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Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers: 2005

Abstract

[Excerpt] According to Current Population Survey estimates for 2005, 75.6 million American workers were paid at hourly rates, representing 60.1 percent of all wage and salary workers. Of those paid by the hour, 479,000 were reported as earning exactly \$5.15, the prevailing Federal minimum wage. Another 1.4 million were reported as earning wages below the minimum. Together, these 1.9 million workers with wages at or below the minimum made up 2.5 percent of all hourly-paid workers. Tables 1-10 present data on a wide array of demographic and socioeconomic characteristics for hourly-paid workers earning at or below the Federal minimum wage.

Keywords

minimum wage, wage and salary workers, income, employment, demographics

Comments

Suggested Citation

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Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers: 2005

According to Current Population Survey estimates for 2005, 75.6 million American workers were paid at hourly rates, representing 60.1 percent of all wage and salary workers.¹ Of those paid by the hour, 479,000 were reported as earning exactly \$5.15, the prevailing Federal minimum wage. Another 1.4 million were reported as earning wages below the minimum.² Together, these 1.9 million workers with wages at or below the minimum made up 2.5 percent of all hourly-paid workers. Tables 1-10 present data on a wide array of demographic and socioeconomic characteristics for hourly-paid workers earning at or below the Federal minimum wage. The following are some highlights from the 2005 data.

- Minimum wage workers tend to be young. About half of workers earning \$5.15 or less were under age 25, and about one-fourth of workers earning at or below the minimum wage were age 16-19. Among employed teenagers, about 9 percent earned \$5.15 or less. About 2 percent of workers age 25 and over earned the minimum wage or less. Among those age 65 and over, the proportion was about 3 percent. (See table 1 and table 7.)
- About 3 percent of women paid hourly rates reported wages at or below the prevailing Federal minimum, compared with under 2 percent of men. (See table 1.)
- Less than 3 percent of white hourly-paid workers earned \$5.15 or less. Among black, Asian, and Hispanic hourly-paid workers, about 2 percent earned the Federal minimum wage or less. For whites and Hispanics, women were twice as likely as men to earn \$5.15 or less. (See table 1.)
- Never-married workers, who tend to be young, were more likely to earn the minimum wage or less than married workers. (See table 8.)
- Among hourly-paid workers age 16 and over, 2 percent of those who had a high school diploma but had not gone on to college earned the minimum wage or less. (See table 6.)
- Part-time workers (persons who usually work less than 35 hours per week) were more likely than their full-time counterparts to be paid \$5.15 or less (about 6 percent versus 1 percent). (See table 1 and table 9.)
- By occupational group, the highest proportion of workers earning at or below the Federal minimum wage occurred in service occupations, at about 8 percent. About three in four workers earning \$5.15 or less in 2005 were employed in service occupations, mostly in food preparation and service jobs. The proportion of hourly-paid workers whose earnings were reported at or below \$5.15 was lowest for persons employed in management, professional, and related occupations and natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations (less than 1 percent for both). (See table 4.)
- The industry with the highest proportion of workers with reported hourly wages at or below \$5.15 was leisure and hospitality (about 14 percent). About three-fifths of all workers paid at or below the Federal minimum wage were employed in this industry, primarily in the food services and drinking places component. For many of these workers, tips and commissions supplement the hourly wages received. (See table 5.)
- Among the states, Oklahoma and West Virginia had the highest proportion of hourly-paid workers earning at or below \$5.15 (at about 4 percent). Alaska, California, and Washington had the lowest proportion earning the minimum wage or less (less than 1 percent). It should be noted that some states have minimum wage laws establishing minimum wage standards that exceed the Federal level of \$5.15 per hour. (See table 2 and table 3.)
- The proportion of hourly-paid workers earning the prevailing Federal minimum wage or less has trended downward since 1979, when data first began to be collected on a regular basis. (See table 10.)

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Bureau of Labor Statistics' data on minimum wage earners are derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a nationwide sample survey of households that includes questions enabling the identification of hourly-paid workers and their hourly wage rate. Data in this summary are 2005 annual averages.

¹ Data are for wage and salary workers, excluding the incorporated self-employed, and refer to earnings on a person's sole or principal job.

² It should be noted that the presence of a sizable number of workers with reported wages below the minimum does not necessarily indicate violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as there are exemptions to the minimum wage provisions of the law. Indeed, the relatively large number of workers with reported wages below the minimum in 2005 includes about 300,000 hourly-paid workers reported as earning exactly \$5.00 per hour; to some extent, this may reflect rounding in the responses of survey participants. The estimates of the numbers of minimum and subminimum wage workers presented in the accompanying tables pertain to workers *paid at hourly rates*; salaried and other non-hourly workers are excluded. As such, the actual number of workers with earnings at or below the prevailing minimum is undoubtedly understated. Research has shown that a relatively smaller number and share of salaried workers and others *not* paid by the hour have earnings that, when translated into hourly rates, are at or below the minimum wage. However, BLS does not routinely estimate hourly earnings for non-hourly workers because of data concerns that arise in producing these estimates. For further information, see Steven Haugen and Earl Mellor, "Estimating the number of minimum wage workers," *Monthly Labor Review*, January 1990.

Table 1. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by selected characteristics, 2005 annual averages

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			At or below \$5.15 per hour		
		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15	Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15
AGE AND SEX											
Total, 16 years and over.....	75,609	1,882	479	1,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	0.6	1.9
16 to 24 years.....	16,374	1,003	283	720	21.7	53.3	59.1	51.3	6.1	1.7	4.4
16 to 19 years.....	5,528	491	179	312	7.3	26.1	37.4	22.2	8.9	3.2	5.6
25 years and over.....	59,235	879	196	683	78.3	46.7	40.9	48.7	1.5	0.3	1.2
Men, 16 years and over.....	37,652	648	189	459	49.8	34.4	39.5	32.7	1.7	0.5	1.2
16 to 24 years.....	8,288	353	130	223	11.0	18.8	27.1	15.9	4.3	1.6	2.7
16 to 19 years.....	2,654	172	86	86	3.5	9.1	18.0	6.1	6.5	3.2	3.2
25 years and over.....	29,364	296	60	236	38.8	15.7	12.5	16.8	1.0	0.2	0.8
Women, 16 years and over.....	37,957	1,234	290	944	50.2	65.6	60.5	67.3	3.3	0.8	2.5
16 to 24 years.....	8,086	649	153	496	10.7	34.5	31.9	35.4	8.0	1.9	6.1
16 to 19 years.....	2,874	318	93	225	3.8	16.9	19.4	16.0	11.1	3.2	7.8
25 years and over.....	29,871	584	137	447	39.5	31.0	28.6	31.9	2.0	0.5	1.5
RACE, SEX, AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY											
White ¹	60,978	1,537	349	1,188	80.6	81.7	72.9	84.7	2.5	0.6	1.9
Men.....	30,901	485	133	352	40.9	25.8	27.8	25.1	1.6	0.4	1.1
Women.....	30,078	1,052	216	836	39.8	55.9	45.1	59.6	3.5	0.7	2.8
Black or African American ¹	9,793	215	96	119	13.0	11.4	20.0	8.5	2.2	1.0	1.2
Men.....	4,421	105	42	63	5.8	5.6	8.8	4.5	2.4	1.0	1.4
Women.....	5,372	111	54	57	7.1	5.9	11.3	4.1	2.1	1.0	1.1
Asian ¹	2,720	65	14	51	3.6	3.5	2.9	3.6	2.4	0.5	1.9
Men.....	1,283	30	5	25	1.7	1.6	1.0	1.8	2.3	0.4	1.9
Women.....	1,437	35	9	26	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.4	0.6	1.8
Hispanic or Latino ¹	12,527	281	71	210	16.6	14.9	14.8	15.0	2.2	0.6	1.7
Men.....	7,467	114	29	85	9.9	6.1	6.1	6.1	1.5	0.4	1.1
Women.....	5,060	167	42	125	6.7	8.9	8.8	8.9	3.3	0.8	2.5
FULL- AND PART-TIME STATUS AND SEX											
Full-time workers ²	57,385	751	143	608	75.9	39.9	29.9	43.3	1.3	0.2	1.1
Men.....	31,911	321	69	252	42.2	17.1	14.4	18.0	1.0	0.2	0.8
Women.....	25,474	430	74	356	33.7	22.8	15.4	25.4	1.7	0.3	1.4
Part-time workers ²	18,084	1,126	336	790	23.9	59.8	70.1	56.3	6.2	1.9	4.4
Men.....	5,669	327	120	207	7.5	17.4	25.1	14.8	5.8	2.1	3.7
Women.....	12,415	799	216	583	16.4	42.5	45.1	41.6	6.4	1.7	4.7

¹ Detail for the race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) will not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as race.

² The distinction between full- and part-time workers is based on hours usually worked. These data will not sum to totals because full- or part-time status on the principal job is not identifiable for a small number of multiple jobholders.

NOTE: Data exclude all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated.

Table 2. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by census region and division, 2005 annual averages

Region and division	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			At or below \$5.15 per hour		
		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15	Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15
Total, 16 years and over....	75,609	1,882	479	1,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	0.6	1.9
Northeast.....	13,284	302	61	241	17.6	16.0	12.7	17.2	2.3	0.5	1.8
New England.....	3,836	71	9	62	5.1	3.8	1.9	4.4	1.9	0.2	1.6
Middle Atlantic.....	9,448	232	52	180	12.5	12.3	10.9	12.8	2.5	0.6	1.9
North Central.....	18,879	502	112	390	25.0	26.7	23.4	27.8	2.7	0.6	2.1
East North Central.....	13,015	341	65	276	17.2	18.1	13.6	19.7	2.6	0.5	2.1
West North Central.....	5,864	160	46	114	7.8	8.5	9.6	8.1	2.7	0.8	1.9
South.....	26,138	813	232	581	34.6	43.2	48.4	41.4	3.1	0.9	2.2
South Atlantic.....	13,578	388	83	305	18.0	20.6	17.3	21.7	2.9	0.6	2.2
East South Central.....	4,442	145	51	94	5.9	7.7	10.6	6.7	3.3	1.1	2.1
West South Central.....	8,118	279	97	182	10.7	14.8	20.3	13.0	3.4	1.2	2.2
West.....	17,309	266	75	191	22.9	14.1	15.7	13.6	1.5	0.4	1.1
Mountain.....	5,237	158	52	106	6.9	8.4	10.9	7.6	3.0	1.0	2.0
Pacific.....	12,071	108	23	85	16.0	5.7	4.8	6.1	0.9	0.2	0.7

NOTE: Data exclude all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated.

The four major regions and nine census divisions of the United States are as follows:

Northeast:

New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont

Middle Atlantic: New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania

North Central:

East North Central: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin

West North Central: Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota

South:

South Atlantic: Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia

East South Central: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee

West South Central: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas

West:

Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming

Pacific: Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington

Table 3. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by State, 2005 annual averages

State	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			At or below \$5.15 per hour		
		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15	Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15
Total, 16 years and over..	75,609	1,882	479	1,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	0.6	1.9
Alabama.....	1,152	36	16	20	1.5	1.9	3.3	1.4	3.1	1.4	1.7
Alaska.....	192	1	-	1	0.3	0.1	-	0.1	0.5	-	0.5
Arizona.....	1,396	47	11	36	1.8	2.5	2.3	2.6	3.4	0.8	2.6
Arkansas.....	700	25	14	11	0.9	1.3	2.9	0.8	3.6	2.0	1.6
California.....	8,846	82	20	62	11.7	4.4	4.2	4.4	0.9	0.2	0.7
Colorado.....	1,131	34	9	25	1.5	1.8	1.9	1.8	3.0	0.8	2.2
Connecticut.....	892	9	1	8	1.2	0.5	0.2	0.6	1.0	0.1	0.9
Delaware.....	219	4	1	3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.8	0.5	1.4
District of Columbia.....	110	2	-	2	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	1.8	-	1.8
Florida.....	4,404	117	12	105	5.8	6.2	2.5	7.5	2.7	0.3	2.4
Georgia.....	2,060	66	14	52	2.7	3.5	2.9	3.7	3.2	0.7	2.5
Hawaii.....	341	4	-	4	0.4	0.3	-	0.3	1.2	-	1.2
Idaho.....	415	12	4	8	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.6	2.9	1.0	1.9
Illinois.....	3,207	77	12	65	4.2	4.1	2.5	4.6	2.4	0.4	2.0
Indiana.....	1,794	37	6	31	2.4	2.0	1.3	2.2	2.1	0.3	1.7
Iowa.....	922	20	4	16	1.2	1.1	0.8	1.1	2.2	0.4	1.7
Kansas.....	770	27	8	19	1.0	1.4	1.7	1.4	3.5	1.0	2.5
Kentucky.....	1,120	35	9	26	1.5	1.9	1.9	1.9	3.1	0.8	2.3
Louisiana.....	1,109	42	18	24	1.5	2.2	3.8	1.7	3.8	1.6	2.2
Maine.....	409	8	1	7	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.5	2.0	0.2	1.7
Maryland.....	1,318	28	2	26	1.7	1.5	0.4	1.9	2.1	0.2	2.0
Massachusetts.....	1,666	31	4	27	2.2	1.6	0.8	1.9	1.9	0.2	1.6
Michigan.....	2,869	88	16	72	3.8	4.7	3.3	5.1	3.1	0.6	2.5
Minnesota.....	1,593	29	11	18	2.1	1.5	2.3	1.3	1.8	0.7	1.1
Mississippi.....	664	23	8	15	0.9	1.2	1.7	1.1	3.5	1.2	2.3
Missouri.....	1,613	56	15	41	2.1	3.0	3.1	2.9	3.5	0.9	2.5
Montana.....	278	6	4	2	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.1	2.2	1.4	0.7
Nebraska.....	544	17	5	12	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.9	3.1	0.9	2.2
Nevada.....	684	19	10	9	0.9	1.0	2.1	0.6	2.8	1.5	1.3
New Hampshire.....	377	11	2	9	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6	2.9	0.5	2.4
New Jersey.....	1,922	40	9	31	2.5	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.1	0.5	1.6
New Mexico.....	505	18	8	10	0.7	1.0	1.7	0.7	3.6	1.6	2.0
New York.....	4,186	95	18	77	5.5	5.0	3.8	5.5	2.3	0.4	1.8
North Carolina.....	2,176	58	13	45	2.9	3.1	2.7	3.2	2.7	0.6	2.1
North Dakota.....	183	4	1	3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.2	0.5	1.6
Ohio.....	3,403	111	26	85	4.5	5.9	5.4	6.1	3.3	0.8	2.5
Oklahoma.....	841	36	10	26	1.1	1.9	2.1	1.9	4.3	1.2	3.1
Oregon.....	959	10	1	9	1.3	0.5	0.2	0.6	1.0	0.1	0.9
Pennsylvania.....	3,340	97	25	72	4.4	5.2	5.2	5.1	2.9	0.7	2.2
Rhode Island.....	309	8	-	8	0.4	0.4	-	0.6	2.6	-	2.6
South Carolina.....	1,073	34	10	24	1.4	1.8	2.1	1.7	3.2	0.9	2.2
South Dakota.....	240	9	3	6	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.4	3.8	1.3	2.5
Tennessee.....	1,506	51	17	34	2.0	2.7	3.5	2.4	3.4	1.1	2.3
Texas.....	5,467	176	55	121	7.2	9.4	11.5	8.6	3.2	1.0	2.2
Utah.....	677	16	4	12	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	2.4	0.6	1.8
Vermont.....	182	3	-	3	0.2	0.2	-	0.2	1.6	-	1.6
Virginia.....	1,753	60	22	38	2.3	3.2	4.6	2.7	3.4	1.3	2.2
Washington.....	1,733	10	1	9	2.3	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.5
West Virginia.....	466	20	10	10	0.6	1.1	2.1	0.7	4.3	2.1	2.1
Wisconsin.....	1,743	27	5	22	2.3	1.4	1.0	1.6	1.5	0.3	1.3
Wyoming.....	150	4	1	3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.7	0.7	2.0

NOTE: Data exclude all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated. Users are reminded that these data are based on a sample and are therefore subject to sampling error; the degree of error may be quite large for less populous States. It is not possible to clearly determine whether workers surveyed in the CPS are actually covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) or by individual State minimum wage laws. Thus, some workers reported as earning an hourly wage of \$5.15 may not in fact be covered by Federal or State minimum wage laws and there are a number of States that have minimum wages that exceed the Federal minimum wage. At the same time, the presence of a sizable number of workers with wages below the prevailing Federal minimum wage does not necessarily indicate violations of the FLSA or applicable State laws, because there are numerous exclusions and exemptions to these minimum wage statutes. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 4. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by major occupation group, 2005 annual averages

Occupation	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			At or below \$5.15 per hour		
		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15	Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15
Total, 16 years and over.....	75,609	1,882	479	1,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	0.6	1.9
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	14,258	72	26	46	18.9	3.8	5.4	3.3	0.5	0.2	0.3
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	3,893	22	7	15	5.1	1.2	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.2	0.4
Professional and related occupations.....	10,366	51	19	32	13.7	2.7	4.0	2.3	0.5	0.2	0.3
Service occupations.....	16,751	1,394	242	1,152	22.2	74.1	50.5	82.1	8.3	1.4	6.9
Healthcare support occupations.....	2,565	40	6	34	3.4	2.1	1.3	2.4	1.6	0.2	1.3
Protective service occupations.....	1,775	21	4	17	2.3	1.1	0.8	1.2	1.2	0.2	1.0
Food preparation and serving related occupations.....	6,493	1,131	165	966	8.6	60.1	34.4	68.9	17.4	2.5	14.9
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	3,590	89	34	55	4.7	4.7	7.1	3.9	2.5	0.9	1.5
Personal care and service occupations.....	2,328	113	32	81	3.1	6.0	6.7	5.8	4.9	1.4	3.5
Sales and office occupations.....	20,930	240	136	104	27.7	12.8	28.4	7.4	1.1	0.6	0.5
Sales and related occupations.....	7,612	142	77	65	10.1	7.5	16.1	4.6	1.9	1.0	0.9
Office and administrative support occupations.....	13,318	98	59	39	17.6	5.2	12.3	2.8	0.7	0.4	0.3
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	9,900	48	18	30	13.1	2.6	3.8	2.1	0.5	0.2	0.3
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	623	14	7	7	0.8	0.7	1.5	0.5	2.2	1.1	1.1
Construction and extraction occupations.....	5,828	18	6	12	7.7	1.0	1.3	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.2
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	3,449	16	5	11	4.6	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.3
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	13,770	128	57	71	18.2	6.8	11.9	5.1	0.9	0.4	0.5
Production occupations.....	7,658	47	19	28	10.1	2.5	4.0	2.0	0.6	0.2	0.4
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	6,112	81	38	43	8.1	4.3	7.9	3.1	1.3	0.6	0.7

NOTE: Data exclude all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated.

Table 5. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by major industry group, 2005 annual averages

Industry	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			At or below \$5.15 per hour		
		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15	Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15
Total, 16 years and over.....	75,609	1,882	479	1,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	0.6	1.9
Private sector.....	66,135	1,782	438	1,344	87.5	94.7	91.4	95.8	2.7	0.7	2.0
Agriculture and related industries.....	641	15	8	7	0.8	0.8	1.7	0.5	2.3	1.2	1.1
Nonagricultural industries.....	65,495	1,767	430	1,337	86.6	93.9	89.8	95.3	2.7	0.7	2.0
Mining.....	390	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction.....	5,897	19	4	15	7.8	1.0	0.8	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.3
Manufacturing.....	10,299	39	14	25	13.6	2.1	2.9	1.8	0.4	0.1	0.2
Durable goods	6,462	18	3	15	8.5	1.0	0.6	1.1	0.3	0.0	0.2
Nondurable goods	3,837	20	10	10	5.1	1.1	2.1	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.3
Wholesale and retail trade.....	12,765	181	100	81	16.9	9.6	20.9	5.8	1.4	0.8	0.6
Wholesale trade.....	2,044	7	4	3	2.7	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1
Retail trade.....	10,721	174	96	78	14.2	9.2	20.0	5.6	1.6	0.9	0.7
Transportation and utilities.....	3,029	22	7	15	4.0	1.2	1.5	1.1	0.7	0.2	0.5
Information.....	1,406	16	7	9	1.9	0.9	1.5	0.6	1.1	0.5	0.6
Financial activities.....	3,366	17	9	8	4.5	0.9	1.9	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.2
Professional and business services.....	5,537	59	19	40	7.3	3.1	4.0	2.9	1.1	0.3	0.7
Education and health services.....	11,335	126	38	88	15.0	6.7	7.9	6.3	1.1	0.3	0.8
Leisure and hospitality.....	8,420	1,201	197	1,004	11.1	63.8	41.1	71.6	14.3	2.3	11.9
Other services.....	3,051	87	35	52	4.0	4.6	7.3	3.7	2.9	1.1	1.7
Public sector.....	9,474	100	41	59	12.5	5.3	8.6	4.2	1.1	0.4	0.6
Federal.....	1,892	14	8	6	2.5	0.7	1.7	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.3
State.....	2,464	25	11	14	3.3	1.3	2.3	1.0	1.0	0.4	0.6
Local.....	5,118	61	21	40	6.8	3.2	4.4	2.9	1.2	0.4	0.8

NOTE: Data exclude all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 6. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by educational attainment, 2005 annual averages

Educational attainment	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			At or below \$5.15 per hour		
		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15	Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15
Total, 16 years and over.....	75,609	1,882	479	1,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	0.6	1.9
Less than a high school diploma.....	12,647	561	211	350	16.7	29.8	44.1	24.9	4.4	1.7	2.8
Less than 1 year of high school.....	3,576	91	32	59	4.7	4.8	6.7	4.2	2.5	0.9	1.6
1 to 3 years of high school.....	7,800	439	170	269	10.3	23.3	35.5	19.2	5.6	2.2	3.4
4 years of high school, no diploma.....	1,271	32	9	23	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.6	2.5	0.7	1.8
High school graduates or more.....	62,963	1,321	268	1,053	83.3	70.2	55.9	75.1	2.1	0.4	1.7
High school graduates, no college.....	27,622	547	129	418	36.5	29.1	26.9	29.8	2.0	0.5	1.5
Some college or associate degree.....	24,654	645	120	525	32.6	34.3	25.1	37.4	2.6	0.5	2.1
Some college, no degree.....	16,857	536	97	439	22.3	28.5	20.3	31.3	3.2	0.6	2.6
Associate degree.....	7,797	109	23	86	10.3	5.8	4.8	6.1	1.4	0.3	1.1
Occupational program.....	4,301	52	10	42	5.7	2.8	2.1	3.0	1.2	0.2	1.0
Academic program.....	3,496	57	13	44	4.6	3.0	2.7	3.1	1.6	0.4	1.3
College graduates, total.....	10,687	127	18	109	14.1	6.7	3.8	7.8	1.2	0.2	1.0
Bachelor's degree.....	8,485	113	17	96	11.2	6.0	3.5	6.8	1.3	0.2	1.1
Master's degree.....	1,702	12	1	11	2.3	0.6	0.2	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.6
Professional degree.....	311	1	-	1	0.4	0.1	-	0.1	0.3	-	0.3
Doctoral degree.....	188	2	-	2	0.2	0.1	-	0.1	1.1	-	1.1

NOTE: Data exclude all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria.

Table 7. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by age and sex, 2005 annual averages

Age and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			At or below \$5.15 per hour		
		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15	Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15
BOTH SEXES											
Total, 16 years and over.....	75,609	1,882	479	1,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	0.6	1.9
Under 25 years.....	16,374	1,003	283	720	21.7	53.3	59.1	51.3	6.1	1.7	4.4
16 to 19 years.....	5,528	491	179	312	7.3	26.1	37.4	22.2	8.9	3.2	5.6
20 to 24 years.....	10,846	512	104	408	14.3	27.2	21.7	29.1	4.7	1.0	3.8
25 years and over.....	59,235	879	196	683	78.3	46.7	40.9	48.7	1.5	0.3	1.2
25 to 34 years.....	16,779	373	67	306	22.2	19.8	14.0	21.8	2.2	0.4	1.8
25 to 29 years.....	8,692	229	38	191	11.5	12.2	7.9	13.6	2.6	0.4	2.2
30 to 34 years.....	8,088	144	28	116	10.7	7.7	5.8	8.3	1.8	0.3	1.4
35 to 44 years.....	16,761	208	39	169	22.2	11.1	8.1	12.0	1.2	0.2	1.0
35 to 39 years.....	7,992	107	23	84	10.6	5.7	4.8	6.0	1.3	0.3	1.1
40 to 44 years.....	8,769	101	16	85	11.6	5.4	3.3	6.1	1.2	0.2	1.0
45 to 54 years.....	15,419	164	30	134	20.4	8.7	6.3	9.6	1.1	0.2	0.9
45 to 49 years.....	8,417	100	19	81	11.1	5.3	4.0	5.8	1.2	0.2	1.0
50 to 54 years.....	7,002	64	11	53	9.3	3.4	2.3	3.8	0.9	0.2	0.8
55 to 64 years.....	8,015	79	37	42	10.6	4.2	7.7	3.0	1.0	0.5	0.5
55 to 59 years.....	5,163	46	18	28	6.8	2.4	3.8	2.0	0.9	0.3	0.5
60 to 64 years.....	2,851	32	18	14	3.8	1.7	3.8	1.0	1.1	0.6	0.5
65 years and over.....	2,261	56	24	32	3.0	3.0	5.0	2.3	2.5	1.1	1.4
65 to 69 years.....	1,236	22	10	12	1.6	1.2	2.1	0.9	1.8	0.8	1.0
70 years and over.....	1,025	34	14	20	1.4	1.8	2.9	1.4	3.3	1.4	2.0
MEN											
Total, 16 years and over.....	37,652	648	189	459	49.8	34.4	39.5	32.7	1.7	0.5	1.2
Under 25 years.....	8,288	353	130	223	11.0	18.8	27.1	15.9	4.3	1.6	2.7
16 to 19 years.....	2,654	172	86	86	3.5	9.1	18.0	6.1	6.5	3.2	3.2
20 to 24 years.....	5,634	180	43	137	7.5	9.6	9.0	9.8	3.2	0.8	2.4
25 years and over.....	29,364	296	60	236	38.8	15.7	12.5	16.8	1.0	0.2	0.8
25 to 34 years.....	9,063	144	22	122	12.0	7.7	4.6	8.7	1.6	0.2	1.3
25 to 29 years.....	4,756	90	13	77	6.3	4.8	2.7	5.5	1.9	0.3	1.6
30 to 34 years.....	4,307	54	9	45	5.7	2.9	1.9	3.2	1.3	0.2	1.0
35 to 44 years.....	8,374	60	14	46	11.1	3.2	2.9	3.3	0.7	0.2	0.5
35 to 39 years.....	4,082	35	9	26	5.4	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.9	0.2	0.6
40 to 44 years.....	4,292	26	5	21	5.7	1.4	1.0	1.5	0.6	0.1	0.5
45 to 54 years.....	7,222	55	13	42	9.6	2.9	2.7	3.0	0.8	0.2	0.6
45 to 49 years.....	3,959	38	8	30	5.2	2.0	1.7	2.1	1.0	0.2	0.8
50 to 54 years.....	3,264	16	5	11	4.3	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.3
55 to 64 years.....	3,695	23	7	16	4.9	1.2	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.2	0.4
55 to 59 years.....	2,369	14	2	12	3.1	0.7	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.1	0.5
60 to 64 years.....	1,326	8	4	4	1.8	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.3
65 years and over.....	1,009	14	4	10	1.3	0.7	0.8	0.7	1.4	0.4	1.0
65 to 69 years.....	547	5	2	3	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.5
70 years and over.....	462	8	1	7	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.5	1.7	0.2	1.5
WOMEN											
Total, 16 years and over.....	37,957	1,234	290	944	50.2	65.6	60.5	67.3	3.3	0.8	2.5
Under 25 years.....	8,086	649	153	496	10.7	34.5	31.9	35.4	8.0	1.9	6.1
16 to 19 years.....	2,874	318	93	225	3.8	16.9	19.4	16.0	11.1	3.2	7.8
20 to 24 years.....	5,212	331	60	271	6.9	17.6	12.5	19.3	6.4	1.2	5.2
25 years and over.....	29,871	584	137	447	39.5	31.0	28.6	31.9	2.0	0.5	1.5
25 to 34 years.....	7,716	230	45	185	10.2	12.2	9.4	13.2	3.0	0.6	2.4
25 to 29 years.....	3,936	140	26	114	5.2	7.4	5.4	8.1	3.6	0.7	2.9
30 to 34 years.....	3,781	89	19	70	5.0	4.7	4.0	5.0	2.4	0.5	1.9
35 to 44 years.....	8,387	147	25	122	11.1	7.8	5.2	8.7	1.8	0.3	1.5
35 to 39 years.....	3,910	72	14	58	5.2	3.8	2.9	4.1	1.8	0.4	1.5
40 to 44 years.....	4,477	76	12	64	5.9	4.0	2.5	4.6	1.7	0.3	1.4
45 to 54 years.....	8,197	110	17	93	10.8	5.8	3.5	6.6	1.3	0.2	1.1
45 to 49 years.....	4,459	62	11	51	5.9	3.3	2.3	3.6	1.4	0.2	1.1
50 to 54 years.....	3,738	47	5	42	4.9	2.5	1.0	3.0	1.3	0.1	1.1
55 to 64 years.....	4,319	56	30	26	5.7	3.0	6.3	1.9	1.3	0.7	0.6
55 to 59 years.....	2,794	33	16	17	3.7	1.8	3.3	1.2	1.2	0.6	0.6
60 to 64 years.....	1,525	24	14	10	2.0	1.3	2.9	0.7	1.6	0.9	0.7
65 years and over.....	1,252	42	20	22	1.7	2.2	4.2	1.6	3.4	1.6	1.8
65 to 69 years.....	689	17	8	9	0.9	0.9	1.7	0.6	2.5	1.2	1.3
70 years and over.....	563	26	13	13	0.7	1.4	2.7	0.9	4.6	2.3	2.3

NOTE: Data exclude all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated.

Table 8. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by marital status, age, and sex, 2005 annual averages

Marital status, age, and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			At or below \$5.15 per hour		
		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15	Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15
BOTH SEXES											
Total, 16 years and over....	75,609	1,882	479	1,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	0.6	1.9
Never married.....	26,288	1,213	325	888	34.8	64.5	67.8	63.3	4.6	1.2	3.4
16 to 24 years.....	14,289	929	268	661	18.9	49.4	55.9	47.1	6.5	1.9	4.6
25 years and over.....	11,998	284	57	227	15.9	15.1	11.9	16.2	2.4	0.5	1.9
25 to 54 years.....	11,362	273	50	223	15.0	14.5	10.4	15.9	2.4	0.4	2.0
Married, spouse present..	36,340	422	93	329	48.1	22.4	19.4	23.4	1.2	0.3	0.9
16 to 24 years.....	1,683	49	10	39	2.2	2.6	2.1	2.8	2.9	0.6	2.3
25 years and over.....	34,657	375	84	291	45.8	19.9	17.5	20.7	1.1	0.2	0.8
25 to 54 years.....	28,181	308	54	254	37.3	16.4	11.3	18.1	1.1	0.2	0.9
Other marital status.....	12,982	247	61	186	17.2	13.1	12.7	13.3	1.9	0.5	1.4
16 to 24 years.....	402	25	5	20	0.5	1.3	1.0	1.4	6.2	1.2	5.0
25 years and over.....	12,580	222	56	166	16.6	11.8	11.7	11.8	1.8	0.4	1.3
25 to 54 years.....	9,416	163	31	132	12.5	8.7	6.5	9.4	1.7	0.3	1.4
MEN											
Total, 16 years and over....	37,652	648	189	459	49.8	34.4	39.5	32.7	1.7	0.5	1.2
Never married.....	13,980	473	145	328	18.5	25.1	30.3	23.4	3.4	1.0	2.3
16 to 24 years.....	7,349	336	128	208	9.7	17.9	26.7	14.8	4.6	1.7	2.8
25 years and over.....	6,632	138	17	121	8.8	7.3	3.5	8.6	2.1	0.3	1.8
25 to 54 years.....	6,344	134	16	118	8.4	7.1	3.3	8.4	2.1	0.3	1.9
Married, spouse present..	18,695	111	28	83	24.7	5.9	5.8	5.9	0.6	0.1	0.4
16 to 24 years.....	769	11	1	10	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.7	1.4	0.1	1.3
25 years and over.....	17,926	100	27	73	23.7	5.3	5.6	5.2	0.6	0.2	0.4
25 to 54 years.....	14,433	81	20	61	19.1	4.3	4.2	4.3	0.6	0.1	0.4
Other marital status.....	4,977	64	16	48	6.6	3.4	3.3	3.4	1.3	0.3	1.0
16 to 24 years.....	171	6	1	5	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	3.5	0.6	2.9
25 years and over.....	4,806	58	15	43	6.4	3.1	3.1	3.1	1.2	0.3	0.9
25 to 54 years.....	3,882	44	13	31	5.1	2.3	2.7	2.2	1.1	0.3	0.8
WOMEN											
Total, 16 years and over....	37,957	1,234	290	944	50.2	65.6	60.5	67.3	3.3	0.8	2.5
Never married.....	12,307	740	180	560	16.3	39.3	37.6	39.9	6.0	1.5	4.6
16 to 24 years.....	6,941	593	140	453	9.2	31.5	29.2	32.3	8.5	2.0	6.5
25 years and over.....	5,367	147	40	107	7.1	7.8	8.4	7.6	2.7	0.7	2.0
25 to 54 years.....	5,018	140	35	105	6.6	7.4	7.3	7.5	2.8	0.7	2.1
Married, spouse present..	17,645	313	66	247	23.3	16.6	13.8	17.6	1.8	0.4	1.4
16 to 24 years.....	914	38	9	29	1.2	2.0	1.9	2.1	4.2	1.0	3.2
25 years and over.....	16,730	275	57	218	22.1	14.6	11.9	15.5	1.6	0.3	1.3
25 to 54 years.....	13,748	227	34	193	18.2	12.1	7.1	13.8	1.7	0.2	1.4
Other marital status.....	8,005	182	45	137	10.6	9.7	9.4	9.8	2.3	0.6	1.7
16 to 24 years.....	231	18	4	14	0.3	1.0	0.8	1.0	7.8	1.7	6.1
25 years and over.....	7,774	163	40	123	10.3	8.7	8.4	8.8	2.1	0.5	1.6
25 to 54 years.....	5,534	119	18	101	7.3	6.3	3.8	7.2	2.2	0.3	1.8

NOTE: Data exclude all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated.

Table 9. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by usual hours worked on primary job per week, 2005 annual averages

Usual hours worked per week on primary job	Number of workers (in thousands)				Percent distribution				Percent of workers paid hourly rates		
	Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			Total paid hourly rates	At or below \$5.15 per hour			At or below \$5.15 per hour		
		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15		Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15	Total	At \$5.15	Below \$5.15
Total, 16 years and over.....	75,609	1,882	479	1,403	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.5	0.6	1.9
Hours vary.....	5,695	273	55	218	7.5	14.5	11.5	15.5	4.8	1.0	3.8
0 to 34 hours.....	15,861	974	305	669	21.0	51.8	63.7	47.7	6.1	1.9	4.2
0 to 4 hours.....	324	20	5	15	0.4	1.1	1.0	1.1	6.2	1.5	4.6
5 to 9 hours.....	876	65	24	41	1.2	3.5	5.0	2.9	7.4	2.7	4.7
10 to 14 hours.....	1,427	104	41	63	1.9	5.5	8.6	4.5	7.3	2.9	4.4
15 to 19 hours.....	2,100	143	42	101	2.8	7.6	8.8	7.2	6.8	2.0	4.8
20 to 24 hours.....	4,796	291	114	177	6.3	15.5	23.8	12.6	6.1	2.4	3.7
25 to 29 hours.....	2,149	148	41	107	2.8	7.9	8.6	7.6	6.9	1.9	5.0
30 to 34 hours.....	4,189	202	37	165	5.5	10.7	7.7	11.8	4.8	0.9	3.9
35 hours or more.....	54,054	634	119	515	71.5	33.7	24.8	36.7	1.2	0.2	1.0
35 to 39 hours.....	5,330	187	38	149	7.0	9.9	7.9	10.6	3.5	0.7	2.8
40 hours or more.....	48,725	448	81	367	64.4	23.8	16.9	26.2	0.9	0.2	0.8
40 hours.....	41,954	380	63	317	55.5	20.2	13.2	22.6	0.9	0.2	0.8
41 hours or more.....	6,771	67	18	49	9.0	3.6	3.8	3.5	1.0	0.3	0.7
41 to 44 hours.....	826	3	1	2	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2
45 to 48 hours.....	2,415	26	8	18	3.2	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.1	0.3	0.7
49 to 59 hours.....	2,518	20	5	15	3.3	1.1	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.2	0.6
60 hours or more.....	1,013	19	4	15	1.3	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.9	0.4	1.5

NOTE: Data exclude all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated.

Table 10. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-2005 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Year and sex	Total wage and salary workers	Workers paid hourly rates					Total at or below prevailing Federal minimum wage	
		Total	Percent of total wage and salary workers	Below prevailing Federal minimum wage	At prevailing Federal minimum wage	Number	Percent of hourly paid workers	
BOTH SEXES								
1979.....	87,529	51,721	59.1	2,916	3,997	6,912	13.4	
1980.....	87,644	51,335	58.6	3,087	4,686	7,773	15.1	
1981.....	88,516	51,869	58.6	3,513	4,311	7,824	15.1	
1982.....	87,368	50,846	58.2	2,348	4,148	6,496	12.8	
1983.....	88,290	51,820	58.7	2,077	4,261	6,338	12.2	
1984.....	92,194	54,143	58.7	1,838	4,125	5,963	11.0	
1985.....	94,521	55,762	59.0	1,639	3,899	5,538	9.9	
1986 ¹	96,903	57,529	59.4	1,599	3,461	5,060	8.8	
1987.....	99,303	59,552	60.0	1,468	3,229	4,698	7.9	
1988.....	101,407	60,878	60.0	1,319	2,608	3,927	6.5	
1989.....	103,480	62,389	60.3	1,372	1,790	3,162	5.1	
1990 ¹	104,876	63,172	60.2	² 1,132	¹ 1,096	³ 2,228	⁵ 1	
1991.....	103,723	62,627	60.4	² 1,377	² 1,906	⁵ 2,283	⁸ 4	
1992.....	104,668	63,610	60.8	1,939	2,982	4,921	7.7	
1993.....	106,101	64,274	60.6	1,707	2,625	4,332	6.7	
1994 ¹	107,989	66,549	61.6	1,995	2,132	4,128	6.2	
1995.....	110,038	68,354	62.1	1,699	1,956	3,656	5.3	
1996.....	111,960	69,255	61.9	¹ 1,863	¹ 1,861	³ 3,724	⁵ 4	
1997 ¹	114,533	70,735	61.8	² 2,990	¹ 1,764	⁴ 4,754	⁶ 7	
1998 ¹	116,730	71,440	61.2	2,834	1,593	4,427	6.2	
1999 ¹	118,963	72,306	60.8	2,194	1,146	3,340	4.6	
2000 ¹	122,089	73,496	60.2	1,752	898	2,650	3.6	
2001.....	122,229	73,392	60.0	1,518	656	2,174	3.0	
2002.....	121,826	72,508	59.5	1,579	567	2,146	3.0	
2003 ¹	122,358	72,946	59.6	1,555	545	2,100	2.9	
2004 ¹	123,554	73,939	59.8	1,483	520	2,003	2.7	
2005.....	125,889	75,609	60.1	1,403	479	1,882	2.5	
MEN								
1979.....	49,400	28,392	57.5	846	1,353	2,199	7.7	
1980.....	48,700	27,709	56.9	983	1,696	2,678	9.7	
1981.....	48,844	27,576	56.5	1,119	1,533	2,652	9.6	
1982.....	47,591	26,481	55.6	697	1,587	2,284	8.6	
1983.....	47,856	26,831	56.1	585	1,658	2,243	8.4	
1984.....	50,022	28,140	56.3	490	1,626	2,116	7.5	
1985.....	51,015	28,893	56.6	440	1,544	1,984	6.9	
1986 ¹	51,942	29,666	57.1	408	1,336	1,743	5.9	
1987.....	52,938	30,474	57.6	364	1,283	1,647	5.4	
1988.....	53,912	31,058	57.6	311	1,066	1,377	4.4	
1989.....	54,789	31,687	57.8	379	733	1,112	3.5	
1990 ¹	55,553	32,104	57.8	² 712	³ 385	¹ 1,097	³ 4	
1991.....	54,618	31,639	57.9	² 795	¹ 1,114	¹ 1,909	⁶ 0	
1992.....	54,826	32,155	58.6	653	1,231	1,885	5.9	
1993.....	55,475	32,337	58.3	573	1,091	1,664	5.1	
1994 ¹	56,570	33,528	59.3	674	891	1,565	4.7	
1995.....	57,669	34,420	59.7	542	796	1,338	3.9	
1996.....	58,473	34,838	59.6	⁶ 19	⁷ 55	¹ 1,374	³ 9	
1997 ¹	59,825	35,521	59.4	¹ 1,147	⁶ 73	¹ 1,820	⁵ 1	
1998 ¹	60,973	35,761	58.7	1,039	628	1,667	4.7	
1999 ¹	61,914	36,073	58.3	768	446	1,214	3.4	
2000 ¹	63,662	36,720	57.7	582	319	901	2.5	
2001.....	63,647	36,544	57.4	497	247	744	2.0	
2002.....	63,272	36,000	56.9	582	217	799	2.2	
2003 ¹	63,236	35,853	56.7	493	213	706	2.0	
2004 ¹	64,145	36,806	57.4	470	210	680	1.8	
2005.....	65,466	37,652	57.5	459	189	648	1.7	

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 10. Wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-2005 annual averages -- Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Year and sex	Total wage and salary workers	Workers paid hourly rates					
		Total	Percent of total wage and salary workers	Below prevailing Federal minimum wage	At prevailing Federal minimum wage	Total at or below prevailing Federal minimum wage	
						Number	Percent of hourly paid workers
WOMEN							
1979.....	38,129	23,329	61.2	2,070	2,644	4,714	20.2
1980.....	38,944	23,626	60.7	2,104	2,990	5,095	21.6
1981.....	39,672	24,294	61.2	2,394	2,778	5,172	21.3
1982.....	39,777	24,365	61.3	1,651	2,561	4,212	17.3
1983.....	40,433	24,989	61.8	1,492	2,603	4,095	16.4
1984.....	42,172	26,003	61.7	1,348	2,499	3,847	14.8
1985.....	43,506	26,869	61.8	1,198	2,356	3,554	13.2
1986 ¹	44,961	27,863	62.0	1,192	2,125	3,317	11.9
1987.....	46,365	29,078	62.7	1,105	1,946	3,051	10.5
1988.....	47,495	29,820	62.8	1,008	1,542	2,550	8.6
1989.....	48,691	30,702	63.1	994	1,056	2,050	6.7
1990 ¹	49,323	31,069	63.0	² 1,420	² 711	² 2,131	² 6.9
1991.....	49,105	30,988	63.1	² 1,582	² 1,792	² 3,374	² 10.9
1992.....	49,842	31,454	63.1	1,286	1,751	3,036	9.7
1993.....	50,626	31,937	63.1	1,133	1,534	2,667	8.4
1994 ¹	51,419	33,021	64.2	1,322	1,241	2,563	7.8
1995.....	52,369	33,934	64.8	1,157	1,161	2,318	6.8
1996.....	53,488	34,418	64.3	² 1,244	² 1,106	² 2,350	² 6.8
1997 ¹	54,708	35,214	64.4	² 1,843	² 1,092	² 2,935	² 8.3
1998 ¹	55,757	35,680	64.0	1,794	965	2,760	7.7
1999 ¹	57,050	36,233	63.5	1,426	700	2,126	5.9
2000 ¹	58,427	36,777	62.9	1,170	579	1,749	4.8
2001.....	58,582	36,848	62.9	1,021	409	1,430	3.9
2002.....	58,555	36,508	62.3	997	350	1,347	3.7
2003 ¹	59,122	37,093	62.7	1,062	332	1,394	3.8
2004 ¹	59,408	37,133	62.5	1,013	310	1,323	3.6
2005.....	60,423	37,957	62.8	944	290	1,234	3.3

¹ The comparability of historical labor force data has been affected at various times by methodological and conceptual changes in the Current Population Survey (CPS). For an explanation, see the Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error section of the February 2005 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

² Data for 1990-91 and 1996-97 reflect changes in the minimum wage that took place in those years.

NOTE: The prevailing Federal minimum wage was \$2.90 in 1979, \$3.10 in 1980, and \$3.35 in 1981-89. The minimum wage rose to \$3.80 in April 1990, to \$4.25 in April 1991, to \$4.75 in October 1996, and to \$5.15 in September 1997. Data exclude the incorporated self-employed. The presence of a sizable number of

workers with reported wages below the minimum does not necessarily indicate violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act, as there are numerous exemptions to the minimum wage provisions of the law. Indeed, the relatively large number of workers with reported wages below the minimum in 1998-2005 includes some hourly paid workers reported as earning exactly \$5.00 per hour (about 1.4 million in 1998, about 900,000 in 1999, about 600,000 in 2000, about 500,000 in 2001 and in 2002, about 350,000 in 2003 and in 2004, and 300,000 in 2005); to some extent, this may reflect rounding on the part of survey respondents.