

News

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Highlights of Richmond, VA National Compensation Survey October 2007

Workers in the Richmond metropolitan area earned an average of \$19.61 per hour in October 2007, according to new survey results from the National Compensation Survey (NCS) released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Sheila Watkins, the Bureau's regional commissioner, noted that wage data were reported for workers in a wide range of occupational groups, including average hourly earnings of \$15.76 for office and administrative support occupations and \$23.78 for healthcare practitioner and technical occupations. Another occupational group, computer and mathematical science, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$33.38. The NCS data available for the Richmond area include earnings for 21 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Customer service representatives, part of the office and administrative support occupational group, earned \$17.22 per hour, while stock clerks and order fillers earned \$9.97. Within the healthcare practitioner and technical occupational group, registered nurses were paid \$27.89 per hour and licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses earned \$18.82. Computer programmers, an occupation within the computer and mathematical science group, registered an average hourly rate of \$35.57.

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$20.97 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$10.47. Union workers earned \$20.53 and non-union workers, \$19.55. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$17.37 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$20.32, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$22.82.

The occupational wage data available from NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. NCS results also include the work level and respective earnings for occupations determined by a point factor leveling process. The four occupational leveling factors are: knowledge, job controls and complexity, contacts, and physical environment. Details on the NCS are available at www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm.

The NCS data reported here covered 395 establishments with one or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. Agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government were excluded from the survey. This sample of establishments represented 564,000 workers in the Richmond Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which comprises Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Petersburg, and Richmond Cities and Amelia, Caroline, Charles City, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, King and Queen, King William, Louisa, New Kent, Powhatan, Price George, and Sussex Counties in Virginia.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Richmond, VA National Compensation Survey October 2007 which is available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey data, as well as other Bureau data, contact the Mid-Atlantic Information Office by calling (215) 597-3282 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Richmond, VA, October 2007**

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All workers	\$19.61	3.9	\$20.97	3.6	\$10.47	5.1
Management occupations	38.36	10.0	38.36	10.0	—	—
Computer and information systems managers	55.06	14.7	55.06	14.7	—	—
Financial managers	48.64	20.0	48.64	20.0	—	—
Business and financial operations occupations	28.96	10.1	28.96	10.1	—	—
Management analysts	26.32	19.6	26.32	19.6	—	—
Accountants and auditors	27.02	8.1	27.02	8.1	—	—
Computer and mathematical science occupations	33.38	5.6	34.03	5.7	—	—
Computer programmers	35.57	5.0	35.57	5.0	—	—
Computer software engineers	35.98	4.9	35.98	4.9	—	—
Computer systems analysts	41.37	9.5	41.37	9.5	—	—
Architecture and engineering occupations	41.84	12.1	41.84	12.1	—	—
Engineers	46.41	9.8	46.41	9.8	—	—
Life, physical, and social science occupations	22.94	5.5	24.20	2.9	—	—
Community and social services occupations	20.67	7.3	20.65	7.5	—	—
Counselors	22.65	9.7	22.65	9.7	—	—
Legal occupations	33.73	26.6	33.73	26.6	—	—
Education, training, and library occupations	27.00	1.7	27.43	2.0	14.16	9.4
Postsecondary teachers	30.84	7.9	30.82	8.0	—	—
Miscellaneous postsecondary teachers	29.62	1.3	—	—	—	—
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	27.89	1.9	28.05	2.1	—	—
Elementary and middle school teachers	28.24	4.8	28.48	5.5	—	—
Elementary school teachers, except special education	27.80	4.5	28.07	5.1	—	—
Secondary school teachers	28.31	1.2	28.47	.6	—	—
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	28.31	1.2	28.47	.6	—	—
Special education teachers	26.36	1.9	26.36	1.9	—	—
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	21.55	4.1	20.12	3.5	—	—
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	23.78	9.7	23.68	11.8	24.44	10.0
Registered nurses	27.89	4.7	27.82	5.3	28.11	5.6
Therapists	32.59	15.3	—	—	—	—
Health diagnosing and treating practitioner support technicians	13.35	17.6	—	—	—	—
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	18.82	5.0	18.84	2.5	—	—
Healthcare support occupations	12.40	16.3	13.36	14.5	9.25	10.7
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	10.74	4.5	11.37	1.3	9.27	12.4
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	11.29	2.4	11.39	1.6	—	—
Miscellaneous healthcare support occupations	13.65	19.8	14.45	18.0	—	—
Protective service occupations	17.13	10.3	17.31	10.5	—	—
Police officers	22.25	7.8	22.25	7.8	—	—
Police and sheriff's patrol officers	22.25	7.8	22.25	7.8	—	—
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers	11.20	3.9	—	—	—	—
Security guards	11.20	3.9	—	—	—	—
Food preparation and serving related occupations	7.86	2.8	9.33	4.1	6.72	4.9
Cooks	9.47	4.7	—	—	8.52	3.5
Cooks, restaurant	10.06	7.4	—	—	—	—
Food service, tipped	6.74	11.9	7.86	20.8	5.09	14.1
Waiters and waitresses	3.35	33.7	—	—	4.08	13.5
Dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender helpers	7.58	12.0	—	—	—	—
Fast food and counter workers	7.31	7.3	10.22	13.7	6.50	5.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Richmond, VA, October 2007** — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Food preparation and serving related occupations —Continued						
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	\$6.90	3.7	—	—	\$6.50	5.3
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	12.75	16.0	\$13.04	17.3	9.07	2.4
Building cleaning workers	10.32	2.9	10.38	3.0	—	—
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	11.45	3.1	11.54	3.3	—	—
Maids and housekeeping cleaners	8.94	1.3	8.94	1.4	—	—
Grounds maintenance workers	11.11	3.8	11.51	4.2	—	—
Landscaping and groundskeeping workers	11.31	5.2	11.51	4.2	—	—
Personal care and service occupations	9.31	15.7	—	—	8.46	8.4
Sales and related occupations	19.16	16.9	21.87	18.9	8.97	8.1
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers	26.17	17.8	26.17	17.8	—	—
Retail sales workers	11.91	8.4	13.70	6.6	8.99	8.9
Cashiers, all workers	9.02	7.3	10.69	10.3	7.86	3.0
Cashiers	9.02	7.3	10.69	10.3	7.86	3.0
Retail salespersons	13.16	10.1	14.16	5.5	10.40	22.9
Securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents	105.28	39.7	105.28	39.7	—	—
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	22.04	14.6	22.04	14.6	—	—
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing, except technical and scientific products	22.10	14.6	22.10	14.6	—	—
Office and administrative support occupations	15.76	2.5	16.25	2.5	12.26	5.5
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	21.97	7.3	21.97	7.3	—	—
Financial clerks	14.53	3.8	14.86	4.2	12.52	3.6
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	14.79	4.3	14.97	4.5	—	—
Tellers	11.58	5.9	—	—	—	—
Customer service representatives	17.22	8.6	17.56	9.1	14.09	20.2
Receptionists and information clerks	13.14	14.2	13.76	15.9	—	—
Stock clerks and order fillers	9.97	7.1	—	—	8.26	2.7
Secretaries and administrative assistants	18.45	5.5	18.98	4.8	—	—
Executive secretaries and administrative assistants	19.09	7.0	19.35	7.5	—	—
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	13.01	10.7	—	—	—	—
Insurance claims and policy processing clerks	16.35	7.2	16.35	7.2	—	—
Mail clerks and mail machine operators, except postal service	10.99	9.6	—	—	—	—
Office clerks, general	14.85	5.1	15.55	5.0	12.11	9.7
Construction and extraction occupations	16.92	6.8	16.92	6.8	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	20.69	4.1	20.69	4.1	—	—
Automotive technicians and repairers	21.33	12.5	21.33	12.5	—	—
Automotive service technicians and mechanics	21.02	14.8	21.02	14.8	—	—
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	18.97	14.2	18.97	14.2	—	—
Industrial machinery mechanics	24.16	3.5	24.16	3.5	—	—
Maintenance workers, machinery	24.01	9.1	24.01	9.1	—	—
Production occupations	16.61	6.2	16.79	6.2	10.93	15.7
First-line supervisors/managers of production and operating workers	27.43	19.2	27.43	19.2	—	—
Miscellaneous assemblers and fabricators	11.80	14.7	12.58	12.1	—	—
Printers	18.20	23.0	18.20	23.0	—	—
Miscellaneous production workers	14.20	17.3	14.38	18.3	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations	14.14	3.8	15.29	3.4	10.27	4.8
Bus drivers	14.02	8.1	—	—	—	—
Bus drivers, school	14.02	8.1	—	—	—	—
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	14.53	4.4	15.13	2.2	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Richmond, VA, October 2007** — Continued

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	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Transportation and material moving occupations						
—Continued						
Truck drivers, heavy and tractor-trailer	\$15.15	2.8	\$15.17	2.8	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor operators	14.51	3.9	14.87	3.1	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	11.54	6.7	12.49	8.1	\$10.16	5.1
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	12.41	9.2	13.77	6.2	10.18	12.0
Packers and packagers, hand	8.75	5.4	—	—	—	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

³ Workers are classified by occupation using the 2000 Standard

Occupational Classification (SOC) system. See appendix B for more information.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Compensation Survey.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria. Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.