



# Highlights of Women's Earnings in 2005



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In 2005, women who were full-time wage and salary workers had median weekly earnings of \$585, or 81 percent of the \$722 median for their male counterparts. (See chart 1.) This ratio has grown since 1979, the first year comparable earnings data were available; that year, women earned about 63 percent as much as men did.

This report presents earnings data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a national monthly survey of approximately 60,000 households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Information on earnings is collected from one-fourth of the CPS sample each month. Users should note that the comparisons of earnings in this report are on a broad level and do not control for many factors that can be significant in explaining earnings differences. For a detailed description of the source of the data and an explanation of the concepts and definitions used, see the Technical Note.

## Highlights

Following are some highlights of women's and men's earnings in 2005.

### Full-time workers

- Median weekly earnings were highest for women and men aged 45 to 64. Among women, 45- to 54-year-olds had median weekly earnings of \$644, little different than the \$639 median for 55- to 64-year-olds. Among men, median weekly earnings also were about the same for those aged 45 to 54 (\$853) as for those aged 55 to 64 (\$855). (See table 1.)
- The difference between women's and men's earnings was much larger among middle-aged and older workers than among younger workers. For instance, among workers aged 45 to 54, women earned 75 percent as much as men. By comparison, among workers 25 to 34 years old, women earned 89 percent as much as men, and among 16- to 24-year-olds, the earnings ratio rose to 93 percent. (See table 1.)
- Between 1979 and 2005, the earnings gap between women and men narrowed for most major age groups. The women's-to-men's earnings ratio among 35- to 44-

year-olds, for example, rose from 58 percent in 1979 to 76 percent in 2005, and the ratio for 45- to 54-year-olds rose from 57 percent in 1979 to 75 percent 26 years later. The earnings ratios for teenagers and for workers aged 65 and older, however, showed no consistent pattern over the period. (See table 12.)

- Asian workers of both sexes earned more than their white, black, and Hispanic counterparts did in 2005. Asian women's median weekly earnings (\$665) were 12 percent higher than white women's earnings (\$596), 33 percent greater than black women's earnings (\$499), and 55 percent higher than Hispanic women's earnings (\$429). In comparison, Asian men's earnings (\$825) were 11 percent higher than the earnings of white men (\$743), 48 percent greater than the earnings of black men (\$559), and 69 percent higher than those of Hispanic men (\$489). (See tables 1 and 13 and chart 2.)
- Earnings differences between women and men in 2005 were widest for whites and for Asians. Asian women earned about 81 percent as much as Asian men did, and white women earned 80 percent as much as white men did. Both black women (89 percent) and Hispanic women (88 percent) had earnings that were closer to those of their male counterparts. (See table 1.)
- Growth in earnings for white women has outpaced that of their black and Hispanic counterparts. Between 1979 and 2005, inflation-adjusted earnings for white women grew fairly steadily, rising by 30 percent. Earnings growth over the period among black and Hispanic women was 18 percent and 9 percent, respectively. In contrast, real earnings for white and for black men in 2005 were about the same as in 1979, while those for Hispanic men fell by 11 percent. (See table 13.)
- Median weekly earnings varied significantly by level of education. Among women, those with less than a high school diploma earned \$341 per week in 2005, compared with \$883 for those with a college degree. Among men, high school dropouts had earnings of \$455 a week, compared with \$1,167 for college graduates. (See tables 1 and 6.)

- At all levels of education, women have fared better than men with respect to earnings growth. Although both women and men with less than a high school diploma have experienced a decline in inflation-adjusted earnings since 1979, the drop for women was significantly less than that for men—10 percent versus 28 percent. Earnings for women with college degrees have increased by 34 percent since 1979 on an inflation-adjusted basis, while earnings of male college graduates have risen by 18 percent. (See table 14 and chart 3.)
- Women working full time in management, business, and financial operations occupations earned \$847 per week in 2005. This was more than women earned in any other major occupational category. The second highest paying job group was professional and related occupations, in which women earned \$792 per week. In management, business, and finance, the highest paying occupations for women were chief executives, computer and information systems managers, medical and health services managers, human resources managers, marketing and sales managers, management analysts, and education administrators. Among those with professional and related occupations, women working as pharmacists, lawyers, computer software engineers, physicians and surgeons, computer programmers, and physical therapists had the highest median weekly earnings. (See table 2.)
- Women and men tend to work in different managerial and professional occupations. In 2005, among professional and related occupations, for example, women were much less likely than men to be employed in some of the highest paying fields, such as engineering and computer and mathematical occupations. Instead, women were more likely to work in lower paying professional occupations, such as education, training, and library occupations. (See table 2.)
- The ratio of female-to-male earnings varied by place of residence, from a high of 90.1 percent in California to a low of 63.1 percent in Wyoming. The differences among the States reflect, in part, variation in the occupations and industries found in each State and in the age composition of each State's labor force. In addition, sampling error for the State estimates is considerably larger than it is for the national estimates; thus, comparisons of State estimates should be made with care. (See table 3.)
- Just 6 percent of women earned \$1,500 or more per week, compared with 14 percent of men. Not surprisingly, given their higher earnings overall, Asian women were

more likely than other women to earn at least \$1,500 per week. (See table 7.)

- Median weekly earnings of married women with children under the age of 18 were 24 percent higher than the earnings of unmarried mothers. The difference was even greater for men: married fathers earned 33 percent more than unmarried fathers did. (See table 8.)

### **Part-time workers**

- Women are more likely than men to work part time—that is, fewer than 35 hours per week. Women who worked part time made up one-fourth of all female wage and salary workers in 2005. In contrast, just 11 percent of men in wage and salary jobs worked part time. These proportions have not changed much over time. (See tables 4 and 5.)
- Median weekly earnings of female part-time workers were \$206, compared with \$190 for male part-time workers. Male part-time workers are more highly concentrated in the youngest age groups, which typically have low earnings. Half of male part-time workers were 16 to 24 years old, compared with just less than a third of female part-timers. (See tables 4 and 5.)

### **Workers paid by the hour**

- About 63 percent of women and 58 percent of men employed in wage and salary jobs were paid by the hour in 2005. Women who were paid hourly rates had median hourly earnings of \$10.31. This was 85 percent of the median for men paid by the hour (\$12.16). (See tables 5, 9, 10, 15, and 16.)
- Among women who were paid hourly rates in 2005, about 3 percent had hourly earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage of \$5.15 an hour. This compares with 2 percent of men who were paid by the hour. (See tables 11 and 17. Also see the Technical Note for information about workers with earnings below the Federal minimum wage.)
- Workers paid hourly rates who were aged 16 to 19 were the most likely to have earnings at or below the minimum wage. About 9 percent of teenage workers paid by the hour earned the minimum wage or less, compared with less than 2 percent of their counterparts aged 25 and older. Among those aged 20 to 24, about 5 percent had earnings at or below the minimum wage. (See table 11 and chart 4.)

Chart 1. **Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (2005) dollars by sex, 1979–2005 annual averages**

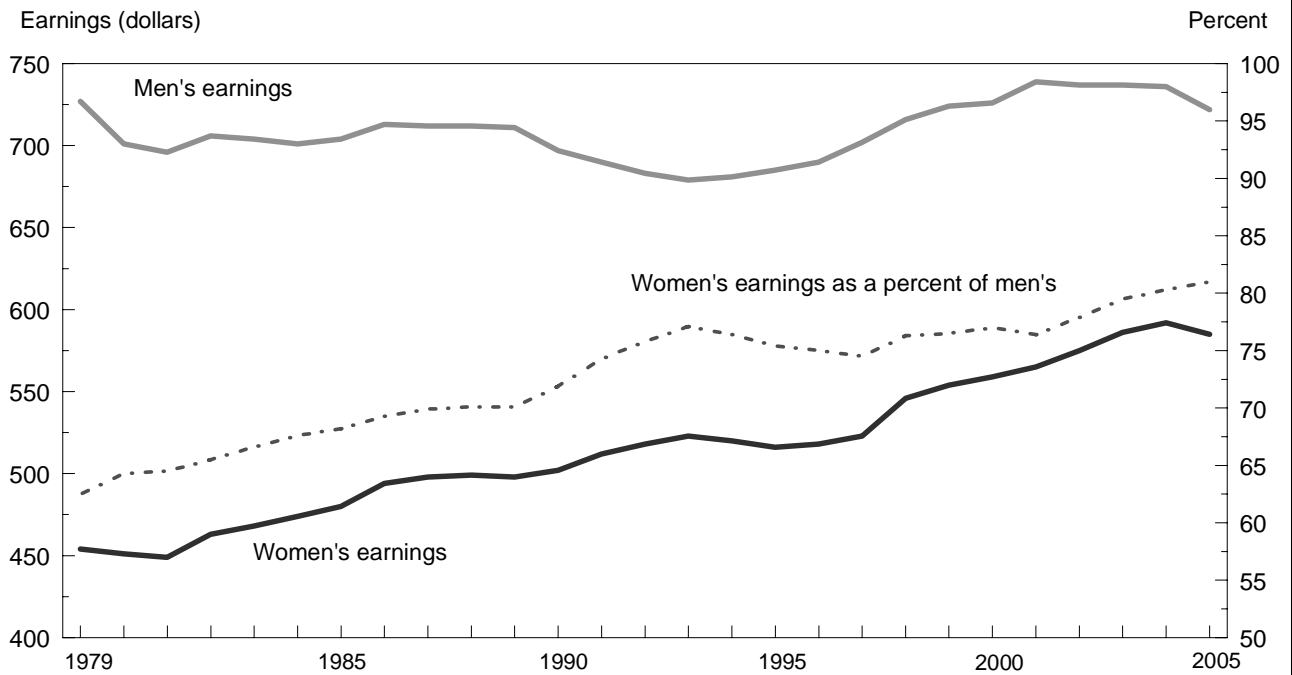


Chart 2. **Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2005 annual averages**

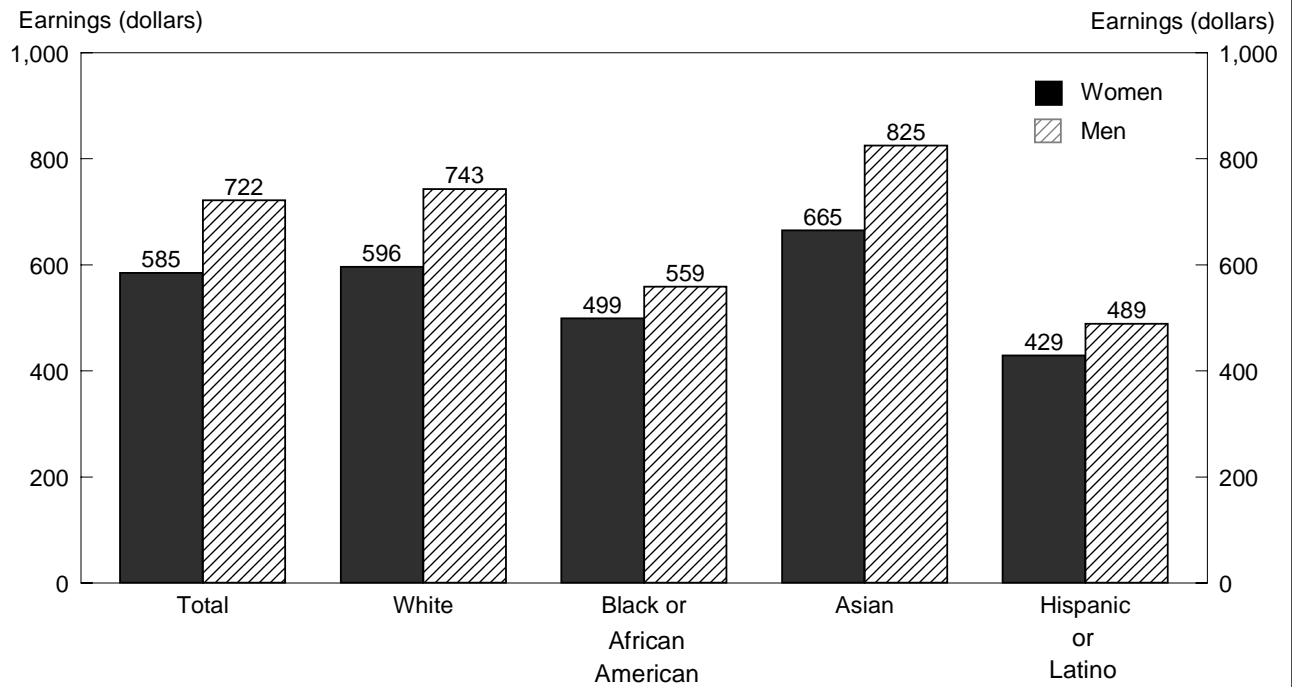
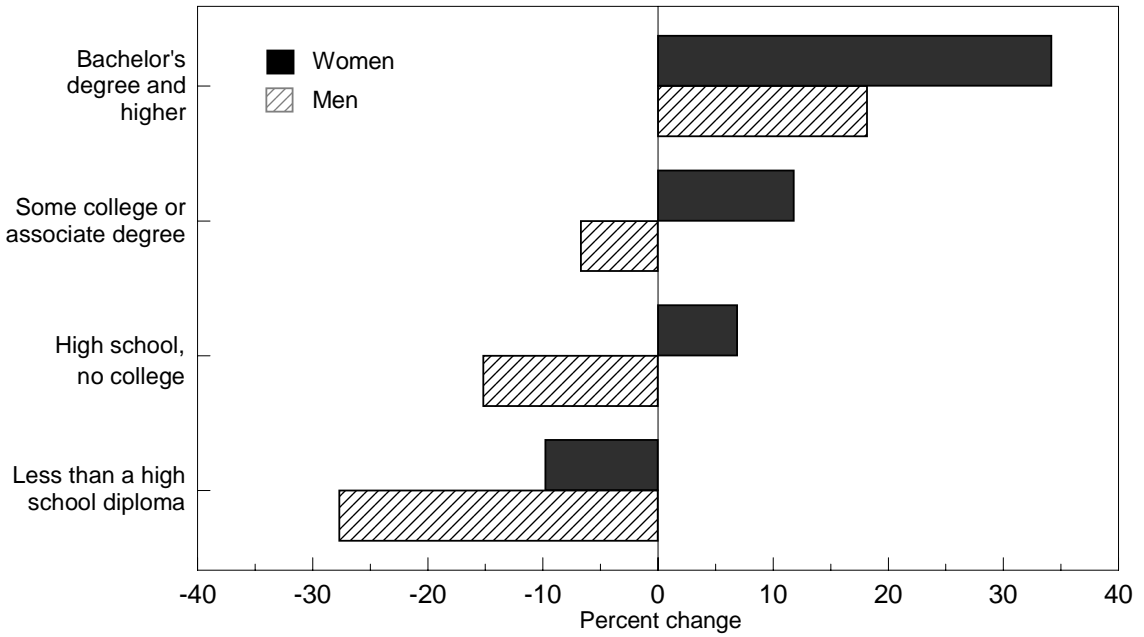


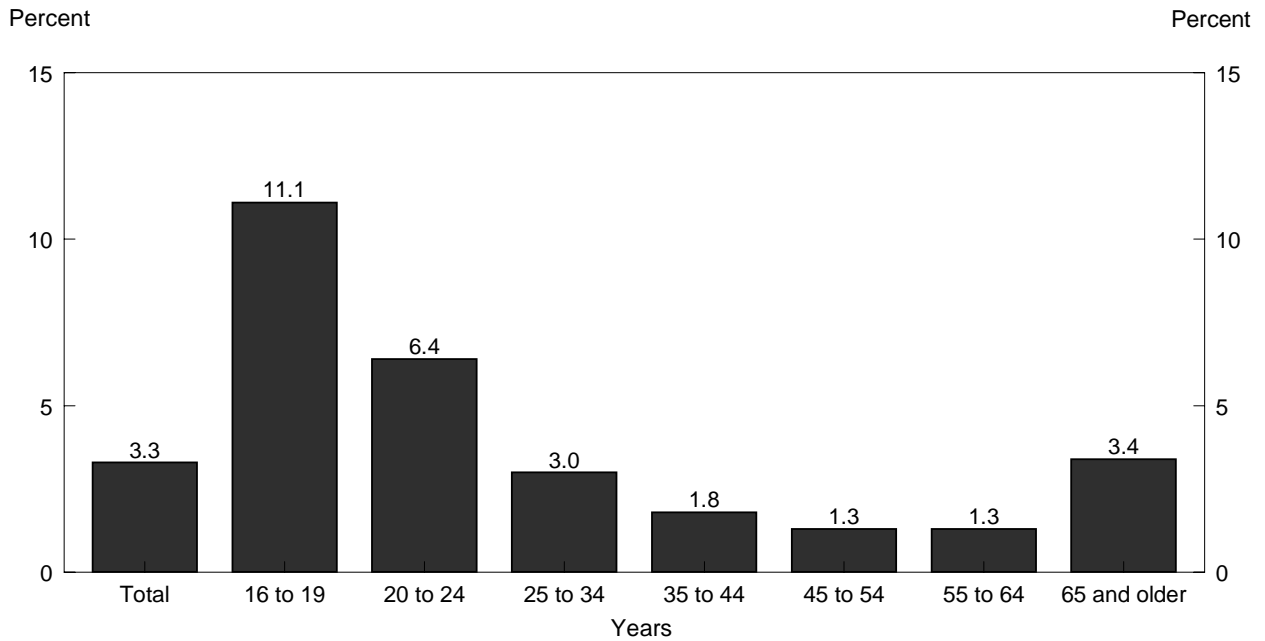
Chart 3. **Change in median usual weekly earnings from 1979 to 2005 by educational attainment and sex**

Highest educational level



NOTE: Data relate to earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older.

Chart 4. **Women with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by age, 2005 annual averages**



NOTE: Data relate to female wage and salary workers paid hourly rates.

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Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages

Characteristic	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
<b>AGE</b>										
Total, 16 years and older.....	103,560	\$651	\$2	45,154	\$585	\$2	58,406	\$722	\$2	81.0
16 to 24 years.....	11,108	397	2	4,711	381	3	6,396	409	2	93.2
16 to 19 years.....	1,699	318	3	694	304	4	1,005	330	6	92.1
20 to 24 years.....	9,409	411	2	4,018	396	3	5,391	422	3	94.0
25 years and older.....	92,453	696	2	40,443	612	2	52,010	771	3	79.4
25 to 34 years.....	25,013	610	2	10,400	573	4	14,612	644	4	89.1
35 to 44 years.....	27,103	731	3	11,563	621	4	15,540	822	6	75.6
45 to 54 years.....	25,650	748	3	11,814	644	5	13,836	853	6	75.4
55 to 64 years.....	12,774	742	4	5,854	639	7	6,920	855	9	74.7
65 years and older.....	1,913	569	13	812	492	12	1,102	644	28	76.4
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>										
White.....	84,110	672	2	35,538	596	2	48,572	743	3	80.2
Black or African American.....	12,388	520	3	6,472	499	4	5,916	559	8	89.2
Asian.....	4,651	753	8	2,054	665	12	2,597	825	14	80.6
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	14,673	471	3	5,241	429	5	9,433	489	3	87.7
<b>MARITAL STATUS</b>										
Never married.....	26,750	515	2	11,514	505	3	15,236	522	3	96.7
Married, spouse present.....	59,249	737	2	23,507	619	2	35,742	827	4	74.9
Other marital status.....	17,561	616	3	10,133	577	4	7,428	684	6	84.4
Divorced.....	11,823	652	4	6,901	605	4	4,923	729	8	83.1
Separated.....	4,135	519	5	2,019	493	7	2,116	573	14	86.1
Widowed.....	1,603	555	16	1,213	515	8	390	668	28	77.1
<b>UNION AFFILIATION <sup>2</sup></b>										
Members of unions <sup>3</sup> .....	14,207	801	5	5,761	731	5	8,446	857	6	85.3
Represented by unions <sup>4</sup> .....	15,551	795	5	6,442	726	5	9,109	855	6	84.9
Not represented by a union.....	88,010	622	2	38,712	559	3	49,297	692	3	80.7
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>										
Total, 25 years and older.....	92,453	696	2	40,443	612	2	52,010	771	3	79.4
Less than a high school diploma.....	8,861	409	2	2,878	341	3	5,983	455	4	75.1
High school, no college <sup>5</sup> .....	27,514	583	2	11,517	493	2	15,997	652	3	75.6
Some college or associate degree.....	25,471	670	3	12,103	587	3	13,368	766	4	76.6
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>6</sup> .....	30,607	1,013	4	13,944	883	5	16,662	1,167	6	75.7

<sup>1</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Differences in earnings levels between workers with and without union affiliation reflect a variety of factors in addition to coverage by a collective bargaining agreement, including the distribution of male and female employees by occupation, industry, firm size, or geographic region.

<sup>3</sup> Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union.

<sup>4</sup> Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar

to a union, as well as to workers who report no union affiliation but whose jobs are covered by a union or an employee association contract.

<sup>5</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>6</sup> Includes persons with a bachelor's, master's, professional, or doctoral degree.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 2005 annual averages

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
Total, 16 years and older.....	103,560	\$651	\$2	45,154	\$585	\$2	58,406	\$722	\$2	81.0
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	36,908	937	3	18,597	813	5	18,311	1,113	7	73.0
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	14,977	997	6	6,782	847	6	8,195	1,167	9	72.6
Management occupations.....	10,340	1,083	11	4,122	902	11	6,219	1,230	14	73.4
Chief executives.....	1,043	1,834	79	253	1,413	39	790	1,903	12	74.3
General and operations managers.....	754	1,099	38	226	932	38	528	1,152	17	80.9
Advertising and promotions managers.....	66	870	92	38	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	28	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Marketing and sales managers.....	728	1,235	39	283	990	50	445	1,440	51	68.7
Administrative services managers.....	73	978	79	22	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	51	1,104	80	( <sup>3</sup> )
Computer and information systems managers.....	326	1,428	45	100	1,094	83	227	1,540	60	71.0
Financial managers.....	949	1,061	36	503	853	16	446	1,347	39	63.3
Human resources managers.....	263	1,083	60	188	998	42	75	1,357	63	73.6
Industrial production managers.....	295	1,123	48	48	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	247	1,147	30	( <sup>3</sup> )
Purchasing managers.....	184	1,099	88	72	939	60	112	1,199	79	78.3
Transportation, storage, and distribution managers.....	227	757	25	28	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	200	771	26	( <sup>3</sup> )
Farm, ranch, and other agricultural managers.....	77	680	61	13	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	65	689	52	( <sup>3</sup> )
Construction managers.....	430	1,051	30	30	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	400	1,060	31	( <sup>3</sup> )
Education administrators.....	712	1,114	33	440	972	32	272	1,289	80	75.3
Engineering managers.....	89	1,788	129	9	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	80	1,852	104	( <sup>3</sup> )
Food service managers.....	594	651	19	249	549	26	345	740	21	74.2
Lodging managers.....	100	647	40	52	525	116	48	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Medical and health services managers.....	432	1,089	36	308	1,026	40	123	1,327	161	77.3
Property, real estate, and community association managers.....	341	724	25	193	662	43	149	803	41	82.4
Social and community service managers.....	258	838	29	176	784	71	82	990	188	79.1
Business and financial operations occupations.....	4,637	871	8	2,660	778	10	1,976	1,037	17	75.0
Wholesale and retail buyers, except farm products.....	153	802	49	75	708	82	77	930	83	76.1
Purchasing agents, except wholesale, retail, and farm products.....	271	785	28	145	710	43	126	912	37	77.9
Claims adjusters, appraisers, examiners, and investigators.....	276	789	42	174	706	25	102	971	45	72.6
Compliance officers, except agriculture, construction, health and safety, and transportation.....	128	893	45	57	923	67	71	877	51	105.2
Cost estimators.....	80	941	44	14	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	67	961	40	( <sup>3</sup> )
Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists.....	585	791	26	417	762	16	168	904	41	84.3
Management analysts.....	288	1,229	66	128	981	36	160	1,362	35	72.1
Accountants and auditors.....	1,383	887	16	855	784	17	529	1,072	40	73.1
Appraisers and assessors of real estate.....	74	832	44	32	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	42	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Budget analysts.....	50	1,050	106	35	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	14	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Financial analysts.....	74	1,136	97	33	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	41	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Personal financial advisors.....	270	1,134	27	83	888	85	188	1,239	88	71.7
Insurance underwriters.....	110	894	45	79	851	32	31	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Loan counselors and officers.....	387	861	42	210	786	39	178	977	49	80.5
Tax examiners, collectors, and revenue agents.....	72	764	55	43	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	30	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Tax preparers.....	52	668	169	36	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	16	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Professional and related occupations.....	21,931	902	4	11,815	792	5	10,116	1,058	7	74.9
Computer and mathematical occupations.....	2,924	1,132	13	760	1,007	21	2,164	1,174	19	85.7
Computer scientists and systems analysts.....	647	1,091	37	198	983	54	449	1,140	25	86.3
Computer programmers.....	524	1,086	43	133	1,014	50	391	1,129	38	89.8

See footnotes at end of table.



Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 2005 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
Computer software engineers.....	778	\$1,401	\$25	165	\$1,174	\$59	612	\$1,456	\$25	80.6
Computer support specialists.....	310	823	24	95	858	33	215	809	23	106.1
Database administrators.....	82	1,116	37	23	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	58	1,314	309	( <sup>3</sup> )
Network and computer systems administrators.....	201	1,058	34	34	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	166	1,072	42	( <sup>3</sup> )
Network systems and data communications analysts.....	254	1,062	41	59	952	32	195	1,082	32	88.0
Operations research analysts.....	80	1,252	34	38	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	43	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Architecture and engineering occupations.....	2,509	1,105	17	322	945	21	2,187	1,133	12	83.4
Architects, except naval.....	176	1,146	32	42	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	134	1,147	58	( <sup>3</sup> )
Aerospace engineers.....	88	1,362	160	10	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	78	1,449	91	( <sup>3</sup> )
Civil engineers.....	277	1,138	22	37	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	239	1,166	22	( <sup>3</sup> )
Computer hardware engineers.....	72	1,405	283	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	66	1,524	81	( <sup>3</sup> )
Electrical and electronics engineers	330	1,350	25	22	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	309	1,354	28	( <sup>3</sup> )
Industrial engineers, including health and safety.....	185	1,161	45	28	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	157	1,198	46	( <sup>3</sup> )
Mechanical engineers.....	306	1,262	25	18	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	288	1,265	26	( <sup>3</sup> )
Drafters.....	186	769	20	42	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	144	783	29	( <sup>3</sup> )
Engineering technicians, except drafters.....	354	805	21	67	695	68	287	819	21	84.9
Surveying and mapping technicians	98	735	58	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	96	742	58	( <sup>3</sup> )
Life, physical, and social science occupations.....	1,164	965	18	452	837	27	712	1,073	40	78.0
Biological scientists.....	106	890	59	49	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	56	1,000	69	( <sup>3</sup> )
Medical scientists.....	125	935	82	55	938	175	70	934	91	100.4
Chemists and materials scientists.....	109	1,128	85	36	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	72	1,241	107	( <sup>3</sup> )
Environmental scientists and geoscientists.....	87	1,217	67	21	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	66	1,223	168	( <sup>3</sup> )
Market and survey researchers.....	106	997	34	54	898	84	52	1,138	55	78.9
Psychologists.....	83	966	33	50	909	144	32	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Chemical technicians.....	85	699	39	25	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	60	701	47	( <sup>3</sup> )
Community and social services occupations.....	1,797	725	10	1,054	683	12	742	797	22	85.8
Counselors.....	499	740	15	345	728	16	154	788	52	92.4
Social workers.....	602	700	18	473	682	19	129	780	52	87.5
Miscellaneous community and social service specialists.....	237	662	34	146	608	17	90	751	131	80.9
Clergy.....	385	785	27	49	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	335	813	31	( <sup>3</sup> )
Legal occupations.....	1,162	1,052	25	638	846	19	524	1,531	85	55.3
Lawyers.....	598	1,609	54	203	1,354	46	395	1,748	34	77.5
Judges, magistrates, and other judicial workers.....	73	1,101	52	30	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	43	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Paralegals and legal assistants.....	311	740	24	261	737	24	50	769	259	95.8
Miscellaneous legal support workers.....	181	715	25	144	702	29	37	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Education, training, and library occupations.....	6,066	798	8	4,405	753	5	1,660	960	12	78.5
Postsecondary teachers.....	808	1,072	29	323	924	29	485	1,173	39	78.8
Preschool and kindergarten teachers.....	515	521	16	495	520	12	19	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Elementary and middle school teachers.....	2,204	826	10	1,801	813	9	403	909	22	89.4
Secondary school teachers.....	1,037	878	15	577	841	16	460	942	21	89.3
Special education teachers.....	382	868	28	327	853	32	55	949	69	89.9
Other teachers and instructors.....	306	728	24	187	657	23	120	803	69	81.8
Librarians.....	163	829	44	137	826	81	25	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Teacher assistants.....	546	398	8	496	398	9	50	398	17	100.0
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations.....	1,488	819	17	623	735	17	865	885	23	83.0
Artists and related workers.....	83	868	92	28	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	54	989	147	( <sup>3</sup> )
Designers.....	500	816	33	218	653	29	282	920	28	71.0
Producers and directors.....	75	971	80	28	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	48	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Athletes, coaches, umpires, and related workers.....	123	713	59	21	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	102	749	51	( <sup>3</sup> )
Musicians, singers, and related workers.....	51	893	58	13	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	38	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 2005 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
News analysts, reporters and correspondents.....	62	\$866	\$98	31	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	31	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Public relations specialists.....	135	860	53	86	\$817	\$78	49	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Editors.....	108	865	37	59	794	60	49	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Writers and authors.....	70	887	161	43	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	27	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Broadcast and sound engineering technicians and radio operators....	64	813	34	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	59	\$823	\$38	( <sup>3</sup> )
Photographers.....	53	721	100	19	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	34	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations.....	4,821	878	8	3,560	834	9	1,262	1,043	30	79.9
Dietitians and nutritionists.....	51	666	154	47	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Pharmacists.....	185	1,557	38	89	1,483	112	96	1,597	79	92.9
Physicians and surgeons.....	562	1,547	44	187	1,134	88	375	1,862	150	60.9
Physician assistants.....	52	1,155	89	26	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	26	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Registered nurses.....	1,805	935	11	1,654	930	10	151	1,011	50	92.0
Occupational therapists.....	59	996	41	55	983	39	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Physical therapists.....	117	1,036	81	74	1,014	28	43	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Respiratory therapists.....	80	854	44	46	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	34	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Speech-language pathologists.....	68	933	45	60	914	32	7	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians.....	279	750	22	197	725	27	82	836	47	86.7
Dental hygienists.....	53	895	35	49	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Diagnostic-related technologists and technicians.....	212	873	40	145	789	57	67	973	30	81.1
Emergency medical technicians and paramedics.....	144	658	49	34	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	110	730	32	( <sup>3</sup> )
Health-diagnosing and -treating practitioner support technicians....	290	504	13	237	503	12	53	521	57	96.5
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses.....	401	625	13	369	621	12	31	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Medical records and health information technicians.....	104	543	33	88	522	17	15	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Service occupations.....	14,123	413	2	7,099	379	2	7,024	478	4	79.4
Healthcare support occupations.....	2,085	410	4	1,842	408	4	243	422	11	96.8
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides.....	1,334	388	4	1,181	385	5	153	406	13	94.8
Dental assistants.....	150	474	18	142	479	15	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Protective service occupations.....	2,549	678	12	525	514	12	2,025	729	13	70.4
First-line supervisors/managers of police and detectives.....	121	1,009	68	15	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	105	1,010	63	( <sup>3</sup> )
Fire fighters.....	228	944	31	9	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	219	952	37	( <sup>3</sup> )
Bailiffs, correctional officers, and jailers.....	401	605	14	115	531	35	286	632	34	84.0
Detectives and criminal investigators.....	119	1,054	59	31	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	88	1,188	98	( <sup>3</sup> )
Police and sheriff's patrol officers....	669	826	18	97	738	22	573	849	19	86.9
Private detectives and investigators	68	662	54	29	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	39	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers.....	667	481	12	159	405	16	507	508	14	79.9
Food preparation and serving related occupations.....	4,007	356	3	1,966	337	5	2,041	371	4	91.0
Chefs and head cooks.....	275	486	15	46	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	229	494	19	( <sup>3</sup> )
First-line supervisors/managers of food preparation and serving workers.....	451	422	12	272	398	10	179	522	34	76.3
Cooks.....	1,198	336	5	433	314	5	766	350	6	89.7
Food preparation workers.....	339	321	6	189	318	8	149	324	12	98.0
Bartenders.....	210	420	12	107	417	16	102	422	27	98.9
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food.....	132	310	11	98	308	14	34	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Counter attendants, cafeteria, food concession, and coffee shop.....	90	292	11	56	289	17	34	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Waiters and waitresses.....	848	352	9	556	332	12	292	384	16	86.3
Food servers, nonrestaurant.....	82	409	19	42	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	40	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender helpers.....	163	347	15	72	325	17	92	367	21	88.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 2005 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
Dishwashers.....	141	\$296	\$9	29	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	112	\$293	\$10	( <sup>3</sup> )
Hosts and hostesses, restaurant, lounge, and coffee shop.....	77	332	15	65	\$322	\$13	12	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	3,425	394	3	1,249	344	5	2,176	428	7	80.4
First-line supervisors/managers of housekeeping and janitorial workers.....	177	537	50	57	433	27	120	613	26	70.6
First-line supervisors/managers of landscaping, lawn service, and groundskeeping workers.....	101	593	32	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	98	598	32	( <sup>3</sup> )
Janitors and building cleaners.....	1,477	408	5	421	363	8	1,056	441	12	82.5
Maids and housekeeping cleaners.....	829	335	7	724	328	6	105	390	18	84.0
Pest control workers.....	55	508	26	1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	54	511	25	( <sup>3</sup> )
Grounds maintenance workers.....	787	389	7	43	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	744	393	7	( <sup>3</sup> )
Personal care and service occupations.....	2,057	409	5	1,517	390	5	540	491	12	79.5
First-line supervisors/managers of gaming workers.....	81	628	37	41	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	40	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
First-line supervisors/managers of personal service workers.....	58	577	47	31	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	27	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Nonfarm animal caretakers.....	57	379	31	43	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	14	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Gaming services workers.....	77	579	25	38	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	39	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Hairdressers, hairstylists, and cosmetologists.....	285	416	12	258	409	12	27	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Baggage porters, bellhops, and concierges.....	60	457	53	11	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	49	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Transportation attendants.....	77	680	40	55	619	53	22	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Childcare workers.....	444	332	9	414	330	9	30	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Personal and home care aides.....	402	390	10	328	381	10	75	442	27	86.1
Recreation and fitness workers.....	181	487	18	107	479	31	73	494	22	96.9
Sales and office occupations.....	25,193	575	3	15,654	520	2	9,539	690	6	75.3
Sales and related occupations.....	10,031	622	5	4,449	483	5	5,582	762	6	63.4
First-line supervisors/managers of retail salesworkers.....	2,365	631	9	979	525	11	1,386	723	14	72.6
First-line supervisors/managers of non-retail salesworkers.....	922	881	27	250	753	22	673	944	24	79.7
Cashiers.....	1,428	336	6	1,064	322	3	363	389	14	82.6
Counter and rental clerks.....	102	429	48	48	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	55	589	78	( <sup>3</sup> )
Parts salespersons.....	123	562	42	14	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	109	586	28	( <sup>3</sup> )
Retail salespersons.....	1,869	494	8	810	401	8	1,060	606	13	66.2
Advertising sales agents.....	194	870	93	99	730	32	95	1,017	80	71.8
Insurance sales agents.....	341	742	18	178	624	20	162	908	54	68.7
Securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents.....	288	1,007	133	93	733	57	195	1,239	53	59.2
Travel agents.....	56	593	33	46	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	11	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Sales representatives, services, all other.....	369	814	66	112	648	41	257	919	50	70.5
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing.....	1,140	920	24	289	737	25	851	960	18	76.8
Real estate brokers and sales agents.....	489	773	34	275	716	42	213	989	38	72.5
Telemarketers.....	98	367	18	70	360	21	28	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Door-to-door salesworkers, news and street vendors, and related workers.....	66	422	51	21	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	46	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Office and administrative support occupations.....	15,161	550	3	11,205	533	3	3,957	605	6	88.0
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers.....	1,399	686	10	953	656	10	447	796	30	82.5
Bill and account collectors.....	175	518	11	115	519	13	60	516	19	100.6
Billing and posting clerks and machine operators.....	355	572	17	313	566	18	42	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks.....	964	555	12	861	551	12	102	580	27	94.9
Payroll and timekeeping clerks.....	136	613	17	123	611	16	12	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Tellers.....	296	426	10	270	425	9	26	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 2005 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
Court, municipal, and license clerks	95	\$575	\$40	81	\$571	\$54	14	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Credit authorizers, checkers, and clerks.....	64	607	30	49	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	15	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Customer service representatives.....	1,490	524	9	1,010	505	5	480	\$624	\$17	80.9
File clerks.....	255	507	11	201	505	11	54	513	26	98.5
Hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks	107	376	17	66	367	14	41	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Interviewers, except eligibility and loan.....	128	502	12	99	501	12	29	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Library assistants, clerical.....	58	517	38	54	496	35	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Loan interviewers and clerks.....	179	623	24	134	614	18	45	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Order clerks.....	120	519	19	77	509	23	42	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Human resources assistants, except payroll and timekeeping.....	60	601	33	55	580	30	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Receptionists and information clerks.....	923	466	7	846	463	7	76	504	32	91.9
Reservation and transportation ticket agents and travel clerks.....	134	626	42	90	586	61	44	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Couriers and messengers.....	212	664	34	31	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	182	678	44	( <sup>3</sup> )
Dispatchers.....	274	584	16	168	556	20	105	613	18	90.7
Postal service clerks.....	147	791	31	58	750	35	89	830	23	90.3
Postal service mail carriers.....	295	832	15	110	733	51	185	874	16	83.9
Postal service mail sorters, processors, and processing machine operators.....	109	751	28	50	742	33	59	763	46	97.2
Production, planning, and expediting clerks.....	275	694	20	152	650	18	123	767	24	84.8
Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks.....	472	488	10	138	450	17	334	504	11	89.4
Stock clerks and order fillers.....	1,012	427	9	361	409	8	651	448	14	91.1
Weighers, measurers, checkers, and samplers, recordkeeping.....	60	467	54	35	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	26	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Secretaries and administrative assistants.....	2,684	562	6	2,611	559	6	73	654	45	85.6
Computer operators.....	164	599	53	89	541	25	76	674	47	80.2
Data entry keyers.....	403	509	8	324	507	7	79	529	112	95.9
Word processors and typists.....	216	500	13	206	499	13	10	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Insurance claims and policy processing clerks.....	238	560	25	204	565	23	35	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Mail clerks and mail machine operators, except postal service.....	99	508	15	52	480	21	47	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Office clerks, general.....	672	518	9	574	509	9	98	591	23	86.1
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	12,086	623	4	517	486	16	11,569	628	4	77.3
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	755	372	7	154	327	12	601	388	9	84.2
Graders and sorters, agricultural products.....	63	402	25	48	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	15	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Logging workers.....	64	483	46	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	62	485	45	( <sup>3</sup> )
Construction and extraction occupations.....	6,826	604	4	163	480	24	6,663	606	4	79.1
First-line supervisors/managers of construction trades and extraction workers.....	645	830	23	20	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	626	839	26	( <sup>3</sup> )
Brickmasons, blockmasons, and stonemasons.....	166	598	27	—	—	—	166	598	27	—
Carpenters.....	1,213	556	15	17	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,196	559	15	( <sup>3</sup> )
Carpet, floor, and tile installers and finishers.....	178	482	16	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	176	484	16	( <sup>3</sup> )
Cement masons, concrete finishers and terrazzo workers.....	90	519	17	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	88	518	17	( <sup>3</sup> )
Construction laborers.....	1,170	502	6	38	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,132	504	6	( <sup>3</sup> )
Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators.....	367	733	22	11	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	356	735	22	( <sup>3</sup> )
Drywall installers, ceiling tile installers, and tapers.....	185	511	15	1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	184	510	15	( <sup>3</sup> )
Electricians.....	747	713	14	13	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	734	712	14	( <sup>3</sup> )

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 2005 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
Painters, construction and maintenance.....	384	\$466	\$17	17	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	367	\$469	\$18	( <sup>3</sup> )
Pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters.....	550	703	19	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	547	704	19	( <sup>3</sup> )
Roofers.....	209	500	20	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	203	503	21	( <sup>3</sup> )
Sheet metal workers.....	127	653	30	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	123	655	31	( <sup>3</sup> )
Structural iron and steel workers.....	58	772	49	1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	57	768	48	( <sup>3</sup> )
Helpers, construction trades.....	110	437	45	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	108	430	40	( <sup>3</sup> )
Construction and building inspectors.....	84	791	61	9	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	75	824	47	( <sup>3</sup> )
Highway maintenance workers.....	86	581	43	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	83	575	45	( <sup>3</sup> )
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4,504	705	6	199	\$691	\$39	4,305	706	6	97.9
First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, and repairers.....	307	814	43	18	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	289	817	42	( <sup>3</sup> )
Computer, automated teller, and office machine repairers.....	336	753	28	45	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	291	749	27	( <sup>3</sup> )
Radio and telecommunications equipment installers and repairers.....	206	861	51	29	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	177	858	49	( <sup>3</sup> )
Security and fire alarm systems installers.....	56	705	104	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	53	730	33	( <sup>3</sup> )
Aircraft mechanics and service technicians.....	137	919	35	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	129	920	38	( <sup>3</sup> )
Automotive body and related repairers.....	137	587	48	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	135	579	41	( <sup>3</sup> )
Automotive service technicians and mechanics.....	724	629	16	13	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	711	631	16	( <sup>3</sup> )
Bus and truck mechanics and diesel engine specialists.....	326	694	23	1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	325	693	23	( <sup>3</sup> )
Heavy vehicle and mobile equipment service technicians and mechanics.....	218	726	20	1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	216	727	20	( <sup>3</sup> )
Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers.....	314	693	21	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	311	694	21	( <sup>3</sup> )
Industrial and refractory machinery mechanics.....	444	724	20	14	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	430	724	20	( <sup>3</sup> )
Maintenance and repair workers, general.....	305	631	28	11	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	294	635	31	( <sup>3</sup> )
Millwrights.....	58	824	245	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	55	891	100	( <sup>3</sup> )
Electrical power-line installers and repairers.....	105	868	55	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	102	875	49	( <sup>3</sup> )
Telecommunications line installers and repairers.....	145	788	42	9	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	136	780	60	( <sup>3</sup> )
Precision instrument and equipment repairers.....	54	819	234	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	50	877	221	( <sup>3</sup> )
Production, transportation, and material-moving occupations.....	15,251	540	4	3,288	420	3	11,963	591	3	71.1
Production occupations.....	8,403	538	5	2,412	423	4	5,991	608	4	69.6
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers.....	825	761	15	162	545	33	662	817	22	66.7
Electrical, electronics, and electromechanical assemblers.....	195	473	18	117	441	21	79	528	50	83.6
Bakers.....	117	411	18	59	357	34	58	480	27	74.4
Butchers and other meat-, poultry-, and fish-processing workers.....	262	444	19	56	400	17	206	471	22	85.0
Food batchmakers.....	71	465	25	26	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	44	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Computer control programmers and operators.....	54	697	39	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	49	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic.....	120	502	20	30	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	90	533	37	( <sup>3</sup> )
Grinding, lapping, polishing, and buffing machine tool setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic.....	55	557	61	7	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	48	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 2005 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
Machinists.....	401	\$697	\$17	25	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	376	\$712	\$18	( <sup>3</sup> )
Molders and molding machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic.....	60	529	51	13	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	46	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Tool and die makers.....	91	821	55	1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	91	824	55	( <sup>3</sup> )
Welding, soldering, and brazing workers.....	550	599	11	32	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	518	608	12	( <sup>3</sup> )
Printing machine operators.....	201	585	22	30	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	170	617	21	( <sup>3</sup> )
Laundry and dry-cleaning workers..	125	372	17	82	\$347	\$17	43	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Sewing machine operators.....	236	360	13	171	355	15	64	372	26	95.3
Cabinetmakers and bench carpenters.....	53	516	18	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	50	518	18	( <sup>3</sup> )
Sawing machine setters, operators, and tenders, wood.....	54	428	39	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	48	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Stationary engineers and boiler operators.....	108	819	73	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	105	797	94	( <sup>3</sup> )
Water and liquid waste treatment plant and system operators.....	69	674	80	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	67	710	131	( <sup>3</sup> )
Chemical-processing machine setters, operators, and tenders.....	56	769	95	7	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	50	717	35	( <sup>3</sup> )
Crushing, grinding, polishing, mixing, and blending workers.....	95	498	24	11	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	84	503	23	( <sup>3</sup> )
Cutting workers.....	94	496	29	22	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	72	525	36	( <sup>3</sup> )
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers.....	618	596	18	237	486	11	380	679	24	71.6
Medical, dental, and ophthalmic laboratory technicians.....	76	545	57	37	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	39	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Packaging and filling machine operators and tenders.....	291	410	11	159	384	12	132	452	19	84.9
Painting workers.....	177	562	29	23	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	155	592	22	( <sup>3</sup> )
Paper goods machine setters, operators, and tenders.....	58	603	30	16	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	42	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )
Transportation and material-moving occupations.....	6,848	543	6	876	412	7	5,972	574	6	71.7
Supervisors, transportation and material-moving workers.....	194	734	28	29	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	164	751	31	( <sup>3</sup> )
Aircraft pilots and flight engineers..	98	1,366	102	6	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	92	1,368	121	( <sup>3</sup> )
Busdrivers.....	353	517	14	141	456	38	213	576	31	79.1
Driver/salesworkers and truck drivers.....	2,758	624	7	101	473	31	2,657	631	9	75.0
Taxi drivers and chauffeurs.....	179	483	23	24	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	155	500	23	( <sup>3</sup> )
Locomotive engineers and operators.....	53	998	199	1	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	52	1,013	195	( <sup>3</sup> )
Railroad conductors and yardmasters.....	50	1,017	44	—	—	—	50	1,017	44	—
Service station attendants.....	68	323	10	9	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	59	333	27	( <sup>3</sup> )
Crane and tower operators.....	69	727	47	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	66	727	57	( <sup>3</sup> )
Dredge, excavating, and loading machine operators.....	67	616	40	—	—	—	67	616	40	—
Industrial truck and tractor operators.....	514	499	9	31	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	483	494	9	( <sup>3</sup> )
Cleaners of vehicles and equipment.....	224	385	13	27	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	197	390	13	( <sup>3</sup> )
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand.....	1,384	456	10	210	406	11	1,173	469	10	86.6
Packers and packagers, hand.....	377	372	10	240	358	10	137	406	19	88.3
Refuse and recyclable material collectors.....	66	491	28	4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	62	501	31	( <sup>3</sup> )

— Data not available.

<sup>1</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Data not shown where base is less than 50,000.

<sup>3</sup> Data not shown where base for either the numerator or the denominator is less than 50,000.

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by State and sex, 2005 annual averages

State	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
UNITED STATES.....	103,560	\$651	\$2	45,154	\$585	\$2	58,406	\$722	\$2	81.0
Alabama.....	1,647	612	9	740	518	11	907	684	22	75.8
Alaska.....	223	784	13	98	679	17	124	866	20	78.4
Arizona.....	2,025	624	10	842	582	12	1,183	670	17	86.9
Arkansas.....	967	542	16	448	479	12	520	617	11	77.7
California.....	12,067	703	6	4,941	662	10	7,126	734	8	90.1
Colorado.....	1,690	721	12	693	639	17	997	790	28	80.9
Connecticut.....	1,241	796	26	543	679	23	698	905	21	75.1
Delaware.....	332	683	13	152	613	14	180	750	19	81.7
District of Columbia.....	228	804	18	116	770	18	112	858	35	89.8
Florida.....	6,360	604	4	2,907	544	13	3,452	655	10	83.1
Georgia.....	3,290	620	8	1,479	584	9	1,811	668	16	87.4
Hawaii.....	446	660	16	206	598	14	240	718	19	83.3
Idaho.....	474	585	12	199	501	9	276	678	16	73.8
Illinois.....	4,439	691	9	1,902	610	9	2,537	787	15	77.5
Indiana.....	2,292	632	12	980	557	13	1,313	714	16	78.1
Iowa.....	1,067	626	11	483	568	19	585	699	17	81.2
Kansas.....	973	626	11	417	558	17	556	700	17	79.8
Kentucky.....	1,404	601	10	629	530	17	775	656	19	80.7
Louisiana.....	1,501	586	9	718	488	11	783	651	16	75.0
Maine.....	441	616	11	200	545	21	241	688	20	79.3
Maryland.....	2,154	762	14	985	705	24	1,169	832	26	84.8
Massachusetts.....	2,215	755	10	989	661	12	1,225	844	20	78.3
Michigan.....	3,314	718	11	1,397	609	10	1,917	803	16	75.8
Minnesota.....	1,891	736	14	818	653	15	1,074	818	21	79.9
Mississippi.....	926	545	17	426	471	14	500	620	15	76.0
Missouri.....	2,084	622	11	931	551	19	1,153	713	20	77.3
Montana.....	305	547	13	136	477	11	169	617	11	77.2
Nebraska.....	663	615	11	294	536	17	369	675	16	79.4
Nevada.....	923	600	7	384	558	18	539	632	14	88.4
New Hampshire.....	499	727	15	211	624	15	289	839	32	74.4
New Jersey.....	3,213	772	11	1,390	671	15	1,823	860	15	78.0
New Mexico.....	636	599	10	268	544	22	368	644	24	84.4
New York.....	6,566	679	7	2,917	611	7	3,649	748	8	81.7
North Carolina.....	3,034	589	8	1,351	523	10	1,683	644	15	81.3
North Dakota.....	225	586	10	101	508	9	124	649	14	78.2
Ohio.....	3,970	653	8	1,778	571	12	2,191	730	11	78.3
Oklahoma.....	1,214	586	9	533	490	12	681	656	17	74.7
Oregon.....	1,174	634	17	499	554	20	675	731	21	75.8
Pennsylvania.....	4,445	650	8	1,960	576	8	2,485	739	11	78.0
Rhode Island.....	379	682	18	170	597	14	209	767	25	77.9
South Carolina.....	1,449	586	10	682	504	11	768	660	16	76.3
South Dakota.....	274	569	12	127	493	9	147	624	13	79.0
Tennessee.....	1,993	572	14	906	508	11	1,087	621	14	81.7
Texas.....	8,103	590	5	3,439	524	9	4,664	631	10	83.0
Utah.....	792	598	12	301	496	10	491	686	19	72.2
Vermont.....	222	650	15	99	590	15	123	709	17	83.1
Virginia.....	2,893	686	14	1,302	615	13	1,591	758	17	81.1
Washington.....	2,177	743	14	897	626	21	1,280	835	23	75.0
West Virginia.....	562	590	12	249	499	12	313	668	20	74.8
Wisconsin.....	1,974	671	14	850	558	15	1,123	789	16	70.7
Wyoming.....	186	628	13	74	481	11	112	762	20	63.1

<sup>1</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.  
NOTE: Data refer to persons 16 years and older.

Table 4. Median usual weekly earnings of part-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages

Characteristic	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
<b>AGE</b>										
Total, 16 years and older.....	22,052	\$201	\$1	15,152	\$206	\$1	6,900	\$190	\$2	108.6
16 to 24 years.....	8,129	149	1	4,687	147	2	3,443	151	2	97.3
16 to 19 years.....	4,167	121	1	2,323	119	2	1,844	124	2	95.9
20 to 24 years.....	3,963	183	2	2,364	179	3	1,599	189	3	94.9
25 years and older.....	13,923	246	2	10,466	245	2	3,457	250	4	98.0
25 to 34 years.....	3,387	242	3	2,476	239	4	911	253	7	94.5
35 to 44 years.....	3,484	265	4	2,865	263	4	619	275	10	95.4
45 to 54 years.....	2,993	269	4	2,454	266	4	539	284	11	93.8
55 to 64 years.....	2,351	239	5	1,680	238	5	670	242	9	98.0
65 years and older.....	1,708	188	4	990	173	5	717	209	7	82.9
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>										
White.....	18,618	202	1	12,868	208	2	5,751	190	2	109.6
Black or African American.....	2,046	197	3	1,373	198	4	673	195	5	101.7
Asian.....	822	204	7	541	210	8	281	190	12	110.6
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	2,500	198	3	1,620	194	3	880	206	5	94.1
<b>MARITAL STATUS</b>										
Never married.....	9,936	160	1	5,603	158	2	4,333	163	2	96.8
Married, spouse present.....	9,333	256	2	7,349	255	3	1,984	261	5	97.7
Other marital status.....	2,783	220	3	2,200	216	3	583	241	9	89.4
Divorced.....	1,505	235	5	1,172	232	6	333	250	16	92.7
Separated.....	619	215	5	464	208	6	155	243	12	85.5
Widowed.....	659	196	7	564	194	7	95	214	22	90.5

<sup>1</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African

American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.



Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of wage and salary workers by hours usually worked and sex, 2005 annual averages

Hours of work	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	
Total, 16 years and older.....	125,889	\$577	\$2	60,423	\$486	\$2	65,466	\$663	\$3	73.2
1 to 34 hours.....	19,283	206	1	13,382	212	2	5,901	195	2	108.7
1 to 4 hours.....	467	54	3	334	54	4	133	55	7	97.6
5 to 9 hours.....	1,045	65	1	745	66	2	301	64	3	103.5
10 to 14 hours.....	1,725	102	2	1,229	106	2	495	93	3	114.0
15 to 19 hours.....	2,418	137	2	1,663	143	3	755	126	4	112.9
20 to 24 hours.....	5,860	193	2	4,009	200	2	1,851	179	3	112.0
25 to 29 hours.....	2,595	233	3	1,772	239	4	824	222	4	107.6
30 to 34 hours.....	5,173	309	3	3,630	318	3	1,542	290	5	109.8
35 hours or more.....	97,242	654	2	42,794	589	2	54,448	724	2	81.3
35 to 39 hours.....	7,617	435	5	5,210	438	6	2,407	428	9	102.4
40 hours.....	68,599	605	1	31,235	567	3	37,364	643	3	88.1
41 hours or more.....	21,026	976	5	6,348	878	8	14,678	1,020	6	86.1
41 to 44 hours.....	1,310	722	13	525	669	19	784	751	5	89.2
45 to 48 hours.....	5,971	870	8	2,091	806	13	3,880	915	2	88.1
49 to 59 hours.....	9,359	1,047	9	2,726	967	12	6,633	1,086	3	89.1
60 hours or more.....	4,386	1,112	17	1,006	955	16	3,380	1,155	4	82.7
Hours vary.....	9,364	408	5	4,247	286	5	5,117	567	3	50.4
Usually less than 35 hours.....	2,769	164	3	1,770	165	4	999	161	5	102.9
Usually 35 hours or more.....	6,319	602	6	2,361	463	14	3,958	688	3	67.3

<sup>1</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

workers. Estimates for the above "hours vary" groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for a small number of multiple jobholders whose usual number of hours on the principal job is not identifiable.

NOTE: Data refer to the sole or principal job of full- and part-time

Table 6. **Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
<b>SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>						
Total, 16 years and older.....	103,560	\$310	\$429	\$651	\$997	\$1,506
Women.....	45,154	292	395	585	862	1,250
Men.....	58,406	331	476	722	1,119	1,689
White.....	84,110	317	445	672	1,021	1,541
Women.....	35,538	296	404	596	875	1,267
Men.....	48,572	340	488	743	1,145	1,739
Black or African American.....	12,388	284	367	520	768	1,122
Women.....	6,472	279	351	499	733	1,053
Men.....	5,916	292	387	559	821	1,166
Asian.....	4,651	330	483	753	1,170	1,806
Women.....	2,054	308	427	665	1,035	1,514
Men.....	2,597	359	518	825	1,341	1,917
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	14,673	276	335	471	695	1,041
Women.....	5,241	253	313	429	637	936
Men.....	9,433	285	352	489	726	1,106
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>						
Total, 25 years and older.....	92,453	331	470	696	1,048	1,559
Less than a high school diploma.....	8,861	256	311	409	576	796
High school, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	27,514	311	411	583	809	1,111
Some college or associate degree.....	25,471	351	481	670	952	1,309
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	30,607	494	705	1,013	1,524	2,115
Women, 25 years and older.....	40,443	306	417	612	900	1,297
Less than a high school diploma.....	2,878	226	279	341	441	595
High school, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	11,517	286	366	493	667	887
Some college or associate degree.....	12,103	322	425	587	801	1,088
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	13,944	463	634	883	1,242	1,735
Men, 25 years and older.....	52,010	365	511	771	1,168	1,760
Less than a high school diploma.....	5,983	282	339	455	625	879
High school, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	15,997	349	476	652	912	1,217
Some college or associate degree.....	13,368	395	547	766	1,074	1,453
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	16,662	538	781	1,167	1,756	2,414

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with a bachelor's, master's, professional, or doctoral degree.

NOTE: Ten percent of all full-time wage and salary workers earn less than the upper limit of the first decile; 25 percent earn less than the upper limit of the first quartile; 50 percent earn less than the upper limit of the second quartile, or median; 75 percent earn less than the upper limit of the

third quartile; and 90 percent earn less than the upper limit of the ninth decile. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

Table 7. Distribution of full-time wage and salary workers by usual weekly earnings and selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Total employed	Number of workers by usual weekly earnings							
		Under \$150.00	\$150.00 to \$249.99	\$250.00 to \$349.99	\$350.00 to \$499.99	\$500.00 to \$749.99	\$750.00 to \$999.99	\$1,000.00 to \$1,499.99	\$1,500.00 or more
<b>AGE AND SEX</b>									
Total, 16 years and older.....	103,560	967	2,972	10,368	19,900	25,711	17,046	15,888	10,710
16 to 24 years.....	11,108	266	961	2,838	3,591	2,410	682	287	73
16 to 19 years.....	1,699	92	293	610	473	181	37	9	3
20 to 24 years.....	9,409	174	668	2,228	3,118	2,229	645	277	70
25 years and older.....	92,453	700	2,012	7,529	16,309	23,301	16,364	15,601	10,636
25 to 34 years.....	25,013	198	640	2,513	5,476	7,156	4,277	3,236	1,517
35 to 44 years.....	27,103	169	549	2,001	4,413	6,599	4,878	4,941	3,552
45 to 54 years.....	25,650	173	455	1,850	3,964	6,133	4,699	4,818	3,558
55 to 64 years.....	12,774	98	271	892	2,055	3,031	2,282	2,367	1,778
65 years and older.....	1,913	63	96	274	400	383	227	239	231
Women, 16 years and older.....	45,154	558	1,756	5,579	10,085	11,893	7,001	5,546	2,737
16 to 24 years.....	4,711	144	502	1,284	1,527	915	243	83	14
16 to 19 years.....	694	47	144	265	185	41	6	4	1
20 to 24 years.....	4,018	96	358	1,019	1,342	873	237	80	13
25 years and older.....	40,443	414	1,254	4,295	8,558	10,978	6,758	5,463	2,723
25 to 34 years.....	10,400	103	376	1,180	2,522	3,082	1,662	1,042	433
35 to 44 years.....	11,563	104	362	1,220	2,368	3,049	1,950	1,634	876
45 to 54 years.....	11,814	108	285	1,203	2,268	3,139	2,048	1,824	939
55 to 64 years.....	5,854	62	187	558	1,196	1,531	1,001	886	433
65 years and older.....	812	39	45	133	203	177	97	76	41
Men, 16 years and older.....	58,406	409	1,216	4,789	9,815	13,818	10,045	10,342	7,973
16 to 24 years.....	6,396	123	459	1,554	2,064	1,495	439	204	59
16 to 19 years.....	1,005	45	149	344	288	139	31	6	3
20 to 24 years.....	5,391	78	310	1,209	1,776	1,356	408	198	57
25 years and older.....	52,010	286	757	3,235	7,752	12,323	9,606	10,138	7,913
25 to 34 years.....	14,612	95	265	1,334	2,954	4,074	2,615	2,193	1,084
35 to 44 years.....	15,540	65	188	781	2,045	3,550	2,928	3,307	2,676
45 to 54 years.....	13,836	65	170	646	1,696	2,994	2,652	2,994	2,619
55 to 64 years.....	6,920	36	85	334	860	1,500	1,281	1,481	1,345
65 years and older.....	1,102	24	51	140	197	206	131	163	190
<b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b>									
White, 16 years and older.....	84,110	748	2,242	7,744	15,501	20,889	14,253	13,451	9,282
Women.....	35,538	442	1,323	4,082	7,720	9,476	5,721	4,520	2,255
Men.....	48,572	306	919	3,663	7,781	11,413	8,532	8,931	7,026
Black or African American, 16 years and older....	12,388	145	534	1,939	3,110	3,219	1,617	1,298	525
Women.....	6,472	75	317	1,129	1,728	1,636	784	569	234
Men.....	5,916	70	217	810	1,382	1,584	833	730	291
Asian, 16 years and older.....	4,651	42	116	366	725	1,006	811	833	751
Women.....	2,054	24	67	206	366	490	346	344	210
Men.....	2,597	19	49	160	359	515	465	489	541
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 16 years and older..	14,673	157	734	2,897	4,249	3,393	1,545	1,159	540
Women.....	5,241	79	382	1,190	1,494	1,127	511	354	103
Men.....	9,433	77	352	1,706	2,755	2,265	1,034	805	437

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

**Table 8. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by sex, marital status, and presence and age of own children under 18 years old, 2005 annual averages**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median
<b>WOMEN</b>			
Total, all marital statuses.....	45,154	\$585	\$2
With children under 18 years old.....	16,724	574	4
With children 6 to 17 years, none younger.....	10,549	587	4
With children under 6 years old.....	6,175	539	7
With no children under 18 years old.....	28,430	591	2
Total, married, spouse present.....	23,507	619	2
With children under 18 years old.....	11,161	611	3
With children 6 to 17 years, none younger.....	6,858	611	4
With children under 6 years old.....	4,304	611	5
With no children under 18 years old.....	12,346	628	4
Total, other marital statuses <sup>1</sup> .....	21,647	531	3
With children under 18 years old.....	5,563	494	4
With children 6 to 17 years, none younger.....	3,692	531	7
With children under 6 years old.....	1,872	421	6
With no children under 18 years old.....	16,084	556	4
<b>MEN</b>			
Total, all marital statuses.....	58,406	722	2
With children under 18 years old.....	22,157	811	4
With children 6 to 17 years, none younger.....	11,937	853	7
With children under 6 years old.....	10,221	765	6
With no children under 18 years old.....	36,249	667	3
Total, married, spouse present.....	35,742	827	4
With children under 18 years old.....	20,491	830	5
With children 6 to 17 years, none younger.....	10,939	870	7
With children under 6 years old.....	9,552	787	7
With no children under 18 years old.....	15,251	822	6
Total, other marital statuses <sup>1</sup> .....	22,664	581	3
With children under 18 years old.....	1,667	623	10
With children 6 to 17 years, none younger.....	998	704	14
With children under 6 years old.....	669	527	15
With no children under 18 years old.....	20,998	578	3

<sup>1</sup> Includes never-married, divorced, separated, and widowed persons.

NOTE: Children refer to "own" children and include sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children.

Excluded are other related children such as grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins, as well as unrelated children.

Table 9. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, by selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages

Characteristic	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's <sup>1</sup>
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median hourly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median hourly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median hourly earnings	Standard error of median	
<b>AGE</b>										
Total, 16 years and older.....	75,609	\$11.19	\$0.03	37,957	\$10.31	\$0.04	37,652	\$12.16	\$0.03	84.8
16 to 24 years.....	16,374	8.07	.02	8,086	7.80	.03	8,288	8.42	.06	92.6
16 to 19 years.....	5,528	7.05	.02	2,874	6.92	.02	2,654	7.21	.03	96.0
20 to 24 years.....	10,846	8.91	.03	5,212	8.50	.07	5,634	9.20	.05	92.3
25 years and older.....	59,235	12.48	.05	29,871	11.58	.06	29,364	13.91	.04	83.3
25 to 34 years.....	16,779	11.76	.07	7,716	10.86	.06	9,063	12.17	.04	89.2
35 to 44 years.....	16,761	13.11	.05	8,387	11.84	.05	8,374	14.88	.05	79.6
45 to 54 years.....	15,419	13.48	.11	8,197	12.13	.05	7,222	15.13	.06	80.1
55 to 64 years.....	8,015	12.95	.08	4,319	11.86	.07	3,695	14.79	.14	80.2
65 years and older.....	2,261	9.93	.05	1,252	9.82	.08	1,009	10.04	.07	97.7
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>										
White.....	60,978	11.48	.06	30,078	10.50	.06	30,901	12.47	.08	84.2
Black or African American.....	9,793	10.17	.03	5,372	9.93	.04	4,421	10.90	.07	91.1
Asian.....	2,720	12.01	.09	1,437	11.64	.41	1,283	12.75	.41	91.3
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	12,527	9.95	.03	5,060	9.18	.06	7,467	10.19	.03	90.0
<b>MARITAL STATUS</b>										
Never married.....	26,288	9.14	.02	12,307	8.72	.05	13,980	9.79	.03	89.1
Married, spouse present.....	36,340	13.01	.04	17,645	11.82	.04	18,695	14.75	.09	80.1
Other marital status.....	12,982	11.79	.06	8,005	10.98	.06	4,977	13.01	.11	84.4
Divorced.....	8,229	12.30	.10	5,026	11.61	.14	3,203	14.24	.20	81.6
Separated.....	3,212	10.20	.05	1,738	9.96	.07	1,475	10.93	.16	91.2
Widowed.....	1,541	10.69	.18	1,241	10.44	.21	299	12.03	.51	86.8
<b>UNION AFFILIATION <sup>2</sup></b>										
Members of unions <sup>3</sup> .....	9,755	16.16	.11	3,635	13.98	.12	6,120	17.81	.15	78.5
Represented by a union <sup>4</sup> .....	10,586	16.02	.08	4,051	13.90	.12	6,535	17.62	.20	78.9
Not represented by a union.....	65,023	10.69	.04	33,906	10.10	.02	31,117	11.45	.08	88.2
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>										
Total, 25 years and older.....	59,235	12.48	.05	29,871	11.58	.06	29,364	13.91	.04	83.3
Less than a high school diploma.....	8,267	9.57	.11	3,245	8.21	.04	5,022	10.20	.03	80.6
High school, no college <sup>5</sup> .....	22,698	12.03	.03	10,856	10.55	.07	11,842	13.90	.05	75.9
Some college or associate degree.....	18,516	13.51	.10	10,179	12.23	.06	8,337	15.13	.05	80.8
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>6</sup> .....	9,754	16.75	.20	5,591	16.71	.24	4,163	16.78	.33	99.6

<sup>1</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

<sup>2</sup> Differences in earnings levels between workers with and without union affiliation reflect a variety of factors in addition to coverage by a collective bargaining agreement, including the distribution of male and female employees by occupation, industry, firm size, or geographic region.

<sup>3</sup> Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union.

<sup>4</sup> Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to

a union, as well as to workers who report no union affiliation but whose jobs are covered by a union or an employee association contract.

<sup>5</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>6</sup> Includes persons with a bachelor's, master's, professional, or doctoral degree.

NOTE: Workers paid by the hour account for approximately three-fifths of all wage and salary workers. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

**Table 10. Distribution of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, by hourly earnings and selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages**

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Total employed	Number of workers by hourly earnings								
		Under \$4.00	\$4.00 to \$4.99	\$5.00 to \$5.99	\$6.00 to \$7.99	\$8.00 to \$9.99	\$10.00 to \$11.99	\$12.00 to \$14.99	\$15.00 to \$19.99	\$20.00 or more
<b>AGE AND SEX</b>										
Total, 16 years and older.....	75,609	941	143	2,013	11,433	13,366	11,956	12,245	11,832	11,680
16 to 24 years.....	16,374	482	62	1,194	5,435	4,154	2,434	1,612	749	252
16 to 19 years.....	5,528	169	27	791	2,695	1,173	427	160	61	25
20 to 24 years.....	10,846	313	34	403	2,740	2,981	2,007	1,452	689	227
25 years and older.....	59,235	459	82	819	5,998	9,212	9,522	10,633	11,083	11,428
25 to 34 years.....	16,779	223	39	286	1,985	2,968	2,979	3,242	2,928	2,127
35 to 44 years.....	16,761	117	17	196	1,499	2,425	2,498	3,033	3,269	3,707
45 to 54 years.....	15,419	75	19	149	1,302	2,094	2,337	2,711	3,101	3,631
55 to 64 years.....	8,015	29	3	110	755	1,209	1,279	1,361	1,548	1,721
65 years and older.....	2,261	15	3	77	456	517	430	286	237	241
Women, 16 years and older.....	37,957	660	90	1,243	6,794	7,391	6,267	6,027	4,845	4,640
16 to 24 years.....	8,086	350	36	712	2,961	1,955	1,080	663	229	100
16 to 19 years.....	2,874	131	20	470	1,464	547	175	51	13	4
20 to 24 years.....	5,212	219	16	242	1,497	1,408	905	613	216	96
25 years and older.....	29,871	309	54	532	3,833	5,436	5,188	5,363	4,616	4,540
25 to 34 years.....	7,716	138	23	174	1,159	1,489	1,417	1,412	1,056	849
35 to 44 years.....	8,387	84	13	135	1,023	1,495	1,409	1,511	1,309	1,407
45 to 54 years.....	8,197	58	14	88	917	1,356	1,367	1,508	1,424	1,465
55 to 64 years.....	4,319	18	3	83	488	787	750	772	711	707
65 years and older.....	1,252	12	1	51	246	309	245	160	116	113
Men, 16 years and older.....	37,652	281	53	770	4,639	5,975	5,689	6,218	6,987	7,040
16 to 24 years.....	8,288	131	26	483	2,475	2,198	1,355	949	520	152
16 to 19 years.....	2,654	37	7	321	1,231	626	253	109	48	22
20 to 24 years.....	5,634	94	18	161	1,243	1,573	1,102	840	472	130
25 years and older.....	29,364	149	28	287	2,165	3,777	4,334	5,270	6,467	6,888
25 to 34 years.....	9,063	85	17	112	827	1,479	1,563	1,830	1,872	1,278
35 to 44 years.....	8,374	33	3	61	476	930	1,089	1,522	1,960	2,300
45 to 54 years.....	7,222	17	5	61	385	738	970	1,203	1,676	2,167
55 to 64 years.....	3,695	11	—	27	267	421	529	589	838	1,014
65 years and older.....	1,009	3	2	26	210	208	185	126	121	128
<b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b>										
White, 16 years and older.....	60,978	809	125	1,565	9,073	10,241	9,529	9,911	9,890	9,836
Women.....	30,078	590	81	984	5,340	5,577	4,957	4,851	3,951	3,746
Men.....	30,901	219	44	581	3,732	4,665	4,572	5,059	5,939	6,090
Black or African American, 16 years and older....	9,793	67	12	335	1,613	2,267	1,717	1,557	1,223	1,002
Women.....	5,372	36	4	193	1,016	1,333	943	766	568	513
Men.....	4,421	32	8	141	597	934	774	791	654	490
Asian, 16 years and older.....	2,720	33	4	51	374	457	380	438	425	558
Women.....	1,437	17	3	29	219	262	199	242	197	270
Men.....	1,283	16	1	22	156	195	181	196	228	288
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 16 years and older..	12,527	122	24	345	2,595	2,752	2,235	1,897	1,502	1,056
Women.....	5,060	76	14	194	1,351	1,147	855	654	470	300
Men.....	7,467	46	9	151	1,244	1,605	1,380	1,243	1,033	756

— Data not available.

NOTE: Workers paid hourly rates represent approximately three-fifths of all wage and salary workers. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not

presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

Table 11. **Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Workers paid hourly rates <sup>1</sup>				
	Total	Below prevailing Federal minimum wage	At prevailing Federal minimum wage	Total at or below prevailing Federal minimum wage	
				Number	Percent of workers paid hourly rates
<b>AGE AND SEX</b>					
Total, 16 years and older.....	75,609	1,403	479	1,882	2.5
16 to 24 years.....	16,374	720	283	1,002	6.1
16 to 19 years.....	5,528	312	179	491	8.9
20 to 24 years.....	10,846	408	104	511	4.7
25 years and older.....	59,235	683	196	880	1.5
25 to 34 years.....	16,779	306	67	373	2.2
35 to 44 years.....	16,761	169	39	208	1.2
45 to 54 years.....	15,419	134	30	164	1.1
55 to 64 years.....	8,015	42	37	79	1.0
65 years and older.....	2,261	32	24	56	2.5
Women, 16 years and older.....	37,957	944	290	1,234	3.3
16 to 24 years.....	8,086	496	153	650	8.0
16 to 19 years.....	2,874	225	93	318	11.1
20 to 24 years.....	5,212	271	60	331	6.4
25 years and older.....	29,871	447	137	584	2.0
25 to 34 years.....	7,716	185	45	229	3.0
35 to 44 years.....	8,387	122	25	148	1.8
45 to 54 years.....	8,197	93	17	109	1.3
55 to 64 years.....	4,319	26	30	56	1.3
65 years and older.....	1,252	22	20	42	3.4
Men, 16 years and older.....	37,652	459	189	648	1.7
16 to 24 years.....	8,288	223	130	353	4.3
16 to 19 years.....	2,654	86	86	173	6.5
20 to 24 years.....	5,634	137	43	180	3.2
25 years and older.....	29,364	236	60	296	1.0
25 to 34 years.....	9,063	122	22	144	1.6
35 to 44 years.....	8,374	46	14	60	0.7
45 to 54 years.....	7,222	42	13	55	0.8
55 to 64 years.....	3,695	16	7	23	0.6
65 years and older.....	1,009	10	4	14	1.4
<b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b>					
White, 16 years and older.....	60,978	1,188	349	1,537	2.5
Women.....	30,078	836	216	1,053	3.5
Men.....	30,901	352	133	485	1.6
Black or African American, 16 years and older.....	9,793	119	96	215	2.2
Women.....	5,372	57	54	111	2.1
Men.....	4,421	63	42	105	2.4
Asian, 16 years and older.....	2,720	51	14	65	2.4
Women.....	1,437	26	9	35	2.4
Men.....	1,283	25	5	30	2.3
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 16 years and older.....	12,527	210	71	282	2.2
Women.....	5,060	125	42	167	3.3
Men.....	7,467	85	29	114	1.5
<b>FULL- AND PART-TIME STATUS AND SEX <sup>2</sup></b>					
Full-time workers.....	57,385	608	143	752	1.3
Women.....	25,474	356	74	430	1.7
Men.....	31,911	252	69	321	1.0
Part-time workers.....	18,084	790	336	1,126	6.2
Women.....	12,415	583	216	799	6.4
Men.....	5,669	207	120	327	5.8

See footnotes at end of table.

<sup>1</sup> Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Percents are based on unrounded data.

<sup>2</sup> The distinction between full- and part-time workers is based on hours usually worked. These data do not sum to totals because full or part-time status on the principal job is not identifiable for a small number of multiple jobholders.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.



Table 12. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (2005) dollars by sex and age, 1979-2005 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and older	16 to 24 years			25 years and older					
		Total	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	Total	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and older
<b>BOTH SEXES</b>										
1979.....	\$601	\$429	\$359	\$464	\$661	\$637	\$699	\$689	\$652	\$494
1980.....	587	420	346	449	642	618	677	667	639	456
1981.....	581	411	331	437	632	607	667	656	633	455
1982.....	586	404	318	427	634	603	686	669	631	490
1983.....	582	392	304	414	638	597	687	682	643	484
1984.....	583	388	302	413	647	600	696	689	654	486
1985.....	595	387	301	415	655	604	702	693	659	513
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	610	394	303	422	665	612	712	707	674	507
1987.....	614	398	305	425	662	613	715	704	666	509
1988.....	611	395	310	421	657	607	713	718	664	512
1989.....	606	394	310	420	650	599	718	718	655	507
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	597	390	303	413	650	590	705	708	662	498
1991.....	595	388	298	407	653	581	696	709	656	533
1992.....	601	377	290	395	653	575	686	713	659	516
1993.....	610	375	284	395	653	580	688	720	654	522
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	609	373	288	390	651	573	700	738	653	501
1995.....	609	372	293	389	649	574	700	740	654	495
1996.....	608	369	297	386	645	574	692	736	663	476
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	611	372	306	390	655	584	702	737	677	477
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	625	382	320	405	684	600	714	742	709	484
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	643	400	330	425	693	606	715	763	708	473
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	653	409	337	434	690	622	708	758	702	525
2001.....	657	414	336	435	695	636	724	765	703	538
2002.....	660	413	331	433	702	641	726	766	732	545
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	658	411	330	426	703	630	730	767	751	547
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	659	403	319	419	706	624	737	767	748	579
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	651	397	318	411	696	610	731	748	742	569
<b>WOMEN</b>										
1979.....	454	384	329	402	486	496	488	479	471	425
1980.....	451	375	325	392	477	489	481	468	459	392
1981.....	449	370	316	392	478	490	487	461	455	387
1982.....	463	372	306	390	493	500	501	488	474	409
1983.....	468	367	294	385	498	505	505	491	478	394
1984.....	474	364	289	382	506	509	522	499	483	391
1985.....	480	364	287	382	512	512	531	505	492	419
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	494	372	289	394	525	520	543	525	503	435
1987.....	498	372	282	397	527	519	553	532	506	429
1988.....	499	373	292	399	531	518	561	538	503	443
1989.....	498	374	299	396	533	517	562	542	506	444
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	502	368	287	389	535	516	566	547	504	435
1991.....	512	372	286	392	541	518	570	556	507	446
1992.....	518	364	279	382	545	521	570	569	513	448
1993.....	523	363	273	385	552	525	579	585	525	445
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	520	359	276	378	549	518	584	587	519	439
1995.....	516	350	273	370	544	513	577	590	513	449
1996.....	518	352	276	370	550	515	574	596	521	414
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	523	354	291	372	560	518	585	600	525	422
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	546	365	298	382	580	540	595	617	570	419
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	554	379	312	402	582	551	589	626	576	433
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	559	391	320	415	585	559	590	640	576	445
2001.....	565	389	318	414	598	565	603	648	591	431
2002.....	575	398	320	418	617	575	620	653	623	467
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	586	394	318	411	620	580	627	646	638	462
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	592	387	303	404	619	580	628	646	635	494
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	585	381	304	396	612	573	621	644	639	492

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 12. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (2005) dollars by sex and age, 1979-2005 annual averages—Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and older	16 to 24 years			25 years and older					
		Total	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	Total	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and older
<b>MEN</b>										
1979.....	\$727	\$489	\$386	\$526	\$783	\$737	\$837	\$842	\$779	\$546
1980.....	701	467	363	502	761	705	823	822	773	513
1981.....	696	448	344	486	761	696	814	812	773	546
1982.....	706	436	329	473	762	693	818	811	773	582
1983.....	704	415	312	449	756	689	822	825	774	573
1984.....	701	414	312	448	755	684	843	840	786	586
1985.....	704	416	316	447	766	681	842	846	809	635
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	713	418	316	449	787	683	848	860	824	609
1987.....	712	422	322	451	784	676	838	854	813	624
1988.....	712	414	325	442	773	667	820	870	806	626
1989.....	711	412	318	441	760	659	824	864	792	598
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	697	408	316	432	742	651	812	857	791	583
1991.....	690	399	306	419	732	641	805	857	788	653
1992.....	683	387	298	406	731	636	793	864	790	574
1993.....	679	383	293	403	738	633	792	869	779	600
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	681	383	297	400	751	625	805	874	786	575
1995.....	685	386	311	401	748	623	794	871	792	561
1996.....	690	381	311	398	743	618	784	865	796	592
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	702	385	318	410	746	625	790	865	811	548
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	716	399	337	427	764	651	810	875	836	577
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	724	417	341	444	782	676	822	893	849	551
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	726	425	347	447	786	678	825	874	833	592
2001.....	739	431	352	450	794	680	831	881	838	623
2002.....	737	425	339	445	795	681	825	876	871	633
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	737	423	341	438	790	667	823	885	878	649
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	736	413	328	430	787	660	830	885	870	662
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	722	409	330	422	771	644	822	853	855	644
<b>WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S<sup>2</sup></b>										
1979.....	62.5	78.5	85.2	76.5	62.1	67.4	58.3	56.9	60.5	77.8
1980.....	64.3	80.1	89.5	78.0	62.7	69.4	58.4	56.9	59.4	76.5
1981.....	64.5	82.6	91.8	80.7	62.7	70.4	59.9	56.8	59.9	70.9
1982.....	65.5	85.3	92.8	82.5	64.7	72.1	61.2	60.1	61.3	70.4
1983.....	66.6	88.6	94.1	85.9	65.8	73.3	61.5	59.5	61.8	68.7
1984.....	67.6	87.9	92.7	85.3	67.0	74.5	61.9	59.4	61.4	66.8
1985.....	68.2	87.5	90.8	85.5	66.9	75.1	63.1	59.7	60.9	66.0
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	69.3	88.9	91.5	87.7	66.7	76.2	64.0	61.0	61.0	71.4
1987.....	69.9	88.1	87.8	88.0	67.3	76.8	66.1	62.3	62.2	68.7
1988.....	70.1	90.0	89.8	90.1	68.7	77.7	68.4	61.8	62.4	70.8
1989.....	70.1	90.7	94.0	89.8	70.2	78.4	68.1	62.7	63.9	74.2
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	71.9	90.1	91.0	90.2	72.1	79.2	69.7	63.8	63.7	74.5
1991.....	74.3	93.3	93.5	93.5	74.0	80.9	70.8	64.9	64.4	68.4
1992.....	75.8	94.0	93.8	94.2	74.6	82.0	71.9	65.8	64.9	78.1
1993.....	77.1	94.8	93.0	95.6	74.7	82.9	73.0	67.3	67.4	74.1
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	76.4	93.7	92.7	94.5	73.1	82.9	72.5	67.1	66.1	76.3
1995.....	75.4	90.8	87.9	92.2	72.7	82.4	72.7	67.8	64.8	79.9
1996.....	75.0	92.4	88.9	92.8	74.1	83.2	73.2	68.9	65.4	70.0
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	74.5	92.1	91.4	90.6	75.1	82.9	74.0	69.4	64.7	77.1
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	76.3	91.3	88.5	89.4	75.9	83.0	73.5	70.5	68.2	72.6
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	76.5	91.0	91.3	90.5	74.4	81.5	71.7	70.1	67.8	78.7
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	77.0	92.0	92.3	92.8	74.5	82.5	71.5	73.2	69.2	75.1
2001.....	76.4	90.2	90.3	91.9	75.3	83.0	72.6	73.5	70.5	69.1
2002.....	77.9	93.7	94.5	93.9	77.6	84.4	75.2	74.5	71.5	73.8
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	79.5	93.3	93.2	94.0	78.5	87.0	76.2	73.0	72.6	71.2
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	80.3	93.7	92.2	93.8	78.7	87.9	75.6	73.0	73.0	74.6
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	81.0	93.2	92.1	94.0	79.4	89.1	75.6	75.4	74.7	76.4

<sup>1</sup> The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 2006 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

<sup>2</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ

slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 13. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (2005) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979-2005 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and older	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic or Latino
<b>BOTH SEXES</b>					
1979.....	\$601	\$617	\$496	—	\$483
1980.....	587	602	476	—	469
1981.....	581	595	481	—	457
1982.....	586	600	475	—	465
1983.....	582	595	486	—	464
1984.....	583	602	481	—	464
1985.....	595	615	480	—	467
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	610	630	495	—	471
1987.....	614	631	494	—	468
1988.....	611	626	498	—	460
1989.....	606	622	485	—	453
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	597	614	477	—	440
1991.....	595	619	487	—	437
1992.....	601	625	486	—	439
1993.....	610	632	491	—	440
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	609	630	484	—	423
1995.....	609	629	487	—	418
1996.....	608	626	480	—	420
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	611	630	485	—	426
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	625	652	509	—	443
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	643	671	521	—	451
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	653	669	538	\$697	452
2001.....	657	673	541	705	460
2002.....	660	677	540	715	460
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	658	676	546	736	467
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	659	679	542	732	471
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	651	672	520	753	471
<b>WOMEN</b>					
1979.....	454	459	422	—	392
1980.....	451	455	415	—	387
1981.....	449	452	422	—	389
1982.....	463	469	421	—	394
1983.....	468	473	431	—	399
1984.....	474	480	431	—	399
1985.....	480	487	437	—	397
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	494	501	449	—	411
1987.....	498	505	453	—	413
1988.....	499	505	457	—	413
1989.....	498	507	458	—	409
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	502	512	447	—	403
1991.....	512	521	451	—	409
1992.....	518	527	457	—	412
1993.....	523	533	462	—	416
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	520	532	451	—	397
1995.....	516	527	451	—	388
1996.....	518	530	449	—	392
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	523	539	455	—	386
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	546	560	478	—	403
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	554	566	479	—	407
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	559	569	487	620	416
2001.....	565	575	501	621	428
2002.....	575	594	514	615	431
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	586	602	521	635	435
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	592	603	522	633	432
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	585	596	499	665	429

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 13. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (2005) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979-2005 annual averages—Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and older	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic or Latino
<b>MEN</b>					
1979.....	\$727	\$744	\$567	—	\$547
1980.....	701	717	548	—	525
1981.....	696	717	550	—	515
1982.....	706	728	539	—	520
1983.....	704	720	546	—	510
1984.....	701	717	542	—	513
1985.....	704	722	527	—	511
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	713	737	542	—	509
1987.....	712	740	537	—	503
1988.....	712	737	551	—	488
1989.....	711	732	529	—	478
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	697	716	522	—	461
1991.....	690	707	524	—	452
1992.....	683	701	519	—	462
1993.....	679	697	521	—	460
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	681	713	522	—	447
1995.....	685	721	523	—	445
1996.....	690	719	510	—	441
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	702	722	524	—	451
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	716	735	559	—	466
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	724	748	572	—	475
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	726	750	578	\$776	472
2001.....	739	760	584	808	485
2002.....	737	762	568	821	490
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	737	759	589	819	493
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	736	756	587	828	496
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	722	743	559	825	489
<b>WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S<sup>2</sup></b>					
1979.....	62.5	61.7	74.3	—	71.7
1980.....	64.3	63.5	75.8	—	73.6
1981.....	64.5	63.1	76.7	—	75.6
1982.....	65.5	64.4	78.0	—	75.7
1983.....	66.6	65.7	78.9	—	78.3
1984.....	67.6	67.0	79.6	—	77.8
1985.....	68.2	67.4	82.8	—	77.7
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	69.3	67.9	82.7	—	80.7
1987.....	69.9	68.2	84.4	—	82.1
1988.....	70.1	68.5	83.0	—	84.6
1989.....	70.1	69.2	86.5	—	85.6
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	71.9	71.5	85.5	—	87.6
1991.....	74.3	73.7	86.1	—	90.5
1992.....	75.8	75.2	88.1	—	89.1
1993.....	77.1	76.5	88.8	—	90.4
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	76.4	74.5	86.5	—	88.8
1995.....	75.4	73.2	86.3	—	87.3
1996.....	75.0	73.8	88.1	—	89.0
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	74.5	74.6	86.8	—	85.6
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	76.3	76.1	85.4	—	86.5
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	76.5	75.7	83.7	—	85.7
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	77.0	75.8	84.2	79.9	88.0
2001.....	76.4	75.6	85.8	76.9	88.2
2002.....	77.9	78.0	90.4	74.9	88.1
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	79.5	79.4	88.4	77.5	88.3
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	80.3	79.8	88.9	76.4	87.1
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	81.0	80.2	89.2	80.6	87.7

See footnotes at end of table.

— Data not available.

<sup>1</sup> The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 2006 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

<sup>2</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: As of 2003, estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) include persons who selected this race group only; persons who selected more than one race group are

not included. Prior to 2003, persons who reported more than one race were included in the group they identified as the main race. Estimates for race groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Data for 2000-2002 are for the category Asians and Pacific Islanders. As of 2003, Asians constitute a separate category. For more information, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of *Employment and Earnings*. Data for Asians were not tabulated prior to 2000. The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 14. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older in constant (2005) dollars by sex and educational attainment, 1979-2005 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 25 years and older	Less than a high school diploma	High school, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>
<b>BOTH SEXES</b>					
1979.....	\$661	\$524	\$620	\$703	\$858
1980.....	642	498	597	681	844
1981.....	632	491	587	664	833
1982.....	634	480	585	680	848
1983.....	638	476	579	674	857
1984.....	647	471	577	683	869
1985.....	655	467	577	689	875
1986 <sup>3</sup> .....	665	473	584	696	892
1987.....	662	466	585	691	925
1988.....	657	457	583	682	928
1989.....	650	452	570	688	926
1990 <sup>3</sup> .....	650	439	559	690	924
1991.....	653	430	555	685	931
1992.....	653	424	550	661	949
1993.....	653	418	552	657	950
1994 <sup>3</sup> .....	651	401	549	650	956
1995.....	649	393	549	646	950
1996.....	645	393	549	641	940
1997 <sup>3</sup> .....	655	389	559	649	946
1998 <sup>3</sup> .....	684	403	573	667	982
1999 <sup>3</sup> .....	693	405	574	679	1,007
2000 <sup>3</sup> .....	690	410	573	676	1,010
2001.....	695	422	574	680	1,015
2002.....	702	422	581	683	1,021
2003 <sup>3</sup> .....	703	421	588	678	1,023
2004 <sup>3</sup> .....	706	414	593	682	1,019
2005 <sup>3</sup> .....	696	409	583	670	1,013
<b>WOMEN</b>					
1979.....	486	378	461	525	658
1980.....	477	367	450	518	650
1981.....	478	358	445	523	652
1982.....	493	357	457	532	672
1983.....	498	362	458	535	686
1984.....	506	357	463	545	698
1985.....	512	350	463	549	717
1986 <sup>3</sup> .....	525	353	471	561	741
1987.....	527	352	472	570	765
1988.....	531	350	472	570	769
1989.....	533	352	463	576	771
1990 <sup>3</sup> .....	535	348	456	572	776
1991.....	541	349	459	571	786
1992.....	545	349	459	556	810
1993.....	552	350	461	561	812
1994 <sup>3</sup> .....	549	335	458	551	827
1995.....	544	333	453	543	819
1996.....	550	332	452	547	814
1997 <sup>3</sup> .....	560	334	459	557	816
1998 <sup>3</sup> .....	580	338	474	570	846
1999 <sup>3</sup> .....	582	339	474	572	866
2000 <sup>3</sup> .....	585	345	477	573	857
2001.....	598	348	488	573	867
2002.....	617	353	497	590	878
2003 <sup>3</sup> .....	620	349	504	595	883
2004 <sup>3</sup> .....	619	345	504	596	888
2005 <sup>3</sup> .....	612	341	493	587	883

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 14. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older in constant (2005) dollars by sex and educational attainment, 1979-2005 annual averages—Continued

Year and sex	Total, 25 years and older	Less than a high school diploma	High school, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>
<b>MEN</b>					
1979.....	\$783	\$629	\$769	\$821	\$987
1980.....	761	600	734	803	958
1981.....	761	586	730	797	974
1982.....	762	569	725	797	975
1983.....	756	560	721	785	964
1984.....	755	551	713	797	1,005
1985.....	766	543	705	816	1,021
1986 <sup>3</sup> .....	787	546	707	826	1,051
1987.....	784	532	694	816	1,072
1988.....	773	527	692	797	1,076
1989.....	760	526	684	786	1,072
1990 <sup>3</sup> .....	742	506	665	786	1,074
1991.....	732	488	658	787	1,069
1992.....	731	479	653	757	1,079
1993.....	738	474	647	761	1,072
1994 <sup>3</sup> .....	751	446	647	765	1,077
1995.....	748	441	645	758	1,075
1996.....	743	442	640	749	1,083
1997 <sup>3</sup> .....	746	443	649	754	1,087
1998 <sup>3</sup> .....	764	458	668	770	1,123
1999 <sup>3</sup> .....	782	462	679	778	1,144
2000 <sup>3</sup> .....	786	461	670	783	1,157
2001.....	794	462	671	797	1,177
2002.....	795	457	670	794	1,184
2003 <sup>3</sup> .....	790	456	667	785	1,201
2004 <sup>3</sup> .....	787	461	666	787	1,181
2005 <sup>3</sup> .....	771	455	652	766	1,167
<b>WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S <sup>4</sup></b>					
1979.....	62.1	60.2	60.0	64.0	66.6
1980.....	62.7	61.3	61.3	64.5	67.8
1981.....	62.7	61.1	61.0	65.6	66.9
1982.....	64.7	62.8	63.1	66.7	68.9
1983.....	65.8	64.6	63.5	68.1	71.1
1984.....	67.0	64.8	64.9	68.4	69.5
1985.....	66.9	64.4	65.7	67.2	70.2
1986 <sup>3</sup> .....	66.7	64.7	66.6	67.9	70.6
1987.....	67.3	66.1	68.0	69.9	71.3
1988.....	68.7	66.4	68.3	71.5	71.4
1989.....	70.2	66.8	67.6	73.3	71.9
1990 <sup>3</sup> .....	72.1	68.8	68.6	72.8	72.2
1991.....	74.0	71.5	69.9	72.6	73.5
1992.....	74.6	72.8	70.3	73.4	75.0
1993.....	74.7	73.8	71.3	73.7	75.8
1994 <sup>3</sup> .....	73.1	74.9	70.8	72.0	76.7
1995.....	72.7	75.4	70.2	71.6	76.2
1996.....	74.1	75.2	70.7	73.1	75.2
1997 <sup>3</sup> .....	75.1	75.2	70.8	73.8	75.0
1998 <sup>3</sup> .....	75.9	73.7	70.9	74.0	75.3
1999 <sup>3</sup> .....	74.4	73.5	69.8	73.5	75.7
2000 <sup>3</sup> .....	74.5	74.9	71.2	73.1	74.1
2001.....	75.3	75.4	72.7	71.9	73.7
2002.....	77.6	77.1	74.3	74.3	74.2
2003 <sup>3</sup> .....	78.5	76.7	75.6	75.7	73.6
2004 <sup>3</sup> .....	78.7	74.9	75.6	75.8	75.2
2005 <sup>3</sup> .....	79.4	75.1	75.6	76.6	75.7

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with a bachelor's, master's, professional, or doctoral degree.

<sup>3</sup> The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 2006 and subsequent

issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

<sup>4</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 15. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (2005) dollars by sex and age, 1979-2005 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and older	16 to 24 years			25 years and older					
		Total	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	Total	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and older
<b>BOTH SEXES</b>										
1979.....	\$11.09	\$8.72	\$7.77	\$10.06	\$12.77	\$13.00	\$13.23	\$12.89	\$12.41	\$8.08
1980.....	10.84	8.35	7.25	9.64	12.46	12.71	12.93	12.70	12.11	8.01
1981.....	10.57	8.15	7.35	9.46	12.30	12.50	12.73	12.34	11.92	8.05
1982.....	10.48	7.87	7.00	9.06	12.19	12.32	12.84	12.46	11.86	8.00
1983.....	10.42	7.60	6.73	8.73	12.19	12.09	12.86	12.53	11.93	8.19
1984.....	10.45	7.49	6.55	8.64	12.25	12.12	12.85	12.68	11.86	8.30
1985.....	10.45	7.39	6.37	8.57	12.21	11.99	12.98	12.78	11.97	8.21
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.57	7.52	6.32	8.63	12.31	11.94	13.26	13.17	12.20	8.46
1987.....	10.63	7.55	6.27	8.57	12.26	11.83	13.05	12.93	12.19	8.36
1988.....	10.67	7.60	6.39	8.54	12.28	11.80	12.97	12.95	11.87	8.31
1989.....	10.64	7.54	6.43	8.61	12.09	11.62	13.03	12.81	11.90	8.25
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.50	7.49	6.53	8.58	11.85	11.47	12.79	12.76	11.64	8.35
1991.....	10.51	7.38	6.57	8.41	11.88	11.26	12.83	12.75	11.46	8.32
1992.....	10.54	7.34	6.46	8.25	11.93	11.16	12.81	13.00	11.59	8.39
1993.....	10.47	7.33	6.39	8.19	11.91	11.01	12.79	13.13	11.85	8.51
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.46	7.34	6.41	8.13	11.91	10.94	12.95	13.08	11.78	8.34
1995.....	10.41	7.39	6.42	8.18	11.92	11.09	12.76	12.90	11.71	8.48
1996.....	10.42	7.37	6.41	8.31	11.93	10.94	12.58	12.70	11.64	8.40
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.63	7.47	6.69	8.39	11.99	10.99	12.58	12.88	11.82	8.38
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.90	7.88	7.04	8.67	12.13	11.55	13.00	13.12	12.07	8.87
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.17	8.06	7.13	9.08	12.28	11.69	12.92	13.28	12.16	9.03
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.23	8.21	7.27	9.15	12.33	11.54	12.87	13.40	12.27	9.12
2001.....	11.23	8.48	7.45	9.24	12.57	11.76	13.20	13.42	12.54	9.41
2002.....	11.37	8.48	7.50	9.20	12.84	11.92	13.23	13.53	12.87	9.85
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.52	8.39	7.35	9.19	12.80	11.94	13.22	13.77	12.94	9.76
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.36	8.25	7.23	9.07	12.63	11.75	13.32	13.66	13.00	9.94
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.19	8.07	7.05	8.91	12.48	11.76	13.11	13.48	12.95	9.93
<b>WOMEN</b>										
1979.....	9.04	7.97	7.57	8.79	9.74	10.10	9.92	9.60	9.38	7.81
1980.....	8.89	7.75	7.06	8.53	9.53	9.98	9.63	9.50	9.17	7.61
1981.....	8.78	7.61	7.23	8.41	9.63	10.04	9.80	9.43	9.09	7.63
1982.....	8.95	7.35	6.90	8.14	9.76	10.08	9.86	9.62	9.32	7.64
1983.....	8.95	7.11	6.62	7.93	9.74	10.13	9.88	9.67	9.44	7.76
1984.....	8.90	7.04	6.44	7.82	9.83	10.04	10.05	9.88	9.45	7.84
1985.....	8.90	6.95	6.26	7.91	9.94	10.03	10.24	9.98	9.46	7.69
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.09	7.00	6.22	8.03	10.13	10.13	10.44	10.20	9.80	8.07
1987.....	9.21	6.94	6.10	8.05	10.14	10.10	10.44	10.32	9.92	7.98
1988.....	9.27	7.12	6.21	8.02	10.22	10.10	10.73	10.45	9.65	8.13
1989.....	9.30	7.15	6.24	7.96	10.32	10.17	10.80	10.51	9.70	7.82
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.35	7.19	6.32	8.09	10.26	10.17	10.69	10.39	9.76	7.91
1991.....	9.45	7.13	6.50	7.99	10.28	10.07	10.83	10.65	9.74	8.06
1992.....	9.50	7.06	6.41	7.89	10.46	10.18	10.91	10.84	9.84	8.16
1993.....	9.48	7.02	6.30	7.94	10.48	10.14	10.86	10.89	10.07	8.23
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.46	6.95	6.31	7.81	10.50	10.16	11.02	11.04	10.20	8.15
1995.....	9.50	6.99	6.30	7.76	10.41	10.09	10.99	11.11	10.11	8.22
1996.....	9.59	7.05	6.32	7.77	10.46	10.00	11.03	11.09	10.01	8.01
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.65	7.23	6.59	7.96	10.64	9.96	11.11	11.25	10.09	8.30
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.86	7.47	6.92	8.30	10.94	10.54	11.57	11.71	10.59	8.63
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.13	7.74	7.01	8.46	11.17	10.67	11.52	11.67	10.94	8.80
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.28	7.94	7.07	8.84	11.22	10.99	11.37	11.54	11.16	8.92
2001.....	10.62	7.99	7.29	8.82	11.25	10.96	11.51	11.97	11.45	8.98
2002.....	10.74	8.09	7.38	8.81	11.63	10.99	11.92	12.13	11.74	9.48
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.70	8.06	7.27	8.70	11.69	11.16	11.86	12.51	11.73	9.39
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.50	7.97	7.09	8.59	11.60	10.97	11.83	12.35	11.95	9.46
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.31	7.80	6.92	8.50	11.58	10.86	11.84	12.13	11.86	9.82

See footnotes at end of table.



Table 15. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (2005) dollars by sex and age, 1979-2005 annual averages—Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and older	16 to 24 years			25 years and older					
		Total	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	Total	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and older
<b>MEN</b>										
1979.....	\$14.12	\$9.76	\$7.98	\$11.60	\$16.71	\$15.93	\$17.78	\$17.73	\$16.45	\$8.91
1980.....	13.69	9.22	7.59	11.05	16.21	15.55	17.53	17.47	16.25	8.52
1981.....	13.47	8.86	7.48	10.49	15.97	15.05	17.02	17.43	16.17	8.66
1982.....	13.30	8.50	7.11	9.95	15.68	14.88	17.24	17.24	15.80	8.67
1983.....	12.88	8.16	6.84	9.40	15.47	14.41	17.15	17.05	16.27	8.85
1984.....	12.76	8.19	6.67	9.26	15.40	14.12	17.03	17.35	15.88	8.80
1985.....	12.70	8.12	6.51	9.07	15.33	13.85	16.98	17.27	15.66	8.64
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.92	8.17	6.51	9.25	15.35	13.68	17.01	17.27	16.24	8.83
1987.....	12.78	8.07	6.51	9.34	15.07	13.58	16.59	16.83	15.97	8.75
1988.....	12.56	7.99	6.58	9.20	14.88	13.34	16.22	16.96	15.46	8.77
1989.....	12.32	7.87	6.68	9.16	14.77	13.03	16.12	16.55	15.21	8.98
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.00	7.90	6.74	8.97	14.28	12.82	15.57	16.15	14.76	8.83
1991.....	12.03	7.81	6.65	8.73	13.97	12.52	15.38	16.39	14.11	8.71
1992.....	11.84	7.72	6.56	8.53	13.74	12.32	14.93	16.41	14.18	8.82
1993.....	11.80	7.66	6.49	8.44	13.55	12.11	14.86	16.17	14.59	8.93
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.75	7.67	6.51	8.57	13.43	11.88	15.01	15.79	14.43	8.67
1995.....	11.75	7.70	6.56	8.69	13.66	12.05	15.14	15.68	14.15	8.73
1996.....	11.81	7.66	6.52	8.68	13.37	12.03	14.77	15.38	13.83	8.73
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.94	7.83	6.82	8.72	13.49	12.05	14.66	15.55	14.33	8.46
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.04	8.28	7.16	9.31	14.03	12.24	14.94	15.61	14.63	9.27
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.09	8.35	7.25	9.42	14.07	12.70	14.98	16.03	14.31	9.22
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.25	8.65	7.53	9.52	13.88	12.44	14.90	15.76	14.52	9.42
2001.....	12.48	8.83	7.61	9.84	14.20	12.76	15.35	15.71	14.28	9.93
2002.....	12.64	8.74	7.63	9.64	14.17	12.91	15.16	15.64	14.53	10.62
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.62	8.64	7.45	9.55	14.06	12.75	15.00	15.85	14.96	10.39
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.41	8.48	7.39	9.37	14.20	12.43	15.09	15.61	15.02	10.23
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.16	8.42	7.21	9.20	13.91	12.17	14.88	15.13	14.79	10.04
<b>WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S<sup>2</sup></b>										
1979.....	64.0	81.7	94.9	75.8	58.3	63.4	55.8	54.1	57.0	87.7
1980.....	64.9	84.1	93.1	77.2	58.8	64.2	54.9	54.4	56.4	89.3
1981.....	65.2	86.0	96.6	80.2	60.3	66.7	57.6	54.1	56.2	88.1
1982.....	67.3	86.5	97.1	81.8	62.2	67.8	57.2	55.8	59.0	88.1
1983.....	69.5	87.1	96.9	84.4	63.0	70.3	57.6	56.7	58.0	87.6
1984.....	69.8	86.0	96.6	84.5	63.8	71.1	59.0	56.9	59.5	89.1
1985.....	70.1	85.7	96.1	87.2	64.8	72.4	60.3	57.8	60.4	88.9
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	70.3	85.8	95.5	86.9	66.0	74.1	61.4	59.1	60.3	91.3
1987.....	72.0	86.0	93.7	86.2	67.3	74.4	62.9	61.4	62.1	91.2
1988.....	73.9	89.1	94.4	87.3	68.7	75.7	66.2	61.6	62.5	92.6
1989.....	75.5	90.8	93.4	86.9	69.9	78.1	67.0	63.5	63.8	87.2
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	77.9	91.0	93.8	90.2	71.9	79.4	68.7	64.3	66.2	89.6
1991.....	78.6	91.2	97.8	91.6	73.6	80.4	70.4	65.0	69.0	92.6
1992.....	80.2	91.4	97.7	92.5	76.1	82.6	73.1	66.0	69.4	92.5
1993.....	80.4	91.6	97.2	94.1	77.3	83.7	73.1	67.3	69.0	92.2
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	80.6	90.6	97.0	91.1	78.2	85.5	73.4	69.9	70.7	94.0
1995.....	80.8	90.9	96.0	89.4	76.2	83.7	72.6	70.9	71.4	94.1
1996.....	81.2	92.0	96.9	89.5	78.3	83.1	74.7	72.1	72.4	91.7
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	80.8	92.3	96.6	91.3	78.9	82.7	75.8	72.4	70.5	98.1
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	81.8	90.3	96.7	89.1	77.9	86.1	77.4	75.0	72.4	93.1
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	83.8	92.7	96.7	89.8	79.4	84.0	76.9	72.8	76.4	95.4
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	83.9	91.8	93.8	92.9	80.8	88.3	76.3	73.2	76.8	94.6
2001.....	85.1	90.5	95.8	89.6	79.2	85.9	75.0	76.2	80.2	90.4
2002.....	85.0	92.5	96.8	91.4	82.1	85.1	78.6	77.6	80.8	89.2
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	84.8	93.2	97.6	91.1	83.1	87.6	79.0	79.0	78.4	90.4
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	84.6	93.9	95.9	91.7	81.7	88.3	78.4	79.1	79.6	92.5
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	84.8	92.6	96.0	92.3	83.3	89.2	79.6	80.1	80.2	97.7

<sup>1</sup> The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 2006 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

<sup>2</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ

slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 16. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (2005) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979-2005 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and older	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic or Latino
<b>BOTH SEXES</b>					
1979.....	\$11.09	\$11.26	\$10.27	—	\$10.19
1980.....	10.84	10.96	9.99	—	9.97
1981.....	10.57	10.64	10.07	—	9.87
1982.....	10.48	10.62	9.83	—	9.73
1983.....	10.42	10.55	9.58	—	9.48
1984.....	10.45	10.57	9.61	—	9.45
1985.....	10.45	10.57	9.53	—	9.48
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.57	10.69	9.89	—	9.63
1987.....	10.63	10.79	9.85	—	9.58
1988.....	10.67	10.81	9.76	—	9.45
1989.....	10.64	10.78	9.78	—	9.25
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.50	10.64	9.88	—	9.11
1991.....	10.51	10.66	9.80	—	9.05
1992.....	10.54	10.68	9.64	—	9.08
1993.....	10.47	10.61	9.56	—	9.09
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.46	10.58	9.52	—	9.04
1995.....	10.41	10.59	9.76	—	8.92
1996.....	10.42	10.63	9.63	—	8.90
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.63	10.79	9.73	—	8.98
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.90	11.04	10.05	—	9.49
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.17	11.41	10.37	—	9.47
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.23	11.30	10.59	\$11.41	9.68
2001.....	11.23	11.31	10.78	11.85	9.99
2002.....	11.37	11.63	10.78	11.25	10.01
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.52	11.64	10.78	11.80	10.36
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.36	11.50	10.53	11.47	10.13
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.19	11.48	10.17	12.01	9.95
<b>WOMEN</b>					
1979.....	9.04	9.05	8.87	—	8.60
1980.....	8.89	8.90	8.72	—	8.49
1981.....	8.78	8.80	8.61	—	8.42
1982.....	8.95	8.96	8.73	—	8.42
1983.....	8.95	8.95	8.79	—	8.24
1984.....	8.90	8.92	8.74	—	8.34
1985.....	8.90	8.91	8.74	—	8.36
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.09	9.12	8.81	—	8.52
1987.....	9.21	9.24	8.89	—	8.40
1988.....	9.27	9.31	8.91	—	8.38
1989.....	9.30	9.34	8.95	—	8.42
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.35	9.38	9.04	—	8.42
1991.....	9.45	9.47	9.17	—	8.38
1992.....	9.50	9.55	9.07	—	8.44
1993.....	9.48	9.53	9.15	—	8.41
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.46	9.58	9.05	—	8.36
1995.....	9.50	9.61	9.07	—	8.41
1996.....	9.59	9.67	8.93	—	8.40
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.65	9.72	9.22	—	8.28
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	9.86	9.98	9.46	—	8.64
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.13	10.23	9.54	—	8.75
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.28	10.31	10.04	11.08	8.95
2001.....	10.62	10.73	10.09	11.10	9.13
2002.....	10.74	10.79	10.26	10.97	9.27
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.70	10.74	10.51	11.34	9.42
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.50	10.55	10.26	10.92	9.34
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	10.31	10.50	9.93	11.64	9.18

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 16. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (2005) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979-2005 annual averages—Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and older	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic or Latino
<b>MEN</b>					
1979.....	\$14.12	\$14.47	\$12.21	—	\$11.97
1980.....	13.69	13.98	11.63	—	11.29
1981.....	13.47	13.77	11.92	—	11.02
1982.....	13.30	13.55	11.60	—	11.13
1983.....	12.88	13.16	11.09	—	10.82
1984.....	12.76	13.00	11.03	—	10.81
1985.....	12.70	13.14	10.65	—	10.52
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.92	13.26	11.19	—	10.55
1987.....	12.78	13.04	11.08	—	10.47
1988.....	12.56	12.79	11.01	—	10.33
1989.....	12.32	12.60	10.77	—	10.13
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.00	12.41	10.70	—	9.79
1991.....	12.03	12.35	10.60	—	9.64
1992.....	11.84	12.14	10.41	—	9.55
1993.....	11.80	12.08	10.21	—	9.48
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.75	12.02	10.34	—	9.36
1995.....	11.75	12.26	10.39	—	9.25
1996.....	11.81	12.14	10.15	—	9.45
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	11.94	12.10	10.54	—	9.60
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.04	12.18	10.88	—	9.87
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.09	12.44	11.46	—	10.10
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.25	12.41	11.32	\$12.24	10.25
2001.....	12.48	12.80	11.22	13.06	10.66
2002.....	12.64	12.88	11.12	11.97	10.77
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.62	12.77	11.47	12.62	10.65
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.41	12.56	11.24	12.30	10.35
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	12.16	12.47	10.90	12.75	10.19
<b>WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S<sup>2</sup></b>					
1979.....	64.0	62.6	72.6	—	71.8
1980.....	64.9	63.6	75.0	—	75.2
1981.....	65.2	63.9	72.2	—	76.4
1982.....	67.3	66.1	75.3	—	75.7
1983.....	69.5	68.1	79.3	—	76.1
1984.....	69.8	68.6	79.2	—	77.1
1985.....	70.1	67.8	82.0	—	79.5
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	70.3	68.8	78.8	—	80.8
1987.....	72.0	70.8	80.2	—	80.3
1988.....	73.9	72.8	80.9	—	81.2
1989.....	75.5	74.1	83.2	—	83.1
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	77.9	75.6	84.5	—	86.1
1991.....	78.6	76.7	86.6	—	86.9
1992.....	80.2	78.7	87.2	—	88.4
1993.....	80.4	78.9	89.6	—	88.7
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	80.6	79.7	87.5	—	89.3
1995.....	80.8	78.4	87.3	—	90.9
1996.....	81.2	79.6	88.0	—	88.9
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	80.8	80.3	87.5	—	86.3
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	81.8	81.9	86.9	—	87.5
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	83.8	82.3	83.2	—	86.7
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	83.9	83.0	88.7	90.6	87.4
2001.....	85.1	83.9	89.9	85.0	85.7
2002.....	85.0	83.8	92.3	91.7	86.1
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	84.8	84.1	91.6	89.8	88.5
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	84.6	84.0	91.3	88.8	90.2
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	84.8	84.2	91.1	91.3	90.0

See footnotes at end of table.

— Data not available.

<sup>1</sup> The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 2006 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

<sup>2</sup> These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: As of 2003, estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) include persons who selected this race group only; persons who selected more than one race group are not

included. Prior to 2003, persons who reported more than one race were included in the group they identified as the main race. Estimates for race groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Data for 2000-2002 are for the category Asians and Pacific Islanders. As of 2003, Asians constitute a separate category. For more information, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of *Employment and Earnings*. Data for Asians were not tabulated prior to 2000. The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 17. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-2005 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Year and sex	Total wage and salary workers	Workers paid hourly rates					
		Total	Percent of total wage and salary workers	Below prevailing Federal minimum wage	At prevailing Federal minimum wage	Total at or below prevailing Federal minimum wage	
						Number	Percent of workers paid hourly rates
<b>BOTH SEXES</b>							
1979.....	87,529	51,721	59.1	2,916	3,997	6,912	13.4
1980.....	87,644	51,335	58.6	3,087	4,686	7,773	15.1
1981.....	88,516	51,869	58.6	3,513	4,311	7,824	15.1
1982.....	87,368	50,846	58.2	2,348	4,148	6,496	12.8
1983.....	88,290	51,820	58.7	2,077	4,261	6,338	12.2
1984.....	92,194	54,143	58.7	1,838	4,125	5,963	11.0
1985.....	94,521	55,762	59.0	1,639	3,899	5,538	9.9
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	96,903	57,529	59.4	1,599	3,461	5,060	8.8
1987.....	99,303	59,552	60.0	1,468	3,229	4,698	7.9
1988.....	101,407	60,878	60.0	1,319	2,608	3,927	6.5
1989.....	103,480	62,389	60.3	1,372	1,790	3,162	5.1
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	104,876	63,172	60.2	<sup>2</sup> 2,132	<sup>2</sup> 1,096	<sup>2</sup> 3,228	<sup>2</sup> 5.1
1991.....	103,723	62,627	60.4	<sup>2</sup> 2,377	<sup>2</sup> 2,906	<sup>2</sup> 5,283	<sup>2</sup> 8.4
1992.....	104,668	63,610	60.8	1,939	2,982	4,921	7.7
1993.....	106,101	64,274	60.6	1,707	2,625	4,332	6.7
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	107,989	66,549	61.6	1,995	2,132	4,128	6.2
1995.....	110,038	68,354	62.1	1,699	1,956	3,656	5.3
1996.....	111,960	69,255	61.9	<sup>2</sup> 1,863	<sup>2</sup> 1,861	<sup>2</sup> 3,724	<sup>2</sup> 5.4
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	114,533	70,735	61.8	<sup>2</sup> 2,990	<sup>2</sup> 1,764	<sup>2</sup> 4,754	<sup>2</sup> 6.7
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	116,730	71,440	61.2	2,834	1,593	4,427	6.2
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	118,963	72,306	60.8	2,194	1,146	3,340	4.6
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	122,089	73,496	60.2	1,752	898	2,650	3.6
2001.....	122,229	73,392	60.0	1,518	656	2,174	3.0
2002.....	121,826	72,508	59.5	1,579	567	2,146	3.0
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	122,358	72,946	59.6	1,555	545	2,100	2.9
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	123,554	73,939	59.8	1,483	520	2,003	2.7
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	125,889	75,609	60.1	1,403	479	1,882	2.5
<b>WOMEN</b>							
1979.....	38,129	23,329	61.2	2,070	2,644	4,714	20.2
1980.....	38,944	23,626	60.7	2,104	2,990	5,095	21.6
1981.....	39,672	24,294	61.2	2,394	2,778	5,172	21.3
1982.....	39,777	24,365	61.3	1,651	2,561	4,212	17.3
1983.....	40,433	24,989	61.8	1,492	2,603	4,095	16.4
1984.....	42,172	26,003	61.7	1,348	2,499	3,847	14.8
1985.....	43,506	26,869	61.8	1,198	2,356	3,554	13.2
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	44,961	27,863	62.0	1,192	2,125	3,317	11.9
1987.....	46,365	29,078	62.7	1,105	1,946	3,051	10.5
1988.....	47,495	29,820	62.8	1,008	1,542	2,550	8.6
1989.....	48,691	30,702	63.1	994	1,056	2,050	6.7
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	49,323	31,069	63.0	<sup>2</sup> 1,420	<sup>2</sup> 711	<sup>2</sup> 2,131	<sup>2</sup> 6.9
1991.....	49,105	30,988	63.1	<sup>2</sup> 1,582	<sup>2</sup> 1,792	<sup>2</sup> 3,374	<sup>2</sup> 10.9
1992.....	49,842	31,454	63.1	1,286	1,751	3,036	9.7
1993.....	50,626	31,937	63.1	1,133	1,534	2,667	8.4
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	51,419	33,021	64.2	1,322	1,241	2,563	7.8
1995.....	52,369	33,934	64.8	1,157	1,161	2,318	6.8
1996.....	53,488	34,418	64.3	<sup>2</sup> 1,244	<sup>2</sup> 1,106	<sup>2</sup> 2,350	<sup>2</sup> 6.8
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	54,708	35,214	64.4	<sup>2</sup> 1,843	<sup>2</sup> 1,092	<sup>2</sup> 2,935	<sup>2</sup> 8.3
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	55,757	35,680	64.0	1,794	965	2,760	7.7
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	57,050	36,233	63.5	1,426	700	2,126	5.9
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	58,427	36,777	62.9	1,170	579	1,749	4.8
2001.....	58,582	36,848	62.9	1,021	409	1,430	3.9
2002.....	58,555	36,508	62.3	997	350	1,347	3.7
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	59,122	37,093	62.7	1,062	332	1,394	3.8
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	59,408	37,133	62.5	1,013	310	1,323	3.6
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	60,423	37,957	62.8	944	290	1,234	3.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 17. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-2005 annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Year and sex	Total wage and salary workers	Workers paid hourly rates					
		Total	Percent of total wage and salary workers	Below prevailing Federal minimum wage	At prevailing Federal minimum wage	Total at or below prevailing Federal minimum wage	
						Number	Percent of workers paid hourly rates
<b>MEN</b>							
1979.....	49,400	28,392	57.5	846	1,353	2,199	7.7
1980.....	48,700	27,709	56.9	983	1,696	2,678	9.7
1981.....	48,844	27,576	56.5	1,119	1,533	2,652	9.6
1982.....	47,591	26,481	55.6	697	1,587	2,284	8.6
1983.....	47,856	26,831	56.1	585	1,658	2,243	8.4
1984.....	50,022	28,140	56.3	490	1,626	2,116	7.5
1985.....	51,015	28,893	56.6	440	1,544	1,984	6.9
1986 <sup>1</sup> .....	51,942	29,666	57.1	408	1,336	1,743	5.9
1987.....	52,938	30,474	57.6	364	1,283	1,647	5.4
1988.....	53,912	31,058	57.6	311	1,066	1,377	4.4
1989.....	54,789	31,687	57.8	379	733	1,112	3.5
1990 <sup>1</sup> .....	55,553	32,104	57.8	<sup>2</sup> 712	<sup>2</sup> 385	<sup>2</sup> 1,097	<sup>2</sup> 3.4
1991.....	54,618	31,639	57.9	<sup>2</sup> 795	<sup>2</sup> 1,114	<sup>2</sup> 1,909	<sup>2</sup> 6.0
1992.....	54,826	32,155	58.6	653	1,231	1,885	5.9
1993.....	55,475	32,337	58.3	573	1,091	1,664	5.1
1994 <sup>1</sup> .....	56,570	33,528	59.3	674	891	1,565	4.7
1995.....	57,669	34,420	59.7	542	796	1,338	3.9
1996.....	58,473	34,838	59.6	<sup>2</sup> 619	<sup>2</sup> 755	<sup>2</sup> 1,374	<sup>2</sup> 3.9
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	59,825	35,521	59.4	<sup>2</sup> 1,147	<sup>2</sup> 673	<sup>2</sup> 1,820	<sup>2</sup> 5.1
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	60,973	35,761	58.7	1,039	628	1,667	4.7
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	61,914	36,073	58.3	768	446	1,214	3.4
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	63,662	36,720	57.7	582	319	901	2.5
2001.....	63,647	36,544	57.4	497	247	744	2.0
2002.....	63,272	36,000	56.9	582	217	799	2.2
2003 <sup>1</sup> .....	63,236	35,853	56.7	493	213	706	2.0
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	64,145	36,806	57.4	470	210	680	1.8
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	65,466	37,652	57.5	459	189	648	1.7

<sup>1</sup> The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 2006 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

<sup>2</sup> Data for 1990-91 and 1996-97 reflect changes in the minimum wage

that took place in those years.

NOTE: The prevailing Federal minimum wage was \$2.90 in 1979, \$3.10 in 1980, and \$3.35 in 1981-89. The minimum wage rose to \$3.80 in April 1990, to \$4.25 in April 1991, to \$4.75 in October 1996, and to \$5.15 in September 1997. See Technical Note for more information about minimum wage workers.

## Technical Note

The estimates in this report were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides a wide range of information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau using a national sample of about 60,000 households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The earnings data are collected from one-fourth of the CPS monthly sample.

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### Concepts and definitions

The principal concepts and definitions used in connection with the earnings data in this report are described below.

*Usual weekly earnings.* Data are collected on wages and salaries before taxes and other deductions, and include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received (at the principal job in the case of multiple jobholders). Self-employed workers are excluded, regardless of whether their businesses are incorporated. Prior to 1994, respondents were asked how much they usually earned per week. Since January 1994, respondents have been asked to identify the easiest way for them to report earnings (hourly, weekly, biweekly, twice monthly, monthly, annually, other) and how much they usually earn in the reported period. Earnings reported on a basis other than weekly are converted to a weekly equivalent. The term “usual” is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of usual, interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

*Medians (and quantiles) of weekly earnings.* Most of the earnings estimates shown in this report are medians. The median (or upper limit of the second quartile) is the amount that divides a given earnings distribution into two equal groups, one having earnings above the median, and the other having earnings below the median. Ten percent of workers in a given distribution have earnings below the upper limit of the first decile (90 percent have higher earnings); 25 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the first quartile (75 percent have higher earnings); 75 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the third quartile (25 percent have higher earnings); and 90 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the ninth decile (10 percent have higher earnings).

The BLS estimating procedure for determining the median of an earnings distribution places each reported or calculated

weekly earnings value into a \$50-wide interval that is centered on a multiple of \$50. The actual value of the median is estimated through the linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians (and quantile boundaries) for specific groups may not necessarily be consistent with the movements estimated for the overall quantile boundary. The most common reasons for this possible anomaly are:

- There could be a change in the relative weights of the subgroups. For example, the medians of both 16- to 24-year-olds and those 25 years and older may rise, but if the lower earning 16-to-24 age group accounts for a greatly increased share of the total, the overall median could actually fall.
- There could be a large change in the shape of the distribution of reported earnings, particularly near a quantile boundary. This could be caused by survey observations that are clustered at rounded values, for example, \$250, \$300, or \$400. An estimate lying in a \$50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster, or “spike,” tends to change more slowly than one in other intervals. For example, medians measure the central tendency of a multi-peaked distribution that shifts over time. As the distribution shifts, the median does not necessarily move at the same rate. Specifically, the median takes relatively more time to move through a frequently reported interval but, once above the upper limit of such an interval, it can move relatively quickly to the next frequently reported earnings interval. BLS procedures for estimating medians (and other quantile boundaries) mitigate such irregular movements of the measures; however, users should be cautious of these effects when evaluating short-term changes in the medians and in ratios of the medians.

*Constant dollars.* The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. BLS has made numerous improvements to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the past quarter-century. While these improvements make the present and future CPI more accurate, historical price index series are not adjusted to reflect the improvements. Because many researchers need a historical series that measures price change consistently over the entire period, the CPI-U-RS provides an estimate of the CPI that incorporates most of the methodological improvements made since 1978 into the entire series. For further information, see “CPI research series using current methods, 1978-98” by Kenneth J. Stewart and Stephen B. Reed, *Monthly Labor Review*, June 1999, pp. 29-38; and “Questions and Answers: Consumer Price Index Research Series Using Current Methods” on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cpi/cpirsdc.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cpi/cpirsdc.htm).

This report uses the most recent version of the CPI-U-RS available at the time of production. Users should note, however, that the CPI-U-RS is subject to periodic revision. As a result, the rate of inflation incorporated into the constant-dollar earnings estimates in this report may differ from that in previous reports in this series or in other publications.

*Wage and salary workers.* These are workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. The group includes employees in both the private and public sectors but, for purposes of the earnings series, excludes all self-employed persons, whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

*Full-time workers.* Workers who usually work 35 hours or more per week at their sole or principal job are defined as working full time for estimates of earnings.

*Part-time workers.* Workers who usually work fewer than 35 hours per week at their sole or principal job are defined as working part time for estimates of earnings.

*Workers paid by the hour.* Workers who are paid an hourly wage make up approximately three-fifths of all wage and salary workers. Workers paid by the hour are, therefore, included in the full- and part-time worker tables in this report, along with salaried workers and other workers not paid by the hour. (Data for workers paid at hourly rates are presented separately in tables 9 to 11 and 15 to 17.)

*Workers paid at or below the Federal minimum wage.* The estimates of the numbers of workers with reported earnings at or below the Federal minimum wage in tables 11 and 17 pertain only to workers who are paid hourly rates. Salaried workers and other workers who are not paid by the hour are not included, even though some have earnings that, when converted to hourly rates, are at or below the minimum wage. Consequently, the estimates presented in this report likely understate the actual number of workers with hourly earnings at or below the minimum wage. Research has shown, however, that the degree of understatement is small. BLS does not routinely estimate hourly earnings for workers not paid by the hour because of data quality concerns associated with such an estimation process.

The prevailing Federal minimum wage was: \$2.90 effective

January 1979; \$3.10 effective January 1980; \$3.35 effective January 1981; \$3.80 effective April 1990; \$4.25 effective April 1991; \$4.75 effective October 1996; and \$5.15 effective September 1997. Data for 1990-91 and 1996-97 in table 17 reflect changes in the minimum wage that took place during those years.

The presence of workers with hourly earnings below the minimum wage does not necessarily indicate violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as there are exemptions to the minimum wage provisions of the law. In addition, some workers might have rounded their hourly earnings to the nearest dollar in response to survey questions. As a result, some might have been reported with hourly earnings below the minimum wage when, in fact, they earned the minimum wage or higher. This may be more likely to occur in years during which the minimum wage level is just above a whole dollar value, as has been the case since September 1997 (\$5.15).

### **Reliability**

Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample, rather than an entire population, is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the “true” population values they represent. The exact difference, or sampling error, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the “true” population value because of sampling error. BLS analyses generally are conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence. Estimates of earnings and their standard errors can be used to construct approximate confidence intervals, or ranges of values that include the true population value with known probabilities.

The CPS data also are affected by nonsampling error. Nonsampling error can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information, and errors made in data collection or processing.

For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and information on estimating standard errors, see the “Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error” section of *Employment and Earnings*, on the BLS Web site at [www.bls.gov/cps/eetech\\_methods.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/cps/eetech_methods.pdf).