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## USUAL WEEKLY EARNINGS OF WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS THIRD QUARTER 2012

**Median weekly earnings** of the nation's 103.6 million full-time wage and salary workers were \$758 in the third quarter of 2012 (not seasonally adjusted), the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. This was 0.7 percent higher than a year earlier, compared with a gain of 1.7 percent in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) over the same period.

Data on usual weekly earnings are collected as part of the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample survey of households in which respondents are asked, among other things, how much each wage and salary worker usually earns. (See the Technical Note.) Data shown in this release are not seasonally adjusted unless otherwise specified. Highlights from the third-quarter data are:

- **Seasonally adjusted median weekly earnings** were \$765 in the third quarter of 2012, little changed from the previous quarter (\$773). (See table 1.)
- On a not seasonally adjusted basis, **median weekly earnings** were \$758 in the third quarter of 2012. **Women** who usually worked full time had median weekly earnings of \$685, or 82.7 percent of the \$828 median for **men**. (See table 2.)
- The **female-to-male earnings ratio** varied by race and ethnicity. White women earned 83.4 percent as much as their male counterparts, compared with black (93.2 percent), Hispanic (87.5 percent), and Asian women (73.1 percent). (See table 2.)
- Among the major **race and ethnicity groups**, median weekly earnings for black men working at full-time jobs were \$633 per week, or 74.1 percent of the median for white men (\$854). The difference was less among women, as black women's median earnings (\$590) were 82.9 percent of those for white women (\$712). Overall, median earnings of Hispanics who worked full time (\$556) were lower than those of blacks (\$606), whites (\$780), and Asians (\$915). (See table 2.)
- Usual weekly earnings of full-time workers varied by **age**. Among men, those age 45 to 54 and 55 to 64 had the highest median weekly earnings, \$976 and \$980, respectively. Usual weekly earnings were highest for women age 35 to 64; weekly earnings were \$740 for women age 35 to 44, \$754 for women age 45 to 54, and \$766 for women age 55 to 64. Workers age 16 to 24 had the lowest median weekly earnings, at \$437. (See table 3.)

- Among the major **occupational groups**, persons employed full time in management, professional, and related occupations had the highest median weekly earnings—\$1,300 for men and \$948 for women. Men and women employed in service jobs earned the least, \$530 and \$440, respectively. (See table 4.)
- By **educational attainment**, full-time workers age 25 and over without a high school diploma had median weekly earnings of \$464, compared with \$648 for high school graduates (no college) and \$1,170 for those holding at least a bachelor's degree. Among college graduates with advanced degrees (professional or master's degree and above), the highest earning 10 percent of male workers made \$3,448 or more per week, compared with \$2,311 or more for their female counterparts. (See table 5.)

### **Revision of Seasonally Adjusted Usual Weekly Earnings Data**

The Usual Weekly Earnings news release for the fourth quarter of 2012 will incorporate annual revisions to seasonally adjusted data for the number of full-time wage and salary workers and median weekly earnings in current dollars. (See table 1.) Estimates for constant (1982-84) dollar median weekly earnings also will be affected by revisions to the current dollar series. Seasonally adjusted estimates back to the first quarter of 2008 will be subject to revision.

# Technical Note

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau using a scientifically selected national sample of about 60,000 eligible households, with coverage in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wage and salary workers (both incorporated and unincorporated self-employed are excluded). The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

## Reliability

Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample rather than the 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 CPS data also are affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling errors 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 on a timely basis, mistakes made by respondents, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

A full discussion of the reliability of data from the Current Population Survey and information on estimating standard errors is available on the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability).

## Definitions

The principal definitions used in connection with the earnings series are described briefly below.

*Usual weekly earnings.* Data represent earnings before taxes and other deductions and include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received (at the main job in the case of multiple jobholders). 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 other quantiles) of weekly earnings.* The median (or upper limit of the second quartile) is the amount that divides a given earnings distribution into two equal groups, one having earnings above the median and the other having earnings below the median. Ten percent of a given distribution have earnings below the upper limit of the first decile (90 percent have higher earnings); 25 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the first quartile (75 percent have higher earnings); 75 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the third quartile (25 percent have higher earnings); and 90 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the ninth decile (10 percent have higher earnings).

The estimation procedure places each reported or calculated weekly earnings value into \$50-wide intervals that are centered around multiples of \$50. The actual value is estimated through the linear interpolation of the interval in which the quantile boundary 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-year-olds 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, such as \$250, \$300, or \$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.

*Wage and salary workers.* 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 or not their businesses are incorporated.

*Full-time workers.* Workers who usually work 35 hours or more per week at their sole or principal job.

*Part-time workers.* Workers who usually work fewer than 35 hours per week at their sole or principal job.

*Constant dollars.* The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used to convert current dollars to constant (1982-84) dollars.

*Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.* Refers to persons who identified themselves in the enumeration process as being of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of

any race.

## **Seasonal adjustment**

Over the course of a year, the size of the nation's labor force and other measures of labor market activity undergo regularly occurring fluctuations. These recurring events include seasonal changes in weather, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools. The effect of such seasonal variations can be very large.

Because seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on the level of a series can be tempered by adjusting for regular seasonal variation. These adjustments make nonseasonal developments easier to spot. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a more useful tool with which to analyze changes in quarter-to-quarter activity.

At the end of each calendar year, the seasonally adjusted data are revised for the past 5 years when the seasonal adjustment factors are updated. More information on seasonal adjustment is available on the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#sa](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#sa).

**Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by sex, quarterly averages, seasonally adjusted**

| Year and quarter | Number of workers<br>(in thousands) |        |        | Median weekly earnings |           |             |                               |           |             |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
|                  | Total                               | Men    | Women  | In current dollars     |           |             | In constant (1982-84) dollars |           |             |
|                  |                                     |        |        | Total<br>\$            | Men<br>\$ | Women<br>\$ | Total<br>\$                   | Men<br>\$ | Women<br>\$ |
| <b>2003</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 100,139                             | 56,178 | 43,961 | 621                    | 697       | 554         | 337                           | 378       | 300         |
| 4th Quarter..... | 100,628                             | 56,607 | 44,021 | 623                    | 702       | 560         | 337                           | 379       | 302         |
| <b>2004</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 1st Quarter..... | 100,905                             | 56,848 | 44,057 | 629                    | 705       | 562         | 337                           | 378       | 301         |
| 2nd Quarter..... | 101,135                             | 56,914 | 44,221 | 642                    | 715       | 576         | 341                           | 380       | 306         |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 101,148                             | 56,931 | 44,217 | 635                    | 712       | 574         | 335                           | 376       | 303         |
| 4th Quarter..... | 101,658                             | 57,289 | 44,369 | 646                    | 720       | 577         | 337                           | 376       | 302         |
| <b>2005</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 1st Quarter..... | 102,091                             | 57,710 | 44,381 | 647                    | 723       | 580         | 336                           | 376       | 302         |
| 2nd Quarter..... | 103,201                             | 58,099 | 45,101 | 647                    | 714       | 584         | 334                           | 369       | 301         |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 104,310                             | 58,843 | 45,467 | 651                    | 723       | 588         | 331                           | 368       | 299         |
| 4th Quarter..... | 104,605                             | 58,967 | 45,638 | 658                    | 730       | 588         | 332                           | 368       | 296         |
| <b>2006</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 1st Quarter..... | 104,708                             | 58,960 | 45,748 | 662                    | 737       | 594         | 332                           | 370       | 298         |
| 2nd Quarter..... | 105,798                             | 59,831 | 45,966 | 663                    | 732       | 597         | 329                           | 364       | 296         |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 107,041                             | 60,060 | 46,981 | 678                    | 755       | 603         | 334                           | 372       | 297         |
| 4th Quarter..... | 106,847                             | 60,140 | 46,707 | 681                    | 748       | 607         | 337                           | 370       | 300         |
| <b>2007</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 1st Quarter..... | 107,176                             | 60,105 | 47,070 | 687                    | 752       | 610         | 336                           | 368       | 298         |
| 2nd Quarter..... | 106,827                             | 60,351 | 46,476 | 693                    | 765       | 610         | 335                           | 370       | 295         |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 107,156                             | 60,216 | 46,940 | 698                    | 774       | 621         | 336                           | 372       | 298         |
| 4th Quarter..... | 108,178                             | 60,508 | 47,670 | 700                    | 774       | 615         | 332                           | 368       | 292         |
| <b>2008</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 1st Quarter..... | 107,819                             | 60,401 | 47,418 | 713                    | 783       | 633         | 335                           | 368       | 298         |
| 2nd Quarter..... | 107,051                             | 59,581 | 47,469 | 722                    | 801       | 636         | 335                           | 372       | 295         |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 106,114                             | 59,259 | 46,856 | 724                    | 802       | 637         | 331                           | 367       | 291         |
| 4th Quarter..... | 105,585                             | 58,499 | 47,087 | 727                    | 807       | 647         | 340                           | 377       | 302         |
| <b>2009</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 1st Quarter..... | 101,734                             | 56,339 | 45,395 | 731                    | 815       | 645         | 344                           | 384       | 304         |
| 2nd Quarter..... | 100,002                             | 55,226 | 44,776 | 737                    | 816       | 652         | 345                           | 382       | 306         |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 99,004                              | 54,451 | 44,553 | 742                    | 820       | 664         | 345                           | 381       | 308         |
| 4th Quarter..... | 98,535                              | 54,405 | 44,130 | 747                    | 824       | 666         | 344                           | 380       | 307         |
| <b>2010</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 1st Quarter..... | 98,223                              | 54,156 | 44,067 | 747                    | 836       | 662         | 344                           | 384       | 305         |
| 2nd Quarter..... | 99,621                              | 55,030 | 44,591 | 743                    | 812       | 671         | 342                           | 374       | 309         |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 100,333                             | 55,569 | 44,765 | 745                    | 821       | 670         | 342                           | 377       | 307         |
| 4th Quarter..... | 99,927                              | 55,468 | 44,459 | 751                    | 828       | 675         | 342                           | 377       | 307         |
| <b>2011</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 1st Quarter..... | 99,788                              | 55,407 | 44,380 | 749                    | 820       | 680         | 337                           | 369       | 306         |
| 2nd Quarter..... | 100,377                             | 55,839 | 44,539 | 756                    | 828       | 688         | 337                           | 369       | 306         |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 100,369                             | 55,981 | 44,388 | 758                    | 835       | 681         | 335                           | 369       | 301         |
| 4th Quarter..... | 101,294                             | 56,652 | 44,642 | 762                    | 841       | 685         | 336                           | 371       | 302         |
| <b>2012</b>      |                                     |        |        |                        |           |             |                               |           |             |
| 1st Quarter..... | 102,223                             | 57,162 | 45,061 | 763                    | 841       | 694         | 334                           | 368       | 304         |
| 2nd Quarter..... | 102,490                             | 57,104 | 45,386 | 773                    | 865       | 688         | 338                           | 378       | 301         |
| 3rd Quarter..... | 102,533                             | 57,170 | 45,362 | 765                    | 837       | 693         | 332                           | 364       | 301         |

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

| Characteristic                                     | Number of workers<br>(in thousands) |             | Median weekly earnings |             |                                  |             |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
|  | 3rd<br>2011                         | 3rd<br>2012 | In current dollars     |             | In constant (1982-84)<br>dollars |             |
|  |                                     |             | 3rd<br>2011            | 3rd<br>2012 | 3rd<br>2011                      | 3rd<br>2012 |
| <b>SEX AND AGE</b>                                 |                                     |             |                        |             |                                  |             |
| Total, 16 years and over.....                      | 101,447                             | 103,577     | \$ 753                 | \$ 758      | \$332                            | \$329       |
| Men, 16 years and over.....                        | 56,900                              | 58,069      | 827                    | 828         | 365                              | 359         |
| 16 to 24 years.....                                | 5,433                               | 5,576       | 440                    | 459         | 195                              | 199         |
| 25 years and over.....                             | 51,466                              | 52,493      | 888                    | 891         | 392                              | 387         |
| Women, 16 years and over.....                      | 44,548                              | 45,508      | 673                    | 685         | 297                              | 298         |
| 16 to 24 years.....                                | 3,957                               | 4,036       | 422                    | 414         | 186                              | 180         |
| 25 years and over.....                             | 40,591                              | 41,472      | 713                    | 725         | 315                              | 315         |
| <b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b> |                                     |             |                        |             |                                  |             |
| White.....   | 82,357                              | 82,259      | 772                    | 780         | 341                              | 339         |
| Men.....   | 47,275                              | 47,292      | 847                    | 854         | 374                              | 371         |
| Women.....   | 35,082                              | 34,967      | 699                    | 712         | 308                              | 309         |
| Black or African American.....                     | 11,633                              | 12,340      | 616                    | 606         | 272                              | 263         |
| Men.....   | 5,420                               | 5,771       | 661                    | 633         | 292                              | 275         |
| Women.....   | 6,213                               | 6,569       | 596                    | 590         | 263                              | 256         |
| Asian.....   | 5,116                               | 5,986       | 869                    | 915         | 384                              | 397         |
| Men.....   | 2,895                               | 3,338       | 1,015                  | 1,043       | 448                              | 453         |
| Women.....   | 2,221                               | 2,649       | 712                    | 762         | 315                              | 331         |
| Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....                  | 15,324                              | 16,889      | 545                    | 556         | 241                              | 241         |
| Men.....   | 9,627                               | 10,110      | 562                    | 586         | 248                              | 255         |
| Women.....   | 5,697                               | 6,779       | 522                    | 513         | 231                              | 223         |

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by age, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 3rd quarter 2012 averages, not seasonally adjusted**

| Age, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity | Total                            |                        | Men                              |                        | Women                            |                        |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
|   | Number of workers (in thousands) | Median weekly earnings | Number of workers (in thousands) | Median weekly earnings | Number of workers (in thousands) | Median weekly earnings |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |
| 16 years and over.....                      | 103,577                          | \$758                  | 58,069                           | \$ 828                 | 45,508                           | \$685                  |
| 16 to 24 years.....                         | 9,612                            | 437                    | 5,576                            | 459                    | 4,036                            | 414                    |
| 16 to 19 years.....                         | 1,290                            | 347                    | 793                              | 360                    | 497                              | 325                    |
| 20 to 24 years.....                         | 8,322                            | 461                    | 4,783                            | 480                    | 3,539                            | 429                    |
| 25 years and over.....                      | 93,965                           | 803                    | 52,493                           | 891                    | 41,472                           | 725                    |
| 25 to 54 years.....                         | 74,365                           | 790                    | 41,848                           | 873                    | 32,517                           | 715                    |
| 25 to 34 years.....                         | 24,801                           | 689                    | 14,138                           | 720                    | 10,662                           | 648                    |
| 35 to 44 years.....                         | 24,078                           | 843                    | 13,736                           | 944                    | 10,342                           | 740                    |
| 45 to 54 years.....                         | 25,486                           | 871                    | 13,973                           | 976                    | 11,512                           | 754                    |
| 55 years and over.....                      | 19,600                           | 863                    | 10,645                           | 960                    | 8,956                            | 755                    |
| 55 to 64 years.....                         | 16,348                           | 887                    | 8,815                            | 980                    | 7,533                            | 766                    |
| 65 years and over.....                      | 3,252                            | 761                    | 1,830                            | 824                    | 1,423                            | 673                    |
| <b>White</b>                                |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |
| 16 years and over.....                      | 82,259                           | 780                    | 47,292                           | 854                    | 34,967                           | 712                    |
| 16 to 24 years.....                         | 7,609                            | 447                    | 4,505                            | 470                    | 3,104                            | 418                    |
| 25 years and over.....                      | 74,650                           | 831                    | 42,787                           | 911                    | 31,863                           | 746                    |
| 25 to 54 years.....                         | 58,273                           | 816                    | 33,753                           | 892                    | 24,520                           | 737                    |
| 55 years and over.....                      | 16,376                           | 890                    | 9,034                            | 990                    | 7,343                            | 774                    |
| <b>Black or African American</b>            |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |
| 16 years and over.....                      | 12,340                           | 606                    | 5,771                            | 633                    | 6,569                            | 590                    |
| 16 to 24 years.....                         | 1,198                            | 399                    | 617                              | 408                    | 581                              | 390                    |
| 25 years and over.....                      | 11,142                           | 633                    | 5,154                            | 674                    | 5,988                            | 610                    |
| 25 to 54 years.....                         | 9,187                            | 625                    | 4,243                            | 655                    | 4,944                            | 609                    |
| 55 years and over.....                      | 1,955                            | 681                    | 911                              | 779                    | 1,044                            | 613                    |
| <b>Asian</b>                                |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |
| 16 years and over.....                      | 5,986                            | 915                    | 3,338                            | 1,043                  | 2,649                            | 762                    |
| 16 to 24 years.....                         | 357                              | 495                    | 194                              | 472                    | 163                              | 513                    |
| 25 years and over.....                      | 5,629                            | 958                    | 3,144                            | 1,130                  | 2,486                            | 787                    |
| 25 to 54 years.....                         | 4,648                            | 979                    | 2,615                            | 1,149                  | 2,033                            | 805                    |
| 55 years and over.....                      | 981                              | 805                    | 528                              | 981                    | 453                              | 699                    |
| <b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>         |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |                                  |                        |
| 16 years and over.....                      | 16,889                           | 556                    | 10,110                           | 586                    | 6,779                            | 513                    |
| 16 to 24 years.....                         | 2,263                            | 402                    | 1,376                            | 415                    | 887                              | 382                    |
| 25 years and over.....                      | 14,626                           | 591                    | 8,734                            | 616                    | 5,892                            | 540                    |
| 25 to 54 years.....                         | 12,830                           | 586                    | 7,687                            | 610                    | 5,143                            | 537                    |
| 55 years and over.....                      | 1,796                            | 622                    | 1,047                            | 665                    | 749                              | 583                    |

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 4. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by occupation and sex, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

| Occupation and sex  | Number of workers<br>(in thousands) |             | Median weekly earnings |             |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|
|   | 3rd<br>2011                         | 3rd<br>2012 | 3rd<br>2011            | 3rd<br>2012 |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  |                                     |             |                        |             |
| Management, professional, and related occupations.....            | 40,029                              | 41,105      | \$1,092                | \$1,098     |
| Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....   | 16,429                              | 17,266      | 1,174                  | 1,159       |
| Professional and related occupations.....                         | 23,600                              | 23,839      | 1,032                  | 1,056       |
| Service occupations.....  | 14,776                              | 15,540      | 474                    | 487         |
| Sales and office occupations.....                                 | 23,051                              | 22,726      | 625                    | 645         |
| Sales and related occupations.....                                | 9,376                               | 9,251       | 658                    | 667         |
| Office and administrative support occupations.....                | 13,675                              | 13,475      | 616                    | 637         |
| Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations..... | 10,342                              | 10,135      | 722                    | 728         |
| Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....                   | 869                                 | 943         | 437                    | 417         |
| Construction and extraction occupations.....                      | 5,224                               | 5,090       | 715                    | 723         |
| Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....            | 4,249                               | 4,102       | 787                    | 811         |
| Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....  | 13,250                              | 14,072      | 611                    | 615         |
| Production occupations.....                                       | 6,867                               | 7,310       | 609                    | 621         |
| Transportation and material moving occupations.....               | 6,383                               | 6,762       | 614                    | 608         |
| <b>Men</b>  |                                     |             |                        |             |
| Management, professional, and related occupations.....            | 19,507                              | 20,168      | 1,267                  | 1,300       |
| Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....   | 8,745                               | 9,142       | 1,372                  | 1,368       |
| Professional and related occupations.....                         | 10,762                              | 11,026      | 1,199                  | 1,259       |
| Service occupations.....  | 7,535                               | 7,980       | 528                    | 530         |
| Sales and office occupations.....                                 | 9,253                               | 8,889       | 737                    | 751         |
| Sales and related occupations.....                                | 5,295                               | 5,253       | 835                    | 825         |
| Office and administrative support occupations.....                | 3,958                               | 3,636       | 677                    | 685         |
| Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations..... | 9,927                               | 9,720       | 730                    | 737         |
| Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....                   | 685                                 | 748         | 463                    | 439         |
| Construction and extraction occupations.....                      | 5,132                               | 4,998       | 717                    | 723         |
| Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....            | 4,110                               | 3,973       | 786                    | 812         |
| Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....  | 10,678                              | 11,312      | 645                    | 657         |
| Production occupations.....                                       | 5,048                               | 5,422       | 672                    | 680         |
| Transportation and material moving occupations.....               | 5,631                               | 5,890       | 624                    | 626         |
| <b>Women</b>  |                                     |             |                        |             |
| Management, professional, and related occupations.....            | 20,522                              | 20,937      | 946                    | 948         |
| Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....   | 7,684                               | 8,124       | 980                    | 983         |
| Professional and related occupations.....                         | 12,838                              | 12,813      | 927                    | 928         |
| Service occupations.....  | 7,241                               | 7,560       | 427                    | 440         |
| Sales and office occupations.....                                 | 13,798                              | 13,836      | 592                    | 607         |
| Sales and related occupations.....                                | 4,081                               | 3,998       | 521                    | 543         |
| Office and administrative support occupations.....                | 9,717                               | 9,838       | 606                    | 624         |
| Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations..... | 415                                 | 415         | 503                    | 501         |
| Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....                   | 184                                 | 195         | 362                    | 369         |
| Construction and extraction occupations.....                      | 92                                  | 92          | 574                    | 724         |
| Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....            | 139                                 | 129         | 865                    | 760         |
| Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....  | 2,571                               | 2,759       | 491                    | 494         |
| Production occupations.....                                       | 1,819                               | 1,888       | 489                    | 502         |
| Transportation and material moving occupations.....               | 752                                 | 872         | 498                    | 479         |

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.



**Table 5. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 3rd quarter 2012 averages, not seasonally adjusted**

| Characteristic                                       | Number of workers (in thousands) | Upper limit of: |                |                          |                |              |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------|
|  |                                  | First decile    | First quartile | Second quartile (median) | Third quartile | Ninth decile |
| <b>SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>   |                                  |                 |                |                          |                |              |
| Total, 16 years and over.....                        | 103,577                          | \$355           | \$ 499         | \$ 758                   | \$1,198        | \$1,862      |
| Men.....   | 58,069                           | 377             | 526            | 828                      | 1,335          | 2,010        |
| Women.....   | 45,508                           | 335             | 469            | 685                      | 1,042          | 1,567        |
| White.....   | 82,259                           | 366             | 514            | 780                      | 1,228          | 1,884        |
| Men.....   | 47,292                           | 386             | 557            | 854                      | 1,358          | 2,051        |
| Women.....   | 34,967                           | 341             | 482            | 712                      | 1,071          | 1,590        |
| Black or African American.....                       | 12,340                           | 320             | 422            | 606                      | 941            | 1,401        |
| Men.....   | 5,771                            | 321             | 444            | 633                      | 998            | 1,422        |
| Women.....   | 6,569                            | 319             | 412            | 590                      | 886            | 1,372        |
| Asian.....   | 5,986                            | 374             | 527            | 915                      | 1,537          | 2,305        |
| Men.....   | 3,338                            | 394             | 587            | 1,043                    | 1,760          | 2,589        |
| Women.....   | 2,649                            | 341             | 499            | 762                      | 1,305          | 1,898        |
| Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....                    | 16,889                           | 303             | 384            | 556                      | 830            | 1,255        |
| Men.....   | 10,110                           | 313             | 400            | 586                      | 876            | 1,266        |
| Women.....   | 6,779                            | 291             | 361            | 513                      | 764            | 1,242        |
| <b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>                        |                                  |                 |                |                          |                |              |
| Total, 25 years and over.....                        | 93,965                           | 381             | 531            | 803                      | 1,254          | 1,898        |
| Less than a high school diploma.....                 | 7,139                            | 285             | 347            | 464                      | 643            | 889          |
| High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> ..... | 25,628                           | 346             | 463            | 648                      | 934            | 1,292        |
| Some college or associate degree.....                | 25,709                           | 390             | 521            | 736                      | 1,067          | 1,494        |
| Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....      | 35,490                           | 558             | 779            | 1,170                    | 1,769          | 2,536        |
| Bachelor's degree only.....                          | 22,783                           | 511             | 725            | 1,071                    | 1,600          | 2,302        |
| Advanced degree.....                                 | 12,707                           | 661             | 943            | 1,381                    | 2,006          | 2,918        |
| Men, 25 years and over.....                          | 52,493                           | 402             | 584            | 891                      | 1,396          | 2,106        |
| Less than a high school diploma.....                 | 4,900                            | 296             | 379            | 503                      | 697            | 980          |
| High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> ..... | 15,217                           | 376             | 505            | 726                      | 1,029          | 1,417        |
| Some college or associate degree.....                | 13,605                           | 429             | 587            | 822                      | 1,185          | 1,622        |
| Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....      | 18,771                           | 602             | 897            | 1,366                    | 1,990          | 2,913        |
| Bachelor's degree only.....                          | 12,089                           | 562             | 803            | 1,244                    | 1,859          | 2,690        |
| Advanced degree.....                                 | 6,683                            | 754             | 1,100          | 1,626                    | 2,384          | 3,448        |
| Women, 25 years and over.....                        | 41,472                           | 355             | 494            | 725                      | 1,094          | 1,620        |
| Less than a high school diploma.....                 | 2,239                            | 264             | 318            | 381                      | 517            | 680          |
| High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup> ..... | 10,411                           | 318             | 411            | 571                      | 778            | 1,068        |
| Some college or associate degree.....                | 12,104                           | 360             | 483            | 653                      | 913            | 1,273        |
| Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup> .....      | 16,718                           | 515             | 715            | 1,004                    | 1,474          | 2,072        |
| Bachelor's degree only.....                          | 10,694                           | 487             | 655            | 939                      | 1,358          | 1,890        |
| Advanced degree.....                                 | 6,024                            | 626             | 844            | 1,155                    | 1,717          | 2,311        |

1 Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

2 Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

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. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 6. Median usual weekly earnings of part-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

| Characteristic                                     | Number of workers<br>(in thousands) |             | Median weekly earnings |             |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|
|  | 3rd<br>2011                         | 3rd<br>2012 | 3rd<br>2011            | 3rd<br>2012 |
| <b>SEX AND AGE</b>                                 |                                     |             |                        |             |
| Total, 16 years and over.....                      | 24,103                              | 24,086      | \$237                  | \$240       |
| Men, 16 years and over.....                        | 8,463                               | 8,319       | 233                    | 238         |
| 16 to 24 years.....                                | 3,598                               | 3,589       | 186                    | 196         |
| 25 years and over.....                             | 4,865                               | 4,730       | 294                    | 278         |
| Women, 16 years and over.....                      | 15,641                              | 15,767      | 239                    | 241         |
| 16 to 24 years.....                                | 4,476                               | 4,727       | 181                    | 180         |
| 25 years and over.....                             | 11,165                              | 11,039      | 275                    | 283         |
| <b>RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX</b> |                                     |             |                        |             |
| White.....   | 19,858                              | 19,577      | 238                    | 243         |
| Men.....   | 6,763                               | 6,652       | 235                    | 239         |
| Women.....   | 13,095                              | 12,925      | 240                    | 246         |
| Black or African American.....                     | 2,585                               | 2,530       | 220                    | 226         |
| Men.....   | 1,036                               | 945         | 214                    | 235         |
| Women.....   | 1,549                               | 1,585       | 224                    | 220         |
| Asian.....   | 950                                 | 1,145       | 271                    | 251         |
| Men.....   | 383                                 | 403         | 274                    | 239         |
| Women.....   | 567                                 | 742         | 269                    | 255         |
| Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....                  | 3,484                               | 3,583       | 239                    | 230         |
| Men.....   | 1,412                               | 1,446       | 246                    | 245         |
| Women.....   | 2,072                               | 2,137       | 236                    | 218         |

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.