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San Francisco, Calif.

For release Monday, March 29th, 2010

BLS-10-42

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HIGHLIGHTS OF VISALIA-PORTERVILLE, CA NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY JULY 2009

Workers in the Visalia-Porterville, Ca. Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) earned an average of \$18.95 per hour in July 2009, according to new survey results from the National Compensation Survey (NCS) released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Richard J. Holden noted that wages were reported for workers in a wide range of occupational groups, including average hourly earnings of \$36.58 for education, training, and library occupations and \$33.86 for healthcare practitioner and technical occupations. Another occupational group, sales and related, had a mean hourly wage rate of \$14.37. The NCS data available for the Visalia-Porterville area include earnings for 17 major occupational groups with additional detail for selected occupations within those groups. (See table 1.)

Elementary school teachers, except special education, part of the education, training, and library occupational group, earned \$43.88 per hour. Within the healthcare practitioner and technical occupational group, registered nurses averaged \$39.59 per hour and licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses earned \$22.44 per hour. Retail salespersons, an occupation within the sales and related occupational group, earned \$11.43 per hour and cashiers earned \$10.83 per hour.

Broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics is available from NCS for the local area. Full-time workers averaged \$20.55 per hour, while their part-time counterparts earned \$11.48. Union workers earned \$27.02 and non-union workers earned \$16.92. Workers in establishments with 1-99 workers averaged \$15.21 per hour, those in establishments with 100-499 workers earned \$17.86, and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$26.66.

The occupational wage data available from NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. NCS results also include the work level and respective earnings for occupations determined by a point factor leveling process. The four occupational leveling factors are: knowledge, job controls and complexity, contacts, and physical environment. Details on the NCS are available at www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm.

The NCS data covered 167 establishments with one or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. Agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government were excluded from the survey. This sample of establishments represented 105,100 workers in the in Visalia-Porterville Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) which is comprised of Tulare County in California.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in Visalia-Porterville, CA National Compensation Survey July 2009, which is available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau data, contact the West Information Office by calling (415) 625-2270 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. PT.

Table 2. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Visalia-Porterville, CA, July 2009**

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All workers	\$18.95	4.3	\$20.55	4.7	\$11.48	4.5
Management occupations	36.26	7.4	36.26	7.4	–	–
Business and financial operations occupations	23.46	6.7	23.46	6.7	–	–
Community and social services occupations	21.33	12.1	22.23	11.3	–	–
Miscellaneous community and social service specialists	15.19	12.4	15.81	11.2	–	–
Social and human service assistants	15.19	12.4	15.81	11.2	–	–
Education, training, and library occupations	36.58	2.8	39.64	3.4	15.68	9.5
Primary, secondary, and special education school teachers	43.18	1.0	44.18	1.1	–	–
Elementary and middle school teachers	43.28	2.9	43.68	3.3	–	–
Elementary school teachers, except special education	43.88	3.0	44.34	3.5	–	–
Secondary school teachers	42.63	1.4	–	–	–	–
Teacher assistants	15.72	7.4	–	–	14.01	7.7
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	15.92	1.2	–	–	–	–
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	33.86	13.5	33.92	14.0	–	–
Registered nurses	39.59	1.3	39.19	2.2	–	–
Licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses	22.44	1.8	22.44	1.8	–	–
Healthcare support occupations	11.68	11.3	11.96	11.4	–	–
Nursing, psychiatric, and home health aides	9.91	4.2	9.99	4.2	–	–
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	9.91	4.2	9.99	4.2	–	–
Miscellaneous healthcare support occupations	15.97	13.3	–	–	–	–
Protective service occupations	21.76	18.8	22.38	20.7	–	–
Food preparation and serving related occupations	9.55	5.2	11.25	13.9	8.42	.8
Cooks	11.86	12.8	–	–	–	–
Food service, tipped	8.18	2.5	–	–	8.12	3.4
Fast food and counter workers	9.16	9.3	–	–	8.48	2.9
Combined food preparation and serving workers, including fast food	9.16	9.3	–	–	8.48	2.9
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	12.28	13.3	13.29	8.3	–	–
Building cleaning workers	10.74	11.6	11.87	12.2	–	–
Janitors and cleaners, except maids and housekeeping cleaners	11.64	18.4	–	–	–	–
Personal care and service occupations	12.02	8.9	13.70	12.2	10.02	4.3
Recreation and fitness workers	10.86	4.5	–	–	10.03	4.6
Recreation workers	10.24	4.1	–	–	8.89	3.7
Sales and related occupations	14.37	11.1	16.24	15.2	9.30	5.6
Retail sales workers	10.99	2.7	12.04	11.0	9.35	5.4
Cashiers, all workers	10.83	.0	11.55	12.6	9.63	6.6
Cashiers	10.83	.0	11.55	12.6	9.63	6.6
Retail salespersons	11.43	3.8	12.57	7.1	–	–
Office and administrative support occupations	14.93	3.3	15.34	2.6	11.38	10.9
Financial clerks	14.75	4.5	14.78	4.1	–	–
Billing and posting clerks and machine operators	14.85	10.4	–	–	–	–
Bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks	14.66	4.4	14.66	4.4	–	–
Loan interviewers and clerks	14.25	2.4	–	–	–	–
Secretaries and administrative assistants	20.02	4.9	20.06	5.1	–	–
Office clerks, general	14.33	7.5	14.94	6.4	–	–
Construction and extraction occupations	19.40	24.2	20.11	21.5	–	–
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	22.24	10.7	22.24	10.7	–	–

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. **Civilian workers: Mean hourly earnings¹ for full-time and part-time workers², Visalia-Porterville, CA, July 2009**
 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Full-time workers		Part-time workers	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations —Continued						
Industrial machinery installation, repair, and maintenance workers	\$18.98	7.6	\$18.98	7.6	—	—
Production occupations	13.92	8.7	13.92	8.7	—	—
Printers	17.84	29.7	17.84	29.7	—	—
Transportation and material moving occupations	14.26	3.2	14.79	4.0	—	—
Laborers and material movers, hand	11.57	3.2	11.26	5.8	—	—
Laborers and freight, stock, and material movers, hand	11.87	6.4	—	—	—	—
Packers and packagers, hand	11.40	2.4	12.10	1.6	—	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours. See appendix A for more information.

² Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

³ Workers are classified by occupation using the 2000 Standard

Occupational Classification (SOC) system. See appendix B for more information.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Compensation Survey.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria. Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.