



Highlights of Women's Earnings in 1998



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Introduction

In 1998, women earned about 76 percent as much as men did. The median weekly earnings of female full-time wage and salary workers were \$456 in 1998 compared to \$598 for men. In 1979, when comparable earnings data were first available, the female-to-male earnings ratio was about 63 percent.

For some demographic groups, the gender differences in earnings were quite small in 1998; for others they were relatively larger. Among blacks and Hispanics, for example, the earnings ratio was about 85 percent; 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 about 91 percent of men's); however, women's earnings were much lower than men's in older age groups.

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 Bureau of the Census 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 about women's earnings.

Full-time workers

- Median weekly earnings of female full-time wage and salary workers were \$456 in 1998. This was 76.3 percent of the \$598 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.)

- Among women, 45- to 54-year-olds had the highest earnings (\$516), followed by 35- to 44-year-olds (\$498). Men's earnings also peaked among 45- to 54-year-olds (\$732). The difference between women's and men's earnings is relatively large among older workers. For workers ages 45 to 54, women's earnings were 70.5 percent of men's; for 55- to 64-year-olds, the earnings ratio was 68.2 percent.

In contrast, among workers 20 to 24 years old, women's earnings were 89.4 percent those of men. The earnings ratio for teenagers (16 to 19 years) was 88.5 percent. (See table 1.)

- Between 1979 and 1998, the women's-to-men's earnings ratio rose for workers ages 20 to 64. Ratio increases among workers in the broad 20- to 54-year age group were larger than for those ages 55 to 64. For example, the earnings ratio among 35- to 44-year-olds increased from 58.3 percent in 1979 to 73.5 percent in 1998, while that for 55- to 64-year-olds went from 60.5 percent to 68.2 percent. In contrast, the earnings ratios for teenagers and workers age 65 and over showed no definitive trend over the period. (See table 13.)

- White workers of either gender earned more than their black or Hispanic counterparts. The differences among women, however, were much smaller than among men. White women's earnings (\$468) were 17.0 percent higher than black women's (\$400), and 38.9 percent higher than those for Hispanic women (\$337). In contrast, white men's earnings (\$615) were 31.4 percent higher than the earnings of their black counterparts (\$468) and 57.7 percent greater than those of Hispanic men (\$390). (See table 1.)

- The earnings difference between women and men was widest for whites, with white women earning 76.1 percent of what white men did. Among blacks, women earned 85.4 percent of what men earned, and Hispanic women made 86.5 percent of Hispanic men's earnings. (See table 1.)

- Since 1979, inflation-adjusted earnings for white women have increased 15.6 percent, while black women's real earnings increased about half as much, 7.5 percent. (See table 14.)

- Median weekly earnings for women age 25 and over without a high school diploma have fallen since 1979 on an inflation-adjusted basis, while the earnings for female college graduates have grown. In 1979, inflation-adjusted weekly earnings of women without a high school diploma

were \$334, about 57.5 percent of those of female college graduates (\$581). In 1998, women without high school diplomas had earnings (\$283) that were 40.0 percent of those of female college graduates (\$707). Among men, the disparity in earnings by education widened even more. (See table 15.)

- Female college graduates have fared better with regard to earnings growth than their male counterparts. Earnings for women with college degrees increased 21.7 percent since 1979 on an inflation-adjusted basis. Real earnings of male college graduates increased 7.7 percent over the same time period. (See table 15.)

- Women employed full-time in professional specialty occupations earned \$682 in 1998, more than women employed in any other major occupation category. Within this occupation group, women working as physicians, pharmacists, and lawyers had the highest median earnings. (See tables 2 and 3.)

- Women's share of employment in occupations typified by high earnings has grown. In 1998, 46.4 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 51.6 percent. (See table 2.)

- In contrast, there was relatively little change in women's share of full-time wage and salary employment in the remaining major occupation groups. In 1983, women held 77.7 percent of administrative support occupations; in 1998, they still held 76.3 percent of these jobs. Women represented 7.9 percent of precision production, craft, and repair workers in 1983, about the same proportion as in 1998. Men were about nine times as likely as women to be employed in precision production, craft, and repair occupations (where earnings are somewhat above the median), while women were four times as likely to work in administrative support occupations (where pay is typically low). (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 less likely than men to be employed in some higher-paying occupations such as engineers, computer systems analysts, and architects, and more likely to work in those with lower earnings, for example, teachers (except college and university) and social workers. (See table 3.)

- The ratio of female-to-male earnings varied widely by State. 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 25.8 percent of all female wage and salary workers in 1998. In contrast, 10.7 percent of men in wage and salary jobs worked part-time. (See tables 5 and 6.)

- Female part-time workers' median earnings were \$161, 35.3 percent of the median for women who worked full-time. At \$146, earnings for male part-time workers were 9.3 percent lower than female part-timers' earnings. Female part-time workers tend to be older than their male counterparts. About two-thirds were over 25 years old compared to less than half of male part-timers. (See table 5.)

- Unlike full-time workers, whose earnings increased for each successive 10-year age group within the 25-to-54-year category, earnings for female part-timers were essentially the same regardless of age. Female part-time workers younger than 25 and age 55 and over earned less than those in the central age groups. (See table 5.)

- In contrast to 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

- Women who worked at jobs in which they were paid by the hour had median hourly earnings of \$8.24 in 1998. Sixty-four percent of women employed in wage and salary jobs were paid on an hourly basis. (See table 10.)

- In 1998, about 8 percent of women who were paid hourly rates had hourly earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage of \$5.15. This compares to approximately 5 percent of men in hourly-paid jobs. (See table 12. See 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 varies 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.)

Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 1998 annual averages

Characteristic	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
AGE										
Total, 16 years and over	95,595	\$523	\$1	41,282	\$456	\$2	54,313	\$598	\$2	76.3
16 to 24 years	11,046	319	1	4,721	305	2	6,325	334	3	91.3
16 to 19 years	2,211	268	2	922	249	3	1,288	281	3	88.5
20 to 24 years	8,836	339	2	3,799	319	2	5,037	357	3	89.4
25 years and over	84,549	572	1	36,561	485	1	47,988	639	2	75.9
25 to 34 years	25,555	502	2	10,800	451	2	14,756	544	4	83.0
35 to 44 years	28,156	597	2	11,971	498	2	16,185	677	4	73.5
45 to 54 years	21,023	620	3	9,579	516	3	11,444	732	4	70.5
55 to 64 years	8,666	592	4	3,753	476	5	4,914	699	7	68.2
65 years and over	1,149	405	9	459	350	10	689	482	23	72.6
RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN										
White	79,403	545	2	33,316	468	2	46,087	615	2	76.1
Black	11,776	426	3	6,025	400	3	5,751	468	5	85.4
Hispanic origin	10,532	370	3	3,816	337	4	6,716	390	3	86.5
MARITAL STATUS										
Never married	23,948	416	2	10,203	400	2	13,745	428	3	93.6
Married, spouse present	55,660	596	1	21,863	485	2	33,797	679	3	71.3
Other marital status	15,987	494	2	9,216	450	3	6,772	571	5	78.7
Divorced	10,799	518	3	6,159	480	3	4,640	598	5	80.3
Separated	3,740	424	5	1,907	390	5	1,833	490	8	79.6
Widowed	1,448	424	9	1,150	402	7	298	543	42	74.1
UNION AFFILIATION ²										
Members of unions ³	14,825	659	3	5,389	596	3	9,436	699	3	85.2
Represented by unions ⁴	16,323	653	3	6,154	593	3	10,169	696	3	85.2
Not represented by a union	79,272	499	1	35,128	430	2	44,144	573	2	75.1
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT										
Total, 25 years and over	84,549	572	1	36,561	485	1	47,988	639	2	75.9
Less than a high school diploma	8,576	337	3	2,874	283	2	5,702	383	3	73.7
High school graduates, no college	27,131	479	2	11,787	396	2	15,344	559	3	70.9
Some college or associate degree	23,210	558	3	10,744	476	2	12,466	643	4	74.0
College graduates, total	25,632	821	4	11,156	707	4	14,476	939	4	75.3

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

² 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: 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 1998 annual averages

Occupation	1983					1998				
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Percent women	Women's median weekly earnings	Men's median weekly earnings	Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹	Number of workers (in thousands)	Percent women	Women's median weekly earnings	Men's median weekly earnings	Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
Total, 16 years and over	70,976	40.4	\$252	\$379	66.6	95,595	43.2	\$456	\$598	76.3
Managerial and professional specialty	17,451	40.9	358	516	69.2	29,304	49.0	655	905	72.4
Executive, administrative, and managerial	8,117	34.2	340	530	64.0	14,451	46.4	626	915	68.4
Professional specialty	9,334	46.8	368	506	72.6	14,853	51.6	682	895	76.2
Technical, sales, and administrative support	21,641	62.5	247	386	64.0	27,372	61.9	419	606	69.2
Technicians and related support	2,574	44.5	299	424	70.6	3,507	49.4	511	701	72.9
Sales occupations	6,313	39.0	205	389	52.7	9,636	45.0	372	622	59.8
Administrative support, including clerical	12,755	77.7	249	362	68.7	14,229	76.3	418	518	80.7
Service occupations	7,321	49.2	173	256	67.8	10,592	50.0	296	389	76.1
Private household	278	96.0	116	(²)	(³)	381	95.0	220	(²)	(³)
Protective service	1,453	9.5	251	356	70.4	2,140	15.1	481	613	78.4
Service, except private household and protective	5,590	57.1	176	218	81.0	8,070	57.2	295	325	90.8
Precision production, craft, and repair	9,963	7.9	256	387	66.1	11,691	8.1	408	587	69.5
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	13,319	26.2	205	308	66.5	15,082	23.3	327	456	71.6
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	6,990	40.8	202	320	63.3	6,987	35.8	328	472	69.4
Transportation and material moving occupations	3,358	4.7	253	335	75.5	4,322	8.0	373	519	71.9
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers ..	2,970	16.0	211	252	83.9	3,773	17.7	311	362	85.8
Farming, forestry, and fishing	1,280	11.2	169	201	84.2	1,555	14.0	272	307	88.6

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.

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, 1998 annual averages

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
Total, 16 years and over	95,595	\$523	\$1	41,282	\$456	\$2	54,313	\$598	\$2	76.3
Managerial and professional specialty	29,304	759	2	14,363	655	3	14,941	905	5	72.4
Executive, administrative, and managerial	14,451	755	3	6,705	626	3	7,746	915	7	68.4
Administrators and officials, public administration	588	823	20	286	663	21	302	957	22	69.3
Administrators, protective services	54	883	49	13	(²)	(²)	42	(²)	(²)	(³)
Financial managers	652	852	16	336	703	24	316	1,017	48	69.1
Personnel and labor relations managers	152	823	44	97	747	59	55	947	35	78.8
Purchasing managers	136	817	47	56	724	17	80	965	42	75.1
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	741	960	15	283	759	20	458	1,128	31	67.3
Administrators, education and related fields	637	877	21	378	730	22	259	1,111	72	65.7
Managers, medicine and health	626	716	19	492	679	19	134	869	43	78.1
Managers, food serving and lodging establishments	962	509	7	424	434	13	538	591	11	73.5
Managers, properties and real estate	301	585	12	168	518	17	133	638	46	81.2
Management-related occupations	3,818	660	5	2,238	602	4	1,580	790	14	76.2
Accountants and auditors	1,303	674	11	780	618	7	523	821	23	75.3
Underwriters	107	658	31	76	625	34	31	(²)	(²)	(³)
Other financial officers	642	703	19	347	591	11	295	901	27	65.7
Management analysts	216	841	22	95	752	16	121	964	40	78.0
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists ..	431	630	14	295	601	10	135	755	38	79.6
Buyers, wholesale and retail trade, except farm products	162	612	13	77	590	13	85	647	28	91.2
Construction inspectors	63	742	29	6	(²)	(²)	57	760	27	(³)
Inspectors and compliance officers, except construction	220	741	23	74	714	43	145	756	29	94.5
Professional specialty	14,853	763	3	7,658	682	4	7,195	895	6	76.2
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	2,043	988	11	215	827	27	1,828	1,007	11	82.1
Architects	102	872	40	15	(²)	(²)	87	893	59	(³)
Engineers	1,930	992	11	200	831	29	1,730	1,011	11	82.1
Aerospace engineers	75	1,139	23	6	(²)	(²)	68	1,150	22	(³)
Chemical engineers	68	1,023	52	12	(²)	(²)	56	1,041	46	(³)
Civil engineers	259	965	32	30	(²)	(²)	229	1,001	33	(³)
Electrical and electronic engineers	605	1,059	19	51	931	44	554	1,067	19	87.2
Industrial engineers	248	889	25	41	(²)	(²)	208	912	26	(³)
Mechanical engineers	313	998	27	18	(²)	(²)	296	1,007	26	(³)
Mathematical and computer scientists	1,544	938	10	438	859	26	1,105	986	17	87.1
Computer systems analysts and scientists	1,281	952	12	341	890	14	941	996	17	89.4
Operations and systems researchers and analysts ..	208	874	24	81	750	24	127	937	19	80.0
Natural scientists	470	828	26	152	732	17	318	908	34	80.6
Chemists, except biochemists	129	884	56	45	(²)	(²)	84	982	37	(³)
Biological and life scientists	91	739	28	34	(²)	(²)	56	781	51	(³)
Medical scientists	80	755	28	38	(²)	(²)	41	(²)	(²)	(³)
Health diagnosing occupations	549	1,134	50	181	948	37	367	1,227	77	77.3
Physicians	474	1,156	33	153	966	40	321	1,255	48	77.0
Health assessment and treating occupations	2,102	738	6	1,739	730	6	363	791	33	92.4
Registered nurses	1,490	739	6	1,351	734	6	139	774	28	94.8
Pharmacists	139	1,063	20	59	985	67	80	1,146	25	85.9
Dietitians	58	582	64	47	(²)	(²)	11	(²)	(²)	(³)
Therapists	362	710	14	258	709	17	104	713	20	99.4
Respiratory therapists	83	618	23	46	(²)	(²)	37	(²)	(²)	(³)
Physical therapists	87	906	34	61	887	29	26	(²)	(²)	(³)
Speech therapists	75	725	30	71	729	29	5	(²)	(²)	(³)
Physicians' assistants	53	611	30	24	(²)	(²)	30	(²)	(²)	(³)
Teachers, college and university	578	907	23	211	769	15	366	998	48	77.1
Teachers, except college and university	3,974	671	6	2,952	644	6	1,022	746	9	86.4
Teachers, prekindergarten and kindergarten	412	397	18	404	398	16	8	(²)	(²)	(³)
Teachers, elementary school	1,706	691	8	1,433	677	8	274	749	13	90.5
Teachers, secondary school	1,121	736	9	631	698	15	490	773	15	90.3
Teachers, special education	318	701	14	259	693	14	58	733	46	94.6
Counselors, educational and vocational	192	695	47	131	689	43	61	725	218	94.9
Librarians, archivists, and curators	177	656	35	146	640	33	31	(²)	(²)	(³)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1998 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
Librarians	159	665	34	136	653	32	22	(²)	(²)	(³)
Social scientists and urban planners	286	758	19	141	661	17	145	878	34	75.3
Economists	99	900	29	42	(²)	(²)	57	991	43	(³)
Psychologists	143	679	32	78	621	21	65	740	32	83.9
Social, recreation, and religious workers	1,113	557	10	571	531	11	542	593	17	89.5
Social workers	654	579	10	427	568	11	227	609	21	93.1
Recreation workers	105	353	19	74	351	20	31	(²)	(²)	(³)
Clergy	275	593	21	25	(²)	(²)	250	603	25	(³)
Lawyers and judges	562	1,218	76	193	956	40	370	1,348	40	70.9
Lawyers	527	1,209	76	181	951	39	346	1,350	39	70.4
Writers, artists, entertainers, and athletes	1,264	647	9	587	591	8	677	713	18	83.0
Technical writers	63	810	26	36	(²)	(²)	27	(²)	(²)	(³)
Designers	407	635	15	199	562	22	208	720	31	78.1
Actors and directors	88	733	26	35	(²)	(²)	53	801	59	(³)
Painters, sculptors, craft artists, and artist printmakers	99	562	55	47	(²)	(²)	52	680	42	(³)
Photographers	51	526	77	15	(²)	(²)	36	(²)	(²)	(³)
Editors and reporters	215	723	34	95	616	17	120	812	95	75.8
Public relations specialists	127	707	66	77	680	87	49	(²)	(²)	(³)
Technical, sales, and administrative support	27,372	477	2	16,933	419	1	10,439	606	3	69.2
Technicians and related support	3,507	599	4	1,734	511	4	1,773	701	9	72.9
Health technologists and technicians	1,296	502	6	1,017	486	5	279	588	15	82.7
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	281	566	25	216	549	37	65	585	26	93.8
Radiologic technicians	135	631	28	90	595	16	45	(²)	(²)	(³)
Licensed practical nurses	289	473	9	276	470	7	14	(²)	(²)	(³)
Engineering and related technologists and technicians	888	638	10	170	529	23	718	668	12	79.3
Electrical and electronic technicians	421	642	12	68	551	32	354	665	14	82.8
Drafting occupations	200	642	21	38	(²)	(²)	162	675	22	(³)
Surveying and mapping technicians	66	668	63	8	(²)	(²)	58	682	40	(³)
Science technicians	241	557	18	92	463	16	149	623	24	74.4
Biological technicians	86	482	23	59	449	22	27	(²)	(²)	(³)
Chemical technicians	76	614	28	14	(²)	(²)	61	688	44	(³)
Technicians, except health, engineering, and science	1,082	738	12	455	609	10	627	870	17	69.9
Airplane pilots and navigators	81	1,383	168	—	—	—	81	1,381	175	—
Computer programmers	554	843	16	157	715	30	397	884	18	80.9
Legal assistants	308	578	14	249	581	13	58	561	69	103.6
Sales occupations	9,636	502	4	4,338	372	4	5,299	622	5	59.8
Supervisors and proprietors	3,205	570	8	1,345	449	7	1,860	649	9	69.2
Sales representatives, finance and business services	1,774	659	11	792	566	15	982	772	17	73.2
Insurance sales	374	629	20	179	534	36	195	760	35	70.3
Real estate sales	353	663	22	196	575	40	157	763	18	75.4
Securities and financial services sales	377	758	25	115	598	13	262	930	52	64.3
Advertising and related sales	150	631	43	90	594	21	60	760	102	78.1
Sales occupations, other business services	520	626	18	212	516	28	308	715	34	72.2
Sales representatives, commodities, except retail	1,287	728	11	317	603	16	970	765	12	78.9
Sales workers, retail and personal services	3,347	312	3	1,865	272	2	1,483	412	7	66.1
Sales workers, motor vehicles and boats	285	587	18	30	(²)	(²)	256	609	20	(³)
Sales workers, apparel	153	296	11	116	283	11	37	(²)	(²)	(³)
Sales workers, furniture and home furnishings	110	458	29	47	(²)	(²)	63	509	22	(³)
Sales workers, radio, television, hi-fi, and appliances	189	410	12	45	(²)	(²)	144	431	22	(³)
Sales workers, hardware and building supplies	211	434	19	42	(²)	(²)	169	461	25	(³)
Sales workers, parts	144	390	15	15	(²)	(²)	130	403	16	(³)
Sales workers, other commodities	670	311	5	411	287	5	258	388	17	74.0
Sales counter clerks	86	296	17	59	266	10	27	(²)	(²)	(³)
Cashiers	1,350	267	2	1,015	259	2	335	302	6	85.7
Street and door-to-door sales workers	87	404	26	53	355	15	34	(²)	(²)	(³)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1998 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
Administrative support, including clerical	14,229	438	2	10,862	418	1 ¹	3,368	518	4	80.7
Supervisors	689	599	9	413	556	13	276	679	20	81.9
General office	384	586	11	267	547	14	117	698	28	78.3
Financial records processing	87	616	20	72	590	18	15	(²)	(²)	(³)
Distribution, scheduling, and adjusting clerks	199	620	23	66	551	66	133	640	26	86.2
Computer equipment operators	346	511	11	192	477	12	153	591	18	80.7
Computer operators	343	513	11	192	478	12	151	595	18	80.3
Secretaries, stenographers, and typists	2,717	437	4	2,658	436	4	59	484	30	90.1
Secretaries	2,234	431	5	2,199	430	4	35	(²)	(²)	(³)
Stenographers	64	456	21	61	456	20	3	(²)	(²)	(³)
Typists	419	467	11	397	469	10	22	(²)	(²)	(³)
Information clerks	1,328	367	4	1,186	363	3	142	453	32	80.1
Interviewers	113	399	12	97	393	12	15	(²)	(²)	(³)
Hotel clerks	84	311	8	64	312	8	20	(²)	(²)	(³)
Transportation ticket and reservation agents	215	463	29	160	433	31	55	563	51	77.0
Receptionists	664	352	5	645	351	4	19	(²)	(²)	(³)
Records processing, except financial	742	417	7	592	416	7	150	419	12	99.4
Order clerks	217	451	16	160	450	15	57	455	47	99.0
Personnel clerks, except payroll and timekeeping ...	65	491	18	54	487	15	11	(²)	(²)	(³)
Library clerks	64	358	24	51	349	28	13	(²)	(²)	(³)
File clerks	209	368	11	169	367	10	40	(²)	(²)	(³)
Records clerks	174	440	17	147	436	16	27	(²)	(²)	(³)
Financial records processing	1,485	429	5	1,351	426	4	134	466	19	91.5
Bookkeepers, accounting, and auditing clerks	1,078	428	6	987	426	5	91	455	20	93.5
Payroll and timekeeping clerks	130	476	13	117	474	13	13	(²)	(²)	(³)
Billing clerks	153	413	10	131	409	10	22	(²)	(²)	(³)
Billing, posting, and calculating machine operators ..	84	415	21	81	409	18	3	(²)	(²)	(³)
Duplicating, mail and other office machine operators	66	346	20	36	(²)	(²)	29	(²)	(²)	(³)
Communications equipment operators	144	397	17	114	368	13	29	(²)	(²)	(³)
Telephone operators	128	399	16	109	372	14	19	(²)	(²)	(³)
Mail and message distributing	858	603	9	309	542	18	549	633	14	85.6
Postal clerks, except mail carriers	308	640	14	140	617	17	168	668	22	92.3
Mail carriers, postal service	316	681	9	87	613	18	230	699	10	87.7
Mail clerks, except postal service	138	372	13	63	332	14	75	443	35	75.0
Messengers	95	392	23	19	(²)	(²)	76	408	23	(³)
Material recording, scheduling, and distributing clerks	1,717	446	7	738	414	6	980	476	8	86.9
Dispatchers	218	479	11	105	403	15	113	516	13	78.0
Production coordinators	249	581	15	141	518	16	108	724	36	71.6
Traffic, shipping, and receiving clerks	562	408	7	164	385	14	398	416	8	92.4
Stock and inventory clerks	405	432	13	169	406	16	235	452	17	89.9
Expeditors	192	403	14	126	373	15	66	477	39	78.1
Adjusters and investigators	1,572	470	6	1,161	445	6	411	567	18	78.4
Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators ..	420	522	12	297	487	10	124	671	23	72.6
Investigators and adjusters, except insurance	881	455	8	661	431	9	220	522	20	82.6
Eligibility clerks, social welfare	87	459	18	74	449	15	13	(²)	(²)	(³)
Bill and account collectors	183	433	12	129	411	12	53	494	40	83.2
Miscellaneous administrative support occupations	2,568	401	4	2,111	389	3	457	482	10	80.6
General office clerks	526	400	8	422	392	7	104	453	32	86.4
Bank tellers	291	330	7	265	329	7	25	(²)	(²)	(³)
Data-entry keyers	572	418	7	467	409	7	106	470	24	87.1
Statistical clerks	87	409	25	72	386	24	15	(²)	(²)	(³)
Teachers' aides	353	307	6	326	304	6	27	(²)	(²)	(³)
Service occupations	10,592	327	2	5,301	296	1	5,291	389	4	76.1
Private household	381	223	6	362	220	5	19	(²)	(²)	(³)
Child care workers	136	204	11	132	208	11	4	(²)	(²)	(³)
Cleaners and servants	236	235	12	225	227	10	11	(²)	(²)	(³)
Protective service	2,140	598	6	323	481	15	1,817	613	7	78.4
Supervisors	215	771	29	18	(²)	(²)	198	786	42	(³)
Police and detectives	117	853	55	11	(²)	(²)	105	864	51	(³)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1998 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
Guards	54	506	32	6	(2)	(2)	47	(2)	(2)	(3)
Firefighting and fire prevention	230	732	28	6	(2)	(2)	224	731	27	(3)
Firefighting	210	734	27	5	(2)	(2)	205	731	27	(3)
Police and detectives	1,050	646	10	168	583	17	882	662	11	88.1
Police and detectives, public service	602	723	13	72	633	23	530	738	13	85.7
Sheriffs, bailiffs, and other law enforcement officers	164	594	14	27	(2)	(2)	137	595	16	(3)
Correctional institution officers	284	557	24	69	509	23	215	571	22	89.3
Guards	645	369	10	132	330	20	513	378	12	87.3
Guards and police, except public services	611	375	11	116	347	20	495	382	12	90.8
Service occupations, except private household and protective	8,070	307	1	4,616	295	2	3,455	325	3	90.8
Food preparation and service occupations	3,032	288	2	1,451	271	3	1,581	303	3	89.4
Supervisors	233	352	18	131	304	8	103	427	31	71.3
Bartenders	178	336	12	96	293	22	83	379	20	77.4
Waiters and waitresses	575	300	6	416	282	6	159	343	12	82.1
Cooks, except short order	1,250	289	3	419	259	4	831	305	4	85.1
Food counter, fountain and related occupations	100	242	7	59	241	9	40	(2)	(2)	(3)
Kitchen workers, food preparation	135	274	8	93	275	9	42	(2)	(2)	(3)
Waiters' and waitresses' assistants	233	267	6	115	265	8	119	268	8	99.0
Miscellaneous food preparation occupations	327	265	5	124	269	8	204	263	6	102.5
Health service occupations	1,718	318	3	1,500	315	3	218	342	10	92.2
Dental assistants	153	369	13	151	369	11	3	(2)	(2)	(3)
Health aides, except nursing	234	346	10	189	335	11	45	(2)	(2)	(3)
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	1,330	311	3	1,160	308	3	170	330	12	93.4
Cleaning and building service occupations	2,234	319	2	856	288	3	1,378	358	6	80.4
Supervisors	157	401	11	62	348	15	95	457	29	76.3
Maids and housemen	453	277	5	357	272	4	96	305	13	89.0
Janitors and cleaners	1,567	327	5	435	292	5	1,132	355	7	82.4
Pest control	54	358	22	2	(2)	(2)	52	356	23	(3)
Personal service occupations	1,086	311	4	809	301	4	278	368	14	81.8
Supervisors	65	503	39	33	(2)	(2)	32	(2)	(2)	(3)
Hairdressers and cosmetologists	289	313	7	259	313	6	31	(2)	(2)	(3)
Attendants, amusement and recreation facilities	111	321	13	48	(2)	(2)	63	382	34	(3)
Public transportation attendants	76	524	72	60	575	48	16	(2)	(2)	(3)
Early childhood teachers' assistants	239	265	8	231	264	7	8	(2)	(2)	(3)
Precision production, craft, and repair	11,691	572	4	949	408	5	10,741	587	3	69.5
Mechanics and repairers	4,081	597	4	155	519	20	3,926	599	4	86.8
Supervisors	247	743	18	15	(2)	(2)	232	748	18	(3)
Mechanics and repairers, except supervisors	3,834	590	4	140	516	23	3,694	592	4	87.1
Vehicle and mobile equipment mechanics and repairers	1,494	552	11	12	(2)	(2)	1,482	552	11	(3)
Automobile mechanics	653	493	9	2	(2)	(2)	652	494	9	(3)
Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics	312	563	17	3	(2)	(2)	309	561	17	(3)
Aircraft engine mechanics	140	780	20	4	(2)	(2)	136	782	22	(3)
Automobile body and related repairers	134	510	17	-	-	-	134	510	17	-
Heavy equipment mechanics	159	636	20	-	-	-	159	636	20	-
Industrial machinery repairers	532	608	15	12	(2)	(2)	520	611	15	(3)
Electrical and electronic equipment repairers	764	665	16	82	550	38	682	677	13	81.2
Electronic repairers, communications and industrial equipment	160	579	32	11	(2)	(2)	148	590	33	(3)
Data processing equipment repairers	224	641	19	36	(2)	(2)	189	657	20	(3)
Telephone installers and repairers	225	750	18	30	(2)	(2)	194	762	19	(3)
Miscellaneous electrical and electronic equipment repairers	81	644	69	3	(2)	(2)	77	629	55	(3)
Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics	246	594	15	1	(2)	(2)	244	594	14	(3)
Miscellaneous mechanics and repairers	786	584	9	32	(2)	(2)	753	588	9	(3)
Office machine repairers	59	594	20	1	(2)	(2)	57	598	20	(3)
Millwrights	84	712	19	1	(2)	(2)	83	714	19	(3)
Construction trades	4,054	543	7	64	408	18	3,989	545	7	74.8
Supervisors	481	708	13	4	(2)	(2)	477	709	13	(3)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1998 annual averages—Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
Construction trades, except supervisors	3,573	520	4	61	403	18	3,512	522	5	77.2
Brickmasons and stonemasons	125	573	33	2	(²)	(²)	123	573	33	(³)
Carpet installers	68	476	32	—	—	—	68	476	32	—
Carpenters	920	490	7	10	(²)	(²)	909	491	7	(³)
Drywall installers	136	493	12	3	(²)	(²)	134	496	12	(³)
Electricians	717	643	15	16	(²)	(²)	701	642	15	(³)
Electrical power installers and repairers	135	789	84	1	(²)	(²)	134	795	85	(³)
Painters, construction and maintenance	336	402	9	15	(²)	(²)	321	406	9	(³)
Plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, and apprentices	428	593	14	5	(²)	(²)	422	595	14	(³)
Concrete and terrazzo finishers	72	483	18	—	—	—	72	483	18	—
Roofers	172	441	29	1	(²)	(²)	171	443	29	(³)
Structural metalworkers	54	583	58	—	—	—	54	583	58	—
Extractive occupations	120	633	63	1	(²)	(²)	119	631	60	(³)
Precision production occupations	3,436	558	7	729	392	5	2,707	611	5	64.1
Supervisors	1,136	645	11	193	478	11	943	686	10	69.7
Precision metalworking occupations	873	610	9	57	444	24	816	621	10	71.4
Tool and die makers	130	784	22	1	(²)	(²)	129	786	22	(³)
Machinists	508	594	10	33	(²)	(²)	475	601	10	(³)
Sheet-metal workers	116	584	24	4	(²)	(²)	112	591	25	(³)
Precision woodworking occupations	88	475	62	11	(²)	(²)	77	507	35	(³)
Cabinet makers and bench carpenters	60	531	61	4	(²)	(²)	55	552	65	(³)
Precision textile, apparel, and furnishings machine workers	122	387	11	42	(²)	(²)	80	394	12	(³)
Precision workers, assorted materials	489	402	8	285	361	9	203	501	14	72.0
Optical goods workers	65	412	20	39	(²)	(²)	26	(²)	(²)	(³)
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	319	381	10	218	357	10	101	472	28	75.5
Precision food production occupations	333	401	8	95	344	14	238	422	9	81.7
Butchers and meat cutters	199	416	8	35	(²)	(²)	164	456	32	(³)
Bakers	97	352	17	37	(²)	(²)	60	375	29	(³)
Precision inspectors, testers, and related workers	139	623	32	37	(²)	(²)	103	676	31	(³)
Inspectors, testers, and graders	134	630	38	36	(²)	(²)	98	680	27	(³)
Plant and system operators	256	694	19	8	(²)	(²)	248	703	19	(³)
Water and sewage treatment plant operators	57	586	27	4	(²)	(²)	54	600	26	(³)
Stationary engineers	125	714	23	2	(²)	(²)	123	718	24	(³)
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	15,082	415	2	3,518	327	2	11,564	456	3	71.6
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	6,987	406	3	2,505	328	3	4,482	472	4	69.4
Machine operators and tenders, except precision	4,452	399	3	1,586	320	3	2,866	461	5	69.4
Metalworking and plastic working machine operators	389	475	12	66	387	17	323	496	12	78.0
Punching and stamping press machine operators	108	406	22	32	(²)	(²)	77	440	23	(³)
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators	120	441	36	12	(²)	(²)	108	453	34	(³)
Metal and plastic processing machine operators	160	446	14	33	(²)	(²)	127	468	14	(³)
Molding and casting machine operators	102	430	14	25	(²)	(²)	77	448	15	(³)
Woodworking machine operators	127	379	15	21	(²)	(²)	106	394	17	(³)
Sawing machine operators	81	366	16	11	(²)	(²)	70	375	20	(³)
Printing machine operators	357	495	10	83	384	19	273	533	21	72.1
Printing press operators	279	490	12	46	(²)	(²)	233	514	13	(³)
Textile, apparel, and furnishings machine operators	784	293	4	569	285	4	215	318	7	89.6
Textile sewing machine operators	435	280	5	361	278	4	74	300	17	92.4
Pressing machine operators	64	276	10	47	(²)	(²)	17	(²)	(²)	(³)
Laundry and dry cleaning machine operators	136	287	7	76	270	9	61	301	8	89.7
Machine operators, assorted materials	2,616	416	4	807	347	5	1,809	465	7	74.6
Packaging and filling machine operators	363	327	9	208	316	6	155	358	19	88.2
Mixing and blending machine operators	119	455	31	7	(²)	(²)	112	459	30	(³)
Painting and paint spraying machine operators	189	413	14	24	(²)	(²)	166	422	20	(³)
Furnace, kiln, and oven operators, except food	77	554	34	2	(²)	(²)	75	558	34	(³)
Slicing and cutting machine operators	164	389	20	43	(²)	(²)	121	445	28	(³)
Photographic process machine operators	77	321	12	43	(²)	(²)	33	(²)	(²)	(³)

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by detailed occupation and sex, 1998 annual averages--Continued

Occupation	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
Fabricators, assemblers, and hand working occupations	1,845	421	5	589	347	5	1,256	482	8	72.0
Welders and cutters	550	518	11	30	(²)	(²)	519	527	13	(³)
Assemblers	1,199	392	6	516	347	6	683	445	12	77.9
Production inspectors, testers, samplers, and weighers	690	412	8	330	336	7	360	517	11	65.0
Production inspectors, checkers, and examiners	487	448	15	233	358	8	254	544	23	65.8
Graders and sorters, except agricultural	150	306	9	85	289	8	65	351	22	82.2
Transportation and material moving occupations	4,322	510	4	345	373	13	3,977	519	4	71.9
Motor vehicle operators	3,144	503	4	273	362	15	2,870	514	5	70.4
Supervisors	79	595	33	18	(²)	(²)	61	625	62	(³)
Truck drivers	2,458	516	5	114	371	26	2,345	520	6	71.3
Drivers-sales workers	143	526	32	14	(²)	(²)	129	554	42	(³)
Bus drivers	273	428	19	112	352	17	160	476	19	74.0
Taxicab drivers and chauffeurs	162	379	21	12	(²)	(²)	150	386	21	(³)
Transportation occupations, except motor vehicles	150	834	40	10	(²)	(²)	141	862	39	(³)
Rail transportation	101	849	54	8	(²)	(²)	93	888	48	(³)
Material moving equipment operators	1,028	505	6	62	397	23	966	510	6	77.9
Operating engineers	223	570	20	6	(²)	(²)	217	568	19	(³)
Crane and tower operators	65	576	33	4	(²)	(²)	61	572	36	(³)
Excavating and loading machine operators	80	557	25	-	-	-	79	558	25	-
Grader, dozer, and scraper operators	59	572	39	2	(²)	(²)	58	578	22	(³)
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators	501	452	13	39	(²)	(²)	463	455	14	(³)
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	3,773	351	3	669	311	4	3,105	362	3	85.8
Helpers, construction and extractive occupations	112	341	18	1	(²)	(²)	110	340	19	(³)
Helpers, construction trades	108	335	17	1	(²)	(²)	106	334	19	(³)
Construction laborers	729	390	7	23	(²)	(²)	706	393	7	(³)
Freight, stock, and material handlers	1,192	339	6	236	312	7	956	350	7	89.1
Stock handlers and baggers	563	300	5	157	291	7	406	304	6	95.8
Machine feeders and offbearers	66	363	14	20	(²)	(²)	46	(²)	(²)	(³)
Garage and service station related occupations	127	293	9	9	(²)	(²)	118	297	9	(³)
Vehicle washers and equipment cleaners	213	317	9	23	(²)	(²)	190	322	10	(³)
Hand packers and packagers	255	304	6	164	301	8	92	307	9	98.3
Laborers, except construction	1,055	373	6	202	331	12	853	384	7	86.1
Farming, forestry, and fishing	1,555	302	3	218	272	5	1,337	307	3	88.6
Farm operators and managers	69	424	43	10	(²)	(²)	59	475	59	(³)
Farm managers	63	459	67	9	(²)	(²)	53	486	24	(³)
Other agricultural and related occupations	1,425	298	3	204	270	5	1,221	303	3	89.3
Farm occupations, except managerial	650	285	5	88	264	7	563	288	5	91.7
Farm workers	602	281	5	77	262	8	525	285	5	91.9
Related agricultural occupations	775	308	4	117	274	8	658	314	4	87.5
Supervisors, related agricultural	63	469	24	4	(²)	(²)	59	479	28	(³)
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm	598	306	4	29	(²)	(²)	569	306	4	(³)
Animal caretakers, except farm	51	300	21	38	(²)	(²)	13	(²)	(²)	(³)
Graders and sorters, agricultural products	61	259	6	45	(²)	(²)	15	(²)	(²)	(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.

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, 1998 annual averages

State	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
UNITED STATES	95,595	\$523	\$1	41,282	\$456	\$2	54,313	\$598	\$2	76.3
Alabama	1,532	476	9	674	403	8	857	543	22	74.1
Alaska	203	653	14	89	543	14	114	766	27	71.0
Arizona	1,556	476	9	649	416	9	907	523	15	79.6
Arkansas	833	397	7	378	345	8	455	452	11	76.2
California	10,776	574	5	4,453	520	5	6,323	606	5	85.7
Colorado	1,557	577	10	675	493	9	881	637	15	77.4
Connecticut	1,188	646	15	516	532	16	672	766	21	69.5
Delaware	281	542	19	125	472	14	156	609	11	77.6
District of Columbia	197	602	9	96	582	10	101	632	17	92.1
Florida	5,106	476	5	2,312	416	4	2,793	516	5	80.6
Georgia	2,966	493	7	1,342	421	6	1,624	583	9	72.2
Hawaii	393	516	9	187	468	9	206	611	18	76.5
Idaho	425	480	7	164	396	10	261	556	16	71.3
Illinois	4,350	572	7	1,879	487	5	2,470	641	12	76.0
Indiana	2,178	536	10	930	429	9	1,248	624	12	68.7
Iowa	1,057	489	8	465	407	8	593	553	11	73.7
Kansas	928	497	9	387	416	8	541	562	12	74.0
Kentucky	1,396	475	9	608	392	7	788	551	17	71.3
Louisiana	1,464	463	10	667	381	8	797	544	14	70.0
Maine	402	472	8	171	409	8	231	517	10	79.1
Maryland	2,015	612	8	925	535	22	1,091	685	17	78.1
Massachusetts	2,226	603	6	954	526	10	1,272	665	14	79.1
Michigan	3,490	598	6	1,398	482	7	2,091	686	11	70.2
Minnesota	1,718	595	9	715	519	8	1,003	646	14	80.2
Mississippi	937	450	10	431	380	8	506	515	8	73.8
Missouri	2,018	506	7	924	454	10	1,095	562	16	80.8
Montana	260	445	9	112	382	8	149	504	10	75.7
Nebraska	587	492	7	263	409	9	324	549	15	74.4
Nevada	677	492	7	291	423	8	386	556	19	76.1
New Hampshire	441	580	10	181	484	10	260	638	18	75.9
New Jersey	2,968	622	6	1,313	533	11	1,655	713	10	74.7
New Mexico	542	489	8	228	410	9	314	557	18	73.7
New York	6,109	573	6	2,631	508	5	3,478	617	6	82.3
North Carolina	2,865	470	6	1,289	409	5	1,577	521	7	78.4
North Dakota	214	438	9	99	358	7	115	513	8	69.8
Ohio	3,944	541	7	1,679	446	7	2,265	627	8	71.2
Oklahoma	1,128	454	8	495	388	8	633	532	16	72.9
Oregon	1,138	523	13	448	432	15	690	598	11	72.2
Pennsylvania	4,011	545	6	1,738	464	8	2,273	614	7	75.6
Rhode Island	338	549	17	153	455	17	186	638	16	71.2
South Carolina	1,446	484	7	681	404	8	766	554	15	73.0
South Dakota	251	422	7	111	377	7	140	479	10	78.7
Tennessee	1,978	453	9	918	394	7	1,059	525	13	75.1
Texas	7,354	476	4	3,120	418	4	4,235	525	8	79.7
Utah	694	507	7	280	406	8	414	604	11	67.3
Vermont	200	490	8	88	421	8	112	550	21	76.5
Virginia	2,583	567	12	1,117	488	8	1,466	636	19	76.7
Washington	2,016	602	9	805	509	10	1,211	663	17	76.7
West Virginia	541	455	11	225	370	9	316	523	13	70.7
Wisconsin	1,957	532	10	841	460	8	1,117	614	10	74.9
Wyoming	160	509	10	64	395	10	97	603	12	65.5

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, 1998 annual averages

Characteristic	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
AGE										
Total, 16 years and over	20,862	\$156	\$1	14,361	\$161	\$1	6,501	\$146	\$1	110.3
16 to 24 years	8,082	118	1	4,500	118	1	3,582	119	1	98.6
16 to 19 years	4,712	105	1	2,524	103	1	2,187	107	1	96.9
20 to 24 years	3,371	148	1	1,976	145	2	1,395	151	2	96.5
25 years and over	12,780	192	1	9,861	191	1	2,919	197	2	96.8
25 to 34 years	3,500	204	2	2,643	199	2	857	218	4	91.4
35 to 44 years	3,640	205	2	3,099	204	2	541	212	5	96.2
45 to 54 years	2,494	208	3	2,096	205	3	398	223	8	91.6
55 to 64 years	1,727	168	2	1,254	164	3	473	182	7	90.0
65 years and over	1,418	140	3	769	133	3	649	150	4	88.6
RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN										
White	17,886	157	1	12,416	163	1	5,470	146	1	111.7
Black	2,096	149	2	1,408	151	2	688	145	4	104.6
Hispanic origin	1,828	154	3	1,196	150	3	632	162	5	92.5
MARITAL STATUS										
Never married	9,435	125	1	5,166	124	1	4,269	126	1	97.7
Married, spouse present	8,880	197	1	7,148	197	2	1,733	196	3	100.6
Other marital status	2,548	169	2	2,048	165	2	500	188	5	87.8
Divorced	1,323	183	3	1,024	178	4	299	201	7	88.8
Separated	578	173	4	456	170	4	122	184	7	92.1
Widowed	647	142	4	568	141	4	79	151	12	93.8

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 (full- and part-time) employed wage and salary workers by hours usually worked and sex, 1998 annual averages

Hours of work	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
Total, 16 years and over	116,730	\$458	\$1	55,757	\$376	\$1	60,973	\$548	\$2	68.6
34 hours or less	18,347	160	1	12,783	165	1	5,564	148	1	111.3
4 hours or less	443	35	3	314	32	4	129	44	8	73.4
5 to 9 hours	1,023	60	1	718	61	1	305	57	2	106.2
10 to 14 hours	1,626	72	1	1,092	74	2	534	69	2	106.6
15 to 19 hours	2,508	112	1	1,747	113	1	761	108	1	105.1
20 to 24 hours	5,712	153	1	3,886	159	1	1,826	141	2	112.3
25 to 29 hours	2,426	186	2	1,704	194	2	722	171	2	113.5
30 to 34 hours	4,610	245	2	3,323	250	2	1,287	232	4	107.4
35 hours or more	90,368	524	1	39,374	460	2	50,993	600	2	76.6
35 to 39 hours	7,087	367	3	4,923	364	3	2,164	373	7	97.7
40 hours	60,925	484	1	27,857	433	2	33,068	523	2	82.8
41 hours or more	22,356	758	3	6,595	662	4	15,762	804	5	82.3
41 to 44 hours	1,561	585	8	654	512	8	907	648	15	79.1
45 to 48 hours	6,755	680	6	2,376	624	6	4,379	716	7	87.1
49 to 59 hours	9,545	819	6	2,601	737	7	6,944	853	7	86.4
60 hours	4,495	875	10	963	727	14	3,532	919	10	79.1
Hours vary	8,016	322	4	3,600	223	3	4,416	442	9	50.4
Usually less than 35 hours	2,516	128	2	1,579	128	3	937	129	4	98.9
Usually 35 hours or more	5,228	485	5	1,908	368	8	3,320	558	11	66.0

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 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, 1998 annual averages

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC ORIGIN						
Total, 16 years and over	95,595	\$256	\$347	\$523	\$789	\$1,155
Women	41,282	236	312	456	662	943
Men	54,313	279	388	598	895	1,289
White	79,403	262	359	545	818	1,180
Women	33,316	240	318	468	675	959
Men	46,087	284	401	615	921	1,338
Black	11,776	231	301	426	626	886
Women	6,025	222	288	400	589	808
Men	5,751	245	317	468	681	950
Hispanic origin	10,532	216	272	370	563	818
Women	3,816	199	253	337	507	717
Men	6,716	228	284	390	594	887
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT						
Total, 25 years and over	84,549	275	379	572	836	1,198
Less than a high school diploma	8,576	204	257	337	486	679
High school graduates, no college	27,131	259	338	479	667	899
Some college or associate degree	23,210	291	391	558	774	1,040
College graduates, total	25,632	410	586	821	1,173	1,657
Women, 25 years and over	36,561	249	331	485	695	974
Less than a high school diploma	2,874	184	228	283	370	493
High school graduates, no college	11,787	232	297	396	532	698
Some college or associate degree	10,744	271	345	476	642	857
College graduates, total	11,156	383	522	707	967	1,322
Men, 25 years and over	47,988	299	425	639	940	1,353
Less than a high school diploma	5,702	225	283	383	535	740
High school graduates, no college	15,344	293	394	559	761	1,000
Some college or associate degree	12,466	324	457	643	888	1,162
College graduates, total	14,476	452	643	939	1,353	1,895

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, 1998 annual averages

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Total employed	Usual weekly earnings distribution							
		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	\$1,000.00 to \$1,499.99	\$1,500.00 or more
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	95,595	1,191	7,590	14,883	20,410	24,036	13,093	9,860	4,533
16 to 24 years	11,046	327	2,369	3,643	2,807	1,455	301	120	25
16 to 19 years	2,211	137	813	788	364	85	17	6	1
20 to 24 years	8,836	190	1,556	2,854	2,444	1,370	284	113	24
25 years and over	84,549	864	5,221	11,240	17,603	22,581	12,792	9,740	4,509
25 to 34 years	25,555	218	1,788	4,119	6,417	7,355	3,123	1,859	676
35 to 44 years	28,156	248	1,629	3,381	5,536	7,430	4,597	3,649	1,686
45 to 54 years	21,023	201	1,122	2,367	3,802	5,429	3,634	3,002	1,467
55 to 64 years	8,666	130	506	1,137	1,649	2,181	1,325	1,129	610
65 years and over	1,149	67	176	237	198	186	113	101	70
Women, 16 years and over									
16 to 24 years	41,282	692	4,395	8,011	10,067	10,176	4,375	2,682	883
16 to 19 years	4,721	181	1,201	1,626	1,094	517	73	23	6
20 to 24 years	922	69	393	317	119	20	4	-	-
25 years and over	3,799	112	807	1,310	975	497	69	23	6
25 to 34 years	36,561	511	3,194	6,385	8,974	9,658	4,303	2,659	877
35 to 44 years	10,800	141	1,001	2,090	2,989	2,930	974	518	157
45 to 54 years	11,971	140	1,044	1,984	2,827	3,117	1,515	1,008	336
55 to 64 years	9,579	122	743	1,483	2,161	2,595	1,346	844	285
65 years and over	3,753	77	325	709	906	942	439	263	93
Men, 16 years and over	459	31	82	120	90	74	30	26	6
Men, 16 years and over									
16 to 24 years	54,313	499	3,195	6,871	10,343	13,860	8,718	7,178	3,650
16 to 19 years	6,325	146	1,168	2,016	1,714	937	229	97	19
20 to 24 years	1,288	68	420	472	245	64	13	6	1
25 years and over	5,037	78	748	1,545	1,469	873	215	91	18
25 to 34 years	47,988	353	2,027	4,855	8,630	12,923	8,489	7,081	3,631
35 to 44 years	14,756	77	788	2,029	3,428	4,425	2,149	1,341	519
45 to 54 years	16,185	108	585	1,397	2,709	4,312	3,082	2,641	1,351
55 to 64 years	11,444	79	378	884	1,641	2,834	2,288	2,158	1,182
65 years and over	4,914	52	181	428	743	1,239	887	866	517
RACE, HISPANIC ORIGIN, AND SEX									
White, 16 years and over	689	37	95	117	108	112	83	75	63
White, 16 years and over	79,403	947	5,786	11,655	16,578	20,189	11,390	8,737	4,122
Women	33,316	535	3,310	6,249	8,102	8,402	3,674	2,284	760
Men	46,087	411	2,476	5,406	8,475	11,787	7,716	6,454	3,362
Black, 16 years and over	11,776	180	1,414	2,508	2,948	2,788	1,099	663	175
Women	6,025	117	857	1,397	1,541	1,325	463	268	56
Men	5,751	63	557	1,111	1,407	1,463	636	395	119
Hispanic origin, 16 years and over	10,532	185	1,864	2,719	2,447	1,940	748	472	157
Women	3,816	99	857	1,042	830	651	207	104	28
Men	6,716	86	1,007	1,677	1,618	1,289	541	369	129

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, 1998 annual averages

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Standard error of median
WOMEN			
Total, all marital statuses	41,282	\$456	\$2
With children under 18 years old	16,374	440	2
With children 6 to 17, none younger	10,138	458	3
With children under 6 years old	6,236	414	3
With no children under 18 years old	24,909	467	2
Total, married, spouse present	21,863	485	2
With children under 18 years old	11,171	474	3
With children 6 to 17, none younger	6,744	478	3
With children under 6 years old	4,428	466	4
With no children under 18 years old	10,692	496	2
Total, other marital statuses ¹	19,419	421	2
With children under 18 years old	5,202	384	3
With children 6 to 17, none younger	3,394	419	3
With children under 6 years old	1,808	326	4
With no children under 18 years old	14,217	442	3
MEN			
Total, all marital statuses	54,313	598	2
With children under 18 years old	21,770	663	3
With children 6 to 17, none younger	11,485	699	4
With children under 6 years old	10,285	621	4
With no children under 18 years old	32,543	552	3
Total, married, spouse present	33,797	679	3
With children under 18 years old	20,250	675	3
With children 6 to 17, none younger	10,624	708	4
With children under 6 years old	9,626	635	5
With no children under 18 years old	13,547	687	4
Total, other marital statuses ¹	20,516	477	2
With children under 18 years old	1,520	522	9
With children 6 to 17, none younger	861	597	12
With children under 6 years old	659	451	15
With no children under 18 years old	18,996	473	3

¹ Includes never-married, divorced, separated, and widowed persons.

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, 1998 annual averages

Characteristic	Both sexes			Women			Men			Women's earnings as percent of men's ¹
	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	
AGE										
Total, 16 years and over	71,440	\$9.11	\$0.03	35,680	\$8.24	\$0.04	35,761	\$10.07	\$0.04	81.8
16 to 24 years	16,361	6.59	0.05	7,949	6.25	0.04	8,411	6.92	0.05	90.3
16 to 19 years	6,482	5.89	0.03	3,263	5.79	0.03	3,219	5.99	0.04	96.7
20 to 24 years	9,879	7.25	0.06	4,686	6.94	0.05	5,192	7.79	0.06	89.1
25 years and over	55,080	10.14	0.03	27,730	9.14	0.04	27,349	11.73	0.10	77.9
25 to 34 years	17,298	9.66	0.09	8,185	8.81	0.07	9,114	10.23	0.10	86.1
35 to 44 years	18,070	10.87	0.08	9,127	9.67	0.13	8,943	12.49	0.22	77.4
45 to 54 years	12,445	10.97	0.10	6,606	9.79	0.09	5,839	13.05	0.19	75.0
55 to 64 years	5,660	10.09	0.10	2,972	8.86	0.15	2,688	12.23	0.35	72.4
65 years and over	1,606	7.41	0.27	841	7.22	0.17	765	7.75	0.34	93.1
RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN										
White	58,512	9.23	0.05	28,812	8.34	0.06	29,700	10.19	0.05	81.9
Black	9,773	8.40	0.14	5,281	7.91	0.08	4,492	9.10	0.10	86.9
Hispanic origin	9,065	7.93	0.09	3,651	7.23	0.11	5,414	8.25	0.16	87.5
MARITAL STATUS										
Never married	24,174	7.29	0.05	11,141	6.93	0.04	13,033	7.81	0.05	88.7
Married, spouse present	35,319	10.41	0.09	17,216	9.20	0.06	18,103	12.09	0.07	76.1
Other marital status	11,947	9.45	0.15	7,323	8.71	0.11	4,624	10.83	0.18	80.5
Divorced	7,608	10.01	0.08	4,526	9.16	0.10	3,082	11.53	0.42	79.4
Separated	2,949	8.64	0.22	1,634	7.98	0.13	1,316	9.71	0.35	82.2
Widowed	1,390	8.02	0.16	1,163	7.88	0.15	226	9.36	0.84	84.2
UNION AFFILIATION ²										
Members of unions ³	10,885	13.77	0.17	3,593	11.23	0.17	7,293	14.94	0.09	75.2
Represented by unions ⁴	11,794	13.53	0.21	4,051	11.19	0.15	7,743	14.87	0.09	75.2
Not represented by a union	59,646	8.52	0.05	31,628	8.02	0.03	28,018	9.17	0.05	87.4
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT										
Total, 25 years and over	55,080	10.14	0.03	27,730	9.14	0.04	27,349	11.73	0.10	77.9
Less than a high school diploma	8,082	7.76	0.08	3,271	6.68	0.09	4,812	8.77	0.13	76.2
High school graduates, no college	22,462	9.93	0.04	11,048	8.59	0.08	11,414	11.81	0.09	72.7
Some college or associate degree	16,738	11.02	0.08	9,005	9.95	0.05	7,733	12.86	0.16	77.4
College graduates, total	7,798	13.98	0.21	4,407	13.35	0.35	3,391	14.78	0.31	90.4

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 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, 1998 annual averages

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Total employed	Hourly earnings distribution								
		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	71,440	919	490	8,671	16,321	12,796	9,718	11,232	5,552	5,742
16 to 24 years	16,361	412	250	4,619	6,000	2,838	1,270	734	153	83
16 to 19 years	6,482	176	151	2,922	2,394	570	191	66	6	7
20 to 24 years	9,879	236	99	1,697	3,607	2,268	1,078	669	148	77
25 years and over	55,080	506	240	4,052	10,321	9,958	8,448	10,497	5,398	5,659
25 to 34 years	17,298	249	76	1,394	3,570	3,657	2,888	3,166	1,256	1,043
35 to 44 years	18,070	130	70	1,144	2,981	3,059	2,693	3,750	2,043	2,200
45 to 54 years	12,445	76	38	735	2,084	2,025	1,882	2,459	1,480	1,664
55 to 64 years	5,660	35	19	454	1,196	921	826	992	574	643
65 years and over	1,606	16	37	325	490	295	159	131	45	108
Women, 16 years and over										
16 to 24 years	35,680	669	288	5,284	9,508	6,788	4,780	4,471	1,948	1,944
16 to 19 years	7,949	308	140	2,531	3,005	1,175	492	224	46	28
20 to 24 years	3,263	124	88	1,573	1,166	217	73	17	-	4
25 years and over	4,686	184	52	958	1,839	957	419	208	46	24
25 to 34 years	27,730	361	148	2,753	6,503	5,613	4,288	4,247	1,902	1,916
35 to 44 years	8,185	169	52	908	1,974	1,883	1,254	1,125	454	365
45 to 54 years	9,127	99	47	821	2,007	1,737	1,409	1,499	717	791
55 to 64 years	6,606	51	26	531	1,445	1,279	1,055	1,140	538	539
65 years and over	2,972	30	14	305	807	553	486	417	177	182
Men, 16 years and over										
16 to 24 years	841	13	9	187	269	161	83	65	15	38
16 to 19 years	35,761	249	202	3,387	6,813	6,008	4,938	6,760	3,604	3,798
20 to 24 years	8,411	104	109	2,088	2,996	1,663	778	510	107	56
25 years and over	3,219	51	63	1,350	1,227	353	118	49	6	2
25 to 34 years	5,192	53	47	739	1,768	1,311	660	461	102	53
35 to 44 years	27,349	145	93	1,299	3,818	4,345	4,160	6,250	3,497	3,743
45 to 54 years	9,114	79	25	486	1,596	1,774	1,634	2,040	802	678
55 to 64 years	8,943	31	23	323	974	1,322	1,284	2,251	1,326	1,409
65 years and over	5,839	25	12	204	639	746	827	1,319	941	1,125
RACE, HISPANIC ORIGIN, AND SEX										
White, 16 years and over	2,688	6	5	148	388	368	341	574	397	461
Women	765	4	28	138	221	134	76	65	30	70
Men	35,512	829	368	6,960	12,945	10,290	8,003	9,426	4,703	4,989
Black, 16 years and over	28,812	607	222	4,194	7,462	5,517	3,901	3,674	1,607	1,629
Women	29,700	221	147	2,766	5,483	4,773	4,102	5,752	3,096	3,360
Men	9,773	58	101	1,341	2,623	1,949	1,295	1,314	618	474
Hispanic origin, 16 years and over	5,281	42	57	861	1,608	998	678	586	249	203
Women	4,492	16	44	480	1,015	951	618	728	369	271
Men	9,065	74	72	1,562	2,664	1,752	1,078	1,076	426	361
Women	3,651	42	34	813	1,179	654	375	350	115	90
Men	5,414	32	38	749	1,485	1,098	704	726	311	271

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 12. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage (\$5.15), by selected characteristics, 1998 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Workers paid hourly rates				
	Total	Below \$5.15	At \$5.15	Total at or below \$5.15	
				Number	Percent of hourly-paid workers
AGE AND SEX					
Total, 16 years and over	71,440	2,834	1,593	4,427	6.2
16 to 24 years	16,361	1,377	883	2,260	13.8
16 to 19 years	6,482	790	558	1,348	20.8
20 to 24 years	9,879	587	325	912	9.2
25 years and over	55,080	1,456	710	2,166	3.9
25 to 34 years	17,298	532	245	776	4.5
35 to 44 years	18,070	416	191	606	3.4
45 to 54 years	12,445	253	138	390	3.1
55 to 64 years	5,660	143	70	213	3.8
65 years and over	1,606	113	67	180	11.2
Women, 16 years and over	35,680	1,794	965	2,760	7.7
16 to 24 years	7,949	841	483	1,324	16.7
16 to 19 years	3,263	462	301	763	23.4
20 to 24 years	4,686	379	183	562	12.0
25 years and over	27,730	953	482	1,435	5.2
25 to 34 years	8,185	349	146	495	6.0
35 to 44 years	9,127	276	143	419	4.6
45 to 54 years	6,606	169	103	272	4.1
55 to 64 years	2,972	106	51	157	5.3
65 years and over	841	53	39	92	10.9
Men, 16 years and over	35,761	1,039	628	1,667	4.7
16 to 24 years	8,411	536	400	936	11.1
16 to 19 years	3,219	328	257	585	18.2
20 to 24 years	5,192	208	142	351	6.8
25 years and over	27,349	503	228	731	2.7
25 to 34 years	9,114	182	99	281	3.1
35 to 44 years	8,943	140	48	188	2.1
45 to 54 years	5,839	84	34	118	2.0
55 to 64 years	2,688	37	19	56	2.1
65 years and over	765	60	28	88	11.6
RACE, HISPANIC ORIGIN, AND SEX					
White, 16 years and over	58,512	2,290	1,269	3,559	6.1
Women	28,812	1,463	770	2,233	7.8
Men	29,700	827	498	1,325	4.5
Black, 16 years and over	9,773	431	274	705	7.2
Women	5,281	264	167	432	8.2
Men	4,492	167	106	273	6.1
Hispanic origin, 16 years and over	9,065	393	276	669	7.4
Women	3,651	194	150	345	9.4
Men	5,414	199	126	325	6.0
FULL- AND PART-TIME STATUS AND SEX ¹					
Full-time workers	54,093	1,197	596	1,793	3.3
Women	23,778	683	347	1,029	4.3
Men	30,315	515	249	764	2.5
Part-time workers	17,198	1,628	993	2,621	15.2
Women	11,831	1,108	617	1,725	14.6
Men	5,367	520	376	896	16.7

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.

Table 13. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (1998) dollars by sex and age, 1979-98 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	16 to 24 years			25 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
BOTH SEXES										
1979	\$531	\$379	\$317	\$410	\$584	\$563	\$617	\$609	\$576	\$436
1980	519	371	305	397	567	546	598	589	564	403
1981	513	362	292	385	558	536	589	579	558	402
1982	515	355	280	375	557	530	603	588	554	431
1983	513	345	268	364	562	526	605	600	567	426
1984	512	341	265	362	568	526	611	604	574	427
1985	521	339	264	364	574	529	615	607	577	450
1986 ¹	534	345	265	369	582	536	623	618	590	444
1987	537	348	266	371	578	536	624	616	582	445
1988	531	343	270	366	571	528	620	624	577	445
1989	524	341	268	363	562	518	621	620	566	439
1990 ¹	514	335	261	356	559	507	607	609	570	428
1991	509	331	254	348	558	496	595	606	561	456
1992	512	321	247	337	556	490	584	607	561	439
1993	517	318	241	335	554	492	583	611	555	443
1994 ¹	514	315	243	329	550	483	591	623	551	423
1995	512	312	247	327	546	482	588	622	550	416
1996	509	309	249	324	540	481	580	617	555	399
1997 ¹	511	311	256	326	548	489	587	616	567	399
1998 ¹	523	319	268	339	572	502	597	620	592	405
WOMEN										
1979	401	339	290	355	429	438	431	423	416	375
1980	398	331	287	346	421	432	425	413	405	346
1981	396	326	279	346	421	432	430	407	402	342
1982	407	327	269	343	434	439	440	429	417	360
1983	412	324	259	339	438	444	445	432	421	347
1984	416	319	254	335	444	447	458	438	424	343
1985	420	319	251	335	449	448	465	442	431	367
1986 ¹	433	325	253	344	459	455	475	459	440	381
1987	435	325	247	347	461	454	483	465	442	374
1988	434	324	254	346	461	450	487	467	437	385
1989	431	323	259	342	461	447	486	469	437	384
1990 ¹	432	316	247	335	460	444	487	470	434	374
1991	438	318	245	335	463	443	487	476	434	382
1992	441	310	238	325	464	444	486	484	436	381
1993	444	308	231	326	468	445	491	496	445	377
1994 ¹	439	303	233	319	464	437	493	495	438	370
1995	434	294	230	311	458	431	485	496	431	377
1996	434	295	232	310	461	431	481	499	437	347
1997 ¹	438	297	244	311	469	434	489	502	439	353
1998 ¹	456	305	249	319	485	451	498	516	476	350

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 13. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (1998) dollars by sex and age, 1979-98 annual averages—Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	16 to 24 years			25 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	642	432	341	465	692	651	739	744	688	483
1980	620	413	321	443	672	623	727	726	682	453
1981	614	395	304	429	672	614	718	717	682	482
1982	621	383	290	416	670	609	719	713	679	511
1983	620	365	275	395	666	607	724	726	682	504
1984	615	363	274	393	663	600	740	737	690	514
1985	616	365	277	392	671	597	738	741	708	557
1986 ¹	624	366	276	393	688	598	742	753	721	533
1987	622	369	281	394	685	591	732	746	711	545
1988	619	360	282	384	671	580	712	756	700	544
1989	615	357	275	381	657	570	713	747	684	517
1990 ¹	600	351	271	372	639	560	699	737	680	502
1991	590	341	262	359	626	548	689	733	674	558
1992	582	329	253	345	622	542	675	736	672	489
1993	575	325	249	341	626	536	672	737	661	509
1994 ¹	574	324	251	337	634	527	679	738	663	485
1995	575	324	261	337	629	524	667	732	666	472
1996	579	319	260	334	622	518	657	725	667	496
1997 ¹	587	322	266	343	624	523	661	724	679	459
1998 ¹	598	334	281	357	639	544	677	732	699	482
WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²										
1979	62.5	78.5	85.2	76.5	62.1	67.4	58.3	56.9	60.5	77.8
1980	64.3	80.1	89.5	78.0	62.7	69.4	58.4	56.9	59.4	76.5
1981	64.5	82.6	91.8	80.7	62.7	70.4	59.9	56.8	58.9	70.9
1982	65.5	85.3	92.8	82.5	64.7	72.1	61.2	60.1	61.3	70.4
1983	66.6	88.6	94.1	85.9	65.8	73.3	61.5	59.5	61.8	68.7
1984	67.6	87.9	92.7	85.3	67.0	74.5	61.9	59.4	61.4	66.8
1985	68.2	87.5	90.8	85.5	66.9	75.1	63.1	59.7	60.9	66.0
1986 ¹	69.3	88.9	91.5	87.7	66.7	76.2	64.0	61.0	61.0	71.4
1987	69.9	88.1	87.8	88.0	67.3	76.8	66.1	62.3	62.2	68.7
1988	70.1	90.0	89.8	90.1	68.7	77.7	68.4	61.8	62.4	70.8
1989	70.1	90.7	94.0	89.8	70.2	78.4	68.1	62.7	63.9	74.2
1990 ¹	71.9	90.1	91.0	90.2	72.1	79.2	69.7	63.8	63.7	74.5
1991	74.3	93.3	93.5	93.5	74.0	80.9	70.8	64.9	64.4	68.4
1992	75.8	94.0	93.8	94.2	74.6	82.0	71.9	65.8	64.9	78.1
1993	77.1	94.8	93.0	95.6	74.7	82.9	73.0	67.3	67.4	74.1
1994 ¹	76.4	93.7	92.7	94.5	73.1	82.9	72.5	67.1	66.1	76.3
1995	75.4	90.8	87.9	92.2	72.7	82.4	72.7	67.8	64.8	79.9
1996	75.0	92.4	88.9	92.8	74.1	83.2	73.2	68.9	65.4	70.0
1997 ¹	74.5	92.1	91.4	90.6	75.1	82.9	74.0	69.4	64.7	77.1
1998 ¹	76.3	91.3	88.5	89.4	75.9	83.0	73.5	70.5	68.2	72.6

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.

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 Experimental Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, X-1) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars for the years 1979-82; the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used for the years 1983-98. See Technical Note.

Table 14. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (1998) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 1979-98 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	Race and Hispanic origin		
		White	Black	Hispanic origin
BOTH SEXES				
1979	\$531	\$545	\$438	\$426
1980	519	532	421	414
1981	513	525	425	403
1982	515	528	418	409
1983	513	524	428	409
1984	512	528	422	407
1985	521	539	420	409
1986 ¹	534	551	433	412
1987	537	551	432	409
1988	531	544	433	400
1989	524	538	420	392
1990 ¹	514	528	411	379
1991	509	529	416	374
1992	512	532	414	373
1993	517	536	416	373
1994 ¹	514	532	409	357
1995	512	529	409	351
1996	509	525	402	352
1997 ¹	511	527	406	357
1998 ¹	523	545	426	370
WOMEN				
1979	401	405	372	346
1980	398	402	367	341
1981	396	399	372	344
1982	407	412	370	347
1983	412	417	379	351
1984	416	421	378	350
1985	420	426	382	348
1986 ¹	433	438	392	359
1987	435	441	396	360
1988	434	439	397	359
1989	431	438	396	354
1990 ¹	432	441	384	347
1991	438	446	386	350
1992	441	449	389	351
1993	444	452	392	352
1994 ¹	439	449	381	335
1995	434	443	379	326
1996	434	444	376	329
1997 ¹	438	451	381	323
1998 ¹	456	468	400	337

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 14. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in constant (1998) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 1979-98 annual averages—Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	Race and Hispanic origin		
		White	Black	Hispanic origin
MEN				
1979	642	657	501	483
1980	620	633	484	464
1981	614	632	485	455
1982	621	640	474	457
1983	620	634	481	449
1984	615	629	475	450
1985	616	633	462	448
1986 ¹	624	645	474	445
1987	622	646	469	439
1988	619	641	479	424
1989	615	633	457	413
1990 ¹	600	616	450	396
1991	590	605	448	386
1992	582	597	442	394
1993	575	591	442	390
1994 ¹	574	602	440	377
1995	575	606	439	374
1996	579	602	427	369
1997 ¹	587	604	438	377
1998 ¹	598	615	468	390
WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²				
1979	62.5	61.7	74.3	71.7
1980	64.3	63.5	75.8	73.6
1981	64.5	63.1	76.7	75.6
1982	65.5	64.4	78.0	75.7
1983	66.6	65.7	78.9	78.3
1984	67.6	67.0	79.6	77.8
1985	68.2	67.4	82.8	77.7
1986 ¹	69.3	67.9	82.7	80.7
1987	69.9	68.2	84.4	82.1
1988	70.1	68.5	83.0	84.6
1989	70.1	69.2	86.5	85.6
1990 ¹	71.9	71.5	85.5	87.6
1991	74.3	73.7	86.1	90.5
1992	75.8	75.2	88.1	89.1
1993	77.1	76.5	88.8	90.4
1994 ¹	76.4	74.5	86.5	88.8
1995	75.4	73.2	86.3	87.3
1996	75.0	73.8	88.1	89.0
1997 ¹	74.5	74.6	86.8	85.6
1998 ¹	76.3	76.1	85.4	86.5

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 Experimental Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, X-1) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars for the years 1979-82; the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used for the years 1983-98. See Technical Note.

Table 15. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and over in constant (1998) dollars by sex and educational attainment, 1979-98 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, total
BOTH SEXES					
1979	\$584	\$462	\$548	\$621	\$758
1980	567	440	527	601	745
1981	558	433	518	586	735
1982	557	422	514	598	745
1983	562	419	509	594	755
1984	568	413	507	600	762
1985	574	409	505	604	766
1986 ¹	582	414	511	609	781
1987	578	407	511	603	808
1988	571	397	507	593	806
1989	562	391	493	595	801
1990 ¹	559	378	481	593	795
1991	558	368	475	585	796
1992	556	361	468	563	808
1993	554	354	468	557	806
1994 ¹	550	338	463	548	807
1995	546	331	462	543	799
1996	540	329	460	537	788
1997 ¹	548	326	468	543	791
1998 ¹	572	337	479	558	821
WOMEN					
1979	429	334	407	464	581
1980	421	324	397	457	574
1981	421	316	393	461	575
1982	434	314	402	468	590
1983	438	319	403	471	604
1984	444	313	406	478	612
1985	449	306	406	481	628
1986 ¹	459	309	412	490	649
1987	461	307	413	498	668
1988	461	304	411	496	668
1989	461	304	400	498	667
1990 ¹	460	300	392	492	667
1991	463	299	393	489	672
1992	464	297	391	473	690
1993	468	297	391	476	688
1994 ¹	464	282	386	465	697
1995	458	280	381	456	689
1996	461	279	379	459	682
1997 ¹	469	279	384	466	683
1998 ¹	485	283	396	476	707

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 15. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and over in constant (1998) dollars by sex and educational attainment, 1979-98 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	692	555	679	725	872
1980	672	530	648	709	846
1981	672	517	644	703	860
1982	670	500	637	701	857
1983	666	493	635	691	849
1984	663	484	626	700	882
1985	671	476	617	715	894
1986 ¹	688	477	619	722	919
1987	685	465	607	713	937
1988	671	458	601	693	936
1989	657	455	592	679	927
1990 ¹	639	436	572	676	924
1991	626	418	562	673	914
1992	622	408	556	644	919
1993	626	402	549	645	908
1994 ¹	634	377	546	645	909
1995	629	371	542	638	904
1996	622	370	536	627	907
1997 ¹	624	371	543	631	910
1998 ¹	639	383	559	643	939
WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S²					
1979	62.1	60.2	60.0	64.0	66.6
1980	62.7	61.3	61.3	64.5	67.8
1981	62.7	61.1	61.0	65.6	66.9
1982	64.7	62.8	63.1	66.7	68.9
1983	65.8	64.6	63.5	68.1	71.1
1984	67.0	64.8	64.9	68.4	69.5
1985	66.9	64.4	65.7	67.2	70.2
1986 ¹	66.7	64.7	66.6	67.9	70.6
1987	67.3	66.1	68.0	69.9	71.3
1988	68.7	66.4	68.3	71.5	71.4
1989	70.2	66.8	67.6	73.3	71.9
1990 ¹	72.1	68.8	68.6	72.8	72.2
1991	74.0	71.5	69.9	72.6	73.5
1992	74.6	72.8	70.3	73.4	75.0
1993	74.7	73.8	71.3	73.7	75.8
1994 ¹	73.1	74.9	70.8	72.0	76.7
1995	72.7	75.4	70.2	71.6	76.2
1996	74.1	75.2	70.7	73.1	75.2
1997 ¹	75.1	75.2	70.8	73.8	75.0
1998 ¹	75.9	73.7	70.9	74.0	75.3

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 Experimental Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, X-1) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars for the years 1979-82; the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used for the years 1983-98. See Technical Note.

Table 16. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (1998) dollars by sex and age, 1979-98 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	16 to 24 years			25 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
BOTH SEXES										
1979	\$9.80	\$7.70	\$6.86	\$8.88	\$11.28	\$11.48	\$11.68	\$11.39	\$10.96	\$7.13
1980	9.57	7.37	6.40	8.51	11.01	11.22	11.42	11.21	10.70	7.08
1981	9.33	7.20	6.49	8.35	10.85	11.03	11.23	10.89	10.52	7.10
1982	9.22	6.91	6.16	7.96	10.72	10.83	11.28	10.95	10.43	7.04
1983	9.17	6.69	5.92	7.69	10.73	10.65	11.32	11.03	10.50	7.21
1984	9.17	6.58	5.75	7.58	10.75	10.64	11.28	11.13	10.41	7.28
1985	9.15	6.47	5.58	7.50	10.70	10.50	11.37	11.19	10.48	7.19
1986 ¹	9.25	6.58	5.53	7.55	10.77	10.45	11.60	11.52	10.68	7.40
1987	9.29	6.60	5.48	7.49	10.72	10.33	11.40	11.30	10.65	7.30
1988	9.28	6.61	5.56	7.42	10.68	10.25	11.27	11.25	10.32	7.22
1989	9.20	6.52	5.56	7.44	10.45	10.05	11.26	11.08	10.29	7.13
1990 ¹	9.03	6.44	5.61	7.39	10.19	9.87	11.01	10.98	10.01	7.19
1991	8.99	6.31	5.62	7.19	10.16	9.63	10.98	10.91	9.80	7.11
1992	8.98	6.25	5.50	7.02	10.15	9.50	10.91	11.06	9.87	7.14
1993	8.88	6.22	5.42	6.95	10.10	9.34	10.85	11.13	10.05	7.22
1994 ¹	8.83	6.19	5.41	6.86	10.05	9.23	10.93	11.03	9.94	7.04
1995	8.75	6.21	5.40	6.88	10.02	9.33	10.73	10.85	9.85	7.12
1996	8.73	6.17	5.38	6.96	10.00	9.17	10.54	10.64	9.76	7.04
1997 ¹	8.90	6.25	5.60	7.02	10.03	9.19	10.53	10.77	9.89	7.01
1998 ¹	9.11	6.59	5.89	7.25	10.14	9.66	10.87	10.97	10.09	7.41
WOMEN										
1979	7.98	7.04	6.69	7.76	8.60	8.92	8.76	8.48	8.29	6.90
1980	7.85	6.85	6.24	7.53	8.42	8.82	8.51	8.39	8.10	6.72
1981	7.75	6.72	6.38	7.42	8.50	8.86	8.65	8.32	8.02	6.73
1982	7.86	6.46	6.07	7.16	8.58	8.87	8.67	8.45	8.20	6.71
1983	7.88	6.26	5.83	6.98	8.58	8.92	8.70	8.51	8.31	6.83
1984	7.81	6.18	5.65	6.86	8.62	8.81	8.82	8.67	8.29	6.88
1985	7.79	6.09	5.48	6.93	8.70	8.78	8.97	8.74	8.28	6.73
1986 ¹	7.95	6.13	5.44	7.03	8.86	8.87	9.14	8.93	8.57	7.06
1987	8.04	6.07	5.33	7.03	8.86	8.83	9.13	9.02	8.66	6.97
1988	8.06	6.18	5.40	6.97	8.88	8.78	9.32	9.08	8.39	7.06
1989	8.04	6.18	5.40	6.88	8.92	8.80	9.34	9.09	8.39	6.77
1990 ¹	8.04	6.18	5.44	6.96	8.83	8.75	9.20	8.94	8.40	6.80
1991	8.09	6.09	5.56	6.84	8.80	8.61	9.26	9.11	8.33	6.90
1992	8.09	6.01	5.45	6.72	8.90	8.66	9.29	9.23	8.38	6.94
1993	8.04	5.95	5.34	6.73	8.88	8.60	9.21	9.23	8.53	6.98
1994 ¹	7.99	5.87	5.33	6.59	8.86	8.57	9.29	9.31	8.61	6.87
1995	7.98	5.88	5.29	6.53	8.75	8.48	9.24	9.34	8.50	6.91
1996	8.04	5.91	5.30	6.51	8.77	8.38	9.24	9.29	8.39	6.71
1997 ¹	8.07	6.05	5.51	6.66	8.90	8.33	9.29	9.42	8.44	6.94
1998 ¹	8.24	6.25	5.79	6.94	9.14	8.81	9.67	9.79	8.86	7.22

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 16. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (1998) dollars by sex and age, 1979-98 annual averages—Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	16 to 24 years			25 years and over					
		Total	16 to 19 years ¹	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	12.47	8.62	7.05	10.24	14.76	14.07	15.71	15.66	14.53	7.87
1980	12.09	8.14	6.70	9.76	14.31	13.73	15.48	15.43	14.35	7.53
1981	11.89	7.82	6.60	9.26	14.09	13.28	15.02	15.38	14.27	7.64
1982	11.69	7.47	6.25	8.75	13.78	13.08	15.16	15.15	13.89	7.62
1983	11.34	7.19	6.02	8.28	13.62	12.69	15.10	15.01	14.32	7.79
1984	11.20	7.19	5.85	8.12	13.52	12.39	14.94	15.23	13.93	7.72
1985	11.13	7.11	5.70	7.95	13.42	12.13	14.87	15.13	13.72	7.57
1986 ¹	11.31	7.15	5.70	8.09	13.43	11.97	14.89	15.11	14.21	7.73
1987	11.17	7.05	5.69	8.16	13.16	11.86	14.50	14.70	13.95	7.65
1988	10.91	6.94	5.72	7.99	12.93	11.59	14.09	14.74	13.43	7.62
1989	10.65	6.81	5.78	7.92	12.77	11.27	13.93	14.31	13.15	7.76
1990 ¹	10.32	6.79	5.80	7.72	12.29	11.03	13.39	13.89	12.70	7.60
1991	10.29	6.68	5.68	7.47	11.94	10.71	13.15	14.02	12.07	7.45
1992	10.08	6.57	5.58	7.26	11.69	10.49	12.71	13.97	12.07	7.51
1993	10.00	6.49	5.50	7.15	11.49	10.27	12.60	13.71	12.37	7.57
1994 ¹	9.91	6.47	5.49	7.23	11.33	10.03	12.66	13.32	12.17	7.31
1995	9.88	6.47	5.51	7.30	11.48	10.13	12.72	13.18	11.89	7.34
1996	9.90	6.42	5.47	7.27	11.20	10.08	12.37	12.89	11.59	7.32
1997 ¹	9.99	6.55	5.71	7.30	11.28	10.08	12.27	13.00	11.98	7.08
1998 ¹	10.07	6.92	5.99	7.79	11.73	10.23	12.49	13.05	12.23	7.75
WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²										
1979	64.0	81.7	94.9	75.8	58.3	63.4	55.8	54.1	57.0	87.7
1980	64.9	84.1	93.1	77.2	58.8	64.2	54.9	54.4	56.4	89.3
1981	65.2	86.0	96.6	80.2	60.3	66.7	57.6	54.1	56.2	88.1
1982	67.3	86.5	97.1	81.8	62.2	67.8	57.2	55.8	59.0	88.1
1983	69.5	87.1	96.9	84.4	63.0	70.3	57.6	56.7	58.0	87.6
1984	69.8	86.0	96.6	84.5	63.8	71.1	59.0	56.9	59.5	89.1
1985	70.1	85.7	96.1	87.2	64.8	72.4	60.3	57.8	60.4	88.9
1986 ¹	70.3	85.8	95.5	86.9	66.0	74.1	61.4	59.1	60.3	91.3
1987	72.0	86.0	93.7	86.2	67.3	74.4	62.9	61.4	62.1	91.2
1988	73.9	89.1	94.4	87.3	68.7	75.7	66.2	61.6	62.5	92.6
1989	75.5	90.8	93.4	86.9	69.9	78.1	67.0	63.5	63.8	87.2
1990 ¹	77.9	91.0	93.8	90.2	71.9	79.4	68.7	64.3	66.2	89.6
1991	78.6	91.2	97.8	91.6	73.6	80.4	70.4	65.0	69.0	92.6
1992	80.2	91.4	97.7	92.5	76.1	82.6	73.1	66.0	69.4	92.5
1993	80.4	91.6	97.2	94.1	77.3	83.7	73.1	67.3	69.0	92.2
1994 ¹	80.6	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	89.4	76.2	83.7	72.6	70.9	71.4	94.1
1996	81.2	92.0	96.9	89.5	78.3	83.1	74.7	72.1	72.4	91.7
1997 ¹	80.8	92.3	96.6	91.3	78.9	82.7	75.8	72.4	70.5	98.1
1998 ¹	81.8	90.3	96.7	89.1	77.9	86.1	77.4	75.0	72.4	93.1

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 Experimental Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, X-1) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars for the years 1979-82; the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used for the years 1983-98. See Technical Note.

Table 17. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (1998) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 1979-98 annual averages

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	Race and Hispanic origin		
		White	Black	Hispanic origin
BOTH SEXES				
1979	\$9.80	\$9.95	\$9.07	\$9.00
1980	9.57	9.68	8.82	8.81
1981	9.33	9.39	8.89	8.71
1982	9.22	9.33	8.64	8.55
1983	9.17	9.29	8.44	8.35
1984	9.17	9.28	8.44	8.29
1985	9.15	9.26	8.35	8.30
1986 ¹	9.25	9.36	8.65	8.43
1987	9.29	9.43	8.61	8.37
1988	9.28	9.39	8.49	8.21
1989	9.20	9.32	8.46	7.99
1990 ¹	9.03	9.16	8.50	7.84
1991	8.99	9.11	8.38	7.74
1992	8.98	9.09	8.21	7.73
1993	8.88	9.00	8.10	7.71
1994 ¹	8.83	8.93	8.03	7.63
1995	8.75	8.91	8.21	7.50
1996	8.73	8.91	8.07	7.45
1997 ¹	8.90	9.03	8.14	7.52
1998 ¹	9.11	9.23	8.40	7.93
WOMEN				
1979	7.98	8.00	7.83	7.59
1980	7.85	7.86	7.70	7.50
1981	7.75	7.76	7.60	7.43
1982	7.86	7.88	7.67	7.40
1983	7.88	7.88	7.74	7.25
1984	7.81	7.83	7.67	7.32
1985	7.79	7.80	7.65	7.32
1986 ¹	7.95	7.98	7.71	7.45
1987	8.04	8.07	7.77	7.34
1988	8.06	8.09	7.75	7.29
1989	8.04	8.07	7.74	7.28
1990 ¹	8.04	8.07	7.78	7.25
1991	8.09	8.10	7.85	7.17
1992	8.09	8.13	7.72	7.18
1993	8.04	8.08	7.76	7.13
1994 ¹	7.99	8.08	7.64	7.06
1995	7.98	8.08	7.62	7.07
1996	8.04	8.10	7.48	7.04
1997 ¹	8.07	8.13	7.71	6.93
1998 ¹	8.24	8.34	7.91	7.23

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 17. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in constant (1998) dollars by sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 1979-98 annual averages—Continued

Year and sex	Total, 16 years and over	Race and Hispanic origin		
		White	Black	Hispanic origin
MEN				
1979	12.47	12.78	10.78	10.58
1980	12.09	12.35	10.27	9.97
1981	11.89	12.15	10.52	9.73
1982	11.69	11.91	10.19	9.78
1983	11.34	11.58	9.76	9.53
1984	11.20	11.41	9.68	9.49
1985	11.13	11.51	9.33	9.21
1986 ¹	11.31	11.60	9.79	9.23
1987	11.17	11.39	9.68	9.15
1988	10.91	11.11	9.57	8.98
1989	10.65	10.90	9.31	8.76
1990 ¹	10.32	10.67	9.20	8.42
1991	10.29	10.56	9.07	8.24
1992	10.08	10.34	8.86	8.13
1993	10.00	10.24	8.66	8.04
1994 ¹	9.91	10.14	8.72	7.90
1995	9.88	10.30	8.74	7.78
1996	9.90	10.17	8.50	7.92
1997 ¹	9.99	10.12	8.81	8.03
1998 ¹	10.07	10.19	9.10	8.25
WOMEN'S EARNINGS AS PERCENT OF MEN'S ²				
1979	64.0	62.6	72.6	71.8
1980	64.9	63.6	75.0	75.2
1981	65.2	63.9	72.2	76.4
1982	67.3	66.1	75.3	75.7
1983	69.5	68.1	79.3	76.1
1984	69.8	68.6	79.2	77.1
1985	70.1	67.8	82.0	79.5
1986 ¹	70.3	68.8	78.8	80.8
1987	72.0	70.8	80.2	80.3
1988	73.9	72.8	80.9	81.2
1989	75.5	74.1	83.2	83.1
1990 ¹	77.9	75.6	84.5	86.1
1991	78.6	76.7	86.6	86.9
1992	80.2	78.7	87.2	88.4
1993	80.4	78.9	89.6	88.7
1994 ¹	80.6	79.7	87.5	89.3
1995	80.8	78.4	87.3	90.9
1996	81.2	79.6	88.0	88.9
1997 ¹	80.8	80.3	87.5	86.3
1998 ¹	81.8	81.9	86.9	87.5

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 Experimental Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, X-1) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars for the years 1979-82; the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used for the years 1983-98. See Technical Note.

Table 18. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-98 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Year and sex	Total wage and salary workers	Workers paid hourly rates					
		Total	Percent of total wage and salary workers	Paid less than the prevailing Federal minimum wage	Paid the prevailing Federal minimum wage	Total paid the prevailing Federal minimum wage or less	
						Number	Percent of hourly-paid workers
BOTH SEXES							
1979	87,529	51,721	59.1	2,916	3,997	6,912	13.4
1980	87,644	51,335	58.6	3,087	4,686	7,773	15.1
1981	88,516	51,869	58.6	3,513	4,311	7,824	15.1
1982	87,368	50,846	58.2	2,348	4,148	6,496	12.8
1983	88,290	51,820	58.7	2,077	4,261	6,338	12.2
1984	92,194	54,143	58.7	1,838	4,125	5,963	11.0
1985	94,521	55,762	59.0	1,639	3,899	5,538	9.9
1986 ¹	96,903	57,529	59.4	1,599	3,461	5,060	8.8
1987	99,303	59,552	60.0	1,468	3,229	4,698	7.9
1988	101,407	60,878	60.0	1,319	2,608	3,927	6.5
1989	103,480	62,389	60.3	1,372	1,790	3,162	5.1
1990 ¹	104,876	63,172	60.2	2,132	2,096	23,228	25.1
1991	103,723	62,627	60.4	2,377	2,906	25,283	28.4
1992	104,668	63,610	60.8	1,939	2,982	4,921	7.7
1993	106,101	64,274	60.6	1,707	2,625	4,332	6.7
1994 ¹	107,989	66,549	61.6	1,995	2,132	4,128	6.2
1995	110,038	68,354	62.1	1,699	1,956	3,656	5.3
1996	111,960	69,255	61.9	2,186	2,186	23,724	25.4
1997 ¹	114,533	70,735	61.8	2,990	2,176	24,754	26.7
1998 ¹	116,730	71,440	61.2	2,834	1,593	4,427	6.2
WOMEN							
1979	38,129	23,329	61.2	2,070	2,644	4,714	20.2
1980	38,944	23,626	60.7	2,104	2,990	5,095	21.6
1981	39,672	24,294	61.2	2,394	2,778	5,172	21.3
1982	39,777	24,365	61.3	1,651	2,561	4,212	17.3
1983	40,433	24,989	61.8	1,492	2,603	4,095	16.4
1984	42,172	26,003	61.7	1,348	2,499	3,847	14.8
1985	43,506	26,869	61.8	1,198	2,356	3,554	13.2
1986 ¹	44,961	27,863	62.0	1,192	2,125	3,317	11.9
1987	46,365	29,078	62.7	1,105	1,946	3,051	10.5
1988	47,495	29,820	62.8	1,008	1,542	2,550	8.6
1989	48,691	30,702	63.1	994	1,056	2,050	6.7
1990 ¹	49,323	31,069	63.0	2,142	2,711	22,131	26.9
1991	49,105	30,988	63.1	2,158	2,792	23,374	210.9
1992	49,842	31,454	63.1	1,286	1,751	3,036	9.7
1993	50,626	31,937	63.1	1,133	1,534	2,667	8.4
1994 ¹	51,419	33,021	64.2	1,322	1,241	2,563	7.8
1995	52,369	33,934	64.8	1,157	1,161	2,318	6.8
1996	53,488	34,418	64.3	2,144	2,106	22,350	26.8
1997 ¹	54,708	35,214	64.4	2,184	2,092	22,935	28.3
1998 ¹	55,757	35,680	64.0	1,794	965	2,760	7.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 18. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-98 annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Year and sex	Total wage and salary workers	Workers paid hourly rates					
		Total	Percent of total wage and salary workers	Paid less than the prevailing Federal minimum wage	Paid the prevailing Federal minimum wage	Total paid the prevailing Federal minimum wage or less	
						Number	Percent of hourly-paid workers
MEN							
1979	49,400	28,392	57.5	846	1,353	2,199	7.7
1980	48,700	27,709	56.9	983	1,696	2,678	9.7
1981	48,844	27,576	56.5	1,119	1,533	2,652	9.6
1982	47,591	26,481	55.6	697	1,587	2,284	8.6
1983	47,856	26,831	56.1	585	1,658	2,243	8.4
1984	50,022	28,140	56.3	490	1,626	2,116	7.5
1985	51,015	28,893	56.6	440	1,544	1,984	6.9
1986 ¹	51,942	29,666	57.1	408	1,336	1,743	5.9
1987	52,938	30,474	57.6	364	1,283	1,647	5.4
1988	53,912	31,058	57.6	311	1,066	1,377	4.4
1989	54,789	31,687	57.8	379	733	1,112	3.5
1990 ¹	55,553	32,104	57.8	2,712	2,385	21,097	23.4
1991	54,618	31,639	57.9	2,795	21,114	21,909	26.0
1992	54,826	32,155	58.6	653	1,231	1,885	5.9
1993	55,475	32,337	58.3	573	1,091	1,664	5.1
1994 ¹	56,570	33,528	59.3	674	891	1,565	4.7
1995	57,669	34,420	59.7	542	796	1,338	3.9
1996	58,473	34,838	59.6	2,619	2,755	21,374	23.9
1997 ¹	59,825	35,521	59.4	21,147	2,673	21,820	25.1
1998 ¹	60,973	35,761	58.7	1,039	628	1,667	4.7

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 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 to \$5.15 in September 1997. See Technical Note.

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

Medians (and quantiles) of weekly earnings. The median (or upper limit of the second quartile) is the amount which 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 \$50-wide intervals, centered around multiples 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 other quantile boundaries) for specific groups may not necessarily be consistent with the movements estimated for the overall quantile boundary. The most common reasons for this possible anomaly are: (1) There could be a change in the relative weights of the subgroups. For example, the medians of both 16- to 24-year-olds and those 25 years and over may rise but if the lower-earning 16-to-24 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 multi-peaked 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 for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars for the years 1983 forward. The Experimental Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U, X-1) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars for the years 1979-82. The CPI-U, X-1 prior to 1983 is identical to the CPI-U, except for the treatment of homeownership costs. In January 1983, BLS implemented important methodological improvements to the homeownership components of the CPI-U. In keeping with BLS practice, historical CPI-U series were not revised. BLS, however, has provided the CPI-U, X-1 with homeownership methodology comparable to the revised CPI-U for researchers who needed a consistent CPI 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 the 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. Hourly-paid workers 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 the hourly-paid workers 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 nonhourly workers 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	\$4.25 effective April 1991
\$3.10 effective January 1980	\$4.75 effective October 1996
\$3.35 effective January 1981	\$5.15 effective September 1997
\$3.80 effective April 1990	

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 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 when the minimum wage level is just above a whole dollar value, for example, in 1998 (\$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*.