



NEWS RELEASE



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HIGHLIGHTS OF SPRINGFIELD, MA NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY – OCTOBER 2009

Workers in the Springfield metropolitan area earned an average of \$22.53 per hour in October 2009, the National Compensation Survey (NCS) of 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 \$39.93 for healthcare practitioner and technical occupations and \$17.65 for sales and related occupations. Another occupational group, building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$13.36. The NCS data available for the Springfield area include earnings for 18 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Registered nurses, part of the healthcare practitioner and technical occupations group, earned \$35.69 per hour. Within the building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupational group, janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners averaged \$13.56 per hour. Retail salespersons, an occupation within the sales and related occupations group, registered an average hourly wage of \$11.83 and cashiers earned \$9.44 per hour.

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$25.53 per hour while their part-time counterparts earned \$12.11. Union workers averaged \$26.68 and non-union workers, \$21.27. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$18.48 per hour, those in establishment with 100-499 workers earned \$22.48, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$31.29.

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 110 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 255,700 workers in the Springfield Metropolitan Statistical Area which is comprised of Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire Counties in Massachusetts.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are obtained in the Springfield, MA National Compensation Survey October 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, Springfield, MA, October 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	\$22.53	4.2	\$25.53	4.7	\$12.11	5.9
Management occupations	38.61	10.1	38.60	10.1	—	—
Education administrators	45.26	10.2	45.27	10.2	—	—
Education administrators, postsecondary	47.05	12.0	47.05	12.0	—	—
Business and financial operations occupations	35.45	15.9	35.86	16.7	—	—
Accountants and auditors	30.79	8.9	31.23	9.3	—	—
Computer and mathematical science occupations	40.53	10.0	41.17	10.0	—	—
Architecture and engineering occupations	34.45	5.6	34.45	5.6	—	—
Engineers	36.29	4.7	36.29	4.7	—	—
Community and social services occupations	28.44	23.2	—	—	—	—
Education, training, and library occupations	44.14	5.7	45.15	5.7	24.05	6.1
Postsecondary teachers	66.65	4.5	67.69	3.9	28.83	5.5
Social sciences teachers, postsecondary	60.43	4.0	60.49	4.0	—	—
Arts, communications, and humanities teachers, postsecondary	89.99	14.9	89.99	14.9	—	—
Miscellaneous postsecondary teachers	40.31	4.2	—	—	—	—
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	43.40	4.3	44.85	1.5	—	—
Elementary and middle school teachers	42.79	7.9	45.85	1.2	—	—
Elementary school teachers, except special education	41.88	8.4	45.72	.1	—	—
Secondary school teachers	43.74	1.2	43.74	1.2	—	—
Secondary school teachers, except special and vocational education	43.74	1.2	43.74	1.2	—	—
Special education teachers	44.28	2.3	—	—	—	—
Teacher assistants	14.82	1.7	14.93	2.2	—	—
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	24.70	19.8	25.26	21.5	—	—
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	39.93	12.7	42.53	15.7	31.63	2.6
Registered nurses	35.69	2.3	35.83	5.4	35.46	3.5
Therapists	29.58	18.9	29.54	19.0	—	—
Healthcare support occupations	13.61	6.0	13.96	6.1	12.04	5.9
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	13.07	6.1	13.39	6.3	—	—
Protective service occupations	25.07	18.4	26.98	15.4	—	—
Security guards and gaming surveillance officers	13.29	15.1	16.01	2.0	—	—
Security guards	13.29	15.1	16.01	2.0	—	—
Food preparation and serving related occupations	9.27	6.3	15.46	11.9	6.83	2.6
Cooks	14.39	4.7	14.78	3.7	—	—
Food preparation workers	10.44	8.8	—	—	10.32	11.2
Food service, tipped	4.32	12.1	—	—	4.32	12.1
Waiters and waitresses	3.93	11.3	—	—	3.93	11.3
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	13.36	5.7	14.90	5.6	—	—
Building cleaning workers	13.29	5.8	15.23	3.9	—	—
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	13.56	7.1	15.63	2.6	—	—
Personal care and service occupations	11.18	5.0	—	—	—	—
Sales and related occupations	17.65	20.2	25.68	20.2	9.41	1.5
Retail sales workers	10.19	2.8	—	—	9.41	1.5
Cashiers, all workers	9.44	2.4	—	—	9.40	2.0
Cashiers	9.44	2.4	—	—	9.40	2.0
Retail salespersons	11.83	2.6	—	—	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Springfield, MA, October 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	\$16.88	2.9	\$17.54	4.4	\$14.54	3.2
First-line supervisors/managers of office and administrative support workers	24.86	9.7	24.86	9.7	—	—
Financial clerks	15.74	4.9	16.48	3.8	—	—
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	15.32	6.6	16.29	4.7	—	—
Customer service representatives	16.48	3.9	17.01	4.4	—	—
Receptionists and information clerks	14.61	11.7	—	—	15.19	4.8
Secretaries and administrative assistants	17.44	6.7	17.93	9.3	—	—
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	17.30	9.5	17.87	13.2	—	—
Office clerks, general	17.72	6.0	18.48	5.6	—	—
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	19.85	6.6	20.19	5.8	—	—
First-line supervisors/managers of mechanics, installers, and repairers	22.66	8.1	22.66	8.1	—	—
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	18.61	6.6	18.61	6.6	—	—
Production occupations	16.83	4.2	17.03	4.4	—	—
Miscellaneous metalworkers and plastic workers	17.18	7.8	17.18	7.8	—	—
Printers	19.49	4.0	19.49	4.0	—	—
Printing machine operators	19.49	4.0	19.49	4.0	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations	17.18	7.6	17.71	9.0	14.03	13.8
Driver/sales workers and truck drivers	16.00	17.4	16.00	17.4	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	12.98	6.3	—	—	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	14.54	7.5	—	—	—	—

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.