



Technical information: (202) 691-6378  
<http://www.bls.gov/cps/>

USDL 06-98

Media contact: 691-5902

For release: 10:00 A.M. EST  
Thursday, January 19, 2006

## **USUAL WEEKLY EARNINGS OF WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS: FOURTH QUARTER 2005**

Median weekly earnings of the nation's 104.6 million full-time wage and salary workers were \$659 in the fourth quarter of 2005, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. This was 1.9 percent higher than a year earlier, compared with a gain of 3.8 percent in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) over the same period.

Data on usual earnings are collected as part of the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample survey of households in which respondents are asked, among other things, how much each wage and salary worker usually earns. (See the Explanatory Note.) Highlights from the fourth-quarter data are:

—Women who usually worked full time had median earnings of \$588 per week, or 80.4 percent of the \$731 median for men. The female-to-male earnings ratios were higher among blacks (87.4 percent) and Hispanics or Latinos (86.3 percent) than among whites (79.8 percent) or Asians (76.7 percent). (See table 1.)

—Median earnings for black men working at full-time jobs were \$579 per week, 76.9 percent of the median for white men (\$753). The difference was less among women, as black women's median earnings (\$506) were 84.2 percent of those for their white counterparts (\$601). Overall, median earnings of Hispanics or Latinos who worked full time (\$479) were lower than those of blacks (\$533), whites (\$682), and Asians (\$767). (See table 1.)

—Among men, those 45 to 54 years old had the highest median weekly earnings (\$865). Among women, earnings were highest for those age 55 to 64 (\$669). (See table 2.)

—Among the major occupational groups, persons employed full time in managerial, professional, and related occupations had the highest median weekly earnings—\$1,130 for men and \$829 for women. Men and women in service jobs earned the least. (See table 3.)

—Full-time workers age 25 and over without a high school diploma had median weekly earnings of \$407, compared with \$585 for high school graduates (no college) and \$1,029 for college graduates holding at least a bachelor's degree. Among college graduates with advanced degrees (professional or master's degree and above), the highest-earning 10 percent of male workers made \$2,887 or more per week, compared with \$1,997 or more for their female counterparts. (See table 4.)

### Annual Averages for 2004 and 2005

In addition to the data for the fourth quarter, this release includes 2004 and 2005 annual average weekly earnings for major demographic, occupational, and educational attainment groups (tables 6, 7, and 8). Annual average data on median usual earnings for men and women by detailed occupational categories will appear in the January 2006 issue of *Employment and Earnings*.

# Explanatory Note

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides the basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau from a scientifically selected national sample of about 60,000 households, with coverage in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

## Reliability

Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent. The exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the "true" population value because of sampling error. BLS analyses are generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence.

The CPS data also are affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling error can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and information on estimating standard errors, see the "Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error" section of *Employment and Earnings*.

## Definitions

The principal definitions used in connection with the earnings series are described briefly below.

*Usual weekly earnings.* Data represent earnings before taxes and other deductions and include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received (at the main job in the case of multiple jobholders.) Prior to 1994, respondents were asked how much they usually earned per week. Since January 1994, respondents have been asked to identify the easiest way for them to report earnings (hourly, weekly, biweekly, twice monthly, monthly, annually, other) and how much they usually earn in the reported time period. Earnings reported on a basis other than weekly are converted to a weekly equivalent. The term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of usual,

interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

*Medians (and other quantiles) of weekly earnings.* The median (or upper limit of the second quartile) is the amount which divides a given earnings distribution into two equal groups, one having earnings above the median and the other having earnings below the median. Ten percent of a given distribution have earnings below the upper limit of the first decile (90 percent have higher earnings); 25 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the first quartile (75 percent have higher earnings); 75 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the third quartile (25 percent have higher earnings); and 90 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the ninth decile (10 percent have higher earnings).

The estimating procedure places each reported or calculated weekly earnings value into \$50-wide intervals which are centered around multiples of \$50. The actual value is estimated through the linear interpolation of the interval in which the quantile boundary lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians (and other quantile boundaries) for specific groups may not necessarily be consistent with the movements estimated for the overall quantile boundary. The most common reasons for this possible anomaly are: (1) There could be a change in the relative weights of the subgroups. For example, the medians of both 16-to-24 year olds and those 25 years and over may rise; but if the lower-earning 16-to-24 group accounts for a greatly increased share of the total, the overall median could actually fall. (2) There could be a large change in the shape of the distribution of reported earnings, particularly near a quantile boundary. This could be caused by survey observations that are clustered at rounded values, e.g., \$250, \$300, \$400. An estimate lying in a \$50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster or "spike" tends to change more slowly than one in other intervals.

*Wage and salary workers.* Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. The group includes employees in both the private and public sectors but, for the purposes of the earnings series, excludes all self-employed persons, regardless of whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

*Full-time workers.* Workers who usually work 35 hours or more per week at their sole or principal job.

*Part-time workers.* Workers who usually work fewer than 35 hours per week at their sole or principal job.

*Constant dollars.* The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used to convert current dollars to constant (1982) dollars.

*Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.* This refers to persons who identified themselves in the enumeration process as being Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

**Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings			
	IV 2004	IV 2005	In current dollars		In constant (1982) dollars	
			IV 2004	IV 2005	IV 2004	IV 2005
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>						
Total, 16 years and over .....	101,551	104,599	\$647	\$659	\$327	\$321
Men, 16 years and over .....	57,183	58,886	722	731	365	356
16 to 24 years .....	6,072	6,152	396	418	201	204
25 years and over .....	51,110	52,733	768	778	389	379
Women, 16 years and over .....	44,369	45,713	578	588	293	287
16 to 24 years .....	4,417	4,785	371	389	188	190
25 years and over .....	39,952	40,928	603	614	305	299
<b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b>						
White .....	82,477	84,822	671	682	340	333
Men .....	47,559	48,878	747	753	378	367
Women .....	34,918	35,945	589	601	298	293
Black or African American .....	12,183	12,521	519	533	263	260
Men .....	5,812	5,900	529	579	268	282
Women .....	6,370	6,621	512	506	259	247
Asian .....	4,652	4,808	698	767	353	374
Men .....	2,542	2,741	807	868	409	423
Women .....	2,110	2,067	601	666	304	324
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	14,011	14,923	467	479	237	234
Men .....	8,989	9,554	490	498	248	243
Women .....	5,022	5,370	415	430	210	210

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Beginning in January 2005, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

**Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by age, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, fourth quarter 2005 averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Age, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	Total		Men		Women	
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings
<b>TOTAL</b>						
16 years and over .....	104,599	\$659	58,886	\$731	45,713	\$588
16 to 24 years .....	10,937	406	6,152	418	4,785	389
16 to 19 years .....	1,515	349	891	370	624	323
20 to 24 years .....	9,422	416	5,261	431	4,161	402
25 years and over .....	93,661	704	52,733	778	40,928	614
25 to 54 years .....	78,458	697	44,476	771	33,982	610
25 to 34 years .....	25,387	611	14,783	647	10,604	574
35 to 44 years .....	27,221	741	15,734	839	11,487	625
45 to 54 years .....	25,850	753	13,959	865	11,891	640
55 years and over .....	15,203	735	8,257	816	6,946	645
55 to 64 years .....	13,180	752	7,101	838	6,080	669
65 years and over .....	2,023	598	1,157	706	867	487
<b>White</b>						
16 years and over .....	84,822	682	48,878	753	35,945	601
16 to 24 years .....	8,916	411	5,151	423	3,765	394
25 years and over .....	75,907	728	43,727	804	32,180	630
25 to 54 years .....	63,053	724	36,631	798	26,422	625
55 years and over .....	12,854	749	7,096	842	5,757	653
<b>Black or African American</b>						
16 years and over .....	12,521	533	5,900	579	6,621	506
16 to 24 years .....	1,371	354	663	359	708	351
25 years and over .....	11,150	571	5,236	604	5,914	530
25 to 54 years .....	9,693	566	4,588	601	5,105	528
55 years and over .....	1,458	605	648	675	809	569
<b>Asian</b>						
16 years and over .....	4,808	767	2,741	868	2,067	666
16 to 24 years .....	325	485	169	409	156	529
25 years and over .....	4,483	808	2,572	904	1,911	696
25 to 54 years .....	3,830	814	2,198	921	1,631	686
55 years and over .....	653	775	374	791	280	758
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>						
16 years and over .....	14,923	479	9,554	498	5,370	430
16 to 24 years .....	2,160	372	1,425	382	735	347
25 years and over .....	12,764	503	8,129	522	4,635	461
25 to 54 years .....	11,581	502	7,399	522	4,182	461
55 years and over .....	1,183	509	729	523	453	463

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Beginning in January 2005, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

**Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by occupation and sex, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Occupation and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 2004	IV 2005	IV 2004	IV 2005
<b>TOTAL</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations .....	36,334	37,489	\$928	\$951
Management, business, and financial operations occupations .....	14,818	15,318	973	1,004
Professional and related occupations .....	21,516	22,171	900	922
Service occupations .....	14,031	14,162	413	418
Sales and office occupations .....	24,851	25,314	555	581
Sales and related occupations .....	10,004	10,009	599	639
Office and administrative support occupations .....	14,847	15,305	534	556
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations .....	11,667	12,499	628	632
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations .....	691	692	356	394
Construction and extraction occupations .....	6,561	7,050	611	605
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations .....	4,415	4,757	705	714
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations .....	14,668	15,135	537	547
Production occupations .....	8,269	8,310	554	549
Transportation and material moving occupations .....	6,398	6,825	519	544
<b>Men</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations .....	18,215	18,600	1,109	1,130
Management, business, and financial operations occupations .....	8,293	8,376	1,162	1,189
Professional and related occupations .....	9,922	10,223	1,062	1,071
Service occupations .....	7,248	7,052	482	493
Sales and office occupations .....	9,134	9,514	690	707
Sales and related occupations .....	5,327	5,591	769	791
Office and administrative support occupations .....	3,807	3,922	588	599
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations .....	11,183	12,005	636	636
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations .....	549	548	365	402
Construction and extraction occupations .....	6,407	6,884	613	606
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations .....	4,227	4,573	707	714
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations .....	11,402	11,715	587	600
Production occupations .....	5,848	5,802	614	622
Transportation and material moving occupations .....	5,554	5,913	544	577
<b>Women</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations .....	18,119	18,889	801	829
Management, business, and financial operations occupations .....	6,525	6,941	832	856
Professional and related occupations .....	11,594	11,948	786	815
Service occupations .....	6,784	7,109	368	383
Sales and office occupations .....	15,716	15,800	509	524
Sales and related occupations .....	4,677	4,418	459	487
Office and administrative support occupations .....	11,040	11,382	521	543
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations .....	484	494	472	513
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations .....	142	144	314	324
Construction and extraction occupations .....	154	166	471	501
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations .....	188	184	659	731
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations .....	3,265	3,420	415	421
Production occupations .....	2,421	2,508	415	426
Transportation and material moving occupations .....	844	912	416	405

NOTE: Beginning in January 2005, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

**Table 4. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, fourth quarter 2005 averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
<b>SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>						
Total, 16 years and over .....	104,599	\$316	\$437	\$659	\$1,012	\$1,535
Men .....	58,886	341	484	731	1,142	1,735
Women .....	45,713	297	400	588	879	1,266
White .....	84,822	323	452	682	1,037	1,564
Men .....	48,878	353	496	753	1,168	1,756
Women .....	35,945	300	407	601	892	1,280
Black or African American .....	12,521	287	376	533	769	1,147
Men .....	5,900	293	399	579	829	1,177
Women .....	6,621	282	360	506	728	1,090
Asian .....	4,808	338	486	767	1,264	1,910
Men .....	2,741	375	529	868	1,417	2,107
Women .....	2,067	316	423	666	1,102	1,663
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	14,923	282	349	479	718	1,101
Men .....	9,554	294	370	498	750	1,195
Women .....	5,370	259	319	430	650	973
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	93,661	337	475	704	1,067	1,587
Less than a high school diploma .....	8,625	260	313	407	573	798
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	27,781	316	418	585	810	1,132
Some college or associate degree .....	26,055	362	482	674	963	1,336
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	31,201	498	721	1,029	1,539	2,218
Bachelor's degree only .....	20,182	469	658	958	1,416	1,995
Advanced degree .....	11,018	607	836	1,200	1,766	2,490
Men, 25 years and over .....	52,733	375	517	778	1,201	1,773
Less than a high school diploma .....	5,760	287	347	452	620	898
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	16,142	359	482	658	922	1,254
Some college or associate degree .....	13,893	401	560	775	1,099	1,484
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	16,939	530	778	1,187	1,758	2,477
Bachelor's degree only .....	10,982	500	736	1,079	1,600	2,277
Advanced degree .....	5,958	653	946	1,412	2,002	2,887
Women, 25 years and over .....	40,928	310	420	614	916	1,330
Less than a high school diploma .....	2,865	227	280	338	442	600
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	11,640	289	373	493	665	894
Some college or associate degree .....	12,162	332	428	583	799	1,085
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	14,261	469	648	905	1,268	1,843
Bachelor's degree only .....	9,201	431	604	837	1,171	1,659
Advanced degree .....	5,061	585	758	1,026	1,449	1,997

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Ten percent of all full-time wage and salary workers earn less than the upper limit of the first decile; 25 percent earn less than the upper limit of the first quartile; 50 percent earn less than the upper limit of the second quartile, or median; 75 percent earn less than the upper limit of the

third quartile; and 90 percent earn less than the upper limit of the ninth decile. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Beginning in January 2005, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

**Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of part-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	IV 2004	IV 2005	IV 2004	IV 2005
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>				
Total, 16 years and over .....	22,841	22,456	\$194	\$198
Men, 16 years and over .....	7,249	7,045	182	182
16 to 24 years .....	3,697	3,680	144	144
25 years and over .....	3,552	3,365	242	249
Women, 16 years and over .....	15,592	15,410	201	206
16 to 24 years .....	4,882	4,607	144	140
25 years and over .....	10,709	10,803	236	246
<b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b>				
White .....	19,302	18,878	195	198
Men .....	6,040	5,768	182	179
Women .....	13,261	13,111	202	207
Black or African American .....	2,065	2,114	187	205
Men .....	671	734	175	194
Women .....	1,394	1,379	192	210
Asian .....	796	837	240	186
Men .....	326	320	230	188
Women .....	471	517	246	184
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	2,602	2,501	191	201
Men .....	883	865	194	203
Women .....	1,718	1,636	189	201

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Beginning in January 2005, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.



**Table 6. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, annual averages**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings			
	2004	2005	In current dollars		In constant (1982) dollars	
			2004	2005	2004	2005
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>						
Total, 16 years and over .....	101,224	103,560	\$638	\$651	\$326	\$322
Men, 16 years and over .....	57,001	58,406	713	722	364	357
16 to 24 years .....	6,243	6,396	400	409	204	202
25 years and over .....	50,758	52,010	762	771	389	381
Women, 16 years and over .....	44,223	45,154	573	585	292	289
16 to 24 years .....	4,633	4,711	375	381	191	188
25 years and over .....	39,590	40,443	599	612	306	302
<b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b>						
White .....	82,468	84,110	657	672	336	332
Men .....	47,495	48,572	732	743	374	367
Women .....	34,972	35,538	584	596	298	295
Black .....	12,032	12,388	525	520	268	257
Men .....	5,706	5,916	569	559	290	276
Women .....	6,326	6,472	505	499	258	246
Asian .....	4,457	4,651	708	753	362	372
Men .....	2,504	2,597	802	825	409	408
Women .....	1,953	2,054	613	665	313	329
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	14,061	14,673	456	471	233	233
Men .....	8,996	9,433	480	489	245	241
Women .....	5,065	5,241	419	429	214	212

NOTE: Estimates for the race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as race. Beginning in January 2005, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

**Table 7. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by occupation and sex, annual averages**

Occupation and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
<b>TOTAL</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations .....	36,149	36,908	\$918	\$937
Management, business, and financial operations occupations .....	14,778	14,977	965	997
Professional and related occupations .....	21,371	21,931	883	902
Service occupations .....	13,763	14,123	411	413
Sales and office occupations .....	24,950	25,193	558	575
Sales and related occupations .....	9,984	10,031	604	622
Office and administrative support occupations .....	14,966	15,161	535	550
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations .....	11,280	12,086	621	623
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations .....	718	755	356	372
Construction and extraction occupations .....	6,232	6,826	604	604
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations .....	4,330	4,504	704	705
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations .....	15,082	15,251	523	540
Production occupations .....	8,478	8,403	526	538
Transportation and material moving occupations .....	6,604	6,848	520	543
<b>Men</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations .....	17,981	18,311	1,098	1,113
Management, business, and financial operations occupations .....	8,170	8,195	1,158	1,167
Professional and related occupations .....	9,811	10,116	1,049	1,058
Service occupations .....	6,989	7,024	476	478
Sales and office occupations .....	9,410	9,539	669	690
Sales and related occupations .....	5,562	5,582	747	762
Office and administrative support occupations .....	3,848	3,957	587	605
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations .....	10,835	11,569	626	628
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations .....	585	601	367	388
Construction and extraction occupations .....	6,109	6,663	606	606
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations .....	4,140	4,305	707	706
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations .....	11,786	11,963	578	591
Production occupations .....	6,024	5,991	597	608
Transportation and material moving occupations .....	5,762	5,972	549	574
<b>Women</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations .....	18,168	18,597	780	813
Management, business, and financial operations occupations .....	6,609	6,782	812	847
Professional and related occupations .....	11,560	11,815	767	792
Service occupations .....	6,773	7,099	374	379
Sales and office occupations .....	15,540	15,654	512	520
Sales and related occupations .....	4,422	4,449	464	483
Office and administrative support occupations .....	11,118	11,205	522	533
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations .....	445	517	453	486
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations .....	133	154	322	327
Construction and extraction occupations .....	123	163	504	480
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations .....	190	199	611	691
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations .....	3,296	3,288	406	420
Production occupations .....	2,454	2,412	405	423
Transportation and material moving occupations .....	842	876	410	412

NOTE: Beginning in January 2005, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

**Table 8. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages**

Educational attainment, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
<b>TOTAL</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	92,453	\$331	\$470	\$696	\$1,048	\$1,559
Less than a high school diploma .....	8,861	256	311	409	576	796
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	27,514	311	411	583	809	1,111
Some college or associate degree .....	25,471	351	481	670	952	1,309
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	30,607	494	705	1,013	1,524	2,115
Bachelor's degree only .....	19,843	464	646	937	1,392	1,920
Advanced degree .....	10,764	604	829	1,173	1,747	2,421
<b>Men</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	52,010	365	511	771	1,168	1,760
Less than a high school diploma .....	5,983	282	339	455	625	879
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	15,997	349	476	652	912	1,217
Some college or associate degree .....	13,368	395	547	766	1,074	1,453
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	16,662	538	781	1,167	1,756	2,414
Bachelor's degree only .....	10,786	501	731	1,071	1,603	2,231
Advanced degree .....	5,876	650	934	1,387	1,924	2,883
<b>Women</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	40,443	306	417	612	900	1,297
Less than a high school diploma .....	2,878	226	279	341	441	595
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	11,517	286	366	493	667	887
Some college or associate degree .....	12,103	322	425	587	801	1,088
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	13,944	463	634	883	1,242	1,735
Bachelor's degree only .....	9,057	431	594	813	1,148	1,574
Advanced degree .....	4,887	578	752	1,007	1,409	1,908
<b>White, total</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	75,035	341	485	719	1,080	1,600
Less than a high school diploma .....	7,254	261	314	414	587	813
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	22,215	321	426	600	836	1,144
Some college or associate degree .....	20,597	365	496	697	980	1,347
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	24,969	507	723	1,039	1,552	2,202
Bachelor's degree only .....	16,186	480	665	960	1,438	1,994
Advanced degree .....	8,783	612	841	1,195	1,760	2,496
<b>White men</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	43,221	377	528	796	1,207	1,802
Less than a high school diploma .....	5,071	285	344	464	640	893
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	13,182	366	491	677	942	1,254
Some college or associate degree .....	11,109	410	578	794	1,111	1,487
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	13,859	574	809	1,210	1,791	2,494
Bachelor's degree only .....	9,036	519	749	1,122	1,658	2,297
Advanced degree .....	4,824	666	952	1,409	1,990	2,896
<b>White women</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	31,814	311	429	624	915	1,327
Less than a high school diploma .....	2,183	225	278	340	442	596
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	9,033	290	377	504	682	900
Some college or associate degree .....	9,488	331	439	600	822	1,111
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	11,110	477	646	891	1,253	1,748
Bachelor's degree only .....	7,150	442	602	824	1,158	1,607
Advanced degree .....	3,959	584	757	1,014	1,415	1,909
<b>Black or African American, total</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	11,051	295	389	558	809	1,153
Less than a high school diploma .....	1,017	234	293	372	484	633
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	3,982	285	359	488	675	921
Some college or associate degree .....	3,405	307	405	559	764	1,063
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	2,649	416	595	828	1,166	1,663
Bachelor's degree only .....	1,824	397	557	763	1,092	1,526
Advanced degree .....	825	497	722	955	1,366	1,915

See note at end of table.

**Table 8. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages—Continued**

Educational attainment, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
<b>Black or African American men</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	5,247	\$309	\$412	\$593	\$860	\$1,214
Less than a high school diploma .....	553	253	311	404	523	697
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	2,073	301	392	528	735	995
Some college or associate degree .....	1,486	334	447	611	850	1,149
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	1,134	415	604	878	1,310	1,869
Bachelor's degree only .....	815	406	581	827	1,191	1,734
Advanced degree .....	319	483	737	1,046	1,514	2,258
<b>Black or African American women</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	5,804	286	368	518	759	1,093
Less than a high school diploma .....	463	221	275	339	428	545
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	1,908	276	330	436	609	822
Some college or associate degree .....	1,918	296	381	513	712	984
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	1,514	416	590	789	1,100	1,542
Bachelor's degree only .....	1,009	389	537	725	1,007	1,426
Advanced degree .....	506	524	705	930	1,265	1,856
<b>Asian, total</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	4,342	344	501	782	1,216	1,852
Less than a high school diploma .....	342	247	304	396	562	754
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	720	293	387	535	736	974
Some college or associate degree .....	764	337	468	640	894	1,267
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	2,515	478	714	1,031	1,544	2,086
Bachelor's degree only .....	1,488	425	613	917	1,271	1,812
Advanced degree .....	1,027	626	861	1,269	1,856	2,410
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, total</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	12,525	283	354	495	736	1,103
Less than a high school diploma .....	4,444	255	304	388	510	706
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	3,727	291	373	499	685	952
Some college or associate degree .....	2,598	316	425	599	839	1,193
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	1,756	392	588	866	1,268	1,881
Bachelor's degree only .....	1,261	380	535	799	1,162	1,652
Advanced degree .....	496	474	737	1,073	1,634	2,289
<b>Hispanic or Latino men</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	7,980	295	376	513	769	1,174
Less than a high school diploma .....	3,187	279	321	414	550	761
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	2,371	309	396	530	737	1,020
Some college or associate degree .....	1,451	336	473	659	968	1,323
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	970	392	596	946	1,500	2,077
Bachelor's degree only .....	692	384	546	873	1,322	1,867
Advanced degree .....	278	445	797	1,263	1,882	2,501
<b>Hispanic or Latino women</b>						
Total, 25 years and over .....	4,545	258	321	452	669	977
Less than a high school diploma .....	1,257	227	270	323	411	522
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	1,356	272	326	435	598	804
Some college or associate degree .....	1,146	297	394	528	728	993
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	787	391	582	787	1,081	1,442
Bachelor's degree only .....	569	377	526	744	1,003	1,352
Advanced degree .....	218	495	676	931	1,242	1,792

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons with high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Ten percent of all full-time wage and salary workers earn less than the upper limit of the first decile; 25 percent earn less than the upper limit of the first quartile; 50 percent earn less than the upper limit of the second quartile, or median; 75 percent earn less than the upper limit of the third quartile; and 90 percent earn less than the

upper limit of the ninth decile. Estimates for the race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as "Hispanic or Latino" may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as race. Beginning in January 2005, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.