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HIGHLIGHTS OF IOWA CITY, IA NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY AUGUST 2008

Workers in the Iowa City Metropolitan Statistical Area earned an average of \$21.35 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 Jay A. Mousa noted that wage data were reported for workers in a wide range of occupational groups, including average hourly earnings of \$26.23 for healthcare practitioner and technical occupations and \$15.32 for office and administrative support occupations. Another occupational group, transportation and material moving, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$14.55. The NCS data available for the Iowa City area include earnings for 20 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Registered nurses, part of the health practitioner and technical occupational group, were paid \$26.50 per hour. Within the office and administrative support group, court, municipal, and license clerks averaged \$17.16 per hour. Heavy truck and tractor-trailer drivers, an occupation within transportation and material moving, earned \$16.73 per hour.

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$23.32 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$10.35. Union workers earned \$19.63 and non-union workers, \$21.75. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$15.25 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$17.57, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$29.04.

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.

The NCS data provided here covered 194 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 79,300 workers in the Iowa City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which is comprised of Johnson and Washington Counties in Iowa.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in Iowa City, IA National Compensation Survey August 2008. The bulletin is available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm.

For additional information, please contact the Bureau of Labor Statistics Midwest Information Office in Chicago at (312) 353-1880 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CT.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Iowa City, IA, 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	\$21.35	5.0	\$23.32	5.7	\$10.35	4.9
Management occupations	54.55	30.1	54.57	30.1	9.66	2.1
Legislators	9.66	2.1	–	–	9.66	2.1
Business and financial operations occupations	28.09	15.8	28.09	15.8	–	–
Computer and mathematical science occupations	27.29	6.9	27.29	6.9	–	–
Architecture and engineering occupations	24.32	8.1	24.32	8.1	–	–
Life, physical, and social science occupations	18.83	14.4	18.91	14.6	–	–
Community and social services occupations	16.25	11.2	17.26	21.6	–	–
Counselors	–	–	13.23	19.6	–	–
Miscellaneous community and social service specialists	19.67	18.9	–	–	–	–
Education, training, and library occupations	59.57	10.4	60.62	10.5	–	–
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	30.45	8.5	30.47	8.5	–	–
Elementary and middle school teachers	30.66	9.7	30.66	9.7	–	–
Elementary school teachers, except special education	29.34	9.7	29.34	9.7	–	–
Secondary school teachers	28.26	10.4	28.32	10.6	–	–
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	28.26	10.4	28.32	10.6	–	–
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	13.15	7.6	–	–	–	–
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	26.23	3.5	26.27	3.9	–	–
Registered nurses	26.50	.4	–	–	–	–
Healthcare support occupations	14.58	4.3	14.59	4.3	–	–
Miscellaneous healthcare support occupations	14.80	5.7	14.81	5.8	–	–
Protective service occupations	15.54	14.9	16.05	16.3	–	–
Police officers	21.22	4.6	21.22	4.6	–	–
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	21.22	4.6	21.22	4.6	–	–
Food preparation and serving related occupations	8.88	2.9	10.25	4.2	7.15	3.8
First-line supervisors/managers, food preparation and serving workers	13.78	3.8	13.79	3.8	–	–
First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers	14.74	5.5	14.76	5.5	–	–
Cooks	9.52	3.5	–	–	–	–
Food service, tipped	6.01	10.7	–	–	5.78	7.0
Waiters and waitresses	4.32	2.9	–	–	4.51	2.0
Fast food and counter workers	8.98	3.7	–	–	8.07	2.4
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	9.01	4.0	–	–	–	–
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	13.06	7.6	14.44	3.0	9.21	3.3
Building cleaning workers	13.25	7.7	–	–	8.65	3.5
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	13.25	7.7	–	–	8.65	3.5
Grounds maintenance workers	11.59	12.8	–	–	–	–
Personal care and service occupations	9.73	6.0	10.70	8.2	8.95	7.9
Sales and related occupations	13.40	4.9	15.39	4.3	8.84	3.1
Retail sales workers	10.27	7.1	11.53	11.3	8.43	1.5
Cashiers, all workers	9.05	.5	–	–	8.46	2.3
Cashiers	9.05	.5	–	–	8.46	2.3
Retail salespersons	11.20	11.6	12.68	13.2	8.43	1.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Iowa City, IA, 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	\$15.32	2.6	\$16.18	2.5	\$10.40	6.9
Financial clerks	16.64	11.9	17.70	10.1	—	—
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	18.31	9.2	18.52	8.8	—	—
Court, municipal, and license clerks	17.16	2.5	17.23	2.7	—	—
Customer service representatives	14.14	5.2	14.51	4.7	—	—
Secretaries and administrative assistants	16.57	6.9	17.72	2.8	—	—
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	16.76	7.6	18.13	.7	—	—
Office clerks, general	15.61	10.7	15.72	10.6	—	—
Construction and extraction occupations	21.45	13.9	21.69	13.1	—	—
Pipefitters, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	21.10	2.0	21.10	2.0	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	21.94	9.7	22.24	8.8	—	—
Automotive technicians and repairers	20.35	14.9	20.35	14.9	—	—
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	19.19	9.7	19.19	9.7	—	—
Production occupations	18.55	4.8	19.18	3.9	8.64	8.1
Water and liquid waste treatment plant and system operators	19.28	15.5	19.52	16.7	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations	14.55	12.1	15.82	7.7	8.46	2.1
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	15.69	11.7	16.56	8.5	—	—
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	16.73	11.9	16.73	11.9	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	10.18	10.8	—	—	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	10.08	13.4	—	—	—	—

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. For more information about RSEs,

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.