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## USUAL WEEKLY EARNINGS OF WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS FOURTH QUARTER 2012

**Median weekly earnings** of the nation's 103.8 million full-time wage and salary workers were \$775 in the fourth quarter of 2012 (not seasonally adjusted), the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. This was 1.4 percent higher than a year earlier, compared with a gain of 1.9 percent in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) over the same period.

Data on usual weekly earnings are collected as part of the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample survey of households in which respondents are asked, among other things, how much each wage and salary worker usually earns. (See the Technical Note.) Data shown in this release are not seasonally adjusted unless otherwise specified. Highlights from the fourth-quarter data are:

- **Seasonally adjusted median weekly earnings** were \$772 in the fourth quarter of 2012, little changed from the previous quarter (\$765). (See table 1.)
- On a not seasonally adjusted basis, **median weekly earnings** were \$775 in the fourth quarter of 2012. **Women** who usually worked full time had median weekly earnings of \$692, or 79.1 percent of the \$875 median for **men**. (See table 2.)
- The **female-to-male earnings ratio** varied by race and ethnicity. White women earned 79.6 percent as much as their male counterparts, compared with black (87.4 percent), Hispanic (86.6 percent), and Asian women (71.6 percent). (See table 2.)
- Among the major **race and ethnicity groups**, median weekly earnings for black men working at full-time jobs were \$680 per week, or 76.0 percent of the median for white men (\$895). The difference was less among women, as black women's median earnings (\$594) were 83.4 percent of those for white women (\$712). Overall, median earnings of Hispanics who worked full time (\$571) were lower than those of blacks (\$615), whites (\$802), and Asians (\$910). (See table 2.)
- Usual weekly earnings of full-time workers varied by **age** and were highest for persons age 35 to 64. Weekly earnings were \$985 for men age 35 to 44, little different from the medians for men age 45 to 54 (\$997) and men age 55 to 64 (\$1,035). Among women, those age 35 to 44 had median weekly earnings of \$742, about the same as the weekly earnings for women age 45 to 54 (\$747) and women age 55 to 64 (\$759). Workers age 16 to 24 had the lowest median weekly earnings, at \$459. (See table 3.)

- Among the major **occupational groups**, persons employed full time in management, professional, and related occupations had the highest median weekly earnings—\$1,340 for men and \$953 for women. Men and women employed in service jobs earned the least, \$550 and \$420, respectively. (See table 4.)
- By **educational attainment**, full-time workers age 25 and over without a high school diploma had median weekly earnings of \$478, compared with \$647 for high school graduates (no college) and \$1,168 for those holding at least a bachelor's degree. Among college graduates with advanced degrees (professional or master's degree and above), the highest earning 10 percent of male workers made \$3,474 or more per week, compared with \$2,343 or more for their female counterparts. (See table 5.)

### **Annual Averages for 2011 and 2012**

In addition to the data for the fourth quarter, this release includes 2011 and 2012 annual averages of median weekly earnings for major demographic and occupational groups, and 2012 annual average data for educational attainment groups. (See tables 7, 8, and 9.) Annual average data on median usual weekly earnings for men and women by detailed occupational categories will be posted online at [www.bls.gov/cps/tables.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cps/tables.htm) when they become available.

#### **Revision of Seasonally Adjusted Usual Weekly Earnings Data**

Seasonally adjusted median usual weekly earnings data shown in table 1 of this release have been revised using updated seasonal adjustment factors from the Current Population Survey, a procedure done at the end of each calendar year. The revisions directly affected the number of full-time wage and salary workers and current dollar estimates of median weekly earnings; estimates of constant (1982-84) dollar median weekly earnings were indirectly affected. Seasonally adjusted estimates back to the first quarter of 2008 were subject to revision.

The Usual Weekly Earnings news release for the first quarter of 2013, scheduled for release on April 18, 2013, will incorporate revisions to the seasonally adjusted data for the median weekly earnings in constant (1982-84) dollars. Seasonally adjusted constant (1982-84) dollar estimates back to the first quarter of 2008 will be subject to revision due to annual revisions to seasonally adjusted data for the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U).

# Technical Note

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau using a scientifically selected national sample of about 60,000 eligible households, with coverage in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wage and salary workers (both incorporated and unincorporated self-employed are excluded). The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

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

## Reliability

Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent. The exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the "true" population value because of sampling error. BLS analyses are generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence.

The CPS data also are affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling errors can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information on a timely basis, mistakes made by respondents, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

A full discussion of the reliability of data from the Current Population Survey and information on estimating standard errors is available on the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability).

## Definitions

The principal definitions used in connection with the earnings series are described briefly below.

*Usual weekly earnings.* Data represent earnings before taxes and other deductions and include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received (at the main job in the case of multiple jobholders). Prior to 1994, respondents were asked how much they usually earned per week. Since January 1994, respondents have been asked to identify the easiest way for them to report earnings (hourly, weekly, biweekly, twice monthly, monthly, annually, other) and how much they usually earn in the reported time period.

Earnings reported on a basis other than weekly are converted to a weekly equivalent. The term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of "usual", interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

*Medians (and other quantiles) of weekly earnings.* The median (or upper limit of the second quartile) is the amount that divides a given earnings distribution into two equal groups, one having earnings above the median and the other having earnings below the median. Ten percent of a given distribution have earnings below the upper limit of the first decile (90 percent have higher earnings); 25 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the first quartile (75 percent have higher earnings); 75 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the third quartile (25 percent have higher earnings); and 90 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the ninth decile (10 percent have higher earnings).

The estimation procedure places each reported or calculated weekly earnings value into \$50-wide intervals that are centered around multiples of \$50. The actual value is estimated through the linear interpolation of the interval in which the quantile boundary lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians (and other quantile boundaries) for specific groups may not necessarily be consistent with the movements estimated for the overall quantile boundary. The most common reasons for this possible anomaly are: (1) There could be a change in the relative weights of the subgroups. For example, the medians of both 16- to 24-year-olds and those 25 years and over may rise; but if the lower-earning 16- to 24-year-olds group accounts for a greatly increased share of the total, the overall median could actually fall. (2) There could be a large change in the shape of the distribution of reported earnings, particularly near a quantile boundary. This could be caused by survey observations that are clustered at

rounded values, such as \$250, \$300, or \$400. An estimate lying in a \$50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster or "spike" tends to change more slowly than one in other intervals.

*Wage and salary workers.* Workers who receive wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. The group includes employees in both the private and public sectors but, for the purposes of the earnings series, excludes all self-employed persons, regardless of whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

*Full-time workers.* Workers who usually work 35 hours or more per week at their sole or principal job.

*Part-time workers.* Workers who usually work fewer than 35 hours per week at their sole or principal job.

*Constant dollars.* The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used to convert current dollars to constant (1982-84) dollars.

*Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.* Refers to persons who identified themselves in the enumeration process as being of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of

any race.

## **Seasonal adjustment**

Over the course of a year, the size of the nation's labor force and other measures of labor market activity undergo regularly occurring fluctuations. These recurring events include seasonal changes in weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools. The effect of such seasonal variations can be very large.

Because seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on the level of a series can be tempered by adjusting for regular seasonal variation. These adjustments make nonseasonal developments easier to spot. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a more useful tool with which to analyze changes in quarter-to-quarter activity.

At the end of each calendar year, the seasonally adjusted data are revised for the past 5 years when the seasonal adjustment factors are updated. More information on seasonal adjustment is available on the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#sa](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#sa).

**Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by sex, quarterly averages, seasonally adjusted**

Year and quarter	Number of workers (in thousands)			Median weekly earnings					
	Total	Men	Women	In current dollars			In constant (1982-84) dollars		
				Total \$	Men \$	Women \$	Total \$	Men \$	Women \$
<b>2003</b>									
4th Quarter.....	100,628	56,607	44,021	623	702	560	337	379	302
<b>2004</b>									
1st Quarter.....	100,905	56,848	44,057	629	705	562	337	378	301
2nd Quarter.....	101,135	56,914	44,221	642	715	576	341	380	306
3rd Quarter.....	101,148	56,931	44,217	635	712	574	335	376	303
4th Quarter.....	101,658	57,289	44,369	646	720	577	337	376	302
<b>2005</b>									
1st Quarter.....	102,091	57,710	44,381	647	723	580	336	376	302
2nd Quarter.....	103,201	58,099	45,101	647	714	584	334	369	301
3rd Quarter.....	104,310	58,843	45,467	651	723	588	331	368	299
4th Quarter.....	104,605	58,967	45,638	658	730	588	332	368	296
<b>2006</b>									
1st Quarter.....	104,708	58,960	45,748	662	737	594	332	370	298
2nd Quarter.....	105,798	59,831	45,966	663	732	597	329	364	296
3rd Quarter.....	107,041	60,060	46,981	678	755	603	334	372	297
4th Quarter.....	106,847	60,140	46,707	681	748	607	337	370	300
<b>2007</b>									
1st Quarter.....	107,176	60,105	47,070	687	752	610	336	368	298
2nd Quarter.....	106,827	60,351	46,476	693	765	610	335	370	295
3rd Quarter.....	107,156	60,216	46,940	698	774	621	336	372	298
4th Quarter.....	108,178	60,508	47,670	700	774	615	332	368	292
<b>2008</b>									
1st Quarter.....	107,786	60,378	47,408	713	783	633	335	368	298
2nd Quarter.....	107,046	59,586	47,460	722	802	636	335	372	295
3rd Quarter.....	106,136	59,273	46,863	724	802	637	331	366	291
4th Quarter.....	105,617	58,511	47,106	727	806	647	340	377	302
<b>2009</b>									
1st Quarter.....	101,680	56,299	45,381	732	815	645	344	384	304
2nd Quarter.....	99,990	55,233	44,757	736	818	652	345	383	306
3rd Quarter.....	99,049	54,481	44,567	742	820	664	345	381	308
4th Quarter.....	98,569	54,412	44,156	747	823	666	344	379	307
<b>2010</b>									
1st Quarter.....	98,149	54,102	44,048	748	836	662	344	385	304
2nd Quarter.....	99,598	55,038	44,559	742	813	671	342	374	309
3rd Quarter.....	100,410	55,618	44,792	746	822	670	342	377	307
4th Quarter.....	99,960	55,469	44,491	750	826	676	342	376	308
<b>2011</b>									
1st Quarter.....	99,690	55,338	44,353	750	821	679	338	370	306
2nd Quarter.....	100,343	55,848	44,495	754	828	688	336	369	307
3rd Quarter.....	100,487	56,053	44,434	759	837	681	335	370	301
4th Quarter.....	101,316	56,643	44,674	761	838	686	335	369	302
<b>2012</b>									
1st Quarter.....	102,194	57,113	45,081	764	842	693	335	369	303
2nd Quarter.....	102,491	57,102	45,389	772	867	688	337	379	301
3rd Quarter.....	102,637	57,236	45,401	765	838	693	332	364	301
4th Quarter.....	103,681	57,701	45,980	772	868	690	334	376	298

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings			
	4th 2011	4th 2012	In current dollars		In constant (1982-84) dollars	
			4th 2011	4th 2012	4th 2011	4th 2012
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>						
Total, 16 years and over.....	101,458	103,819	\$764	\$ 775	\$338	\$336
Men, 16 years and over.....	56,678	57,735	843	875	373	380
16 to 24 years.....	4,943	5,094	466	480	206	208
25 years and over.....	51,735	52,641	893	926	395	402
Women, 16 years and over.....	44,779	46,084	688	692	304	300
16 to 24 years.....	3,787	3,916	420	422	186	183
25 years and over.....	40,993	42,168	724	725	320	315
<b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b>						
White.....	82,124	82,536	786	802	348	348
Men.....	46,881	46,876	871	895	385	388
Women.....	35,242	35,660	709	712	314	309
Black or African American.....	11,718	12,445	621	615	275	267
Men.....	5,533	5,841	660	680	292	295
Women.....	6,185	6,604	601	594	266	258
Asian.....	5,271	5,857	880	910	389	395
Men.....	2,929	3,385	960	1,051	425	456
Women.....	2,341	2,472	771	752	341	326
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	15,222	16,217	537	571	238	248
Men.....	9,542	9,868	562	599	248	260
Women.....	5,680	6,349	508	519	225	225

NOTE: 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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by age, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 4th quarter 2012 averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Age, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	Total		Men		Women	
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings
<b>TOTAL</b>						
16 years and over.....	103,819	\$775	57,735	\$ 875	46,084	\$692
16 to 24 years.....	9,010	459	5,094	480	3,916	422
16 to 19 years.....	864	363	485	393	379	329
20 to 24 years.....	8,146	476	4,609	490	3,537	444
25 years and over.....	94,809	823	52,641	926	42,168	725
25 to 54 years.....	74,428	807	41,573	902	32,855	717
25 to 34 years.....	24,874	713	14,234	747	10,640	668
35 to 44 years.....	24,247	873	13,657	985	10,591	742
45 to 54 years.....	25,307	877	13,682	997	11,625	747
55 years and over.....	20,381	887	11,068	1,016	9,313	746
55 to 64 years.....	17,067	911	9,178	1,035	7,889	759
65 years and over.....	3,314	770	1,890	909	1,424	668
<b>White</b>						
16 years and over.....	82,536	802	46,876	895	35,660	712
16 to 24 years.....	7,158	470	4,096	485	3,062	433
25 years and over.....	75,379	851	42,780	947	32,598	744
25 to 54 years.....	58,470	830	33,405	916	25,065	736
55 years and over.....	16,909	930	9,376	1,073	7,533	768
<b>Black or African American</b>						
16 years and over.....	12,445	615	5,841	680	6,604	594
16 to 24 years.....	1,088	371	555	372	533	371
25 years and over.....	11,357	644	5,286	713	6,071	608
25 to 54 years.....	9,208	637	4,293	703	4,915	605
55 years and over.....	2,148	694	992	753	1,156	624
<b>Asian</b>						
16 years and over.....	5,857	910	3,385	1,051	2,472	752
16 to 24 years.....	399	510	240	547	160	475
25 years and over.....	5,458	945	3,145	1,091	2,312	772
25 to 54 years.....	4,509	983	2,648	1,135	1,861	805
55 years and over.....	949	707	498	880	451	571
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>						
16 years and over.....	16,217	571	9,868	599	6,349	519
16 to 24 years.....	1,927	426	1,184	439	743	412
25 years and over.....	14,290	600	8,684	633	5,606	544
25 to 54 years.....	12,556	594	7,653	622	4,903	546
55 years and over.....	1,735	642	1,032	690	703	523

NOTE: 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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 4. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by occupation and sex, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Occupation and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	4th 2011	4th 2012	4th 2011	4th 2012
<b>TOTAL</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	40,227	41,759	\$1,098	\$1,124
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	16,261	17,137	1,162	1,178
Professional and related occupations.....	23,966	24,622	1,036	1,067
Service occupations.....	14,675	14,643	496	476
Sales and office occupations.....	22,917	23,358	639	665
Sales and related occupations.....	9,357	9,699	674	694
Office and administrative support occupations.....	13,559	13,659	624	654
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	10,004	10,120	747	748
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	724	749	416	461
Construction and extraction occupations.....	5,027	5,238	725	747
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4,253	4,133	823	806
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	13,636	13,939	608	620
Production occupations.....	7,316	7,656	596	619
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	6,320	6,283	621	620
<b>Men</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	19,585	20,436	1,274	1,340
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	8,920	9,267	1,369	1,366
Professional and related occupations.....	10,665	11,168	1,226	1,309
Service occupations.....	7,633	7,086	578	550
Sales and office occupations.....	8,976	9,338	740	801
Sales and related occupations.....	5,317	5,672	802	838
Office and administrative support occupations.....	3,660	3,665	663	749
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	9,611	9,713	755	756
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	592	554	416	487
Construction and extraction occupations.....	4,917	5,133	726	749
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4,103	4,025	830	805
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	10,873	11,162	654	676
Production occupations.....	5,420	5,686	664	692
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	5,453	5,476	644	655
<b>Women</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	20,642	21,323	946	953
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	7,341	7,869	993	986
Professional and related occupations.....	13,301	13,454	925	931
Service occupations.....	7,042	7,556	440	420
Sales and office occupations.....	13,940	14,021	605	609
Sales and related occupations.....	4,040	4,026	554	505
Office and administrative support occupations.....	9,900	9,994	618	633
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	392	408	548	557
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	132	195	422	369
Construction and extraction occupations.....	110	105	671	670
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	150	108	697	865
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	2,763	2,777	474	487
Production occupations.....	1,896	1,971	464	497
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	867	806	502	444

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.



**Table 5. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 4th quarter 2012 averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
<b>SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>						
Total, 16 years and over.....	103,819	\$362	\$ 505	\$ 775	\$1,227	\$1,887
Men.....	57,735	389	552	875	1,373	2,103
Women.....	46,084	334	466	692	1,036	1,552
White.....	82,536	373	518	802	1,255	1,908
Men.....	46,876	399	575	895	1,416	2,127
Women.....	35,660	342	480	712	1,061	1,573
Black or African American.....	12,445	314	423	615	967	1,440
Men.....	5,841	336	437	680	1,038	1,541
Women.....	6,604	298	411	594	872	1,363
Asian.....	5,857	376	545	910	1,424	2,142
Men.....	3,385	411	611	1,051	1,620	2,421
Women.....	2,472	344	484	752	1,169	1,734
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	16,217	316	400	571	870	1,331
Men.....	9,868	331	416	599	913	1,445
Women.....	6,349	300	373	519	786	1,163
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	94,809	383	536	823	1,272	1,913
Less than a high school diploma.....	6,910	292	358	478	664	901
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	25,228	350	457	647	938	1,324
Some college or associate degree.....	26,251	385	525	752	1,090	1,511
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	36,419	557	801	1,168	1,774	2,580
Bachelor's degree only.....	23,064	515	738	1,071	1,611	2,310
Advanced degree.....	13,355	660	937	1,379	2,022	2,916
Men, 25 years and over.....	52,641	412	597	926	1,438	2,192
Less than a high school diploma.....	4,750	325	394	518	712	981
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	15,176	387	508	738	1,047	1,455
Some college or associate degree.....	13,477	435	608	874	1,239	1,725
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	19,238	614	936	1,387	2,038	2,956
Bachelor's degree only.....	12,210	574	867	1,267	1,885	2,805
Advanced degree.....	7,028	730	1,119	1,617	2,408	3,474
Women, 25 years and over.....	42,168	349	489	725	1,075	1,592
Less than a high school diploma.....	2,160	256	308	381	506	676
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	10,052	313	402	539	758	1,020
Some college or associate degree.....	12,775	349	479	655	914	1,274
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	17,181	513	716	991	1,469	2,014
Bachelor's degree only.....	10,854	485	646	922	1,316	1,858
Advanced degree.....	6,328	629	847	1,155	1,673	2,343

1 Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

2 Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Ten percent of all full-time wage and salary workers earn less than the upper limit of the first decile; 25 percent earn less than the upper limit of the first quartile; 50 percent earn less than the upper limit of the second quartile, or median; 75 percent earn less than the upper limit of the third quartile; and 90 percent earn less than the upper limit of the ninth decile. 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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 6. Median usual weekly earnings of part-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	4th 2011	4th 2012	4th 2011	4th 2012
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>				
Total, 16 years and over.....	24,652	24,604	\$233	\$235
Men, 16 years and over.....	8,744	8,573	226	225
16 to 24 years.....	3,757	3,698	176	173
25 years and over.....	4,987	4,874	271	273
Women, 16 years and over.....	15,909	16,031	237	241
16 to 24 years.....	4,460	4,616	168	168
25 years and over.....	11,448	11,415	271	281
<b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b>				
White.....	20,272	19,884	233	236
Men.....	7,070	6,871	223	224
Women.....	13,203	13,013	239	243
Black or African American.....	2,795	2,760	226	225
Men.....	1,086	1,023	232	231
Women.....	1,709	1,737	222	221
Asian.....	899	1,116	262	263
Men.....	334	366	258	232
Women.....	565	750	266	281
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	3,720	3,953	223	234
Men.....	1,660	1,589	227	231
Women.....	2,061	2,365	218	236

NOTE: 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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 7. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, annual averages**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings			
	2011	2012	In current dollars		In constant (1982-84) dollars	
			2011	2012	2011	2012
<b>SEX AND AGE</b>						
Total, 16 years and over.....	100,457	102,749	\$756	\$ 768	\$336	\$335
Men, 16 years and over.....	55,971	57,286	832	854	370	372
16 to 24 years.....	4,951	5,164	455	468	202	204
25 years and over.....	51,020	52,122	886	910	394	396
Women, 16 years and over.....	44,486	45,462	684	691	304	301
16 to 24 years.....	3,772	3,866	421	416	187	181
25 years and over.....	40,714	41,597	718	727	319	317
<b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b>						
White.....	81,336	81,779	775	792	344	345
Men.....	46,360	46,672	856	879	381	383
Women.....	34,976	35,108	703	710	313	309
Black or African American.....	11,604	12,230	615	621	274	271
Men.....	5,414	5,756	653	665	290	289
Women.....	6,191	6,474	595	599	264	261
Asian.....	5,197	5,790	866	920	385	401
Men.....	2,912	3,231	970	1,055	431	459
Women.....	2,284	2,560	751	770	334	335
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	15,147	16,302	549	568	244	247
Men.....	9,448	9,887	571	592	254	258
Women.....	5,700	6,414	518	521	230	227

NOTE: 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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 8. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by occupation and sex, annual averages**

Occupation and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
<b>TOTAL</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	39,791	40,984	\$1,082	\$1,108
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	16,061	16,991	1,160	1,171
Professional and related occupations.....	23,730	23,993	1,029	1,053
Service occupations.....	14,378	14,839	486	485
Sales and office occupations.....	22,989	23,115	638	655
Sales and related occupations.....	9,294	9,433	670	689
Office and administrative support occupations.....	13,695	13,683	623	643
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	9,965	9,968	732	740
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	775	777	430	435
Construction and extraction occupations.....	5,031	5,102	717	740
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4,159	4,088	806	808
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	13,333	13,842	609	624
Production occupations.....	7,058	7,427	605	627
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	6,275	6,415	614	621
<b>Men</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	19,267	19,926	1,269	1,328
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	8,676	9,121	1,370	1,387
Professional and related occupations.....	10,592	10,804	1,211	1,267
Service occupations.....	7,387	7,511	551	543
Sales and office occupations.....	9,012	9,202	738	768
Sales and related occupations.....	5,225	5,428	804	838
Office and administrative support occupations.....	3,787	3,774	668	700
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	9,574	9,579	740	749
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	625	611	445	457
Construction and extraction occupations.....	4,937	5,004	718	741
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4,013	3,963	807	809
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	10,730	11,069	651	675
Production occupations.....	5,241	5,497	667	695
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	5,489	5,572	634	650
<b>Women</b>				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	20,524	21,059	941	951
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	7,386	7,869	977	993
Professional and related occupations.....	13,139	13,189	919	928
Service occupations.....	6,991	7,328	433	435
Sales and office occupations.....	13,977	13,914	602	610
Sales and related occupations.....	4,069	4,005	549	521
Office and administrative support occupations.....	9,908	9,909	615	629
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	391	389	515	550
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	150	166	371	377
Construction and extraction occupations.....	95	98	612	723
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	146	125	751	757
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	2,603	2,773	485	493
Production occupations.....	1,817	1,930	483	496
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	786	843	490	487

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 9. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 2012 annual averages**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
<b>TOTAL</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	93,719	\$382	\$ 538	\$ 815	\$1,261	\$1,901
Less than a high school diploma.....	7,010	288	351	471	643	898
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	25,239	349	465	652	937	1,305
Some college or associate degree.....	25,826	389	526	749	1,085	1,512
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	35,644	562	791	1,165	1,767	2,555
Bachelor's degree only.....	22,715	514	733	1,066	1,595	2,304
Advanced degree.....	12,929	662	936	1,373	2,008	2,918
<b>Men</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	52,122	407	592	910	1,420	2,113
Less than a high school diploma.....	4,773	305	383	508	704	985
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	15,087	383	512	735	1,044	1,443
Some college or associate degree.....	13,517	426	598	857	1,228	1,699
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	18,745	611	910	1,371	2,000	2,920
Bachelor's degree only.....	12,018	575	834	1,246	1,875	2,691
Advanced degree.....	6,727	746	1,098	1,622	2,390	3,449
<b>Women</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	41,597	354	494	727	1,085	1,597
Less than a high school diploma.....	2,236	262	311	386	510	669
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	10,152	317	408	561	765	1,031
Some college or associate degree.....	12,310	360	484	659	922	1,263
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	16,899	514	720	1,001	1,457	2,023
Bachelor's degree only.....	10,697	485	655	931	1,335	1,880
Advanced degree.....	6,202	621	843	1,157	1,688	2,306
<b>White, total</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	74,643	391	563	842	1,293	1,917
Less than a high school diploma.....	5,760	292	356	482	659	914
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	20,021	362	484	680	970	1,349
Some college or associate degree.....	20,440	398	553	774	1,131	1,556
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	28,423	577	810	1,178	1,824	2,671
Bachelor's degree only.....	18,266	526	748	1,094	1,641	2,353
Advanced degree.....	10,157	670	944	1,390	2,052	3,015
<b>White men</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	42,518	416	608	932	1,448	2,179
Less than a high school diploma.....	4,058	309	386	515	711	994
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	12,257	394	534	760	1,083	1,481
Some college or associate degree.....	10,991	450	620	894	1,264	1,753
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	15,213	624	926	1,399	2,059	3,019
Bachelor's degree only.....	9,897	591	858	1,269	1,889	2,769
Advanced degree.....	5,316	752	1,104	1,650	2,478	3,784
<b>White women</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	32,124	362	506	743	1,113	1,630
Less than a high school diploma.....	1,702	267	313	389	515	673
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	7,763	326	419	581	786	1,064
Some college or associate degree.....	9,449	367	495	678	947	1,291
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	13,210	520	729	1,012	1,468	2,063
Bachelor's degree only.....	8,369	490	666	939	1,345	1,893
Advanced degree.....	4,841	629	854	1,164	1,702	2,310
<b>Black or African American, total</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	11,079	342	460	657	981	1,450
Less than a high school diploma.....	681	258	319	408	548	735
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	3,553	313	405	548	774	1,076
Some college or associate degree.....	3,654	359	468	626	885	1,227
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	3,191	492	682	972	1,407	1,922
Bachelor's degree only.....	2,098	474	633	892	1,294	1,750
Advanced degree.....	1,092	581	819	1,149	1,655	2,324
<b>Black or African American men</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	5,182	360	484	702	1,054	1,548
Less than a high school diploma.....	365	271	340	446	600	873
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	1,887	338	435	604	871	1,188

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 9. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 2012 annual averages — Continued**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
Some college or associate degree.....	1,637	379	496	694	969	1,359
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	1,292	493	720	1,086	1,562	2,193
Bachelor's degree only.....	874	471	665	975	1,409	1,888
Advanced degree.....	419	593	975	1,333	1,893	2,832
<b>Black or African American women</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	5,897	329	440	621	919	1,369
Less than a high school diploma.....	316	247	306	377	474	622
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	1,666	296	381	499	673	926
Some college or associate degree.....	2,017	344	443	595	812	1,095
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	1,898	492	660	913	1,318	1,832
Bachelor's degree only.....	1,224	476	616	846	1,202	1,631
Advanced degree.....	674	576	773	997	1,505	2,041
<b>Asian, total</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	5,442	387	582	954	1,534	2,278
Less than a high school diploma.....	322	282	339	446	584	858
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	888	318	401	589	857	1,153
Some college or associate degree.....	899	380	499	715	1,054	1,414
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	3,333	537	828	1,290	1,889	2,623
Bachelor's degree only.....	1,870	479	718	1,128	1,623	2,312
Advanced degree.....	1,463	688	992	1,525	2,107	2,889
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, total</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	14,285	317	408	597	901	1,363
Less than a high school diploma.....	4,023	288	341	437	599	795
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	4,397	322	408	582	810	1,137
Some college or associate degree.....	3,277	359	489	680	983	1,390
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	2,587	450	653	967	1,453	2,098
Bachelor's degree only.....	1,783	420	609	906	1,341	1,882
Advanced degree.....	804	537	810	1,166	1,757	2,624
<b>Hispanic or Latino men</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	8,643	332	424	619	945	1,444
Less than a high school diploma.....	2,859	299	368	486	647	874
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	2,751	346	437	624	889	1,236
Some college or associate degree.....	1,740	389	523	758	1,117	1,523
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	1,292	474	698	1,103	1,654	2,475
Bachelor's degree only.....	897	445	643	1,002	1,527	2,186
Advanced degree.....	395	543	860	1,287	1,992	3,006
<b>Hispanic or Latino women</b>						
Total, 25 years and over.....	5,642	301	383	554	821	1,238
Less than a high school diploma.....	1,164	274	307	369	482	616
High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> .....	1,646	298	377	501	692	939
Some college or associate degree.....	1,537	336	442	611	848	1,195
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....	1,295	426	628	902	1,268	1,760
Bachelor's degree only.....	886	406	587	818	1,151	1,573
Advanced degree.....	409	525	755	1,093	1,539	2,099

1 Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

2 Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Ten percent of all full-time wage and salary workers earn less than the upper limit of the first decile; 25 percent earn less than the upper limit of the first quartile; 50 percent earn less than the upper limit of the second quartile, or median; 75 percent earn less than the upper limit of the third quartile; and 90 percent earn less than the upper limit of the ninth decile. 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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.