



**SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE  
61 FORSYTH STREET, SW, ROOM 7T50  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303  
TELEPHONE: (404) 893-4222**

Media Contact: Karen Ransom  
(404) 893-4220

Internet address: [www.bls.gov/ro4/home.htm](http://www.bls.gov/ro4/home.htm)

**FOR RELEASE:  
FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2008**

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF HUNTSVILLE-DECATUR, AL NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY MAY 2007**

Workers in the Huntsville-Decatur Combined Statistical Area (CSA) earned an average of \$20.48 per hour in May 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 noted that wage data were reported for workers in a wide range of occupational groups, including average hourly earnings of \$36.47 for architecture and engineering occupations and \$17.10 for sales and related occupations. Another occupational group, office and administrative support occupations, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$13.65. The NCS data available for the Huntsville area include earnings for 20 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Aerospace engineers, part of the architecture and engineering occupational group, earned \$45.25 per hour. Within sales and related occupations, retail salespersons averaged \$12.14 per hour and cashiers, \$9.30. Executive secretaries and administrative assistants, an occupation within the office and administrative support occupational group, averaged \$18.31, and tellers earned \$11.59. (See table 1.)

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$21.82 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$10.83. Union workers earned \$24.18 and non-union workers, \$20.26. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$17.34 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$18.43, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$26.60.

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 362 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 190,000 workers in the Huntsville-Decatur, AL Combined Statistical Area (CSA) which is comprised of Lawrence, Limestone, Madison and Morgan Counties in Alabama.

## **Survey Availability**

Complete survey results are contained in the Huntsville-Decatur, AL National Compensation Survey May 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 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.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings<sup>1</sup> for full-time and part-time workers<sup>2</sup>, Huntsville-Decatur, AL CSA, May 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> .....	\$20.48	2.0	\$21.82	2.2	\$10.83	14.3
<b>Management occupations</b> .....	37.91	4.9	37.91	4.9	—	—
General and operations managers .....	47.78	19.6	47.78	19.6	—	—
Marketing and sales managers .....	38.88	17.1	38.88	17.1	—	—
Financial managers .....	23.89	7.3	23.89	7.3	—	—
Education administrators .....	32.10	4.9	32.10	4.9	—	—
<b>Business and financial operations occupations</b> .....	32.77	5.1	32.81	5.1	—	—
Purchasing agents, except wholesale, retail, and farm products .....	20.21	15.6	20.21	15.6	—	—
Cost estimators .....	29.74	7.3	29.74	7.3	—	—
Management analysts .....	39.97	7.6	39.97	7.6	—	—
Accountants and auditors .....	32.33	13.3	32.33	13.3	—	—
<b>Computer and mathematical science occupations</b> .....	36.86	4.5	36.86	3.8	—	—
Computer programmers .....	27.62	3.8	26.30	2.9	—	—
Computer software engineers .....	41.39	3.3	42.18	5.2	—	—
Computer software engineers, applications .....	38.07	8.7	39.62	6.5	—	—
Computer software engineers, systems software .....	44.01	11.3	44.01	11.3	—	—
Computer systems analysts .....	37.94	19.2	37.01	20.7	—	—
Network and computer systems administrators .....	30.68	5.0	30.68	5.0	—	—
<b>Architecture and engineering occupations</b> .....	36.47	2.6	36.11	1.4	—	—
Engineers .....	40.60	1.0	39.88	1.7	—	—
Aerospace engineers .....	45.25	2.4	42.91	5.7	—	—
Electrical and electronics engineers .....	38.32	3.3	38.32	3.3	—	—
Electrical engineers .....	38.32	3.3	38.32	3.3	—	—
Industrial engineers, including health and safety .....	36.63	8.9	36.63	8.9	—	—
Industrial engineers .....	38.07	7.3	38.07	7.3	—	—
Engineering technicians, except drafters .....	24.76	8.5	24.76	8.5	—	—
Electrical and electronic engineering technicians .....	23.09	16.3	23.09	16.3	—	—
<b>Life, physical, and social science occupations</b> .....	31.91	11.6	31.91	11.6	—	—
Physical scientists .....	32.55	13.2	32.55	13.2	—	—
<b>Community and social services occupations</b> .....	19.91	12.0	23.03	15.9	—	—
Counselors .....	20.55	10.6	—	—	—	—
<b>Education, training, and library occupations</b> .....	27.05	2.5	27.06	2.5	—	—
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers .....	28.66	3.0	28.67	3.0	—	—
Elementary and middle school teachers .....	26.59	8.9	26.59	8.9	—	—
Elementary school teachers, except special education .....	22.69	8.5	22.69	8.5	—	—
Middle school teachers, except special and vocational education .....	30.50	1.2	30.50	1.2	—	—
Secondary school teachers .....	30.85	15.2	—	—	—	—
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education .....	30.85	15.2	—	—	—	—
<b>Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations</b> .....	22.52	14.2	22.96	14.4	11.87	8.6
<b>Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations</b> .....	26.10	5.8	26.77	5.9	20.27	13.2
Registered nurses .....	25.62	5.5	25.63	5.8	—	—
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses .....	15.48	4.0	—	—	—	—
<b>Healthcare support occupations</b> .....	10.99	5.8	11.15	5.9	—	—
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides .....	10.42	4.0	10.43	4.1	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants .....	10.33	4.4	10.34	4.5	—	—
Miscellaneous healthcare support occupations .....	10.90	10.4	—	—	—	—
<b>Protective service occupations</b> .....	17.12	12.0	17.57	11.6	—	—
Police officers .....	20.20	8.1	20.20	8.1	—	—
Police and sheriff's patrol officers .....	20.20	8.1	20.20	8.1	—	—
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers .....	10.85	6.1	11.07	6.1	—	—

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>, Huntsville-Decatur, AL CSA, May 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>Protective service occupations</b> —Continued						
Security guards .....	\$10.85	6.1	\$11.07	6.1	—	—
<b>Food preparation and serving related occupations</b> .....	8.03	1.6	10.63	6.0	\$6.30	2.6
First-line supervisors/managers, food preparation and serving workers .....	13.61	7.1	13.61	7.1	—	—
First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers .....	14.17	13.2	14.17	13.2	—	—
Cooks .....	7.73	8.2	—	—	—	—
Food service, tipped .....	4.70	21.3	—	—	4.85	17.0
Waiters and waitresses .....	4.42	27.2	—	—	4.75	21.6
Fast food and counter workers .....	6.90	.9	—	—	6.79	.7
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food .....	6.88	1.5	—	—	6.80	.6
<b>Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations</b> .....	10.42	10.5	11.11	7.0	—	—
Building cleaning workers .....	9.54	4.8	10.16	3.1	—	—
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners .....	9.61	6.2	10.26	3.8	—	—
<b>Personal care and service occupations</b> .....	14.05	24.0	—	—	14.48	40.4
<b>Sales and related occupations</b> .....	17.10	4.3	19.38	7.1	9.06	2.6
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers .....	22.39	17.6	22.39	17.6	—	—
Retail sales workers .....	11.62	3.8	12.85	9.0	8.59	.9
Cashiers, all workers .....	9.30	5.7	10.15	.9	8.16	4.4
Cashiers .....	9.30	5.7	10.15	.9	8.16	4.4
Counter and rental clerks and parts salespersons .....	10.74	12.3	—	—	—	—
Retail salespersons .....	12.14	6.1	13.59	10.5	8.72	1.3
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing .....	36.43	10.9	36.43	10.9	—	—
<b>Office and administrative support occupations</b> .....	13.65	2.9	13.81	3.1	11.27	9.0
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers .....	24.13	24.2	24.13	24.2	—	—
Financial clerks .....	12.26	2.8	12.28	3.4	—	—
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks .....	12.85	8.0	12.80	8.7	—	—
Tellers .....	11.59	.3	11.59	.3	—	—
Customer service representatives .....	14.36	8.1	14.36	8.1	—	—
Receptionists and information clerks .....	10.69	6.0	11.03	5.3	—	—
Production, planning, and expediting clerks .....	17.96	9.8	17.96	9.8	—	—
Secretaries and administrative assistants .....	15.26	5.0	15.39	4.7	—	—
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants .....	18.31	3.6	18.31	3.6	—	—
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive .....	12.24	6.8	12.40	6.7	—	—
Data entry and information processing workers .....	15.22	11.2	15.22	11.2	—	—
Data entry keyers .....	12.90	5.1	12.90	5.1	—	—
Office clerks, general .....	11.44	9.8	11.59	10.0	—	—
<b>Construction and extraction occupations</b> .....	15.52	6.6	15.71	6.0	—	—
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers .....	19.72	29.0	19.72	29.0	—	—
Electricians .....	21.25	8.8	21.25	8.8	—	—
<b>Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations</b> .....	16.83	7.0	16.86	7.1	—	—
Automotive technicians and repairers .....	14.41	7.5	14.41	7.5	—	—
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers .....	18.25	5.6	18.25	5.6	—	—
Industrial machinery mechanics .....	20.58	3.2	20.58	3.2	—	—
Maintenance and repair workers, general .....	15.05	10.7	15.05	10.7	—	—
<b>Production occupations</b> .....	16.17	6.8	16.59	7.0	8.83	6.1
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers .....	20.10	8.5	20.10	8.5	—	—
Electrical, electronics, and electromechanical assemblers .....	10.07	3.6	10.35	3.4	—	—
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers .....	10.07	3.7	10.35	3.5	—	—

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>, Huntsville-Decatur, AL CSA, May 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>Production occupations</b> —Continued						
Miscellaneous assemblers and fabricators .....	\$22.21	4.5	\$22.21	4.5	—	—
Machine tool cutting setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic .....	19.67	6.0	19.67	6.0	—	—
Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic .....	14.59	5.3	14.59	5.3	—	—
Machinists .....	18.59	2.9	18.59	2.9	—	—
Tool and die makers .....	27.11	.8	27.11	.8	—	—
Miscellaneous metalworkers and plastic workers .....	16.74	26.0	16.74	26.0	—	—
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers .....	15.81	2.6	16.19	3.6	—	—
Miscellaneous production workers .....	13.64	3.3	13.80	3.4	—	—
<b>Transportation and material moving occupations</b> .....						
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers .....	12.26	9.4	13.12	9.4	\$8.03	7.7
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer .....	13.68	15.6	14.49	12.5	—	—
Truck drivers, light or delivery services .....	14.24	9.4	14.22	9.5	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor operators .....	17.96	23.4	17.96	23.4	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand .....	10.43	5.5	10.79	4.4	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand .....	9.23	4.9	9.54	4.6	8.28	6.5
.....	9.63	5.0	9.60	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> 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.

<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.

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