

Changes in Occupational Ranking and Hourly Earnings, 1997-2005

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The [National Compensation Survey \(NCS\)](#) published estimates of average hourly earnings for 418 occupations that could be compared in 1997 and 2005. Although the NCS is not designed to measure changes in earnings within individual occupations, 227 occupations had increases in hourly earnings of at least 25 percent over the period. Among the 191 occupations that had increases of less than 25 percent, 21 reported declines in hourly earnings. The occupations with declining earnings include high-ranked jobs (in terms of hourly earnings), middle-ranked jobs, and low-ranked jobs.

In June 2005, full-time workers in private industry and State and local governments averaged \$19.70 per hour, according to findings from the ninth annual BLS [National Compensation Survey \(NCS\)](#). When the NCS series began in 1997, the comparable average was \$15.77 per hour.¹

The National Compensation Survey is an establishment-based survey of a sample of 152 metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas.² The sample represents the Nation's 326 metropolitan statistical areas (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget in 1994) and the remaining portions of the United States. Agricultural, private household, and Federal Government workers are not included in the survey. The 2005 NCS results mark the last observation before a break in the series. The upcoming 2006 national estimates will be based on the [2000 Standard Occupational Classification System](#), which replaced the 1990 Occupation Classification System (OCS), and the [2002 North American Industry Classification System](#), which replaced the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. This article, using 2005 data, ranks 418 occupations by average hourly earnings and summarizes changes in wages for the same occupations over the 1997-2005 period.

Twenty Top Ranked Occupations

Twelve of the 20 occupations with the highest hourly pay in 1997 also were in the top 20 in 2005, although there were some changes in ranking. (See table 1.) Four occupations retained the same rank:

- 1st: Airline pilots and navigators,
- 8th: Physics teachers,
- 11th: Medical science teachers, and
- 14th: Dentists.

Among the 12 occupations that remained in the top 20 over the period, physicians had the largest upward change in ranking, from 12th place in 1997 to 4th place in 2005. The median percent change in hourly pay for these 12 occupations was about 32 percent, ranging from a decrease of 6.1 for law teachers to an increase of 63.6 percent for physicians.

Average earnings of chief executives and general administrators, public administration, advanced only 1.9 percent from 1997 to 2005, resulting in the largest downward change--from 3rd to 10th place. Although managers and administrators, not elsewhere classified--the private industry counterparts of the public executives--were ranked 26th in 2005, their average hourly earnings increased about 24 percent. Chief executive pay has been a contentious topic in recent years and is currently being debated in Congress.³ The pay packages being questioned are often associated with executives in large national or multinational firms, where stocks or stock options are the main component of compensation. Data collected in the NCS include salaries for executives in small, medium, and large establishments, but exclude compensation in the form of stocks or stock options and nonproduction bonuses.

Table 2 presents a list of eight occupations that advanced to the top 20 from 1997 to 2005, as well as the eight occupations that dropped out of the top 20 over the period. Pharmacists had the most notable upward change in top 20 ranking, moving from 57th in 1997 to 18th in 2005. Engineering teachers also moved up sharply, from 22nd to 5th place, aided by a 78.7-

percent increase in average hourly earnings. Social scientists, not elsewhere classified, had the highest percent increase in average earnings (118 percent). This and four other occupations with at least an 80-percent increase in average earnings were still below the earnings threshold of \$44.49 per hour needed to advance to the top 20.

Two occupations with relative standard errors of less than 10 percent in both 1997 and 2005 dropped in rank over the period: chemistry teachers went from 17th in 1997 to 40th in 2005, and theology teachers went from 10th in 1997 to 29th in 2005. Other occupations had larger declines in rank, but their relative standard errors were considerably higher, making direct comparisons less meaningful.⁴

Ranking By Hourly And Annual Earnings

In addition to publishing average hourly earnings estimates, the NCS also publishes annual salary estimates. Ranking occupations by hourly and annual earnings produces different results. (See table 3.) For example, in 2005, airline pilots and navigators, who placed first when ranked by hourly earnings, dropped to third place when ranked by annual earnings. The number of annual work hours is considerably lower for airline pilots and navigators than it is for other occupations ranked in the top 20.⁵ A difference in ranking would occur, for example, when two occupations have the same annual salaries (say \$50,000) but one has a 40-hour weekly work schedule (2,080 annual hours) and the other has a 35-hour schedule (1,820 annual hours). On an annual basis they would have an equal rank, but, on an hourly basis, workers with the 35-hour schedule would rank higher.

Other positional changes among the top 20 occupations (when comparing hourly and annual wages) were substantially affected by college and university teachers. In terms of hourly earnings, 12 of the top 20 positions in 2005 were held by these kinds of teachers. But college and university teachers tend to work fewer annual hours than other workers, and, as a result, they placed lower in the rankings based on annual salaries. Agriculture and forestry teachers averaged considerably fewer annual work hours--about 1,346 in 2005--than others in the top 20 occupations (except for pilots and navigators). When comparing rankings based on average hourly and annual earnings, the ranking of agriculture and forestry teachers was 6th place on an hourly basis and 17th place on an annual basis.⁶

Twenty Lowest Ranked Occupations

In 1997, the average hourly earnings of the 20 lowest ranked occupations ranged from \$4.29 per hour for waiters and waitresses to \$8.23 per hour for nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants. In 2005, the earnings of the 20 lowest ranked occupations ranged from \$4.71 per hour for wait staff to \$10.05 per hour for agricultural products inspectors and vehicle washers and equipment cleaners. The low earnings for waiters and waitresses may be misleading because the NCS is designed to measure employers' costs for wages and salaries, which precludes collecting tips as part of wages. As a result, total earnings for waiters and waitresses are understated. Rates for some other low ranked occupations--such as bartenders, baggage porters and bellhops, parking lot attendants, and taxicab drivers and chauffeurs--were similarly affected by the absence of information on tips.

Among the 20 lowest ranked occupations in 1997, 14 were in the bottom-20 category in 2005. Of the 6 occupations that moved out of the lowest 20, 5 remained near the bottom. The one exception was hand engraving and printing occupations, whose average hourly earnings more than doubled over the period (from \$8.13 to \$16.75), moving this job's ranking from 400th in 1997 to 240th in 2005.

Percent Changes In Hourly Earnings, 1997-2005

Among the 418 occupations for which comparisons could be made, 227 had increases in hourly earnings of at least 25 percent over the 1997-2005 period. (See table 4.) Social scientists, not elsewhere classified, an occupational category that includes historians, anthropologists, and political scientists, had the highest percent increase in earnings--from \$13.30 per hour in 1997 to \$28.99 per hour in 2005, an increase of 118 percent. Two other occupations, hand engraving and printing and elevator installers and repairers, also had average hourly earnings that doubled during the period.

The 191 occupations with changes in average hourly earnings of less than 25 percent included 21 occupations whose reported average hourly earnings declined from 1997 to 2005. The occupations with declining average earnings from 1997 to 2005 included high-ranked jobs (law teachers' earnings dropped 6.1 percent), middle-ranked jobs (religious workers, not elsewhere classified, dropped 10.3 percent), and low-ranked jobs (garage and service station workers' earnings dropped 2.8 percent). The median decline for these 21 occupations was 5.9 percent.

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Notes

1 From 1997 to 2005, the wages and salary component of the [Employment Cost Index \(ECI\)](#) for civilian workers (that is, workers in private industry and State and local governments) increased approximately 29 percent. This differs from the change in NCS wage estimates from 1997 to 2005 because the ECI holds occupation and industry mix constant over time, whereas the NCS wage surveys provide a cross-sectional view of the economy at one point in time. For an estimate of real wage change over time, see [Employment Cost Index Historical Listing, Constant-dollar 1975-2005 \(December 2005 = 100\)](#), on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/web/econst.pdf>.

2 The 1997 survey was limited to 149 areas in the 48 contiguous States. Alaska and Hawaii were included in the 1998 and later surveys, and the sample increased to 154 areas from 1998 through 2003.

3 See "Current Controversies in Executive Compensation: Issues of Justice and Fairness," *Knowledge@Wharton*, May 2, 2007, on the Internet at <http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/article.cfm?articleid=1727>.

4 The relative standard errors (RSEs) associated with each occupation's mean earnings provide an indicator of the reliability of the estimated mean. Basically, a low RSE indicates that the "true" mean is likely to be in a narrow range around the estimate. A high RSE indicates that the true mean is likely to be found in a broad range around the estimate, which indicates that the occupation's rank--the occupation's mean wage with respect to the mean wage of other occupations--is less meaningful. This can be illustrated by comparing two occupations with very close average earnings, but very different RSEs. The RSE for nuclear engineers, whose hourly wage was \$39.93, was 5.7. Thus, at the 90-percent level, the confidence interval for this occupation was \$36.19 to \$43.67, a spread of \$7.48. This indicates that approximately 90 percent of the time, the true population value would fall within that range. By contrast, the RSE for computer science teachers, whose hourly wage was \$39.89, was 19.8, which means that at the 90-percent level, the confidence interval for this occupation was \$26.90 to \$52.88, a spread of \$25.98.

5 Most airlines provide only flight pay and hours for pilots; hours worked in preparing for flights are not included, resulting in flight pay being overstated. Pay for other duties, such as training, which may be paid at a lower rate than flight pay, may also be excluded.

6 Due to the relatively high standard errors for agriculture and forestry teachers and some other occupations, users should exercise caution when making direct salary comparisons. This is especially applicable when the differences in average earnings are small.

Table 1. Twelve high-paying full-time(1) occupations that were ranked in the top 20 in 1997 and 2005, percent change in earnings, National Compensation Survey

Occupation (1997 data)	1997 ranking	Occupation (2005 data)	2005 ranking	2005 data			Percent change 1997-2005
				Hourly earnings(2)		Mean weekly hours	
				Mean	Relative error(3)		
Airplane pilots and navigators	1	Airplane pilots and navigators	1	\$97.51	13.0	23.5	51.3
Law teachers	2	Economics teachers	2	66.23	19.2	42.8	30.4
Chief executives and general administrators, public administration	3	Judges	3	61.38	11.1	39.8	44.0
Economics teachers	4	Physicians	4	61.34	11.0	41.9	63.6
Judges	6	Agriculture and forestry teachers	6	55.12	23.5	34.6	31.4
Agriculture and forestry teachers	7	Law teachers	7	55.10	15.3	38.9	-6.1
Physics teachers	8	Physics teachers	8	53.20	8.5	38.7	31.7
Medical science teachers	11	Chief executives and general administrators, public administration	10	52.11	6.3	42.8	1.9
Physicians	12	Medical science teachers	11	51.79	10.2	45.7	34.4
Dentists	14	Lawyers	12	50.89	4.9	41.5	46.8
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	18	Dentists	14	46.30	11.0	41.3	26.1
Lawyers	19	Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	17	45.33	4.2	41.2	30.0

Footnotes:

- (1) Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment.
- (2) Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.
- (3) The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see *National Compensation Survey: Occupational Wages in the United States, June 2005*, Bulletin 2581 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, August 2006), Appendix A, "Technical Note," pp. 154–55.

Table 2. Sixteen high-paying full-time(1) occupations that entered or left the top 20 ranking, National Compensation Survey, 1997 and 2005

Occupations in top 20 in 1997, but not in 2005 (average hourly earnings of \$34.36 or more)	1997 ranking	Occupations in top 20 in 2005, but not in 1997 (average hourly earnings of \$44.49 or more)	2005 ranking	2005 data			1997 Mean hourly earnings
				Hourly earnings(2)		Mean weekly hours	
				Mean	Relative error(3)		
Musicians and composers	5	Engineering teachers	5	\$60.62	10.6	41.2	\$33.92
Natural science teachers, n.e.c.	9	Earth, environmental, and marine science teachers	9	52.72	13.5	39.6	32.00
Theology teachers	10	Sociology teachers	13	49.58	15.6	39.1	32.68
Physicists and astronomers	13	Business, commerce, and marketing teachers	15	46.19	13.0	38.9	32.89
Petroleum engineers	15	English teachers	16	45.89	11.0	37.8	31.40
Securities and financial services sales	16	Pharmacists	18	45.25	1.1	39.7	26.59
Chemistry teachers	17	Social science teachers, n.e.c.	19	44.68	5.9	39.7	32.93
Real estate sales	20	Biological science teachers	20	44.49	10.5	40.6	32.50

Footnotes:

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- (2) Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.
- (3) The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see *National Compensation Survey: Occupational Wages in the United States, June 2005*, Bulletin 2581 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, August 2006), Appendix A, "Technical Note," pp. 154–55.

NOTE: n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified

Table 3. Differences in ranking when hourly and annual earnings of the 20 highest paid full-time(1) occupations are compared, 2005

Occupation	Hourly earnings ranking, 2005				Annual earnings ranking, 2005			
	Hourly earnings ranking	Hourly earnings(2)		Mean weekly hours	Annual earnings ranking	Annual earnings(2)		Mean annual hours
		Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)	
Airplane pilots and navigators	1	\$97.51	13.0	23.5	3	\$119,204	5.5	1222
Economics teachers	2	66.23	19.2	42.8	7	102,552	12.7	1549
Judges	3	61.38	11.1	39.8	2	127,028	11.3	2069
Physicians	4	61.34	11.0	41.9	1	133,717	10.9	2180
Engineering teachers	5	60.62	10.6	41.2	9	97,222	7.1	1604
Agriculture and forestry teachers	6	55.12	23.5	34.6	17	74,201	18.0	1346
Law teachers	7	55.10	15.3	38.9	12	86,541	14.9	1571
Physics teachers	8	53.20	8.5	38.7	14	79,233	7.1	1489
Earth, environmental, and marine science teachers	9	52.72	13.5	39.6	13	80,815	10.2	1533
Chief executives and general administrators, public administration	10	52.11	6.3	42.8	4	116,096	16.9	2228
Medical science teachers	11	51.79	10.2	45.7	5	112,026	6.4	2163
Lawyers	12	50.89	4.9	41.5	6	109,747	6.1	2157
Sociology teachers	13	49.58	15.6	39.1	15	78,728	15.1	1588
Dentists	14	46.30	11.0	41.3	8	99,547	5.6	2150
Business, commerce, and marketing teachers	15	46.19	13.0	38.9	19	70,841	12.6	1534
English teachers	16	45.89	11.0	37.8	20	69,752	10.3	1520
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	17	45.33	4.2	41.2	10	97,050	4.2	2141
Pharmacists	18	45.25	1.1	39.7	11	93,515	1.2	2067
Social science teachers, n.e.c.	19	44.68	5.9	39.7	18	72,280	6.0	1618
Biological science teachers	20	44.49	10.5	40.6	16	78,372	11.6	1761

Footnotes:

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- (2) Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.
- (3) The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see *National Compensation Survey: Occupational Wages in the United States, June 2005*, Bulletin 2581 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, August 2006), Appendix A, "Technical Note," pp. 154–55.

NOTE: n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified

Table 4. Mean average hourly earnings(1) and weekly hours of full-time workers(2), percent change in average earnings, National Compensation Survey, 1997 and 2005

Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Airplane pilots and navigators	\$64.43	9.3	24.3	1	\$97.51	13.0	23.5	51.3
Economics teachers	50.79	15.4	43.3	2	66.23	19.2	42.8	30.4
Judges	42.62	6.8	39.9	3	61.38	11.1	39.8	44.0
Physicians	37.49	4.7	43.1	4	61.34	11.0	41.9	63.6
Engineering teachers	33.92	10.2	44.6	5	60.62	10.6	41.2	78.7
Agriculture and forestry teachers	41.94	24.8	35.2	6	55.12	23.5	34.6	31.4
Law teachers	58.67	11.0	38.3	7	55.10	15.3	38.9	-6.1
Physics teachers	40.38	13.6	37.8	8	53.20	8.5	38.7	31.7
Earth, environmental, and marine science teachers	32.00	9.2	39.2	9	52.72	13.5	39.6	64.8
Chief executives and general administrators, public administration	51.16	20.5	40.4	10	52.11	6.3	42.8	1.9
Medical science teachers	38.52	5.7	41.9	11	51.79	10.2	45.7	34.4
Lawyers	34.66	3.3	41.8	12	50.89	4.9	41.5	46.8
Sociology teachers	32.68	10.6	39.0	13	49.58	15.6	39.1	51.7
Dentists	36.73	10.5	39.5	14	46.30	11.0	41.3	26.1
Business, commerce, and marketing teachers	32.89	6.7	38.6	15	46.19	13.0	38.9	40.4
English teachers	31.40	4.8	37.3	16	45.89	11.0	37.8	46.1
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	34.87	2.0	41.0	17	45.33	4.2	41.2	30.0
Pharmacists	26.59	1.4	40.2	18	45.25	1.1	39.7	70.2
Social science teachers, n.e.c.	32.93	8.3	39.1	19	44.68	5.9	39.7	35.7
Biological science teachers	32.50	9.2	41.4	20	44.49	10.5	40.6	36.9
Health specialties teachers	31.46	4.0	39.6	21	44.47	10.2	38.3	41.4
Petroleum engineers	35.44	6.4	40.8	22	43.16	16.1	40.0	21.8
Aerospace engineers	30.44	3.8	40.0	23	42.27	8.1	40.0	38.9
History teachers	31.52	5.8	38.2	24	41.39	9.9	40.4	31.3
Securities and financial services sales	35.35	11.7	40.4	25	41.38	7.0	39.7	17.1

Footnotes:

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

(2) Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment.

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NOTE: n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified

Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	33.00	1.3	41.3	26	40.99	4.6	40.8	24.2
Mathematical science teachers	33.17	5.5	38.7	27	40.88	12.4	38.7	23.2
Financial managers	32.46	2.3	40.5	28	40.82	4.0	40.5	25.8
Theology teachers	38.74	8.6	38.8	29	40.80	6.4	39.7	5.3
Announcers	21.56	22.9	41.8	30	40.13	29.5	40.0	86.1
Nuclear engineers	34.16	3.4	40.5	31	39.93	5.7	40.0	16.9
Computer science teachers	29.96	9.6	39.0	32	39.89	19.8	37.3	33.1
Natural science teachers, n.e.c.	40.23	4.7	38.9	33	39.57	9.8	39.8	-1.6
Education teachers	30.70	10.1	40.6	34	39.46	10.7	38.3	28.5
Engineers, n.e.c.	28.97	1.1	40.5	35	39.27	2.2	40.2	35.6
Electrical and electronic engineers	29.25	1.1	40.3	36	39.13	2.5	40.9	33.8
Musicians and composers	44.45	20.7	29.0	37	38.84	20.4	37.3	-12.6
Psychology teachers	30.24	6.9	38.2	38	38.83	8.1	39.0	28.4
Elevator installers and repairers	19.21	22.1	40.0	39	38.67	14.5	40.0	101.3
Chemistry teachers	34.97	8.5	42.0	40	38.51	9.2	41.3	10.1
Sales engineers	27.60	5.5	41.5	41	38.11	9.5	41.6	38.1
Administrators, education and related fields	30.17	1.9	39.5	42	37.30	3.4	39.4	23.6
Actuaries	27.00	7.2	39.2	43	37.23	9.4	41.5	37.9
Art, drama, and music teachers	29.30	3.8	38.7	44	36.79	9.6	38.5	25.6
Physicians' assistants	24.47	5.1	39.6	45	36.71	7.0	40.0	50.0
Political science teachers	33.37	8.8	38.8	46	36.21	7.2	39.3	8.5
Trade and industrial teachers	24.96	4.0	37.9	47	36.09	6.9	38.2	44.6
Technical writers	20.03	3.9	39.9	48	35.82	14.7	40.1	78.8
Chemical engineers	30.65	2.9	39.9	49	35.76	8.7	40.0	16.7
Surveyors and mapping scientists	19.75	8.4	39.6	50	35.72	11.5	39.8	80.9
Operations and systems researchers and analysts	27.73	6.6	39.9	51	35.71	5.5	39.9	28.8
Purchasing managers	29.43	4.1	41.0	52	35.35	8.2	40.2	20.1
Computer systems analysts and scientists	26.82	1.3	40.1	53	35.33	2.5	40.1	31.7

Footnotes:

- (1) Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.
- (2) Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment.
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NOTE: n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified

Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Foreign language teachers	25.43	14.1	41.7	54	35.14	17.9	39.9	38.2
Physicists and astronomers	37.31	10.4	40.8	55	35.12	9.2	39.9	-5.9
Managers, medicine and health	28.60	2.3	39.9	56	35.12	3.3	40.0	22.8
Teachers, special education	27.21	2.2	36.3	57	34.65	3.1	35.5	27.3
Physical education teachers	26.01	13.4	38.1	58	34.38	7.5	37.9	32.2
Geologists and geodesists	26.04	8.8	41.8	59	34.15	7.8	40.8	31.1
Economists	23.18	5.1	40.1	60	33.85	7.8	41.4	46.0
Elementary school teachers	26.43	1.1	36.8	61	33.56	1.4	36.6	27.0
Health diagnosing practitioners, n.e.c.	24.27	14.6	40.0	62	33.45	8.8	40.0	37.8
Metallurgical and materials engineers	26.51	4.8	40.2	63	33.20	5.9	40.2	25.2
Industrial engineers	24.52	3.4	40.6	64	33.19	2.6	41.6	35.4
Secondary school teachers	26.66	1.6	37.2	65	33.18	1.9	37.0	24.5
Actors and directors	24.83	12.5	40.5	66	33.13	17.8	40.5	33.4
Teachers, n.e.c.	27.36	2.7	36.1	67	32.68	3.0	36.4	19.4
Other financial officers	23.58	2.9	40.0	68	32.53	3.6	40.1	38.0
Civil engineers	26.19	2.0	40.2	69	32.49	3.0	40.8	24.1
Supervisors, electricians and power transmission installers	22.25	5.0	40.0	70	32.48	3.8	40.1	46.0
Chemists, except biochemists	27.57	3.7	40.7	71	32.23	8.2	40.0	16.9
Personnel and labor relations managers	31.43	3.3	41.0	72	32.16	7.5	40.1	2.3
Public transportation attendants	23.16	6.6	23.3	73	31.98	3.7	20.0	38.1
Mechanical engineers	25.34	2.2	40.4	74	31.93	1.9	40.8	26.0
Supervisors, police and detectives	22.99	3.0	40.2	75	31.73	2.7	40.2	38.0
Dental hygienists	19.97	8.8	38.6	76	31.57	4.1	33.8	58.1
Administrators and officials, public administration	24.89	2.6	39.7	77	31.52	2.9	39.6	26.6
Professional occupations, n.e.c.	23.39	3.7	39.7	78	31.43	7.4	40.0	34.4
Psychologists	23.14	4.9	38.2	79	31.02	5.7	38.0	34.1
Managers, service organizations, n.e.c.	24.55	5.0	40.1	80	30.84	7.9	39.0	25.6

Footnotes:

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NOTE: n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified

Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Computer programmers	20.51	1.7	39.9	81	30.82	3.2	40.5	50.3
Management analysts	23.63	3.6	40.1	82	30.70	5.2	40.0	29.9
Architects	23.94	6.8	40.6	83	30.22	7.1	41.4	26.2
Physical scientists, n.e.c.	26.31	3.0	39.9	84	29.53	7.0	39.8	12.2
Athletes	32.15	34.4	40.9	85	29.51	15.4	39.1	-8.2
Speech therapists	22.35	3.0	38.0	86	29.47	5.9	38.0	31.9
Physical therapists	23.60	2.5	39.6	87	29.34	3.3	39.4	24.3
Social scientists, n.e.c.	13.30	15.9	39.3	88	28.99	13.1	38.9	118.0
Agricultural and food scientists	21.49	5.3	40.7	89	28.89	7.2	39.6	34.4
Biological and life scientists	21.00	6.3	40.4	90	28.87	16.3	39.3	37.5
Statisticians	24.22	5.5	37.6	91	28.43	8.6	39.2	17.4
Librarians	20.95	3.4	38.2	92	28.37	3.1	38.1	35.4
Vocational and educational counselors	23.36	4.3	37.9	93	28.35	6.4	37.6	21.4
Power plant operators	21.32	2.9	40.0	94	28.18	3.8	40.0	32.2
Locomotive operating occupations	22.51	8.9	40.8	95	28.07	18.6	42.4	24.7
Medical scientists	21.31	6.0	39.8	96	28.01	11.0	39.3	31.4
Registered nurses	20.01	0.7	39.0	97	27.90	1.1	38.8	39.4
Supervisors, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	21.16	9.6	40.2	98	27.59	7.5	40.0	30.4
Supervisors, firefighters and fire prevention occupations	19.53	3.3	49.0	99	27.52	4.7	49.4	40.9
Underwriters	23.28	10.7	39.5	100	27.41	5.7	39.0	17.7
Aircraft engine mechanics	21.07	4.0	40.0	101	27.34	8.7	40.2	29.8
Buyers, wholesale and retail trade, except farm products	23.12	7.5	40.9	102	27.16	3.8	40.4	17.5
Sales representatives, mining, manufacturing, and wholesale	23.58	3.3	41.1	103	27.09	3.5	40.4	14.9
Urban planners	20.59	4.5	39.6	104	26.93	4.6	39.3	30.8
Electrical power installers and repairers	21.02	2.7	40.0	105	26.54	3.4	40.0	26.3
Brickmasons and stonemasons	15.52	6.3	40.0	106	26.43	9.0	39.9	70.3

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Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Management related occupations, n.e.c.	21.43	1.1	39.8	107	26.11	2.5	40.0	21.8
Purchasing agents and buyers, n.e.c.	20.07	4.0	40.0	108	26.05	5.9	40.4	29.8
Editors and reporters	22.21	5.0	39.4	109	25.97	7.5	39.2	16.9
Occupational therapists	21.33	5.1	39.2	110	25.96	3.7	39.4	21.7
Railroad conductors and yardmasters	23.43	7.3	40.5	111	25.82	22.3	43.6	10.2
Electricians	18.31	2.0	40.0	112	25.79	3.1	39.8	40.9
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	20.02	1.6	40.0	113	25.52	3.8	39.8	27.5
Accountants and auditors	19.73	2.5	39.8	114	25.50	2.0	40.0	29.2
Sales, other business services	20.69	8.5	40.0	115	25.32	6.2	40.3	22.4
Telephone line installers and repairers	18.38	4.3	40.0	116	25.11	4.8	40.0	36.6
Police and detectives, public service	18.79	1.5	40.0	117	25.05	1.0	40.0	33.3
Drillers, oil well	16.58	2.3	41.3	118	25.02	17.8	47.4	50.9
Public relations specialists	20.16	5.3	39.9	119	24.98	6.3	39.7	23.9
Supervisors, mechanics and repairers	21.58	1.9	40.6	120	24.81	2.7	40.8	15.0
Aircraft mechanics, except engine	17.93	5.0	40.1	121	24.77	4.0	40.0	38.1
Archivists and curators	18.11	9.2	39.0	122	24.74	12.3	37.3	36.6
Construction inspectors	19.61	3.9	40.1	123	24.60	5.0	39.6	25.4
Engineering technicians, n.e.c.	18.11	1.8	39.8	124	24.47	4.0	40.1	35.1
Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	18.76	3.0	40.0	125	24.46	7.0	39.9	30.4
Carpet installers	21.21	7.8	38.8	126	24.45	12.9	40.0	15.3
Supervisors, extractive occupations	22.14	6.0	42.3	127	24.40	19.4	41.3	10.2
Supervisors, carpenters and related workers	20.79	5.5	40.5	128	24.28	6.1	40.4	16.8
Structural metal workers	15.97	7.8	40.0	129	24.22	12.4	40.0	51.7

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Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Industrial engineering technicians	16.31	6.2	40.2	130	24.21	5.6	40.1	48.4
Radiological technicians	16.21	1.4	39.6	131	24.11	2.6	39.4	48.7
Sheet metal duct installers	16.67	10.2	39.0	132	24.07	12.8	40.0	44.4
Supervisors, agriculture-related workers	16.53	5.7	40.2	133	24.03	6.4	40.8	45.4
Telephone installers and repairers	17.54	4.1	40.0	134	23.95	3.4	40.0	36.5
Tool and die makers	18.53	2.3	40.2	135	23.94	2.0	40.0	29.2
Electrical and electronic technicians	17.76	1.8	40.1	136	23.89	12.0	40.3	34.5
Miscellaneous plant and system operators, n.e.c.	20.23	2.2	40.0	137	23.86	4.7	39.5	17.9
Stationary engineers	17.65	3.8	39.8	138	23.71	4.4	39.7	34.3
Supervisors, painters, paperhangers, and plasterers	17.98	3.7	40.0	139	23.55	7.7	40.9	31.0
Tool programmers, numerical control	17.16	6.6	40.2	140	23.35	7.4	40.0	36.1
Precision inspectors, testers, and related workers, n.e.c.	18.61	8.7	40.0	141	23.35	10.4	40.0	25.5
Business and promotional agents	18.58	7.8	39.6	142	23.25	5.5	39.4	25.1
Inspectors and compliance officers, except construction	18.73	3.2	39.4	143	23.23	4.0	40.0	24.0
Insurance sales occupations	23.26	8.7	39.4	144	23.10	8.5	39.7	-0.7
Supervisors, financial records processing	17.47	1.9	39.7	145	23.09	8.3	39.9	32.2
Purchasing agents and buyers, farm products	19.68	4.8	39.9	146	23.08	15.3	39.7	17.3
Mechanical engineering technicians	18.93	3.1	40.5	147	22.78	4.3	40.2	20.3
Respiratory therapists	16.97	1.5	39.3	148	22.76	2.3	39.1	34.1
Supervisors, material moving equipment	18.78	5.9	41.3	149	22.69	3.4	40.1	20.8
Rail vehicle operators, n.e.c.	19.70	1.9	40.0	150	22.52	3.9	40.0	14.3
Legal assistants	16.29	2.7	39.6	151	22.50	3.7	38.8	38.1

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Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Millwrights	18.43	5.9	40.1	152	22.30	6.3	40.0	21.0
Supervisors, construction trades, n.e.c.	17.89	3.7	40.5	153	22.25	5.0	40.4	24.4
Supervisors, production occupations	18.41	2.0	40.7	154	22.24	2.0	40.5	20.8
Managers, properties and real estate	25.88	8.6	40.6	155	22.14	4.1	39.8	-14.5
Real estate sales occupations	34.36	21.7	40.7	156	22.06	14.0	40.1	-35.8
Electronic repairers, communications and industrial equipment	16.59	3.2	39.9	157	21.99	2.7	40.1	32.5
Chemical technicians	17.20	2.5	39.9	158	21.98	6.1	39.7	27.8
Drafters	16.62	2.2	40.1	159	21.93	2.7	40.1	31.9
Sales workers, motor vehicles and boats	16.92	3.6	44.2	160	21.91	6.3	44.0	29.5
Chief communications operators	16.65	6.3	40.5	161	21.68	3.2	39.3	30.2
Designers	20.84	4.6	40.4	162	21.65	3.6	39.6	3.9
Supervisors, computer equipment operators	20.73	4.7	39.6	163	21.61	2.3	39.6	4.2
Marine engineers	11.95	21.5	57.3	164	21.48	20.4	42.6	79.7
Patternmakers and modelmakers, metal	18.78	6.7	40.0	165	21.41	8.9	40.0	14.0
Industrial machinery repairers	16.06	1.7	40.0	166	21.33	2.1	39.9	32.8
Science technicians, n.e.c.	17.15	4.8	39.7	167	21.28	10.1	39.8	24.1
Dietitians	16.04	2.2	39.6	168	21.28	4.3	39.7	32.7
Forestry and conservation scientists	17.14	6.2	40.2	169	21.27	10.0	40.0	24.1
Mechanical controls and valve repairers	17.65	4.2	39.9	170	21.24	5.7	40.0	20.3
Managers, food servicing and lodging establishments	16.96	3.2	43.2	171	21.17	7.5	44.1	24.8
Supervisors, brickmasons, stonemasons, and tilers	17.34	11.7	39.8	172	21.09	9.7	40.0	21.6
Operating engineers	14.94	6.9	40.1	173	20.97	8.1	39.2	40.4
Adjusters and calibrators	11.74	13.0	40.0	174	20.79	11.0	36.3	77.1

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	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Data processing equipment repairers	14.99	3.7	39.8	175	20.78	12.4	39.5	38.6
Precision assemblers, metal	15.51	3.0	40.1	176	20.72	6.1	40.0	33.6
Technical and related occupations, n.e.c.	17.51	2.8	39.8	177	20.62	4.9	39.8	17.8
Supervisors, distribution, scheduling, and adjusting clerks	16.91	3.1	40.5	178	20.61	4.3	40.5	21.9
Advertising and related sales occupations	18.67	9.2	40.3	179	20.61	10.5	39.4	10.4
Supervisors, sales occupations	18.40	2.3	41.3	180	20.60	3.6	41.5	12.0
Supervisors, general office	15.94	1.5	39.7	181	20.59	2.3	39.5	29.2
Inspectors, testers, and graders	15.79	2.5	40.4	182	20.37	4.2	40.3	29.0
Supervisors, guards	15.39	7.0	39.4	183	20.20	8.7	39.5	31.3
Supervisors, handlers, equipment cleaners, laborers, n.e.c.	14.15	2.4	40.4	184	20.01	5.1	41.1	41.4
Sheriffs, bailiffs, and other law enforcement officers	15.52	2.5	39.8	185	20.01	2.4	39.8	28.9
Machinists	15.59	3.7	40.2	186	19.93	2.0	40.0	27.8
Street and door-to-door sales workers	21.01	25.8	38.3	187	19.92	18.3	38.5	-5.2
Prekindergarten and kindergarten teachers	19.78	4.0	37.3	188	19.89	4.9	38.3	0.6
Carpenters	16.39	2.5	39.8	189	19.73	4.5	39.9	20.4
Surveying and mapping technicians	15.66	5.6	39.7	190	19.71	9.2	39.7	25.9
Firefighting occupations	14.49	2.3	48.6	191	19.65	2.4	48.2	35.6
Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators	14.54	2.9	39.2	192	19.62	3.5	39.0	34.9
Separating, filtering, and clarifying machine operators	15.26	3.5	39.9	193	19.55	5.4	39.9	28.1
Fire inspection and fire prevention occupations	17.63	5.4	41.2	194	19.51	11.4	40.9	10.7
Ship captains and mates, except fishing boats	16.21	7.1	53.2	195	19.47	14.7	49.6	20.1

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	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Heavy equipment mechanics	16.25	3.3	40.1	196	19.47	2.8	40.0	19.8
Boilermakers	17.73	7.8	40.0	197	19.47	9.9	39.8	9.8
Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics	15.04	2.6	40.2	198	19.43	2.6	40.2	29.2
Water and sewer treatment plant operators	15.14	2.9	40.0	199	19.27	2.7	40.0	27.3
Social workers	15.40	1.5	39.1	200	19.11	1.9	39.0	24.1
Automobile mechanics	16.62	3.2	40.6	201	18.94	3.1	40.4	14.0
Insulation workers	12.91	5.8	37.0	202	18.91	8.8	40.0	46.5
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	14.95	1.4	39.5	203	18.87	2.6	39.7	26.2
Production coordinators	14.27	1.7	40.0	204	18.79	3.7	40.1	31.7
Religious workers, n.e.c.	20.89	4.2	39.8	205	18.74	15.5	37.9	-10.3
Supervisors, motor vehicle operators	15.13	6.5	41.2	206	18.71	5.8	40.8	23.7
Painters, sculptors, craft artists, and artist printmakers	18.07	15.4	40.1	207	18.69	5.3	39.4	3.4
Patternmakers, layout workers, and cutters	16.15	15.2	38.5	208	18.63	11.4	40.0	15.4
Mining machine operators	18.27	5.6	40.0	209	18.57	9.3	40.0	1.6
Heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics	15.57	2.3	40.0	210	18.49	3.1	40.0	18.8
Concrete and terrazzo finishers	13.36	7.5	40.1	211	18.47	6.8	40.0	38.2
Layout workers	14.66	5.6	40.0	212	18.46	16.0	40.0	25.9
Stenographers	13.95	4.0	39.0	213	18.36	5.2	38.3	31.6
Biological technicians	15.19	4.5	39.9	214	18.11	4.0	39.8	19.2
Drywall installers	14.09	3.3	40.3	215	17.98	6.9	39.9	27.6
Tool and die maker apprentices	14.46	6.7	39.9	216	17.92	7.4	40.0	23.9
Proofreaders	12.28	13.7	39.8	217	17.88	15.7	40.0	45.6
Glaziers	16.72	6.5	38.5	218	17.85	9.1	40.0	6.8
Sheet metal workers	15.40	4.9	40.0	219	17.80	10.1	39.0	15.6
Therapists, n.e.c.	15.52	2.3	39.3	220	17.72	4.0	39.5	14.2
Correctional institution officers	13.78	4.0	39.9	221	17.64	6.3	39.8	28.0
Tailors	10.58	6.1	39.7	222	17.63	20.4	37.9	66.6

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	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Construction trades, n.e.c.	14.55	7.1	39.8	223	17.57	5.5	39.8	20.8
Office machine repairers	14.57	4.8	39.5	224	17.54	8.5	40.0	20.4
Licensed practical nurses	12.48	1.0	39.3	225	17.47	1.6	39.0	40.0
Lathe and turning-machine operators	12.26	4.4	39.9	226	16.12	6.2	40.0	31.5
Supervisors, cleaning and building service workers	10.87	10.1	40.0	227	17.33	4.5	39.7	59.4
Meter readers	14.20	3.8	40.0	228	17.31	5.2	40.0	21.9
Carpenter apprentices	12.05	4.7	40.0	229	17.18	13.6	40.0	42.6
Demonstrators, promoters, and models, sales	11.73	6.4	39.1	230	17.17	15.1	39.9	46.4
Photographers	16.00	7.3	40.1	231	17.14	11.5	40.4	7.1
Excavating and loading machine operators	13.68	5.2	40.1	232	17.02	4.7	39.9	24.4
Printing press operators	14.68	3.2	39.5	233	16.99	2.8	39.5	15.7
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	15.28	1.6	39.9	234	16.90	2.5	39.9	10.6
Payroll and timekeeping clerks	12.44	2.0	39.7	235	16.87	2.0	39.7	35.6
Numerical control machine operators	12.62	3.5	40.3	236	16.82	3.1	40.2	33.3
Miscellaneous material moving equipment operators, n.e.c.	14.18	3.6	39.9	237	16.82	5.6	40.0	18.6
Washing, cleaning, and pickling machine operators	10.69	7.7	40.8	238	16.81	22.6	40.0	57.2
Secretaries	12.92	0.9	39.2	239	16.81	1.0	39.0	30.1
Hand engraving and printing	8.13	7.6	40.1	240	16.75	26.4	38.2	106.0
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	13.13	1.6	39.8	241	16.69	1.8	39.7	27.1
Photoengravers and lithographers	14.62	3.5	39.3	242	16.66	6.3	39.4	14.0
Crane and tower operators	15.68	3.5	40.3	243	16.66	6.2	40.0	6.2
Rolling machine operators	13.06	8.9	40.2	244	16.65	11.4	39.9	27.5
Personnel clerks, except payroll and timekeeping clerks	12.25	2.2	39.5	245	16.57	2.3	39.7	35.3
Broadcast equipment operators	18.33	11.9	39.5	246	16.50	11.9	39.0	-10.0
Dispatchers	12.59	3.4	40.2	247	16.48	4.9	40.3	30.9

Footnotes:

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NOTE: n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified

Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Computer operators	13.28	2.4	39.5	248	16.44	3.6	39.8	23.8
Artists, performers, and related workers, n.e.c.	15.43	16.2	37.6	249	16.43	18.2	40.7	6.5
Automobile body and related repairers	15.25	4.6	40.5	250	16.34	4.5	40.3	7.1
Painters, construction and maintenance	14.01	5.8	39.8	251	16.29	3.7	39.8	16.3
Paving, surfacing, and tamping equipment operators	11.53	18.9	40.1	252	16.25	12.3	41.1	40.9
Household appliance and power tool repairers	16.59	5.3	40.0	253	16.22	5.8	40.4	-2.2
Roofers	12.54	9.9	34.9	254	16.21	7.5	39.6	29.3
Precision grinders, filers, and tool sharpeners	15.05	8.1	40.3	255	16.20	9.1	39.8	7.6
Machinery maintenance	12.73	3.4	40.0	256	16.14	4.7	39.8	26.8
Lathe and turning-machine set-up operators	13.42	3.7	40.0	257	17.41	3.7	40.0	29.7
Grader, dozer, and scraper operators	12.97	6.7	40.0	258	16.07	5.2	39.9	23.9
Expeditors	12.82	3.8	40.0	259	16.07	4.8	39.5	25.4
Heat treating equipment operators	13.26	2.9	40.0	260	15.95	5.2	40.0	20.3
Investigators and adjusters, except insurance	11.97	2.8	39.7	261	15.94	3.8	39.8	33.2
Welders and cutters	13.71	1.7	40.1	262	15.90	2.4	39.8	16.0
Plasterers	15.24	24.8	40.0	263	15.88	5.8	39.3	4.2
Driver-sales workers	13.69	4.4	41.7	264	15.76	6.1	40.6	15.1
Clergy	11.51	19.9	48.1	265	15.74	13.2	48.8	36.8
Sales support occupations, n.e.c.	11.99	6.2	40.0	266	15.73	8.0	39.5	31.2
Typesetters and compositors	13.11	6.1	39.3	267	15.71	5.8	39.6	19.8
Health record technologists and technicians	11.57	3.5	39.1	268	15.68	4.5	39.2	35.5
Bus drivers	12.99	2.3	36.7	269	15.67	4.3	37.2	20.6
Fabricating machine operators, n.e.c.	12.62	2.4	40.0	270	15.65	4.0	39.9	24.0

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Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Mixing and blending machine operators	12.57	2.6	40.1	271	15.57	4.1	39.8	23.9
Crushing and grinding machine operators	11.39	5.9	40.0	272	15.57	11.9	39.9	36.7
Eligibility clerks, social welfare	12.66	1.9	39.0	273	15.53	2.9	39.0	22.7
Painting and paint spraying machine operators	11.53	2.8	40.2	274	15.49	4.4	40.1	34.3
Bookbinders	13.39	3.9	39.4	275	15.45	10.5	39.6	15.4
Small engine repairers	12.63	7.4	39.9	276	15.44	5.6	40.0	22.2
Dental assistants	10.10	4.5	39.9	277	15.41	3.5	35.5	52.6
Truck drivers	14.07	1.6	41.9	278	15.37	2.4	42.1	9.2
Transportation ticket and reservation agents	11.88	7.6	39.8	279	15.34	3.6	39.6	29.1
Furnace, kiln, and oven operators, except food	12.98	5.5	40.0	280	15.33	6.1	39.8	18.1
Dental laboratory and medical appliance technicians	13.39	6.4	39.4	281	15.25	2.7	39.9	13.9
Weighers, measurers, checkers, and samplers	12.77	6.1	40.0	282	15.24	8.0	40.0	19.3
Typists	11.62	1.9	38.9	283	15.24	2.5	38.9	31.2
Sales workers, furniture and home furnishings	12.53	7.1	39.4	284	15.24	6.1	41.3	21.6
Production testers	11.45	4.2	40.1	285	15.19	5.0	39.8	32.7
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	11.46	1.0	39.5	286	15.06	1.5	39.4	31.4
Assemblers	11.26	2.5	40.0	287	15.06	2.0	39.9	33.7
Upholsters	13.46	5.3	39.5	288	15.05	11.5	40.0	11.8
Administrative support occupations, n.e.c.	11.75	1.7	39.5	289	15.05	1.3	39.3	28.1
Recreation workers	12.74	4.3	39.4	290	15.01	6.1	39.8	17.8
Sales workers, parts	14.71	6.1	40.9	291	14.83	2.9	40.5	0.8
Order clerks	11.71	1.7	39.7	292	14.74	3.1	39.9	25.9
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	11.63	2.4	39.9	293	14.74	2.4	39.8	26.7
Locksmiths and safe repairers	16.97	5.3	40.0	294	14.73	9.9	41.2	-13.2

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Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Statistical clerks	11.55	4.5	39.3	295	14.72	5.3	39.5	27.4
Electrician apprentices	12.38	5.2	40.2	296	14.69	3.5	39.8	18.7
Plumber, pipefitter, and steamfitter apprentices	13.33	4.6	40.2	297	14.64	4.4	40.0	9.8
Construction laborers	10.74	4.6	40.0	298	14.57	4.4	39.8	35.7
Bill and account collectors	10.51	5.7	39.9	299	14.51	7.5	39.3	38.1
Metal plating machine operators	11.66	3.7	40.6	300	14.49	7.8	39.8	24.3
Packaging and filling machine operators	10.10	4.9	40.0	301	14.43	4.0	39.9	42.9
Miscellaneous precision workers, n.e.c.	14.82	6.4	39.9	302	14.26	12.4	39.9	-3.8
Drilling and boring machine operators	11.55	9.6	40.0	303	14.25	8.1	39.9	23.4
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators	11.72	1.8	40.0	304	14.23	1.8	39.9	21.4
Hand molders and shapers, except jewelers	14.22	11.2	40.1	305	14.21	14.3	40.0	-0.1
Pest control occupations	10.99	8.5	43.9	306	14.13	9.3	39.9	28.6
Records clerks, n.e.c.	10.76	1.2	39.4	307	14.12	2.7	39.4	31.2
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners	10.69	3.1	40.1	308	14.12	4.7	39.8	32.1
Slicing and cutting machine operators	11.79	5.0	40.0	309	14.08	2.7	39.6	19.4
Roasting and baking machine operators, food	11.08	9.3	40.0	310	14.04	7.8	40.0	26.7
Punching and stamping press operators	11.82	3.3	40.1	311	14.04	6.7	39.9	18.8
Peripheral equipment operators	10.48	5.4	39.4	312	14.02	7.8	39.0	33.8
Supervisors, food preparation and service	11.08	2.0	40.5	313	14.00	2.7	41.8	26.4
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	9.38	2.2	40.0	314	13.99	3.7	39.9	49.1
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks	11.45	3.1	39.9	315	13.97	2.1	39.9	22.0
Automobile mechanic apprentices	10.11	7.6	39.6	316	13.91	9.4	40.6	37.6

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Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Guides	10.08	14.0	39.6	317	13.90	6.0	38.7	37.9
Correspondence clerks	10.87	5.5	39.7	318	13.86	3.8	40.0	27.5
Information clerks, n.e.c.	11.13	3.5	39.2	319	13.84	2.7	39.6	24.3
Extruding and forming machine operators	10.76	3.2	39.8	320	13.83	3.8	39.6	28.5
Billing, posting, and calculating machine operators	9.07	5.8	39.5	321	13.82	5.9	38.9	52.4
Protective service occupations, n.e.c.	12.4	5.4	39.5	322	13.79	6.8	39.1	11.2
Production samplers and weighers	12.51	7.2	40.3	323	13.78	8.2	40.0	10.2
General office clerks	11.02	1.0	39.3	324	13.77	1.1	39.1	25.0
Sales workers, hardware and building supplies	11.06	6.7	40.1	325	13.70	5.6	40.7	23.9
Shaping and joining machine operators	9.09	6.8	39.9	326	13.69	2.8	40.0	50.6
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators	11.01	3.0	40.1	327	13.60	2.7	40.0	23.5
Molding and casting machine operators	9.91	3.0	39.8	328	13.46	3.6	39.8	35.8
Library clerks	10.55	2.8	37.9	329	13.43	3.2	38.0	27.3
Sales workers, other commodities	11.63	5.4	39.2	330	13.42	3.2	39.3	15.4
Cost and rate clerks	11.94	6.0	39.3	331	13.39	9.3	40.3	12.1
Billing clerks	10.77	1.6	39.7	332	13.39	2.0	39.5	24.3
Stock and inventory clerks	11.09	1.5	39.8	333	13.37	2.0	39.7	20.6
Food batchmakers	9.00	6.9	40.0	334	13.27	4.9	39.8	47.4
Cabinet makers and bench carpenters	10.81	6.8	40.0	335	13.14	6.9	39.9	21.6
Sales workers, apparel	9.13	4.6	38.4	336	13.10	14.4	37.5	43.5
Classified ad clerks	9.48	15.4	38.5	337	13.10	5.8	38.8	38.2
Folding machine operators	10.95	4.6	39.6	338	13.02	16.8	38.8	18.9
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c.	10.82	2.9	39.9	339	12.94	2.4	39.8	19.6
Forging machine operators	11.68	4.3	39.9	340	12.93	10.3	40.0	10.7

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Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Miscellaneous hand working occupations, n.e.c.	9.62	3.3	39.9	341	12.80	5.8	39.6	33.1
Telephone operators	11.76	4.0	38.9	342	12.78	5.5	39.1	8.7
Communications equipment operators, n.e.c.	10.19	4.5	39.3	343	12.75	21.7	39.7	25.1
Helpers, construction trades	9.61	2.7	40.1	344	12.62	3.6	39.9	31.3
Winding and twisting machine operators	10.59	6.7	40.2	345	12.61	7.1	39.6	19.1
Motor transportation occupations, n.e.c.	9.37	6.0	39.3	346	12.58	5.3	39.3	34.3
Interviewers	9.60	2.3	38.9	347	12.58	4.4	37.7	31.0
Mail preparing and paper handling machine operators	9.07	5.9	39.5	348	12.35	6.6	39.7	36.2
Cementing and gluing machine operators	9.86	8.8	40.0	349	12.35	8.1	40.0	25.3
Butchers and meat cutters	10.16	4.7	39.9	350	12.35	3.8	39.7	21.6
Hand inspectors, n.e.c.	9.59	8.1	40.0	351	12.33	8.1	39.9	28.6
Duplicating machine operators	9.51	4.7	39.1	352	12.33	8.8	39.9	29.7
Bakers	9.70	4.1	39.3	353	12.29	5.6	39.2	26.7
Sailors and deckhands	9.18	7.3	48.7	354	12.26	7.4	45.6	33.6
Data entry keyers	9.96	1.6	39.5	355	12.24	1.5	39.1	22.9
Knitting, looping, taping, and weaving machine operators	9.15	3.1	40.3	356	12.23	5.8	40.0	33.7
Health aides, except nursing	9.66	1.3	39.0	357	12.22	2.6	39.2	26.5
Hand painting, coating, and decorating	10.08	6.3	40.0	358	12.21	4.6	39.7	21.1
Wood lathe, routing, and planing machine operators	9.77	8.3	40.0	359	12.20	7.1	40.0	24.9
Solderers and brazers	8.54	8.2	40.0	360	12.17	9.0	40.0	42.5
Garbage collectors	13.19	11.2	39.7	361	12.17	13.8	44.7	-7.7
Helpers, mechanics and repairers	11.01	4.9	40.0	362	12.14	4.1	40.0	10.3
Furniture and wood finishers	11.00	2.1	40.0	363	12.13	7.0	40.0	10.3
Hoist and winch operators	11.65	7.9	40.8	364	12.12	19.6	39.9	4.0
Animal caretakers, except farm	9.91	8.0	39.6	365	12.11	10.6	39.5	22.2

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Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm	9.24	4.4	39.8	366	12.10	3.5	39.6	31.0
Mail clerks, except postal service	9.12	3.7	39.2	367	12.07	6.9	39.2	32.3
Receptionists	9.16	1.1	39.6	368	12.06	1.7	39.4	31.7
Legislators	12.73	12.7	33.7	369	11.99	43.7	38.1	-5.8
Sales workers, radio, tv, hi-fi, and appliances	11.46	6.4	40.2	370	11.93	8.3	39.3	4.1
Graders and sorters, except agricultural	8.66	8.3	40.2	371	11.91	6.2	40.0	37.5
Service occupations, n.e.c.	7.30	10.5	39.1	372	11.85	5.0	39.2	62.3
Hand cutting and trimming	8.92	5.8	40.0	373	11.81	10.8	40.0	32.4
Janitors and cleaners	9.16	1.2	39.5	374	11.80	2.5	39.6	28.8
Substitute teachers	10.21	7.6	31.6	375	11.76	10.1	32.7	15.2
Hand molding, casting, and forming occupations	12.06	7.1	40.0	376	11.73	8.3	40.0	-2.7
Compressing and compacting machine operators	10.20	3.4	40.7	377	11.65	8.0	39.9	14.2
Welfare service aides	8.09	3.8	38.8	378	11.59	3.0	39.3	43.3
Teachers' aides	8.82	1.6	35.7	379	11.56	1.9	35.7	31.1
Photographic process machine operators	10.82	5.0	40.0	380	11.47	7.8	39.5	6.0
Production helpers	9.69	3.6	39.9	381	11.45	2.9	39.7	18.2
Nursery workers	6.74	3.4	40.1	382	11.43	8.8	39.9	69.6
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	9.19	1.4	39.8	383	11.43	2.4	39.9	24.4
Stock handlers and baggers	9.66	1.5	39.6	384	11.27	1.9	39.4	16.7
Office machine operators, n.e.c.	8.64	6.8	39.4	385	11.22	3.3	40.0	29.9
Bank tellers	8.79	2.2	39.5	386	11.20	1.5	39.6	27.4
Sewing machine operators	8.95	5.5	40.0	387	11.11	4.9	39.9	24.1
File clerks	8.74	2.2	39.3	388	11.08	2.7	39.5	26.8
Textile cutting machine operators	9.37	8.2	40.3	389	10.92	4.7	38.7	16.5
Machine feeders and offbearers	9.19	2.9	39.8	390	10.89	2.5	39.8	18.5
Sales workers, shoes	11.45	11.1	39.2	391	10.88	12.3	37.3	-5.0

Footnotes:

- (1) Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.
- (2) Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment.
- (3) The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate. For more information about RSEs, see *National Compensation Survey: Occupational Wages in the United States, June 2005*, Bulletin 2581 (Bureau of Labor Statistics, August 2006), Appendix A, "Technical Note," pp. 154-55.

NOTE: n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified

Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants	8.23	0.9	38.7	392	10.77	1.2	38.7	30.9
Sales counter clerks	8.95	3.1	39.8	393	10.57	5.3	39.5	18.1
Textile sewing machine operators	7.17	4.0	39.8	394	10.53	9.2	39.4	46.9
Guards and police, except public service	8.36	2.3	39.4	395	10.51	2.4	39.4	25.7
Nailing and tacking machine operators	9.13	2.4	40.0	396	10.46	10.9	39.0	14.6
Cooks	8.55	1.1	38.3	397	10.37	1.4	38.7	21.3
Messengers	11.19	9.7	39.1	398	10.09	10.5	39.0	-9.8
Vehicle washers and equipment cleaners	8.62	4.5	40.1	399	10.05	3.8	40.0	16.6
Inspectors, agricultural products	8.11	9.2	39.8	400	10.05	15.9	39.7	23.9
Laundering and dry cleaning machine operators	7.21	1.6	39.5	401	9.98	5.6	39.3	38.4
Hand packers and packagers	8.33	1.9	39.8	402	9.79	5.5	39.6	17.5
Child care workers, n.e.c.	8.70	3.2	38.7	403	9.60	5.2	38.8	10.3
Cashiers	8.35	2.1	39.3	404	9.55	1.9	39.3	14.4
Pressing machine operators	7.10	3.7	39.7	405	9.46	5.4	38.8	33.2
Hotel clerks	8.01	3.4	39.2	406	9.24	1.9	39.2	15.4
Kitchen workers, food preparation	7.91	1.6	38.6	407	9.09	2.3	38.7	14.9
Garage and service station related occupations	9.34	10.6	38.9	408	9.08	3.6	40.1	-2.8
Early childhood teachers' assistants	8.01	2.5	37.2	409	9.06	4.0	38.3	13.1
Taxicab drivers and chauffeurs	8.42	5.7	39.9	410	8.96	8.2	39.1	6.4
Food preparation occupations, n.e.c.	6.87	3.4	38.4	411	8.82	1.8	37.9	28.4
Maids and housemen	7.13	2.0	38.6	412	8.80	3.2	38.9	23.4
Baggage porters and bellhops	6.38	6.2	39.5	413	7.86	5.5	38.5	23.2
Parking lot attendants	7.54	5.2	39.8	414	7.70	9.7	40.0	2.1

Footnotes:

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Occupation	1997 data (unranked)			2005 data (ranked)			Percent change 1997-2005	
	Hourly earnings		Mean weekly hours	2005 rank	Hourly earnings			Mean weekly hours
	Mean	Relative error(3)			Mean	Relative error(3)		
Attendants, amusement and recreation facilities	6.43	4.3	39.6	415	7.28	3.9	39.9	13.2
Bartenders	6.53	3.8	37.7	416	7.03	4.6	37.0	7.7
Waiters'/Waitresses' assistants	5.83	3.6	38.0	417	6.53	5.4	38.3	12.0
Waiters and waitresses	4.29	4.6	38.0	418	4.71	4.3	36.6	9.8

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