

# NEWS

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS



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### **HIGHLIGHTS OF MOBILE, ALABAMA NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY AUGUST 2007**

Workers in the Mobile metropolitan area earned an average of \$15.36 per hour in August 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 Janet S. Rankin reported wage data for workers in a wide range of occupational groups, including average hourly earnings of \$19.85 for healthcare practitioner and technical occupations and \$13.42 for transportation and material moving occupations. Another occupational group, office and administrative support occupations, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$12.68. The NCS data available for the Mobile area include earnings for 16 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Registered nurses, part of the healthcare practitioner and technical occupational group, earned \$23.94 per hour. Within the transportation and material moving occupational group, hand laborers and material movers averaged \$9.46 per hour. Billing and posting clerks and machine operators, an occupation within the office and administrative support group, registered an average hourly rate of \$14.55, and medical secretaries earned \$11.16 per hour. (See table 1.)

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$16.42 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$8.06. Union workers earned \$16.69 and non-union workers, \$15.31. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$13.70 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$16.28, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$18.13.

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 [www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm).

The NCS data provided in the detailed bulletin covered 248 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 218,200 workers in the Mobile Metropolitan Statistical Area (CSA) which is comprised of Mobile County in Alabama.

#### **Survey Availability**

Complete survey results are contained in the Mobile, AL National Compensation Survey August 2007 (Bulletin 3140-22). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Southeast Information Office by calling (404) 893-4222 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at [www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm).

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup> for full-time and part-time workers<sup>2</sup>, Mobile, AL, August 2007**

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>All workers</b> .....	\$15.36	3.3	\$16.42	3.4	\$8.06	4.2
<b>Management occupations</b> .....	27.89	21.7	27.92	21.8	—	—
Financial managers .....	31.08	24.4	31.08	24.4	—	—
<b>Business and financial operations occupations</b> .....	24.16	20.3	24.16	20.3	—	—
<b>Community and social services occupations</b> .....	17.48	5.0	17.48	5.0	—	—
<b>Education, training, and library occupations</b> .....	25.83	18.2	25.80	18.3	—	—
Postsecondary teachers .....	52.01	40.7	52.33	40.9	—	—
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers .....	21.92	18.7	21.84	18.8	—	—
<b>Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations</b> .....	19.85	4.4	20.12	4.3	—	—
Registered nurses .....	23.94	1.8	23.94	1.8	—	—
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses .....	16.25	7.8	16.25	7.8	—	—
<b>Healthcare support occupations</b> .....	9.59	8.2	9.60	8.4	—	—
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides .....	8.78	8.6	8.79	8.8	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants .....	9.82	3.6	9.88	3.8	—	—
Miscellaneous healthcare support occupations .....	10.95	8.3	10.95	8.3	—	—
<b>Protective service occupations</b> .....	13.70	7.9	13.62	7.6	—	—
<b>Food preparation and serving related occupations</b> .....	7.52	12.2	8.89	17.6	5.99	5.8
Cooks .....	9.82	13.3	—	—	—	—
Food service, tipped .....	3.55	2.7	3.74	13.7	3.29	10.9
Waiters and waitresses .....	3.31	5.7	—	—	3.22	9.5
Fast food and counter workers .....	7.25	9.4	—	—	6.30	2.4
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food .....	7.33	10.2	—	—	—	—
<b>Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations</b> .....	10.16	6.7	10.26	8.7	—	—
Building cleaning workers .....	9.63	3.7	9.31	4.7	—	—
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners .....	9.97	3.8	9.66	4.1	—	—
<b>Personal care and service occupations</b> .....	7.18	6.5	7.60	9.4	6.21	3.3
<b>Sales and related occupations</b> .....	14.27	9.4	16.45	9.6	7.77	9.1
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers .....	18.45	12.9	18.45	12.9	—	—
Retail sales workers .....	10.79	9.7	12.06	7.3	7.85	12.8
Cashiers, all workers .....	8.37	4.2	—	—	7.39	6.4
Cashiers .....	8.37	4.2	—	—	7.39	6.4
Retail salespersons .....	12.37	17.4	13.23	14.8	—	—
<b>Office and administrative support occupations</b> .....	12.68	3.5	12.97	3.6	9.65	8.5
Financial clerks .....	14.73	6.8	14.85	6.7	—	—
Billing and posting clerks and machine operators .....	14.55	9.6	14.55	9.6	—	—
Customer service representatives .....	11.23	11.4	11.25	11.6	—	—
Order clerks .....	11.84	11.2	11.89	11.7	—	—
Receptionists and information clerks .....	8.80	4.2	8.99	5.8	—	—
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks .....	11.63	9.1	11.63	9.1	—	—
Stock clerks and order fillers .....	10.50	11.3	10.50	11.3	—	—
Secretaries and administrative assistants .....	13.30	6.7	13.52	6.9	—	—
Medical secretaries .....	11.16	2.4	11.16	2.4	—	—
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive .....	14.45	6.5	14.94	5.7	—	—
Office clerks, general .....	12.29	8.8	13.05	8.7	—	—
<b>Construction and extraction occupations</b> .....	17.17	2.2	17.22	2.4	—	—
Pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters .....	16.52	12.5	16.52	12.5	—	—
Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters .....	16.52	12.5	16.52	12.5	—	—
Helpers, construction trades .....	12.40	8.1	—	—	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup> for full-time and part-time workers<sup>2</sup>, Mobile, AL, August 2007** — Continued

Occupation <sup>3</sup>	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)	Mean	Relative error <sup>4</sup> (percent)
<b>Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations</b> .....	\$18.63	9.7	\$18.63	9.7	—	—
First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, and repairers .....	25.94	17.2	25.94	17.2	—	—
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers .....	17.24	16.2	17.24	16.2	—	—
Maintenance and repair workers, general .....	16.34	25.2	16.34	25.2	—	—
<b>Production occupations</b> .....	16.38	3.6	16.83	3.2	—	—
Miscellaneous production workers .....	16.99	14.8	18.37	16.4	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving occupations</b> .....	13.42	11.2	13.89	12.0	\$8.50	18.2
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers .....	15.62	7.2	15.82	6.7	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand .....	9.46	5.8	10.06	3.2	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand .....	9.81	5.3	10.12	2.8	—	—

<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. See Bulletin 3140-22 for more information.

<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> Workers are classified by occupation using the 2000 Standard

Occupational Classification (SOC) system. See Bulletin 3140-22 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 Bulletin 3140-22.

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.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Compensation Survey.