

News

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HIGHLIGHTS OF CORPUS CHRISTI, TX NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY AUGUST 2008

Workers in the Corpus Christi metropolitan area earned an average of \$17.75 per hour in August 2008, 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 \$38.51 for healthcare practitioner and technical occupations and \$13.64 for transportation and material moving occupations. Another occupational group, office and administrative support, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$13.12. The NCS data available for the Corpus Christi area include earnings for 18 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 \$30.21 per hour. Within the transportation and material moving occupational group, heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers averaged \$13.41 per hour and hand laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, \$9.74. Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive, an occupation within the office and administrative support group, registered an average hourly rate of \$13.94, and general office clerks earned \$12.10 per hour. (See table 1.)

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$19.14 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$8.87. Union workers earned \$19.60 and non-union workers, \$17.68. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$17.95 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$15.37, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$20.16.

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 177 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 167,800 workers in the Corpus Christi metropolitan area which is comprised of Aransas, Nueces, and San Patricio Counties in Texas.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Corpus Christi, TX National Compensation Survey August 2008 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, as well as other Bureau data, contact the Southwest Information Office by calling (214) 767-6970 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.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, Corpus Christi, TX, August 2008**

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	\$17.75	10.5	\$19.14	9.7	\$8.87	7.8
Management occupations	37.22	5.7	37.22	5.7	–	–
Business and financial operations occupations	25.82	9.7	25.82	9.7	–	–
Computer and mathematical science occupations	22.09	13.2	22.75	13.6	–	–
Architecture and engineering occupations	23.58	19.0	23.58	19.0	–	–
Community and social services occupations	15.35	10.5	15.35	10.5	–	–
Education, training, and library occupations	25.22	9.0	26.33	7.9	12.95	13.5
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	28.52	4.6	28.52	4.7	–	–
Elementary and middle school teachers	30.37	1.5	30.37	1.6	–	–
Elementary school teachers, except special education	30.62	1.6	30.62	1.6	–	–
Middle school teachers, except special and vocational education	29.47	.1	–	–	–	–
Secondary school teachers	30.86	3.3	30.86	3.3	–	–
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	30.86	3.3	30.86	3.3	–	–
Other teachers and instructors	12.55	15.4	–	–	12.55	15.4
Teacher assistants	11.37	10.1	11.78	8.8	–	–
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	38.51	26.5	40.01	27.6	25.79	8.7
Registered nurses	30.21	2.6	30.66	2.7	27.74	2.3
Health diagnosing and treating practitioner support technicians	16.75	4.3	17.22	3.0	–	–
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	16.35	6.4	–	–	–	–
Healthcare support occupations	–	–	10.93	12.9	–	–
Protective service occupations	17.61	9.1	–	–	–	–
Food preparation and serving related occupations	6.91	12.0	6.98	20.6	6.83	2.6
Cooks	8.38	3.1	9.00	5.1	–	–
Food service, tipped	2.89	31.4	2.90	31.5	–	–
Waiters and waitresses	2.83	30.1	2.90	31.5	–	–
Fast food and counter workers	7.30	.8	7.95	2.0	7.11	.9
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	7.27	.6	7.88	1.8	7.11	.9
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	9.01	3.8	8.95	4.4	9.25	17.6
Building cleaning workers	8.48	7.5	8.12	4.7	9.25	17.6
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	9.17	9.9	8.62	5.6	–	–
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	7.24	2.7	7.36	4.1	–	–
Personal care and service occupations	7.70	7.4	–	–	–	–
Sales and related occupations	13.60	18.6	15.64	22.6	7.72	4.4
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers	14.97	1.5	14.97	1.5	–	–
First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers	15.02	1.9	15.02	1.9	–	–
Retail sales workers	9.08	8.3	9.96	15.3	7.42	2.1
Cashiers, all workers	8.41	3.0	8.86	3.7	7.69	4.6
Cashiers	8.41	3.0	8.86	3.7	7.69	4.6
Retail salespersons	9.65	15.6	11.15	19.7	7.17	2.7
Office and administrative support occupations	13.12	4.6	13.33	4.3	10.37	10.9
Financial clerks	13.39	8.8	13.75	7.2	–	–
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	14.55	8.9	14.55	8.9	–	–
Customer service representatives	12.70	19.2	–	–	–	–
Receptionists and information clerks	10.35	9.8	–	–	–	–
Secretaries and administrative assistants	17.44	9.5	17.72	9.1	–	–

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Corpus Christi, TX, August 2008**
 — 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)
Office and administrative support occupations —Continued						
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	\$13.94	5.8	\$14.26	5.8	—	—
Office clerks, general	12.10	6.9	12.20	8.1	—	—
Construction and extraction occupations	21.77	16.1	21.90	16.1	—	—
Pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	18.19	18.9	18.19	18.9	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	21.28	5.9	21.28	5.9	—	—
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	18.42	9.8	18.42	9.8	—	—
Production occupations	16.79	9.3	16.95	9.5	—	—
Welding, soldering, and brazing workers	13.93	12.3	13.93	12.3	—	—
Welders, cutters, solderers, and brazers	13.93	12.3	13.93	12.3	—	—
Miscellaneous plant and system operators	30.31	4.9	30.31	4.9	—	—
Petroleum pump system operators, refinery operators, and gaugers	30.31	4.9	30.31	4.9	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations	13.64	9.1	13.97	9.3	\$8.44	6.5
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	14.39	12.2	14.83	12.6	—	—
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	13.41	2.6	13.41	2.6	—	—
Crane and tower operators	20.39	13.3	20.39	13.3	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	10.09	9.2	10.25	9.6	—	—
Cleaners of vehicles and equipment	10.49	14.0	10.49	14.0	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	9.74	7.1	9.81	7.7	—	—

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. For more information see full publication.

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. For more information about RSEs, see full publication.

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.