



NEWS RELEASE



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HIGHLIGHTS OF BANGOR NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY – DECEMBER 2009

Workers in the Bangor metropolitan area earned an average of \$17.63 per hour in December 2009, according to the National Compensation Survey (NCS), the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported today. Regional Commissioner Denis M. McSweeney noted that wage data were reported for workers in a wide range of occupational groups, including average hourly earnings of \$39.27 for healthcare practitioner and technical occupations and \$12.02 for healthcare support occupations. Another occupational group, sales and related, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$11.90. The NCS data available for the Bangor area included earnings for 15 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Registered nurses, part of the healthcare practitioner and technical occupational group, earned \$29.88 per hour. Within the healthcare support occupations group, nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants averaged \$11.37 per hour. Retail salespersons, an occupation within the sales and related occupations group, registered an average hourly wage of \$10.69.

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$19.21 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$11.67. Union workers averaged \$20.81 and non-union workers, \$16.62. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$14.43 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers \$18.06, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$27.99.

The occupational wage data available from NCS may be used by business 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 102 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 65,600 workers in the Bangor, ME Metropolitan Statistical Area which is comprised of Penobscot County.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are obtained in the Bangor, ME National Compensation Survey December 2009 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 New England Information Office by calling (617) 565-2327 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Bangor, ME, December 2009**

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All workers	\$17.63	3.7	\$19.21	3.9	\$11.67	4.5
Management occupations	26.23	5.9	26.70	6.0	–	–
Community and social services occupations	19.61	5.6	18.64	4.6	–	–
Social workers	19.10	6.3	17.65	3.8	–	–
Education, training, and library occupations	26.65	7.1	29.09	6.7	13.26	8.9
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	30.65	7.6	34.62	3.4	–	–
Elementary and middle school teachers	33.75	5.2	36.89	4.3	–	–
Elementary school teachers, except special education	33.11	11.2	37.03	.6	–	–
Teacher assistants	12.16	1.1	12.09	1.3	–	–
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	39.27	7.4	–	–	29.12	4.7
Registered nurses	29.88	3.9	29.47	3.6	30.94	5.1
Healthcare support occupations	12.02	6.2	13.11	11.8	10.67	3.3
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	10.87	2.3	–	–	10.22	.5
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	11.37	4.4	–	–	–	–
Protective service occupations	12.38	9.2	13.23	9.9	–	–
Food preparation and serving related occupations	10.57	4.1	12.64	9.5	6.48	14.5
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	10.52	4.6	11.74	6.6	–	–
Building cleaning workers	10.16	3.4	11.11	4.5	–	–
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	11.13	5.1	11.32	6.2	–	–
Personal care and service occupations	10.29	3.0	–	–	8.79	11.2
Sales and related occupations	11.90	4.9	13.24	6.4	9.51	3.2
First-line supervisors/managers, sales workers	15.95	4.0	15.95	4.0	–	–
First-line supervisors/managers of retail sales workers	15.95	4.0	15.95	4.0	–	–
Retail sales workers	10.15	.6	10.97	1.7	9.31	2.5
Cashiers, all workers	9.49	2.9	–	–	9.13	1.2
Cashiers	9.49	2.9	–	–	9.13	1.2
Retail salespersons	10.69	2.9	–	–	10.02	5.4
Office and administrative support occupations	14.00	3.1	14.47	4.0	10.51	6.8
Financial clerks	13.72	8.0	13.72	8.0	–	–
Secretaries and administrative assistants	14.36	2.0	14.61	2.2	–	–

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Bangor, ME, December 2009** — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Office and administrative support occupations —Continued						
Secretaries and administrative assistants —Continued						
Medical secretaries	14.43	7.7	14.66	6.7	—	—
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	13.68	9.8	—	—	—	—
Construction and extraction occupations	18.23	4.8	18.23	4.8	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	21.73	10.3	21.73	10.3	—	—
Production occupations	18.54	9.9	18.54	9.9	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations	15.36	20.1	16.62	21.5	\$12.09	8.2
Bus drivers	13.47	5.6	—	—	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	9.93	7.3	—	—	—	—

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

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

³ Workers are classified by occupation using the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system.

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

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Compensation Survey.

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