

Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers: 2009

Bureau of Labor Statistics
U.S. Department of Labor

March 1, 2010

Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers: 2009

In 2009, 72.6 million American workers age 16 and over were paid at hourly rates, representing 58.3 percent of all wage and salary workers.¹ On July 24, 2009, the Federal minimum wage increased to \$7.25 per hour from \$6.55 per hour. Data in this report reflect the average number of workers earning the prevailing Federal minimum wage or less for the calendar year 2009 (those who earned \$6.55 or less from January 2009 through July 2009 and those who earned \$7.25 or less from August 2009 through the end of the year). Among those paid by the hour, 980,000 earned exactly the prevailing Federal minimum wage in 2009. Nearly 2.6 million had wages below the minimum.² Together, these 3.6 million workers with wages at or below the minimum made up 4.9 percent of all hourly-paid workers. Tables 1-10 present data on a wide array of demographic and socioeconomic characteristics for hourly-paid workers earning at or below the Federal minimum wage. The following are some highlights from the 2009 data.

-- Minimum wage workers tend to be young. Although workers under age 25 represented only about one-fifth of hourly-paid workers, they made up about half of those paid the Federal minimum wage or less. Among employed teenagers paid by the hour, nearly 19 percent earned the minimum wage or less, compared with about 3 percent of workers age 25 and over. (See table 1 and table 7.)

-- About 6 percent of women paid hourly rates had wages at or below the prevailing Federal minimum, compared with about 4 percent of men. (See table 1.)

-- The percentage of workers earning the minimum wage did not vary much across the major race and ethnicity groups. About 5 percent of white, black, and Hispanic hourly-paid workers earned the Federal minimum wage or less. Among Asian hourly-paid workers, about 4 percent earned the minimum wage or less. (See table 1.)

-- Among hourly-paid workers age 16 and over, about 10 percent of those who had less than a high school diploma earned the Federal minimum wage or less, compared with about 4 percent of those who had a high school diploma (with no college) and about 3 percent of college graduates. (See table 6.)

-- Never-married workers, who tend to be young, were more likely than married workers to earn the Federal minimum wage or less (about 9 percent versus about 3 percent). (See table 8.)

-- Part-time workers (persons who usually work less than 35 hours per week) were more likely than their full-time counterparts to be paid the Federal minimum wage or less (about 11 percent versus about 2 percent). (See table 1 and table 9.)

-- By major occupational group, the highest proportion of workers earning at or below the Federal minimum wage was in service occupations, about 13 percent. About 6 in 10 workers earning the minimum wage or less in 2009 were employed in service occupations, mostly in food preparation and serving related jobs. (See table 4.)

-- The industry with the highest proportion of workers with hourly wages at or below the Federal minimum wage was leisure and hospitality (about 21 percent). About one-half of all workers paid at or below the Federal minimum wage were employed in this industry, primarily in the food services and drinking places component. For many of these workers, tips and commissions supplement the hourly wages received. (See table 5.)

-- Among the States, Texas (9 percent), West Virginia (8 percent), and Alabama (8 percent) had the highest proportion of hourly-paid workers earning at or below the Federal minimum wage. The percentage of workers earning at or below the Federal minimum wage was lowest in Oregon, Washington, and California (less than 2 percent). It should be noted that some states have minimum wage laws establishing standards that exceed the Federal minimum wage. (See table 2 and table 3.)

-- The proportion of hourly-paid workers earning the prevailing Federal minimum wage or less in 2009, at nearly 5 percent, remains well below the figure of about 13 percent in 1979, when data were first collected on a regular basis. (See table 10.)

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. These data on minimum wage earners are derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly nationwide survey of households. Data in this summary are 2009 annual averages.

¹ Data are for wage and salary workers age 16 and over and refer to earnings on a person's sole or principal job. All self-employed persons are excluded whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

² The presence of a sizable number of workers with wages below the minimum does not necessarily indicate violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as there are exemptions to the minimum wage provisions of the law. The estimates of the numbers of minimum and subminimum wage workers presented in the accompanying tables pertain to workers paid at hourly rates; salaried and other non-hourly workers are excluded. As such, the actual number of workers with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum is undoubtedly understated. Research has shown that a relatively small number and share of salaried workers and others not paid by the hour have earnings that, when translated into hourly rates, are at or below the minimum wage. However, BLS does not routinely estimate hourly earnings for non-hourly workers because of data concerns that arise in producing these estimates.

Table 1. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by selected characteristics, 2009 annual averages

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution			Percent of workers paid hourly rates			
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			At or below minimum wage		
		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage	Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage
AGE AND SEX											
Total, 16 years and over.....	72,611	3,572	980	2,592	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.9	1.3	3.6
16 to 24 years.....	14,389	1,737	508	1,229	19.8	48.6	51.8	47.4	12.1	3.5	8.5
16 to 19 years.....	4,397	818	288	530	6.1	22.9	29.4	20.4	18.6	6.5	12.1
25 years and over.....	58,222	1,835	472	1,363	80.2	51.4	48.2	52.6	3.2	0.8	2.3
Men, 16 years and over.....	35,185	1,358	368	990	48.5	38.0	37.6	38.2	3.9	1.0	2.8
16 to 24 years.....	7,045	674	214	460	9.7	18.9	21.8	17.7	9.6	3.0	6.5
16 to 19 years.....	2,053	322	121	201	2.8	9.0	12.3	7.8	15.7	5.9	9.8
25 years and over.....	28,140	684	154	530	38.8	19.1	15.7	20.4	2.4	0.5	1.9
Women, 16 years and over.....	37,426	2,215	612	1,603	51.5	62.0	62.4	61.8	5.9	1.6	4.3
16 to 24 years.....	7,344	1,064	295	769	10.1	29.8	30.1	29.7	14.5	4.0	10.5
16 to 19 years.....	2,345	496	167	329	3.2	13.9	17.0	12.7	21.2	7.1	14.0
25 years and over.....	30,082	1,151	318	833	41.4	32.2	32.4	32.1	3.8	1.1	2.8
RACE, SEX, AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY											
White ¹	58,633	2,857	763	2,094	80.7	80.0	77.9	80.8	4.9	1.3	3.6
Men.....	28,873	1,074	300	774	39.8	30.1	30.6	29.9	3.7	1.0	2.7
Women.....	29,760	1,783	463	1,320	41.0	49.9	47.2	50.9	6.0	1.6	4.4
Black or African American ¹	9,269	495	168	327	12.8	13.9	17.1	12.6	5.3	1.8	3.5
Men.....	4,038	192	50	142	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.5	4.8	1.2	3.5
Women.....	5,231	302	117	185	7.2	8.5	11.9	7.1	5.8	2.2	3.5
Asian ¹	2,718	117	21	96	3.7	3.3	2.1	3.7	4.3	0.8	3.5
Men.....	1,258	47	6	41	1.7	1.3	0.6	1.6	3.7	0.5	3.3
Women.....	1,460	70	15	55	2.0	2.0	1.5	2.1	4.8	1.0	3.8
Hispanic or Latino ¹	12,740	622	183	439	17.5	17.4	18.7	16.9	4.9	1.4	3.4
Men.....	7,291	290	80	210	10.0	8.1	8.2	8.1	4.0	1.1	2.9
Women.....	5,449	331	102	229	7.5	9.3	10.4	8.8	6.1	1.9	4.2
FULL- AND PART-TIME STATUS AND SEX											
Full-time workers ²	52,454	1,272	320	952	72.2	35.6	32.7	36.7	2.4	0.6	1.8
Men.....	28,388	579	137	442	39.1	16.2	14.0	17.1	2.0	0.5	1.6
Women.....	24,066	694	183	511	33.1	19.4	18.7	19.7	2.9	0.8	2.1
Part-time workers ²	20,027	2,281	656	1,625	27.6	63.9	66.9	62.7	11.4	3.3	8.1
Men.....	6,721	769	229	540	9.3	21.5	23.4	20.8	11.4	3.4	8.0
Women.....	13,307	1,513	428	1,085	18.3	42.4	43.7	41.9	11.4	3.2	8.2

¹ 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. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.

² The distinction between full- and part-time workers is based on hours usually worked. These data will 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: Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

Table 2. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by census region and division, 2009 annual averages

Region and division	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			At or below minimum wage		
		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage	Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage
Total, 16 years and over....	72,611	3,572	980	2,592	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.9	1.3	3.6
Northeast.....	12,767	570	104	466	17.6	16.0	10.6	18.0	4.5	0.8	3.7
New England.....	3,581	125	20	105	4.9	3.5	2.0	4.1	3.5	0.6	2.9
Middle Atlantic.....	9,186	445	84	361	12.7	12.5	8.6	13.9	4.8	0.9	3.9
Midwest.....	17,795	864	229	635	24.5	24.2	23.4	24.5	4.9	1.3	3.6
East North Central.....	12,105	555	122	433	16.7	15.5	12.4	16.7	4.6	1.0	3.6
West North Central.....	5,690	309	107	202	7.8	8.7	10.9	7.8	5.4	1.9	3.6
South.....	25,035	1,721	545	1,176	34.5	48.2	55.6	45.4	6.9	2.2	4.7
South Atlantic.....	12,726	768	216	552	17.5	21.5	22.0	21.3	6.0	1.7	4.3
East South Central.....	4,173	300	121	179	5.7	8.4	12.3	6.9	7.2	2.9	4.3
West South Central.....	8,135	652	208	444	11.2	18.3	21.2	17.1	8.0	2.6	5.5
West.....	17,014	417	102	315	23.4	11.7	10.4	12.2	2.5	0.6	1.9
Mountain.....	5,231	221	55	166	7.2	6.2	5.6	6.4	4.2	1.1	3.2
Pacific.....	11,783	196	47	149	16.2	5.5	4.8	5.7	1.7	0.4	1.3

NOTE: Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

The four major regions and nine census divisions of the United States are as follows:

Northeast:

New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont

Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania

Midwest:

East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin

West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota

South:

South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia

East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee

West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas

West:

Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming

Pacific: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington

Table 3. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by State, 2009 annual averages

State	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			At or below minimum wage		
		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage	Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage
Total, 16 years and over..	72,611	3,572	980	2,592	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.9	1.3	3.6
Alabama.....	1,065	80	34	46	1.5	2.2	3.5	1.8	7.5	3.2	4.3
Alaska.....	198	5	2	3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	2.5	1.0	1.5
Arizona.....	1,450	59	18	41	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.6	4.1	1.2	2.8
Arkansas.....	712	53	19	34	1.0	1.5	1.9	1.3	7.4	2.7	4.8
California.....	8,515	140	35	105	11.7	3.9	3.6	4.1	1.6	0.4	1.2
Colorado.....	1,137	44	5	39	1.6	1.2	0.5	1.5	3.9	0.4	3.4
Connecticut.....	866	25	2	23	1.2	0.7	0.2	0.9	2.9	0.2	2.7
Delaware.....	208	10	2	8	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	4.8	1.0	3.8
District of Columbia.....	98	4	-	4	0.1	0.1	-	0.2	4.1	-	4.1
Florida.....	3,795	215	48	167	5.2	6.0	4.9	6.4	5.7	1.3	4.4
Georgia.....	1,971	141	49	92	2.7	3.9	5.0	3.5	7.2	2.5	4.7
Hawaii.....	320	9	3	6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	2.8	0.9	1.9
Idaho.....	388	24	9	15	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.6	6.2	2.3	3.9
Illinois.....	3,057	103	21	82	4.2	2.9	2.1	3.2	3.4	0.7	2.7
Indiana.....	1,669	108	44	64	2.3	3.0	4.5	2.5	6.5	2.6	3.8
Iowa.....	897	40	15	25	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.0	4.5	1.7	2.8
Kansas.....	809	47	19	28	1.1	1.3	1.9	1.1	5.8	2.3	3.5
Kentucky.....	1,070	77	32	45	1.5	2.2	3.3	1.7	7.2	3.0	4.2
Louisiana.....	976	68	18	50	1.3	1.9	1.8	1.9	7.0	1.8	5.1
Maine.....	366	10	3	7	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	2.7	0.8	1.9
Maryland.....	1,296	67	11	56	1.8	1.9	1.1	2.2	5.2	0.8	4.3
Massachusetts.....	1,527	60	10	50	2.1	1.7	1.0	1.9	3.9	0.7	3.3
Michigan.....	2,440	104	15	89	3.4	2.9	1.5	3.4	4.3	0.6	3.6
Minnesota.....	1,454	76	27	49	2.0	2.1	2.8	1.9	5.2	1.9	3.4
Mississippi.....	644	47	18	29	0.9	1.3	1.8	1.1	7.3	2.8	4.5
Missouri.....	1,534	87	28	59	2.1	2.4	2.9	2.3	5.7	1.8	3.8
Montana.....	261	9	4	5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	3.4	1.5	1.9
Nebraska.....	550	32	10	22	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.8	5.8	1.8	4.0
Nevada.....	659	23	3	20	0.9	0.6	0.3	0.8	3.5	0.5	3.0
New Hampshire.....	364	15	4	11	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	4.1	1.1	3.0
New Jersey.....	1,696	98	8	90	2.3	2.7	0.8	3.5	5.8	0.5	5.3
New Mexico.....	470	22	2	20	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.8	4.7	0.4	4.3
New York.....	4,183	192	40	152	5.8	5.4	4.1	5.9	4.6	1.0	3.6
North Carolina.....	2,132	136	38	98	2.9	3.8	3.9	3.8	6.4	1.8	4.6
North Dakota.....	193	12	4	8	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	6.2	2.1	4.1
Ohio.....	3,282	142	20	122	4.5	4.0	2.0	4.7	4.3	0.6	3.7
Oklahoma.....	852	57	16	41	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.6	6.7	1.9	4.8
Oregon.....	949	13	3	10	1.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	1.4	0.3	1.1
Pennsylvania.....	3,307	155	36	119	4.6	4.3	3.7	4.6	4.7	1.1	3.6
Rhode Island.....	279	11	1	10	0.4	0.3	0	0.4	3.9	0.4	3.6
South Carolina.....	1,076	60	21	39	1.5	1.7	2.1	1.5	5.6	2.0	3.6
South Dakota.....	254	13	3	10	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	5.1	1.2	3.9
Tennessee.....	1,394	96	37	59	1.9	2.7	3.8	2.3	6.9	2.7	4.2
Texas.....	5,596	474	155	319	7.7	13.3	15.8	12.3	8.5	2.8	5.7
Utah.....	707	30	10	20	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.8	4.2	1.4	2.8
Vermont.....	180	5	-	5	0.2	0.1	-	0.2	2.8	-	2.8
Virginia.....	1,701	100	32	68	2.3	2.8	3.3	2.6	5.9	1.9	4.0
Washington.....	1,800	28	4	24	2.5	0.8	0.4	0.9	1.6	0.2	1.3
West Virginia.....	448	35	15	20	0.6	1.0	1.5	0.8	7.8	3.3	4.5
Wisconsin.....	1,659	98	22	76	2.3	2.7	2.2	2.9	5.9	1.3	4.6
Wyoming.....	159	8	3	5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	5.0	1.9	3.1

NOTE: Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated. These data are based on a sample and therefore are subject to sampling error; the degree of error may be quite large for less populous States. It is not possible to determine clearly whether workers surveyed in the CPS are actually covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) or by individual State minimum wage laws. Thus, some workers reported as earning the prevailing Federal minimum wage may not in fact be covered by Federal or State minimum wage laws. Also, there are a number of states that have minimum wages that exceed the Federal minimum wage. At the same time, the presence of a sizable number of workers with wages below the prevailing Federal minimum wage does not necessarily indicate violations of the FLSA or applicable State laws, because there are numerous exclusions and exemptions to these minimum wage statutes. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 4. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by major occupation group, 2009 annual averages

Occupation	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			At or below minimum wage		
		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage	Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage
Total, 16 years and over.....	72,611	3,572	980	2,592	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.9	1.3	3.6
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	14,839	141	40	101	20.4	3.9	4.1	3.9	1.0	0.3	0.7
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	4,090	32	9	23	5.6	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.2	0.6
Professional and related occupations.....	10,749	109	31	78	14.8	3.1	3.2	3.0	1.0	0.3	0.7
Service occupations.....	17,693	2,251	466	1,785	24.4	63.0	47.6	68.9	12.7	2.6	10.1
Healthcare support occupations.....	2,667	79	28	51	3.7	2.2	2.9	2.0	3.0	1.0	1.9
Protective service occupations.....	2,048	68	14	54	2.8	1.9	1.4	2.1	3.3	0.7	2.6
Food preparation and serving related occupations.....	6,652	1,594	272	1,322	9.2	44.6	27.8	51.0	24.0	4.1	19.9
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	3,645	223	81	142	5.0	6.2	8.3	5.5	6.1	2.2	3.9
Personal care and service occupations..	2,681	288	72	216	3.7	8.1	7.3	8.3	10.7	2.7	8.1
Sales and office occupations.....	19,880	733	336	397	27.4	20.5	34.3	15.3	3.7	1.7	2.0
Sales and related occupations.....	7,658	522	257	265	10.5	14.6	26.2	10.2	6.8	3.4	3.5
Office and administrative support occupations.....	12,222	211	79	132	16.8	5.9	8.1	5.1	1.7	0.6	1.1
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	8,411	95	22	73	11.6	2.7	2.2	2.8	1.1	0.3	0.9
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	596	32	10	22	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.8	5.4	1.7	3.7
Construction and extraction occupations.....	4,551	39	4	35	6.3	1.1	0.4	1.4	0.9	0.1	0.8
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	3,264	24	8	16	4.5	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.5
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	11,788	352	116	236	16.2	9.9	11.8	9.1	3.0	1.0	2.0
Production occupations.....	6,032	123	47	76	8.3	3.4	4.8	2.9	2.0	0.8	1.3
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	5,756	230	70	160	7.9	6.4	7.1	6.2	4.0	1.2	2.8

NOTE: Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

Table 5. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by major industry group, 2009 annual averages

Industry	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			At or below minimum wage		
		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage	Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage
Total, 16 years and over.....	72,611	3,572	980	2,592	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.9	1.3	3.6
Private sector.....	62,885	3,349	919	2,430	86.6	93.8	93.8	93.8	5.3	1.5	3.9
Agriculture and related industries.....	642	37	14	23	0.9	1.0	1.4	0.9	5.8	2.2	3.6
Nonagricultural industries.....	62,243	3,312	905	2,407	85.7	92.7	92.3	92.9	5.3	1.5	3.9
Mining.....	397	1	-	1	0.5	0.0	-	0.0	0.3	-	0.3
Construction.....	4,556	45	4	41	6.3	1.3	0.4	1.6	1.0	0.1	0.9
Manufacturing.....	8,347	107	32	75	11.5	3.0	3.3	2.9	1.3	0.4	0.9
Durable goods	5,077	47	13	34	7.0	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.9	0.3	0.7
Nondurable goods	3,270	60	19	41	4.5	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.8	0.6	1.3
Wholesale and retail trade.....	12,085	567	243	324	16.6	15.9	24.8	12.5	4.7	2.0	2.7
Wholesale trade.....	1,658	33	7	26	2.3	0.9	0.7	1.0	2.0	0.4	1.6
Retail trade.....	10,427	534	236	298	14.4	14.9	24.1	11.5	5.1	2.3	2.9
Transportation and utilities.....	2,942	41	12	29	4.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.4	0.4	1.0
Information.....	1,288	35	10	25	1.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.7	0.8	1.9
Financial activities.....	3,251	44	18	26	4.5	1.2	1.8	1.0	1.4	0.6	0.8
Professional and business services.....	5,286	132	50	82	7.3	3.7	5.1	3.2	2.5	0.9	1.6
Education and health services.....	12,165	286	114	172	16.8	8.0	11.6	6.6	2.4	0.9	1.4
Leisure and hospitality.....	8,881	1,844	374	1,470	12.2	51.6	38.2	56.7	20.8	4.2	16.6
Other services.....	3,045	209	48	161	4.2	5.9	4.9	6.2	6.9	1.6	5.3
Public sector.....	9,725	223	61	162	13.4	6.2	6.2	6.3	2.3	0.6	1.7
Federal.....	1,856	21	6	15	2.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.1	0.3	0.8
State.....	2,672	66	16	50	3.7	1.8	1.6	1.9	2.5	0.6	1.9
Local.....	5,197	136	39	97	7.2	3.8	4.0	3.7	2.6	0.8	1.9

NOTE: Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 6. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by educational attainment, 2009 annual averages

Educational attainment	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution			Percent of workers paid hourly rates			
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			At or below minimum wage		
		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage	Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage
Total, 16 years and over.....	72,611	3,572	980	2,592	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.9	1.3	3.6
Less than a high school diploma.....	10,211	1,037	366	671	14.1	29.0	37.3	25.9	10.2	3.6	6.6
Less than 1 year of high school.....	2,988	218	62	156	4.1	6.1	6.3	6.0	7.3	2.1	5.2
1 to 3 years of high school.....	6,100	719	273	446	8.4	20.1	27.9	17.2	11.8	4.5	7.3
4 years of high school, no diploma.....	1,123	100	31	69	1.5	2.8	3.2	2.7	8.9	2.8	6.1
High school graduates or more.....	62,399	2,535	614	1,921	85.9	71.0	62.7	74.1	4.1	1.0	3.1
High school graduates, no college.....	25,693	1,105	326	779	35.4	30.9	33.3	30.1	4.3	1.3	3.0
Some college or associate degree.....	24,960	1,135	254	881	34.4	31.8	25.9	34.0	4.5	1.0	3.5
Some college, no degree.....	16,785	941	209	732	23.1	26.3	21.3	28.2	5.6	1.2	4.4
Associate degree.....	8,175	195	45	150	11.3	5.5	4.6	5.8	2.4	0.6	1.8
Occupational program.....	3,811	86	20	66	5.2	2.4	2.0	2.5	2.3	0.5	1.7
Academic program.....	4,364	109	25	84	6.0	3.1	2.6	3.2	2.5	0.6	1.9
Bachelor's degree and higher.....	11,746	295	33	262	16.2	8.3	3.4	10.1	2.5	0.3	2.2
Bachelor's degree.....	9,350	248	25	223	12.9	6.9	2.6	8.6	2.7	0.3	2.4
Master's degree.....	1,901	38	6	32	2.6	1.1	0.6	1.2	2.0	0.3	1.7
Professional degree.....	302	7	2	5	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.3	0.7	1.7
Doctoral degree.....	194	1	-	1	0.3	0.0	-	0.0	0.5	-	0.5

NOTE: Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 7. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by age and sex, 2009 annual averages

Age and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			At or below minimum wage		
		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage	Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage
BOTH SEXES											
Total, 16 years and over.....	72,611	3,572	980	2,592	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.9	1.3	3.6
Under 25 years.....	14,389	1,737	508	1,229	19.8	48.6	51.8	47.4	12.1	3.5	8.5
16 to 19 years.....	4,397	818	288	530	6.1	22.9	29.4	20.4	18.6	6.5	12.1
20 to 24 years.....	9,991	919	220	699	13.8	25.7	22.4	27.0	9.2	2.2	7.0
25 years and over.....	58,222	1,835	472	1,363	80.2	51.4	48.2	52.6	3.2	0.8	2.3
25 to 34 years.....	16,363	716	159	557	22.5	20.0	16.2	21.5	4.4	1.0	3.4
25 to 29 years.....	8,917	424	83	341	12.3	11.9	8.5	13.2	4.8	0.9	3.8
30 to 34 years.....	7,446	292	76	216	10.3	8.2	7.8	8.3	3.9	1.0	2.9
35 to 44 years.....	14,575	440	104	336	20.1	12.3	10.6	13.0	3.0	0.7	2.3
35 to 39 years.....	7,219	240	54	186	9.9	6.7	5.5	7.2	3.3	0.7	2.6
40 to 44 years.....	7,356	201	51	150	10.1	5.6	5.2	5.8	2.7	0.7	2.0
45 to 54 years.....	15,468	350	100	250	21.3	9.8	10.2	9.6	2.3	0.6	1.6
45 to 49 years.....	8,112	182	53	129	11.2	5.1	5.4	5.0	2.2	0.7	1.6
50 to 54 years.....	7,356	168	47	121	10.1	4.7	4.8	4.7	2.3	0.6	1.6
55 to 64 years.....	9,151	209	69	140	12.6	5.9	7.0	5.4	2.3	0.8	1.5
55 to 59 years.....	5,680	122	37	85	7.8	3.4	3.8	3.3	2.1	0.7	1.5
60 to 64 years.....	3,471	87	32	55	4.8	2.4	3.3	2.1	2.5	0.9	1.6
65 years and over.....	2,665	120	40	80	3.7	3.4	4.1	3.1	4.5	1.5	3.0
65 to 69 years.....	1,456	65	22	43	2.0	1.8	2.2	1.7	4.5	1.5	3.0
70 years and over.....	1,209	54	18	36	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.4	4.5	1.5	3.0
MEN											
Total, 16 years and over.....	35,185	1,358	368	990	48.5	38.0	37.6	38.2	3.9	1.0	2.8
Under 25 years.....	7,045	674	214	460	9.7	18.9	21.8	17.7	9.6	3.0	6.5
16 to 19 years.....	2,053	322	121	201	2.8	9.0	12.3	7.8	15.7	5.9	9.8
20 to 24 years.....	4,992	352	93	259	6.9	9.9	9.5	10.0	7.1	1.9	5.2
25 years and over.....	28,140	684	154	530	38.8	19.1	15.7	20.4	2.4	0.5	1.9
25 to 34 years.....	8,536	279	63	216	11.8	7.8	6.4	8.3	3.3	0.7	2.5
25 to 29 years.....	4,685	173	32	141	6.5	4.8	3.3	5.4	3.7	0.7	3.0
30 to 34 years.....	3,851	106	31	75	5.3	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.8	0.8	1.9
35 to 44 years.....	7,191	175	33	142	9.9	4.9	3.4	5.5	2.4	0.5	2.0
35 to 39 years.....	3,657	95	19	76	5.0	2.7	1.9	2.9	2.6	0.5	2.1
40 to 44 years.....	3,533	81	14	67	4.9	2.3	1.4	2.6	2.3	0.4	1.9
45 to 54 years.....	7,087	103	21	82	9.8	2.9	2.1	3.2	1.5	0.3	1.2
45 to 49 years.....	3,740	51	12	39	5.2	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.4	0.3	1.0
50 to 54 years.....	3,347	53	10	43	4.6	1.5	1.0	1.7	1.6	0.3	1.3
55 to 64 years.....	4,134	80	23	57	5.7	2.2	2.3	2.2	1.9	0.6	1.4
55 to 59 years.....	2,562	45	10	35	3.5	1.3	1.0	1.4	1.8	0.4	1.4
60 to 64 years.....	1,572	35	13	22	2.2	1.0	1.3	0.8	2.2	0.8	1.4
65 years and over.....	1,192	46	14	32	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.2	3.9	1.2	2.7
65 to 69 years.....	644	27	8	19	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	4.2	1.2	3.0
70 years and over.....	548	19	6	13	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.5	3.5	1.1	2.4
WOMEN											
Total, 16 years and over.....	37,426	2,215	612	1,603	51.5	62.0	62.4	61.8	5.9	1.6	4.3
Under 25 years.....	7,344	1,064	295	769	10.1	29.8	30.1	29.7	14.5	4.0	10.5
16 to 19 years.....	2,345	496	167	329	3.2	13.9	17.0	12.7	21.2	7.1	14.0
20 to 24 years.....	4,999	567	127	440	6.9	15.9	13.0	17.0	11.3	2.5	8.8
25 years and over.....	30,082	1,151	318	833	41.4	32.2	32.4	32.1	3.8	1.1	2.8
25 to 34 years.....	7,827	437	96	341	10.8	12.2	9.8	13.2	5.6	1.2	4.4
25 to 29 years.....	4,232	250	50	200	5.8	7.0	5.1	7.7	5.9	1.2	4.7
30 to 34 years.....	3,595	187	46	141	5.0	5.2	4.7	5.4	5.2	1.3	3.9
35 to 44 years.....	7,385	265	71	194	10.2	7.4	7.2	7.5	3.6	1.0	2.6
35 to 39 years.....	3,562	144	34	110	4.9	4.0	3.5	4.2	4.0	1.0	3.1
40 to 44 years.....	3,823	121	37	84	5.3	3.4	3.8	3.2	3.2	1.0	2.2
45 to 54 years.....	8,381	247	79	168	11.5	6.9	8.1	6.5	2.9	0.9	2.0
45 to 49 years.....	4,372	131	41	90	6.0	3.7	4.2	3.5	3.0	0.9	2.1
50 to 54 years.....	4,009	116	38	78	5.5	3.2	3.9	3.0	2.9	0.9	1.9
55 to 64 years.....	5,017	129	46	83	6.9	3.6	4.7	3.2	2.6	0.9	1.7
55 to 59 years.....	3,117	77	27	50	4.3	2.2	2.8	1.9	2.5	0.9	1.6
60 to 64 years.....	1,900	51	19	32	2.6	1.4	1.9	1.2	2.7	1.0	1.7
65 years and over.....	1,473	74	26	48	2.0	2.1	2.7	1.9	5.0	1.8	3.3
65 to 69 years.....	812	37	13	24	1.1	1.0	1.3	0.9	4.6	1.6	3.0
70 years and over.....	661	36	12	24	0.9	1.0	1.2	0.9	5.4	1.8	3.6

NOTE: Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

Table 8. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by marital status, age, and sex, 2009 annual averages

Marital status, age, and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution			Percent of workers paid hourly rates			
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			At or below minimum wage		
		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage	Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage
BOTH SEXES											
Total, 16 years and over....	72,611	3,572	980	2,592	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.9	1.3	3.6
Never married.....	25,437	2,192	611	1,581	35.0	61.4	62.3	61.0	8.6	2.4	6.2
16 to 24 years.....	12,715	1,604	475	1,129	17.5	44.9	48.5	43.6	12.6	3.7	8.9
25 years and over.....	12,722	588	136	452	17.5	16.5	13.9	17.4	4.6	1.1	3.6
25 to 54 years.....	11,816	562	131	431	16.3	15.7	13.4	16.6	4.8	1.1	3.6
Married, spouse present..	34,919	876	231	645	48.1	24.5	23.6	24.9	2.5	0.7	1.8
16 to 24 years.....	1,270	84	22	62	1.7	2.4	2.2	2.4	6.6	1.7	4.9
25 years and over.....	33,649	793	210	583	46.3	22.2	21.4	22.5	2.4	0.6	1.7
25 to 54 years.....	26,145	596	144	452	36.0	16.7	14.7	17.4	2.3	0.6	1.7
Other marital status.....	12,254	504	138	366	16.9	14.1	14.1	14.1	4.1	1.1	3.0
16 to 24 years.....	404	50	12	38	0.6	1.4	1.2	1.5	12.4	3.0	9.4
25 years and over.....	11,851	454	126	328	16.3	12.7	12.9	12.7	3.8	1.1	2.8
25 to 54 years.....	8,445	348	88	260	11.6	9.7	9.0	10.0	4.1	1.0	3.1
MEN											
Total, 16 years and over....	35,185	1,358	368	990	48.5	38.0	37.6	38.2	3.9	1.0	2.8
Never married.....	13,218	910	269	641	18.2	25.5	27.4	24.7	6.9	2.0	4.8
16 to 24 years.....	6,366	635	206	429	8.8	17.8	21.0	16.6	10.0	3.2	6.7
25 years and over.....	6,851	275	63	212	9.4	7.7	6.4	8.2	4.0	0.9	3.1
25 to 54 years.....	6,425	264	62	202	8.8	7.4	6.3	7.8	4.1	1.0	3.1
Married, spouse present..	17,384	311	65	246	23.9	8.7	6.6	9.5	1.8	0.4	1.4
16 to 24 years.....	523	27	5	22	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.8	5.2	1.0	4.2
25 years and over.....	16,861	285	61	224	23.2	8.0	6.2	8.6	1.7	0.4	1.3
25 to 54 years.....	12,979	199	36	163	17.9	5.6	3.7	6.3	1.5	0.3	1.3
Other marital status.....	4,583	137	34	103	6.3	3.8	3.5	4.0	3.0	0.7	2.2
16 to 24 years.....	155	13	3	10	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.4	8.4	1.9	6.5
25 years and over.....	4,427	124	30	94	6.1	3.5	3.1	3.6	2.8	0.7	2.1
25 to 54 years.....	3,411	95	19	76	4.7	2.7	1.9	2.9	2.8	0.6	2.2
WOMEN											
Total, 16 years and over....	37,426	2,215	612	1,603	51.5	62.0	62.4	61.8	5.9	1.6	4.3
Never married.....	12,220	1,282	342	940	16.8	35.9	34.9	36.3	10.5	2.8	7.7
16 to 24 years.....	6,349	969	269	700	8.7	27.1	27.4	27.0	15.3	4.2	11.0
25 years and over.....	5,871	313	73	240	8.1	8.8	7.4	9.3	5.3	1.2	4.1
25 to 54 years.....	5,391	299	69	230	7.4	8.4	7.0	8.9	5.5	1.3	4.3
Married, spouse present..	17,535	565	166	399	24.1	15.8	16.9	15.4	3.2	0.9	2.3
16 to 24 years.....	747	57	17	40	1.0	1.6	1.7	1.5	7.6	2.3	5.4
25 years and over.....	16,787	508	149	359	23.1	14.2	15.2	13.9	3.0	0.9	2.1
25 to 54 years.....	13,167	396	108	288	18.1	11.1	11.0	11.1	3.0	0.8	2.2
Other marital status.....	7,672	367	104	263	10.6	10.3	10.6	10.1	4.8	1.4	3.4
16 to 24 years.....	248	37	8	29	0.3	1.0	0.8	1.1	14.9	3.2	11.7
25 years and over.....	7,423	331	96	235	10.2	9.3	9.8	9.1	4.5	1.3	3.2
25 to 54 years.....	5,034	254	69	185	6.9	7.1	7.0	7.1	5.0	1.4	3.7

NOTE: Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

Table 9. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by usual hours worked per week on primary job, 2009 annual averages

Usual hours worked per week on primary job	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			Total paid hourly rates	At or below minimum wage			At or below minimum wage		
		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage		Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage	Total	At minimum wage	Below minimum wage
Total, 16 years and over.....	72,611	3,572	980	2,592	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	4.9	1.3	3.6
Hours vary.....	4,920	520	128	392	6.8	14.6	13.1	15.1	10.6	2.6	8.0
0 to 34 hours.....	17,981	1,981	580	1,401	24.8	55.5	59.2	54.1	11.0	3.2	7.8
0 to 4 hours.....	345	38	10	28	0.5	1.1	1.0	1.1	11.0	2.9	8.1
5 to 9 hours.....	960	124	32	92	1.3	3.5	3.3	3.5	12.9	3.3	9.6
10 to 14 hours.....	1,600	242	83	159	2.2	6.8	8.5	6.1	15.1	5.2	9.9
15 to 19 hours.....	2,323	312	103	209	3.2	8.7	10.5	8.1	13.4	4.4	9.0
20 to 24 hours.....	5,259	538	151	387	7.2	15.1	15.4	14.9	10.2	2.9	7.4
25 to 29 hours.....	2,498	289	82	207	3.4	8.1	8.4	8.0	11.6	3.3	8.3
30 to 34 hours.....	4,996	438	120	318	6.9	12.3	12.2	12.3	8.8	2.4	6.4
35 hours or more.....	49,709	1,073	273	800	68.5	30.0	27.9	30.9	2.2	0.5	1.6
35 to 39 hours.....	5,988	286	76	210	8.2	8.0	7.8	8.1	4.8	1.3	3.5
40 hours or more.....	43,721	787	197	590	60.2	22.0	20.1	22.8	1.8	0.5	1.3
40 hours.....	38,666	680	170	510	53.3	19.0	17.3	19.7	1.8	0.4	1.3
41 hours or more.....	5,055	107	27	80	7.0	3.0	2.8	3.1	2.1	0.5	1.6
41 to 44 hours.....	665	13	4	9	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.3	2.0	0.6	1.4
45 to 48 hours.....	1,750	23	8	15	2.4	0.6	0.8	0.6	1.3	0.5	0.9
49 to 59 hours.....	1,885	40	11	29	2.6	1.1	1.1	1.1	2.1	0.6	1.5
60 hours or more.....	755	31	4	27	1.0	0.9	0.4	1.0	4.1	0.5	3.6

NOTE: Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

Table 10. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-2009 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 hourly paid workers
BOTH SEXES							
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 ¹	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 ¹	104,876	63,172	60.2	² 2,132	² 1,096	² 3,228	² 5.1
1991.....	103,723	62,627	60.4	² 2,377	² 2,906	² 5,283	² 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 ¹	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	² 1,863	² 1,861	² 3,724	² 5.4
1997 ¹	114,533	70,735	61.8	² 2,990	² 1,764	² 4,754	² 6.7
1998 ¹	116,730	71,440	61.2	2,834	1,593	4,427	6.2
1999 ¹	118,963	72,306	60.8	2,194	1,146	3,340	4.6
2000 ¹	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 ¹	122,358	72,946	59.6	1,555	545	2,100	2.9
2004 ¹	123,554	73,939	59.8	1,483	520	2,003	2.7
2005.....	125,889	75,609	60.1	1,403	479	1,882	2.5
2006.....	128,237	76,514	59.7	1,283	409	1,692	2.2
2007.....	129,767	75,873	58.5	² 1,462	² 267	² 1,729	² 2.3
2008 ¹	129,377	75,305	58.2	² 1,940	² 286	² 2,226	² 3.0
2009 ¹	124,490	72,611	58.3	² 2,592	² 980	² 3,572	² 4.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-2009 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 hourly paid workers
MEN							
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 ¹	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 ¹	55,553	32,104	57.8	² 712	² 385	² 1,097	² 3.4
1991.....	54,618	31,639	57.9	² 795	² 1,114	² 1,909	² 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 ¹	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	² 619	² 755	² 1,374	² 3.9
1997 ¹	59,825	35,521	59.4	² 1,147	² 673	² 1,820	² 5.1
1998 ¹	60,973	35,761	58.7	1,039	628	1,667	4.7
1999 ¹	61,914	36,073	58.3	768	446	1,214	3.4
2000 ¹	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 ¹	63,236	35,853	56.7	493	213	706	2.0
2004 ¹	64,145	36,806	57.4	470	210	680	1.8
2005.....	65,466	37,652	57.5	459	189	648	1.7
2006.....	66,811	38,193	57.2	422	146	568	1.5
2007.....	67,468	37,790	56.0	² 460	² 86	² 546	² 1.4
2008 ¹	66,846	37,334	55.9	² 638	² 90	² 728	² 1.9
2009 ¹	63,539	35,185	55.4	² 990	² 368	² 1,358	² 3.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-2009 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 hourly paid workers
WOMEN							
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 ¹	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 ¹	49,323	31,069	63.0	² 1,420	² 711	² 2,131	² 6.9
1991.....	49,105	30,988	63.1	² 1,582	² 1,792	² 3,374	² 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 ¹	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	² 1,244	² 1,106	² 2,350	² 6.8
1997 ¹	54,708	35,214	64.4	² 1,843	² 1,092	² 2,935	² 8.3
1998 ¹	55,757	35,680	64.0	1,794	965	2,760	7.7
1999 ¹	57,050	36,233	63.5	1,426	700	2,126	5.9
2000 ¹	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 ¹	59,122	37,093	62.7	1,062	332	1,394	3.8
2004 ¹	59,408	37,133	62.5	1,013	310	1,323	3.6
2005.....	60,423	37,957	62.8	944	290	1,234	3.3
2006.....	61,426	38,321	62.4	861	263	1,124	2.9
2007.....	62,299	38,082	61.1	² 1,002	² 181	² 1,183	² 3.1
2008 ¹	62,532	37,972	60.7	² 1,302	² 196	² 1,498	² 3.9
2009 ¹	60,951	37,426	61.4	² 1,603	² 612	² 2,215	² 5.9

¹ 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 Historical Comparability section of the Household Data technical documentation provided at www.bls.gov/cps/eetech_methods.pdf.

² Data for 1990-91, 1996-97, and 2007-09 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 on April 1, 1990, to \$4.25 on April 1, 1991, to \$4.75 on October 1, 1996, to \$5.15 on September 1, 1997, to \$5.85 on

July 24, 2007, to \$6.55 on July 24, 2008, and to \$7.25 on July 24, 2009. Data exclude all self-employed persons whether or not their businesses are incorporated. The presence of a sizable number of workers with reported wages below the minimum does not necessarily indicate violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as there are numerous exemptions to the minimum wage provisions of the law. In addition, the relatively large number of workers with reported wages below the minimum in some years may reflect rounding on the part of survey respondents.