

News

United States
Department
of Labor



Bureau of Labor Statistics

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HIGHLIGHTS OF HOUSTON-BAYTOWN-HUNTSVILLE, TX NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY JANUARY 2008

Workers in the Houston-Baytown-Huntsville metropolitan area earned an average of \$21.84 per hour in January 2008, according to new survey results from the National Compensation Survey (NCS) released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that wage data were reported for workers in a wide range of occupational groups, including average hourly earnings of \$33.61 for business and financial operations occupations and \$29.46 for healthcare practitioner and technical occupations. Another occupational group, office and administrative support, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$15.53. The NCS data available for the Houston-Baytown-Huntsville area include earnings for 20 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Accountants and auditors, part of the business and financial operations occupational group, earned \$32.36 per hour. Within the healthcare practitioner and technical occupational group, registered nurses averaged \$31.52 per hour and licensed practical and vocational nurses, \$20.49. Financial clerks, an occupation within the office and administrative support group, registered an average hourly rate of \$15.35, and receptionists and information clerks earned \$12.17 per hour. (See table 1.)

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$22.94 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$8.99. Union workers earned \$22.17 and non-union workers, \$21.82. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$18.41 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$21.17, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$27.01.

The occupational wage data available from NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. NCS results also include the work level and respective earnings for occupations determined by a point factor leveling process. The four occupational leveling factors are: knowledge, job controls and complexity, contacts, and physical environment. Details on the NCS are available at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm>.

The NCS data reported here covered 735 establishments with one or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. Agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government were excluded from the survey. This sample of establishments represented 2,458,300 workers in the Houston-Baytown-Huntsville Combined Statistical Area (CSA) which is comprised of Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, San Jacinto, Waller, and Walker Counties in Texas.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Houston-Baytown-Huntsville, TX National Compensation Survey January 2008 which is available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm>.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau data, contact the Southwest Information Office by calling (214) 767-6970 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. CT.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Houston-Baytown-Huntsville, TX CSA, January 2008**

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All workers	\$21.84	3.8	\$22.94	3.9	\$8.99	2.5
Management occupations	49.17	7.1	49.17	7.1	—	—
General and operations managers	72.53	26.6	72.53	26.6	—	—
Marketing and sales managers	55.02	12.2	55.02	12.2	—	—
Marketing managers	58.06	8.5	58.06	8.5	—	—
Administrative services managers	31.87	16.0	31.87	16.0	—	—
Computer and information systems managers	67.22	11.4	67.22	11.4	—	—
Financial managers	53.55	10.0	53.55	10.0	—	—
Human resources managers	49.04	17.1	49.04	17.1	—	—
Industrial production managers	39.68	16.2	39.68	16.2	—	—
Construction managers	35.59	9.7	35.59	9.7	—	—
Education administrators	31.13	12.0	31.13	12.0	—	—
Education administrators, elementary and secondary school	39.77	.3	39.77	.3	—	—
Education administrators, postsecondary	40.79	8.0	40.79	8.0	—	—
Engineering managers	53.49	6.5	53.49	6.5	—	—
Medical and health services managers	33.38	15.2	33.38	15.2	—	—
Business and financial operations occupations	33.61	5.6	33.63	5.6	—	—
Buyers and purchasing agents	27.06	19.6	27.06	19.6	—	—
Cost estimators	25.56	15.9	25.56	15.9	—	—
Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists	28.08	7.2	28.08	7.2	—	—
Accountants and auditors	32.36	3.9	32.42	3.9	—	—
Loan counselors and officers	36.67	19.9	36.67	19.9	—	—
Loan officers	36.67	19.9	36.67	19.9	—	—
Computer and mathematical science occupations	39.88	6.4	39.93	6.4	—	—
Computer programmers	31.43	12.3	31.43	12.3	—	—
Computer software engineers	48.34	15.4	48.34	15.4	—	—
Computer software engineers, systems software	44.17	8.9	44.17	8.9	—	—
Computer support specialists	26.50	8.9	26.42	9.2	—	—
Computer systems analysts	47.34	16.6	47.34	16.6	—	—
Architecture and engineering occupations	40.89	4.3	40.89	4.3	—	—
Engineers	45.10	4.5	45.10	4.5	—	—
Mechanical engineers	32.55	12.1	32.55	12.1	—	—
Drafters	33.91	13.2	33.91	13.2	—	—
Engineering technicians, except drafters	31.60	10.1	31.60	10.1	—	—
Life, physical, and social science occupations	40.50	9.6	40.50	9.6	—	—
Physical scientists	50.74	5.8	50.74	5.8	—	—
Environmental scientists and geoscientists	52.38	7.5	52.38	7.5	—	—
Community and social services occupations	21.48	8.3	21.30	9.0	—	—
Counselors	28.08	9.0	27.81	9.7	—	—
Educational, vocational, and school counselors	29.65	10.6	29.65	10.6	—	—
Social workers	19.61	10.8	19.61	10.8	—	—
Education, training, and library occupations	31.23	6.4	32.22	6.0	13.36	13.7
Postsecondary teachers	64.93	16.0	65.89	16.0	—	—
Physical sciences teachers, postsecondary	58.74	24.7	60.84	23.7	—	—
Health teachers, postsecondary	105.32	20.9	105.35	20.8	—	—
Health specialties teachers, postsecondary	106.68	20.8	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous postsecondary teachers	33.82	3.3	34.09	4.0	—	—
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	31.64	2.5	31.75	2.4	—	—
Preschool and kindergarten teachers	25.28	18.6	25.28	18.6	—	—
Elementary and middle school teachers	31.33	2.3	31.56	1.7	—	—
Elementary school teachers, except special education	31.76	1.1	32.07	.2	—	—
Middle school teachers, except special and vocational education	30.05	7.6	30.05	7.6	—	—
Secondary school teachers	33.33	1.2	33.33	1.2	—	—
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	32.97	1.4	32.97	1.4	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Houston-Baytown-Huntsville, TX CSA, January 2008** — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Education, training, and library occupations —Continued						
Special education teachers	\$34.12	3.1	\$34.12	3.1	—	—
Other teachers and instructors	17.71	18.0	22.20	22.1	\$13.69	6.6
Adult literacy, remedial education, and GED teachers and instructors	21.29	12.6	23.40	16.8	—	—
Teacher assistants	11.37	6.2	11.68	5.0	—	—
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	26.43	12.0	26.84	12.0	—	—
Designers	21.40	8.7	21.40	8.7	—	—
Writers and editors	22.26	5.3	—	—	—	—
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	29.46	4.2	29.45	4.1	29.65	9.5
Pharmacists	49.50	1.5	—	—	—	—
Registered nurses	31.52	3.9	31.61	4.0	29.97	6.4
Therapists	36.31	11.9	36.53	12.8	—	—
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	19.96	7.6	19.81	7.3	—	—
Medical and clinical laboratory technologists	23.64	8.6	23.65	9.3	—	—
Medical and clinical laboratory technicians	15.90	11.9	15.90	11.9	—	—
Diagnostic related technologists and technicians	25.74	10.0	25.74	10.0	—	—
Radiologic technologists and technicians	23.54	7.7	23.54	7.7	—	—
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	20.49	3.6	20.49	3.6	—	—
Healthcare support occupations	10.83	1.8	11.29	2.0	7.70	13.8
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	9.97	2.0	10.54	1.7	6.87	9.5
Home health aides	7.89	11.5	—	—	6.87	9.5
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	10.64	1.7	10.64	1.7	—	—
Miscellaneous healthcare support occupations	12.11	4.0	12.32	4.3	—	—
Medical assistants	12.28	6.3	12.30	6.9	—	—
Protective service occupations	20.22	3.0	20.46	2.9	—	—
Fire fighters	19.10	5.2	—	—	—	—
Bailiffs, correctional officers, and jailers	15.14	4.8	15.14	4.8	—	—
Correctional officers and jailers	15.14	4.8	15.14	4.8	—	—
Police officers	23.52	2.7	23.68	3.1	—	—
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	23.52	2.7	23.68	3.1	—	—
Food preparation and serving related occupations	6.30	2.3	6.66	3.1	5.28	4.3
First-line supervisors/managers, food preparation and serving workers	13.37	11.0	15.04	12.5	—	—
First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers	13.37	11.0	15.04	12.5	—	—
Cooks	8.09	8.3	8.30	10.3	—	—
Cooks, institution and cafeteria	9.80	10.7	10.11	12.3	—	—
Cooks, restaurant	9.41	4.7	9.31	6.4	—	—
Cooks, short order	8.27	8.2	8.27	8.2	—	—
Food preparation workers	9.12	3.7	9.81	5.2	8.27	.5
Food service, tipped	3.76	6.8	3.95	11.2	3.28	10.6
Bartenders	4.23	6.7	—	—	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	2.67	5.2	2.74	15.1	2.53	17.5
Dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender helpers	5.80	15.4	5.94	16.5	—	—
Fast food and counter workers	7.34	4.5	7.71	4.9	6.57	4.8
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	7.34	5.6	7.84	7.0	—	—
Food servers, nonrestaurant	8.81	14.2	—	—	—	—
Dishwashers	7.14	.3	—	—	—	—
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	8.28	6.0	8.58	6.9	—	—
Building cleaning workers	7.89	4.2	8.13	4.9	—	—
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	8.07	5.8	8.61	9.1	—	—
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	7.60	4.3	7.60	4.3	—	—
Personal care and service occupations	13.08	13.2	13.72	10.0	10.34	35.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Houston-Baytown-Huntsville, TX CSA, January 2008** — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Personal care and service occupations —Continued						
Child care workers	\$8.21	10.8	\$8.70	11.4	—	—
Sales and related occupations						
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers	19.80	7.8	22.61	8.6	\$7.76	2.3
First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers	22.48	9.1	22.48	9.1	—	—
Retail sales workers	16.76	3.4	16.76	3.4	—	—
Cashiers, all workers	10.81	15.0	12.42	19.4	7.78	2.9
Cashiers	7.69	9.4	7.77	15.5	7.59	2.2
Counter and rental clerks and parts salespersons	7.69	9.4	7.77	15.5	7.59	2.2
Counter and rental clerks	12.29	17.4	14.37	22.9	—	—
Parts salespersons	12.74	26.8	—	—	—	—
Retail salespersons	11.62	.0	—	—	—	—
Securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents	13.05	9.0	14.92	14.5	8.23	1.2
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	43.46	2.5	43.46	2.5	—	—
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, technical and scientific products	34.61	14.7	34.61	14.7	—	—
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	36.36	11.9	36.36	11.9	—	—
Office and administrative support occupations						
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	15.53	2.5	15.88	2.6	11.45	5.8
Financial clerks	25.19	7.8	25.19	7.8	—	—
Bill and account collectors	15.35	3.7	15.82	3.7	12.66	9.0
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	15.71	11.2	16.15	15.0	—	—
Tellers	15.98	4.0	16.27	3.7	—	—
Customer service representatives	11.82	5.2	12.48	7.3	—	—
Receptionists and information clerks	17.73	7.9	17.92	8.2	—	—
Reservation and transportation ticket agents and travel clerks	12.17	3.9	12.25	4.0	—	—
Dispatchers	13.06	.6	—	—	—	—
Dispatchers, except police, fire, and ambulance	15.96	13.3	16.36	14.4	—	—
Production, planning, and expediting clerks	15.47	19.3	15.99	21.9	—	—
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks	13.24	19.0	14.05	16.4	—	—
Stock clerks and order fillers	14.60	7.2	14.60	7.2	—	—
Secretaries and administrative assistants	11.47	6.0	12.24	7.7	7.76	2.3
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	18.63	2.7	18.68	2.7	—	—
Medical secretaries	20.56	5.0	20.77	5.1	—	—
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	16.19	12.7	16.19	12.7	—	—
Data entry and information processing workers	18.58	6.0	18.58	6.0	—	—
Data entry keyers	11.99	3.7	12.29	3.9	—	—
Office clerks, general	12.09	3.3	—	—	—	—
Construction and extraction occupations						
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers	12.56	3.8	12.78	4.2	—	—
Carpenters	15.79	4.8	15.79	4.8	—	—
Construction laborers	21.06	12.1	21.06	12.1	—	—
Construction equipment operators	15.60	18.1	15.60	18.1	—	—
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators	12.10	4.2	12.10	4.2	—	—
Pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	16.32	5.2	16.32	5.2	—	—
Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	16.52	5.1	16.52	5.1	—	—
Helpers, construction trades	17.68	5.6	17.68	5.6	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations						
First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, and repairers	17.86	7.7	17.86	7.7	—	—
Automotive technicians and repairers	12.98	3.4	12.98	3.4	—	—
Automotive service technicians and mechanics	19.60	5.6	19.71	5.6	—	—
Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists ...	28.41	17.4	28.41	17.4	—	—
Heavy vehicle and mobile equipment service technicians and mechanics	19.46	4.2	19.46	4.2	—	—
	19.49	4.5	19.49	4.5	—	—
	20.21	6.1	20.21	6.1	—	—
	19.26	6.4	19.26	6.4	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Houston-Baytown-Huntsville, TX CSA, January 2008** — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations —Continued						
Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers	\$21.04	16.4	\$21.04	16.4	—	—
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	16.43	18.7	16.84	19.7	—	—
Industrial machinery mechanics	22.76	4.8	22.76	4.8	—	—
Maintenance and repair workers, general	11.21	22.5	11.44	24.7	—	—
Line installers and repairers	25.34	1.7	25.34	1.7	—	—
Miscellaneous installation, maintenance, and repair workers	13.18	6.4	13.18	6.4	—	—
Helpers--installation, maintenance, and repair workers	10.83	5.3	10.83	5.3	—	—
Production occupations	16.01	3.8	16.14	3.4	\$11.10	7.5
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	24.19	12.7	24.19	12.7	—	—
Miscellaneous assemblers and fabricators	11.35	5.7	11.35	5.8	—	—
Machine tool cutting setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic	12.32	9.0	12.32	9.0	—	—
Machinists	17.35	3.3	17.35	3.3	—	—
Welding, soldering, and brazing workers	16.07	13.7	16.07	13.7	—	—
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	16.22	12.8	16.22	12.8	—	—
Miscellaneous plant and system operators	25.70	18.9	25.70	18.9	—	—
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	17.33	8.2	17.29	8.3	—	—
Miscellaneous production workers	14.04	9.2	14.19	8.7	—	—
Helpers--production workers	11.97	2.3	12.20	3.6	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations	14.24	3.6	14.89	3.9	8.70	5.0
Bus drivers	16.38	5.2	17.24	5.3	14.03	4.8
Bus drivers, school	14.31	.1	14.21	5.5	14.43	4.6
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	16.14	7.9	16.63	8.3	—	—
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	19.46	10.1	19.46	10.1	—	—
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	13.89	15.9	13.89	15.9	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor operators	12.52	5.2	12.52	5.2	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	9.91	5.3	10.50	5.7	8.37	7.7
Cleaners of vehicles and equipment	9.48	10.3	10.27	10.2	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	10.94	3.8	11.09	4.8	10.53	8.4
Packers and packagers, hand	7.69	16.3	—	—	—	—

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

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

³ Workers are classified by occupation using the 2000 Standard

Occupational Classification (SOC) system.

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

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Compensation Survey.

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