

News

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HIGHLIGHTS OF KANSAS CITY NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY SEPTEMBER 2007

Workers in the Kansas City metropolitan area earned an average of \$20.15 per hour in September 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 \$34.68 for computer and mathematical science occupations, \$27.32 for healthcare practitioner and technical occupations, and \$20.07 for construction and extraction occupations. Another occupational group, office and administrative support, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$15.84. The NCS data available for the Kansas City area include earnings for 21 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Computer systems analysts, part of the computer and mathematical science occupational group, earned \$32.15 per hour. Within the healthcare practitioner and technical occupational group, registered nurses averaged \$26.81 per hour and licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses, \$17.60. Construction laborers, an occupation within the construction and extraction group, registered an average hourly rate of \$19.45. Executive secretaries and administrative assistants, part of the office and administrative support occupational group, earned \$20.43 per hour. (See table 1.)

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$21.35 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$11.24. Union workers earned \$23.28 and non-union workers, \$19.81. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$17.16 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$20.49, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$26.11.

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 305 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 946,400 workers in the Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which is comprised of Bates, Caldwell, Cass, Clay, Clinton, Jackson, Lafayette, Platte, and Ray Counties in Missouri; and Franklin, Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami, and Wyandotte Counties in Kansas.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Kansas City, MO-KS National Compensation Survey September 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 Mountain-Plains 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, Kansas City, MO-KS, September 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	\$20.15	4.7	\$21.35	3.9	\$11.24	10.4
Management occupations	33.44	8.8	33.45	8.8	—	—
General and operations managers	33.09	7.9	33.09	7.9	—	—
Financial managers	31.23	4.9	31.23	4.9	—	—
Medical and health services managers	40.28	29.2	40.28	29.2	—	—
Business and financial operations occupations	29.82	6.7	29.83	6.7	—	—
Buyers and purchasing agents	29.15	9.6	29.15	9.6	—	—
Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists	29.11	19.9	29.11	19.9	—	—
Management analysts	34.35	14.4	34.35	14.4	—	—
Financial analysts and advisors	30.74	13.9	30.74	13.9	—	—
Computer and mathematical science occupations	34.68	6.0	34.02	4.9	—	—
Computer programmers	27.73	10.5	27.73	10.5	—	—
Computer software engineers	33.44	13.6	33.44	13.6	—	—
Computer systems analysts	32.15	4.5	32.15	4.5	—	—
Architecture and engineering occupations	35.48	3.1	35.48	3.1	—	—
Engineers	37.46	3.7	37.46	3.7	—	—
Electrical engineers	35.89	11.2	35.89	11.2	—	—
Life, physical, and social science occupations	27.25	27.1	35.63	8.8	—	—
Community and social services occupations	15.72	11.1	17.02	9.5	—	—
Legal occupations	46.36	23.1	46.36	23.1	—	—
Education, training, and library occupations	26.87	4.4	28.11	5.7	14.98	3.9
Postsecondary teachers	28.51	13.0	28.45	14.0	—	—
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	30.74	4.7	31.15	5.6	—	—
Elementary and middle school teachers	32.13	6.6	32.13	6.6	—	—
Elementary school teachers, except special education	31.47	9.0	31.47	9.0	—	—
Middle school teachers, except special and vocational education	33.27	2.6	33.27	2.6	—	—
Secondary school teachers	31.84	1.8	33.48	4.2	—	—
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	31.07	7.6	32.91	.3	—	—
Other teachers and instructors	18.65	3.8	—	—	14.07	3.3
Teacher assistants	11.69	5.0	—	—	—	—
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	27.08	11.4	27.17	11.3	—	—
Writers and editors	22.34	9.6	22.34	9.6	—	—
Editors	22.34	9.6	22.34	9.6	—	—
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	27.32	10.0	27.44	10.7	26.37	4.8
Registered nurses	26.81	2.3	26.17	1.7	28.82	2.4
Therapists	28.50	5.8	30.04	5.9	—	—
Diagnostic related technologists and technicians	25.65	5.9	26.05	6.8	—	—
Radiologic technologists and technicians	26.43	1.5	26.43	1.5	—	—
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	17.60	2.3	17.88	1.4	—	—
Medical records and health information technicians	14.93	4.9	14.93	4.9	—	—
Healthcare support occupations	11.51	3.2	13.18	10.6	—	—
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	9.60	7.2	10.68	3.0	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	11.33	3.8	11.26	4.1	—	—
Miscellaneous healthcare support occupations	15.68	13.0	16.02	12.7	—	—
Protective service occupations	20.93	8.9	22.11	6.3	13.01	15.7
Police officers	22.07	13.2	—	—	—	—
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	22.07	13.2	—	—	—	—
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers	12.29	15.3	—	—	—	—
Security guards	12.36	20.0	—	—	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Kansas City, MO-KS, September 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	\$8.26	11.6	\$8.91	15.1	\$7.41	6.3
First-line supervisors/managers, food preparation and serving workers	11.09	22.0	—	—	—	—
Cooks	8.14	5.5	8.88	4.7	7.48	6.6
Cooks, institution and cafeteria	10.28	2.3	—	—	—	—
Food preparation workers	10.31	5.5	—	—	—	—
Fast food and counter workers	7.05	1.3	—	—	—	—
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	10.41	4.1	10.27	5.4	10.70	6.4
Building cleaning workers	10.25	7.0	10.32	7.8	—	—
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	10.09	8.7	10.86	8.6	—	—
Personal care and service occupations	9.72	5.8	10.77	4.4	8.29	11.9
Sales and related occupations	18.61	10.2	21.05	12.2	11.73	10.4
Retail sales workers	12.89	13.5	13.82	10.5	11.90	15.5
Cashiers, all workers	9.21	2.0	10.13	5.1	8.51	.9
Cashiers	9.19	2.1	10.11	5.2	8.51	.9
Retail salespersons	16.81	14.1	16.57	2.2	17.18	29.2
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	32.13	18.8	32.13	18.8	—	—
Office and administrative support occupations	15.84	5.0	16.09	4.9	11.21	10.2
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	27.51	7.1	27.51	7.1	—	—
Financial clerks	13.15	5.5	13.24	6.1	—	—
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	15.69	4.3	15.69	4.3	—	—
Tellers	10.55	2.9	10.52	3.0	—	—
Customer service representatives	14.84	6.5	14.83	6.5	—	—
Receptionists and information clerks	13.77	2.5	—	—	—	—
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks	14.78	11.6	14.78	11.6	—	—
Secretaries and administrative assistants	19.08	3.2	19.18	3.2	—	—
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	20.43	6.3	20.43	6.3	—	—
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	17.90	3.7	18.10	3.7	—	—
Office clerks, general	12.72	14.0	12.60	15.2	—	—
Construction and extraction occupations	20.07	6.8	20.11	6.9	—	—
Construction laborers	19.45	9.3	19.45	9.3	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	19.57	5.8	19.73	5.3	—	—
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	18.64	5.3	18.64	5.3	—	—
Maintenance and repair workers, general	17.23	7.4	17.23	7.4	—	—
Miscellaneous installation, maintenance, and repair workers	18.95	10.4	18.95	10.4	—	—
Production occupations	18.14	12.8	18.37	13.6	—	—
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	23.30	.7	23.30	.7	—	—
Miscellaneous assemblers and fabricators	19.86	24.4	19.86	24.4	—	—
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	26.32	2.4	26.32	2.4	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations	14.21	7.4	15.52	10.8	10.23	9.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Kansas City, MO-KS, September 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	\$11.88	17.6	\$12.97	23.8	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	13.24	7.9	14.68	6.5	\$10.89	10.2
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	13.52	8.4	15.26	6.9	11.13	10.7
Packers and packagers, hand	11.89	6.1	12.71	4.5	—	—

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.