Highlights of Women’s Earnings in 2011

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Introduction

In 2011, women who were full-time wage and salary workers had median usual weekly earnings of $684, about 82 percent of median earnings for male full-time wage and salary workers ($832). In 1979, the first year for which comparable earnings data are available, women earned 62 percent of what men earned. (See chart 1 and tables 1 and 13.)

This report presents earnings data from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a national monthly survey of approximately 60,000 households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Information on earnings is collected from one-fourth of the CPS sample each month. Readers should note that the comparisons of earnings in this report are on a broad level and do not control for many factors that can be significant in explaining earnings differences. For a detailed description of the source of the data and an explanation of the concepts and definitions used, see the accompanying technical note.

Highlights

Full-time workers

- Median weekly earnings were highest for women age 35 to 64 in 2011, with little difference in the earnings of 35- to 44-year-olds ($734), 45- to 54-year-olds ($744), and 55- to 64-year-olds ($749). Among men, those age 45 to 64 had the highest earnings, with 45- to 54-year-olds ($979) having made about the same as 55- to 64-year-olds ($997). Young women and men age 16 to 24 had the lowest earnings ($421 and $455, respectively). (See table 1.)

- Among the age groupings of those 35 years and older, women had earnings that ranged from 75 percent to 81 percent of those of their male counterparts. Among younger workers, the earnings differences between women and men were not as great. Women earned 92 percent of what men earned among workers 25 to 34 years old and 93 percent as much as men among 16- to 24-year-olds. (See table 1.)

- Between 1979 and 2011, women’s-to-men’s earnings ratios rose for most age groups. Among 25- to 34-year-olds, for example, the ratio grew from 68 percent in 1979 to 92 percent in 2011, and the ratio for 45- to 54-year-olds increased from 57 percent to 76 percent. (See table 13.)

- Asian women and men earned more than their White, Black, and Hispanic or Latino counterparts in 2011. Among women, Whites ($703) earned 94 percent as much as Asians ($751), while Blacks ($595) and Hispanics ($518) earned 79 percent and 69 percent as much, respectively. In comparison, White men ($856) earned 88 percent as much as Asian men ($970); Black men ($653) earned 67 percent as much; and Hispanic men ($571), 59 percent. (See chart 2 and table 1.)

- Earnings differences between women and men were widest for Whites and for Asians. White women earned 82 percent as much as their male counterparts in 2011, while Asian women earned 77 percent as much as their male counterparts. In comparison, both Black and Hispanic women had median earnings that were 91 percent of those of their male counterparts. (See table 1.)

- Across the major race and Hispanic ethnicity categories, women’s inflation-adjusted, or constant-dollar, earnings have risen significantly since 1979. Earnings growth has been sharpest for White women, outpacing that of their Black and Hispanic counterparts. Between 1979 and 2011, inflation-adjusted earnings for White women rose by 32 percent, compared with an increase of 22 percent for Black women and 14 percent for Hispanic women. In contrast, earnings for White and Black men in 2011 were about the same as in 1979, after adjusting for inflation, while Hispanic men’s earnings were down by 10 percent from their 1979 constant-dollar level. (See table 19.) Asians were not included in this analysis because comparable data are not available back to 1979. (See note in table 19.)

- Median weekly earnings vary significantly by level of educational attainment. Among both women and
men age 25 and older, the weekly earnings of those without a high school diploma ($395 for women and $488 for men) were about two-fifths of those with a bachelor’s degree or higher ($998 for women and $1,332 for men) in 2011. Women and men with a high school diploma who had not attended college earned a little more than half of what women and men with a bachelor’s degree or higher did, and those with some college or an associate’s degree earned around two-thirds as much. (See tables 1 and 6.)

- At each level of education, women have fared better than men with respect to earnings growth. Although both women and men without a high school diploma have experienced declines in inflation-adjusted earnings since 1979, the drop for women was significantly less than that for men: a 10-percent decrease for women—as opposed to a 33-percent decline for men. On an inflation-adjusted basis, earnings for women with a college degree have increased by 31 percent since 1979, while those of male college graduates have risen by 16 percent. (Data pertain to workers age 25 and older.) (See chart 3 and table 20.)

- Women working full time in management, business, and financial operations jobs had median weekly earnings of $977 in 2011, which is more than women earned in any other major occupational category. Within management, business, and financial operations occupations, women who were chief executives and computer and information systems managers had the highest median weekly earnings ($1,464 and $1,543, respectively). The second highest paying job group for women was professional and related occupations, in which their median weekly earnings were $919. Within professional and related occupations, women who were lawyers ($1,631), pharmacists ($1,898), and physicians ($1,527) had the highest earnings. (See table 2.)

- The occupational distributions of female and male full-time workers differ significantly. Compared with men, relatively few women work in construction, production, or transportation occupations, and women are far more concentrated in administrative support jobs. (See chart 4 and table 2.)

- Women are more likely than men to work in professional and related occupations. Within this occupational category, though, the proportion of women employed in the higher paying job groups is much smaller than the proportion of men employed in them. In 2011, 8 percent of female professionals were employed in the relatively high-paying computer and engineering fields, compared with 44 percent of male professionals. Professional women were more likely to work in education and healthcare occupations, in which the pay is generally lower than that for computer and engineering jobs. Sixty-nine percent of female professionals worked in the education and healthcare fields in 2011, compared with 30 percent of male professionals. (See table 2.)

- Of the 44.5 million women working full time in wage and salary jobs in 2011, a little more than one-third were mothers of children under age 18. Median weekly earnings for mothers of children under age 18 were $669. Earnings for women without children under 18 were $692. (See table 8.)

- Median weekly earnings and women’s-to-men’s earnings ratios vary by state of residence. The differences among the states reflect, in part, variation in the occupations and industries found in each state and in the age composition of each state’s labor force. In general, the sampling error for the state estimates is considerably larger than it is for the national estimates; thus, comparisons of state estimates should be made with caution. (See table 3.)

- Among full-time workers (that is, those working 35 hours or more per week in a job), men are more likely than women to have a longer workweek. Twenty-five percent of men, compared with 14 percent of women, worked 41 or more hours per week, in 2011. Women were more likely than men to work 35 to 39 hours per week: 13 percent as opposed to 5 percent. A large majority of both male and female full-time workers had a 40-hour workweek; among these workers, women earned 88 percent as much as men earned. (Persons who usually work 35 or more hours per week but whose hours vary were excluded from this analysis.) (See table 5.)

Part-time workers

- Women are more likely than men to work part time—that is, less than 35 hours per week on a sole, or principal, job. Women who worked part time made up 26 percent of all female wage and salary workers in 2011. In contrast, 13 percent of men in wage and salary jobs worked part time. (See tables 4 and 5.)

- Unlike full-time workers, women and men who worked part time had similar median earnings. Median weekly earnings for female part-timers were $235 in 2011, little different than the $226 median for their male counterparts.

- Among part-time workers, men tend to be younger than women. Forty-three percent of male part-time
workers were 16 to 24 years old, compared with 28 percent of female part-time workers in 2011. (See table 4.)

Workers paid by the hour

- Sixty-two percent of women and 56 percent of men employed in wage and salary jobs were paid by the hour in 2011. Women who were paid hourly rates had median hourly earnings of $11.98, 87 percent of the median for men paid by the hour ($13.80). (See tables 9, 10, 16, and 17.)

- In 2011, among workers who were paid hourly rates, 6 percent of women and 4 percent of men had hourly earnings at or below the prevailing federal minimum wage of $7.25. (See tables 11 and 12.)

- Among both women and men, hourly paid workers age 16 to 19 were the most likely to have earnings at or below the minimum wage. Twenty-three percent of teenage workers paid hourly rates earned the prevailing federal minimum wage or less in 2011, compared with just 3 percent of hourly paid workers age 25 and older. Among 20- to 24-year-olds, 10 percent had earnings at or below the minimum wage. (See table 11.)
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Chart 1. **Women’s earnings as a percent of men’s, full-time wage and salary workers, 1979–2011 annual averages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>65</td>
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</table>

**NOTE:** Data relate to median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers.


Chart 2. **Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2011 annual averages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Earnings (dollars)</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Black or African American</th>
<th>Asian</th>
<th>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>$684</td>
<td>$703</td>
<td>$595</td>
<td>$751</td>
<td>$518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>$832</td>
<td>$856</td>
<td>$653</td>
<td>$970</td>
<td>$571</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.

Chart 3. Percent change in constant-dollar median usual weekly earnings, by educational attainment and sex, 1979–2011

NOTE: Data relate to earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older.

Chart 4. Distribution of full-time wage and salary employment, by sex and major occupation group, 2011 annual averages

Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Median weekly earnings</th>
<th>Standard error of median</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Median weekly earnings</th>
<th>Standard error of median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
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<td>$2</td>
<td>44,486</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
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<td>440</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3,772</td>
<td>421</td>
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<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>352</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>328</td>
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<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>7,776</td>
<td>457</td>
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<td>3,835</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>91,733</td>
<td>797</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40,714</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>24,296</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10,392</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>23,782</td>
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<td>10,204</td>
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<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>25,133</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11,557</td>
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<td>55 to 64 years</td>
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<td>7,294</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>65 years and older</td>
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<td><strong>Race and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>81,336</td>
<td>775</td>
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<td>34,976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>26,487</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11,553</td>
<td>595</td>
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<tr>
<td>Married, spouse present</td>
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<td>858</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23,274</td>
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<td>Other marital status</td>
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<td>722</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9,660</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>11,374</td>
<td>758</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6,461</td>
<td>697</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
<td>3,921</td>
<td>615</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,969</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>1,625</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1,230</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5,671</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>38,159</td>
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<td>10,220</td>
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<td>Some college or associate's degree</td>
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<td>Bachelor's degree and higher</td>
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<td>16,221</td>
<td>998</td>
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See footnotes at the end of the table.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women's earnings as a percent of men's</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
<td>Median weekly earnings</td>
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<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
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<td>16 to 24 years</td>
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<td>455</td>
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<td>16 to 19 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>4,393</td>
<td>470</td>
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<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>51,020</td>
<td>886</td>
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<td>25 to 34 years</td>
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<td>35 to 44 years</td>
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<td>45 to 54 years</td>
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<td>55 to 64 years</td>
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<td>65 years and older</td>
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<td>Black or African American</td>
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<td>Asian</td>
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<td>Separated</td>
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<td>Widowed</td>
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<td><strong>Union Affiliation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Members of unions</td>
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<td>Represented by unions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Not represented by a union</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Educational Attainment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, 25 years and older</td>
<td>51,020</td>
<td>886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>4,794</td>
<td>488</td>
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<tr>
<td>High school graduates, no college</td>
<td>14,937</td>
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<tr>
<td>Some college or associate's degree</td>
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<td>840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree and higher</td>
<td>18,132</td>
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</table>

1 Differences in earnings levels between workers with and without union affiliation reflect a variety of factors in addition to coverage by a collective bargaining agreement, including the distribution of male and female employees by occupation, industry, firm size, and geographic region.

2 Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union.

3 Data refer to workers who report no union affiliation but whose jobs are covered by a union or an employee association contract, as well as to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union.

NOTE: Estimates for the race groups listed (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.

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Both sexes</th>
<th></th>
<th>Women</th>
<th></th>
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<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
<td>Median weekly earnings</td>
<td>Standard error of median</td>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
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<td>Buyers and purchasing agents, farm products……</td>
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See note at the end of the table.
### Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

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<td>1,225</td>
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<td>Buyers and purchasing agents, farm products</td>
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<td>Wholesale and retail buyers, except farm products</td>
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See note at the end of table.
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<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Median weekly earnings</th>
<th>Standard error of median</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Median weekly earnings</th>
<th>Standard error of median</th>
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Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont'd

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See note at end of table.
Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Both sexes</th>
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<td>Standard error of median</td>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
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See note at the end of the table.
Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

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<td>Nurse practitioners</td>
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<td>Massage therapists</td>
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<td>Phlebotomists</td>
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<td>First-line supervisors of police and detectives</td>
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<td>891</td>
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See note at end of table.
Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

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<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Both sexes</th>
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<th>Women</th>
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<td>Standard</td>
<td>Number</td>
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<td>(in</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>thousands)</td>
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<td>505 26</td>
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<td>385 15</td>
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<td>Counter attendants, cafeteria, food concession, and coffee shop</td>
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<td>323 9</td>
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<td>369 20</td>
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<td>52</td>
<td>356 18</td>
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<td>797 69</td>
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<td>Animal trainers</td>
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<td>Nonfarm animal caretakers</td>
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See note at the end of the table.
Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

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See note at end of table.
Table 2. **Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d**

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<th>Men</th>
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<td>Postal service mail sorters, processors, and processing machine operators</td>
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<td>975 36 86.0</td>
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<td>Production, planning, and expediting clerks</td>
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<td>916 33 78.8</td>
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<td>Shipping, receiving, and traffic clerks</td>
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<td>571 19 95.1</td>
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<td>Stock clerks and order fillers</td>
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<td>488 9 102.7</td>
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<td>757 36 86.0</td>
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<td>712 30 83.4</td>
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<td>Carpet, floor, and tile installers and finishers</td>
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See note at end of table.
### Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

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<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
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<td>Hazardous materials removal workers</td>
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<td>Septic tank servicers and sewer pipe cleaners</td>
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<td>Derrick, rotary drill, and service unit operators, oil, gas, and mining</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earth drillers, except oil and gas</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Explosives workers, ordnance handling experts, and blasters</td>
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<td>Roustabouts, oil and gas</td>
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<td>Helpers—extraction workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other extraction workers</td>
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<td>Electrical and electronics installers and repairers, transportation equipment</td>
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<td>Electrical and electronics repairans, industrial and utility</td>
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See note at the end of the table.
Table 2. **Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d**

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<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women’s earnings as a percent of men’s</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands) Median weekly earnings Standard error of median</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cement masons, concrete finishers, and terrazzo workers</td>
<td>59 $651 $31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction laborers</td>
<td>846 587 10</td>
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<td>Paving, surfacing, and tamping equipment operators</td>
<td>18 – – –</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pile-driver operators</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating engineers and other construction equipment operators</td>
<td>343 809 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drywall installers, ceiling tile installers, and tapers</td>
<td>100 509 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electricians</td>
<td>539 855 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glaziers</td>
<td>40 – – –</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insulation workers</td>
<td>39 – – –</td>
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<tr>
<td>Painters, construction and maintenance</td>
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<td>Paperhangers</td>
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<td>Pipelayers, plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters</td>
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<td>Plasterers and stucco masons</td>
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<td>Reinforcing iron and rebar workers</td>
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<td>Roofers</td>
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<td>Sheet metal workers</td>
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<td>Solar photovoltaic installers</td>
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<td>Helpers, construction trades</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction and building inspectors</td>
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<td>Elevator installers and repairers</td>
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<td>Fence erectors</td>
<td>32 – – –</td>
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<td>Hazardous materials removal workers</td>
<td>24 – – –</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highway maintenance workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rail-track laying and maintenance equipment operators</td>
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<tr>
<td>Septic tank servicers and sewer pipe cleaners</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous construction and related workers</td>
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<td>Derrick, rotary drill, and service unit operators, oil, gas, and mining</td>
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<td>Earth drillers, except oil and gas</td>
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<td>Roustabouts, oil and gas</td>
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<td>Electric motor, power tool, and related repairers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electrical and electronics installers and repairers, transportation</td>
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<td>Electrical and electronics repairers, industrial and utility</td>
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See note at end of table.
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See note at end of table.
Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

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<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
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<th>Women’s earnings as a percent of men’s</th>
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<td>403</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shoe machine operators and tenders</td>
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<td>Tailors, dressmakers, and sewers</td>
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<td>Textile bleaching and dyeing machine operators and tenders</td>
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<td>Textile cutting machine setters, operators, and tenders</td>
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See note at end of table.
Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Median weekly earnings</th>
<th>Standard error of median</th>
<th>Women's earnings as a percent of men's</th>
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<td>Food and tobacco roasting, baking, and drying machine operators and tenders</td>
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<td>Food processing workers, all other</td>
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<td>$22</td>
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<td>Computer control programmers and operators</td>
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<td>55</td>
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<td>Extruding and drawing machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Forging machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic</td>
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<td>Rolling machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic</td>
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<td>Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic</td>
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<td>608</td>
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<td>641</td>
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<td>Machinists</td>
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<td>Metal furnace operators, tenders, pourers, and casters</td>
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<td>Model makers and patternmakers, metal and plastic</td>
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<td>Molders and molding machine setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic</td>
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<td>Welding, soldering, and brazing workers</td>
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<td>Heat treating equipment setters, operators, and tenders, metal and plastic</td>
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<td>Layout workers, metal and plastic</td>
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<td>Print binding and finishing workers</td>
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<td>Laundry and dry-cleaning workers</td>
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<td>Pressers, textile, garment, and related materials</td>
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<td>Shoe and leather workers and repairers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tailors, dressmakers, and sewers</td>
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<td>Textile bleaching and dyeing machine operators and tenders</td>
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<td>Textile cutting machine setters, operators, and tenders</td>
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See note at end of table.
### Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

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<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Both sexes</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Textile winding, twisting, and drawing out machine setters, operators, and tenders</td>
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<td>Extruding and forming machine setters, operators, and tenders, synthetic and glass fibers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fabric and apparel patternmakers</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upholsterers</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textile, apparel, and furnishings workers, all other</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabinetmakers and bench carpentans</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture finishers</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model makers and patternmakers, wood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sawing machine setters, operators, and tenders, wood</td>
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<td>Woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodworkers, all other</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Power plant operators, distributors, and dispatchers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stationary engineers and boiler operators</td>
<td>93</td>
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<td>659</td>
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<td>Cutting workers</td>
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<td>Furnace, kiln, oven, drier, and kettle operators and tenders</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers</td>
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<td>675</td>
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<td>Jewelers and precious stone and metal workers</td>
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<td>Medical, dental, and ophthalmic laboratory technicians</td>
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<td>612</td>
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<td>Packaging and filling machine operators and tenders</td>
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<td>Painting workers</td>
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<td>Photographic process workers and processing machine operators</td>
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<td>Semiconductor processors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adhesive bonding machine operators and tenders</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning, washing, and metal pickling equipment operators and tenders</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooling and freezing equipment operators and tenders</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Etchers and engravers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molders, shapers, and casters, except metal and plastic</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper goods machine setters, operators, and tenders</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tire builders</td>
<td>17</td>
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See note at end of table.
### Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by detailed occupation and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women's earnings as a percent of men's</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Textile knitting and weaving machine setters, operators, and tenders…</td>
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<td>Textile winding, twisting, and drawing out machine setters, operators, and tenders…</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extruding and forming machine setters, operators, and tenders, synthetic and glass fibers…</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fabric and apparel patternmakers…</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upholsterers…</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textile, apparel, and furnishings workers, all other…</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabinetmakers and bench carpenters…</td>
<td>41</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Furniture finishers…</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model makers and patternmakers, wood…</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawing machine setters, operators, and tenders, wood…</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodworking machine setters, operators, and tenders, except sawing…</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodworkers, all other…</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Power plant operators, distributors, and dispatchers…</td>
<td>52</td>
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<td>Stationary engineers and boiler operators…</td>
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<td>851 39</td>
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<td>Water and wastewater treatment plant and system operators…</td>
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<td>788 64</td>
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<td>540 38</td>
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<td>Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers…</td>
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<td>792 39 68.3</td>
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<td>Jewelers and precious stone and metal workers…</td>
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<td>505 25 83.4</td>
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<td>608 36</td>
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<td>Photographic process workers and processing machine operators…</td>
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<td>Semiconductor processors…</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adhesive bonding machine operators and tenders…</td>
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<td>Cleaning, washing, and metal pickling equipment operators and tenders…</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooling and freezing equipment operators and tenders…</td>
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<tr>
<td>Etchers and engravers…</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molders, shapers, and casters, except metal and plastic…</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper goods machine setters, operators, and tenders…</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tire builders…</td>
<td>16</td>
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</table>

See note at end of table.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Median weekly earnings</th>
<th>Standard error of median</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
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<td>1,461</td>
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<td>Air traffic controllers and airfield operations specialists</td>
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<td>Flight attendants</td>
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<td>Railroad conductors and yardmasters</td>
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<td>Bridge and lock tenders</td>
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<td>Transportation inspectors</td>
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NOTE: Median earnings not shown where employment is less than 50,000. Women’s earnings as a percent of men’s not shown where employment for either the numerator or the denominator is less than 50,000.

Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by state and sex, 2011 annual averages

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### Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by state and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

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<th>State</th>
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<td>Ohio</td>
<td>2,072</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>83.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>78.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>877</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>79.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>2,384</td>
<td>833</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>81.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>917</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>81.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>736</td>
<td>742</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>78.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>82.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>85.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>4,940</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>84.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>72.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>86.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>1,610</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>80.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>1,249</td>
<td>997</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>74.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>797</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>74.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>1,033</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>83.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>69.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: In general, the sampling error for the state estimates is considerably larger than it is for the national estimates; thus, comparisons of state estimates should be made with caution.

Table 4. **Median usual weekly earnings of part-time wage and salary workers, by selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Both sexes</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
<td>Median weekly earnings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older...........</td>
<td>24,502</td>
<td>$232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years.......................</td>
<td>8,151</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years.......................</td>
<td>3,265</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years.......................</td>
<td>4,886</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older...................</td>
<td>16,352</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years.......................</td>
<td>4,337</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years.......................</td>
<td>3,399</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years.......................</td>
<td>3,510</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years.......................</td>
<td>3,077</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older...................</td>
<td>2,027</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White.....................................</td>
<td>20,233</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American............</td>
<td>2,626</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian.....................................</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.........</td>
<td>3,560</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital Status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married.........................</td>
<td>11,199</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married, spouse present.............</td>
<td>9,851</td>
<td>290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other marital status..................</td>
<td>3,452</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced..................................</td>
<td>1,894</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated..................................</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed...................................</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See note at end of table.
Table 4. **Median usual weekly earnings of part-time wage and salary workers, by selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages—cont’d**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Median weekly earnings</th>
<th>Standard error of median</th>
<th>Women's earnings as a percent of men's</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
<td>8,599</td>
<td>$226</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>104.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>3,670</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>96.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>1,473</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>93.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>2,197</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>4,930</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>97.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>1,533</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>97.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>815</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>93.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
<td>848</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>96.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
<td>925</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>84.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>6,953</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>104.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>1,018</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>98.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</td>
<td>1,522</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>92.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital Status</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>5,126</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>96.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married, spouse present</td>
<td>2,609</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>99.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other marital status</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>93.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>98.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>92.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>85.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Estimates for the race groups listed (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.

Table 5. **Median usual weekly earnings of wage and salary workers, by hours usually worked and sex, 2011 annual averages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours of work</th>
<th>Both sexes</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Women</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
<td>Median weekly earnings</td>
<td>Standard error of median</td>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
<td>Median weekly earnings</td>
<td>Standard error of median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
<td>125,187</td>
<td>$642</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>60,502</td>
<td>$565</td>
<td>$3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 34 hours</td>
<td>21,989</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14,371</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 4 hours</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 9 hours</td>
<td>1,219</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>790</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 14 hours</td>
<td>1,881</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,241</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 to 19 hours</td>
<td>2,666</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,726</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 hours</td>
<td>6,381</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4,226</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 29 hours</td>
<td>3,105</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,008</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 34 hours</td>
<td>6,173</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,006</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 or more hours</td>
<td>95,423</td>
<td>761</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>42,571</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 39 hours</td>
<td>8,185</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5,457</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 hours</td>
<td>67,749</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>31,096</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 or more hours</td>
<td>19,489</td>
<td>1,158</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6,018</td>
<td>1,050</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 to 44 hours</td>
<td>1,101</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>796</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 48 hours</td>
<td>5,278</td>
<td>1,033</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,880</td>
<td>977</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49 to 59 hours</td>
<td>8,847</td>
<td>1,235</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2,696</td>
<td>1,148</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 or more hours</td>
<td>4,263</td>
<td>1,313</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1,015</td>
<td>1,160</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours vary</td>
<td>7,775</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3,560</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usually less than 35 hours</td>
<td>2,513</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1,532</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usually 35 or more hours</td>
<td>5,034</td>
<td>612</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1,915</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See note at end of table.
Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of wage and salary workers, by hours usually worked and sex, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours of work</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th></th>
<th>Women’s earnings as a percent of men’s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
<td>Median weekly earnings</td>
<td>Standard error of median</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
<td>64,686</td>
<td>$741</td>
<td>$3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 34 hours</td>
<td>7,618</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 4 hours</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 9 hours</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 14 hours</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 to 19 hours</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 hours</td>
<td>2,155</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 29 hours</td>
<td>1,098</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 34 hours</td>
<td>2,167</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 or more hours</td>
<td>52,852</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 39 hours</td>
<td>2,728</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 hours</td>
<td>36,653</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 or more hours</td>
<td>13,471</td>
<td>1,210</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 to 44 hours</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>924</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 48 hours</td>
<td>3,398</td>
<td>1,073</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49 to 59 hours</td>
<td>6,151</td>
<td>1,268</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 or more hours</td>
<td>3,247</td>
<td>1,351</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hours vary</td>
<td>4,216</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usually less than 35 hours</td>
<td>981</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Usually 35 or more hours</td>
<td>3,119</td>
<td>716</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Data refer to the sole or principal job of full-time and part-time workers. Estimates for the “hours vary” groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for a small number of multiple jobholders whose usual number of hours on the principal job is not identifiable.

Table 6. **Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Upper limit of:</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>First decile</td>
<td>First quartile</td>
<td>Second quartile (median)</td>
<td>Third quartile</td>
<td>Ninth decile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
<td>100,457</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>499</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>1,173</td>
<td>1,802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>44,486</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>684</td>
<td>1,023</td>
<td>1,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>55,971</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>832</td>
<td>1,317</td>
<td>1,924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>81,336</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>1,205</td>
<td>1,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>34,976</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>1,050</td>
<td>1,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>46,360</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>1,345</td>
<td>1,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>11,604</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>615</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>1,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>6,191</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>860</td>
<td>1,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>5,414</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>1,436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>5,197</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>866</td>
<td>1,411</td>
<td>2,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>2,284</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>1,184</td>
<td>1,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>2,912</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>970</td>
<td>1,586</td>
<td>2,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</td>
<td>15,147</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>388</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>1,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>5,700</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>773</td>
<td>1,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>9,448</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>1,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Educational Attainment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 25 years and older</td>
<td>91,733</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>797</td>
<td>1,228</td>
<td>1,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>7,019</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>346</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>616</td>
<td>862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduates, no college</td>
<td>25,157</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>638</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>1,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college or associate's degree</td>
<td>25,205</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>519</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>1,063</td>
<td>1,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree and higher</td>
<td>34,353</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>1,150</td>
<td>1,743</td>
<td>2,475</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women, 25 years and older</td>
<td>40,714</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>1,070</td>
<td>1,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>2,225</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>316</td>
<td>395</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduates, no college</td>
<td>10,220</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>748</td>
<td>1,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college or associate's degree</td>
<td>12,048</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>913</td>
<td>1,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree and higher</td>
<td>16,221</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>1,443</td>
<td>2,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men, 25 years and older</td>
<td>51,020</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>581</td>
<td>886</td>
<td>1,371</td>
<td>2,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>4,794</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduates, no college</td>
<td>14,937</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>720</td>
<td>1,023</td>
<td>1,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college or associate's degree</td>
<td>13,156</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>589</td>
<td>840</td>
<td>1,195</td>
<td>1,645</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree and higher</td>
<td>18,132</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>1,332</td>
<td>1,913</td>
<td>2,882</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 race groups listed (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.

### Table 7. Distribution of full-time wage and salary workers, by usual weekly earnings and selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages

(In thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Total employed</th>
<th>Number of workers by usual weekly earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under $150.00</td>
<td>$150.00 to $249.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age and Sex</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
<td>100,457</td>
<td>805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>8,723</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>947</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>7,776</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>91,733</td>
<td>636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>24,296</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>23,782</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>25,133</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
<td>15,641</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
<td>2,881</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women, 16 years and older</strong></td>
<td>44,486</td>
<td>448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>3,772</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>3,383</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>40,714</td>
<td>364</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>10,392</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>10,204</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>11,557</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
<td>7,294</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
<td>1,266</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Men, 16 years and older</strong></td>
<td>55,971</td>
<td>357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>4,951</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>558</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>4,393</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>51,020</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>13,905</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>13,578</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>13,576</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
<td>8,347</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
<td>1,614</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See note at the end of the table.
### Table 7. Distribution of full-time wage and salary workers, by usual weekly earnings and selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

(In thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Total employed</th>
<th>Number of workers by usual weekly earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Under $150.00 to $249.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race, Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, and Sex</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>81,336</td>
<td>647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>46,360</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>11,604</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>5,414</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>5,197</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>2,912</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</td>
<td>15,147</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>5,700</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>9,448</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Estimates for the race groups listed (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.

Table 8. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, by sex, marital status, and presence and age of own children under 18 years old, 2011 annual averages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Median weekly earnings</th>
<th>Standard error of median</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, all marital statuses</td>
<td>44,486</td>
<td>$684</td>
<td>$3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 18 years</td>
<td>16,093</td>
<td>669</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children 6 to 17 years, none younger</td>
<td>9,714</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 6 years</td>
<td>6,379</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With no children under 18 years</td>
<td>28,393</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, married, spouse present</td>
<td>23,274</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 18 years</td>
<td>10,622</td>
<td>743</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children 6 to 17 years, none younger</td>
<td>6,330</td>
<td>737</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 6 years</td>
<td>4,293</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With no children under 18 years</td>
<td>12,651</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, other marital statuses¹</td>
<td>21,212</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 18 years</td>
<td>5,471</td>
<td>563</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children 6 to 17 years, none younger</td>
<td>3,384</td>
<td>608</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 6 years</td>
<td>2,086</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With no children under 18 years</td>
<td>15,741</td>
<td>649</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Men</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, all marital statuses</td>
<td>55,971</td>
<td>832</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 18 years</td>
<td>20,808</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children 6 to 17 years, none younger</td>
<td>10,990</td>
<td>972</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>With children under 6 years</td>
<td>9,818</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With no children under 18 years</td>
<td>35,163</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, married, spouse present</td>
<td>33,777</td>
<td>955</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 18 years</td>
<td>18,462</td>
<td>959</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children 6 to 17 years, none younger</td>
<td>9,881</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 6 years</td>
<td>8,581</td>
<td>907</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With no children under 18 years</td>
<td>15,314</td>
<td>952</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, other marital statuses¹</td>
<td>22,194</td>
<td>674</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 18 years</td>
<td>2,346</td>
<td>656</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children 6 to 17 years, none younger</td>
<td>1,109</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With children under 6 years</td>
<td>1,237</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With no children under 18 years</td>
<td>19,848</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

NOTE: Children refer to “own” children and include sons, daughters, stepchildren, and adopted children. Excluded are other related children such as grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins, as well as unrelated children.

Table 9. **Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, by selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Both sexes</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Women</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
<td>Median weekly earnings</td>
<td>Standard error of median</td>
<td>Number of workers (in thousands)</td>
<td>Median weekly earnings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
<td>73,926</td>
<td>$12.71</td>
<td>$0.04</td>
<td>37,469</td>
<td>$11.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>14,436</td>
<td>8.97</td>
<td>.02</td>
<td>7,147</td>
<td>8.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>3,936</td>
<td>8.06</td>
<td>.02</td>
<td>2,064</td>
<td>7.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>10,501</td>
<td>9.61</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td>5,083</td>
<td>9.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>59,490</td>
<td>14.12</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>30,323</td>
<td>13.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>17,155</td>
<td>12.71</td>
<td>.07</td>
<td>8,024</td>
<td>12.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>14,168</td>
<td>14.83</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>7,132</td>
<td>13.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>15,331</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>.04</td>
<td>8,164</td>
<td>13.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
<td>10,046</td>
<td>15.07</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>5,555</td>
<td>14.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
<td>2,790</td>
<td>12.19</td>
<td>.09</td>
<td>1,448</td>
<td>11.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>59,314</td>
<td>12.91</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>29,571</td>
<td>12.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>9,523</td>
<td>11.79</td>
<td>.07</td>
<td>5,271</td>
<td>11.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>3,037</td>
<td>13.35</td>
<td>.22</td>
<td>1,612</td>
<td>12.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</td>
<td>13,284</td>
<td>11.05</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td>5,561</td>
<td>10.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marital Status</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>26,703</td>
<td>10.12</td>
<td>.02</td>
<td>12,571</td>
<td>9.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married, spouse present</td>
<td>34,624</td>
<td>14.91</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>17,162</td>
<td>13.78</td>
</tr>
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<td>Other marital status</td>
<td>12,599</td>
<td>13.18</td>
<td>.08</td>
<td>7,376</td>
<td>12.28</td>
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<td>Divorced</td>
<td>7,933</td>
<td>14.14</td>
<td>.09</td>
<td>4,792</td>
<td>13.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
<td>3,171</td>
<td>11.85</td>
<td>.08</td>
<td>1,749</td>
<td>11.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>1,496</td>
<td>12.15</td>
<td>.14</td>
<td>1,194</td>
<td>11.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Union Affiliation$^1$</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members of unions$^2$</td>
<td>8,869</td>
<td>18.32</td>
<td>.18</td>
<td>3,497</td>
<td>16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Represented by unions$^3$</td>
<td>9,681</td>
<td>18.12</td>
<td>.11</td>
<td>3,923</td>
<td>15.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not represented by a union</td>
<td>64,245</td>
<td>12.07</td>
<td>.02</td>
<td>33,546</td>
<td>11.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Educational Attainment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 25 years and older</td>
<td>59,490</td>
<td>14.12</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>30,323</td>
<td>13.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>6,905</td>
<td>10.20</td>
<td>.03</td>
<td>2,706</td>
<td>9.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduates, no college</td>
<td>21,386</td>
<td>13.46</td>
<td>.08</td>
<td>10,002</td>
<td>11.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college or associate's degree</td>
<td>19,562</td>
<td>14.78</td>
<td>.06</td>
<td>10,694</td>
<td>13.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree and higher</td>
<td>11,637</td>
<td>18.59</td>
<td>.19</td>
<td>6,920</td>
<td>18.06</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See footnotes at end of table.
Table 9. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, by selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Number of workers (in thousands)</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Standard error of median</th>
<th>Women's earnings as a percent of men's</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
<td>36,457</td>
<td>$13.80</td>
<td>$0.06</td>
<td>86.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>7,290</td>
<td>9.23</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>94.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>1,872</td>
<td>8.16</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>97.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>5,418</td>
<td>9.90</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>92.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>29,167</td>
<td>15.11</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>86.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>9,132</td>
<td>13.18</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>92.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>7,036</td>
<td>16.03</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>83.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>7,167</td>
<td>16.88</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>81.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
<td>4,491</td>
<td>17.07</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>82.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
<td>1,341</td>
<td>12.85</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>91.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>29,743</td>
<td>14.02</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>85.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>4,252</td>
<td>12.06</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>93.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>1,425</td>
<td>14.25</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>89.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</td>
<td>7,703</td>
<td>11.81</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>86.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital Status</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>14,132</td>
<td>10.52</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>93.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married, spouse present</td>
<td>17,462</td>
<td>16.05</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>85.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other marital status</td>
<td>4,864</td>
<td>14.90</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>82.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>3,140</td>
<td>15.77</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>82.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
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<td>12.36</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>90.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>15.02</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>78.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union Affiliation¹</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members of unions²</td>
<td>5,372</td>
<td>20.04</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>79.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Represented by unions³</td>
<td>5,758</td>
<td>19.95</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>79.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not represented by a union</td>
<td>30,699</td>
<td>12.76</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>91.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Attainment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 25 years and older</td>
<td>29,167</td>
<td>15.11</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>86.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>4,199</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>83.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduates, no college</td>
<td>11,383</td>
<td>15.03</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>79.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college or associate's degree</td>
<td>8,668</td>
<td>16.08</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>85.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree and higher</td>
<td>4,717</td>
<td>19.43</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>92.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Differences in earnings levels between workers with and without union affiliation reflect a variety of factors in addition to coverage by a collective bargaining agreement, including the distribution of male and female employees by occupation, industry, firm size, and geographic region.

² Data refer to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union.

³ Data refer to workers who report no union affiliation but whose jobs are covered by a union or an employee association contract, as well as to members of a labor union or an employee association similar to a union.

NOTE: Workers paid hourly rates represented 59 percent of all wage and salary workers in 2011. Estimates for the race groups listed (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.

Table 10. Distribution of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, by hourly earnings and selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages

(In thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Total employed</th>
<th>Number of workers by hourly earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Under $6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age and sex</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
<td>73,926</td>
<td>1,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>14,436</td>
<td>533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>3,956</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>10,501</td>
<td>354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>59,490</td>
<td>717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>17,155</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>14,188</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>15,331</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
<td>10,046</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
<td>2,790</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women, 16 years and older</td>
<td>37,469</td>
<td>867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>7,147</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>2,064</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>5,083</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>30,323</td>
<td>501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>8,024</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>7,132</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>8,164</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
<td>5,555</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
<td>1,448</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men, 16 years and older</td>
<td>36,457</td>
<td>383</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>7,290</td>
<td>167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>1,872</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>5,418</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>29,167</td>
<td>216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
<td>9,132</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
<td>7,036</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>7,167</td>
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<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
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<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
<td>1,341</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See note at end of table.
Table 10. Distribution of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, by hourly earnings and selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages—cont’d

(In thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Total employed</th>
<th>Number of workers by hourly earnings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Under $6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race, Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, and Sex</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>59,314</td>
<td>1,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>29,571</td>
<td>755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>29,743</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>9,523</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>5,271</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>4,252</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>3,037</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>1,612</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>1,425</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</td>
<td>13,264</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>5,561</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>7,703</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Workers paid hourly rates represented 59 percent of all wage and salary workers in 2011. Estimates for the race groups listed (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.

Table 11. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing federal minimum wage, by selected characteristics, 2011 annual averages
(Numbers in thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Below prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
<th>At prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
<th>Total at or below prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percent of workers paid hourly rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Below prevailing federal minimum wage</td>
<td>At prevailing federal minimum wage</td>
<td>Total at or below prevailing federal minimum wage</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percent of workers paid hourly rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age and sex</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Below prevailing federal minimum wage</td>
<td>At prevailing federal minimum wage</td>
<td>Total at or below prevailing federal minimum wage</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percent of workers paid hourly rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, 16 years and older</td>
<td>73,926</td>
<td>2,152</td>
<td>1,677</td>
<td>3,829</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 24 years</td>
<td>14,436</td>
<td>1,003</td>
<td>893</td>
<td>1,896</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
<td>3,936</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>899</td>
<td>22.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>10,501</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>997</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
<td>59,490</td>
<td>1,149</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>1,933</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>25 to 34 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
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<td>238</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>399</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
<td>15,331</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>382</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
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<td>104</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>221</td>
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<td>123</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women, 16 years and older</td>
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<tr>
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<td>279</td>
<td>526</td>
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<td>25 years and older</td>
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<td>202</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
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<td>152</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
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<td>165</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>270</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
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<td>69</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 years and older</td>
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<td>50</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men, 16 years and older</td>
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<td>388</td>
<td>787</td>
<td>10.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 to 19 years</td>
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<td>212</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>5,418</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 years and older</td>
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<td>260</td>
<td>647</td>
<td>2.2</td>
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<td>25 to 34 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>35 to 44 years</td>
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<td>56</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>45 to 54 years</td>
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<td>58</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>113</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 to 64 years</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>3.1</td>
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</table>

See note at end of table.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristic</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Below prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
<th>At prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
<th>Total at or below prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Percent of workers paid hourly rates</td>
<td>Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Race and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>59,314</td>
<td>1,748</td>
<td>1,258</td>
<td>3,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>29,571</td>
<td>1,124</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>1,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>29,743</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>1,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>9,523</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>5,271</td>
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<td>208</td>
<td>356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>4,252</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>3,037</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>1,612</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>1,425</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</td>
<td>13,264</td>
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1 The distinction between full-time and part-time workers is based on hours usually worked. These data do not sum to totals because full-time or part-time status on the principal or main job is not identifiable for a small number of multiple jobholders.

NOTE: The prevailing federal minimum wage was $7.25 in 2011. See the technical note for more information about minimum wage workers. Estimates for the race groups listed (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.

Table 12. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing federal minimum wage, by sex, 1979–2011 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year and sex</th>
<th>Total wage and salary workers</th>
<th>Workers paid hourly rates</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent of</th>
<th>Below prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
<th>At prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
<th>Total at or below prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
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See footnote at end of table.
Table 12. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing federal minimum wage, by sex, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d
(Numbers in thousands)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year and sex</th>
<th>Total wage and salary workers</th>
<th>Workers paid hourly rates</th>
<th>Total at or below prevailing federal minimum wage</th>
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<td>Percent of total</td>
<td>Below prevailing federal</td>
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See footnote at end of table.
Table 12. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing federal minimum wage, by sex, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

(Numbers in thousands)

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<th>Total wage and salary workers</th>
<th>Workers paid hourly rates</th>
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<td>Percent of total wage and salary workers</td>
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<td>Number</td>
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1 Data for 1990–91, 1996–97, and 2007–09 reflect changes in the minimum wage that took place in those years.


### Table 13. Women's earnings as a percent of men's, by age, for full-time wage and salary workers, 1979–2011

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**NOTE:** The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm #comp](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm #comp). The women's-to-men's earnings ratios shown here are calculated from the current-dollar median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in table 23.

Table 14. Women's earnings as a percent of men's, by race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, for full-time wage and salary workers, 1979–2011

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp. The women's-to-men's earnings ratios shown here are calculated from the current-dollar median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers in table 24. As of 2003, estimates for the race groups listed (White, Black or African American, and Asian) include persons who selected that race group only; persons who selected more than one race group are not included. Prior to 2003, persons who reported more than one race were included in the group they identified as the main race. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Asian data for 2000–2002 are for Asians and Pacific Islanders. As of 2003, Asians constitute a separate category. Data for Asians were not tabulated prior to 2000.

Dash indicates data not available.

### Table 15. Women’s earnings as a percent of men’s, by educational attainment, for full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older, 1979–2011

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<th>25 years and older</th>
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**NOTE:** The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information on historical comparability is online at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp). The women's-to-men's earnings ratios shown here are calculated from the current-dollar median hourly earnings of workers paid hourly rates in table 26.

Table 17. Women's earnings as a percent of men's, by race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, for wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, 1979–2011

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp). The women's-to-men's earnings ratios shown here are calculated from the current-dollar median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates in table 27. As of 2003, estimates for the race groups listed (White, Black or African American, and Asian) include persons who selected that race group only; persons who selected more than one race group are not included. Prior to 2003, persons who reported more than one race were included in the group they identified as the main race. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Asian data for 2000–2002 are for Asians and Pacific Islanders. As of 2003, Asians constitute a separate category. Data for Asians were not tabulated prior to 2000.

Dash indicates data not available.

Table 18. **Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex and age, 1979–2011 annual averages**

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Table 18. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex and age, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

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Table 18. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex and age, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm #comp](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp). The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See the technical note.

Table 19. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979–2011 annual averages

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Table 19. **Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d**

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See note at end of table.
Table 19. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp. As of 2003, estimates for the race groups listed (White, Black or African American, and Asian) include persons who selected that race group only; persons who selected more than one race group are not included. Prior to 2003, persons who reported more than one race were included in the group they identified as the main race. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Asian data for 2000–2002 are for Asians and Pacific Islanders. As of 2003, Asians constitute a separate category. Data for Asians were not tabulated prior to 2000. The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See the technical note.

Dash indicates data not available.

Table 20. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex and educational attainment, 1979–2011 annual averages

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Table 20. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex and educational attainment, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp. The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See the technical note.

Table 21. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex and age, 1979–2011 annual averages

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Table 21. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex and age, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm) #comp. The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See the technical note.

Table 22. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979–2011 annual averages

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Table 22. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, in constant (2011) dollars, by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp). As of 2003, estimates for the race groups listed (White, Black or African American, and Asian) include persons who selected that race group only; persons who selected more than one race group are not included. Prior to 2003, persons who reported more than one race were included in the group they identified as the main race. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Asian data for 2000–2002 are for Asians and Pacific Islanders. As of 2003, Asians constitute a separate category. Data for Asians were not tabulated prior to 2000. The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. See the technical note.

Dash indicates data not available.

Table 23. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in current dollars, by sex and age, 1979–2011 annual averages

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Table 23. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in current dollars, by sex and age, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm #comp.

Table 24. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in current dollars, by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979–2011 annual averages

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Table 24. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers, in current dollars, by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp. As of 2003, estimates for the race groups listed (White, Black or African American, and Asian) include persons who selected that race group only; persons who selected more than one race group are not included. Prior to 2003, persons who reported more than one race were included in the group they identified as the main race. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Asian data for 2000–2002 are for Asians and Pacific Islanders. As of 2003, Asians constitute a separate category. Data for Asians were not tabulated prior to 2000.

Dash indicates data not available.

Table 25. **Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older, in current dollars, by sex and educational attainment, 1979–2011 annual averages**

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Table 25.  **Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older, in current dollars, by sex and educational attainment, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont'd**

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See note at end of table.
Table 25. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers 25 years and older, in current dollars, by sex and educational attainment, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d

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<th>Year and sex</th>
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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp.

Table 26. **Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, in current dollars, by sex and age, 1979–2011 annual averages**

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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm) #comp.

Table 27. Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, in current dollars, by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979–2011 annual averages

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See note at end of table.
Table 27. **Median hourly earnings of wage and salary workers paid hourly rates, in current dollars, by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 1979–2011 annual averages—cont’d**

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<th>Year and sex</th>
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NOTE: The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and other changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). Information about historical comparability is online at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#comp). As of 2003, estimates for the race groups listed (White, Black or African American, and Asian) include persons who selected that race group only; persons who selected more than one race group are not included. Prior to 2003, persons who reported more than one race were included in the group they identified as the main race. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Asian data for 2000–2002 are for Asians and Pacific Islanders. As of 2003, Asians constitute a separate category. Data for Asians were not tabulated prior to 2000.

Dash indicates data not available.

The estimates in this report were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides a wide range of information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) by the U.S. Census Bureau, using a national sample of about 60,000 households, with coverage in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The earnings data are collected from one-fourth of the CPS sample.

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**Concepts and definitions**

The principal concepts and definitions used in connection with the earnings data in this report are described next.

**Usual weekly earnings.** Data are collected on wages and salaries before taxes and other deductions, and include any overtime pay, commissions, and tips usually received (at the principal job in the case of multiple jobholders). All self-employed workers are excluded, both those with incorporated businesses and those with unincorporated businesses. 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, or other) and how much they usually earn in the period reported. 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.** Most of the earnings estimates shown in this report are medians. 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 workers in a given distribution have earnings below the upper limit of the first decile (90 percent have higher earnings), 25 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the first quartile (75 percent have higher earnings), 75 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the third quartile (25 percent have higher earnings), and 90 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the ninth decile (10 percent have higher earnings).

The BLS estimating procedure for determining the median of an earnings distribution places each reported or calculated weekly earnings value into a $50-wide interval that is centered around a multiple of $50. The median is estimated through the linear interpolation of the interval in which the median lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians (and other quantile boundaries) for specific groups may not necessarily be consistent with the movements estimated for the overall quantile boundary. The most common reasons for this possible anomaly are as follows:

- 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 older may rise, but if the lower earning 16-to-24 age group accounts for a greatly increased share of the total, the overall median could actually fall.

- There could be a large change in the shape of the distribution of reported earnings, particularly near a quantile boundary. This change could be caused by survey observations that are clustered at rounded values—for example, $300, $400, or $500. 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. Consider, for example, the calculation of the median for a multipeaked distribution that shifts over time. As such a distribution shifts, the median does not necessarily move at the same rate. Specifically, the median takes relatively more time to move through a frequently reported earnings interval, but once above the upper limit of such an interval, it can move relatively quickly to the next frequently reported interval. BLS procedures for estimating medians (and other quantile boundaries) mitigate such irregular movements of the measures; however, users should be cautious of these effects when evaluating short-term changes in the medians and in ratios of the medians.

**Constant dollars.** The Consumer Price Index research series using current methods (CPI-U-RS) is used to convert current dollars to constant dollars. BLS has made numerous improvements to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over the years. Although these improvements make the CPI more accurate, the official histories of price index series are not adjusted to reflect the improvements. Because many researchers need a historical series that measures price change consistently over time, BLS developed the CPI-U-RS to provide an estimate of the CPI that incorporates most of the methodological improvements made since 1978 into the entire series. (For further information, see Kenneth J. Stewart...
BLS does not routinely estimate the hourly earnings of workers not paid by the hour because of data quality concerns associated with such an estimation process.

The prevailing Federal minimum wage was $2.90, effective January 1, 1979; $3.10, effective January 1, 1980; $3.35, effective January 1, 1981; $3.80, effective April 1, 1990; $4.25, effective April 1, 1991; $4.75, effective October 1, 1996; $5.15, effective September 1, 1997; $5.85, effective July 24, 2007; $6.55, effective July 24, 2008; and $7.25, effective July 24, 2009. Data for 1990–1991, 1996–1997, and 2007–2009 reflect changes in the minimum wage that took place during those years. Note that some states have established minimum-wage standards that exceed the federal level.

The presence of workers with hourly earnings below the minimum wage does not necessarily indicate violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), because there are a number of exemptions to the minimum-wage provisions of the law. In addition, some workers might have rounded their hourly earnings in response to survey questions. As a result, some might have reported hourly earnings below the minimum wage when, in fact, they earned the minimum wage or higher.

Reliability
Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. Whenever a sample, rather than an entire population, is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the “true” population values they represent. The exact difference, or sampling error, varies with 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 generally are conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence. Estimates of earnings and their standard errors can be used to construct approximate confidence intervals, or ranges of values, that include the true population value with known probabilities.

The CPS data also are affected by nonsampling error. This kind of error can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information on all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information, and errors made in data collection or processing. For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and for information on estimating standard errors, see the “Reliability of the estimates” section of Household Data technical documentation on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cps/ceotech_methods.pdf.