

News

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EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX--SEPTEMBER 1995

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) increased 0.8 percent before seasonal adjustment in the 3 months ended in September 1995, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The September 1995 ECI level of 126.6 (June 1989=100) was 2.7 percent higher than the index in September 1994. The ECI measures changes in compensation costs, including wages, salaries, and employer costs for employee benefits.

Quarterly changes, seasonally adjusted

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the ECI rose 0.6 percent in the June-September 1995 period, compared with a 0.7 percent gain in the March-June 1995 period. This matches the December 1994-March 1995 period for the smallest compensation cost increase since the series began in 1982. Wage and salary gains, 0.7 percent in June-September 1995, have stayed within a relatively narrow range over the past 3 years. Benefit costs rose 0.4 percent in June-September 1995, down from the 0.7 percent increase for the March-June 1995 period.

Table A. Percent changes in Employment Cost Index for civilian workers

Compensation component	Seasonally adjusted 3-months ended								Unadjusted 12-months ended Sept. 1995
	Dec. 1993	Mar. 1994	June 1994	Sept 1994	Dec. 1994	Mar. 1995	June 1995	Sept. 1995	
Compensation costs....	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	2.7
Wages and salaries ...	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.7	2.8
Benefit costs	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.7	0.4	2.2

Private industry workers showed a pattern similar to civilian workers. (See table 1.) Compensation costs rose 0.6 percent in the June-September 1995 period. Wages and salaries increased 0.7 percent, in line with gains over the past year. Benefit costs increased 0.5 percent for the June-September 1995 period, the same as for the March-June 1995 period. Benefit cost increases were held down by declining health insurance costs to employers.

Compensation cost increases for state and local government workers slowed to 0.5 percent in the June-September 1995 period, down from 1.0 percent in the preceding period. This slowdown was due primarily to smaller gains in benefits (0.1 percent in June-September 1995, down from 1.4 percent in the March-June 1995 period).

Over-the-year changes, unadjusted

Compensation costs (not seasonally adjusted) increased 2.7 percent for the year ended in September 1995, down from 3.2 percent for the 12-month period ended September 1994. This is the smallest over-the-year increase since the series began in 1981. The increase for private industry workers was also the smallest on record at 2.6 percent, compared with 3.3 percent for the year ended September 1994. State and local government increases were 3.0 percent, the same as in the period ended September 1994. Increases in state and local government have ranged between 2.8 and 3.1 percent for the last 2 years.

Private industry wage and salaries increased 2.8 percent in September 1994-95, about the same as the 2.9 percent gain for September 1993-94. Wage and salary increases have ranged between 2.7 and 3.1 percent for the last 3 years.

For the year ended September 1995, compensation cost gains in private industry were higher in service-producing industries (2.9 percent) than in goods-producing industries (2.1 percent). For the year ended September 1994, increases in the two sectors had been about the same (3.2 percent and 3.3 percent, respectively). Among the goods-producing industries, the September 1994-95 increases ranged from 1.4 percent in construction to 2.5 percent in durable goods manufacturing. In the service-producing industries, gains ranged from 1.2 percent for food stores to 4.7 percent for colleges and universities. Other service-producing industries with relatively large increases were transportation (4.2 percent) and wholesale trade (4.6 percent).

Over-the-year compensation cost increases in private industry were higher for white-collar workers (2.8 percent) than for blue-collar workers (2.3 percent) and service occupations (2.4 percent). Among occupational groups, increases ranged from 1.8 percent for machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors to 3.4 percent for sales occupations.

Compensation cost increases were slightly higher for nonunion workers (2.7 percent) than for union workers (2.4 percent). This pattern also held in the goods-producing industries (2.3 percent and 1.8 percent, respectively), but not in the service-producing industries (3.2 percent for union and 2.8 percent for nonunion).

BLS Data Now Available on the World Wide Web

ECI data, as well as other data produced by BLS, are now available on the Worldwide Web. To access ECI data use the address: <http://stats.bls.gov/ecthome.htm>. To access the BLS Home Page use: <http://stats.bls.gov>. There is no charge from BLS for using this service; however, there may be a charge from your Internet service provider. To access data using GOPHER or Anonymous FTP, use the Internet address: stats.bls.gov.

For technical assistance in using the BLS Internet site, send email to: labstat.helpdesk@bls.gov. For ECI data requests, send e-mail to: dectinfo@bls.gov.

ECI data for December 1995 is scheduled for release on Tuesday, January 30, 1996, at 8:30 A.M. (EST)

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

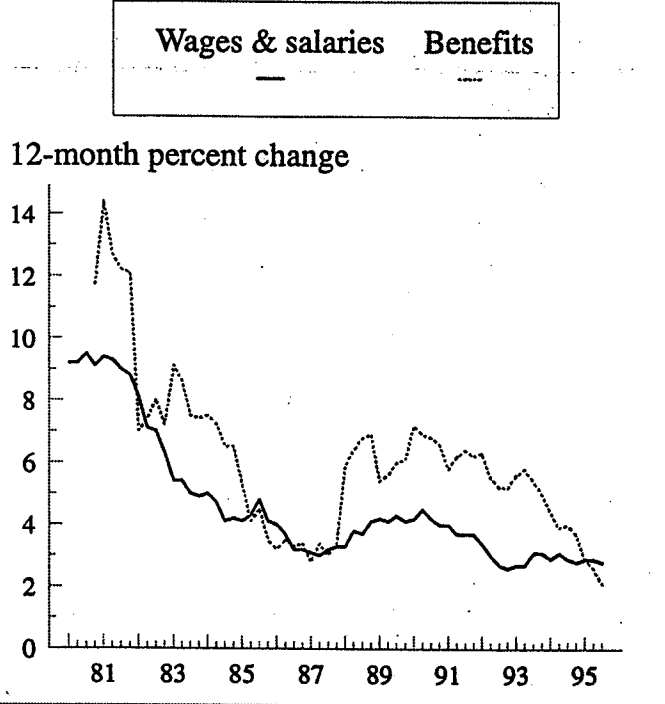


Chart B. Changes in compensation, seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted, state and local government

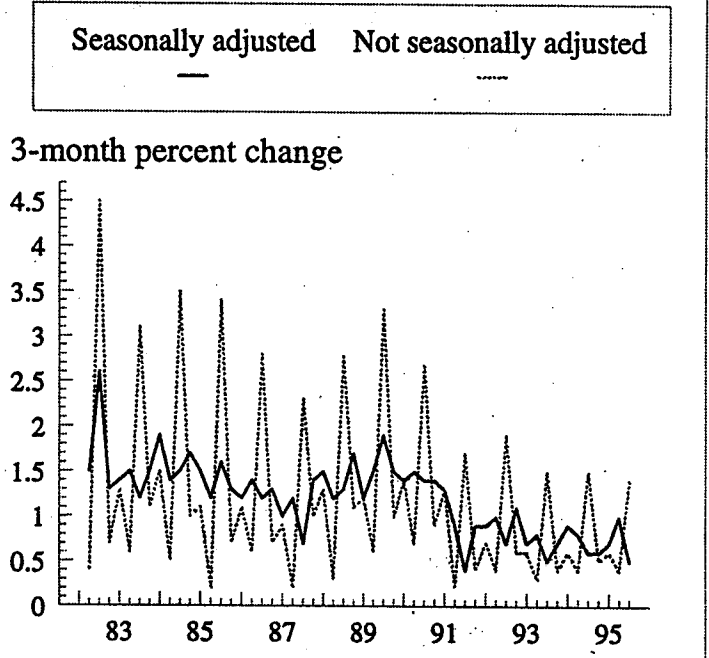


Chart C. Changes in compensation, state and local government, by occupational category

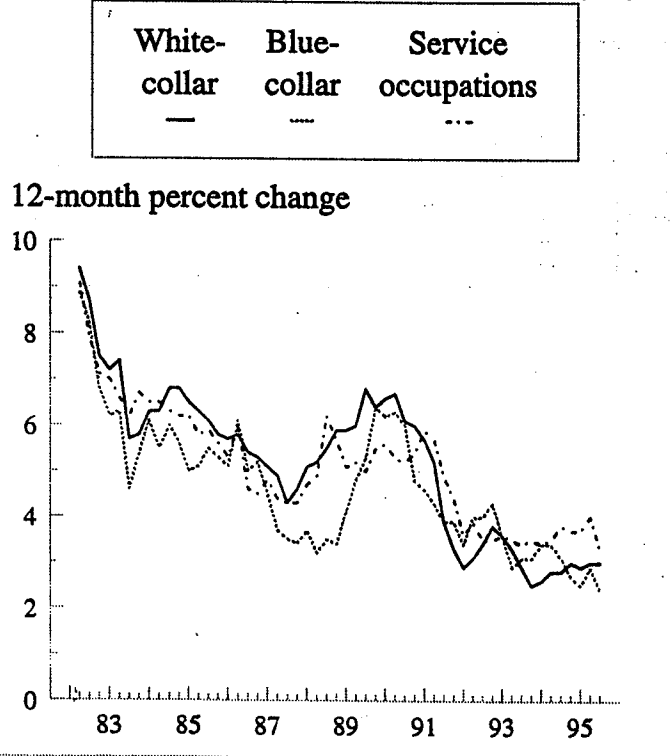


Chart D. Changes in compensation, state and local government, by industry category

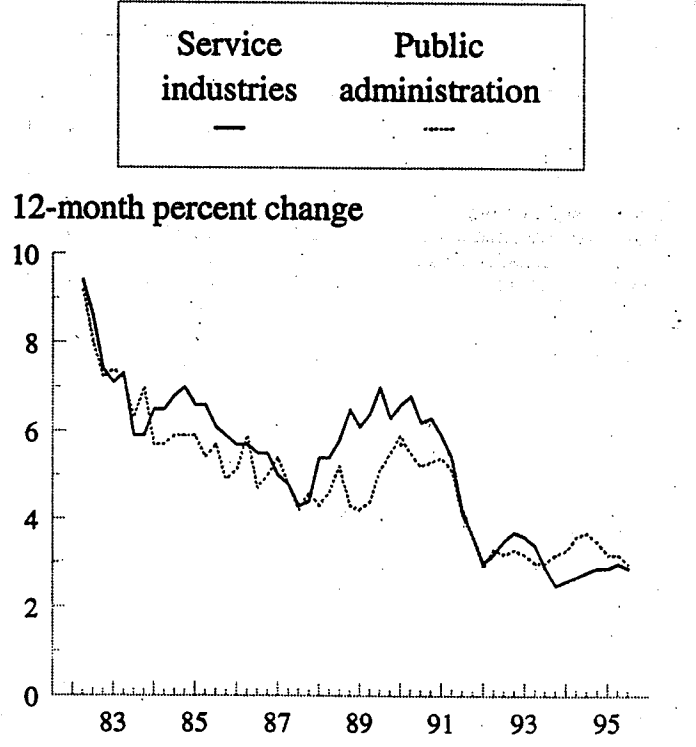


Table 1. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: Employment Cost Index for total compensation, wages and salaries, and benefit costs, by industry and occupational group

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)		Percent changes for 3-months ended							
	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Dec. 1993	Mar. 1994	June 1994	Sep. 1994	Dec. 1994	Mar. 1995	June 1995	Sep. 1995
COMPENSATION										
Civilian workers	125.5	126.2	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6
State and local government	127.5	128.1	.7	.9	.8	.6	.6	.7	1.0	.5
Private industry workers	125.2	125.9	.8	.8	.8	.8	.7	.6	.7	.6
White-collar occupations	126.2	126.9	.9	.8	.9	.7	.7	.7	.8	.6
Blue-collar occupations	124.3	125.0	.8	.5	.7	.9	.6	.4	.7	.6
Service occupations	124.1	124.7	.6	.8	.5	.7	.9	.2	.6	.5
Goods-producing industries 1 ...	125.8	126.5	.8	.7	1.0	.8	.6	.5	.6	.6
Construction	121.8	122.8	.2	1.6	1.1	1.0	-.1	.1	.5	.8
Manufacturing	126.9	127.4	.8	.6	.9	.9	.7	.5	.7	.4
Durables	127.7	128.2	.9	.5	.9	1.1	.7	.6	.7	.4
Nondurables	125.2	125.8	.7	.7	.9	.6	.6	.3	.6	.5
Service-producing industries 2	124.8	125.6	.9	.7	.7	.8	.7	.7	.8	.6
Transportation and public utilities	124.7	125.9	.9	1.1	.5	1.3	.9	1.1	.7	1.0
Wholesale trade	124.5	126.3	.9	.3	1.1	1.2	.5	1.6	.9	1.4
Retail trade	121.5	122.4	.9	.7	.9	1.1	.1	.7	.2	.7
Finance, insurance, and real estate 3	121.8	122.7	.6	1.1	.0	.7	.3	1.1	1.3	.7
Services	128.4	128.8	.8	.8	.7	.6	.7	.5	.9	.3
Nonmanufacturing industries ...	124.6	125.3	.8	.8	.8	.8	.5	.7	.8	.6
WAGES AND SALARIES										
Civilian workers	122.2	123.0	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.7
State and local government	125.3	126.0	.7	.8	.7	.7	.8	1.0	.7	.6
Private industry workers	121.5	122.3	.7	.8	.9	.7	.6	.7	.7	.7
White-collar occupations	122.7	123.5	.9	.6	.8	.7	.7	.7	.8	.7
Blue-collar occupations 3	120.1	120.8	.6	.7	.8	.9	.4	.8	.9	.6
Service occupations	120.1	120.8	.4	.9	.5	.6	1.0	.5	.6	.6
Goods-producing industries 1,3	121.4	122.1	.7	.7	.9	.8	.6	.7	.8	.6
Construction	115.5	116.5	.3	1.0	1.0	.7	.5	.1	.4	.9
Manufacturing 3	122.9	123.5	.9	.6	.8	.8	.7	.9	.8	.5
Durables 3	122.9	123.6	1.1	.5	.8	.9	.8	.9	.8	.6
Nondurables	122.7	123.4	.7	.4	.9	.9	.5	.7	.7	.6
Service-producing industries 2	121.6	122.4	.8	.6	.7	.8	.5	.9	.7	.7
Transportation and public utilities	122.0	122.8	.8	.8	.7	1.4	.8	1.3	.7	.7
Wholesale trade	122.3	124.0	1.0	.1	1.2	.9	.7	1.3	.8	1.4
Retail trade	119.3	120.2	.9	.3	1.0	.9	.3	.9	.2	.8
Finance, insurance, and real estate 3	117.0	118.0	.5	.7	-.4	.5	.4	.7	1.7	.9
Services	124.6	125.2	.7	.9	.7	.5	.7	.7	.6	.5
Nonmanufacturing industries ...	120.9	121.8	.7	.6	.8	.8	.5	.7	.8	.7

See footnotes at end of table.

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

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)		Percent changes for 3-months ended							
	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Dec. 1993	Mar. 1994	June 1994	Sep. 1994	Dec. 1994	Mar. 1995	June 1995	Sep. 1995
	BENEFIT COSTS									
Civilian workers	134.4	134.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.7	0.4
State and local government	133.0	133.1	.9	.8	1.2	.4	.4	.6	1.4	.1
Private industry workers	134.7	135.4	1.1	.9	1.0	1.0	.8	.1	.5	.5
White-collar occupations	135.8	136.6	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.1	.9	.5	.8	.6
Blue-collar occupations	133.4	133.9	1.1	.5	.8	.9	.5	-.2	.3	.4
Service occupations	135.6	135.7	1.0	.6	.4	.8	.6	-.2	.7	.1
Goods-producing industries ¹ ...	135.5	136.1	1.0	.8	1.0	.9	.8	-.3	.1	.4
Manufacturing	134.9	135.5	1.0	.2	1.1	.9	1.0	-.4	.1	.4
Service-producing industries ²	134.1	134.7	1.2	1.0	.9	1.2	.6	.6	1.0	.4
Nonmanufacturing industries	134.6	135.4	1.1	1.3	.9	1.1	.5	.5	.8	.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 No identifiable seasonality was found for this series.

Table 2. COMPENSATION (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for total compensation, civilian and state and local government workers, by industry and occupational group

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
Civilian workers	123.3	125.6	126.6	1.0	0.6	0.8	3.2	2.9	2.7
Excluding sales	123.7	125.9	126.9	1.1	.6	.8	3.3	2.9	2.6
Workers, by occupational group									
White-collar occupations	123.9	126.3	127.4	1.1	.6	.9	3.3	3.0	2.8
Excluding sales	124.5	126.9	128.0	1.1	.5	.9	3.3	3.0	2.8
Professional specialty and technical ...	125.7	127.5	128.9	1.2	.4	1.1	3.0	2.7	2.5
Executive, administrative, and managerial	122.9	125.7	126.7	1.1	.4	.8	3.6	3.4	3.1
Administrative support, including clerical	124.6	127.3	128.1	.9	.6	.6	3.5	3.1	2.8
Blue-collar occupations	122.4	124.5	125.2	.9	.7	.6	3.0	2.6	2.3
Service occupations	123.5	125.8	126.7	1.1	.6	.7	3.0	3.0	2.6
Workers, by industry division									
Goods-producing ¹	123.9	126.0	126.5	.7	.6	.4	3.3	2.4	2.1
Manufacturing	124.4	126.9	127.3	.7	.6	.3	3.2	2.8	2.3
Service-producing ²	123.1	125.5	126.6	1.2	.7	.9	3.2	3.1	2.8
Services	125.8	127.8	128.9	1.3	.5	.9	2.9	2.9	2.5
Health services	127.8	130.2	131.1	.9	.6	.7	2.7	2.8	2.6
Hospitals	127.5	129.7	130.4	.9	.7	.5	2.9	2.6	2.3
Educational services	126.0	127.4	129.8	1.9	.4	1.9	2.8	3.1	3.0
Public administration	123.7	126.1	127.4	1.2	.6	1.0	3.7	3.2	3.0
Nonmanufacturing	123.0	125.2	126.3	1.1	.6	.9	3.2	2.9	2.7
State and local government workers	125.0	126.9	128.7	1.5	.4	1.4	3.0	3.1	3.0
Workers, by occupational group									
White-collar occupations	124.9	126.6	128.6	1.6	.3	1.6	2.8	3.0	3.0
Professional specialty and technical ...	125.0	126.3	128.4	1.9	.2	1.7	2.7	2.9	2.7
Executive, administrative, and managerial	124.7	127.4	129.1	1.1	.4	1.3	3.1	3.2	3.5
Administrative support, including clerical	124.9	126.9	128.4	1.3	.5	1.2	3.2	2.9	2.8
Blue-collar occupations	124.2	126.3	127.2	1.2	.7	.7	3.1	2.9	2.4
Service occupations	126.0	128.8	130.1	1.7	.9	1.0	3.8	4.0	3.3
Workers, by industry division									
Services	125.6	127.1	129.2	1.8	.3	1.7	2.8	3.0	2.9
Excluding schools ³	124.9	127.7	128.9	1.3	1.0	.9	2.9	3.6	3.2
Health services	127.2	129.8	131.0	1.6	1.1	.9	4.1	3.7	3.0
Hospitals	127.0	129.9	131.1	2.0	1.2	.9	4.1	4.3	3.2
Educational services	125.5	126.8	129.0	1.9	.2	1.7	2.6	3.0	2.8
Schools	125.9	127.1	129.4	2.0	.2	1.8	2.8	3.0	2.8
Elementary and secondary	126.3	127.4	129.8	2.0	.2	1.9	2.7	2.9	2.8
Colleges and universities	124.5	126.1	128.0	2.0	.1	1.5	3.1	3.4	2.8
Public administration	123.7	126.1	127.4	1.2	.6	1.0	3.7	3.2	3.0

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 Formerly called hospitals and other services.

Table 3. COMPENSATION (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for total compensation, private industry workers, by industry and occupational group

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
Private industry workers	123.0	125.4	126.2	0.8	0.7	0.6	3.3	2.8	2.6
Excluding sales	123.4	125.7	126.5	.9	.6	.6	3.3	2.8	2.5
White-collar occupations	123.5	126.2	127.0	.8	.7	.6	3.4	3.0	2.8
Excluding sales	124.4	127.0	127.8	.9	.6	.6	3.5	3.0	2.7
Professional specialty and technical	126.3	128.4	129.3	.8	.5	.7	3.4	2.5	2.4
Executive, administrative, and managerial	122.6	125.4	126.2	1.1	.4	.6	3.8	3.4	2.9
Sales	119.2	122.4	123.2	.3	1.8	.7	3.1	3.0	3.4
Administrative support, including clerical	124.5	127.3	128.1	.8	.6	.6	3.5	3.1	2.9
Blue-collar occupations	122.3	124.4	125.1	.9	.7	.6	3.0	2.6	2.3
Precision production, craft, and repair	122.5	124.4	125.4	1.1	.8	.8	3.2	2.6	2.4
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	122.9	124.8	125.1	.6	.5	.2	2.4	2.1	1.8
Transportation and material moving	120.3	122.4	122.9	1.0	.5	.4	3.8	2.8	2.2
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	122.7	125.3	125.9	1.1	1.0	.5	3.6	3.2	2.6
Service occupations	121.8	124.0	124.7	.7	.5	.6	2.4	2.5	2.4
Production and nonsupervisory occupations ¹	122.6	125.0	125.8	.8	.7	.6	3.0	2.8	2.6
Goods-producing industries ²	123.9	125.9	126.5	.7	.5	.5	3.3	2.4	2.1
Excluding sales occupations	123.5	125.6	126.1	.8	.6	.4	3.3	2.5	2.1
White-collar occupations	125.1	127.6	128.1	.6	.3	.4	3.8	2.7	2.4
Excluding sales	124.1	126.7	127.2	.7	.4	.4	3.7	2.8	2.5
Blue-collar occupations	123.1	124.9	125.5	.7	.6	.5	2.9	2.2	1.9
Service occupations	126.5	127.9	128.8	2.2	.5	.7	4.1	3.3	1.8
Construction	121.4	122.0	123.1	1.0	.7	.9	3.9	1.5	1.4
Manufacturing	124.4	126.9	127.3	.7	.6	.3	3.2	2.8	2.3
White-collar occupations	124.9	128.0	128.7	.8	.5	.5	3.7	3.3	3.0
Excluding sales	123.6	126.6	127.4	.9	.4	.6	3.4	3.3	3.1
Blue-collar occupations	124.0	126.0	126.3	.6	.6	.2	2.9	2.3	1.9
Service occupations	127.0	128.6	129.5	2.3	.5	.7	4.4	3.6	2.0
Durables	125.1	127.7	128.2	1.1	.6	.4	3.4	3.2	2.5
Nondurables	123.2	125.4	125.7	.3	.6	.2	2.9	2.1	2.0
Service-producing industries ³	122.3	124.9	125.8	.9	.8	.7	3.2	3.1	2.9
Excluding sales occupations	123.3	125.8	126.6	1.0	.6	.6	3.4	3.0	2.7
White-collar occupations	122.9	125.6	126.5	.8	.8	.7	3.3	3.0	2.9
Excluding sales	124.6	127.1	128.0	1.0	.6	.7	3.5	3.0	2.7
Blue-collar occupations	120.6	123.1	123.9	1.3	.8	.6	3.4	3.4	2.7
Service occupations	121.3	123.6	124.2	.5	.5	.5	2.3	2.4	2.4
Transportation and public utilities	121.4	124.7	126.0	1.3	.6	1.0	3.9	4.1	3.8
Transportation	119.7	123.0	124.7	1.7	.6	1.4	4.3	4.5	4.2
Public utilities	123.6	126.8	127.5	.8	.6	.6	3.7	3.4	3.2
Communications	122.9	126.6	127.4	.7	.2	.6	3.7	3.7	3.7
Electric, gas, and sanitary services	124.4	127.0	127.7	1.0	.9	.6	3.5	3.1	2.7
Wholesale and retail trade	120.5	122.8	123.8	.9	.9	.8	3.5	2.8	2.7
Excluding sales occupations	120.9	123.1	124.1	.9	.6	.8	3.3	2.8	2.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. COMPENSATION (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for total compensation, private industry workers, by industry and occupational group — Continued

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
Wholesale trade	120.6	124.8	126.1	0.8	1.3	1.0	3.4	4.3	4.6
Excluding sales occupations	121.3	125.1	126.2	.8	.6	.9	3.1	4.0	4.0
Retail trade	120.4	121.8	122.6	1.0	.7	.7	3.6	2.2	1.8
General merchandise stores	118.7	120.7	121.0	.6	.5	.2	2.8	2.3	1.9
Food stores	120.3	120.7	121.8	-.2	-.1	.9	2.7	.1	1.2
Finance, insurance, and real estate	118.5	121.8	122.7	.7	1.3	.7	2.4	3.5	3.5
Excluding sales occupations	121.5	124.6	125.4	1.0	.7	.6	3.4	3.6	3.2
Banking, savings and loan, and other credit agencies	120.8	124.1	124.8	1.2	.5	.6	3.3	3.9	3.3
Insurance	121.5	124.6	124.9	.8	.9	.2	3.5	3.4	2.8
Excluding sales occupations	126.0	129.0	129.6	.8	1.1	.5	3.4	3.2	2.9
Services	125.9	128.2	128.9	.8	.5	.5	2.9	2.6	2.4
Business services	122.4	125.3	125.7	.2	.6	.3	3.6	2.6	2.7
Health services	127.9	130.3	131.3	.6	.5	.8	2.3	2.5	2.7
Hospitals	127.7	129.7	130.3	.5	.6	.5	2.6	2.0	2.0
Nursing homes	-	-	-	.6	.7	.5	3.7	3.0	2.9
Educational services	128.2	130.3	133.2	2.2	1.2	2.2	3.6	3.9	3.9
Colleges and universities	128.5	131.3	134.6	2.0	1.5	2.5	2.8	4.2	4.7
Nonmanufacturing industries	122.3	124.6	125.5	.9	.7	.7	3.3	2.8	2.6
White-collar occupations	123.1	125.6	126.5	.8	.7	.7	3.4	2.9	2.8
Excluding sales	124.7	127.1	128.0	.9	.6	.7	3.6	2.8	2.6
Blue-collar occupations	120.5	122.5	123.5	1.2	.8	.8	3.3	2.9	2.5
Service occupations	121.3	123.5	124.2	.5	.4	.6	2.3	2.3	2.4

¹ This series has the same industry and occupational coverage as the Hourly Earnings Index, which was discontinued in January 1989.

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.

- Data not available.

Table 4. COMPENSATION (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for total compensation, private industry workers, by bargaining status, region, and area size

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
Workers, by bargaining status									
Union	123.8	125.8	126.8	0.7	0.6	0.8	3.2	2.3	2.4
Blue-collar occupations	123.1	124.8	125.7	.6	.6	.7	2.8	2.0	2.1
Goods-producing industries ¹	124.4	125.9	126.7	.5	.6	.6	2.8	1.7	1.8
Service-producing industries ²	122.9	125.6	126.8	.9	.6	1.0	3.6	3.1	3.2
Manufacturing	125.3	126.6	127.1	.4	.2	.4	2.8	1.4	1.4
Blue-collar occupations	125.1	126.4	126.8	.4	.2	.3	2.7	1.4	1.4
Nonmanufacturing	122.6	125.0	126.2	.9	.8	1.0	3.5	2.9	2.9
Nonunion	122.7	125.2	126.0	.8	.7	.6	3.3	2.9	2.7
Blue-collar occupations	121.7	123.9	124.5	1.1	.7	.5	3.3	2.9	2.3
Goods-producing industries ¹	123.6	125.9	126.4	.8	.6	.4	3.5	2.7	2.3
Service-producing industries ²	122.2	124.8	125.6	.9	.8	.6	3.2	3.1	2.8
Manufacturing	124.0	126.9	127.3	.9	.6	.3	3.3	3.3	2.7
Blue-collar occupations	123.0	125.5	125.7	.9	.8	.2	3.0	3.0	2.2
Nonmanufacturing	122.2	124.5	125.3	.9	.7	.6	3.3	2.8	2.5
Workers, by region ³									
Northeast	124.0	126.6	127.4	1.0	.8	.6	3.2	3.1	2.7
South	121.8	124.3	125.2	.8	.5	.7	3.1	2.9	2.8
Midwest	124.6	126.9	127.7	.8	.9	.6	3.7	2.7	2.5
West	121.3	123.4	123.9	.7	.7	.4	3.0	2.4	2.1
Workers, by area size									
Metropolitan areas	122.9	125.4	126.2	.8	.7	.6	3.2	2.9	2.7
Other areas	123.2	125.3	126.1	.6	.4	.6	3.8	2.3	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 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. WAGES AND SALARIES (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for wages and salaries only, civilian and state and local government workers, by industry and occupational group

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
Civilian workers	119.8	122.2	123.2	1.0	0.7	0.8	2.9	3.0	2.8
Excluding sales	120.1	122.4	123.4	1.1	.6	.8	3.0	3.0	2.7
Workers, by occupational group									
White-collar occupations	120.8	123.1	124.3	.9	.6	1.0	2.9	2.8	2.9
Excluding sales	121.5	123.8	125.0	1.1	.5	1.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Professional specialty and technical ...	122.8	124.7	126.1	1.2	.4	1.1	2.8	2.8	2.7
Executive, administrative, and managerial	120.2	122.8	123.8	1.0	.5	.8	3.2	3.2	3.0
Administrative support, including clerical	120.9	123.4	124.3	.9	.5	.7	3.2	3.0	2.8
Blue-collar occupations	117.8	120.3	121.1	.9	.9	.7	3.0	3.1	2.8
Service occupations	119.4	121.8	122.8	1.1	.5	.8	2.8	3.1	2.8
Workers, by industry division									
Goods-producing ¹	119.0	121.4	122.1	.8	.7	.6	3.1	2.9	2.6
Manufacturing	120.0	122.9	123.5	.8	.8	.5	3.2	3.3	2.9
Service-producing ²	120.2	122.5	123.7	1.1	.7	1.0	2.9	3.0	2.9
Services	122.8	124.8	126.2	1.2	.3	1.1	2.8	2.9	2.8
Health services	124.4	126.6	127.5	.8	.4	.7	2.5	2.6	2.5
Hospitals	124.0	126.0	126.8	.8	.4	.6	2.7	2.4	2.3
Educational services	123.8	125.1	127.8	2.1	.1	2.2	2.8	3.1	3.2
Public administration	119.9	122.3	123.2	1.2	.3	.7	3.5	3.2	2.8
Nonmanufacturing	119.7	121.9	123.1	1.0	.7	1.0	2.8	2.9	2.8
State and local government workers	122.8	124.6	126.6	1.7	.2	1.6	2.9	3.2	3.1
Workers, by occupational group									
White-collar occupations	122.9	124.6	126.8	1.7	.2	1.8	2.8	3.1	3.2
Professional specialty and technical ...	123.6	125.0	127.4	1.9	.2	1.9	2.7	3.1	3.1
Executive, administrative, and managerial	121.6	124.3	126.0	1.1	.2	1.4	2.9	3.3	3.6
Administrative support, including clerical	120.9	122.9	124.4	1.3	.3	1.2	3.2	2.9	2.9
Blue-collar occupations	121.8	123.8	124.8	1.4	.6	.8	2.9	3.1	2.5
Service occupations	122.7	125.2	126.6	1.9	.5	1.1	3.7	4.0	3.2
Workers, by industry division									
Services	123.6	125.1	127.6	1.9	.2	2.0	2.7	3.1	3.2
Excluding schools ³	123.2	125.5	126.9	1.1	.4	1.1	2.6	3.0	3.0
Health services	124.7	126.6	127.9	1.5	.5	1.0	3.6	3.0	2.6
Hospitals	124.2	126.3	127.6	1.8	.4	1.0	3.6	3.5	2.7
Educational services	123.6	124.9	127.7	2.1	.1	2.2	2.7	3.1	3.3
Schools	123.8	125.1	127.8	2.1	.1	2.2	2.9	3.2	3.2
Elementary and secondary	124.5	125.8	128.7	2.2	.2	2.3	2.8	3.3	3.4
Colleges and universities	121.5	122.9	125.0	1.9	-.2	1.7	3.1	3.1	2.9
Public administration	119.9	122.3	123.2	1.2	.3	.7	3.5	3.2	2.8

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 Formerly called hospitals and other services.

Table 6. WAGES AND SALARIES (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for wages and salaries only, private industry workers, by industry and occupational group

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
Private industry workers	119.1	121.5	122.4	0.8	0.7	0.7	2.9	2.9	2.8
Excluding sales	119.4	121.8	122.6	.9	.7	.7	3.0	3.0	2.7
White-collar occupations	120.2	122.7	123.6	.8	.8	.7	3.0	2.8	2.8
Excluding sales	121.0	123.4	124.3	.9	.5	.7	3.1	2.9	2.7
Professional specialty and technical	122.2	124.4	125.3	.7	.6	.7	2.8	2.6	2.5
Executive, administrative, and managerial	120.0	122.5	123.4	1.0	.5	.7	3.3	3.1	2.8
Sales	116.5	119.3	120.5	.3	2.1	1.0	2.4	2.7	3.4
Administrative support, including clerical	120.9	123.5	124.3	.8	.5	.6	3.2	3.0	2.8
Blue-collar occupations	117.5	120.1	120.8	.9	.9	.6	3.0	3.1	2.8
Precision production, craft, and repair	117.8	119.9	121.0	1.1	.9	.9	3.2	2.9	2.7
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	118.0	120.9	121.4	.7	1.1	.4	2.9	3.2	2.9
Transportation and material moving	115.2	117.8	118.5	1.1	.7	.6	3.1	3.3	2.9
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	117.9	121.2	121.5	.5	.9	.2	2.6	3.3	3.1
Service occupations	117.6	120.0	120.8	.7	.5	.7	2.3	2.7	2.7
Production and nonsupervisory occupations ¹	118.5	121.0	121.8	.9	.9	.7	2.8	3.0	2.8
Goods-producing industries ²	118.9	121.4	122.1	.8	.8	.6	3.1	2.9	2.7
Excluding sales occupations	118.4	120.9	121.6	.9	.8	.6	3.0	3.0	2.7
White-collar occupations	121.1	123.8	124.4	.7	.7	.5	3.2	2.9	2.7
Excluding sales	119.8	122.5	123.2	.8	.6	.6	2.9	3.1	2.8
Blue-collar occupations	117.5	119.9	120.7	.8	.9	.7	3.0	2.8	2.7
Service occupations	120.1	121.9	122.8	2.0	1.1	.7	3.8	3.6	2.2
Construction	114.6	115.7	116.8	.9	.8	1.0	3.0	1.8	1.9
Manufacturing	120.0	122.9	123.5	.8	.8	.5	3.2	3.3	2.9
White-collar occupations	121.7	124.7	125.3	.9	.6	.5	3.4	3.4	3.0
Excluding sales	120.2	123.2	123.9	.9	.7	.6	3.0	3.4	3.1
Blue-collar occupations	118.7	121.6	122.2	.8	1.0	.5	3.0	3.2	2.9
Service occupations	120.6	122.8	123.7	2.0	1.1	.7	4.0	3.9	2.6
Durable	119.8	122.9	123.6	.9	.8	.6	3.4	3.5	3.2
Nondurable	120.3	122.9	123.3	.7	.8	.3	2.9	2.8	2.5
Service-producing industries ³	119.2	121.6	122.6	.8	.7	.8	2.8	2.9	2.9
Excluding sales occupations	120.2	122.5	123.4	1.0	.6	.7	3.1	2.9	2.7
White-collar occupations	119.9	122.3	123.2	.8	.8	.7	2.9	2.9	2.8
Excluding sales	121.5	123.8	124.7	.9	.5	.7	3.1	2.8	2.6
Blue-collar occupations	117.5	120.3	121.1	1.1	.9	.7	3.0	3.5	3.1
Service occupations	117.3	119.8	120.7	.5	.4	.8	2.1	2.7	2.9
Transportation and public utilities	118.9	122.0	122.9	1.5	.7	.7	3.7	4.1	3.4
Transportation	116.7	119.8	121.0	1.7	.7	1.0	3.6	4.4	3.7
Public utilities	121.4	124.5	125.2	1.1	.5	.6	3.6	3.7	3.1
Communications	121.0	124.6	125.3	1.3	.2	.6	3.9	4.3	3.6
Electric, gas, and sanitary services	121.9	124.4	125.2	.8	.8	.6	3.1	2.9	2.7
Wholesale and retail trade	118.3	120.6	121.6	.8	1.0	.8	3.1	2.7	2.8
Excluding sales occupations	118.7	120.9	121.9	.8	.6	.8	3.0	2.6	2.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. WAGES AND SALARIES (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for wages and salaries only, private industry workers, by industry and occupational group — Continued

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
Wholesale trade	118.9	122.7	123.9	0.5	1.5	1.0	3.3	3.7	4.2
Excluding sales occupations	119.6	122.9	123.7	.7	.6	.7	2.8	3.5	3.4
Retail trade	118.0	119.6	120.5	.9	.8	.8	3.1	2.2	2.1
General merchandise stores	116.5	118.6	119.0	.1	.6	.3	1.7	1.9	2.1
Food stores	117.4	117.6	118.6	-.3	-.2	.9	2.2	-.2	1.0
Finance, insurance, and real estate	113.8	117.0	118.0	.5	1.7	.9	1.3	3.4	3.7
Excluding sales occupations	117.2	120.2	121.1	1.0	.8	.7	2.8	3.6	3.3
Banking, savings and loan, and other credit agencies	116.5	119.7	120.4	1.3	.4	.6	2.5	4.1	3.3
Insurance	117.7	120.8	121.1	.8	.8	.2	3.3	3.4	2.9
Excluding sales occupations	122.3	125.2	125.7	.7	1.1	.4	3.4	3.1	2.8
Services	122.2	124.4	125.3	.7	.4	.7	2.8	2.6	2.5
Business services	119.9	122.9	123.6	.4	.7	.6	4.0	2.9	3.1
Health services	124.3	126.7	127.5	.6	.4	.6	2.1	2.6	2.6
Hospitals	123.9	125.9	126.6	.5	.4	.6	2.4	2.1	2.2
Nursing homes	-	-	-	.8	.8	.5	3.8	3.4	3.0
Educational services	124.9	125.9	128.6	2.2	.2	2.1	3.5	3.0	3.0
Colleges and universities	124.5	125.9	129.0	1.9	.3	2.5	2.6	3.0	3.6
Nonmanufacturing industries	118.7	120.9	121.9	.8	.8	.8	2.9	2.7	2.7
White-collar occupations	119.7	122.1	123.1	.7	.8	.8	2.8	2.7	2.8
Excluding sales	121.3	123.5	124.4	.9	.5	.7	3.1	2.7	2.6
Blue-collar occupations	116.4	118.5	119.4	1.1	.9	.8	3.0	3.0	2.6
Service occupations	117.3	119.8	120.6	.5	.5	.7	2.2	2.7	2.8

¹ This series has the same industry and occupational coverage as the Hourly Earnings Index, which was discontinued in January 1989.

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.

- Data not available.

Table 7. WAGES AND SALARIES (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for wages and salaries only, private industry workers, by bargaining status, region, and area size

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
Workers, by bargaining status									
Union	118.6	120.6	121.5	0.9	0.7	0.7	3.3	2.6	2.4
Blue-collar occupations	117.3	119.1	120.0	.9	.8	.8	3.2	2.5	2.3
Goods-producing industries ¹	117.5	119.3	120.2	.7	.8	.8	3.3	2.2	2.3
Service-producing industries ²	120.1	122.3	123.2	1.2	.6	.7	3.5	3.0	2.6
Manufacturing	118.5	120.5	121.3	.6	.6	.7	3.4	2.3	2.4
Blue-collar occupations	118.3	120.2	121.0	.6	.6	.7	3.4	2.2	2.3
Nonmanufacturing	118.6	120.6	121.6	1.1	.7	.8	3.2	2.8	2.5
Nonunion	119.2	121.8	122.6	.8	.8	.7	2.8	3.0	2.9
Blue-collar occupations	117.7	120.7	121.4	.9	1.0	.6	2.9	3.4	3.1
Goods-producing industries ¹	119.5	122.2	122.9	.8	.7	.6	3.0	3.0	2.8
Service-producing industries ²	119.0	121.5	122.4	.8	.8	.7	2.7	2.9	2.9
Manufacturing	120.5	123.8	124.3	.8	.9	.4	3.0	3.6	3.2
Blue-collar occupations	119.1	122.6	123.1	.8	1.2	.4	2.7	3.8	3.4
Nonmanufacturing	118.7	121.0	121.9	.8	.8	.7	2.8	2.7	2.7
Workers, by region ³									
Northeast	120.0	122.1	123.1	1.0	.7	.8	2.7	2.8	2.6
South	118.5	120.8	121.8	.9	.7	.8	2.8	2.9	2.8
Midwest	119.5	122.2	123.0	1.0	1.1	.7	3.7	3.3	2.9
West	118.1	120.9	121.4	.2	.8	.4	2.4	2.5	2.8
Workers, by area size									
Metropolitan areas	119.1	121.6	122.4	.8	.8	.7	2.8	3.0	2.8
Other areas	118.6	121.3	122.1	.4	.7	.7	3.1	2.7	3.0

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. BENEFITS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for benefits only, civilian, state and local, and private industry workers, by industry and occupational group

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
Civilian workers	132.3	134.5	135.2	1.0	0.5	0.5	3.8	2.7	2.2
State and local government workers	130.3	132.2	133.6	1.4	.8	1.1	3.2	2.9	2.5
Private industry workers	132.8	135.1	135.6	.8	.4	.4	4.0	2.6	2.1
Workers, by occupational group									
White-collar occupations	132.8	136.0	136.6	.9	.6	.4	4.7	3.3	2.9
Blue-collar occupations	132.7	133.6	134.1	.9	.2	.4	3.3	1.6	1.1
Service occupations	134.2	135.6	135.7	.8	.4	.1	2.8	1.9	1.1
Workers, by industry division									
Goods-producing industries ¹	134.8	135.9	136.2	.7	.0	.2	3.7	1.5	1.0
Service-producing industries ²	131.2	134.1	134.8	1.2	.7	.5	4.4	3.4	2.7
Manufacturing	133.9	135.2	135.5	.7	-.1	.2	3.2	1.7	1.2
Nonmanufacturing	132.2	134.7	135.4	1.1	.6	.5	4.5	3.0	2.4
Workers, by bargaining status									
Union workers	133.3	135.5	136.6	.3	.5	.8	2.8	2.0	2.5
Nonunion workers	132.6	134.8	135.2	1.1	.4	.3	4.5	2.8	2.0

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.

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

Table 9. AEROSPACE (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED): Employment Cost Index for workers in aerospace manufacturing, by industry and occupation

Series	Indexes (June 1989=100)			Percent changes for					
	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	3 months ended			12 months ended		
				Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995	Sep. 1994	June 1995	Sep. 1995
COMPENSATION									
Aircraft manufacturing (SIC 3721)	128.7	131.0	131.5	1.3	0.3	0.4	1.6	3.1	2.2
White-collar occupations	125.3	127.2	127.8	1.2	.4	.5	1.7	2.7	2.0
Blue-collar occupations	133.2	136.1	136.3	1.3	.3	.1	1.3	3.5	2.3
WAGES AND SALARIES									
Aircraft manufacturing (SIC 3721)	124.0	126.5	127.4	0.6	0.6	0.7	2.9	2.6	2.7
White-collar occupations	119.8	121.6	122.7	.6	.5	.9	2.7	2.1	2.4
Blue-collar occupations	130.2	133.6	134.1	.6	.7	.4	3.3	3.2	3.0
BENEFIT COSTS									
Aircraft manufacturing (SIC 3721)	138.7	140.8	140.5	2.5	-0.1	-0.2	-1.0	4.1	1.3
White-collar occupations	138.0	140.2	139.9	2.4	.1	-2	-5	4.1	1.4
Blue-collar occupations	139.0	140.9	140.6	2.5	-5	-2	-2.0	3.9	1.2

NOTE: SIC refers to the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification System code as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

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 overtime, shift differentials, and nonproduction bonuses such as lump-sum payments provided in lieu of wage increases); insurance benefits (life, health, sickness and accident, and long-term disability); retirement and savings benefits (defined benefit and defined contribution); legally required benefits (social security, Federal and State unemployment insurance, workers' compensation, and other legally required benefits such as State temporary disability); and other benefits (severance pay and supplemental unemployment plans).

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

Each quarter, straight-time average hourly wage and salary rates and benefit cost data (cents-per-hour-worked) are collected from a probability sample of nearly 21,000 occupations within about 4,100 sample establishments in private industry and nearly 6,000 occupations within about 900 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 sample establishments are classified in industry categories based on the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC), as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

Within an establishment, specific job categories are selected to represent broader occupational definitions. From June 1986 through December 1994, the jobs were classified according to definitions used in the 1980 Census. Prior to June 1986, they were classified according to the 1970 Census. Differences between the two classification systems are slight, as indicated in the article "Introducing new weights for the Employment Cost Index," in the June 1985 issue of the Monthly Labor Review. Beginning with March 1995, the jobs are classified according to the 1990 Census, which differs little from the 1980 Census.

Fixed employment weights are used each quarter to calculate the most aggregate indexes--civilian, private, and State and local governments. These fixed weights are also used to derive all of the industry and occupation series indexes. Beginning in March 1995, 1990 employment counts primarily from the Bureau's Occupational Employment Survey were used. A description of the reweighting is included in an article "Introducing 1990 Weights for the Employment Cost Index," that was published in the June 1995 issue of Compensation and Working Conditions and that is available upon request. From June 1986 through December 1994, employment counts from the

1980 Census were used as weights. Prior to June 1986, employment counts from the 1970 Census were used.

For the series based on bargaining status, region, or area size, employment data are not available from the Census. 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 spot. ECI series are seasonally adjusted using either direct or composite seasonally adjusted estimates. Industry and occupational series, such as construction and service occupations, are adjusted directly. More aggregate series, such as civilian or private industry workers, use composite estimates. The composite estimates could be obtained by aggregating either the industry or the occupational components, and the results may differ depending on which method is used. The aggregate seasonally adjusted ECI series are estimated by aggregating the component seasonally adjusted industry series, so they are not necessarily a weighted average of the component occupation series.

The costs per hour worked of compensation components, based on March 1995 data from the ECI, are published in a separate news release titled "Employer Costs for Employee Compensation - March 1995." A description of the cost levels is provided in the article "Analyzing employers' costs for wages, salaries, and benefits" in the October 1987 issue of the Monthly Labor Review. The cost levels, which are published annually in mid-June, are calculated with current employment weights, rather than the fixed 1990 Census weights used in computing the ECI. Therefore, year-to-year changes in the cost levels will usually differ from those in the ECI.

More detailed information on the ECI is available in several sources. These include an annual bulletin, Employment Cost Indexes and Levels, 1975-95, (Bulletin 2466); a chapter in the BLS Handbook of Methods (Bulletin 2414), "The Employment Cost Index;" and several articles published in the Monthly Labor Review. The annual bulletin is available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, or Bureau of Labor Statistics, Publications Sales Center, P.O. Box 2145, Chicago, Illinois 60690. Reprints of the articles plus other descriptive pieces and a complete historical listing are available upon request. ECI historical data are also available on data diskettes.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-606-7828, Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) phone: 202-606-5897, TDD Message Referral Phone Number: 1-800-326-2577.