

Highlights of Women's Earnings in 1999



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Introduction

In 1999, women earned approximately 77 percent as much as men did. Median weekly earnings of female full-time wage and salary workers were \$473, compared to \$618 for their male counterparts. In 1979, when comparable earnings data were first available, the female-to-male earnings ratio was about 63 percent.

Gender differences in earnings varied considerably by demographic group in 1999. Among blacks and Hispanics, for example, the female-to-male earnings ratios were 84 and 86 percent, respectively; for whites, the ratio was about 76 percent. Young women and men (those under age 25) had fairly similar earnings (young women's earnings were 91 percent of young men's); however, women's earnings were much lower than men's in older age groups—women 35 and over made less than 80 percent of what men in the same age group earned.

This report presents earnings data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a national monthly survey of approximately 50,000 households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The earnings data are collected from one-fourth of the CPS monthly sample. For a detailed description of the source of the data and an explanation of the concepts and definitions used, please see the technical note included at the end of this report.

Highlights

Following are some highlights of women's earnings in 1999:

Full-time workers

- Median weekly earnings of female full-time wage and salary workers were \$473, or 76.5 percent of the \$618 median for men. The proportion was 62.5 percent in 1979, the first year for which comparable estimates are available. (See tables 1 and 13 and chart 1.)
- Among women, 45- to-54-year-olds had the highest earnings (\$534), followed by 35- to 44-year-olds (\$503). Men's earnings also peaked among 45- to 54-year-olds (\$763). The difference between women's and men's earnings is relatively large among middle-age and older work-

- ers. For workers ages 45 to 54, women's earnings were 70.1 percent of men's; for 55- to-64-year-olds, the earnings ratio was 67.8 percent. In contrast, among workers 20 to 24 years old, women's earnings were 90.5 percent of those of men, and, among teenagers (16 to 19 years), the earnings ratio was 91.3 percent. (See table 1.)
- Between 1979 and 1999, earnings for women ages 20 to 64 grew closer to their male counterparts' earnings. The women's-to-men's earnings ratio among 35- to 44-year-olds, for example, increased from 58.3 percent in 1979 to 71.7 percent in 1999, and that for 45- to 54-year-olds rose from 56.9 percent to 70.1 percent. The earnings ratio for teenagers and the ratio for workers age 65 and over showed no definitive trend over the period. (See table 13.)
- White workers of either gender earned more than did their black or Hispanic counterparts. The differences among women were much smaller than those noted among men. White women's earnings (\$483) were 18.1 percent higher than black women's (\$409), and 38.8 percent higher than those for Hispanic women (\$348). In contrast, white men's earnings (\$638) were 30.7 percent higher than the earnings of their black counterparts (\$488) and 57.1 percent greater than those of Hispanic men (\$406). (See table 1.)
- The earnings difference between women and men was widest for whites, with white women earning 75.7 percent of what white men did. Among blacks, women earned 83.7 percent of what men earned, and Hispanic women made 85.7 percent of Hispanic men's earnings. (See table 1 and chart 2.)
- Between 1979 and 1999, inflation-adjusted earnings for white women increased 22.0 percent, while black women's real earnings rose 12.4 percent.¹ Earnings for Hispanic women were little changed over the period. (See table 14.)
- Median weekly earnings for women age 25 and over without a high school diploma have fallen since 1979 on

¹ Inflation-adjusted earnings trends in this report may differ from those published in *Highlights of Women's Earnings*, Report 928 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, April 1999) in part because a new price index series was used. See the Technical Note.

an inflation-adjusted basis, while those for female college graduates have grown. In 1979, inflation-adjusted weekly earnings of women without a high school diploma were \$326 (in 1999 dollars), 57.5 percent of those of female college graduates (\$567). In 1999, women without a high school diploma had earnings (\$290) that were only 39.2 percent of those of female college graduates (\$740). (See table 15 and chart 3.)

- At all levels of education, women have fared better with regard to earnings growth than have their male counterparts. Although both women and men without a high school diploma have experienced a decline in inflation-adjusted earnings since 1979, women's earnings have fallen significantly less—11.0 percent, compared with a drop of 27.1 percent for men. Earnings for women with college degrees, on the other hand, have increased 30.5 percent since 1979 on an inflation-adjusted basis. Real earnings of male college graduates have risen only about half as much, 14.8 percent, over the same period. (See table 15 and chart 3.)
- Women working full time in professional specialty occupations earned \$707 in 1999, more than women employed in any other major occupation category. Within this occupation group, women working as pharmacists, lawyers, and engineers had the highest median earnings. (See tables 2 and 3.)
- Women's share of employment in occupations typified by high earnings has grown. In 1999, 46.7 percent of full-time wage and salary workers in executive, administrative, and managerial occupations were women, up from 34.2 percent in 1983, the first year for which comparable data are available. Over the same period, women as a proportion of professional specialty workers rose from 46.8 percent to 52.0 percent. (See table 2.)
- Despite women's increased representation in managerial and professional occupations, men remained more likely than women to work in some higher-paying occupations. Men were about 8 times as likely as women to be employed in precision production, craft, and repair occupations (where earnings are somewhat above the overall median), while women were 4 times as likely to work in administrative support occupations (where pay is about 19 percent lower than the overall median). (See tables 2 and 3.)
- Within each broad occupational category, women and men tend to work in different specific occupations. In the professional specialty occupations, where women earned the most, they were much less likely than men to be employed in some higher-paying occupations, such as engineers and mathematical and computer scientists. Women were more likely to work in professional occupations with lower earnings, such as teachers (except college and university) and registered nurses. (See table 3.)

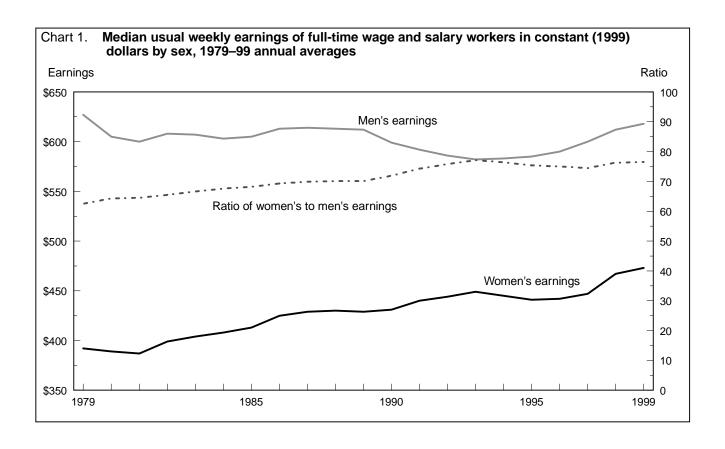
• The ratio of female-to-male earnings varied by State, from a high of 98.6 percent in the District of Columbia to a low of 62.6 percent in Wyoming. The differences among the States reflect in part variations in the occupation, industry, and age composition of State labor forces. In addition, sampling error in the State estimates is considerably larger than it is for the national data. (See table 4.)

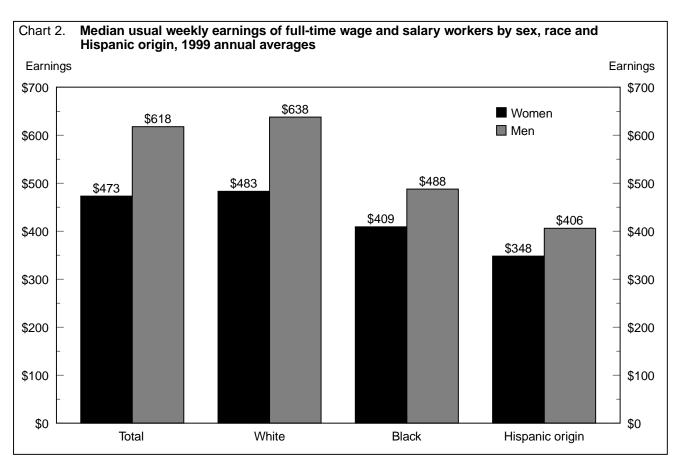
Part-time workers

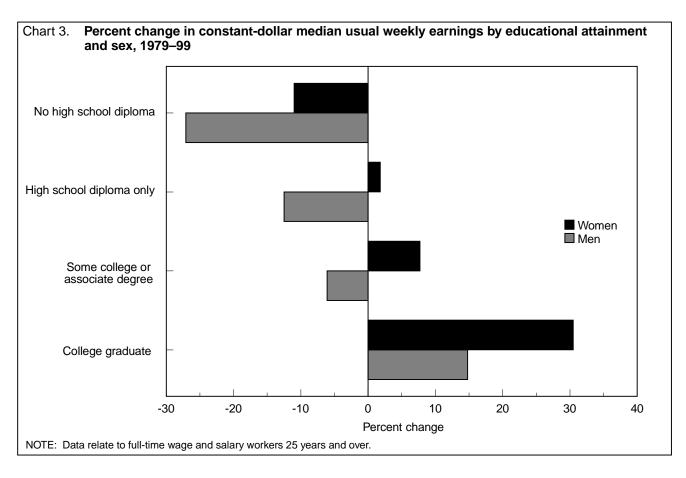
- Women who worked part time—that is, less than 35 hours per week—represented 25.4 percent of all female wage and salary workers in 1999. In contrast, 10.6 percent of men in wage and salary jobs worked part time. (See tables 5 and 6.)
- Median weekly earnings of female part-time workers were \$168, 35.5 percent of the median for women who worked full time. The earnings of male part-time workers (\$154) were somewhat lower than those of female part-timers. This is partly because male part-time workers are highly concentrated in the youngest age groups, while part-time work is fairly common among women of all ages. About two-thirds of female part-time workers were at least 25 years old, compared with fewer than half of male part-timers. (See table 5.)
- Unlike full-time workers, whose earnings increased for each successive 10-year age category within the 25-to-54-year-old group, female part-timers earned essentially the same, regardless of age category within this group. Female part-time workers younger than 25 and over age 55 earned less than did women in the central age categories. (See table 5.)
- In contrast to those for full-time workers, earnings for both female and male part-timers varied little by race or Hispanic origin. (See table 5.)

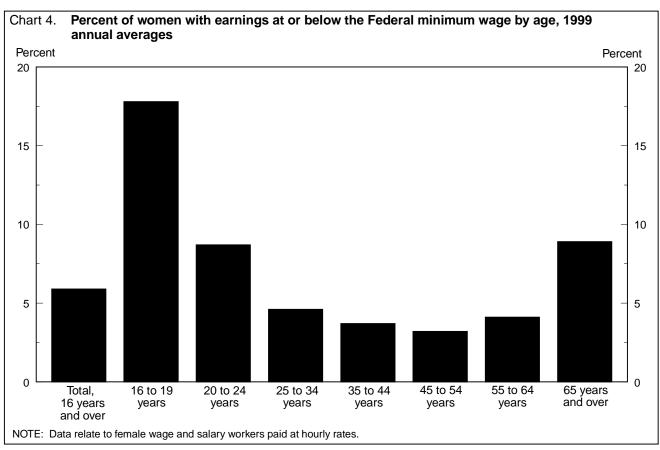
Workers paid by the hour

- About 64 percent of women and 58 percent of men employed in wage and salary jobs are paid by the hour. Women who worked at jobs in which they were paid by the hour had median hourly earnings of \$8.64 in 1999. This was 83.8 percent of the hourly median for men. (See table 10.)
- In 1999, about 6 percent of women who were paid hourly rates had hourly earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage of \$5.15. This compares with approximately 3 percent of men in jobs paid by the hour. (See table 12 and chart 4. See the Technical Note for information about workers with earnings below the Federal minimum wage.)
- Among women paid hourly rates, the proportion earning the minimum wage or less varied considerably by age. Those ages 16 to 19 years were the most likely to have earnings at or below the minimum, while women 45 to 54 years old were the least likely. (See table 12 and chart 4.)









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2.	Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by occupation and sex 1983 and 1999 annual averages
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Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 1999 annual averages

		Both sexes			Women			Men		10/
Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
AGE										
Total, 16 years and over	97,626	\$549	\$2	42,444	\$473	\$1	55,181	\$618	\$2	76.5
16 to 24 years	11,273	341	2	4,830	324	2	6,444	356	2	91.0
16 to 19 years		281	2	831	266	3	1,338	291	3	91.3
20 to 24 years		363	2	3,998	343	2	5,105	379	2	90.5
5 years and over	86,352	592	1 1	37,615	497	1	48,738	668	2	74.4
25 to 34 years	25,354	518	2	10,826	470	3	14,528	577	3	81.5
35 to 44 years		611	2	12,287	503	2	16,460	702	4	71.7
45 to 54 years		652	3	10,057	534	4	11,945	763	4	70.1
55 to 64 years		604	4	3.957	492	4	5,097	725	7	67.8
65 years and over		404	8	489	370	12	708	470	30	78.7
•	1,190	404	0	409	370	12	700	470	30	70.7
RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN										
Vhite	80,849	573	2	34,024	483	1	46,825	638	2	75.7
Black	12,190	445	3	6,344	409	3	5,846	488	4	83.7
dispanic origin	10,950	385	3	4,162	348	4	6,788	406	3	85.7
MARITAL STATUS										
Never married	24,697	436	2	10,540	417	2	14,158	454	3	92.0
Married, spouse present	56,607	614	1	22,383	499	2	34,224	706	3	70.7
Other marital status	16,321	510	2	9,522	466	3	6,799	596	4	78.1
Divorced	11,137	542	5	6,470	493	3	4,666	619	5	79.6
Separated	3,727	448	6	1,906	399	5	1,821	508	7	78.5
Widowed	1,457	447	10	1,145	418	6	312	620	39	67.5
UNION AFFILIATION ²										
Members of unions ³	14.974	672	3	5.509	608	3	9.464	711	4	85.6
Represented by unions ⁴		667	3	6,269	606	3	10,232	708	4	85.6
lot represented by a union	81,125	516	1	36,176	449	2	44,949	599	2	74.9
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT										
otal, 25 years and over	86,352	592	1	37,615	497	1	48,738	668	2	74.4
Less than a high school diploma	8,459	346	2	2,988	290	2	5,471	395	3	73.5
High school graduates, no college	27,314	490	2	11,847	405	1	15,467	580	2	69.8
Some college or associate degree	23,949	580	2	11,196	488	2	12,752	665	3	73.5
College graduates, total	26,630	860	3	11,583	740	3	15,047	977	5	75.7
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 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this

table.

2 Differences in earnings levels between men and women with union affiliation reflect a variety of factors in addition to coverage by a collective bargaining agreement, including the distribution of male and female employees by occupation, industry, firm size, or geographic region.

³ Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar

to a union.

4 Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar

1 The tracet polymore affiliation but whose jobs are to a union as well as workers who report no union affiliation but whose jobs are covered by a union or an employee association contract.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by occupation and sex, 1983 and 1999 annual averages

			1983					1999		
Occupation	Number of	Percent	Median earn	weekly ings	Women's earnings	Number of	Percent	Median earn	weekly ings	Women's earnings
	workers (in thousands)	women	Women	Men	as percent of men's ¹	workers (in thousands)	women	Women	Men	as percent of men's ¹
Total, 16 years and over	70,976	40.4	\$252	\$379	66.6	97,626	43.5	\$473	\$618	76.5
Managerial and professional specialty	17,451	40.9	358	516	69.2	30,704	49.4	681	952	71.5
Executive, administrative, and managerial	8,117	34.2	340	530	64.0	14,973	46.7	652	967	67.5
Professional specialty	9,334	46.8	368	506	72.6	15,731	52.0	707	939	75.3
Technical, sales, and administrative support	21,641	62.5	247	386	64.0	27,388	61.6	431	626	68.8
Technicians and related support	2,574	44.5	299	424	70.6	3,550	49.3	528	728	72.6
Sales occupations	6,313	39.0	205	389	52.7	9,728	44.5	399	666	59.9
Administrative support, including clerical	12,755	77.7	249	362	68.7	14,109	76.5	427	539	79.1
Service occupations	7,321	49.2	173	256	67.8	10,841	52.0	304	402	75.7
Private household	278	96.0	116	(²)	(3)	384	95.5	240	(²)	(3)
Protective service	1,453	9.5	251	356	70.4	2,138	16.2	492	613	80.3
Service, except private household and protective	5,590	57.1	176	218	81.0	8,318	59.1	302	336	90.0
Precision production, craft, and repair	9,963	7.9	256	387	66.1	11,927	8.9	428	606	70.6
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	13,319	26.2	205	308	66.5	15.182	23.0	337	472	71.4
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	6,990	40.8	202	320	63.3	6,814	35.9	340	487	69.7
Transportation and material moving occupations	3,358	4.7	253	335	75.5	4,401	7.2	394	522	75.5
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	2,970	16.0	211	252	83.9	3,967	18.6	314	377	83.2
Farming, forestry, and fishing	1,280	11.2	169	201	84.2	1,583	13.8	283	341	82.8

¹ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.
² Data not shown where base is less than 50,000.

 $^{^{\}rm 3}$ Data not shown where base for either the numerator or denominator is less than 50,000.

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1999 annual averages

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		Both sexes			Women			Men	I	Women's
Occupation	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	earnings as percent of men's ¹
Total, 16 years and over	97,626	\$549	\$2	42,444	\$473	\$1	55,181	\$618	\$2	76.5
Managerial and professional specialty	30,704	797	3	15,167	681	3	15,537	952	4	71.5
Executive, administrative, and managerial	14,973	792	6	6,992	652	3	7,981	967	6	67.5
Administrators and officials, public administration	610	877	19	310	725	24	300	1,007	30	72.0
Administrators, protective services Financial managers		889 878	95 25	11 353	(²) 703	(²) 28	44 344	(²) 1,154	(²) 41	(³) 60.9
Personnel and labor relations managers	181	831	40	108	742	28	74	1,014	106	73.2
Purchasing managers	139	803	34	65	699	22	74	989	36	70.7
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	695	1,036	33	254	800	34	441	1,241	21	64.4
Administrators, education and related fields	703	913	21	420	819	23	282	1,076	32	76.2
Managers, medicine and health	602	759	13	462	714	30	139	1,006	43	71.0
Managers, food serving and lodging establishments	946	524	13	449	461	11	498	617	12	74.7
Managers, properties and real estate	338	600	13	189	578	14	149	679	48	85.2
Management-related occupations	4,026	704	6	2,349	630	5	1,677	847	13	74.4
Accountants and auditors Underwriters	1,362 119	723 744	10 29	813 80	651 653	7 36	549 39	891 (²)	22 (²)	73.1 (³)
Other financial officers	684	758	12	360	615	11	324	923	32	66.7
Management analysts	244	908	35	118	790	25	126	1,080	44	73.2
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	475	674	13	326	653	12	149	727	27	89.9
Buyers, wholesale and retail trade, except farm products	140	643	19	65	588	32	75	675	26	87.0
Construction inspectors		730	32	4	(²)	(2)	63	748	31	(3)
Inspectors and compliance officers, except	20.4									
construction	234	755	17	73	707	59	161	772	30	91.6
Professional specialty	15,731	800	4	8,175	707	4	7,556	939	5	75.3
Professional specialty Engineers, architects, and surveyors	2,084	1,033	10	219	907	32	1,865	1,052	11	86.3
Architects	129	918	56	21	(²)	(2)	108	983	49	(3)
Engineers		1,041	11	197	933	19 (²)	1,749	1,058	12	88.2
Aerospace engineers Chemical engineers	84 75	1,201 1,260	34 56	10 13	(²)	2	74 62	1,202 1,312	32 60	(³)
Civil engineers		965	31	25	(2)	(2)	229	984	47	(3)
Electrical and electronic engineers		1,073	19	55	956	22	564	1,087	21	87.9
Industrial engineers	259 324	970 1,035	26 27	43 19	(²)	(²)	216 304	991 1,041	25 27	(3) (3)
Mechanical engineers Mathematical and computer scientists	1,638	983	12	522	876	16	1,117	1,056	23	82.9
Computer systems analysts and scientists	1,348	1,008	12	390	907	19	959	1,079	23	84.0
Operations and systems researchers and analysts	242	864	29	115	781 724	41	128	952	27	82.1
Natural scientists Chemists, except biochemists	514 131	873 970	26 29	143 31	731 (²)	30 (²)	370 100	939 1,002	27 61	77.9 (³)
Physical scientists, n.e.c.	50	987	25	12	(2)	(2)	38	(2)	(²)	(3)
Biological and life scientists	95	762	44	42	(2)	(2)	52	801	25	(3)
Medical scientists Health diagnosing occupations	93 539	724 1,192	35 80	38 150	(²) 888	48	54 389	800 1,342	149 39	66.2
Physicians	460	1,266	83	125	852	58	335	1,364	68	62.4
Health assessment and treating occupations	2,219	760	6	1,851	746	6	368	887	19	84.1
Registered nurses	1,585	750	6	1,443	747	6	141	791	51	94.4
Pharmacists Dietitians	165 55	1,159 577	21 45	77 47	1,105 (²)	34 (²)	88 8	1,222 (²)	32 (²)	90.5 (³)
Therapists	356	728	18	256	707	20	101	793	`28	89.1
Respiratory therapists		689	26	38	(2)	(2)	31	(²)	(²)	(3)
Physical therapists		877 780	31 35	58 61	808 770	41 37	28 5	(2)	(2)	(3)
Physicians' assistants	58	908	45	29	(²)	(²)	29	(2)	(2)	(3)
Teachers, college and university		953	16	241	859	29	397	1,038	26	82.7
Teachers, except college and university	4,259 432	688 440	6 19	3,129	659 442	5 17	1,130	768 (²)	11 (²)	85.8 (³)
Teachers, prekindergarten and kindergarten Teachers, elementary school	1,837	710	19	423 1,529	442 697	9	308	785	34	88.8
Teachers, secondary school	1,179	756	9	658	722	12	521	803	17	89.9
Teachers, special education	326	677	29	273	664	15	53	744	33	89.3
Counselors, educational and vocational Librarians, archivists, and curators	207 210	786 701	26 28	144 171	742 684	25 36	62 39	902 (²)	32 (²)	82.3 (³)
Librarians	183	700	30	151	684	37	32	(2)	(2)	(3)
Social scientists and urban planners	306	740	18	164	682	26	142	`847	`30	`80.5
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Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1999 annual averages — Continued

		Both sexes			Women			Men		Women's
Occupation	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Women's earnings as percent of men's
Economists	120	863	57	63	774	33	57	977	63	79.3
Psychologists		673	36	86	623	38	55	760	39	82.0
Social, recreation, and religious workers		596	8	634	557	12	542	654	27	85.1
Social workers		601	10	485	579	11	220	661	33	87.7
Recreation workers		416	18	58	417	22	27	(²)	(²)	(3)
Clergy		657	32	38	(²)	(2)	256	676	`3Ó	(3)
Lawyers and judges		1,198	55	201	`97́1	`37	412	1,369	48	70.9
Lawyers		1,168	30	191	974	39	386	1,340	56	72.7
Writers, artists, entertainers, and athletes	1,327	681	11	604	605	_9	722	748	16	80.9
Technical writers		861	29	38	(²)	(2)	25	(²)	(2)	(3)
Designers		642	22	220	512	14	233	757	21	67.6
Actors and directors	65	784	90	20	(²)	(2)	45	(2)	(2)	(3)
Painters, sculptors, craft artists, and										
artist printmakers		595	21	41	(²)	(²)	52	647	76	(3)
Photographers	56	617	28	9	(2)	\ /	47	(²)	(²)	
Editors and reporters		750	23	98	709	25	113	803	29	88.3
Public relations specialists Athletes	155 54	735 613	34 24	97 8	684 (²)	41 (²)	58 46	881 (²)	92 (²)	77.6
Atmetes	34	613	24	0	(-)	(-)	40	(-)	(-)	('')
Technical, sales, and administrative support	27,388	488	2	16,863	431	2	10,525	626	4	68.8
Technicians and related support		618	5	1,749	528	7	1,802	728	10	72.6
Health technologists and technicians	1,304	511	6	1,011	489	6	292	594	12	82.4
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	292	623	21	215	593	23	77	709	26	83.7
Radiologic technicians	139	619	22	99	596	29	40	(²)	(²)	(3)
Licensed practical nurses	259	498	9	243	492	9	16	(2)	(2)	(3)
Engineering and related technologists and								, ,	. ,	. ,
technicians	874	662	10	158	625	16	716	673	13	92.9
Electrical and electronic technicians		690	16	64	649	27	348	701	18	92.6
Drafting occupations		665	21	35	$\binom{2}{2}$	(²)	177	663	25	(3)
Surveying and mapping technicians		557	57	7	(2)	\ /	44	(²)	(2)	(3)
Science technicians		582	19	100	480	25	150	656	22	73.1
Biological technicians		500	20	50	388	28	36	(2)	(2)	(3)
Chemical technicians	71	677	36	25	(²)	(2)	46	(2)	(2)	(3)
Technicians, except health, engineering, and										
science		761	10	479	624	12	643	902	15	69.2
Airplane pilots and navigators	99	1,048	52	3	(²)	(2)	97	1,050	51 24	(3)
Computer programmers Legal assistants		898 589	19 12	159 270	788 581	25 12	405 43	935 (²)	(²)	84.3 (³)
Sales occupations	9,728	523	5	4,326	399	3	5,402	666	7	59.9
Supervisors and proprietors	3,275	587	6	1,351	454	8	1,924	691	9	65.8
Sales representatives, finance and business						_				
services	1,817	708	16	798	589	8	1,019	821	22	71.7
Insurance sales		622	13	190	539	23	201	750 767	24	71.9
Real estate sales		657	26	191	585 616	13	173	767	18	76.3
Securities and financial services sales		791 747	27	123	616 626	17 55	276 66	979 892	94 89	63.0 70.2
Advertising and related sales		747 721	23 29	88 206	626 611	25	302	892 809	54	75.5
Sales representatives, commodities, except retail		749	9	311	610	15	968	792	19	77.1
Sales workers, retail and personal services		329	4	1,849	296	2	1,475	423	9	70.0
Sales workers, motor vehicles and boats	268	665	39	29	(²)	(2)	240	679	33	(3)
Sales workers, apparel		298	9	104	286	10	43	(2)	(2)	(3)
Sales workers, shoes		302	18	24	(²)	(²)	33	(2)	(2)	(3)
Sales workers, furniture and home furnishings	118	511	23	57	497	24	62	536	75	92.7
Sales workers, radio, television, hi-fi, and appliances	213	495	16	56	413	40	157	512	19	80.7
Sales workers, hardware and building supplies	204	495	20	41			163	473	23	/31
Sales workers, parts		400	18	15	(²)	(²)	132	403	19	(3)
Sales workers, other commodities		333	10	396	315	\ 5	249	392	17	80.3
Sales counter clerks		335	23	60	303	10	34	(²)	(²)	(3)
Cashiers		280	3	989	275	3	301	296	\	92.9
Street and door-to-door sales workers	117	431	33	70	387	25	47	(²)	(2)	(3)
	1		I	1			1			I
Administrative support, including clorical	1// 100	117	2	10 799	/107	2	3 3 3 3	530	Ω	70.4
Administrative support, including clerical	14,109 650	447 603	2 9	10,788 368	427 560	2 16	3,322 282	539 701	8 16	79.1 79.9

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1999 annual averages — Continued

		Both sexes			Women			Men		
Occupation	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
Einangial records proceeding	77	678	39	62	600	19	15	(²)	(2)	(3)
Financial records processing Distribution, scheduling, and	77	6/8	39	62	622	19	15	(-)	(2)	()
adjusting clerks	207	590	17	67	511	17	140	668	56	76.6
Computer equipment operators	298	525	18	170	485	11	128	610	15	79.5
Computer operators	292 2,629	528 446	20 4	168 2,582	485 446	11 4	124 47	612 (²)	15 (²)	79.3
Secretaries, stenographers, and typists Secretaries	2,029	443	5	2,362	443	4	26	(2)	(2)	(3)
Stenographers		490	18	63	488	16	4	(2)	(2)	(3)
Typists	400	454	10	382	455	9	17	(2)	(2)	(3)
Information clerks	1,467 120	393 408	4 13	1,285 103	386 396	4 12	182 17	497 (2)	18	77.7
Interviewers Hotel clerks	89	315	9	67	308	9	22	(2)	(2)	(3)
Transportation ticket and reservation agents	218	486	18	147	464	19	70	527	32	88.0
Receptionists		374	5	697	373	4	30	(2)	(2)	(3)
Records processing, except financial Order clerks	753 249	440 493	9 14	582 179	421 460	6 13	171 70	513 629	14 23	82.0 73.2
Personnel clerks, except payroll and timekeeping	58	523	25	49	(2)	(2)	10	(2)	(2)	(3)
Library clerks	58	434	25	43	(2)	(2)	15	(2)	(2)	(3)
File clerks		361	11	162	349	10	43	(2)	(2) (2) (2)	(3)
Records clerks		437	22	142	423	11	32	\ /		(3)
Financial records processing Bookkeepers, accounting, and auditing clerks	1,480 1,084	440 443	5 7	1,322 977	435 440	5 6	157 107	489 478	19 21	89.1 92.1
Payroll and timekeeping clerks	127	474	19	111	459	22	16	(2)	(2)	(3)
Billing clerks	145	428	14	131	428	13	14	(2)	(2)	(3)
Billing, posting, and calculating machine operators	74	404	12	63	400	11	10	(2)	(2)	(3)
Communications equipment operators Telephone operators	117 107	384 377	16 15	88 83	367 365	11 12	29 24	(2)	(2)	(3)
Mail and message distributing		629	11	325	575	18	504	665	15	86.5
Postal clerks, except mail carriers	298	687	10	142	670	18	156	701	14	95.5
Mail carriers, postal service		697	11	82	646	22	218	714	13	90.5
Mail clerks, except postal service Messengers	135 96	389 453	11 32	85 16	382 (²)	9 (²)	50 80	414 457	30 33	92.2 (³)
Material recording, scheduling, and distributing	30	400	32		()	()		407	00	()
clerks		448	6	700	417	5	953	485	9	85.8
Dispatchers	232	487	19	125	441	16	107	583	21	75.6
Production coordinators Traffic, shipping, and receiving clerks		592 411	18 5	109 163	474 388	21 9	71 409	734 419	22 6	64.6 92.5
Stock and inventory clerks	398	470	9	156	438	10	242	505	15	86.8
Expediters		393	17	126	364	18	65	487	28	74.8
Adjusters and investigators	1,596	473	5	1,196	453	5	400	536	23	84.4
Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators Investigators and adjusters, except insurance	416 925	528 452	16 7	304 706	501 435	10 7	112 219	660 511	30 13	75.9 85.2
Eligibility clerks, social welfare		481	20	85	468	15	13	(²)	(²)	(3)
Bill and account collectors	157	451	18	101	429	17	56	`489	`14	87.7
Miscellaneous administrative support occupations	2,593	409	3	2,145	399	3	448	483	16	82.7
General office clerks Bank tellers	511 288	419 346	7 7	412 267	413 343	7	98 21	461 (²)	33 (²)	89.7 (³)
Data-entry keyers	594	422	6	484	420	6	110	433	18	96.9
Statistical clerks		432	18	63	401	22	17	(²)	(2)	(3)
Teachers' aides	368	315	7	341	314	7	28	(2)	(2)	(3)
Service occupations	10,841 384	336 243	2 9	5,632 367	304 240	1 8	5,209 17	402 (²)	(2)	75.7 (³)
Child care workers	157	243	12	156	212	11	1 1	(2)	(²)	(3)
Cleaners and servants	220	259	11	205	255	10	15	(2)	(2)	(3)
Protective service	2,138	592	8	347	492	13	1,791	613	9	80.3
Supervisors Police and detectives		759 817	59 32	23 16	(²)	(²)	156 84	815 889	36 34	(3)
Firefighting and fire prevention		740	13	5	(2)	(2)	216	742	12	/31
Firefighting		744	13	3	(2)	(2)	202	745	13	(3)
Police and detectives	1,079	657	9	181	574	27	898	681	12	84.2
Police and detectives, public service	602	751	13	83	650	15	519	766	14	84.9
Sheriffs, bailiffs, and other law enforcement officers	179	628	22	27	(²)	(2)	153	645	22	(3)
Correctional institution officers	298	521	10	72	492	16	226	540	25	91.1
Guards	659	393	8	138	335	27	521	402	8	83.4
Guards and police, exc. public services	618	398	8	118	368	27	501	403	8	91.3
	L	l				<u> </u>			l	L

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1999 annual averages — Continued

		Both sexes			Women	1		Men		Women's
Occupation	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	earnings as percent of men's ¹
Service occupations, except private household and										
protective		313	1	4,918	302	1	3,400	336	4	90.0
Food preparation and service occupations		298 342	2 14	1,607	286 310	2 9	1,583 120	311 415	3 24	91.8 74.8
Supervisors Bartenders		334	15	156 70	334	18	97	334	21	100.1
Waiters and waitresses		302	5	480	294	5	172	325	21	90.4
Cooks, except short order		302	3	511	279	4	800	317	_4	88.0
Food counter, fountain and related occupations		252	6	62	247	7	46	(²)	(2)	(3)
Kitchen workers, food preparation		297	7	94	295	7	41	` '	(2)	(3)
Waiters' and waitresses' assistants		286 268	7 4	110 124	282 270	8	119 188	290 266	12	97.2
Health service occupations		324	3	1,574	320	2	217	368	13	87.2
Dental assistants		377	18	123	373	16	5	(2)	(2)	(3)
Health aides, except nursing		318	5	196	317	5	49	(2)	(2)	(3)
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants		322	3	1,255	318	3	163	367	12	86.6
Cleaning and building service occupations		321 407	2 16	885 55	292 317	3 11	1,303 97	363 472	6 19	80.6 67.1
Maids and housemen		296	4	385	289	4	87 87	330	13	87.5
Janitors and cleaners		324	4	442	293	4	1,054	351	6	83.5
Personal service occupations		321	4	852	310	4	298	379	10	81.9
Supervisors		470	30	32	(2)	(²)	24	(²)	(2)	(3)
Hairdressers and cosmetologists		322	6	263	323	7	47	` '	(2)	(3)
Attendants, amusement and recreation facilities Public transportation attendants		384 604	11 40	57 47	384 (²)	(2)	83 11	384 (2)	18 (²)	99.9
Welfare service aids		310	18	49	(2)	(²) (²)	6	(²)	(2)	(3)
Early childhood teachers' assistants		275	7	256	`274) é	10	(2)	(2)	(3)
Precision production, craft, and repair	11,927	594	3	1,066	428	8	10,861	606	3	70.6
Mechanics and repairers		621	4	206	592	24	4,057	622	5	95.2
Supervisors		816	17	30	(2)	(2)	232	820	22	(3)
Mechanics and repairers, except supervisors Vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics and		613	4	176	555	29	3,824	615	4	90.3
repairers Automobile mechanics	1,455 635	594 555	6 18	18	(2)	(2)	1,436 628	594 555	6 18	(3)
Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics		588	14	1	(2)	(2)	300	588	14	(3)
Aircraft engine mechanics		737	17	4	(2)	(2)	142	740	18	(3)
Small engine repairers		420	26	2	(2)	(2)	53	419	29	(3)
Automobile body and related repairers		584	13	1	(2)	(2)	121	586	13	(3)
Heavy equipment mechanicsIndustrial machinery repairers		667 608	20 10	1 16	(2)	(2)	144 530	669 612	20 10	(3)
Electrical and electronic equipment repairers		698	13	104	616	45	785	703	13	87.6
Electronic repairers, communications and										
industrial equipment		621	19	17	(2)	(2)	184	630	30	(3)
Data processing equipment repairers	. 281	689	24	48	(2)	(2)	233	707	24	(3)
Telephone line installers and repairers Telephone installers and repairers		755 770	47 24	30	(2)	(2)	51 210	760 761	45 24	(3)
Miscellaneous electrical and electronic					, ,					(3)
equipment repairers Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration		693	17	4	(²)	(2)	70	694	17	(3)
mechanics Miscellaneous mechanics and repairers		580 607	16 10	2 36	(²)	(²)	308 754	579 612	16 10	(3)
Milwrights		607 697	32	36	(2)	(2)	754 70	700	32	(3)
Construction trades		566	6	85	423	17	4,059	571	6	74.2
Supervisors	504	720	16	9	(²)	(²)	495	722	16	(3)
Construction trades, except supervisors		540	7	76	417	15	3,563	545	7	76.5
Brickmasons and stonemasons		546	61	3	(²) (²)	(²) (²)	125	564	55	$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$
Tile setters, hard and soft		440 507	30 37	2	(-)	(-)	56 62	443 507	35 37	(3)
Carperters		518	6	12	(²)	(²)	950	518	6	(3)
Drywall installers		483	15	5	(2)	(2)	121	486	16	(3)
Electricians	. 739	645	15	17	(2) (2)	(2)	723	651	14	(3)
Electrical power installers and repairers		731	54	1	(²)	(2)	133	730	54	$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$
Painters, construction and maintenancePlumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, and	331	427	13	14	` . ′	. ,	317	432	15	(3)
apprentices		595	16	9	(2)	(2)	408	596	16	(3)
Concrete and terrazzo finishers	. 87	501	13	2	(2)	(2)	85 49	501 (²)	13 (²)	(3)
Insulation workers	. 51	546	47	2						

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1999 annual averages — Continued

Structural metalworkers Extractive occupations Precision production occupations Supervisors Precision metalworking occupations Tool and die makers Machinists Sheet-metal workers Precision woodworking occupations Cabinet makers and bench carpenters	869 139 489 128 75	Median weekly earnings 634 716 583 668 634 785	Standard error of median 52 38 5	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Women's earnings as percent of men's
Extractive occupations	128 3,393 1,121 869 139 489 128 75	716 583 668 634 785	38 5				[]	1		
Extractive occupations	3,393 1,121 869 139 489 128 75	583 668 634 785	38 5				55	634	52	_
Supervisors Precision metalworking occupations Tool and die makers Machinists Sheet-metal workers Precision woodworking occupations	1,121 869 139 489 128 75	668 634 785			(2)	(2)	126	717	37	(3)
Precision metalworking occupations Tool and die makers Machinists Sheet-metal workers Precision woodworking occupations	869 139 489 128 75	634 785	11	774	403	6	2,619	630	7	63.9
Tool and die makers	139 489 128 75	785		217	515	11	904	704	12	73.1
Machinists	489 128 75		11	60	442	(2)	809	646	11	68.4
Sheet-metal workers Precision woodworking occupations	128 75	604	27	5	(²)	(2)	134	792	30	(3)
Precision woodworking occupations	75	604 628	12 24	28 8	(2)	(2)	461 120	610 635	12 22	(3)
		457	38	11	(2)	(2)	65	481	50	(3)
Cabinet makers and bench carbenters	58	454	34	4	(2)	(2)	54	465	38	(3)
Precision textile, apparel, and furnishings				1	\	\	'			` '
machine workers	115	402	15	50	350	18	65	421	14	83.1
Precision workers, assorted materials	460	423	10	257	369	.8	203	513	17	71.9
Optical goods workers	64	465	39	38	(2)	(2)	26	(2)	(2)	(3)
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	290	391	11	193	359	8	97	476	40	75.5
Precision food production occupations		400	7	138	342	12	242	440	14	77.7
Butchers and meat cutters	237 110	400 394	8 29	64 49	322 (²)	(2)	174 61	428 475	16 31	75.2
Precision inspectors, testers, and related workers	131	618	29	32	(2)	(2)	100	657	28	(3)
Inspectors, testers, and graders	123	619	25	30	(2)	(2)	94	654	28	(3)
Plant and system operators	241	688	23	9	121	(2)	233	689	25	(3)
Water and sewage treatment plant operators	56	625	32	4	(2)	(2)	53	635	40	(3)
Stationary engineers	109	621	15	-	- '	- '	109	620	15	- '
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	15,182	429	2	3,498	337	3	11,685	472	3	71.4
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	6,814	423	3	2,444	340	3	4,371	487	3	69.7
Machine operators and tenders, except precision	4,368	416	3	1,538	326	4	2,829	481	4	67.8
Metalworking and plastic working machine	.,			1,,,,,,		-	-,	1		
operators	369	509	11	62	410	15	307	534	17	76.8
Punching and stamping press machine								l		
operatorsGrinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing	101	458	18	27	(2)	(2)	74	505	36	(3)
machine operators	113	490	21	16	(2)	(2)	97	507	25	(3)
Metal and plastic processing machine operators	142	454	18	32	(2)	(2)	110	471	21	(3)
Molding and casting machine operators		452	16	23	(2)	(2)	74	473	26	(3)
Woodworking machine operators	138	385	12	19	(2)	(2)	119	398	11	(3)
Sawing machine operators Printing machine operators		386	12 11	10 74		\ . /	71 251	393 526	12 24	. ,
Printing press operators	256	491 477	15	48	366 (²)	17	208	513	15	69.5
Textile, apparel, and furnishings machine										, ,
operators		298 282	5 8	534 322	282 273	5 4	211 94	348 326	11 16	80.9 83.8
Textile sewing machine operators Pressing machine operators	67	268	9	50	260	8	17	(²)	(2)	(3)
Laundering and dry cleaning machine operators	139	294	11	90	266	7	48	(2)	(2)	(3)
Machine operators, assorted materials		437	6	809	350	5	1,813	487	\ ´ 5	71.9
Packaging and filling machine operators	341	361	10	212	327	10	129	416	14	78.7
Mixing and blending machine operators	129	491	22	16	(2)	(2)	112	497	29	(3)
Separating, filtering, and clarifying								1		
machine operators	58	648	27	8	(2)	(2)	50	657	29	(3)
Painting and paint spraying machine operators	186	462	21	25	(2)	(2)	161	480	23	(3)
Furnace, kiln, and oven operators, exc. food	69	591	25	2	(2)	(2)	67	597	24	(3)
Slicing and cutting machine operators	153 69	430 342	18 19	38 35	(2) (2) (2) (2)	(2)	115 34	473 (²)	24 (²)	(3)
Photographic process machine operators	09	342	19	35	(-)	(-)	34	(-)	(-)	(-)
occupations	1,781	444	7	589	365	7	1,192	495	6	73.8
Welders and cutters	527	520	8	32	(2)	(2)	496	525	12	(3)
Assemblers	1,158	412	5	521	368	8	637	463	11	79.5
Production inspectors, testers, samplers, and	,									
weighers	665	424	9	316	369	11	349	506	10	72.9
Production inspectors, checkers, and examiners		456	12	231	395	8	256	530	19	74.6
Production testers Graders and sorters, except agricultural	53 120	520 305	40 9	14 69	(²) 288	(²) 10	39 52	(²) 347	(²) 33	(³) 83.0
· -										
Transportation and material moving occupations Motor vehicle operators	4,401 3,184	513 514	4 5	317 257	394 389	9 10	4,083 2,927	522 524	4 6	75.5 74.2
Supervisors	78	585	26	17	(²)	(2)	61	621	27	(3)
Truck drivers	2,493	527	8	85	412	22	2,409	532	9	77.4

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1999 annual averages — Continued

		Both sexes			Women					
Occupation	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
Drivers-sales workers Bus drivers Taxicab drivers and chauffeurs Transportation occupations, except motor vehicles Rail transportation Material moving equipment operators Operating engineers Crane and tower operators Excavating and loading machine operators Grader, dozer, and scraper operators Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers Helpers, construction and extractive occupations Helpers, construction trades Construction laborers Production helpers Freight, stock, and material handlers Stock handlers and baggers Machine feeders and offbearers Garage and service station related occupations Vehicle washers and equipment cleaners Hand packers and packagers Laborers, except construction	130 284 149 154 108 1,063 229 69 81 63 513 3,967 106 93 804 53 1,287 578 75 134 199 253 1,107	534 428 427 761 816 498 575 580 571 480 448 363 329 336 414 357 361 314 395 314 312 317 373	36 21 25 57 37 6 23 43 26 23 9 3 15 14 8 27 6 5	8 119 22 2 1 58 6 2 2 2 39 737 3 2 28 11 291 189 30 3 26 147 229	(2) 384 (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2)	(2) (14 (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2)	122 166 127 152 107 1,005 223 67 79 61 474 3,230 103 92 776 42 996 389 45 131 173 107 879	555 498 441 772 820 503 579 586 577 477 451 377 330 335 413 (²) 375 320 (²) 315 338 393	35 27 30 50 64 6 17 47 22 10 4 15 14 8 (²) 6 5 (²) 9 8	(3) 77.1 (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3) (3)
Farming, forestry, and fishing	1,583 72 67 1,441 603 531 838 87 657 58	331 499 499 321 311 304 330 514 322 503	5 21 28 3 5 5 8 25 4 21	218 11 11 204 91 68 113 6 44 2	283 (2) (2) 277 268 259 288 (2) (2) (2)	9 (2) (2) 9 6 7 10 (2) (2) (2)	1,364 61 56 1,237 512 463 725 81 614 55	341 525 543 329 317 311 342 539 322 508	5 47 63 6 5 6 9 52 5	82.8 (3) (3) 84.4 84.5 83.4 84.2 (3) (3) (3)

¹ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.
² Data not shown where base is less than 50,000.

 $^{^{\}rm 3}$ Data not shown where base for either the numerator or denominator is less than 50,000.

Table 4. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by sex and State, 1999 annual averages

-		Dath saves			Maman					
		Both sexes			Women			Men		Women's
State	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	earnings as percent of men's ¹
	,			,			,			
UNITED STATES	97,626	\$549	\$2	42,444	\$473	\$1	55,181	\$618	\$2	76.5
AlabamaAlaska	1,528 204	501 670	8 13	677 85	418 541	10 17	851 119	584 763	12 15	71.6 71.0
Arizona	1,714	498	7	734	452	12	981	538	21	83.9
Arkansas	897	425	8	417	374	10	480	485	9	77.1
California	11,226	586	4	4,657	524	7	6,569	621	6	84.3
Colorado	1,607	607	8	685	520	10	922	679	14	76.6
Connecticut	1,162	677	15	512	590	13	650	765	17	77.1
Delaware District of Columbia	280 216	571 614	14 9	126 104	487 611	11 9	154 112	624 620	16 18	78.0 98.6
Florida	5,251	489	4	2,362	428	6	2,888	535	11	79.9
Georgia	3,011	514	7	1,420	443	10	1,591	597	9	74.3
Hawaii	393	544	16	187	488	8	206	617	15	79.1
Idaho	418	485	8	161	404	8	257	563	16	71.7
IllinoisIndiana	4,534 2,200	589 540	5 13	1,983 914	493 428	5 10	2,551 1,285	678 630	12 15	72.8 67.9
lowa Kansas	1,059 963	513 509	7 7	461 429	429 444	10 11	598 534	593 587	10 14	72.3 75.5
Kentucky	1,369	497	8	586	418	9	783	565	17	73.9
Louisiana	1,490	466	10	698	383	8	791	553	21	69.3
Maine	436	502	7	195	455	12	241	545	18	83.3
Maryland	2,086	635	13	995	582	10	1,091	713	17	81.6
Massachusetts	2,258	612	6	947	532	12	1,311	684	13	77.7
Michigan Minnesota	3,559 1,744	609 642	6 11	1,436 728	492 552	6 14	2,123 1,016	709 724	10 13	69.4 76.3
Mississippi	919	470	9	427	380	9	492	545	14	69.6
Missouri	2,047	544	14	891	480	8	1,156	607	10	79.1
Montana	271	460	11	114	368	6	157	532	16	69.2
Nebraska	584	495	8	259	415	7	325	575	14	72.2
Nevada New Hampshire	719 443	501 599	7 11	310 193	431 492	11	409 251	567 698	17 15	76.1 70.6
·										
New Jersey New Mexico	3,003 528	637 498	7 8	1,293 229	558 425	12 11	1,710 299	716 573	14 19	77.8 74.2
New York	6,087	591	4	2,666	513	5	3,421	642	8	79.9
North Carolina	2,893	493	5	1,307	424	6	1,586	561	13	75.5
North Dakota	204	467	9	90	377	10	115	532	16	70.9
Ohio	4,033	580	6	1,738	476	6	2,295	670	9	71.1
Oklahoma	1,172	487	8	525	397	8	648	584	10	68.0
Oregon Pennsylvania	1,122 4,090	556 567	14 8	443 1,794	465 472	9 7	678 2,296	619 648	13 9	75.1 72.9
Rhode Island	337	570	14	145	488	9	192	638	17	76.5
South Carolina	1,435	507	7	656	429	10	779	583	11	73.6
South Dakota	263	464	9	122	392	7	141	543	18	72.2
Tennessee	2,063	467	10	948	385	7	1,114	580	11	66.3
Texas Utah	7,488 722	496 518	4 7	3,247 282	444 432	5 8	4,241 440	548 613	10 12	81.0 70.5
Vermont Virginia	207 2,646	533 577	12 9	91 1,166	481 489	11	115 1,479	585 659	13 17	82.2 74.1
Washington	2,046	617	8	836	526	13	1,479	706	17	74.1
West Virginia	564	473	10	244	393	8	320	567	15	69.2
Wisconsin	1,979 166	542 500	10 9	859 67	473 390	8 9	1,120 99	618 623	10 14	76.6 62.6
Wyoming	100	300	9	07	390	9	33	023	14	02.0

¹ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: Data refer to persons 16 years and over.

Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of part-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 1999 annual averages

		Both sexes			Women			Men		
Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
AGE										
Total, 16 years and over	8,298 4,882 3,417 12,767 3,245 3,608 2,596 1,800	\$164 122 108 154 203 209 216 223 191 145	\$1 1 1 1 1 2 2 3 3 3	14,495 4,647 2,617 2,030 9,848 2,481 3,097 2,184 1,289 796	\$168 121 105 151 201 205 213 219 185 127	\$1 1 2 1 3 2 3 3 4	6,570 3,651 2,265 1,386 2,919 764 511 412 510 722	\$154 124 111 157 208 221 236 243 206 163	\$1 1 2 2 4 8 8 5 4	108.9 97.7 95.4 96.3 96.7 93.0 90.3 90.2 89.8 77.9
WhiteBlackHispanic origin	2,135	165 153 160	1 2 3	12,531 1,410 1,190	170 155 159	1 2 3	5,523 725 658	155 149 162	1 4 5	110.1 103.8 97.8
Never married	9,054 2,394 1,273	131 208 181 195 191 145	1 1 2 3 4 4	5,322 7,251 1,922 992 386 544	129 208 177 191 189 142	1 2 3 4 5 5	4,296 1,802 472 282 101 89	133 210 196 211 197 158	1 3 5 7 9 10	97.2 99.3 90.0 90.5 96.1 90.0

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 6. Median usual weekly earnings of employed (full- and part-time) wage and salary workers by hours usually worked and sex, 1999 annual averages

		Both sexes			Women					
Hours of work	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median	Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
Total, 16 years and over	118.963	\$478	\$1	57,050	\$392	\$1	61.914	\$579	\$2	67.7
1 to 34 hours		167	1	13,010	172	i 1	5.731	157	1	109.6
1 to 4 hours		40	3	319	36	3	137	51	6	70.2
5 to 9 hours	1,125	59	1	792	60	1	333	58	2	104.2
10 to 14 hours	1,724	79	2	1,216	80	2	508	76	3	104.7
15 to 19 hours	2,588	115	1	1,758	118	1	830	109	1	108.0
20 to 24 hours	5,696	160	1	3,915	165	1	1,781	149	2	110.7
25 to 29 hours	2,448	203	2	1,681	208	2	768	191	3	109.1
30 to 34 hours	4,703	256	2	3,330	264	2	1,374	236	3	112.0
35 hours and over	92,381	552	2	40,466	477	1	51,916	620	2	76.9
35 to 39 hours	6,950	384	3	4,840	382	3	2,110	392	8	97.4
40 hours	63,004	499	1	28,993	451	2	34,011	554	3	81.5
41 hours and over	22,427	796	4	6,632	689	5	15,795	853	4	80.7
41 to 44 hours	1,543	597	7	632	523	11	911	647	12	80.8
45 to 48 hours	6,598	702	5	2,327	641	6	4,272	739	7	86.8
49 to 59 hours	9,751	865	6	2,679	755	7	7,072	912	7	82.8
60 hours and over	4,534	933	8	994	763	11	3,540	973	10	78.5
Hours vary		338	5	3,574	242	4	4,267	465	8	52.1
Usually less than 35 hours	2,324	136	2	1,485	136	3	839	137	4	99.5
Usually 35 hours or more	5,244	491	6	1,979	361	9	3,266	579	9	62.3

¹ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: Data refer to the sole or principal job of full- and part-time workers.

Detail for the above "hours vary" groups will not sum to totals because data are not presented for a small number of multiple jobholders whose usual number of hours on the principal job is not identifiable.

Table 7. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 1999 annual averages

	Number		-	Upper limit of	i:	
Characteristic	of workers (in thousands)	First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN						
Total, 16 years and over	97,626	\$269	\$365	\$549	\$826	\$1211
Women	42,444	247	323	473	693	983
Men	55,181	290	406	618	934	1365
White	80,849	275	377	573	852	1246
Women	- /-	250	331	483	707	999
Men	46,825	295	417	638	958	1399
Black	,	243	311	445	654	935
Women	-,	234	297	409	607	870
Men	5,846	259	336	488	711	989
Hispanic origin	10,950	227	280	385	585	848
Women		206	259	348	518	744
Men	6,788	238	294	406	613	916
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT						
Total, 25 years and over		284	393	592	872	1260
Less than a high school diploma		215	267	346	494	680
High school graduates, no college		270	349	490	688	932
Some college or associate degree		300	404	580	798	1079
College graduates, total	26,630	430	607	860	1243	1749
Women, 25 years and over	37,615	258	342	497	727	1020
Less than a high school diploma		189	236	290	375	501
High school graduates, no college	11,847	240	304	405	546	723
Some college or associate degree		279	359	488	665	886
College graduates, total	11,583	393	541	740	1013	1372
Men, 25 years and over	48,738	312	450	668	979	1425
Less than a high school diploma		237	294	395	550	746
High school graduates, no college		302	407	580	781	1027
Some college or associate degree		340	476	665	915	1208
College graduates, total	15,047	484	681	977	1425	1921

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. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 8. Usual weekly earnings distribution of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 1999 annual averages (In thousands)

				Usu	al weekly ea	rnings distrib	ution		
Characteristic	Total employed	Under \$150.00	\$150.00 to \$249.99	\$250.00 to \$349.99	\$350.00 to \$499.99	\$500.00 to \$749.99	\$750.00 to \$999.99	\$1000.00 to \$1499.99	\$1500.00 or more
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	97,626	1,112	6,469	14,231	20,904	24,431	14,097	11,097	5,284
16 to 24 years	11,273	260	2,095	3,417	3,265	1,677	388	141	30
16 to 19 years	2,170	96	710	798	411	122	21	7	4
20 to 24 years	9,104	164	1,385	2,619	2,853	1,555	367	134	26
25 years and over	86,352	852	4,374	10,814	17,640	22,754	13,709	10,956	5,254
25 to 34 years	25,354	229	1,455	3,797	6,208	7,379	3,354	2,186	746
35 to 44 years	28,746	252	1,368	3,416	5,544	7,458	4,843	3,911	1,954
45 to 54 years	22,002	170	887	2,280	3,927	5,536	3,955	3,509	1,739
55 to 64 years	9,054	121	490	1,073	1,748	2,203	1,445	1,238	737
65 years and over	1,196	80	174	248	212	179	112	113	78
Women, 16 years and over	42,444	645	3,863	7,813	10,598	10,382	4,910	3,176	1,057
16 to 24 years	4,830	130	1,051	1,537	1,325	626	118	34	9
16 to 19 years	831	50	317	297	135	28	3	_	1
20 to 24 years	3,998	80	734	1,241	1,190	598	114	34	8
25 years and over	37,615	514	2,812	6,275	9,274	9,756	4,792	3,143	1,048
25 to 34 years	10,826	132	843	2,012	2,945	2,948	1,129	632	185
35 to 44 years	12,287	165	922	2,030	2,931	3,125	1,656	1,065	393
45 to 54 years	10,057	110	647	1,452	2,312	2,619	1,465	1,079	373
55 to 64 years	3,957	70	312	676	972	988	509	337	92
65 years and over	489	37	88	106	114	77	33	29	5
Men, 16 years and over	55,181	468	2,606	6,418	10,306	14,048	9,187	7,921	4,227
16 to 24 years	6,444	130	1,044	1,880	1,940	1,051	270	107	21
16 to 19 years	1,338	46	393	501	277	94	18	7	3
20 to 24 years	5,105	84	652	1,378	1,663	957	253	100	18
25 years and over	48,738	337	1,562	4,539	8,366	12,998	8,916	7,814	4,206
25 to 34 years	14,528	97	612	1,785	3,264	4,431	2,225	1,554	561
35 to 44 years	16,460	87	446	1,386	2,613	4,333	3,188	2,846	1,561
45 to 54 years	11,945	60	240	828	1,615	2,917	2,489	2,429	1,366
55 to 64 years	5,097	51	178	397	776	1,215	936	901	644
65 years and over	708	43	86	143	99	101	79	84	73
RACE, SEX, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN									
White, 16 years and over	80,849	894	4,950	11,050	16,771	20,511	12,177	9,710	4,785
Women	34,024	523	2,880	5,990	8,422	8,579	4,086	2,630	913
Men	46,825	371	2,070	5,061	8,349	11,932	8,091	7,080	3,871
Black, 16 years and over	12,190	171	1,188	2,532	3,175	2,826	1,288	791	219
Women	6,344	95	784	1,481	1,687	1,324	559	339	76
Men	5,846	75	404	1,052	1,489	1,502	729	452	143
Hispanic origin, 16 years and over	10,950	176	1,719	2,757	2,655	2,086	832	520	207
Women	4,162	108	848	1,109	956	714	257	133	37
Men	6,788	68	870	1,648	1,699	1,372	575	387	169

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and

Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 9. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by sex, marital status, and presence and age of own children under 18 years old, 1999 annual averages

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median
WOMEN			
Total, all marital statuses With children under 18 years old With children 6 to 17, none younger With children under 6 years old With no children under 18 years old Total, married, spouse present With children under 18 years old With children under 17, none younger With children under 6 years old With no children under 18 years old Total, other marital statuses ¹	11,346 6,946 4,400 11,037	\$473 455 468 434 483 499 487 487 486 510	\$1 2 3 4 2 2 2 3 4 2
With children under 18 years old	5,515 3,555 1,960	438 401 428 357 459	2 3 4 4 3
Total, all marital statuses With children under 18 years old With children 6 to 17, none younger With children under 6 years old With no children under 18 years old Total, married, spouse present With children under 18 years old With children 6 to 17, none younger With children under 6 years old With no children under 18 years old With no children under 18 years old	55,181 21,889 11,663 10,226 33,292 34,224 20,425 10,805 9,620 13,799	618 692 732 646 581 706 703 741 660 709	2 3 4 5 2 3 3 4 5
Total, other marital statuses ¹ With children under 18 years old With children 6 to 17, none younger With children under 6 years old With no children under 18 years old	20,957 1,464	494 557 621 469 491	2 14 12 12 2

¹ Includes never-married, divorced, separated,

and widowed persons.

NOTE: Childre NOTE: Children refer to "own" children and include sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted

children. Excluded are other related children such as grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins, and unrelated children.

Table 10. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates by selected characteristics, 1999 annual averages

		Both sexes			Women			Men		\//aman'a
Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median hourly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median hourly earnings	Standard error of median	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median hourly earnings	Standard error of median	Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
AGE										
Total, 16 years and over	72,306	\$9.53	\$.06	36,233	\$8.64	\$.05	36,073	\$10.31	\$.09	83.8
6 to 24 years	16,636	6.87	.03	8,080	6.60	.05	8,556	7.12	.05	92.7
16 to 19 years	6,600	6.08	.03	3,254	5.98	.03	3,346	6.18	.04	96.7
20 to 24 years	10,036	7.74	.06	4,826	7.22	.06	5,210	8.03	.06	89.8
5 years and over	55,670	10.47	.07	28,153	9.53	.07	27,517	12.00	.06	79.4
25 to 34 years	17,051	9.98	.05	8,101	9.10	.07	8,951	10.84	.10	84.0
35 to 44 years	18,172	11.02	.09	9,165	9.83	.06	9,008	12.78	.14	76.9
45 to 54 years	12,846	11.33	.16	6,867	9.95	.08	5,979	13.68	.30	72.7
55 to 64 years	5,932	10.38	.20	3.147	9.33	.20	2,784	12.21	.26	76.4
65 years and over	1,669	7.70	.18	873	7.50	.23	796	7.86	.18	95.4
-	1,009	7.70	.10	0/3	7.50	.23	790	7.00	.10	95.4
RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN										
Vhite	58,999	9.74	.05	29,093	8.73	.05	29,906	10.61	.11	82.2
Black	10,126	8.85	.08	5,494	8.13	.06	4,632	9.77	.11	83.2
dispanic origin	9,402	8.07	.08	3,913	7.46	.16	5,490	8.61	.21	86.6
MARITAL STATUS								1		
lever married	24,976	7.74	.05	11,542	7.20	.05	13,434	8.05	.05	89.4
Married, spouse present	35,445	10.86	.06	17,348	9.63	.09	18,097	12.48	.14	77.2
Other marital status	11,885	9.81	.06	7,343	8.95	.08	4,542	11.18	.21	80.1
Divorced	7,668	10.19	.10	4,617	9.46	.17	3,052	11.96	.17	79.1
Separated	2,833	8.86	.16	1,584	8.12	.12	1,249	9.94	.15	81.6
Widowed	1,383	8.30	.31	1,142	8.12	.16	241	9.77	.59	83.1
UNION AFFILIATION ²										
Members of unions ³	10,871	13.81	.14	3,603	11.61	.24	7,268	14.94	.11	77.7
Represented by unions ⁴	11,815	13.66	.18	4,086	11.54	.26	7,729	14.87	.11	77.6
lot represented by a union	60,491	8.89	.03	32,147	8.25	.04	28,343	9.76	.06	84.5
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT										
otal, 25 years and over	55,670	10.47	.07	28,153	9.53	.07	27,517	12.00	.06	79.4
Less than a high school diploma	8,029	7.92	.06	3,380	6.87	.06	4,649	9.02	.10	76.2
High school graduates, no college	22,611	10.12	.04	11,158	8.88	.06	11,453	12.02	.08	73.9
Some college or associate degree	17,069	11.39	.13	9,090	10.18	.06	7,979	13.08	.13	77.8
College graduates, total	7.960	14.73	.25	4,525	13.96	.23	3,435	15.17	.34	92.0

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this

² Differences in earnings levels between men and women with union affiliation reflect a variety of factors in addition to coverage by a collective bargaining agreement, including the distribution of male and female employees by occupation, industry, firm size, or geographic region.

³ Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar

to a union.

4 Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union as well as workers who report no union affiliation but whose jobs are covered by a union or an employee association contract.

NOTE: Hourly paid workers account for approximately three-fifths of all wage and salary workers. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table 11. Hourly earnings distribution of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates by selected characteristics, 1999 annual averages

(In thousands)

					Hourly	earnings dis	tribution			
Characteristic	Total employed	Under \$4.00	\$4.00 to \$4.99	\$5.00 to \$5.99	\$6.00 to \$7.99	\$8.00 to \$9.99	\$10.00 to \$11.99	\$12.00 to \$15.99	\$16.00 to \$19.99	\$20.00 or more
AGE AND SEX			,	******	,	,,,,,,,	,	,	,	
Total, 16 years and over	72,306	955	296	7,056	16,250	13,046	10,345	12,145	5,808	6,406
16 to 24 years	16,636	416	148	3,840	6,266	3,154	1,593	964	147	108
16 to 19 years	6,600	171	91	2,440	2,842	696	236	99	12	13
20 to 24 years	10,036	245	57	1,400	3,424	2,458	1,357	865	135	95
25 years and over	55,670	539	147	3,216	9,984	9,892	8,753	11,180	5,661	6,298
25 to 34 years	17,051	226	50	1,028	3,322	3,463	2,947	3,453	1,391	1,172
35 to 44 years	18,172	167	25	927	2,988	3,016	2,832	3,780	2,045	2,393
45 to 54 years	12,846	86	27	598	1,998	2,107	1,905	2,621	1,569	1,935
55 to 64 years	5,932	48	24	376	1,134	1,002	875	1,174	598	701
65 years and over	1,669	13	21	288	543	305	195	151	57	97
Women, 16 years and over	36,233	710	149	4,329	9,570	7,122	5,125	5,004	1,993	2,231
16 to 24 years	8,080	298	70	2,151	3,144	1,389	634	323	37	35
16 to 19 years	3,254	123	45	1,328	1,356	295	83	21	2	2
20 to 24 years	4,826	175	25	822	1,788	1,094	552	302	35	33
25 years and over	28,153	412	79	2,178	6,427	5,733	4,491	4,681	1,956	2,197
25 to 34 years	8,101	171	22	629	1,968	1,791	1,333	1,284	485	417
35 to 44 years	9,165	131	15	659	2,014	1,770	1,494	1,554	698	829
45 to 54 years	6,867	68	19	446	1,415	1,379	1,052	1,250	556	683
55 to 64 years	3,147	32	14	274	744	632	499	518	198	237
65 years and over	873	10	8	169	286	161	112	76	18	31
Men, 16 years and over	36,073	245	147	2,728	6,679	5,925	5,220	7,141	3,815	4,175
16 to 24 years	8,556	118	78	1,689	3,122	1,765	958	641	110	74
16 to 19 years	3,346	48	46	1,112	1,486	401	153	78	10	11
20 to 24 years	5,210	70	32	578	1,636	1.364	805	563	99	63
25 years and over	27,517	127	69	1,038	3,557	4,159	4,262	6,499	3,705	4.101
25 to 34 years	8,951	55	28	399	1,354	1,671	1,614	2,170	906	755
35 to 44 years	9,008	36	10	267	974	1,246	1,337	2,226	1,347	1,565
45 to 54 years	5,979	17	9	152	583	728	852	1,371	1,014	1,253
55 to 64 years	2,784	16	10	102	390	370	376	657	400	464
65 years and over	796	3	13	118	256	144	82	76	39	65
RACE, SEX, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN										
White, 16 years and over	58,999	834	221	5,616	12,875	10,504	8.418	10.082	4,959	5,489
Women	29,093	639	112	3,399	7,461	5,726	4,189	4,069	1.658	1.840
Men	29,093	196	108	2,217	5,415	4,778	4,109	6,013	3,301	3,649
WOII	23,300	130	100	۲,۲۱۱	3,413	7,770	7,223	0,013	3,301	5,043
Black, 16 years and over	10,126	82	66	1,131	2,639	1,991	1,506	1,542	614	554
Women	5,494	44	34	739	1,666	1,109	721	699	250	232
Men	4,632	38	32	391	973	882	785	843	364	323
Hispanic origin, 16 years and over	9,402	75	31	1,336	2,804	1,893	1,204	1,171	485	401
Women	3,913	49	12	727	1,321	743	467	371	122	100
Men	5,490	27	19	609	1,484	1,151	736	801	362	301

NOTE: Hourly-paid workers account for approximately three-fifths of all wage and salary workers. Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to

Table 12. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by selected characteristics, 1999 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

			1999		
			Paid hourly rat	es	
Characteristic		Below prevailing	At prevailing		w prevailing Federal num wage
	Total	Federal minimum wage	Federal minimum wage	Number	Percent of hourly-paid workers
AGE AND SEX					
Total, 16 years and over	72,306	2,194	1,146	3,340	4.6
16 to 24 years	16,636	1,064	632	1,695	10.2
16 to 19 years	6,600	577	429	1,006	15.2
20 to 24 years	10,036	486	203	690	6.9
25 years and over	55,670	1,130	514	1,644	3.0
25 to 34 years	17,051	397	180	577	3.4
35 to 44 years	18,172	316	140	456	2.5
45 to 54 years	12,846	199	96	295	2.3
55 to 64 years	5,932	132	45	177	3.0
65 years and over	1,669	86	54	140	8.4
Women, 16 years and over	36,233	1,426	700	2,126	5.9
16 to 24 years	8,080	654	343	996	12.3
16 to 19 years	3,254	344	233	578	17.8
20 to 24 years	4,826	309	110	419	8.7
25 years and over	28,153	772	357	1,129	4.0
25 to 34 years	8,101	257	113	370	4.6
35 to 44 years	9,165	232	103	335	3.7
45 to 54 years	6,867	146	73	219	3.2
55 to 64 years	3,147	91	37	128	4.1
65 years and over	873	46	31	77	8.9
Men, 16 years and over	36,073	768	446	1,214	3.4
16 to 24 years	8,556	410	289	699	8.2
16 to 19 years	3,346	233	195	428	12.8
20 to 24 years	5,210	177	93	271	5.2
25 years and over	27,517	358	157	515	1.9
25 to 34 years	8,951	140	67	206	2.3
35 to 44 years	9,008	85	37	121	1.3
45 to 54 years	5,979	53	22	76	1.3
55 to 64 years	2,784	41	9	49	1.8
65 years and over	796	40	23	63	7.9
RACE, SEX, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN					
White, 16 years and over	58,999	1,803	895	2,698	4.6
Women	29,093	1,200	539	1,740	6.0
Men	29,906	602	356	958	3.2
Black, 16 years and over	10,126	298	217	516	5.1
Women	5,494	173	144	316	5.8
Men	4,632	126	74	199	4.3
Hispanic origin, 16 years and over	9,402	275	238	513	5.5
Women	3,913	148	133	281	7.2
Men	5,490	126	105	232	4.2
FULL- AND PART-TIME STATUS AND SEX ¹					
Full-time workers	54,931	948	372	1,320	2.4
Women	24,349	565	203	768	3.2
Men	30,582	383	169	552	1.8
Part-time workers	17,227	1,238	772	2,011	11.7
Vomen	11,817	855	496	1,351	11.7
Men	5,410	383	276	659	12.2
*1011	0,-+10	303	210	553	12.2

¹ The distinction between full- and part-time workers is based on hours usually worked. These data will not sum to totals because full- or part-time status on the principal job is not identifiable for a small number of multiple jobholders. NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not

sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups. See technical note for more information about minimum wage workers.

Table 13. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (1999) dollars by sex and age, 1979-99 annual averages

	Total, 16		16 to 24 year	s			25 years	and over		
Year and sex	years and over	Total	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	Total	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 year
BOTH SEXES										
1979	\$518	\$370	\$310	\$400	\$570	\$549	\$603	\$594	\$563	\$426
1980	507	363	298	387	554	534	584	575	551	393
1981	501	354	285	377	545	524	575	566	546	393
1982	505	348	274	368	546	520	591	577	543	422
1983	502	338	262	357	550	515	592	588	555	418
1984	502	334	260	355	557	516	599	592	562	418
985	512	333	259	357	563	520	604	596	567	442
986 ¹	525	339	261	363	572	527	612	608	580	436
1987	529	343	263	366	570	528	616	607	574	439
988	526	340	267	362	565	523	614	618	572	441
900	526	340	207	302	202	523	014	010	5/2	441
989	521	339	266	361	559	515	617	617	563	436
9901	513	335	261	355	559	507	606	608	569	428
991	511	333	255	350	560	498	597	608	563	457
1992	515	323	248	339	560	493	588	611	565	442
993	523	321	244	338	560	498	590	618	561	448
19941	521	320	246	334	558	490	599	632	559	429
995	521	317	251	332	554	490	598	633	559	423
996	519	315	254	330	551	490	591	629	566	406
997 ¹	522	318	261	333	560	499	600	629	578	408
1998 ¹	534	326	274	346	585	513	610	634	606	414
19991	549	341	281	363	592	518	611	652	604	404
WOMEN										
1979	392	331	284	347	419	428	421	413	406	366
1980	389	323	281	338	412	422	415	404	396	338
981	387	319	272	338	412	422	420	398	392	334
982	399	320	263	336	425	430	431	420	408	353
983	404	317	253	332	429	435	436	423	412	339
1984	408	313	249	328	435	438	449	429	415	337
1985	413	313	247	329	441	440	457	434	424	361
1986 ¹	425	320	248	338	451	447	467	451	432	374
987	429	320	243	342	454	447	477	458	436	369
1988	430	321	251	343	457	446	483	463	433	382
1989	429	322	257	340	458	445	483	466	435	382
1990 ¹	431	316	247	335	460	443	486	470	433	373
	440	316	247	335		443	486 489	470	433 435	373
991					465		l	1		
992	444	312	239	327	467	447	489	487	440	384
993		312	234	330	473	450	496	502	450	382
9941	445	308	236	323	470	443	500	502	445	375
1995	441	299	233	316	465	438	493	504	438	383
996	442	300	236	316	470	439	490	509	445	354
1997 ¹	447	303	249	317	478	443	499	513	448	361
		040	0.55	000	406	462	509	527	107	250
1998 ¹	467 473	312 324	255 266	326 343	496 497	470	503	534	487 492	358 370

Table 13. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (1999) dollars by sex and age, 1979-99 annual averages-Continued

	Total, 16	1	6 to 24 year	s			25 years	and over		
Year and sex	years and over	Total	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	Total	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
MEN										
1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 19861 1987 1988 1989 19901 1991 1992 1993 19941 1995 1996 19971 19981 19991	627 605 600 608 607 603 605 613 614 613 612 599 592 586 582 583 585 590 600 612 618	422 403 386 375 357 356 358 360 364 357 355 351 343 332 329 328 329 325 329 341 356	333 313 297 284 269 268 272 277 280 274 271 263 255 255 255 265 265 272 288 291	454 433 419 408 387 385 385 386 389 381 379 371 360 348 345 342 343 340 350 365 379	675 657 657 657 652 650 659 676 675 665 653 638 628 627 633 643 639 634 637 653 668	635 608 600 597 594 588 586 587 583 574 567 560 550 545 535 532 528 534 556 577	722 710 702 705 708 725 724 729 722 706 709 698 691 680 679 689 678 669 675 692 702	726 709 700 699 711 723 727 739 735 749 744 736 735 741 745 748 744 739 739 748 763	672 667 667 666 667 676 695 708 701 694 681 679 676 677 668 673 677 680 693 715 725	471 442 471 501 494 504 547 524 538 539 514 501 560 492 515 492 480 505 468 493 470
WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²	010	330	231	319	000	377	702	700	725	470
1979	62.5 64.3 64.5 65.5 66.6 67.6 68.2 69.3 69.9 70.1 70.1 71.9 74.3 75.8 77.1 76.4 75.4	78.5 80.1 82.6 85.3 88.6 87.9 87.5 88.9 88.1 90.0 90.7 90.1 93.3 94.0 94.8 93.7 90.8	85.2 89.5 91.8 92.8 94.1 92.7 90.8 91.5 87.8 89.8 94.0 91.0 93.5 93.8 92.7 87.9 88.9	76.5 78.0 80.7 82.5 85.9 85.3 85.5 87.7 88.0 90.1 89.8 90.2 93.5 94.2 95.6 94.5 92.2	62.1 62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7 70.2 72.1 74.0 74.6 74.7 73.1 72.7	67.4 69.4 70.4 72.1 73.3 74.5 75.1 76.2 76.8 77.7 78.4 79.2 80.9 82.0 82.9 82.9 82.4 83.2	58.3 58.4 59.9 61.2 61.5 61.9 63.1 64.0 66.1 68.4 68.7 70.8 71.9 73.0 72.5 72.7	56.9 56.9 56.8 60.1 59.5 59.4 59.7 61.0 62.3 61.8 62.7 63.8 64.9 65.8 67.3 67.1 67.8 68.9	60.5 59.4 58.9 61.3 61.8 61.4 60.9 61.0 62.2 62.4 63.9 63.7 64.4 64.9 67.4 66.1 64.8 65.4	77.8 76.5 70.9 70.4 68.7 66.8 66.0 71.4 68.7 70.8 74.2 74.5 68.4 78.1 74.1 76.3 79.9 70.0
1997 ¹ 1998 ¹ 1999 ¹	74.5 76.3 76.5	92.1 91.3 91.0	91.4 88.5 91.3	90.6 89.4 90.5	75.1 75.9 74.4	82.9 83.0 81.5	74.0 73.5 71.7	69.4 70.5 70.1	64.7 68.2 67.8	77.1 72.6 78.7

¹ The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 1994 and subsequent issues of Employment and Earnings, a monthly BLS periodical.
² These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ

slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this

table.

NOTE: The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 14. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (1999) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 1979-99 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	White	Black	Hispanic origin
BOTH SEXES				
979	\$518	\$532	\$428	\$416
980	507	520	411	405
981	501	513	415	394
982	505	517	409	401
983	502	513	419	400
984	502	518	414	399
985		529	413	401
986 ¹	525	542	426	405
987	529	543	426	403
988	526	538	429	396
989	521	535	418	390
990 ¹	513	528	410	378
991	511	531	418	375
992	515	536	417	376
993	523	542	421	377
994 ¹	521	540	415	362
995	521	537	416	357
996	519	535	410	358
997 ¹	522	538	414	364
998 ¹	534	557	435	379
999 ¹	549	573	445	385
WOMEN				
979	392	396	364	338
980	389	393	358	334
981	387	390	364	336
982	399	404	363	340
983	404	408	371	344
984	408	413	371	343
985	413	419	376	342
	413 425			342 353
986 ¹	425	419 430	376 386	353
986 ¹ 987		419	376	-
986 ¹	425 429 430	419 430 435 434	376 386 390 393	353 355 355
986 ¹	425 429	419 430 435	376 386 390	353 355
986 ¹	425 429 430 429 431	419 430 435 434 436 440	376 386 390 393 394 384	353 355 355 352 347
986 ¹	425 429 430 429	419 430 435 434 436 440 448	376 386 390 393 394 384 387	353 355 355 352 347 351
986 ¹	425 429 430 429 431 440	419 430 435 434 436 440 448 452	376 386 390 393 394 384 387 392	353 355 355 352 347 351 353
986 ¹	425 429 430 429 431 440 444 449	419 430 435 434 436 440 448 452 457	376 386 390 393 394 384 387 392 396	353 355 355 355 347 351 353 356
986 ¹	425 429 430 429 431 440 444 449	419 430 435 434 436 440 448 452 457 455	376 386 390 393 394 384 387 392 396 386	353 355 355 355 352 347 351 353 356 340
986 ¹ 987 988 989 990 ¹ 991 992 993 994 ¹ 995	425 429 430 429 431 440 444 449 445	419 430 435 434 436 440 448 452 457 455 451	376 386 390 393 394 384 387 392 396 386 386	353 355 355 352 347 351 353 356 340 332
986 ¹ 987 988 989 990 ¹ 991 992 993 993 994 ¹ 995	425 429 430 429 431 440 444 449 445 441	419 430 435 434 436 440 448 452 457 455 451 453	376 386 390 393 394 384 387 392 396 386 385 383	353 355 355 352 347 351 353 356 340 332 335
985 9861 987 988 989 9901 991 991 992 993 9941 995 996 9971 9981	425 429 430 429 431 440 444 449 445	419 430 435 434 436 440 448 452 457 455 451	376 386 390 393 394 384 387 392 396 386 386	353 355 355 352 347 351 353 356 340 332

Table 14. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (1999) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 1979-99 annual averages-Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	White	Black	Hispanic origin
MEN				
979	. 627	642	489	472
980		618	473	453
981		618	474	444
982		627	465	448
983		621	471	440
984		616	466	441
985		621	453	440
986 ¹		634	466	437
987		637	462	433
988				
966	. 613	635	474	420
989		630	455	411
990 ¹		615	449	396
991	. 592	607	450	388
992		601	445	396
993		597	447	394
994 ¹	. 583	611	447	383
995	. 585	616	447	380
996	. 590	614	435	376
9971	. 600	617	448	385
9981	. 612	629	478	398
9991	. 618	638	488	406
WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²				
979	. 62.5	61.7	74.3	71.7
980	. 64.3	63.5	75.8	73.6
981	. 64.5	63.1	76.7	75.6
982		64.4	78.0	75.7
983		65.7	78.9	78.3
984	. 67.6	67.0	79.6	77.8
985	. 68.2	67.4	82.8	77.7
986 ¹	. 69.3	67.9	82.7	80.7
987	. 69.9	68.2	84.4	82.1
988	. 70.1	68.5	83.0	84.6
			86.5	85.6
989	70.1	69.2		
		69.2 71.5		
9901	. 71.9	71.5	85.5	87.6
990 ¹ 991	. 71.9 . 74.3	71.5 73.7	85.5 86.1	87.6 90.5
990 ¹	. 71.9 . 74.3 . 75.8	71.5 73.7 75.2	85.5 86.1 88.1	87.6 90.5 89.1
990 ¹	. 71.9 . 74.3 . 75.8 . 77.1	71.5 73.7 75.2 76.5	85.5 86.1 88.1 88.8	87.6 90.5 89.1 90.4
990 ¹	. 71.9 . 74.3 . 75.8 . 77.1 . 76.4	71.5 73.7 75.2 76.5 74.5	85.5 86.1 88.1 88.8 86.5	87.6 90.5 89.1 90.4 88.8
990 ¹	. 71.9 . 74.3 . 75.8 . 77.1 . 76.4 . 75.4	71.5 73.7 75.2 76.5 74.5 73.2	85.5 86.1 88.1 88.8 86.5 86.3	87.6 90.5 89.1 90.4 88.8 87.3
990 ¹	. 71.9 74.3 . 75.8 . 77.1 . 76.4 . 75.4 . 75.0	71.5 73.7 75.2 76.5 74.5 73.2 73.8	85.5 86.1 88.1 88.8 86.5 86.3 88.1	87.6 90.5 89.1 90.4 88.8 87.3 89.0
989 990 ¹ 991 992 993 994 ¹ 995 996 997 ¹ 998 ¹	. 71.9 . 74.3 . 75.8 . 77.1 . 76.4 . 75.4 . 75.0 . 74.5	71.5 73.7 75.2 76.5 74.5 73.2	85.5 86.1 88.1 88.8 86.5 86.3	87.6 90.5 89.1 90.4 88.8 87.3

¹ The comparability of historical labor force data has ¹ The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 1994 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

² These figures are computed using unrounded

medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: Persons of Hispanic origin maybe of any race; thus they are included in both the white and black population groups. The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dellars to constant dellars. convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 15. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and over in constant (1999) dollars by sex and educational attainment, 1979-99 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 25 years and over	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college	Some college or associate degree	College graduates, tota
BOTH SEXES					
979	\$570	\$452	\$535	\$606	\$740
980	554	430	515	587	728
981	545	423	506	573	719
982	546	414	504	586	730
983	550	410	499	581	739
984	557	405	496	588	747
985	563	402	496	593	752
986 ¹	572	406	502	598	767
987	572 570	400	502	595	797
		-			_
988	565	393	502	587	799
989	559	389	490	591	797
9901	559	378	480	593	794
991	560	369	477	588	799
992	560	363	472	567	814
993	560	358	473	563	815
994 ¹	558	343	470	556	818
995	554	336	469	552	812
996	551	335	469	548	803
997 ¹	560	332	477	555	807
9981	585	344	490	570	839
9991	592	346	490	580	860
WOMEN					
979	419	326	398	453	567
980	412	317	388	447	561
981	412	309	384	450	562
982	425	308	394	458	578
983	429	312	395	461	591
984	435	307	398	469	600
985	441	301	398	472	617
986 ¹	451	303	405	482	637
987	451 454	303	405	491	659
988	454 457	303	407	491	662
989	458	303	398	495	663
9901	460	299	392	492	667
991	465	300	394	490	675
992	467	299	394	476	694
993	473	300	395	481	696
994 ¹	470	286	392	472	708
995	465	285	387	464	700
	470	284	386	467	695
996				1 17.	
996 997 ¹			392	475	697
996997 ¹ 998 ¹	478 496	285 289	392 405	475 487	697 723

Table 15. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and over in constant (1999) dollars by sex and educational attainment, 1979-99 annual averages-Continued

Year and sex	Total, 25 years and over	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college	Some college or associate degree	College graduates, total
MEN					
1979	675	542	663	708	851
1980	657	517	633	693	827
1981	657	505	629	687	840
1982	657	490	624	687	840
1983	652	483	621	677	831
1984	650	474	613	686	864
1985	659	467	606	702	878
1986 ¹	676	469	608	710	903
1987	675	458	598	703	923
1988	665	454	596	686	927
1989	653	453	589	676	922
1990 ¹	638	435	571	676	923
1991	628	419	564	676	918
1992	627	411	560	649	925
1993	633	406	555	652	919
1994 ¹	643	382	554	655	922
1995	639	377	551	648	918
1996	634	377	546	639	925
1997 ¹	637	379	554	644	928
19981	653	392	571	658	960
1999 ¹	668	395	580	665	977
WOMEN'S					
WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²					
EARNINGS AS PERCENT	62.1	60.2	60.0	64.0	66.6
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²	62.1 62.7	60.2 61.3	60.0 61.3	64.0 64.5	66.6 67.8
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 979 980					
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979 1980 1981	62.7	61.3	61.3	64.5	67.8
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979	62.7 62.7	61.3 61.1	61.3 61.0	64.5 65.6	67.8 66.9
### EARNINGS ### AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 979 980 981 982 983	62.7 62.7 64.7	61.3 61.1 62.8	61.3 61.0 63.1	64.5 65.6 66.7	67.8 66.9 68.9
### EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 979 ### 980 ### 981 ### 982 ### 983 ### 984 ### 984	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1
### EARNINGS	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5
### EARNINGS	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 19861 1987	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 ¹ 1987	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4
### EARNINGS	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 ¹ 1987 1988	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4
## Company of the Image	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7 70.2 72.1 74.0	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4 71.9 72.2 73.5
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7 70.2 72.1 74.0 74.6	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4 66.8 68.8 71.5 72.8	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3 67.6 68.6 69.9 70.3	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5 73.3 72.8 72.6 73.4	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4 71.9 72.2 73.5 75.0
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 ¹ 1987 1988 1989 1990 ¹ 1991	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7 70.2 72.1 74.0 74.6 74.7	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4 66.8 68.8 71.5 72.8 73.8	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3 67.6 68.6 69.9 70.3 71.3	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5 73.3 72.8 72.6 73.4 73.7	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4 71.9 72.2 73.5 75.0 75.8
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 ¹ 1987 1988 1989 1990 ¹ 1991	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7 70.2 72.1 74.0 74.6 74.7 73.1	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4 66.8 68.8 71.5 72.8 73.8 74.9	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3 67.6 68.6 69.9 70.3 71.3 70.8	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5 73.3 72.8 72.6 73.4 73.7 72.0	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4 71.9 72.2 73.5 75.0 75.8 76.7
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 ¹ 1987 1988 11989 11990 ¹ 11991 11992 11993 11994 ¹ 11995	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7 70.2 72.1 74.0 74.6 74.7 73.1 72.7	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4 66.8 68.8 71.5 72.8 73.8 74.9	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3 67.6 68.6 69.9 70.3 71.3 70.8 70.2	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5 73.3 72.8 72.6 73.4 73.7 72.0 71.6	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4 71.9 72.2 73.5 75.0 75.8 76.7 76.2
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7 70.2 72.1 74.0 74.6 74.7 73.1 72.7 74.1	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4 66.8 68.8 71.5 72.8 73.8 74.9 75.4	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3 67.6 68.6 69.9 70.3 71.3 70.8 70.2 70.7	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5 73.3 72.8 72.6 73.4 73.7 72.0 71.6 73.1	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4 71.9 72.2 73.5 75.0 75.8 76.7 76.2 75.2
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ² 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 19861 1987 1988 1989 19901 1991 19991 19992 1993 19941 1995 1996	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7 70.2 72.1 74.0 74.6 74.7 73.1 72.7 74.1 75.1	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4 66.8 68.8 71.5 72.8 73.8 74.9 75.4 75.2	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3 67.6 68.6 69.9 70.3 71.3 70.8 70.2	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5 73.3 72.8 72.6 73.4 73.7 72.0 71.6 73.1 73.8	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4 71.9 72.2 73.5 75.0 75.8 76.7 76.2 75.2
EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²	62.7 62.7 64.7 65.8 67.0 66.9 66.7 67.3 68.7 70.2 72.1 74.0 74.6 74.7 73.1 72.7 74.1	61.3 61.1 62.8 64.6 64.8 64.4 64.7 66.1 66.4 66.8 68.8 71.5 72.8 73.8 74.9 75.4	61.3 61.0 63.1 63.5 64.9 65.7 66.6 68.0 68.3 67.6 68.6 69.9 70.3 71.3 70.8 70.2 70.7	64.5 65.6 66.7 68.1 68.4 67.2 67.9 69.9 71.5 73.3 72.8 72.6 73.4 73.7 72.0 71.6 73.1	67.8 66.9 68.9 71.1 69.5 70.2 70.6 71.3 71.4 71.9 72.2 73.5 75.0 75.8 76.7 76.2 75.2

¹ The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 1994 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Eamings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

² These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 16. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (1999) dollars by sex and age, 1979-99 annual averages

V	Total, 16	16 to 24 years			25 years and over					T
Year and sex	years and over	Total	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	Total	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and ove
BOTH SEXES										
79	\$9.55	\$7.50	\$6.68	\$8.65	\$10.99	\$11.19	\$11.39	\$11.10	\$10.68	\$6.94
980	9.33	7.18	6.24	8.30	10.73	10.94	11.14	10.93	10.43	6.89
981	9.10	7.01	6.32	8.14	10.58	10.76	10.96	10.63	10.26	6.92
982	9.01	6.76	6.02	7.78	10.49	10.59	11.04	10.72	10.20	6.88
983	8.96	6.53	5.78	7.51	10.49	10.41	11.07	10.78	10.27	7.04
984	8.97	6.43	5.62	7.41	10.52	10.41	11.04	10.89	10.18	7.12
985	8.97	6.34	5.47	7.35	10.49	10.30	11.15	10.97	10.28	7.05
9861	9.07	6.45	5.42	7.40	10.57	10.25	11.39	11.31	10.48	7.26
987	9.15	6.49	5.39	7.37	10.55	10.17	11.23	11.12	10.49	7.19
988	9.18	6.53	5.49	7.34	10.56	10.14	11.15	11.13	10.20	7.14
989	9.14	6.47	5.52	7.39	10.39	9.98	11.19	11.01	10.22	7.08
990 ¹	9.01	6.42	5.59	7.36	10.17	9.84	10.98	10.95	9.99	7.17
991	9.01	6.32	5.63	7.21	10.19	9.65	11.00	10.94	9.83	7.13
992	9.03	6.28	5.53	7.06	10.21	9.56	10.97	11.13	9.92	7.18
993	8.97	6.28	5.47	7.01	10.20	9.43	10.96	11.25	10.15	7.29
994 ¹	8.94	6.27	5.48	6.94	10.18	9.35	11.07	11.18	10.07	7.13
995	8.88	6.31	5.47	6.98	10.17	9.47	10.89	11.01	10.00	7.23
996	8.89	6.28	5.47	7.08	10.18	9.33	10.73	10.83	9.93	7.16
997 ¹	9.07 9.31	6.37	5.71	7.16	10.22	9.37	10.73	10.98	10.09	7.14
9991	9.53	6.73 6.87	6.01 6.08	7.40 7.74	10.36 10.47	9.87 9.98	11.11 11.02	11.21 11.33	10.31 10.38	7.57 7.70
WOMEN										
979	7.77	6.85	6.51	7.56	8.38	8.69	8.53	8.26	8.07	6.72
980	7.65	6.67	6.07	7.34	8.20	8.59	8.29	8.18	7.89	6.54
981	7.55	6.55	6.22	7.23	8.29	8.64	8.43	8.11	7.82	6.56
982	7.69	6.31	5.93	7.00	8.39	8.67	8.48	8.27	8.01	6.56
983	7.70	6.12	5.69	6.82	8.38	8.72	8.51	8.32	8.12	6.67
984	7.64	6.04	5.53	6.71	8.44	8.62	8.63	8.48	8.11	6.72
985	7.64	5.96	5.37	6.79	8.53	8.61	8.79	8.57	8.12	6.60
986 ¹	7.80	6.01	5.33	6.89	8.69	8.70	8.96	8.76	8.41	6.92
987	7.92	5.97	5.24	6.92	8.72	8.69	8.98	8.88	8.53	6.86
988	7.97	6.11	5.33	6.89	8.78	8.68	9.22	8.98	8.30	6.98
989	7.98	6.13	5.36	6.83	8.86	8.74	9.28	9.03	8.33	6.72
9901	8.02	6.16	5.42	6.94	8.81	8.73	9.17	8.91	8.38	6.78
991	8.10	6.10	5.57	6.85	8.81	8.63	9.28	9.13	8.35	6.91
992	8.13	6.04	5.48	6.75	8.95	8.71	9.35	9.28	8.42	6.98
993	8.12	6.00	5.39	6.80	8.97	8.68	9.30	9.33	8.62	7.05
9941	8.09	5.94	5.39	6.67	8.98	8.69	9.42	9.44	8.72	6.96
995	8.10	5.96	5.37	6.62	8.88	8.61	9.38	9.48	8.62	7.01
996	8.18	6.01	5.39	6.62	8.93	8.53	9.41	9.46	8.54	6.83
997 ¹	8.23	6.17	5.62	6.79	9.07	8.50	9.48	9.60	8.61	7.07
9981	8.41	6.38	5.91	7.09	9.34	9.00	9.88	10.00	9.04	7.37
9991	8.64	6.60	5.98	7.22	9.53	9.10	9.83	9.95	9.33	7.50

Table 16. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (1999) dollars by sex and age, 1979-99 annual averages — Continued

	Total, 16	16 to 24 years			25 years and over					
Year and sex	years and over	Total	16 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	Total	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
MEN										
1979	12.15	8.39	6.86	9.98	14.39	13.71	15.31	15.27	14.16	7.66
1980	11.79	7.94	6.53	9.51	13.96	13.40	15.11	15.05	14.00	7.33
1981	11.60	7.62	6.43	9.03	13.75	12.96	14.66	15.01	13.93	7.45
1982 1983	11.44 11.09	7.30 7.02	6.11 5.88	8.55 8.09	13.49 13.32	12.80 12.41	14.83 14.77	14.83 14.68	13.59 14.01	7.45 7.61
1984	10.96	7.02	5.72	7.94	13.23	12.13	14.63	14.91	13.64	7.55
1985	10.91	6.97	5.59	7.79	13.17	11.90	14.59	14.84	13.46	7.42
1986 ¹	11.09	7.01	5.59	7.94	13.18	11.74	14.61	14.83	13.94	7.58
1987	10.99	6.94	5.59	8.03	12.96	11.68	14.28	14.48	13.74	7.53
1988	10.80	6.86	5.65	7.90	12.79	11.47	13.95	14.59	13.29	7.54
1989	10.59	6.76	5.73	7.87	12.69	11.19	13.85	14.22	13.07	7.71
1990 ¹	10.30	6.77	5.78	7.69	12.26	11.00	13.36	13.86	12.67	7.57
1991	10.32	6.70	5.69	7.48	11.98	10.74	13.19	14.05	12.10	7.46 7.55
1992 1993	10.14 10.10	6.61 6.55	5.61 5.55	7.30 7.22	11.77 11.61	10.55 10.37	12.79 12.73	14.06 13.86	12.15 12.50	7.55
1994 ¹	10.10	6.56	5.56	7.22	11.48	10.37	12.73	13.50	12.34	7.03
1995	10.03	6.56	5.59	7.41	11.66	10.29	12.92	13.39	12.08	7.45
1996	10.08	6.53	5.56	7.40	11.41	10.26	12.60	13.12	11.80	7.45
1997 ¹	10.19	6.68	5.82	7.44	11.51	10.28	12.51	13.26	12.22	7.21
1998 ¹	10.28	7.06	6.11	7.95	11.99	10.45	12.76	13.33	12.50	7.91
1999'	10.31	7.12	6.18	8.03	12.00	10.84	12.78	13.68	12.21	7.86
WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²										
1979	64.0	81.6	94.9	75.7	58.2	63.3	55.7	54.1	57.0	87.6
1980	64.9	84.0	93.1	77.2	58.7	64.2	54.9	54.3	56.3	89.2
1981	65.1	85.9	96.6	80.1	60.3	66.7	57.5	54.1	56.2	88.1
1982 1983	67.2 69.4	86.4 87.1	97.0 96.9	81.8 84.3	62.2 62.9	67.8 70.2	57.2 57.6	55.8 56.7	59.0 58.0	88.1 87.6
1984	69.7	85.9	96.9	84.4	63.8	70.2	59.0	56.9	59.5	89.1
1985	70.0	85.6	96.1	87.1	64.8	72.4	60.3	57.7	60.3	88.9
1986 ¹	70.3	85.7	95.5	86.9	65.9	74.0	61.3	59.0	60.3	91.3
1987	72.0	86.0	93.7	86.2	67.2	74.4	62.9	61.3	62.0	91.1
1988	73.8	89.1	94.4	87.2	68.6	75.7	66.1	61.6	62.4	92.6
1989	75.4	90.7	93.4	86.9	69.9	78.1	67.0	63.5	63.8	87.1
1990 ¹	77.9	91.0	93.8	90.2	71.8	79.3	68.6	64.3	66.1	89.5
1991 1992	78.5 80.2	91.2 91.4	97.8 97.7	91.5 92.5	73.6 76.1	80.4 82.6	70.4 73.1	65.0 66.0	69.0 69.3	92.6 92.5
1992	80.2	91. 4 91.6	97.7	92.5 94.1	76.1	83.7	73.1	67.3	68.9	92.5
1994 ¹	80.5	90.6	97.0	91.1	78.2	85.5	73.4	69.9	70.7	94.0
1995	80.8	90.9	96.0	89.3	76.2	83.7	72.6	70.8	71.4	94.1
1996	81.2	92.0	96.9	89.5	78.2	83.1	74.7	72.1	72.4	91.7
1997 ¹	80.7	92.3	96.6	91.3	78.8	82.6	75.8	72.4	70.4	98.1
1998 ¹	81.8 83.8	90.3 92.7	96.7 96.7	89.1 89.8	77.9 79.4	86.1 84.0	77.4 76.9	75.0 72.7	72.4 76.4	93.1 95.4
1000	55.5	52.1	50.7	00.0	75.4	U			70.4	55.4

¹ The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 1994 and subsequent issues of Employment and Earnings, a monthly BLS periodical.
² These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ

slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 17. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (1999) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 1979-99 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	White	Black	Hispanic origin	
BOTH SEXES					
979	\$9.55	\$9.69	\$8.83	\$8.77	
980	9.33	9.43	8.60	8.58	
981	9.10	9.16	8.66	8.50	
982	9.01	9.13	8.45	8.37	
983	8.96	9.13	8.25	8.16	
984	8.97	9.08	8.25	8.11	
985	8.97	9.08	8.18	8.14	
986 ¹	9.07	9.18	8.48	8.26	
987	9.15	9.28	8.47	8.24	
988	9.18	9.29	8.39	8.12	
989	9.14	9.26	8.40	7.94	
9901	9.01	9.13	8.48	7.82	
991	9.01	9.13	8.40	7.76	
992	9.03	9.15	8.26	7.77	
993	8.97	9.09	8.18	7.78	
994 ¹	8.94	9.05	8.14	7.73	
995	8.88	9.04	8.33	7.61	
996	8.89	9.07	8.21	7.59	
997 ¹	9.07	9.21	8.30	7.66	
9981	9.31	9.43	8.58	8.10	
999 ¹	9.53	9.74	8.85	8.07	
WOMEN					
979	7.77	7.79	7.63	7.39	
980	7.65	7.66	7.51	7.31	
981	7.55	7.57	7.41	7.25	
982	7.69	7.70	7.50	7.24	
983	7.70	7.70	7.56	7.09	
984	7.64	7.66	7.50	7.16	
985	7.64	7.65	7.50	7.18	
986 ¹	7.80	7.82	7.56	7.31	
987	7.92	7.94	7.64	7.22	
988	7.97	8.00	7.66	7.20	
989	7.98	8.02	7.69	7.23	
9901	8.02	8.05	7.75	7.23	
991	8.10	8.12	7.86	7.18	
992	8.13	8.18	7.77	7.22	
993	8.12	8.16	7.83	7.20	
9941	8.09	8.19	7.74	7.15	
995	8.10	8.20	7.74	7.18	
996	8.18	8.25	7.61	7.16	
997 ¹	8.23	8.29	7.86	7.16	
9981	8.41	8.52	8.07	7.38	
9991	8.64	8.73	8.07	7.36 7.46	
199.	0.04	0.73	1 0.13	7.40	

Table 17. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (1999) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 1979-99 annual averages-Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	White	Black	Hispanic origin	
MEN					
79	12.15	12.46	10.51	10.30	
80	11.79	12.04	10.02	9.72	
81	11.60	11.86	10.26	9.48	
82	11.44	11.66	9.97	9.57	
	I I				
83	11.09	11.33	9.54	9.31	
84	10.96	11.17	9.47	9.29	
85	10.91	11.29	9.15	9.03	
86 ¹	11.09	11.38	9.60	9.05	
87	10.99	11.22	9.53	9.00	
88	10.80	10.99	9.46	8.88	
89	10.59	10.83	9.25	8.70	
901	10.30	10.65	9.18	8.40	
91	10.32	10.59	9.09	8.26	
92	10.14	10.40	8.91	8.18	
93	10.10	10.34	8.74	8.12	
941	10.05	10.27	8.84	8.00	
95	10.03	10.46	8.87	7.89	
96	10.08	10.36	8.65	8.06	
97 ¹	10.19	10.32	8.99	8.18	
98 ¹	10.19	10.40	9.29	8.43	
991					
99'	10.31	10.61	9.77	8.61	
WOMEN'S					
EARNINGS					
AS PERCENT					
OF MEN'S ²					
79	64.0	62.5	72.6	71.7	
80	64.9	63.6	74.9	75.2	
81	65.1	63.8	72.2	76.4	
82	67.2	66.1	75.2	75.6	
83	69.4	68.0	79.2	76.1	
84	69.7	68.6	79.2	77.1	
85	70.0	67.8	82.0	79.5	
86 ¹	70.3	68.7	78.7	80.8	
87	72.0	70.8	80.2	80.2	
38	73.8	72.8	80.9	81.2	
89	75.4	74.0	83.1	83.1	
901	77.9	75.6	84.5	86.0	
91	78.5	76.7	86.5	86.9	
92	80.2	78.7	87.1	88.3	
93	80.3	78.9	89.6	88.6	
941	80.5	79.7	87.5	89.3	
·	80.8	78.4	87.2	90.9	
25		78.4 79.6	88.0	90.9 88.8	
	Ω1 2		U.00.U	00.0	
96	81.2			06.0	
96 97 ¹	80.7	80.3	87.5	86.3	
95 96 97 ¹ 98 ¹	-			86.3 87.5 86.6	

¹ The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 1994 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

These figures are computed using unrounded medians

and may differ slightly from percents computed using the

and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

NOTE: Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race; thus they are included in both the white and black population groups. The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See Technical Note.

Table 18. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage, by sex, 1979-99 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

				Workers paid	d hourly rates		
Year and sex	Total wage and salary		Percent of total wage	Below prevailing Federal minimum wage	At prevailing Federal minimum wage	Total at or below prevailing Federal minimum wage	
	workers		and salary			Number	Percent of hourly paid workers
BOTH SEXES							
979	87,529	51,721	59.1	2,916	3,997	6,912	13.4
980	87,644	51,335	58.6	3,087	4,686	7,773	15.1
81	88,516	51,869	58.6	3,513	4,311	7,824	15.1
82	87,368	50,846	58.2	2,348	4,148	6,496	12.8
83	88,290	51,820	58.7	2,077	4,261	6,338	12.2
84	92,194	54,143	58.7	1,838	4,125	5,963	11.0
85	94,521	55,762	59.0	1,639	3,899	5,538	9.9
986 ¹	96,903	57,529	59.4	1,599	3,461	5,060	8.8
987	99,303	59,552	60.0	1,468	3,229	4,698	7.9
88	101,407	60,878	60.0	1,319	2,608	3,927	6.5
989	103,480	62,389	60.3	1,372	1,790	3,162	5.1
901	104,876	63,172	60.2	² 2,132	² 1,096	² 3,228	² 5.1
91	103,723	62,627	60.4	² 2,377	² 2,906	² 5,283	² 8.4
92	104,668	63,610	60.8	1,939	2,982	4,921	7.7
93	106,101	64,274	60.6	1,707	2,625	4,332	6.7
941	107,989	66,549	61.6	1,995	2,132	4,128	6.2
95	110,038	68,354	62.1	1,699	1,956	3,656	5.3
996	111,960	69,255	61.9	² 1,863	² 1,861	² 3,724	² 5.4
971	114,533	70,735	61.8	² 2,990	² 1,764	² 4,754	² 6.7
9981	116,730	71,440	61.2	2,834	1,593	4,427	6.2
9991	118,963	72,306	60.8	2,194	1,146	3,340	4.6
WOMEN							
79	38,129	23,329	61.2	2,070	2,644	4,714	20.2
80	38,944	23,626	60.7	2,104	2,990	5,095	21.6
81	39,672	24,294	61.2	2,394	2,778	5,172	21.3
82	39,777	24,365	61.3	1,651	2,561	4,212	17.3
83	40,433	24,989	61.8	1,492	2,603	4,095	16.4
84	42,172	26,003	61.7	1,348	2,499	3,847	14.8
985	43,506	26,869	61.8	1,198	2,356	3,554	13.2
986 ¹	44,961	27,863	62.0	1,192	2,125	3,317	11.9
987	46,365	29,078	62.7	1,105	1,946	3,051	10.5
988	47,495	29,820	62.8	1,008	1,542	2,550	8.6
989	48,691	30,702	63.1	994	1,056	2,050	6.7
901	49,323	31,069	63.0	² 1,420	² 711	² 2,131	² 6.9
91	49,105	30,988	63.1	² 1,582	² 1,792	² 3,374	² 10.9
92	49,842	31,454	63.1	1,286	1,751	3,036	9.7
93	50,626	31,937	63.1	1,133	1,534	2,667	8.4
94 ¹	51,419	33,021	64.2	1,322	1,241	2,563	7.8
95	52,369	33,934	64.8	1,157	1,161	2,318	6.8
96	53,488	34,418	64.3	² 1,244	² 1,106	² 2,350	² 6.8
971	54,708	35,214	64.4	² 1,843	² 1,092	² 2,935	² 8.3
981	55,757	35,680	64.0	1,794	965	2,760	7.7
991	57,050	36,233	63.5	1,426	700	2,126	5.9

Table 18. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage, by sex, 1979-99 annual averages-Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

		Workers paid hourly rates							
Year and sex	Total wage and salary workers	Total total wage		Below prevailing	At prevailing	Total at or below prevailing Federal minimum wage			
			Federal minimum wage	Federal minimum wage	Number	Percent of hourly paid workers			
MEN									
979	49,400	28,392	57.5	846	1,353	2,199	7.7		
980	48,700	27,709	56.9	983	1,696	2,678	9.7		
981	48,844	27,576	56.5	1,119	1,533	2,652	9.6		
982	47,591	26,481	55.6	697	1,587	2,284	8.6		
983	47,856	26,831	56.1	585	1,658	2,243	8.4		
984	50,022	28,140	56.3	490	1,626	2,116	7.5		
985	51,015	28,893	56.6	440	1,544	1,984	6.9		
986 ¹	51,942	29,666	57.1	408	1,336	1,743	5.9		
987	52,938	30,474	57.6	364	1,283	1,647	5.4		
988	53,912	31,058	57.6	311	1,066	1,377	4.4		
989	54,789	31,687	57.8	379	733	1,112	3.5		
9901	55,553	32,104	57.8	² 712	² 385	² 1,097	² 3.4		
991	54,618	31,639	57.9	² 795	² 1,114	² 1,909	² 6.0		
992	54,826	32,155	58.6	653	1,231	1,885	5.9		
993	55,475	32,337	58.3	573	1,091	1,664	5.1		
9941	56,570	33,528	59.3	674	891	1,565	4.7		
995	57,669	34,420	59.7	542	796	1,338	3.9		
996	58,473	34,838	59.6	² 619	² 755	² 1,374	² 3.9		
997	59,825	35,521	59.4	² 1,147	² 673	² 1,820	² 5.1		
9981	60,973	35,761	58.7	1,039	628	1,667	4.7		
9991	61,914	36,073	58.3	768	446	1,214	3.4		

¹ The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 1994 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.
² Data for 1990-91 and 1996-97 reflect changes in the minimum wage

that took place in those years.

NOTE: The prevailing Federal minimum wage was \$2.90 in 1979, \$3.10 in 1980, and \$3.35 in 1981-89. The minimum wage rose to \$3.80 in April 1990, to \$4.25 in April 1991, to \$4.75 in October 1996, and \$5.15 in September 1997. See Technical Note for more information about minimum wage workers.

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Technical Note

The estimates in this report were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides a wide range of information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The information is collected monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau from a scientifically selected national sample of about 50,000 households, with coverage in all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The earnings data are collected from one-fourth of the CPS monthly sample.

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Concepts and definitions

The principal concepts and definitions used in connection with the earnings data in this report are described below.

Usual weekly earnings. Data are collected on wages and salaries before taxes and other deductions, and include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received (at the principal job in the case of multiple jobholders). Self-employed workers are excluded, regardless of whether their businesses are incorporated. 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 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 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 BLS estimating procedure for determining the median of an earnings distribution places each reported or calculated weekly earnings value into a \$50-wide interval, cen-

tered around a multiple of \$50. The actual value of the median is estimated through the linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians (and 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 age 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, for example, \$250, \$300, \$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. Medians, for example, measure the central tendency of a multipeaked distribution that shifts over time. As the distribution shifts, the median does not necessarily move at the same rate. Specifically, the median takes relatively more time to move through a frequently reported interval, but once above the upper limit of such an interval, it can move relatively quickly to the next frequently reported earnings interval. BLS procedures for estimating medians (and other quantile boundaries) mitigate such irregular movements of the measures; however, users should be cautious of these effects when evaluating short-term changes in the medians, as well as in ratios of the medians.

Constant dollars. The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. BLS has made numerous improvements to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the past quarter-century. While these improvements make the present and future CPI more accurate, historical price index series are not adjusted to reflect the improvements. However, many researchers have expressed interest in having a historical series that measures price change consistently over the entire period. Accordingly, the CPI-U-RS, introduced in mid-1999, presents an estimate of the CPI that incorporates most of the methodological improvements made since 1978 into the entire series.

Wage and salary workers. These are 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 purposes of the earnings series, excludes all self-employed persons, regardless of whether their businesses are incorporated.

Full-time workers. Workers who usually work 35 hours or more per week at their sole or principal job are defined as working full time.

Part-time workers. Workers who usually work less than 35 hours per week at their sole or principal job are defined as working part time.

Hourly paid workers. Workers who are paid an hourly wage are a subset of wage and salary workers, representing approximately three-fifths of all wage and salary workers. Workers paid by the hour are, therefore, included in the full- and part-time worker tables in this report, along with salaried workers and other workers not paid by the hour. (Data for workers paid at hourly rates are presented separately in tables 10 to 12 and 16 to 18).

Workers paid at or below the Federal minimum wage. The estimates of the numbers of workers with reported earnings at or below the Federal minimum wage in tables 12 and 18 pertain only to workers who are paid hourly rates. Salaried workers and other workers who are not paid by the hour are not included, even though some have earnings that, when converted to hourly rates, are at or below the minimum wage. Consequently, the estimates presented in this report likely understate the actual number of workers with hourly earnings at or below the minimum wage. Research has shown, however, that the degree of understatement is small. BLS does not routinely estimate hourly earnings for workers not paid by the hour because of data quality concerns associated with such an estimation process.

The prevailing Federal minimum wage was: \$2.90 effective January 1979; \$3.10 effective January 1980; \$3.35 effective January 1981; \$3.80 effective April 1990; \$4.25 effective April 1991; \$4.75 effective October 1996; and \$5.15 effective September 1997. Data for 1990-91 and 1996-97 in table 18 reflect changes in the minimum wage that took place during those years.

The presence of workers with hourly earnings below the minimum wage does not necessarily indicate violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as there are exemptions to the minimum wage provisions of the law. In addition, some workers might have rounded their hourly earnings to the nearest dollar in response to survey questions. As a result, some might have been reported with hourly earnings below the minimum wage when, in fact, they earned the minimum wage or higher. This may be more likely to occur in years during which the minimum wage level is just above a whole dollar value, as was the case in 1998-99 (\$5.15).

Reliability

Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample, rather than an 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 standard errors included in this report were rounded for presentation purposes, as were the earnings estimates. Consequently, a precise confidence interval cannot be constructed using these data.

The CPS data also are affected by nonsampling error. Nonsampling error 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, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and information on estimating standard errors, see the "Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error" section of the February 1994 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*.