	6.74	–	8.97	8.62	11.90
<b>Service</b> .....	9.74	7.37	–	9.47	9.43	–
	Relative error <sup>6</sup> (percent)					
<b>All occupations</b> .....	2.0	5.6	–	2.0	2.2	4.1
All excluding sales .....	1.9	6.7	–	1.9	2.1	3.4
<b>White collar</b> .....	3.7	9.1	–	3.7	3.8	18.6
White-collar excluding sales .....	3.8	12.6	–	3.7	3.8	–
Professional specialty and technical .....	4.3	9.0	–	4.1	4.1	–
Professional specialty .....	4.8	9.0	–	4.6	4.6	–
Technical .....	4.6	–	–	4.6	4.6	–
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	6.3	–	–	6.3	6.4	–
Sales .....	14.4	4.8	–	12.9	18.1	18.6
Administrative support, including clerical .....	2.4	–	–	2.3	2.3	–
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	1.5	3.8	–	1.5	1.5	3.3
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	2.5	–	–	2.5	2.6	3.9
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	1.7	–	–	1.7	1.7	4.4
Transportation and material moving .....	4.4	–	–	4.4	5.2	3.8
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	2.4	2.8	–	2.2	2.2	3.3
<b>Service</b> .....	6.1	6.6	–	5.4	5.6	–

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

<sup>5</sup> Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

<sup>6</sup> The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

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

Table 5-2. Major industry division: Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup> by occupational group,<sup>2</sup> private industry, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers									
	All private industries	Goods-producing industries <sup>3</sup>				Service-producing industries <sup>4</sup>				
		Total	Mining	Construction	Manufacturing	Total	Transportation and public utilities	Wholesale and retail trade	Finance, insurance, and real estate	Services
	Mean									
<b>All occupations</b> .....	\$12.19	\$12.38	–	–	\$12.38	\$11.70	\$14.19	\$11.43	–	\$10.75
All excluding sales .....	12.10	12.25	–	–	12.25	11.65	14.19	11.15	–	10.75
<b>White collar</b> .....	16.80	18.83	–	–	18.83	14.27	15.86	12.58	–	15.69
White-collar excluding sales .....	17.31	18.31	–	–	18.31	15.49	15.86	14.38	–	15.69
Professional specialty and technical .....	20.14	23.18	–	–	23.18	17.20	–	–	–	16.93
Professional specialty .....	21.80	26.10	–	–	26.10	17.92	–	–	–	17.76
Technical .....	15.81	16.46	–	–	16.46	15.05	–	–	–	14.34
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	28.10	27.68	–	–	27.68	29.97	–	–	–	34.23
Sales .....	14.46	29.95	–	–	29.95	11.99	–	11.99	–	–
Administrative support, including clerical .....	10.91	11.01	–	–	11.01	10.75	12.67	11.37	–	9.60
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	11.22	11.12	–	–	11.12	11.72	13.84	12.00	–	8.32
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	14.65	14.30	–	–	14.32	16.77	14.63	16.75	–	–
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	10.60	10.68	–	–	10.68	7.49	–	–	–	7.52
Transportation and material moving .....	13.13	10.87	–	–	10.74	14.40	14.41	14.98	–	–
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	9.07	9.27	–	–	9.27	8.71	11.83	8.61	–	7.15
<b>Service</b> .....	7.69	11.44	–	–	11.44	7.25	–	6.34	–	7.58
	Relative error <sup>5</sup> (percent)									
<b>All occupations</b> .....	2.1	2.4	–	–	2.4	4.4	7.1	8.7	–	6.1
All excluding sales .....	2.0	2.3	–	–	2.2	4.2	7.1	8.8	–	6.1
<b>White collar</b> .....	4.5	6.0	–	–	6.0	5.4	19.6	9.9	–	6.8
White-collar excluding sales .....	4.6	5.9	–	–	5.9	5.9	19.6	11.4	–	6.8
Professional specialty and technical .....	5.2	7.7	–	–	7.7	4.1	–	–	–	4.3
Professional specialty .....	6.1	8.8	–	–	8.8	3.6	–	–	–	3.7
Technical .....	5.5	4.3	–	–	4.3	10.4	–	–	–	10.5
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	7.1	8.5	–	–	8.5	11.5	–	–	–	17.7
Sales .....	12.9	23.0	–	–	23.0	10.4	–	10.4	–	–
Administrative support, including clerical .....	2.6	3.4	–	–	3.4	3.8	11.0	4.7	–	4.3
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	1.5	1.5	–	–	1.5	5.0	4.5	5.7	–	10.6
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	2.6	2.5	–	–	2.5	8.6	18.8	8.6	–	–
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	1.7	1.7	–	–	1.7	1.3	–	–	–	1.3
Transportation and material moving .....	4.3	3.8	–	–	4.2	5.0	5.7	9.5	–	–
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	2.3	2.1	–	–	2.1	5.0	5.5	5.1	–	1.5
<b>Service</b> .....	5.4	18.3	–	–	18.3	4.8	–	12.2	–	2.9

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>3</sup> Goods-producing industries include mining, construction, and manufacturing.

<sup>4</sup> Service-producing industries include transportation and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services.

<sup>5</sup> The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

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

Table 5-3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup> by occupational group,<sup>2</sup> private industry, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers <sup>3</sup>	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
<b>All occupations</b> .....	\$12.19	\$10.71	\$12.54	\$12.32	\$13.00
All excluding sales .....	12.10	10.30	12.48	12.24	12.96
<b>White collar</b> .....	16.80	13.48	17.61	17.65	17.54
White-collar excluding sales .....	17.31	13.42	17.75	17.97	17.42
Professional specialty and technical .....	20.14	—	20.14	20.31	19.97
Professional specialty .....	21.80	—	21.80	22.97	20.89
Technical .....	15.81	—	15.81	15.56	16.26
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	28.10	21.47	29.02	28.31	30.76
Sales .....	14.46	13.51	—	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical .....	10.91	10.34	11.01	11.07	10.93
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	11.22	10.54	11.36	11.25	11.60
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	14.65	14.56	14.67	14.53	15.05
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	10.60	8.83	10.91	10.60	11.53
Transportation and material moving .....	13.13	13.85	12.89	13.08	12.21
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	9.07	7.97	9.32	9.21	9.50
<b>Service</b> .....	7.69	5.99	8.51	7.91	10.33
	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)				
<b>All occupations</b> .....	2.1	6.3	2.4	3.3	3.3
All excluding sales .....	2.0	5.7	2.2	2.9	3.3
<b>White collar</b> .....	4.5	11.4	5.6	7.9	7.2
White-collar excluding sales .....	4.6	9.8	4.8	6.4	7.2
Professional specialty and technical .....	5.2	—	5.2	7.9	7.0
Professional specialty .....	6.1	—	6.1	10.1	7.6
Technical .....	5.5	—	5.5	6.7	9.6
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	7.1	10.8	7.6	9.8	11.3
Sales .....	12.9	14.8	—	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical .....	2.6	8.3	2.8	3.3	4.9
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	1.5	5.0	1.6	2.0	2.6
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	2.6	5.8	2.9	3.0	6.4
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	1.7	5.2	1.7	2.1	2.3
Transportation and material moving .....	4.3	9.8	4.8	5.6	7.0
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	2.3	6.0	2.7	3.8	3.3
<b>Service</b> .....	5.4	7.1	5.5	2.5	12.8

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

<sup>3</sup> Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

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

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

Table 6-1. Hourly wage percentiles for establishment jobs<sup>1</sup>, all workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, all industries, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	10	25	Median 50	75	90
<b>All</b> .....	\$7.50	\$8.83	\$10.78	\$14.60	\$19.33
All excluding sales .....	7.55	8.85	10.77	14.50	19.10
<b>White collar</b> .....	8.43	10.56	15.62	20.07	28.10
White collar excluding sales .....	8.81	10.66	16.96	20.07	28.91
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	14.64	17.84	19.40	20.94	25.00
Professional specialty .....	16.96	18.08	19.43	21.21	28.91
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	19.10	19.33	21.20	35.04	47.63
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-
Natural scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-
Health related .....	16.68	17.49	18.64	19.72	30.85
Registered nurses .....	17.39	18.08	18.64	19.12	19.81
Teachers, college and university .....	-	-	-	-	-
Teachers, except college and university .....	17.91	18.40	19.40	20.73	21.21
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	-	-	-	-	-
Social scientists and urban planners .....	-	-	-	-	-
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	-	-	-	-	-
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	-	-	-	-	-
Technical .....	9.97	14.34	16.53	17.84	21.11
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	15.17	18.14	23.21	37.44	45.37
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	15.07	18.43	23.21	37.44	46.88
Managers, medicine and health .....	19.07	19.07	27.56	38.11	60.00
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	15.07	17.54	22.39	36.56	63.39
Management related .....	18.00	18.14	20.53	31.58	44.67
<b>Sales</b> .....	5.98	7.58	11.04	18.38	25.64
Supervisors, sales .....	11.32	11.32	12.35	14.91	15.56
Cashiers .....	5.98	5.98	6.00	6.54	9.13
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	8.00	8.95	10.56	11.75	13.30
Secretaries .....	10.15	10.15	10.50	11.71	12.87
Order clerks .....	10.16	10.66	10.66	10.88	11.60
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	8.00	9.00	10.00	11.74	13.00
Production coordinators .....	9.75	10.92	12.00	19.23	22.91
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	8.80	9.05	9.50	10.82	11.50
Stock and inventory clerks .....	8.95	9.57	10.48	12.45	13.52
General office clerks .....	6.63	9.78	11.92	13.30	13.30
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	7.55	8.77	10.36	12.90	15.76
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	10.33	11.50	14.04	16.37	18.71
Industrial machinery repairers .....	10.85	11.36	12.57	13.58	14.92
Machinery maintenance .....	9.08	10.08	11.05	11.61	12.07
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	10.33	11.50	13.75	14.41	30.77
Supervisors, production .....	11.57	12.70	15.24	17.13	19.90
Furniture and wood finishers .....	9.86	10.03	10.87	11.89	12.25
Upholsterers .....	13.83	15.82	17.86	18.60	20.58
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	7.76	8.85	10.15	11.99	14.45
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	7.81	7.88	9.47	10.65	11.05
Numerical control machine operators .....	11.85	11.99	13.99	15.10	15.40
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	9.50	9.61	10.53	12.09	12.09
Sawing machine operators .....	9.43	10.00	10.75	11.25	12.05
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	7.00	9.44	9.54	11.82	12.25
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	6.50	7.10	7.76	9.05	11.27
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	6.50	8.75	10.40	11.94	15.79
Textile cutting machine operators .....	8.70	8.74	10.36	15.04	15.58
Textile sewing machine operators .....	7.00	8.75	10.07	13.84	16.09
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	7.27	8.00	9.67	10.40	11.44
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	11.70	11.91	14.18	14.45	14.45
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	8.95	9.44	10.20	11.22	11.85
Painting and paint spraying machine operators ...	8.26	9.18	9.73	10.45	12.70
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	9.55	9.73	11.56	11.85	12.93
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	8.45	9.44	11.02	13.20	14.76

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6-1. Hourly wage percentiles for establishment jobs<sup>1</sup>, all workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, all industries, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	10	25	Median 50	75	90
<b>Blue collar —Continued</b>					
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b>					
—Continued					
Welders and cutters .....	\$7.37	\$10.61	\$12.35	\$14.38	\$17.75
Assemblers .....	7.92	8.64	9.49	10.27	12.23
Hand cutting and trimming .....	8.96	9.74	10.90	14.09	15.46
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	8.91	8.93	9.38	10.73	10.73
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	7.75	8.32	9.55	11.59	13.88
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	8.00	8.35	9.05	10.25	12.14
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	6.50	7.54	8.65	11.99	11.99
<b>Transportation and material moving</b>					
Truck drivers .....	9.00	9.85	12.84	15.07	16.47
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	9.25	10.41	15.07	16.33	16.47
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	8.70	9.50	9.70	12.84	13.75
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b>					
Production helpers .....	6.95	7.55	8.60	9.83	11.79
Stock handlers and baggers .....	7.58	7.73	8.78	10.18	10.20
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	6.12	6.50	8.26	10.16	11.75
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	7.50	8.52	9.01	9.64	10.63
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	6.85	7.00	9.14	10.38	12.54
Hand packers and packagers .....	6.75	8.00	8.71	9.73	12.74
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	7.10	7.10	8.42	10.35	11.79
<b>Service</b>					
Protective service .....	6.36	6.76	8.54	11.61	13.47
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	2.13	5.83	7.63	10.00	11.38
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders .....	—	—	—	—	—
Other food service .....	5.83	6.76	7.77	10.75	11.00
Cooks .....	7.77	8.41	10.75	10.77	11.00
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	6.76	7.55	7.91	10.00	11.38
Health service .....	7.93	8.47	10.00	10.00	10.11
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	7.93	8.47	10.00	10.00	11.17
Cleaning and building service .....	6.64	6.64	7.64	8.54	23.33
Janitors and cleaners .....	7.66	7.66	8.20	8.68	10.31
Personal service .....	6.07	6.36	6.64	7.21	9.69

<sup>1</sup> Percentiles are calculated from average hourly wages for sampled establishment jobs within each occupation. The percentiles describe the distribution of an occupation's employment by the average wage rates for its jobs. For example, at the 10th percentile hourly wage for an occupation, one-tenth of the occupation's employment are found in sampled establishment jobs whose average wages are the same or less, and nine-tenths are in jobs averaging the same or more. The calculations of the 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles follow the same logic. Hourly wages are the straight-time 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.

<sup>2</sup> All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 6-2. Hourly wage percentiles for establishment jobs<sup>1</sup>, all workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Private industry				
	10	25	Median 50	75	90
<b>All</b> .....	\$7.19	\$8.75	\$10.55	\$13.98	\$17.86
All excluding sales .....	7.27	8.77	10.50	13.88	17.58
<b>White collar</b> .....	8.40	9.88	12.74	19.81	29.25
White collar excluding sales .....	8.83	10.39	13.74	19.81	30.26
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	12.13	16.22	18.64	21.20	33.08
Professional specialty .....	12.13	17.39	19.33	26.73	35.04
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	19.10	19.33	21.20	35.04	47.63
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—
Natural scientists .....	—	—	—	—	—
Health related .....	16.22	17.39	18.34	19.72	19.81
Registered nurses .....	17.39	17.49	18.64	19.72	19.81
Teachers, college and university .....	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university .....	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners .....	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	—	—	—	—	—
Technical .....	9.97	13.98	16.00	17.58	21.78
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	15.87	18.14	21.91	37.23	45.37
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	15.17	17.65	23.21	37.23	57.69
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	15.07	17.21	22.55	36.56	63.39
Management related .....	17.00	18.14	19.87	26.52	44.67
<b>Sales</b> .....	5.98	7.58	11.04	18.38	25.64
Supervisors, sales .....	11.32	11.32	12.35	14.91	15.56
Cashiers .....	5.98	5.98	6.00	6.54	9.13
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	8.25	9.06	10.59	11.74	13.75
Order clerks .....	10.16	10.66	10.66	10.88	11.60
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	8.00	8.08	9.88	11.74	13.00
Production coordinators .....	9.75	10.92	12.00	19.23	22.91
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	8.80	9.05	9.50	10.82	11.50
Stock and inventory clerks .....	8.95	9.57	10.48	12.45	13.52
General office clerks .....	6.63	7.00	9.78	11.67	11.92
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	7.58	8.79	10.38	13.00	15.85
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	10.08	11.88	14.16	16.55	18.73
Industrial machinery repairers .....	10.85	11.36	12.57	13.58	14.92
Machinery maintenance .....	9.08	10.08	11.05	11.61	12.07
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	10.33	11.50	13.75	14.41	30.77
Supervisors, production .....	11.57	12.70	15.24	17.13	19.90
Furniture and wood finishers .....	9.86	10.03	10.87	11.89	12.25
Upholsterers .....	13.83	15.82	17.86	18.60	20.58
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	7.76	8.85	10.15	11.99	14.45
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	7.81	7.88	9.47	10.65	11.05
Numerical control machine operators .....	11.85	11.99	13.99	15.10	15.40
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	9.50	9.61	10.53	12.09	12.09
Sawing machine operators .....	9.43	10.00	10.75	11.25	12.05
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	7.00	9.44	9.54	11.82	12.25
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	6.50	7.10	7.76	9.05	11.27
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	6.50	8.75	10.40	11.94	15.79
Textile cutting machine operators .....	8.70	8.74	10.36	15.04	15.58
Textile sewing machine operators .....	7.00	8.75	10.07	13.84	16.09
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	7.27	8.00	9.67	10.40	11.44
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	11.70	11.91	14.18	14.45	14.45
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	8.95	9.44	10.20	11.22	11.85
Painting and paint spraying machine operators ...	8.26	9.18	9.73	10.45	12.70
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	9.55	9.73	11.56	11.85	12.93
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	8.45	9.44	11.02	13.20	14.76
Welders and cutters .....	7.37	10.61	12.35	14.38	17.75

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6-2. **Hourly wage percentiles for establishment jobs<sup>1</sup>, all workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, private industry, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999** — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Private industry				
	10	25	Median 50	75	90
<b>Blue collar</b> —Continued					
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b>					
—Continued					
Assemblers .....	\$7.92	\$8.64	\$9.49	\$10.27	\$12.23
Hand cutting and trimming .....	8.96	9.74	10.90	14.09	15.46
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	8.91	8.93	9.38	10.73	10.73
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	7.75	8.32	9.55	11.59	13.88
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	8.00	8.35	9.05	10.25	12.14
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	6.50	7.54	8.65	11.99	11.99
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	9.50	10.10	13.80	15.47	16.75
Truck drivers .....	10.00	10.59	15.07	16.34	16.47
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	8.70	9.50	9.70	12.84	13.75
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b>	6.85	7.56	8.71	9.84	11.79
Production helpers .....	7.58	7.73	8.78	10.18	10.20
Stock handlers and baggers .....	6.12	6.50	8.26	10.16	11.75
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	7.50	8.52	9.01	9.64	10.63
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	6.85	7.00	9.14	10.38	12.54
Hand packers and packagers .....	6.75	8.00	8.71	9.73	12.74
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	7.10	7.10	8.50	10.70	11.79
<b>Service</b> .....	5.83	6.64	6.80	8.41	10.75
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	2.13	5.83	6.91	8.88	11.00
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders .....	—	—	—	—	—
Other food service .....	5.72	5.83	7.65	8.88	10.75
Health service .....	7.93	8.15	8.37	8.58	10.11
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	7.93	7.93	8.37	8.58	10.11
Cleaning and building service .....	6.64	6.64	6.64	8.38	10.31
Janitors and cleaners .....	7.55	8.20	8.68	10.31	13.12
Personal service .....	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> Percentiles are calculated from average hourly wages for sampled establishment jobs within each occupation. The percentiles describe the distribution of an occupation's employment by the average wage rates for its jobs. For example, at the 10th percentile hourly wage for an occupation, one-tenth of the occupation's employment are found in sampled establishment jobs whose average wages are the same or less, and nine-tenths are in jobs averaging the same or more. The calculations of the 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles follow the same logic. Hourly wages are the straight-time 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.

<sup>2</sup> All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.



Table 6-3. Hourly wage percentiles for establishment jobs<sup>1</sup>, all workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	State and local government				
	10	25	Median 50	75	90
<b>All</b> .....	\$7.74	\$10.00	\$13.41	\$19.40	\$21.49
All excluding sales .....	7.74	10.00	13.41	19.40	21.49
<b>White collar</b> .....	8.43	13.30	18.47	20.73	22.55
White collar excluding sales .....	8.43	13.30	18.47	20.73	22.55
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	17.84	18.08	19.40	20.84	21.61
Professional specialty .....	17.91	18.40	19.43	20.94	21.61
Health related .....	18.08	18.08	19.12	30.85	62.31
Teachers, college and university .....	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university .....	17.91	18.40	19.40	20.73	21.21
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners .....	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	—	—	—	—	—
Technical .....	9.56	15.62	17.84	18.47	20.84
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	14.69	18.43	31.58	37.44	37.44
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	14.69	18.43	27.31	37.44	37.44
Management related .....	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	7.74	8.43	10.50	12.44	13.30
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	7.13	7.70	9.30	11.00	14.71
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b> .....	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Service</b> .....	7.66	9.69	11.38	13.47	13.47
Protective service .....	—	—	—	—	—
Food service .....	7.55	7.86	9.13	10.77	11.38
Other food service .....	7.55	7.86	9.13	10.77	11.38
Health service .....	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and building service .....	7.64	7.66	7.92	8.54	28.30
Personal service .....	—	—	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> Percentiles are calculated from average hourly wages for sampled establishment jobs within each occupation. The percentiles describe the distribution of an occupation's employment by the average wage rates for its jobs. For example, at the 10th percentile hourly wage for an occupation, one-tenth of the occupation's employment are found in sampled establishment jobs whose average wages are the same or less, and nine-tenths are in jobs averaging the same or more. The calculations of the 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles follow the same logic. Hourly wages are the straight-time 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.

<sup>2</sup> All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 6-4. Hourly wage percentiles for establishment jobs<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, all industries, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	10	25	Median 50	75	90
<b>All</b> .....	\$7.66	\$8.99	\$10.91	\$14.71	\$19.40
All excluding sales .....	7.66	8.96	10.88	14.64	19.12
<b>White collar</b> .....	8.92	10.66	16.22	20.07	29.25
White collar excluding sales .....	9.00	10.66	16.96	20.07	28.91
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	14.64	17.84	19.40	20.94	24.26
Professional specialty .....	17.31	18.08	19.44	21.21	28.91
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	19.10	19.33	21.20	35.04	47.63
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-
Natural scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-
Health related .....	16.22	17.49	18.64	19.72	19.81
Registered nurses .....	17.39	18.08	18.64	19.12	19.81
Teachers, college and university .....	-	-	-	-	-
Teachers, except college and university .....	17.91	18.40	19.40	20.73	21.21
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	-	-	-	-	-
Social scientists and urban planners .....	-	-	-	-	-
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	-	-	-	-	-
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	-	-	-	-	-
Technical .....	9.97	14.34	16.53	17.84	21.11
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	15.17	18.14	23.21	37.44	45.37
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	15.07	18.43	23.21	37.44	46.88
Managers, medicine and health .....	19.07	19.07	27.56	38.11	60.00
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	15.07	17.54	22.39	36.56	63.39
Management related .....	18.00	18.14	20.53	31.58	44.67
<b>Sales</b> .....	7.94	10.63	12.35	23.10	33.05
Supervisors, sales .....	11.32	11.32	12.35	14.91	15.56
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	8.12	9.00	10.59	11.75	13.30
Secretaries .....	10.15	10.15	10.50	11.71	12.87
Order clerks .....	10.16	10.66	10.66	10.88	11.60
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	8.00	9.75	11.18	11.74	13.00
Production coordinators .....	9.75	10.92	12.00	19.23	22.91
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	8.80	9.05	9.50	10.82	11.50
Stock and inventory clerks .....	8.95	9.57	10.48	12.45	13.52
General office clerks .....	6.63	9.78	11.92	13.30	13.30
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	7.67	8.85	10.40	12.99	15.79
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	10.33	11.50	14.04	16.37	18.71
Industrial machinery repairers .....	10.85	11.36	12.57	13.58	14.92
Machinery maintenance .....	9.08	10.08	11.05	11.61	12.07
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	10.33	11.50	13.75	14.41	30.77
Supervisors, production .....	11.57	12.70	15.24	17.13	19.90
Furniture and wood finishers .....	9.86	10.03	10.87	11.89	12.25
Upholsterers .....	13.83	15.82	17.86	18.60	20.58
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	7.76	8.85	10.16	11.99	14.45
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	7.81	7.88	9.47	10.65	11.05
Numerical control machine operators .....	11.85	11.99	13.99	15.10	15.40
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	9.50	9.61	10.53	12.09	12.09
Sawing machine operators .....	9.43	10.00	10.75	11.31	12.05
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	7.00	9.44	9.54	11.82	12.25
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	6.50	7.10	7.76	9.05	11.27
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	6.50	8.75	10.40	11.94	15.79
Textile cutting machine operators .....	8.70	8.74	10.36	15.04	15.58
Textile sewing machine operators .....	7.00	8.75	10.07	13.84	16.09
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	7.27	8.00	9.67	10.40	11.44
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	11.70	11.91	14.18	14.45	14.45
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	8.95	9.44	10.20	11.22	11.85
Painting and paint spraying machine operators ...	8.26	9.18	9.73	10.45	12.70
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	9.55	9.73	11.56	11.85	12.93
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	8.45	9.44	11.02	13.20	14.76
Welders and cutters .....	7.37	10.61	12.35	14.38	17.75

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6-4. Hourly wage percentiles for establishment jobs<sup>1</sup>, full-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, all industries, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999 — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	10	25	Median 50	75	90
<b>Blue collar –Continued</b>					
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b>					
–Continued					
Assemblers .....	\$7.92	\$8.64	\$9.49	\$10.27	\$12.23
Hand cutting and trimming .....	8.96	9.74	10.90	14.09	15.46
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	8.91	8.93	9.38	10.73	10.73
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	7.75	8.32	9.55	11.59	13.88
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	8.00	8.35	9.05	10.25	12.14
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	6.50	7.54	8.65	11.99	11.99
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	9.00	10.00	12.84	15.07	16.47
Truck drivers .....	9.25	10.41	15.07	16.33	16.47
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	8.70	9.50	9.70	12.84	13.75
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b>	7.00	7.58	8.70	10.00	11.79
Production helpers .....	7.58	7.73	8.78	10.18	10.20
Stock handlers and baggers .....	7.61	8.59	9.50	10.80	11.95
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	7.50	8.52	9.01	9.64	10.63
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	6.40	7.00	9.20	10.81	12.54
Hand packers and packagers .....	6.75	8.00	8.71	9.73	12.74
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	7.10	7.10	8.42	10.35	11.79
<b>Service</b> .....	6.64	6.91	8.83	11.61	13.47
Protective service .....	–	–	–	–	–
Food service .....	2.13	6.91	7.77	10.75	11.38
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders .....	–	–	–	–	–
Other food service .....	7.63	7.65	9.13	10.77	11.38
Cooks .....	7.77	8.41	10.75	10.77	11.00
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	6.47	7.65	9.13	10.00	11.38
Health service .....	7.93	8.47	10.00	10.00	10.11
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	7.93	8.47	10.00	10.00	10.11
Cleaning and building service .....	6.64	6.64	7.64	8.54	23.33
Janitors and cleaners .....	7.66	7.66	8.20	8.68	10.31
Personal service .....	–	–	–	–	–

<sup>1</sup> Percentiles are calculated from average hourly wages for sampled establishment jobs within each occupation. The percentiles describe the distribution of an occupation's employment by the average wage rates for its jobs. For example, at the 10th percentile hourly wage for an occupation, one-tenth of the occupation's employment are found in sampled establishment jobs whose average wages are the same or less, and nine-tenths are in jobs averaging the same or more. The calculations of the 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles follow the same logic. Hourly wages are the straight-time 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 6-5. Hourly wage percentiles for establishment jobs<sup>1</sup>, part-time workers:<sup>2</sup> Selected occupations, all industries, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	10	25	Median 50	75	90
<b>All</b> .....	\$5.83	\$5.98	\$6.75	\$8.47	\$11.17
All excluding sales .....	5.83	6.12	7.21	9.30	17.97
<b>White collar</b> .....	5.95	5.98	6.80	9.27	18.34
White collar excluding sales .....	7.00	7.90	17.97	18.34	25.00
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	7.90	17.97	18.18	20.12	30.85
Professional specialty .....	7.90	17.97	18.18	20.12	30.85
Natural scientists .....	-	-	-	-	-
Health related .....	17.96	17.97	18.34	22.16	30.85
Registered nurses .....	17.96	17.97	18.09	20.12	22.16
Teachers, college and university .....	-	-	-	-	-
Teachers, except college and university .....	-	-	-	-	-
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sales</b> .....	5.95	5.98	5.98	6.08	8.47
Cashiers .....	5.98	5.98	5.98	6.05	6.54
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	5.91	6.12	6.50	7.49	9.30
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b>	5.91	6.12	6.30	7.31	8.00
Stock handlers and baggers .....	5.91	6.08	6.30	6.80	7.49
<b>Service</b> .....	5.72	5.83	6.76	8.68	9.69
Protective service .....	-	-	-	-	-
Food service .....	5.72	5.72	5.83	7.55	7.91
Other food service .....	5.72	5.72	5.83	7.55	7.91
Health service .....	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and building service .....	-	-	-	-	-
Personal service .....	-	-	-	-	-

<sup>1</sup> Percentiles are calculated from average hourly wages for sampled establishment jobs within each occupation. The percentiles describe the distribution of an occupation's employment by the average wage rates for its jobs. For example, at the 10th percentile hourly wage for an occupation, one-tenth of the occupation's employment are found in sampled establishment jobs whose average wages are the same or less, and nine-tenths are in jobs averaging the same or more. The calculations of the 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles follow the same logic. Hourly wages are the straight-time 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

# Appendix A: Technical Note

This section provides basic information on the procedures and concepts used to produce the data contained in this bulletin. It is divided into three parts: Planning for the survey; data collection; and processing and analyzing the data. Although this section answers some questions commonly asked by data users, it is not a comprehensive description of all the steps required to produce the data.

## Planning for the survey

The overall design of the survey includes questions of scope, frame, and sample selection.

### Survey scope

This survey covered establishments employing 50 workers or more in goods-producing industries (mining, construction and manufacturing); service-producing industries (transportation, communications, electric, gas, and sanitary services; wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services industries); and State and local governments. Agriculture, private households, and the Federal Government were excluded from the scope of the survey. For purposes of this survey, an establishment is an economic unit that produces goods or services, a central administrative office, or an auxiliary unit providing support services to a company. For private industries in this survey, the establishment is usually at a single physical location. For State and local governments, an establishment is defined as all locations of a government entity.

The Hickory–Morganton–Lenoir, NC, Metropolitan Statistical Area includes Alexander, Burke, Caldwell and Catawba Counties.

### Sampling frame

The list of establishments from which the survey sample was selected (sampling frame) was developed from State unemployment insurance reports. Due to the volatility of industries within the private sector, sampling frames were developed using the most recent month of reference available at the time the sample was selected. The sampling frame was reviewed prior to the survey and, when necessary, missing establishments were added, out-of-business and out-of-scope establishments were removed, and addresses, employment levels, industry classification, and other information were updated.

### Sample design

The sample for this survey area was selected using a two-

stage stratified design with probability proportional to employment sampling at each stage. The first stage of sample selection was a probability sample of establishments. The sample of establishments was drawn by first stratifying the sampling frame by industry and ownership. The number of sample establishments allocated to each stratum is approximately proportional to the stratum employment. Each sampled establishment is selected within a stratum with a probability proportional to its employment. Use of this technique means that the larger an establishment's employment, the greater its chance of selection. Weights were applied to each establishment when the data were tabulated so that it represents similar units (by industry and employment size) in the economy that were not selected for collection. See appendix table 2 for a count of establishments in the survey by employment size. The second stage of sample selection, detailed below, was a probability sample of occupations within a sampled establishment.

## Data collection

The collection of data from survey respondents required detailed procedures. Field economists collected the data, working out of the Regional Office and visiting each establishment surveyed. Other contact methods, such as mail and telephone, were used to follow-up and update data.

### Occupational selection and classification

Identification of the occupations for which wage data were to be collected was a multistep process:

1. Probability-proportional-to-size selection of establishment jobs
2. Classification of jobs into occupations based on the Census of Population system
3. Characterization of jobs as full-time v. part-time, union v. nonunion, and time v. incentive
4. Determination of the level of work of each job

For each occupation, wage data were collected for those workers who met all the criteria identified in the last three steps. Special procedures were developed for jobs for which a correct classification or level could not be determined.

In step one, the jobs to be sampled were selected at each establishment by the BLS field economist during a personal visit. A complete list of employees was used for sampling, with each selected worker representing a job within the es-

establishment.

As with the selection of establishments, the selection of a job was based on probability proportional to its size in the establishment. The greater the number of people working in a job in the establishment, the greater its chance of selection.

The number of jobs collected in each establishment was based on an establishment's employment size as shown in the following schedule:

<i>Number of employees</i>	<i>Number of selected jobs</i>
50–99	8
100–249	10
250–999	12
1000–2,499	16
2,500+	20

The second step of the process entailed classifying the selected jobs into occupations based on their duties. The National Compensation Survey occupational classification system is based on the 1990 Census of Population. A selected job may fall into any one of about 480 occupational classifications, from accountant to wood lathe operator. In cases where a job's duties overlapped two or more census classification codes, the duties used to set the wage level were used to classify the job. Classification by primary duties was the fallback.

Each occupational classification is an element of a broader classification known as a major occupational group (MOG). Occupations can fall into any of the following MOGs:

- Professional specialty and technical
- Executive, administrative, and managerial
- Sales
- Administrative support, including clerical
- Precision production, craft, and repair
- Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors
- Transportation and material moving
- Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers
- Service occupations

Appendix B contains a complete list of all individual occupations, classified by the MOG to which they belong.

In step three, certain other job characteristics of the chosen worker were identified. First, the worker was identified as holding either a full-time or part-time job, based on the establishment's definition of those terms. Then, the worker was classified as having a time versus incentive job, depending on whether any part of pay was directly based on the actual production of the worker, rather than solely on hours worked. Finally, the worker was identified as being in a union job or a nonunion job. See the "Definition of Terms" section on the following page for more detail.

### **Generic leveling through point factor analysis**

In the last step before wage data were collected, the work level of each selected job was determined using a "generic leveling" process. Generic leveling ranks and compares all occupations randomly selected in an establishment using the same criteria.

For this survey, the level of each occupation in an establishment was determined by an analysis of each of 10 leveling factors. Nine of these factors are drawn from the U.S. Government Office of Personnel Management's Factor Evaluation System, which is the underlying structure for evaluation of General Schedule Federal employees. The tenth factor, supervisory duties, attempts to account for the effect of supervisory duties. It is considered experimental. The 10 factors are:

- Knowledge
- Supervision received
- Guidelines
- Complexity
- Scope and effect
- Personal contacts
- Purpose of contacts
- Physical demands
- Work environment
- Supervisory duties

Each factor contains a number of levels, and each level has an associated written description and point value. The number and range of points differ among the factors. For each factor, an occupation was assigned a level based on the written description that best matched the job. Within each occupation, the points for nine factors (supervisory duties was excluded) were recorded and totaled. The total determines the overall level of the occupation. Appendix table 3 presents median work levels for published occupational groups and selected occupations. A description of the levels for each factor is shown in appendix C.

Tabulations of levels of work for occupations in the survey follow the Federal Government's white-collar General Schedule. Point ranges for each of the 15 levels are shown in appendix D. It also includes an example of a job with its associated leveling factors, and a guide to help data users evaluate jobs in their firms

Wage data collected in prior surveys using the new generic leveling method were evaluated by BLS researchers using regression techniques. For each of the major occupational groups, wages were compared to the 10 generic level factors (and levels within those factors). The analysis showed that several of the generic level factors, most notably knowledge and supervision received, had strong explanatory power for wages. That is, as the levels within a given factor increased, the wages also increased. For additional information on generic leveling see Brooks Pierce, "Using the National Compensation Survey to Predict Wage Rates," *Compensation and Working Conditions*, Winter 1999, pp. 8–16.

## Collection period

Survey data were collected over a 13-month period for 60 metropolitan areas in the NCS program. For 20 small metropolitan areas, data were collected over a 4-month period. For each establishment in the survey, the data reflect the establishment's most recent information at the time of collection. The payroll reference month shown in the tables reflects the average date of this information for all sample units.

## Earnings

Earnings were defined as regular payments from the employer to the employee as compensation for straight-time hourly work, or for any salaried work performed. The following components were included as part of earnings:

- Incentive pay, including commissions, production bonuses, and piece rates
- Cost-of-living allowances
- Hazard pay
- Payments of income deferred due to participation in a salary reduction plan
- Deadhead pay, defined as pay given to transportation workers returning in a vehicle without freight or passengers

The following forms of payments were *not* considered part of straight-time earnings:

- Shift differentials, defined as extra payment for working a schedule that varies from the norm, such as night or weekend work
- Premium pay for overtime, holidays, and weekends
- Bonuses not directly tied to production (such as Christmas and profit-sharing bonuses)
- Uniform and tool allowances
- Free room and board
- Payments made by third parties (for example, bonuses given by manufacturers to department store salespeople, referral incentives in real estate)
- On-call pay

To calculate earnings for various periods (hourly, weekly, and annual), data on work schedules also were collected. For hourly workers, scheduled hours worked per day and per week, exclusive of overtime, were recorded. Annual weeks worked were determined. Because salaried workers, exempt from overtime provisions, often work beyond the assigned work schedule, their typical number of hours actually worked was collected.

## Definition of terms

*Full-time worker.* Any employee that the employer considers to be full time.

*Incentive worker.* Any employee whose earnings are tied, at least in part, to commissions, piece rates, production bonuses, or other incentives based on production or sales.

*Level.* A ranking of an occupation based on the requirements of the position. (See the description in the technical note on generic leveling through point factor analysis for more details on the leveling process.)

*Nonunion worker.* An employee in an occupation not meeting the conditions for union coverage (see below).

*Part-time worker.* Any employee that the employer considers to be part time.

*Straight-time.* Time worked at the standard rate of pay for the job.

*Time-based worker.* Any employee whose earnings are tied to an hourly rate or salary, and not to a specific level of production.

*Union worker.* Any employee is in a union occupation when all of the following conditions are met:

- A labor organization is recognized as the bargaining agent for all workers in the occupation
- Wage and salary rates are determined through collective bargaining or negotiations
- Settlement terms, which must include earnings provisions and may include benefit provisions, are embodied in a signed, mutually binding collective bargaining agreement

## Processing and analyzing the data

Data were processed and analyzed at the Bureau's National Office following collection.

## Weighting and nonresponse

Sample weights were calculated for each establishment and occupation in the survey. These weights reflected the relative size of the occupation within the establishment and of the establishment within the sample universe. Weights were used to aggregate the individual establishments or occupations into the various data series. Some of the establishments surveyed could not supply or refused to supply information. If data were not provided by a sample member, the weights of responding sample members in the same or similar "cells" were adjusted to account for the missing data. This technique assumes that the mean value of the nonrespondents equals the mean value of the respondents at some detailed "cell" level. Responding and nonresponding establishments were classified into these cells according to industry and employment size. Responding and nonresponding occupations within responding establishments were classified into cells that were additionally defined by major occupation group and job level.

Establishments that were determined to be out of business or outside the scope of the survey had their weights changed to zero. If only partial data were given by a sam-

ple establishment or occupation, or data were missing, the response was treated as a refusal.

### Survey response

	<i>Establish- ments</i>
Total in sample	218
Responding	164
Out of business or not in survey scope	16
Unable or refused to pro- vide data	38

Some surveys may have a high nonresponse rate for the all industries or private industry iterations. Such instances are noted in the bulletin table footnotes.

### Estimation

The wage series in the tables are computed by combining the wages for each sampled occupation. Before being combined, individual wage rates are weighted by: the number of workers; the sample weight, adjusted for nonresponding establishments and other factors; and the occupation's scheduled hours of work.

The percentiles presented in tables 6-1 through 6-5 are computed using average hourly wages for sampled establishment jobs within each occupation. Establishments in the survey may report either individual-worker earnings or average wage rates for each sampled job. If individual-worker earnings are provided, an average hourly wage rate is computed for the job and used in the calculation of percentile estimates. The average hourly wages for each sampled job are appropriately weighted and then arrayed from lowest to highest.

The published 10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, and 90th percentiles describe the distribution of an occupation's employment by the average wage rates for its jobs. For example, at the 10th percentile, 10 percent of a published occupation's employment is in sampled establishment jobs that had average hourly wages at the 10th percentile or less for that occupation. Note that the percentiles in previous NCS bulletins for this area were calculated from individual-worker earnings rather than from average wages for sampled establishment jobs. Data users should keep this difference in mind.

Not all calculated series met the criteria for publication. Before any series was published, it was reviewed to make sure that the number of observations underlying it was sufficient. This review prevented the publication of a series that could have revealed information about a specific establishment.

Estimates of the number of workers represent the total in all establishments within the scope of the study, and not the number actually surveyed. Because occupational structures among establishments differ, estimates of the number of workers obtained from the sample of establishments serve to indicate only the relative importance of the occupational groups studied.

### Data reliability

The data in this bulletin are estimates from a scientifically selected probability sample. There are two types of errors possible in an estimate based on a sample survey, sampling and nonsampling.

*Sampling errors* occur because observations come only from a sample and not from an entire population. The sample used for this survey is one of a number of possible samples of the same size that could have been selected using the sample design. Estimates derived from the different samples would differ from each other.

A measure of the variation among these differing estimates is called the standard error or sampling error. It indicates the precision with which an estimate from a particular sample approximates the average result of all possible samples. The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error divided by the estimate. RSE data are provided alongside the earnings data in the bulletin tables.

The standard error can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. As an example, suppose a table shows that mean hourly earnings for all workers were \$12.79, with a relative standard error of 3.6 percent for this estimate. At the 90-percent level, the confidence interval for this estimate is \$13.55 to \$12.03 (1.645 times 3.6 percent = 5.922 percent times \$12.27, plus or minus \$0.76). If all possible samples were selected to estimate the population value, the interval from each sample would include the true population value approximately 90 percent of the time.

*Nonsampling errors* also affect survey results. They can stem from many sources, such as inability to obtain information for some establishments, difficulties with survey definitions, inability of the respondents to provide correct information, or mistakes in recording or coding the data obtained. A Technical Reinterview Program done in all survey areas will be used in the development of a formal quality assessment process to help compute nonsampling error. Although they were not specifically measured, the nonsampling errors were expected to be minimal due to the extensive training of the field economists who gathered the survey data by personal visit, computer edits of the data, and detailed data review.



Appendix table 1. **Number of workers<sup>1</sup> represented by the survey, by occupational group,<sup>2</sup> National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999**

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers		
	Total	Private industry	State and local government
<b>All occupations</b> .....	105,700	88,700	16,900
All excluding sales .....	101,600	84,700	16,900
<b>White collar</b> .....	29,100	19,600	9,500
White-collar excluding sales .....	25,000	15,500	9,500
Professional specialty and technical .....	10,900	4,400	6,500
Professional specialty .....	9,200	3,300	5,900
Technical .....	1,700	1,100	600
Executive, administrative, and managerial .....	4,200	3,300	900
Sales .....	4,000	4,000	–
Administrative support, including clerical .....	10,000	7,800	2,100
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	65,100	62,600	2,600
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	11,900	10,900	–
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors .....	33,500	33,500	–
Transportation and material moving .....	5,500	4,900	–
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers .....	14,300	13,300	–
<b>Service</b> .....	11,400	6,500	4,900

<sup>1</sup> The number of workers represented by the survey are rounded to the nearest 100. Estimates of the number of workers provide a description of size and composition of the labor force included in the survey. Estimates are not intended, however, for comparison to other statistical series to measure employment trends or levels. Both full-time and part-time workers were included in the survey.

<sup>2</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

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

Appendix table 2. **Number of establishments represented by survey and the number studied by industry division and establishment employment size, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999**

Industry	Number of establishments represented <sup>1</sup>	Number of establishments studied				
		Total studied	50 - 99 workers <sup>2</sup>	100 workers or more		
				Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
All industries .....	600	164	39	125	89	36
Private industry .....	500	155	39	116	87	29
Goods-producing industries .....	300	111	19	92	69	23
Construction .....	( <sup>3</sup> )	1	1	-	-	-
Manufacturing .....	300	110	18	92	69	23
Service-producing industries .....	200	44	20	24	18	6
Transportation and public utilities .....	( <sup>3</sup> )	7	2	5	5	-
Wholesale and retail trade .....	100	19	15	4	3	1
Services .....	100	18	3	15	10	5
State and local government .....	( <sup>3</sup> )	9	-	9	2	7

<sup>1</sup> Number of establishments represented by the survey rounded to the nearest 100.

<sup>2</sup> Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

<sup>3</sup> Number of establishments represented by the survey is fewer than 50.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported. Overall industry and industry groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Appendix table 3. **Median work levels for all workers, full-time and part-time workers:<sup>1</sup> Selected occupations, all industries, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999**

Occupation <sup>2</sup>	All workers	Full-time workers	Part-time workers
<b>All</b> .....	3	3	2
All excluding sales .....	3	3	2
<b>White collar</b> .....	6	6	3
White collar excluding sales .....	6	6	6
<b>Professional specialty and technical</b> .....	7	7	8
Professional specialty .....	7	7	8
Engineers, architects, and surveyors .....	9	9	—
Mathematical and computer scientists .....	—	—	—
Natural scientists .....	—	—	—
Health related .....	7	7	8
Registered nurses .....	7	7	6
Teachers, college and university .....	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university .....	7	7	—
Librarians, archivists, and curators .....	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners .....	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers .....	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c. ....	—	—	—
Technical .....	6	6	—
<b>Executive, administrative, and managerial</b> .....	9	9	—
Executives, administrators, and managers .....	9	9	—
Managers, medicine and health .....	11	11	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c. ....	9	9	—
Management related .....	9	9	—
<b>Sales</b> .....	3	4	2
Supervisors, sales .....	5	5	—
Cashiers .....	1	—	1
<b>Administrative support, including clerical</b> .....	3	3	—
Secretaries .....	4	4	—
Order clerks .....	3	3	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks .....	4	4	—
Production coordinators .....	4	4	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks .....	3	3	—
Stock and inventory clerks .....	3	3	—
General office clerks .....	3	3	—
<b>Blue collar</b> .....	3	3	1
<b>Precision production, craft, and repair</b> .....	5	5	—
Industrial machinery repairers .....	5	5	—
Machinery maintenance .....	4	4	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c. ....	5	5	—
Supervisors, production .....	7	7	—
Furniture and wood finishers .....	4	4	—
Upholsterers .....	5	5	—
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> .....	3	3	—
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators .....	2	2	—
Numerical control machine operators .....	4	4	—
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators .....	3	3	—
Sawing machine operators .....	3	3	—
Shaping and jointing machine operators .....	4	4	—
Winding and twisting machine operators .....	2	2	—
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators .....	2	2	—
Textile cutting machine operators .....	3	3	—
Textile sewing machine operators .....	3	3	—
Packaging and filling machine operators .....	2	2	—
Extruding and forming machine operators .....	4	4	—
Mixing and blending machine operators .....	3	3	—
Painting and paint spraying machine operators .....	2	2	—
Slicing and cutting machine operators .....	3	3	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c. ....	3	4	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Appendix table 3. **Median work levels for all workers, full-time and part-time workers:<sup>1</sup> Selected occupations, all industries, National Compensation Survey, Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC, October 1999** — Continued

Occupation <sup>2</sup>	All workers	Full-time workers	Part-time workers
<b>Blue collar</b> —Continued			
<b>Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors</b> —Continued			
Welders and cutters .....	4	4	—
Assemblers .....	2	2	—
Hand cutting and trimming .....	2	2	—
Hand painting, coating, and decorating .....	2	2	—
Miscellaneous hand working, n.e.c. ....	2	2	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners .....	3	3	—
Hand inspectors, n.e.c. ....	2	2	—
<b>Transportation and material moving</b> .....			
Truck drivers .....	4	4	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators .....	3	3	—
<b>Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers</b> .....			
Production helpers .....	2	2	—
Stock handlers and baggers .....	1	2	1
Machine feeders and offbearers .....	2	2	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c. ....	1	1	—
Hand packers and packagers .....	1	1	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c. ....	1	1	—
<b>Service</b> .....			
Protective service .....	—	—	—
Food service .....	2	3	1
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders .....	—	—	—
Other food service .....	2	3	1
Cooks .....	4	4	—
Food preparation, n.e.c. ....	2	3	—
Health service .....	4	4	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants .....	4	4	—
Cleaning and building service .....	1	1	—
Janitors and cleaners .....	1	1	—
Personal service .....	2	—	—

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. The occupations titled authors,

musicians, actors, painters, photographers, dancers, artists, athletes, and legislators cannot be assigned a work level. See appendix B for more information.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.