

News

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HIGHLIGHTS OF MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL, MN-WI NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY MAY 2003

Workers in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area averaged \$21.58 per hour during May 2003, according to a new survey released by the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Acting Regional Commissioner Jay Mousa reported that white-collar workers averaged \$25.35 per hour and accounted for 58 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$17.80 per hour and represented 23 percent of the workforce, while the remaining 19 percent worked in service occupations and earned \$11.75 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 511 firms representing 778,700 workers in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area, which is comprised of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Isanti, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright Counties in Minnesota; and Pierce and St. Croix Counties in Wisconsin. Eighty percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 86 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, registered nurses averaged \$28.90 per hour; computer programmers, \$25.19; and secretaries, \$16.83. Blue-collar occupations included industrial machinery repairers earning \$19.50 per hour; welders and cutters, \$16.91; and bus drivers, \$14.72. In the service occupations, public service police and detectives averaged \$25.30 per hour and janitors and cleaners, \$12.09.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area averaged \$23.30 per hour and part-timers earned \$11.61. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$20.33 per hour, while their non-union counterparts made \$15.30. Private industry workers in establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$18.59 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$24.76.

The NCS is part of a statistical program that integrates three previously separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgment, supervision received and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI National Compensation Survey, May 2003 (Bulletin 3120-49). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the BLS Information Office in Chicago by calling 312-353-1880. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm. Survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service by dialing (312) 353-1880, menu option 1. Up to five documents at a time may be selected and faxed to you within minutes, 24 hours a day.

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For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Chicago Information Office at (312) 353-1880 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. c.t

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Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI, May 2003

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$21.58	1.7	\$21.01	2.0	\$23.87	1.7
All excluding sales	21.44	2.0	20.78	2.6	23.88	1.7
White collar	25.35	2.4	25.30	3.0	25.50	2.1
White collar excluding sales	25.61	2.9	25.64	3.9	25.52	2.0
Professional specialty and technical	30.32	3.0	30.69	4.3	29.57	2.0
Professional specialty	30.21	2.2	29.70	3.3	31.09	2.3
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	32.74	6.1	33.58	5.7	—	—
Mechanical engineers	30.97	5.0	30.97	5.0	—	—
Engineers, n.e.c.	32.14	7.7	34.10	6.3	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	32.43	3.9	33.56	3.9	24.12	4.7
Computer systems analysts and scientists	32.12	3.8	33.27	3.7	24.12	4.7
Natural scientists	26.20	19.7	—	—	20.98	14.8
Health related	28.62	2.2	28.03	2.6	30.61	3.5
Registered nurses	28.90	1.5	27.96	1.5	32.01	1.8
Teachers, college and university	37.77	8.9	35.24	18.5	—	—
Art, drama, and music teachers	43.27	6.3	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university	31.25	3.6	19.82	11.8	33.24	2.7
Prekindergarten and kindergarten	24.14	13.5	—	—	—	—
Elementary school teachers	33.80	3.4	29.40	14.8	33.94	3.5
Secondary school teachers	33.94	2.0	—	—	33.49	2.7
Teachers, special education	33.40	2.3	—	—	33.40	2.3
Teachers, n.e.c.	27.89	9.3	—	—	—	—
Librarians, archivists, and curators	25.40	16.3	—	—	29.86	13.0
Librarians	28.99	12.5	—	—	29.86	13.0
Social scientists and urban planners	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	23.60	1.6	21.02	4.1	24.98	1.4
Social workers	23.65	1.7	21.02	4.1	25.13	2.1
Lawyers and judges	31.36	6.9	—	—	—	—
Lawyers	31.36	6.9	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	19.90	9.1	20.14	9.7	—	—
Technical	30.69	10.0	33.35	11.5	20.14	2.7
Licensed practical nurses	17.56	2.3	17.31	1.8	—	—
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	15.43	11.8	15.27	14.6	16.13	5.0
Engineering technicians, n.e.c.	22.89	4.7	—	—	—	—
Drafters	21.22	2.2	—	—	—	—
Computer programmers	25.19	2.3	—	—	—	—
Legal assistants	25.27	8.6	—	—	—	—
Technical and related, n.e.c.	18.09	3.2	—	—	—	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	32.53	4.2	32.55	5.0	32.39	7.0
Executives, administrators, and managers	41.11	5.0	41.36	5.8	39.89	5.3
Administrators and officials, public administration	30.72	16.2	—	—	30.72	16.2
Financial managers	42.48	11.4	42.51	11.5	—	—
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	34.79	8.2	34.79	8.2	—	—
Administrators, education and related fields	40.31	4.9	20.45	13.1	44.39	2.6
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	49.22	7.4	49.55	7.6	—	—
Management related	24.80	4.7	24.41	5.6	26.45	2.4
Accountants and auditors	27.39	10.8	28.11	11.1	22.38	.2
Other financial officers	24.80	11.9	—	—	—	—
Management analysts	30.38	8.5	30.52	9.4	—	—
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	21.10	9.6	20.86	9.7	—	—
Management related, n.e.c.	19.65	9.4	17.94	9.8	—	—
Sales	23.36	20.6	23.39	20.6	—	—
Supervisors, sales	26.50	10.2	26.50	10.2	—	—
Sales representatives, mining, manufacturing, and wholesale	25.68	2.3	25.68	2.3	—	—
Sales workers, other commodities	13.02	10.3	13.02	10.3	—	—
Cashiers	9.19	2.6	9.13	2.6	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	15.72	4.1	15.65	5.4	15.94	1.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI, May 2003 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
White collar —Continued						
Administrative support, including clerical —Continued						
Secretaries	\$16.83	1.9	\$16.78	3.4	\$16.89	1.6
Typists	15.24	11.1	—	—	13.75	4.3
Transportation ticket and reservation agents	16.85	6.0	16.85	6.0	—	—
Receptionists	13.24	5.3	13.04	6.4	—	—
Information clerks, n.e.c.	13.34	6.6	13.34	6.6	—	—
Order clerks	18.20	12.1	18.20	12.1	—	—
Library clerks	12.61	5.8	—	—	12.66	5.9
Records clerks, n.e.c.	14.81	7.6	14.72	7.9	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	16.18	10.6	15.84	12.2	—	—
Dispatchers	17.73	7.3	—	—	—	—
Production coordinators	16.41	13.7	16.41	13.7	—	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks	16.40	3.9	16.40	3.9	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks	16.08	5.2	—	—	—	—
Investigators and adjusters, except insurance	15.40	2.2	15.34	2.0	—	—
General office clerks	13.83	6.4	12.34	9.3	15.76	3.9
Teachers' aides	14.15	2.5	—	—	14.38	1.2
Administrative support, n.e.c.	16.12	9.4	16.18	10.8	15.75	9.5
Blue collar	17.80	1.8	17.50	1.9	20.77	2.8
Precision production, craft, and repair						
Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics	20.67	4.0	20.54	4.6	21.50	3.8
Heavy equipment mechanics	17.48	2.2	—	—	—	—
Industrial machinery repairers	20.50	1.6	—	—	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	19.50	3.5	19.50	3.5	—	—
Carpenters	19.73	9.6	19.73	9.6	—	—
Supervisors, production	22.04	9.9	21.57	17.2	—	—
Supervisors, production	25.33	4.6	25.33	4.6	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors						
Punching and stamping press operators	16.25	2.3	16.25	2.3	—	—
Printing press operators	15.01	12.4	15.01	12.4	—	—
Painting and paint spraying machine operators ...	20.03	6.0	20.03	6.0	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	18.87	17.1	18.87	17.1	—	—
Welders and cutters	11.35	6.7	11.32	6.7	—	—
Assemblers	16.91	3.9	16.91	3.9	—	—
Assemblers	16.42	5.1	16.42	5.1	—	—
Transportation and material moving						
Truck drivers	17.56	6.7	17.42	7.8	18.60	4.7
Bus drivers	20.85	7.5	21.06	7.5	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	14.72	1.0	12.75	5.1	18.68	3.9
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	16.21	3.3	16.21	3.3	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers						
Supervisors, handlers, equipment cleaners, and laborers, n.e.c.	14.57	3.7	13.78	3.1	21.02	5.4
Production helpers	20.55	9.0	—	—	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers	13.97	1.0	13.97	1.0	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c.	12.98	5.9	12.98	5.9	—	—
Hand packers and packagers	13.40	7.0	13.40	7.0	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	10.02	7.7	10.02	7.7	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	12.98	8.0	12.30	8.4	—	—
Service						
Protective service	11.75	4.9	9.62	1.9	18.81	5.8
Police and detectives, public service	21.63	7.5	—	—	22.11	7.4
Sheriffs, bailiffs, and other law enforcement officers	25.30	1.6	—	—	25.30	1.6
Correctional institution officers	21.37	5.6	—	—	21.37	5.6
Food service	18.40	18.7	—	—	18.40	18.7
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	8.52	2.1	8.37	2.2	11.88	4.1
Bartenders	6.13	5.6	6.13	5.6	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	6.90	13.2	6.90	13.2	—	—
Waiters/Waitresses' assistants	5.17	.7	5.17	.7	—	—
Waiters/Waitresses' assistants	8.62	12.0	8.62	12.0	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI, May 2003 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Service —Continued						
Food service—Continued						
Other food service	\$9.76	4.2	\$9.61	4.5	\$11.88	4.1
Cooks	12.53	5.7	12.42	5.8	—	—
Kitchen workers, food preparation	11.12	6.2	11.08	6.6	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c.	8.61	5.4	8.29	5.4	11.30	3.6
Health service	12.38	3.4	12.31	3.7	13.25	9.9
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	11.95	3.8	11.83	4.0	13.26	10.8
Cleaning and building service	11.83	2.9	10.53	2.5	15.62	5.1
Maids and housemen	10.00	5.1	10.02	5.2	—	—
Janitors and cleaners	12.09	2.8	10.56	2.6	15.63	5.1
Personal service	11.04	7.0	10.02	10.4	15.00	9.6
Attendants, amusement, and recreation facilities	8.68	.3	8.68	.3	—	—
Early childhood teachers' assistants	14.49	10.4	—	—	15.06	10.4

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 All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B in printed Bulletin 3120-49.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means "not elsewhere classified." Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately.

Table 2. Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² National Compensation Survey, Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI, May 2003

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$23.30	\$11.61	\$21.75	\$21.50	\$20.99	\$36.50
All excluding sales	22.89	12.07	22.11	21.09	21.30	30.47
White collar	26.33	15.20	25.37	25.34	24.52	45.49
White-collar excluding sales	25.97	19.73	26.40	25.32	25.36	—
Professional specialty and technical	30.93	24.00	32.89	29.07	29.72	—
Professional specialty	30.51	26.59	29.97	30.33	30.21	—
Technical	32.45	18.90	43.79	25.00	28.01	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	32.60	—	32.18	32.57	32.53	—
Sales	30.08	9.12	9.94	25.44	15.26	40.36
Administrative support, including clerical	15.93	12.18	16.33	15.47	15.72	—
Blue collar	18.66	10.93	20.33	15.30	17.61	20.98
Precision production, craft, and repair	20.67	—	22.36	17.73	20.80	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	16.74	10.03	20.01	14.89	16.25	—
Transportation and material moving	18.90	13.15	19.67	14.98	16.57	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	16.37	9.73	16.21	13.04	14.58	—
Service	14.18	8.93	15.31	9.16	11.72	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	1.8	3.1	1.8	2.4	1.7	13.6
All excluding sales	2.2	3.2	1.7	3.1	1.7	32.5
White collar	2.5	5.5	3.0	3.1	2.3	16.8
White-collar excluding sales	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.9	2.5	—
Professional specialty and technical	3.1	2.8	2.7	4.7	2.2	—
Professional specialty	2.3	2.7	1.9	3.5	2.2	—
Technical	10.7	5.0	17.3	16.6	4.6	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	4.3	—	9.2	4.6	4.2	—
Sales	22.0	4.4	4.5	21.8	7.0	30.7
Administrative support, including clerical	4.3	3.3	4.1	5.5	4.1	—
Blue collar	1.7	3.6	2.5	4.4	2.4	5.0
Precision production, craft, and repair	4.0	—	4.6	5.9	4.3	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	1.8	.7	4.7	5.3	2.3	—
Transportation and material moving	7.4	5.4	9.4	2.2	2.7	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	4.2	3.7	5.3	5.1	3.7	—
Service	6.5	1.7	6.1	1.9	5.0	—

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 A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B in printed Bulletin 3120-49.

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁶ 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.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. **Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN-WI, May 2003**

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
Mean					
All occupations	\$21.01	\$18.59	\$21.67	\$19.16	\$24.76
All excluding sales	20.78	18.39	21.44	19.41	23.73
White collar	25.30	23.67	25.67	22.97	28.09
White-collar excluding sales	25.64	24.09	26.00	24.80	26.87
Professional specialty and technical	30.69	24.60	31.55	27.22	34.27
Professional specialty	29.70	25.44	30.20	29.87	30.42
Technical	33.35	23.21	35.46	18.80	44.79
Executive, administrative, and managerial	32.55	31.09	33.07	34.35	32.06
Sales	23.39	21.10	23.87	17.45	44.01
Administrative support, including clerical	15.65	17.48	15.19	16.35	14.26
Blue collar	17.50	17.36	17.54	16.36	20.88
Precision production, craft, and repair	20.54	19.07	21.25	19.61	25.30
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	16.25	16.48	16.20	15.08	18.34
Transportation and material moving	17.42	17.49	17.42	16.85	19.51
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	13.78	12.87	13.97	13.31	17.81
Service	9.62	7.94	10.43	10.31	10.57
Relative error ⁴ (percent)					
All occupations	2.0	5.3	3.2	5.2	3.5
All excluding sales	2.6	5.6	3.4	5.4	4.2
White collar	3.0	6.2	4.1	6.0	6.0
White-collar excluding sales	3.9	6.6	5.0	5.7	6.9
Professional specialty and technical	4.3	7.0	4.3	6.8	5.6
Professional specialty	3.3	10.7	3.6	6.7	2.4
Technical	11.5	4.3	13.0	5.6	15.6
Executive, administrative, and managerial	5.0	13.7	5.7	9.4	5.9
Sales	20.6	19.6	24.2	13.8	40.4
Administrative support, including clerical	5.4	5.4	5.8	7.0	5.0
Blue collar	1.9	6.2	2.6	3.1	8.3
Precision production, craft, and repair	4.6	7.2	6.5	3.2	11.6
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	2.3	10.4	4.9	6.5	6.8
Transportation and material moving	7.8	1.4	8.4	9.3	5.3
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	3.1	8.9	3.7	4.1	5.0
Service	1.9	3.7	3.3	5.7	5.1

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 A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy. See appendix B for more information.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.