

News

United States
Department
of Labor



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EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX—JUNE 2005

Total compensation costs for civilian workers increased 0.7 percent from March to June 2005, seasonally adjusted, the same increase as occurred between December 2004 and March 2005, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Benefit costs between March and June rose 0.8 percent, compared with the gain for wages and salaries of 0.6 percent. The Employment Cost Index (ECI), a component of the National Compensation Survey, measures quarterly changes in compensation costs, which include wages, salaries, and employer costs for employee benefits for civilian workers (nonfarm private and State and local government).

Increases in benefit costs accounted for over 35 percent of the rise in compensation costs for civilian workers from March to June 2005. Among private industry workers, benefit costs contributed nearly 35 percent of compensation gains during the quarter; compared with nearly 60 percent from December 2004 to March 2005. Health insurance costs constituted about 10 percent of the compensation gains during the quarter. Among State and local government workers, benefit costs comprised nearly one-half of compensation cost gains during the March to June period, virtually unchanged from the December to March quarter. Health insurance costs represented nearly one-third of the gain in compensation costs from March to June 2005.

Quarterly changes, seasonally adjusted

Compensation costs for the private sector rose 0.6 percent from March to June 2005, identical to the gain in the prior quarter. For State and local government workers, compensation costs rose 0.7 percent in June, compared with a gain of 1.0 percent for the quarter ended in March. (See tables A and 1.)

Benefit costs advanced 0.8 percent for civilian workers in the June 2005 quarter, moderating from the gain of 1.2 percent in the March quarter. Private sector benefit costs rose 0.8 percent for the June quarter, following the 1.1 percent gain in the previous quarter. Benefit costs for State and local government workers increased 1.2 percent in the June quarter, compared with a 1.5 percent gain in the prior quarter.

NOTE

The Employment Cost Index will convert to the 2002 North American Industry Classification System and the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification System with the release of the March 2006 estimates. In addition, several computational changes will be introduced, including rebasing all series to December 2005=100 from June 1989=100, as well as the initiation of new employment weights and seasonal adjustment factors. See page 4 for details.

Wages and salaries for civilian and private industry workers increased 0.6 percent during the June 2005 quarter, the same as in the first quarter of the year. Wages and salaries in State and local government advanced 0.5 percent during the March to June 2005 period, following an increase of 0.8 percent in the previous quarter.

Table A. 3-month percent changes in Employment Cost Index, seasonally adjusted

Compensation Component	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2004	June 2004	Sep. 2004	Dec. 2004	Mar. 2005	June 2005
Civilian workers								
Compensation costs	1.0	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
Wages and salaries	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6
Benefit costs	1.7	1.5	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.2	0.8
Private industry								
Compensation costs	1.1	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.6
Wages and salaries	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.6
Benefit costs	1.7	1.5	2.2	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.1	0.8
State and local government								
Compensation costs	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.7
Wages and salaries	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.5
Benefit costs	1.9	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.2

Over-the-year changes, not seasonally adjusted

Annual compensation cost increases slowed for civilian and private industry workers for the year ended June 2005 compared with over-the-year increases for June 2004. Compensation costs for civilian and private industry workers each increased 3.2 percent for the year ended June 2005, compared with a 3.9 percent and 4.0 percent gain, respectively, for June 2004. Compensation costs increased 3.6 percent for State and local governments for the year ended June 2005, compared with an over-the-year gain of 3.4 percent in June 2004. (See tables B, 2, and 3.)

The components of compensation showed differences in the rate of change. While increases in wages and salaries continued at a moderate pace, the sharp increases in benefit costs began to moderate. For civilian workers, wages and salaries rose 2.4 percent in the year ended June 2005, nearly identical with a gain of 2.5 percent in June 2004. Benefit costs gained 5.1 percent for civilian workers for the period ended June 2005, slowing dramatically from an increase of 7.2 percent for the year ended June 2004. (See tables B, 5, 6, and 8.)

Table B. 12-month percent changes in Employment Cost Index, not seasonally adjusted

Compensation Component	June 2000	June 2001	June 2002	June 2003	June 2004	June 2005
Civilian workers						
Compensation costs	4.4	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.9	3.2
Wages and salaries	4.0	3.7	3.5	2.7	2.5	2.4
Benefit costs	5.3	4.5	5.0	6.3	7.2	5.1
Private industry						
Compensation costs	4.6	4.0	4.0	3.5	4.0	3.2
Wages and salaries	4.1	3.8	3.6	2.6	2.6	2.4
Benefit costs	5.7	4.8	5.1	6.1	7.3	4.9
State and local government						
Compensation costs	3.5	3.6	3.6	4.1	3.4	3.6
Wages and salaries	3.7	3.7	3.2	3.1	1.9	2.4
Benefit costs	3.1	3.4	4.6	6.8	6.6	6.0

Nonfarm private industry

For the year ended June 2005, compensation costs in private industry increased 3.9 percent for goods-producing industries, compared with an advance of 4.4 percent for the year ended June 2004. Compensation costs for manufacturing advanced 3.7 percent in June 2005, compared with the 4.7 percent gain in June 2004. Compensation costs for construction rose 3.1 percent in June 2005, nearly identical to the 3.0 percent rise in June 2004. (See table 3.)

The over-the-year increase in compensation for service-producing industries was 2.8 percent, declining from the 3.8 percent gain for the year ended June 2004. Among service-producing industries, compensation costs rose modestly for wholesale trade and transportation and public utilities, increasing 1.9 percent in June 2005. (See table 3.)

Over-the-year compensation cost increases were 3.4 percent for white-collar occupations, 2.9 percent for blue-collar occupations, and 2.2 percent for service occupations for the year ended June 2005. Among white-collar occupational groups, compensation cost changes ranged from 1.9 percent for sales workers to 3.9 percent for professional specialty and technical employees. Among blue-collar occupational groups, compensation cost increases ranged from 1.9 percent for machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors to 3.4 percent for precision production, craft, and repair occupations. (See table 3.)

Compensation costs for union workers advanced 2.9 percent over the year ended June 2005, falling sharply from the 6.0 percent gain for the year ended June 2004. For nonunion workers compensation costs rose 3.2 percent for the year ended June 2005, compared with the gain of 3.5 percent for June 2004. Benefit costs for union workers rose 4.1 percent for the year ended June 2005, decelerating sharply compared with the gain of 11.3 percent in June 2004. Benefit costs for nonunion workers advanced 5.1 percent over the year ended June 2005, compared with an increase of 6.3 percent in June 2004. Wages and salaries for union workers rose 2.1 percent for the 12 months ended in June 2005, compared with an over-the-year increase of 2.4 percent for nonunion workers. (See tables C, 4, 7, and 8.)

Among blue-collar workers, compensation costs advanced 3.2 percent for union workers, compared with the gain of 2.8 percent for nonunion workers for the 12 months ended in June 2005. In manufacturing industries, compensation cost gains for union workers slowed sharply, rising 2.7 percent for year ended June 2005, significantly less than the 8.1 percent increase for the year-ended June 2004. For nonunion workers in manufacturing, compensation costs rose 4.1 percent for the year ended June 2005, compared with an over-the-year gain of 3.7 percent in June 2004. (See table 4.)

Table C. 12-month percent changes in Employment Cost Index, private industry workers, not seasonally adjusted

Compensation Component	June 2000	June 2001	June 2002	June 2003	June 2004	June 2005
Union workers						
Compensation costs	3.9	3.5	4.5	5.0	6.0	2.9
Wages and salaries	2.8	3.8	4.2	3.0	2.9	2.1
Benefit costs	5.9	3.0	5.0	8.7	11.3	4.1
Nonunion workers						
Compensation costs	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.3	3.5	3.2
Wages and salaries	4.3	3.7	3.5	2.5	2.5	2.4
Benefit costs	5.7	5.3	5.1	5.5	6.3	5.1

Among the four geographic regions, increases in compensation costs ranged from 2.7 percent in the Midwest to 3.7 percent in the West for the year ended June 2005. Compensation costs rose 3.1 percent in the Northeast and 3.3 percent in the South. In the Northeast, gains in wages and salaries slowed to 2.3 percent for the year ended June 2005, significantly less than the 3.3 percent gain for the year ended June 2004. Among the remaining regions, wages and salaries rose 2.1 percent in the Midwest, 2.4 percent in the West, and 2.7 percent in the South for the year ended June 2005. (See tables 4 and 7.)

State and local government

Wages and salaries for State and local government workers rose 2.4 percent in the year ended June 2005, greater than the gain of 1.9 percent for June 2004. Benefit costs rose 6.0 percent for the year ended June 2005, slower than the gain of 6.6 percent for the year ended June 2004. (See tables B, 5, and 8.)

For the year ended June 2005, compensation costs increased 3.3 percent for educational services, compared with a 2.6 percent increase for the year ended June 2004. Within educational services, compensation increases were 3.5 percent for elementary and secondary schools and 2.7 percent for colleges and universities. Among occupational groups, compensation costs of service workers rose 4.4 percent for the year ended June 2005, compared with gains of 3.3 percent for white-collar workers and 3.8 percent for blue-collar workers. (See table 2.)

NOTE:

The ECI for September 2005 is scheduled to be released Friday, October 28, 2005, at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

Beginning with the release of the March 2006 estimates, the ECI will publish industry categories based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and classify jobs into occupational categories according to the 2000 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Manual. These systems will replace the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Manual and the Occupational Classification System (OCS) currently being used in the ECI. Broad categories, such as civilian workers and private industry workers, are comparable for both the old and new classification systems; however, some detailed occupational and industry classifications (even with the same title) may not be comparable. Some new series will be introduced while others will be dropped. For more detailed information on NAICS and SOC, including background and comparability criteria, see the BLS websites: <http://www.bls.gov/bls/naics.htm> and <http://www.bls.gov/soc/home.htm>.

In addition, several computational changes will be introduced, including rebasing all series to December 2005=100 from June 1989=100, and the initiation of new employment weights and seasonal adjustment factors. At the same time, an improved process for imputing costs for missing values will be introduced.

ECI data are available on the Compensation Cost Trends page at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/home.htm>. To access data using Anonymous FTP, use the Internet address <ftp://ftp.bls.gov>.

For technical assistance in using the BLS Internet site, send e-mail to webmaster@bls.gov. For ECI data requests, send e-mail to ocltinfo@bls.gov.

The ECI news release is available through an e-mail subscription service. See the subscription link on <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/home.htm> or <http://www.bls.gov/bls/newsrels.htm>.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service Number: 1-800-877-8339.

Chart A. Changes in wages and salaries and in benefit costs, private industry, 1980-2005

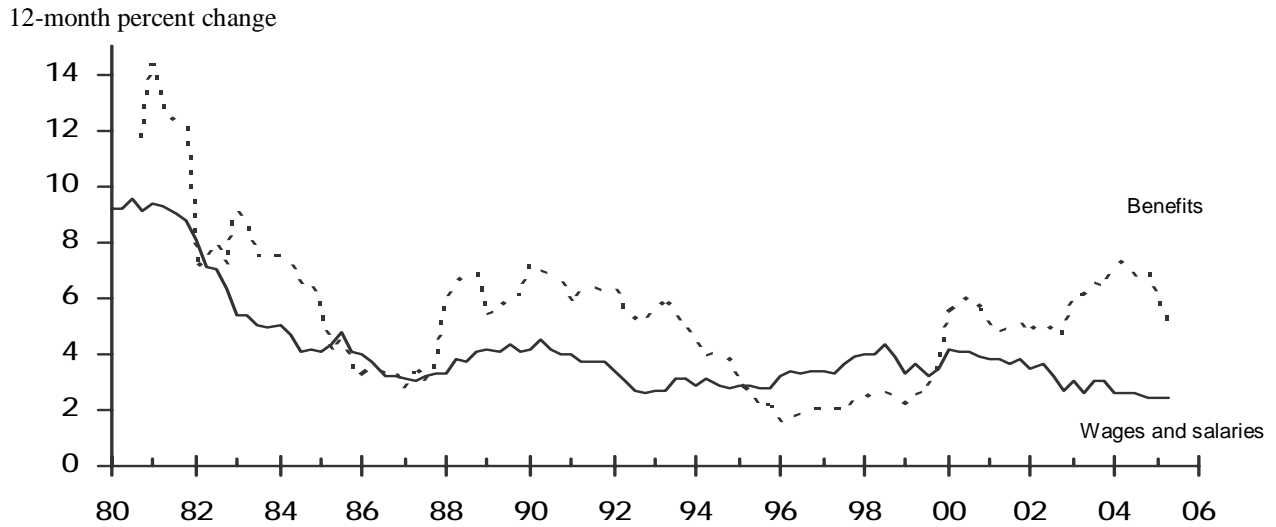


Chart B. Changes in wages and salaries, by goods- and service-producing industries, private industry, 1980-2005

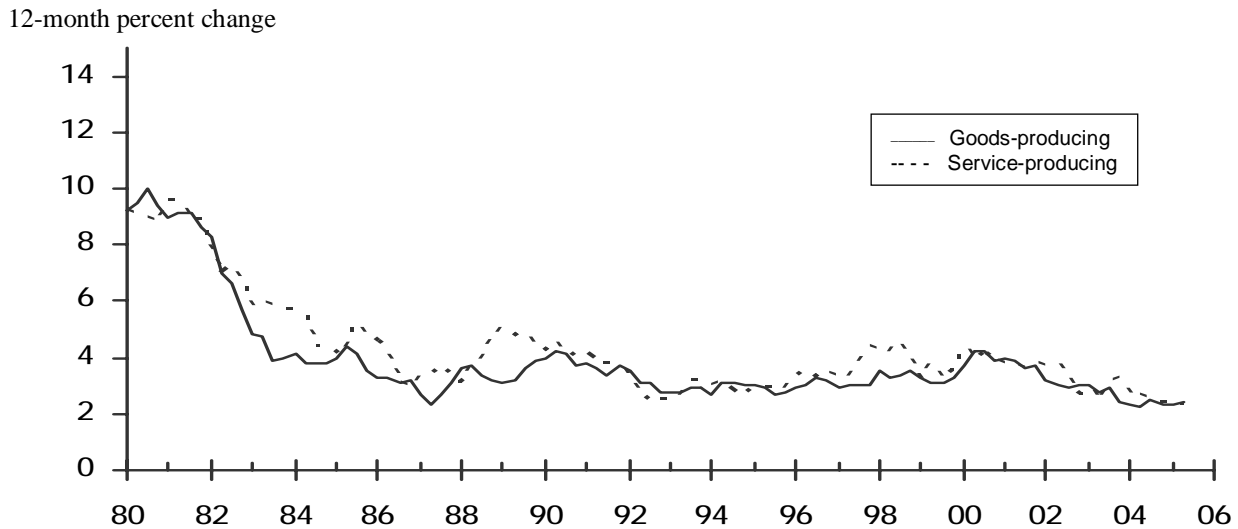


Chart C. Changes in wages and salaries, by bargaining status, private industry, 1980-2005

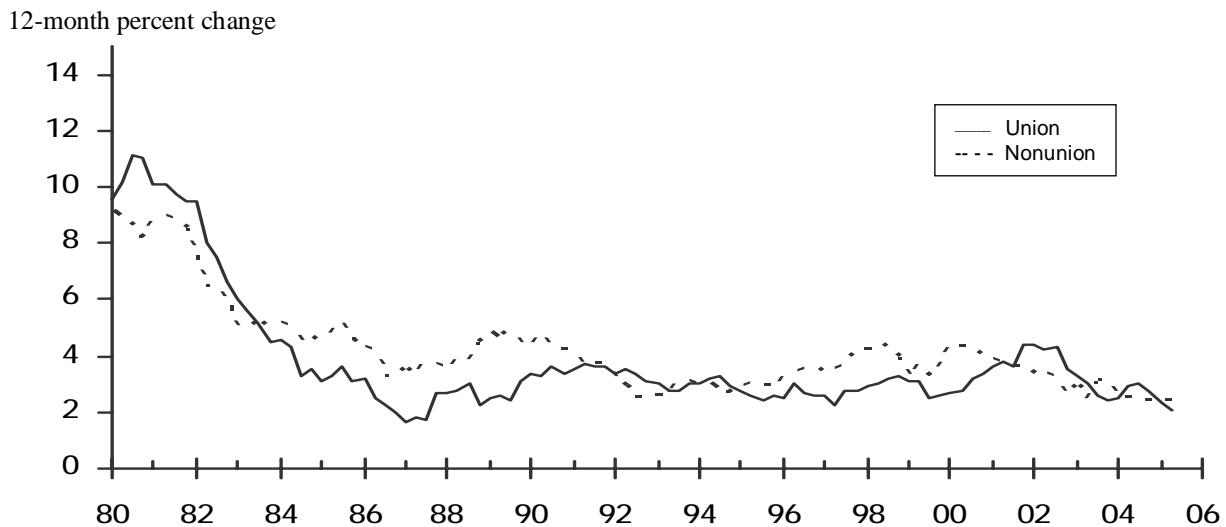


Table 1. Employment Cost Index for total compensation¹, wages and salaries, and benefit costs by industry and occupational group

(Seasonally adjusted data)

Industry and occupational group	Indexes (June 1989=100)		Percent changes for 3-months ended-							
	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2004	Jun. 2004	Sep. 2004	Dec. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
TOTAL COMPENSATION										
Civilian workers	176.7	177.9	1.0	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
State and local government	174.3	175.6	.8	.7	.9	.9	.8	.9	1.0	.7
Private industry	177.3	178.4	1.1	.8	1.1	.9	1.0	.8	.6	.6
Industry										
Goods producing ²	177.1	178.9	1.1	.7	1.7	1.0	1.3	1.0	.5	1.0
Construction	169.3	170.8	.8	.8	.8	.5	.7	.4	1.1	.9
Manufacturing	177.3	179.1	.9	1.1	1.6	1.1	1.2	1.0	.4	1.0
Durables	178.6	180.7	1.0	1.1	1.7	1.2	1.3	1.1	.4	1.2
Nondurables	175.2	176.4	.9	1.0	1.3	.9	1.1	.9	.3	.7
Service producing ³	177.3	178.2	1.1	.9	.8	.9	.8	.7	.6	.5
Transportation and public utilities	174.7	175.2	.8	.9	1.4	1.1	.8	.6	.2	.3
Wholesale trade	179.3	178.5	.8	.6	.6	.6	1.4	.1	1.0	-4
Retail trade	166.1	167.1	1.6	1.1	.4	.9	.3	.7	.6	.6
Finance, insurance, and real estate ⁴	188.9	190.9	1.1	.4	.9	.6	.7	.6	1.6	1.1
Services	179.6	180.6	1.1	.9	.9	1.0	.9	1.0	.7	.6
Nonmanufacturing	176.4	177.4	1.0	.9	.8	.9	.8	.8	.7	.6
Occupational group										
White collar	180.3	181.4	1.1	.9	.9	.8	.9	.9	.9	.6
Blue collar	172.0	173.3	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.0	.9	.2	.8
Service	170.8	171.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.5	.7	.2	.6
WAGES AND SALARIES										
Civilian workers	167.2	168.2	.7	.5	.6	.6	.7	.5	.6	.6
State and local government	166.4	167.3	.3	.5	.6	.5	.4	.6	.8	.5
Private industry	167.4	168.4	.8	.6	.6	.6	.7	.4	.6	.6
Industry										
Goods producing ^{2,4}	163.6	164.8	.6	.3	.8	.6	.9	.1	.7	.7
Construction	157.8	159.1	.7	.6	.6	.4	.6	.3	.3	.8
Manufacturing ⁴	165.3	166.4	.4	.3	.7	.7	.9	.1	.8	.7
Durables ⁴	165.9	167.1	.6	.2	.6	.6	1.0	.1	.7	.7
Nondurables	164.3	165.1	.4	.6	.7	.7	.8	.4	.6	.5
Service producing ³	169.1	169.9	.9	.7	.5	.5	.7	.6	.5	.5
Transportation and public utilities ⁴	159.8	161.1	.3	.3	.7	1.0	.8	.1	-4	.8
Wholesale trade	169.6	168.5	.6	.7	.2	.4	1.6	-8	.8	-6
Retail trade	160.4	161.3	1.6	.4	.4	.6	.1	.6	.6	.6
Finance, insurance, and real estate ⁴	179.2	181.2	1.0	.2	.4	.1	.7	.7	.8	1.1
Services	173.4	174.3	.9	.8	.7	.8	.8	.8	.7	.5
Nonmanufacturing	167.8	168.6	.9	.7	.6	.5	.7	.6	.5	.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment Cost Index for total compensation¹, wages and salaries, and benefit costs by industry and occupational group — Continued

(Seasonally adjusted data)

Industry and occupational group	Indexes (June 1989=100)		Percent changes for 3-months ended—							
	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Sep. 2003	Dec. 2003	Mar. 2004	Jun. 2004	Sep. 2004	Dec. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
WAGES AND SALARIES—Continued										
Occupational group										
White collar	171.3	172.2	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.5
Blue collar ⁴	160.8	162.1	.6	.3	.7	.7	.8	.3	.6	.8
Service ⁴	161.4	162.3	.6	.4	.4	.6	.3	.5	.5	.6
BENEFIT COSTS										
Civilian workers	200.3	202.0	1.7	1.5	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.2	.8
State and local government	193.0	195.4	1.9	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.2
Private industry	202.0	203.6	1.7	1.5	2.2	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.1	.8
Industry										
Goods producing ²	205.3	208.2	2.0	1.5	3.4	1.5	2.0	2.3	.9	1.4
Manufacturing	204.4	207.4	2.1	1.8	3.9	1.8	2.1	1.9	.4	1.5
Service producing ³	200.1	200.9	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.7	.9	1.2	1.2	.4
Nonmanufacturing	201.1	202.3	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.0	1.5	1.2	.6
Occupational group										
White collar	205.9	207.7	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.7	.9
Blue collar	196.7	198.3	1.9	1.6	3.1	1.9	1.6	1.6	-.1	.8
Service	199.5	201.2	1.5	2.0	2.2	1.7	1.2	1.2	-.3	.9

¹ Includes wages, salaries, and employer costs for employee benefits.² Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing.³ Includes transportation, communication, and public utilities; wholesale and

retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and service industries.

⁴ No identifiable seasonality was found for this series.

Table 2. Employment Cost Index for total compensation¹ for civilian and State and local government workers by industry and occupational group

(Not seasonally adjusted data)

Industry and occupational group	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for—					
	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	3 months ended—			12 months ended—		
				Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
Civilian workers	172.2	176.6	177.7	0.9	1.1	0.6	3.9	3.5	3.2
Excluding sales occupations	172.3	176.9	178.0	.9	1.1	.6	3.9	3.6	3.3
Industry									
Goods producing ²	171.9	177.0	178.5	.9	1.5	.8	4.4	3.9	3.8
Manufacturing	173.2	178.2	179.6	.9	1.6	.8	4.7	3.8	3.7
Service producing ³	172.3	176.5	177.4	.9	1.0	.5	3.7	3.3	3.0
Services	172.3	177.0	177.8	.6	.9	.5	3.6	3.4	3.2
Health services	174.4	179.9	181.1	.8	1.2	.7	4.1	4.0	3.8
Hospitals	178.2	184.3	185.5	.8	1.4	.7	4.3	4.2	4.1
Educational services	168.9	173.9	174.5	.2	.6	.3	2.9	3.2	3.3
Public administration ⁴	171.4	177.6	178.3	.8	1.3	.4	4.3	4.4	4.0
Nonmanufacturing	171.8	176.1	177.1	.8	1.0	.6	3.6	3.3	3.1
Occupational group									
White collar	174.0	178.8	179.9	.8	1.2	.6	3.6	3.5	3.4
Excluding sales	174.4	179.6	180.6	.8	1.2	.6	3.6	3.8	3.6
Professional specialty and technical	171.2	176.8	177.6	.6	1.2	.5	3.8	3.9	3.7
Executive, administrative, and managerial	177.1	182.0	183.1	.7	1.4	.6	3.0	3.5	3.4
Administrative support, including clerical	177.2	182.0	183.3	1.1	1.1	.7	4.2	3.8	3.4
Blue collar	168.8	172.4	173.8	1.1	.9	.8	4.6	3.3	3.0
Service	170.9	174.9	175.9	.7	.7	.6	3.6	3.1	2.9
State and local government	168.7	174.1	174.7	.4	.9	.3	3.4	3.6	3.6
Industry									
Services	166.8	171.8	172.4	.2	.6	.3	2.8	3.2	3.4
Excluding schools	170.1	175.6	176.4	.4	1.0	.5	3.6	3.7	3.7
Health services	172.9	178.9	179.6	.4	1.2	.4	3.7	3.9	3.9
Hospitals	173.2	179.1	179.8	.5	1.0	.4	3.5	3.9	3.8
Educational services	165.9	170.9	171.4	.1	.6	.3	2.6	3.1	3.3
Schools	166.3	171.2	171.7	.2	.5	.3	2.7	3.1	3.2
Elementary and secondary	164.6	169.8	170.3	.1	.4	.3	2.9	3.3	3.5
Colleges and universities	171.0	175.1	175.6	.2	1.1	.3	2.1	2.6	2.7
Public administration ⁴	171.4	177.6	178.3	.8	1.3	.4	4.3	4.4	4.0
Occupational group									
White collar	167.5	172.6	173.1	.4	.8	.3	3.3	3.5	3.3
Professional specialty and technical	165.6	170.4	171.1	.3	.6	.4	3.0	3.2	3.3
Executive, administrative, and managerial	171.0	176.7	176.5	.5	1.4	-.1	3.2	3.9	3.2
Administrative support, including clerical	171.8	177.2	177.7	.8	1.0	.3	4.5	4.0	3.4
Blue collar	167.5	172.6	173.8	.5	.9	.7	3.6	3.5	3.8
Service	175.3	182.0	183.0	.5	.8	.5	3.8	4.3	4.4

¹ Includes wages, salaries, and employer costs for employee benefits.² Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing.³ Includes transportation, communication, and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; service

industries; and public administration.

⁴ Includes executive, legislative, judicial, administrative, and regulatory activities of State and local governments, SICs 91 through 96.

Table 3. Employment Cost Index for total compensation¹ for private industry workers, by industry and occupational group

(Not seasonally adjusted data)

Industry and occupational group	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for—					
	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	3 months ended—			12 months ended—		
				Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
Private industry workers	173.0	177.2	178.5	0.9	1.1	0.7	4.0	3.4	3.2
Excluding sales occupations	173.2	177.7	178.9	.9	1.2	.7	4.0	3.6	3.3
Industry									
Goods producing ²	171.8	176.9	178.5	.9	1.5	.9	4.4	3.9	3.9
Excluding sales	171.2	176.3	177.9	.8	1.5	.9	4.5	3.8	3.9
White collar	174.7	182.2	184.2	.7	2.5	1.1	3.3	5.0	5.4
Excluding sales	173.3	180.9	183.0	.6	2.6	1.2	3.5	5.1	5.6
Blue collar	169.8	173.4	174.7	1.0	.8	.7	5.1	3.2	2.9
Construction	165.9	169.1	171.0	.8	1.1	1.1	3.0	2.7	3.1
Manufacturing	173.2	178.2	179.6	.9	1.6	.8	4.7	3.8	3.7
White collar	174.6	181.4	183.4	.8	2.7	1.1	3.5	4.7	5.0
Excluding sales	172.6	179.4	181.5	.8	2.7	1.2	3.7	4.7	5.2
Blue collar	172.0	175.8	176.7	.9	.9	.5	5.7	3.2	2.7
Durables	174.0	179.5	181.2	.9	1.8	.9	5.1	4.1	4.1
Aircraft manufacturing (SIC 3721) ..	200.9	234.1	234.5	1.0	15.9	.2	9.4	17.7	16.7
White collar	194.9	227.8	228.4	.5	16.6	.3	9.9	17.5	17.2
Blue collar	208.3	242.5	242.6	1.9	14.5	.0	8.3	18.6	16.5
Nondurables	171.7	175.8	176.8	.8	1.3	.6	4.1	3.2	3.0
Service producing ³	173.3	177.1	178.1	1.0	1.0	.6	3.8	3.2	2.8
Excluding sales	174.2	178.4	179.4	1.0	1.1	.6	3.7	3.4	3.0
White collar	175.7	179.7	180.7	.9	1.1	.6	3.8	3.2	2.8
Excluding sales	177.8	182.4	183.2	.9	1.1	.4	3.8	3.5	3.0
Blue collar	166.4	169.9	171.5	1.4	1.1	.9	3.5	3.5	3.1
Service	167.4	170.1	171.1	.8	.7	.6	3.3	2.4	2.2
Transportation and public utilities	172.5	174.5	175.8	1.6	.6	.7	4.3	2.8	1.9
Transportation	164.7	165.5	166.1	1.7	-4	.4	3.7	2.2	.9
Public utilities	183.1	186.9	189.2	1.5	1.9	1.2	5.1	3.6	3.3
Communications	183.6	186.0	188.4	.8	1.4	1.3	4.6	2.1	2.6
Electric, gas, and sanitary services	182.4	188.0	190.2	2.4	2.6	1.2	5.7	5.5	4.3
Wholesale and retail trade	168.1	170.9	171.7	1.1	1.1	.5	3.4	2.8	2.1
Excluding sales	168.6	172.3	173.1	.7	1.1	.5	3.6	2.9	2.7
Wholesale trade	175.9	179.1	179.3	1.2	1.4	.1	2.7	3.0	1.9
Excluding sales	174.0	179.2	179.5	.2	1.6	.2	2.4	3.2	3.2
Retail trade	163.7	166.2	167.3	1.0	.9	.7	4.0	2.5	2.2
General merchandise stores	166.2	172.3	172.1	.2	1.7	-.1	4.4	3.9	3.5
Food stores	163.5	165.0	165.9	.9	.6	.5	3.1	1.8	1.5
Finance, insurance, and real estate	183.6	188.9	190.9	.6	1.6	1.1	3.0	3.5	4.0
Excluding sales	188.7	194.3	196.1	1.1	1.6	.9	2.6	4.1	3.9
Banking, savings and loan, and other credit agencies	208.9	213.7	217.3	.8	.7	1.7	1.3	3.1	4.0
Insurance	180.5	186.3	188.8	1.5	1.5	1.3	3.8	4.8	4.6
Excluding sales	178.1	183.0	185.0	1.5	1.5	1.1	3.7	4.3	3.9
Services	175.1	179.7	180.6	.9	1.0	.5	4.0	3.6	3.1
Business services	176.9	180.1	181.0	1.2	.6	.5	4.6	3.0	2.3
Health services	174.8	180.3	181.5	.9	1.3	.7	4.1	4.0	3.8
Hospitals	179.7	185.8	187.3	.9	1.4	.8	4.5	4.3	4.2
Nursing homes	—	—	—	.7	.6	.9	3.3	2.4	2.6
Educational services	184.2	190.0	190.9	.6	.8	.5	4.0	3.8	3.6
Colleges and universities	182.5	187.6	188.6	.7	.8	.5	4.0	3.5	3.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Employment Cost Index for total compensation¹ for private industry workers, by industry and occupational group — Continued

(Not seasonally adjusted data)

Industry and occupational group	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for—					
	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	3 months ended—			12 months ended—		
				Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
Industry—Continued									
Nonmanufacturing industries	172.5	176.5	177.6	0.9	1.0	0.6	3.7	3.3	3.0
White collar	175.7	180.0	181.0	.9	1.1	.6	3.8	3.4	3.0
Excluding sales	177.7	182.7	183.6	.9	1.2	.5	3.7	3.7	3.3
Blue collar	165.5	168.8	170.6	1.3	.9	1.1	3.6	3.3	3.1
Service	167.3	170.1	171.0	.8	.7	.5	3.3	2.5	2.2
Occupational group									
White collar	175.7	180.4	181.6	.9	1.3	.7	3.7	3.6	3.4
Excluding sales	176.7	182.0	183.2	.8	1.4	.7	3.7	3.8	3.7
Professional specialty and technical	174.7	180.8	181.6	.7	1.5	.4	4.2	4.3	3.9
Executive, administrative, and managerial	178.1	183.0	184.2	.7	1.6	.7	2.9	3.5	3.4
Sales	171.2	173.1	174.4	1.2	1.0	.8	3.7	2.3	1.9
Administrative support, including clerical	178.1	182.8	184.3	1.1	1.2	.8	4.2	3.8	3.5
Blue collar	168.8	172.3	173.7	1.1	.9	.8	4.6	3.2	2.9
Precision production, craft, and repair	169.1	173.1	174.9	1.2	1.1	1.0	4.4	3.6	3.4
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	170.5	173.3	173.8	1.1	.5	.3	5.8	2.7	1.9
Transportation and material moving	160.6	163.7	165.7	1.3	.9	1.2	3.5	3.3	3.2
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	173.2	176.9	177.9	.9	.9	.6	3.8	3.0	2.7
Service	168.2	170.9	171.9	.8	.7	.6	3.4	2.4	2.2
Production and nonsupervisory occupations⁴	171.0	174.6	175.8	1.0	.9	.7	4.2	3.1	2.8

¹ Includes wages, salaries, and employer costs for employee benefits.² Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing.³ Includes transportation, communication, and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and service industries.⁴ This series has the same industry and occupational coverage as the Hourly Earnings Index, which was discontinued in January 1989.

NOTE: Dashes indicate data not available.

Table 4. Employment Cost Index for total compensation¹ for private industry workers, by bargaining status, region, and area

(Not seasonally adjusted data)

Bargaining status, region, and area	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for—					
	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	3 months ended—			12 months ended—		
				Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
Bargaining status									
Union	173.9	177.5	179.0	1.5	0.7	0.8	6.0	3.6	2.9
Blue-collar occupations	171.2	174.9	176.6	1.3	.8	1.0	6.1	3.5	3.2
Goods-producing industries ²	174.6	178.2	179.8	1.3	.8	.9	6.9	3.4	3.0
Service-producing industries ³	172.9	176.6	177.9	1.6	.7	.7	5.0	3.8	2.9
Manufacturing	177.0	180.6	181.7	1.1	1.0	.6	8.1	3.2	2.7
Blue-collar occupations	175.9	178.6	179.5	1.2	.4	.5	8.2	2.8	2.0
Nonmanufacturing	171.6	175.2	176.9	1.7	.6	1.0	4.8	3.8	3.1
Nonunion	172.7	177.1	178.3	.8	1.3	.7	3.5	3.4	3.2
Blue-collar occupations	167.4	170.8	172.1	1.0	.9	.8	3.8	3.1	2.8
Goods-producing industries ²	170.9	176.5	178.0	.7	1.7	.8	3.6	4.0	4.2
Service-producing industries ³	173.2	177.0	178.0	.9	1.1	.6	3.6	3.1	2.8
Manufacturing	172.0	177.5	179.0	.8	1.8	.8	3.7	4.0	4.1
Blue-collar occupations	169.3	173.8	174.7	.7	1.1	.5	4.1	3.4	3.2
Nonmanufacturing	172.6	176.6	177.7	.9	1.1	.6	3.5	3.2	3.0
Region⁴									
Northeast	172.3	176.1	177.6	1.2	1.1	.9	4.3	3.5	3.1
South	167.9	172.5	173.4	.9	1.1	.5	3.9	3.7	3.3
Midwest	176.2	180.0	180.9	.9	1.2	.5	3.4	3.0	2.7
West	176.8	181.4	183.3	.9	1.3	1.0	4.3	3.5	3.7
Area									
Metropolitan	173.1	177.4	178.6	.9	1.2	.7	3.9	3.4	3.2
Other	172.1	176.4	177.3	1.1	1.2	.5	4.3	3.6	3.0

¹ Includes wages, salaries, and employer costs for employee benefits.² Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing.³ Includes transportation, communication, and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and service industries.⁴ The regional coverage is as follows: Northeast: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont; South: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi,

North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia; Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin; and West: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

NOTE: The indexes for these series are not strictly comparable to those for the aggregate, occupation, and industry series.

Table 5. Employment Cost Index for wages and salaries for civilian and State and local government workers, by industry and occupational group

(Not seasonally adjusted data)

Industry and occupational group	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for—					
	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	3 months ended—			12 months ended—		
				Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
Civilian workers	164.3	167.3	168.2	0.6	0.7	0.5	2.5	2.4	2.4
Excluding sales occupations	164.2	167.4	168.3	.6	.7	.5	2.4	2.5	2.5
Industry									
Goods producing ¹	161.0	163.6	164.9	.7	.7	.8	2.2	2.3	2.4
Manufacturing	162.4	165.3	166.4	.7	.8	.7	2.1	2.5	2.5
Service producing ²	165.5	168.6	169.5	.5	.7	.5	2.5	2.4	2.4
Services	167.4	171.2	171.9	.5	.6	.4	2.8	2.8	2.7
Health services	168.6	173.2	174.3	.5	.9	.6	3.3	3.3	3.4
Hospitals	169.9	174.7	175.7	.5	.9	.6	3.3	3.4	3.4
Educational services	163.8	167.5	167.9	.1	.4	.2	1.9	2.4	2.5
Public administration ³	161.4	165.0	165.6	.2	.9	.4	2.2	2.4	2.6
Nonmanufacturing	164.6	167.6	168.5	.5	.7	.5	2.6	2.4	2.4
Occupational group									
White collar	167.1	170.3	171.1	.6	.7	.5	2.6	2.5	2.4
Excluding sales	167.6	171.1	172.0	.5	.7	.5	2.5	2.6	2.6
Professional specialty and technical	164.4	168.1	168.7	.4	.7	.4	2.7	2.6	2.6
Executive, administrative, and managerial	172.4	175.9	176.9	.6	.9	.6	2.0	2.6	2.6
Administrative support, including clerical	167.5	170.9	172.0	.7	.7	.6	2.7	2.8	2.7
Blue collar	158.4	161.0	162.2	.7	.6	.7	2.3	2.4	2.4
Service	161.9	164.4	165.3	.4	.5	.5	2.0	2.0	2.1
State and local government	162.8	166.3	166.7	.2	.6	.2	1.9	2.3	2.4
Industry									
Services	162.7	166.2	166.6	.1	.4	.2	1.8	2.2	2.4
Excluding schools	165.6	169.4	170.1	.3	.7	.4	2.3	2.6	2.7
Health services	167.8	171.9	172.6	.2	.7	.4	2.6	2.7	2.9
Hospitals	167.9	172.0	172.5	.3	.6	.3	2.5	2.7	2.7
Educational services	162.1	165.5	165.8	.1	.4	.2	1.8	2.2	2.3
Schools	162.3	165.6	166.0	.1	.4	.2	1.8	2.2	2.3
Elementary and secondary	161.5	164.8	165.1	.1	.2	.2	1.9	2.2	2.2
Colleges and universities	164.4	167.9	168.2	.1	1.0	.2	1.4	2.2	2.3
Public administration ³	161.4	165.0	165.6	.2	.9	.4	2.2	2.4	2.6
Occupational group									
White collar	162.4	165.9	166.2	.2	.6	.2	2.0	2.3	2.3
Professional specialty and technical	162.3	165.7	166.2	.1	.4	.3	2.0	2.2	2.4
Executive, administrative, and managerial	163.8	168.2	168.0	.2	1.3	-.1	1.7	2.9	2.6
Administrative support, including clerical	160.8	163.9	164.0	.2	.6	.1	2.3	2.2	2.0
Blue collar	159.2	162.4	163.2	.2	.6	.5	1.7	2.2	2.5
Service	167.0	170.4	171.2	.2	.6	.5	2.0	2.2	2.5

¹ Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing.² Includes transportation, communication, and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; service

industries; and public administration.

³ Includes executive, legislative, judicial, administrative, and regulatory activities of State and local governments, SICs 91 through 96.

Table 6. Employment Cost Index for wages and salaries for private industry workers by industry and occupational group

(Not seasonally adjusted data)

Industry and occupational group	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for—					
	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	3 months ended—			12 months ended—		
				Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
Private industry workers	164.5	167.4	168.4	0.7	0.7	0.6	2.6	2.4	2.4
Excluding sales occupations	164.5	167.6	168.7	.6	.7	.7	2.5	2.5	2.6
Industry									
Goods producing ¹	160.9	163.6	164.8	.6	.7	.7	2.2	2.3	2.4
Excluding sales	160.2	162.8	164.0	.6	.7	.7	2.4	2.3	2.4
White collar	164.5	167.3	168.5	.8	.8	.7	1.9	2.5	2.4
Excluding sales	162.7	165.3	166.7	.7	.7	.8	2.2	2.4	2.5
Blue collar	158.6	161.2	162.4	.6	.7	.7	2.5	2.2	2.4
Construction	155.9	157.7	159.2	.5	.4	1.0	2.3	1.7	2.1
Manufacturing	162.4	165.3	166.4	.7	.8	.7	2.1	2.5	2.5
White collar	164.7	167.6	168.7	.9	.9	.7	1.9	2.6	2.4
Excluding sales	162.5	165.1	166.5	.8	.7	.8	2.3	2.4	2.5
Blue collar	160.6	163.6	164.7	.5	.7	.7	2.4	2.4	2.6
Durables	162.9	165.9	167.1	.6	.7	.7	2.0	2.5	2.6
Aircraft manufacturing (SIC 3721) ..	171.9	175.6	176.1	.8	1.7	.3	3.0	2.9	2.4
White collar	165.5	170.1	170.4	.5	2.5	.2	3.3	3.3	3.0
Blue collar	180.7	183.9	184.8	1.3	.3	.5	2.4	3.1	2.3
Nondurables	161.6	164.5	165.3	.7	1.0	.5	2.4	2.6	2.3
Service producing ²	166.1	169.0	170.0	.7	.7	.6	2.7	2.4	2.3
Excluding sales	167.1	170.4	171.4	.7	.6	.6	2.6	2.7	2.6
White collar	168.9	172.1	173.0	.7	.8	.5	2.9	2.6	2.4
Excluding sales	171.2	175.0	175.9	.6	.8	.5	2.8	2.8	2.7
Blue collar	157.8	160.1	161.5	1.0	.4	.9	2.3	2.5	2.3
Service	158.8	160.9	161.8	.5	.4	.6	2.1	1.8	1.9
Transportation and public utilities	159.1	159.8	161.1	1.0	-.4	.8	2.2	1.4	1.3
Transportation	153.4	153.4	154.6	1.1	-1.1	.8	1.9	1.1	.8
Public utilities	166.4	168.2	169.9	.7	.4	1.0	2.7	1.8	2.1
Communications	167.5	168.4	170.3	.3	.1	1.1	2.5	.8	1.7
Electric, gas, and sanitary services	165.1	167.9	169.2	1.1	.8	.8	2.9	2.8	2.5
Wholesale and retail trade	161.6	163.4	164.1	.8	.8	.4	2.6	1.9	1.5
Excluding sales	162.9	165.5	166.3	.4	.9	.5	2.6	2.0	2.1
Wholesale trade	167.8	169.5	169.4	1.0	1.2	-.1	1.9	2.0	1.0
Excluding sales	167.6	171.5	171.5	-.1	1.5	.0	1.5	2.2	2.3
Retail trade	158.4	160.3	161.4	.7	.6	.7	3.0	1.9	1.9
General merchandise stores	154.9	159.3	159.0	.5	.8	-.2	1.9	3.4	2.6
Food stores	154.3	155.8	156.7	.3	.5	.6	1.8	1.3	1.6
Finance, insurance, and real estate	175.3	179.2	181.2	.1	.8	1.1	1.7	2.3	3.4
Excluding sales	180.5	184.6	186.5	.7	.9	1.0	1.1	3.0	3.3
Banking, savings and loan, and other credit agencies	207.6	210.7	215.4	.4	-.3	2.2	-.5	1.9	3.8
Insurance	167.2	171.7	173.7	1.3	.8	1.2	2.6	4.0	3.9
Excluding sales	163.7	167.1	168.5	1.2	1.0	.8	2.6	3.3	2.9
Services	169.3	173.4	174.2	.7	.8	.5	3.2	3.2	2.9
Business services	172.7	175.5	176.5	1.0	.3	.6	3.8	2.6	2.2
Health services	168.8	173.4	174.6	.6	.9	.7	3.4	3.3	3.4
Hospitals	170.5	175.4	176.7	.6	.9	.7	3.6	3.5	3.6
Nursing homes	—	—	—	.6	.8	.9	2.6	2.5	2.8
Educational services	172.6	177.9	178.6	.4	.6	.4	2.9	3.5	3.5
Colleges and universities	170.0	174.6	175.5	.3	.6	.5	3.0	3.0	3.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. Employment Cost Index for wages and salaries for private industry workers by industry and occupational group — Continued

(Not seasonally adjusted data)

Industry and occupational group	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for—					
	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	3 months ended—			12 months ended—		
				Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
Industry—Continued									
Nonmanufacturing industries	164.8	167.7	168.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	2.7	2.4	2.4
White collar	168.6	171.7	172.7	.7	.7	.6	2.9	2.5	2.4
Excluding sales	170.7	174.4	175.4	.6	.8	.6	2.8	2.8	2.8
Blue collar	156.1	158.2	159.7	.9	.4	.9	2.4	2.3	2.3
Service	158.7	160.8	161.7	.5	.4	.6	2.1	1.8	1.9
Occupational group									
White collar	168.2	171.3	172.3	.7	.8	.6	2.7	2.5	2.4
Excluding sales	169.2	172.7	173.7	.7	.8	.6	2.7	2.7	2.7
Professional specialty and technical	165.5	169.4	170.0	.5	.8	.4	3.1	2.9	2.7
Executive, administrative, and managerial	173.9	177.2	178.4	.7	.9	.7	2.1	2.6	2.6
Sales	163.9	164.9	166.0	.8	.5	.7	2.9	1.4	1.3
Administrative support, including clerical	168.6	172.0	173.3	.8	.7	.8	2.8	2.9	2.8
Blue collar	158.3	160.8	162.1	.7	.6	.8	2.4	2.3	2.4
Precision production, craft, and repair	158.3	160.4	162.0	.8	.4	1.0	2.3	2.1	2.3
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	159.8	162.6	163.7	.8	.6	.7	2.9	2.5	2.4
Transportation and material moving	151.8	154.4	156.0	.9	.7	1.0	1.9	2.7	2.8
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	162.7	165.6	165.9	.6	.7	.2	2.3	2.3	2.0
Service	159.3	161.4	162.3	.6	.5	.6	2.0	1.9	1.9
Production and nonsupervisory occupations³	161.7	164.5	165.5	.6	.7	.6	2.7	2.4	2.4

¹ Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing.² Includes transportation, communication, and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and service industries.³ This series has the same industry and occupational coverage as the

Hourly Earnings Index, which was discontinued in January 1989.

NOTE: Dashes indicate data not available.

Table 7. Employment Cost Index for wages and salaries for private industry workers by bargaining status, region, and area

(Not seasonally adjusted data)

Bargaining status, region, and area	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for—					
	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	3 months ended—			12 months ended—		
				Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
Bargaining status									
Union	158.7	160.8	162.1	1.0	0.1	0.8	2.9	2.3	2.1
Blue-collar occupations	155.5	157.8	159.3	.8	.4	1.0	2.6	2.3	2.4
Goods-producing industries ¹	157.5	159.6	161.1	.8	.4	.9	2.3	2.1	2.3
Service-producing industries ²	160.3	162.3	163.6	1.1	-.2	.8	3.4	2.4	2.1
Manufacturing	159.2	161.5	162.8	.7	.5	.8	2.1	2.2	2.3
Blue-collar occupations	157.8	160.0	161.3	.7	.5	.8	2.2	2.1	2.2
Nonmanufacturing	158.4	160.3	161.7	1.1	-.1	.9	3.2	2.4	2.1
Nonunion	165.6	168.6	169.6	.6	.8	.6	2.5	2.4	2.4
Blue-collar occupations	160.2	162.7	164.0	.8	.6	.8	2.4	2.3	2.4
Goods-producing industries ¹	162.4	165.2	166.4	.6	.8	.7	2.2	2.4	2.5
Service-producing industries ²	166.6	169.7	170.7	.6	.8	.6	2.6	2.5	2.5
Manufacturing	163.7	166.8	167.8	.7	.9	.6	2.2	2.6	2.5
Blue-collar occupations	162.6	166.0	166.9	.4	.9	.5	2.5	2.5	2.6
Nonmanufacturing	165.7	168.7	169.7	.6	.7	.6	2.6	2.4	2.4
Region³									
Northeast	163.6	166.0	167.3	1.0	.6	.8	3.3	2.5	2.3
South	160.1	163.6	164.4	.6	.8	.5	2.6	2.8	2.7
Midwest	167.7	170.6	171.3	.5	.8	.4	1.6	2.2	2.1
West	167.9	170.3	171.9	.7	.5	.9	2.9	2.1	2.4
Area									
Metropolitan	164.9	167.7	168.8	.7	.7	.7	2.6	2.4	2.4
Other	162.1	165.1	166.3	.8	.8	.7	2.6	2.7	2.6

¹ Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing.² Includes transportation, communication, and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and service industries.³ The regional coverage is as follows: Northeast: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont; South: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia,

and West Virginia; Midwest: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin; and West: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

NOTE: The indexes for these series are not strictly comparable to those for the aggregate, occupation, and industry series.

Table 8. Employment Cost Index for benefits for civilian, State and local government, and private industry workers by industry, occupational group, and bargaining status

(Not seasonally adjusted data)

Industry, occupational group, and bargaining status	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for—					
	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	3 months ended—			12 months ended—		
				Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005	Jun. 2004	Mar. 2005	Jun. 2005
Civilian workers	192.9	201.3	202.8	1.5	2.2	0.7	7.2	5.9	5.1
State and local government	183.0	193.0	194.0	1.0	1.4	.5	6.6	6.6	6.0
Private industry	195.3	203.3	204.9	1.6	2.3	.8	7.3	5.8	4.9
Industry									
Goods producing ¹	196.2	207.0	209.4	1.3	2.9	1.2	8.9	6.9	6.7
Service producing ²	194.1	200.5	201.6	1.8	2.0	.5	6.5	5.2	3.9
Manufacturing	196.9	206.7	208.8	1.3	3.1	1.0	10.0	6.3	6.0
Aircraft manufacturing (SIC 3721)	264.0	361.9	362.1	1.3	36.1	.1	19.8	38.9	37.2
White collar	265.3	367.0	368.3	.5	38.0	.4	21.5	39.0	38.8
Blue collar	259.9	351.8	350.5	2.7	32.8	-.4	17.2	39.0	34.9
Nonmanufacturing	194.3	201.6	203.0	1.8	2.0	.7	6.3	5.6	4.5
Occupational group									
White collar	197.4	206.8	208.5	1.5	2.8	.8	6.4	6.4	5.6
Blue collar	191.8	197.8	199.4	1.9	1.5	.8	8.9	5.0	4.0
Service	196.1	200.9	202.0	1.4	1.4	.5	7.7	3.9	3.0
Bargaining status									
Union	203.3	210.0	211.7	2.3	1.7	.8	11.3	5.6	4.1
Nonunion	193.0	201.3	202.9	1.5	2.4	.8	6.3	5.8	5.1

¹ Includes mining, construction, and manufacturing.² Includes transportation, communication, and public utilities;

wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and service industries.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) is a measure of the change in the cost of labor, free from the influence of employment shifts among occupations and industries. The compensation series includes changes in wages and salaries and employer costs for employee benefits. The wage and salary series and the benefit cost series provide the change for the two components of compensation.

Wages and salaries are defined as the hourly straight-time wage rate or, for workers not paid on an hourly basis, straight-time earnings divided by the corresponding hours. Straight-time wage and salary rates are total earnings before payroll deductions, excluding premium pay for overtime and for work on weekends and holidays, shift differentials, and nonproduction bonuses such as lump-sum payments provided in lieu of wage increases. Production bonuses, incentive earnings, commission payments, and cost-of-living adjustments are included in straight-time wage and salary rates.

Benefits covered by the ECI are: Paid leave—vacations, holidays, sick leave, and other leave; supplemental pay—premium pay for work in addition to the regular work schedule (such as overtime, weekends, and holidays), shift differentials, and nonproduction bonuses (such as referral bonuses and lump-sum payments provided in lieu of wage increases); insurance benefits—life, health, short-term disability, and long-term disability; retirement and savings benefits—defined benefit and defined contribution plans; legally required benefits—Social Security, Medicare, Federal and State unemployment insurance, and workers' compensation; and other benefits—severance pay and supplemental unemployment plans.

The ECI provides data for the civilian economy, which includes the total private nonfarm economy excluding households and the public sector excluding the Federal government. The private industry series and the State and local government series provide data for the two sectors separately.

Data for this quarter were collected from a probability sample of approximately 41,000 occupational observations within about 9,500 sample establishments in private industry and approximately 3,500 occupations within about 800 sample establishments in State and local governments. Data are collected for the pay period including the 12th day of the survey months of March, June, September, and December.

The sampled establishments are classified by industry categories based on the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC), as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Details on the sample design are included in the bulletin, Employment Cost Indexes, 1975-99, (Bulletin 2532). Within an establishment, specific job categories are selected and classified into about 500 occupational classifications according to the 1990 Census of Population. Individual occupations are combined into broader occupational groups. Fixed employment weights are used each quarter to calculate the most aggregate series—civilian, private, and State and local government. These fixed weights are also used to derive all of the industry and occupation series indexes. Since March 1995, 1990 employment counts, primarily from the Bureau's Occupational Employment Statistics survey, have been used. For more information on these topics, see the articles, "Introducing New Weights for the Employment Cost Index," in the June 1985 issue of the Monthly Labor Review and "Introducing 1990 Weights for the Employment Cost Index" in the June 1995 issue of Compensation and Working Conditions.

For the series based on bargaining status, region, and area size, employment data are not available. The employment weights are reallocated within these series each quarter based on the current ECI sample. The indexes for these series, consequently, are not strictly comparable to those for the aggregate, industry, and occupation series. A fuller explanation of the calculation of index numbers appears in an article, "Estimation Procedures for the Employment Cost Index," in the May 1982 issue of the Monthly Labor Review. Beginning with the March 1990 ECI release, indexes were rebased to June 1989=100. A description of the rebasing is included in the article "Employment Cost Index Rebased to June 1989," in the April 1990 issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

Beginning with the December 1990 ECI release, seasonally adjusted data are available for selected ECI series. Seasonal adjustment removes the effects of events that follow a more or less regular pattern each year. These adjustments make nonseasonal patterns easier to identify. For more information on the methodology used to seasonally adjust ECI series, see the bulletin, Employment Cost Indexes, 1975-99, (Bulletin 2532). The seasonal adjustment factors are recalculated once a year. The March release contains data reflecting the newly updated seasonal adjustment factors. The historical data for the last five years are then revised based on

the newly estimated factors. The seasonal factors for 2005 and revised seasonally adjusted indexes for the past five years are available on the Internet site (<http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/home.htm>) or upon request.

The ECI sample is rotated over approximately five years, which makes the sample more representative of the economy and reduces respondent burden. The sample is replaced on a cross-area, cross-industry basis.

Because the ECI is a sample survey, it is subject to sampling errors. Sampling errors are differences that occur between the results computed from a sample of observations and those computed from all observations in the population. The estimates derived from different samples selected using the same sample design may differ from one other. A measure of the variation among these differing estimates is the standard error. It can be used to measure the precision with which an estimate from a particular sample approximates the expected result of all possible samples. The chances are about 68 out of 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a complete population figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that this difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error. The statements of comparisons appearing in this publication are significant at a 1.6 standard error level or better, unless otherwise indicated. This means that for differences cited, the estimated difference is greater than 1.6 times the standard error of the difference.

Because standard errors vary from quarter to quarter, the ECI uses a five-year moving average of standard errors to evaluate published series. To assist users in ascertaining the reliability of series, the five-year moving average of standard errors for all estimates (excluding seasonally adjusted series) will be available on the Internet site (<http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/home.htm>) shortly after publication of the news release.

When determining data to be used in contract negotiations, it is important to note that differences by bargaining status may be due to factors other than union status, such as occupational and industry mix. For example, union occupations tend to be concentrated in blue-collar occupations within manufacturing industries. Thus, differences between blue-collar and white-collar pay or differences in manufacturing versus nonmanufacturing industries could explain such differences. An important consideration when choosing a series for escalation is the number of workers covered. Series with smaller numbers of workers may have larger sampling errors or be dominated by a smaller number of employers. For more information, see the web site: (<http://www.bls.gov/ect/escalator.htm>).

More detailed information on the ECI is available from several sources. These include an historical bulletin—Employment Cost Indexes, 1975-99, (Bulletin 2532), a chapter, “National Compensation Measures,” in the BLS Handbook of Methods (Bulletin 2490), and several articles published in the Monthly Labor Review and Compensation and Working Conditions. Orders for bulletins should be made to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Publication Sales Center, Room 960, 230 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 353-1880. Reprints of the articles and other descriptive pieces are available upon request by calling (202) 691-6199 or sending e-mail to (ocltinfo@bls.gov).

Historical data series are available, beginning with some wage and salary series begun in 1975. In addition, constant-dollar ECI series derived from the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) are available. Supplemental data from the ECI, providing 12-month percent changes in employer costs for health insurance in private industry beginning with June 1982 are also available. This information is available at the Internet site (<http://www.bls.gov/ect/home.htm>) or upon request.

The costs per hour worked of compensation components, based on data from the ECI, were recently published in a separate news release titled "Employer Costs for Employee Compensation—March 2005." Beginning with the March 2004 estimates, industry estimates are based on the 2002 North American Industry Classification (NAICS) system and the occupational categories are classified according to the 2000 Standard Occupational (SOC) system. These systems replace the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC) and the Occupational Classification System (OCS). The release and information on the transition to the new industry and occupational classification systems are available by e-mail request at ocltinfo@bls.gov, on the Internet site <http://www.bls.gov/ect/home.htm>, or by telephone (202) 691-6199. Historical data and related articles are included in the bulletin, Employer Costs for Employee Compensation, 1986-99, (Bulletin 2526). Also available on the Internet site (<http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ect/home.htm>) or upon request is an annual historical summary from March 1986 through March 2002. Data on a quarterly basis beginning with June 2002 are also available. The cost levels are calculated with current employment weights, rather than the fixed 1990 weights used in computing the ECI. Therefore, year-to-year changes in the cost levels usually differ from those in the ECI.