

News

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HIGHLIGHTS OF ST. LOUIS NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY JULY 2007

Workers in the St. Louis metropolitan area earned an average of \$20.28 per hour in July 2007, according to new survey results from the National Compensation Survey (NCS) released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Stanley W. Suchman noted that wage data were reported for workers in a wide range of occupational groups, including average hourly earnings of \$29.43 for construction and extraction occupations and \$25.50 for healthcare practitioner and technical. Two other occupational groups, office and administrative support and building and grounds cleaning and maintenance, had mean hourly wage rates of \$15.59 and \$10.57, respectively. The NCS data available for the St. Louis area include earnings for 19 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Occupational therapists, part of the healthcare practitioner and technical occupational group, earned \$26.43 per hour, and licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses earned \$17.41. Electricians, an occupation within the construction and extraction group, recorded an average hourly wage of \$30.25. Within the office and administrative support occupational group, bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks averaged \$15.07 per hour and medical secretaries, \$14.03. Maids and housekeeping cleaners, an occupation in the building and grounds cleaning and maintenance group, registered an average hourly rate of \$8.11. (See table 1.)

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$21.46 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$11.34. Union workers earned \$24.39 and non-union workers, \$19.02. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$18.66 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$20.30, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$23.28.

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 377 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 1,266,900 workers in the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which is comprised of the city of St. Louis; the portion of the city of Sullivan in Crawford County; Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis, Warren, and Washington Counties in Missouri; and Bond, Calhoun, Clinton, Jersey, Macoupin, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair Counties in Illinois.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the St. Louis, MO-IL National Compensation Survey July 2007 which is available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm>.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey data, as well as other Bureau data, contact the Kansas City Information Office by calling (816) 285-7000 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.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, St. Louis, MO-IL, July 2007**

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All workers	\$20.28	3.3	\$21.46	3.4	\$11.34	8.7
Management occupations	36.29	14.8	36.79	15.2	—	—
Computer and information systems managers	46.66	5.5	46.66	5.5	—	—
Financial managers	42.86	13.6	42.86	13.6	—	—
Education administrators	23.11	19.9	23.11	19.9	—	—
Engineering managers	56.73	3.6	56.73	3.6	—	—
Medical and health services managers	41.38	13.1	41.38	13.1	—	—
Business and financial operations occupations	27.55	6.4	27.68	6.4	—	—
Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists	25.13	6.8	25.13	6.8	—	—
Computer and mathematical science occupations	37.31	7.1	37.31	7.1	—	—
Computer software engineers	47.18	6.6	47.18	6.6	—	—
Computer systems analysts	34.92	10.8	34.92	10.8	—	—
Architecture and engineering occupations	32.72	6.4	32.28	6.8	—	—
Engineers	34.87	8.4	34.38	8.8	—	—
Engineering technicians, except drafters	27.48	7.1	27.48	7.1	—	—
Community and social services occupations	16.04	5.5	16.04	5.5	—	—
Education, training, and library occupations	28.25	10.2	29.37	8.4	14.39	32.7
Postsecondary teachers	44.14	10.5	45.42	10.8	—	—
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	31.74	2.2	32.45	.8	—	—
Elementary and middle school teachers	30.79	5.3	31.44	8.4	—	—
Elementary school teachers, except special education	35.07	3.6	36.97	1.7	—	—
Secondary school teachers	35.44	6.2	35.44	6.2	—	—
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	35.44	6.2	35.44	6.2	—	—
Teacher assistants	10.50	9.5	10.85	8.3	—	—
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	25.92	21.7	26.32	21.3	—	—
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	25.50	4.7	25.21	4.5	27.29	22.8
Physicians and surgeons	66.66	6.8	49.72	17.2	—	—
Registered nurses	24.47	6.0	25.07	4.5	21.72	11.3
Therapists	29.11	7.2	29.54	7.5	—	—
Occupational therapists	26.43	2.2	—	—	—	—
Diagnostic related technologists and technicians	25.37	7.0	25.41	8.1	—	—
Radiologic technologists and technicians	25.34	7.1	25.41	8.1	—	—
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	17.41	2.9	17.40	2.9	—	—
Healthcare support occupations	14.38	18.1	14.64	18.1	10.55	8.8
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	10.50	4.3	10.50	5.1	10.45	12.9
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	9.98	1.3	9.90	.6	10.79	12.9
Protective service occupations	14.85	19.6	15.20	21.4	—	—
Police officers	23.66	2.6	23.66	2.6	—	—
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	23.66	2.6	23.66	2.6	—	—
Food preparation and serving related occupations	8.57	6.6	10.13	4.9	6.59	4.0
First-line supervisors/managers, food preparation and serving workers	13.43	15.0	13.43	15.0	—	—
First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers	13.43	15.0	13.43	15.0	—	—
Cooks	10.36	8.3	10.23	10.3	11.60	3.5
Cooks, institution and cafeteria	10.07	8.8	9.64	10.3	—	—
Cooks, restaurant	11.43	.1	—	—	—	—
Food preparation workers	10.04	5.3	10.60	2.7	—	—
Food service, tipped	5.55	29.5	—	—	5.01	22.8
Waiters and waitresses	5.23	36.6	—	—	4.54	28.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², St. Louis, MO-IL, July 2007** — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Food preparation and serving related occupations						
–Continued						
Dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender helpers	\$7.43	10.8	–	–	\$6.93	6.2
Fast food and counter workers	7.40	2.4	–	–	7.28	3.1
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	10.57	5.7	\$10.94	5.6	8.29	7.4
Building cleaning workers	10.06	5.7	10.37	5.9	8.14	9.0
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	10.96	6.1	11.05	6.5	–	–
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	8.11	2.7	8.44	1.5	–	–
Grounds maintenance workers	10.63	16.8	–	–	–	–
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	10.63	16.8	–	–	–	–
Personal care and service occupations	15.18	19.0	11.78	14.4	17.93	17.0
Sales and related occupations	14.17	4.9	16.90	5.3	8.04	3.4
Retail sales workers	10.56	10.7	14.31	10.6	8.06	3.3
Cashiers, all workers	8.56	3.9	–	–	8.14	2.3
Cashiers	8.56	3.9	–	–	8.14	2.3
Counter and rental clerks and parts salespersons	14.81	2.3	15.16	5.6	–	–
Retail salespersons	9.97	12.7	14.32	19.4	7.78	1.5
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	19.39	7.5	19.39	7.5	–	–
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	19.39	7.5	19.39	7.5	–	–
Office and administrative support occupations	15.59	3.3	15.79	3.4	12.12	4.8
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	18.72	6.2	18.72	6.2	–	–
Financial clerks	13.86	2.9	14.20	3.1	10.77	.5
Billing and posting clerks and machine operators	16.89	9.2	16.89	9.2	–	–
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	15.07	3.6	15.07	3.6	–	–
Tellers	11.03	1.7	11.11	2.4	10.77	.5
Customer service representatives	14.49	12.0	14.80	12.1	–	–
Receptionists and information clerks	14.34	8.5	14.34	8.5	–	–
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks	12.50	6.1	12.50	6.1	–	–
Stock clerks and order fillers	18.67	16.3	18.67	16.3	–	–
Secretaries and administrative assistants	17.95	6.1	18.11	6.2	–	–
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	20.64	7.2	20.98	6.5	–	–
Medical secretaries	14.03	3.5	14.01	3.7	–	–
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	15.96	5.9	15.96	5.9	–	–
Data entry and information processing workers	13.20	4.2	12.83	6.1	–	–
Word processors and typists	13.41	3.9	–	–	–	–
Office clerks, general	14.77	9.6	14.88	9.9	–	–
Construction and extraction occupations	29.43	1.2	29.57	.8	–	–
Carpenters	24.28	20.2	24.28	20.2	–	–
Construction laborers	19.37	20.3	20.08	21.7	–	–
Electricians	30.25	5.7	30.25	5.7	–	–
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	24.59	4.1	24.59	4.2	–	–
First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, and repairers	34.75	4.4	34.75	4.4	–	–
Automotive technicians and repairers	20.24	3.6	20.24	3.6	–	–
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	29.02	6.4	29.02	6.4	–	–
Miscellaneous installation, maintenance, and repair workers	21.05	13.1	21.05	13.1	–	–
Production occupations	19.10	3.7	19.28	3.9	–	–
Miscellaneous assemblers and fabricators	19.49	15.1	19.45	15.1	–	–
Painting workers	22.52	26.5	22.52	26.5	–	–
Miscellaneous production workers	19.79	21.7	19.79	21.7	–	–
Transportation and material moving occupations	18.15	7.9	19.29	7.7	10.10	23.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², St. Louis, MO-IL, July 2007** — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Transportation and material moving occupations						
—Continued						
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	\$15.14	14.1	\$15.57	11.3	—	—
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	—	—	18.17	2.4	—	—
Truck drivers, light or delivery services	13.07	19.0	13.07	19.0	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	14.92	12.4	16.42	11.2	\$8.63	9.8
Cleaners of vehicles and equipment	11.84	5.9	—	—	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	17.56	12.6	18.06	11.6	—	—

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

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

³ Workers are classified by occupation using the 2000 Standard

Occupational Classification (SOC) system.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Compensation Survey.

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