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# Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers: 2006

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# Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers: 2006

## **Abstract**

[Excerpt] According to Current Population Survey estimates for 2006, 76.5 million American workers were paid at hourly rates, representing 59.7 percent of all wage and salary workers. Of those paid by the hour, 409,000 were reported as earning exactly \$5.15, the prevailing Federal minimum wage. Another 1.3 million were reported as earning wages below the minimum. Together, these 1.7 million workers with wages at or below the minimum made up 2.2 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: 2006**

Bureau of Labor Statistics  
U.S. Department of Labor

February 28, 2007

## Characteristics of Minimum Wage Workers: 2006

According to Current Population Survey estimates for 2006, 76.5 million American workers were paid at hourly rates, representing 59.7 percent of all wage and salary workers.<sup>1</sup> Of those paid by the hour, 409,000 were reported as earning exactly \$5.15, the prevailing Federal minimum wage. Another 1.3 million were reported as earning wages below the minimum.<sup>2</sup> Together, these 1.7 million workers with wages at or below the minimum made up 2.2 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 2006 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 8 percent earned \$5.15 or less. About 1 percent of workers age 25 and over earned the minimum wage or less. Among those age 65 and over, the proportion was about 2 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.)

-- About 2 percent of white, black, and Hispanic hourly-paid workers earned \$5.15 or less. Among Asian hourly-paid workers, about 1 percent earned the Federal minimum wage or less. For whites, 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, nearly 4 percent of those who had less than a high school diploma earned the minimum wage or less, compared to 2 percent of those who had a high school diploma (with no college), and 1 percent of college graduates. (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 major occupational group, the highest proportion of workers earning at or below the Federal minimum wage was in service occupations, at about 7 percent. Nearly three in four workers earning \$5.15 or less in 2006 were employed in service occupations, mostly in food preparation and service jobs. Fewer than 1 percent of hourly-paid workers in management, professional, and related occupations and in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations earned at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage. (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 13 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, Alabama, Arkansas, and Oklahoma had the highest proportion of hourly-paid workers earning at or below \$5.15 (nearly 4 percent). California and Minnesota 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 2006 annual averages.

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 2006 includes about 250,000 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, 2006 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
<b>AGE AND SEX</b>											
Total, 16 years and over.....	76,514	1,692	409	1,283	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	0.5	1.7
16 to 24 years.....	16,649	866	247	619	21.8	51.2	60.4	48.2	5.2	1.5	3.7
16 to 19 years.....	5,687	436	165	271	7.4	25.8	40.3	21.1	7.7	2.9	4.8
25 years and over.....	59,865	826	162	664	78.2	48.8	39.6	51.8	1.4	0.3	1.1
Men, 16 years and over.....	38,193	568	146	422	49.9	33.6	35.7	32.9	1.5	0.4	1.1
16 to 24 years.....	8,583	296	98	198	11.2	17.5	24.0	15.4	3.4	1.1	2.3
16 to 19 years.....	2,796	157	71	86	3.7	9.3	17.4	6.7	5.6	2.5	3.1
25 years and over.....	29,609	273	49	224	38.7	16.1	12.0	17.5	0.9	0.2	0.8
Women, 16 years and over.....	38,321	1,124	263	861	50.1	66.4	64.3	67.1	2.9	0.7	2.2
16 to 24 years.....	8,065	570	149	421	10.5	33.7	36.4	32.8	7.1	1.8	5.2
16 to 19 years.....	2,890	279	94	185	3.8	16.5	23.0	14.4	9.7	3.3	6.4
25 years and over.....	30,256	554	114	440	39.5	32.7	27.9	34.3	1.8	0.4	1.5
<b>RACE, SEX, AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>											
White <sup>1</sup> .....	61,907	1,434	329	1,105	80.9	84.8	80.4	86.1	2.3	0.5	1.8
Men.....	31,403	469	115	354	41.0	27.7	28.1	27.6	1.5	0.4	1.1
Women.....	30,504	966	215	751	39.9	57.1	52.6	58.5	3.2	0.7	2.5
Black or African American <sup>1</sup> .....	9,903	173	62	111	12.9	10.2	15.2	8.7	1.7	0.6	1.1
Men.....	4,485	68	28	40	5.9	4.0	6.8	3.1	1.5	0.6	0.9
Women.....	5,419	106	34	72	7.1	6.3	8.3	5.6	2.0	0.6	1.3
Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	2,654	38	8	30	3.5	2.2	2.0	2.3	1.4	0.3	1.1
Men.....	1,259	14	1	13	1.6	0.8	0.2	1.0	1.1	0.1	1.0
Women.....	1,395	24	7	17	1.8	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.7	0.5	1.2
Hispanic or Latino <sup>1</sup> .....	13,121	223	68	155	17.1	13.2	16.6	12.1	1.7	0.5	1.2
Men.....	7,780	96	29	67	10.2	5.7	7.1	5.2	1.2	0.4	0.9
Women.....	5,341	128	40	88	7.0	7.6	9.8	6.9	2.4	0.7	1.6
<b>FULL- AND PART-TIME STATUS AND SEX</b>											
Full-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	58,452	653	99	554	76.4	38.6	24.2	43.2	1.1	0.2	0.9
Men.....	32,477	248	35	213	42.4	14.7	8.6	16.6	0.8	0.1	0.7
Women.....	25,975	405	64	341	33.9	23.9	15.6	26.6	1.6	0.2	1.3
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	17,930	1,034	310	724	23.4	61.1	75.8	56.4	5.8	1.7	4.0
Men.....	5,652	317	112	205	7.4	18.7	27.4	16.0	5.6	2.0	3.6
Women.....	12,278	717	198	519	16.0	42.4	48.4	40.5	5.8	1.6	4.2

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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, 2006 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....	76,514	1,692	409	1,283	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	0.5	1.7
Northeast.....	13,271	273	56	217	17.3	16.1	13.7	16.9	2.1	0.4	1.6
New England.....	3,819	76	6	70	5.0	4.5	1.5	5.5	2.0	0.2	1.8
Middle Atlantic.....	9,452	198	51	147	12.4	11.7	12.5	11.5	2.1	0.5	1.6
Midwest.....	18,962	432	103	329	24.8	25.5	25.2	25.6	2.3	0.5	1.7
East North Central.....	13,113	311	71	240	17.1	18.4	17.4	18.7	2.4	0.5	1.8
West North Central.....	5,849	122	32	90	7.6	7.2	7.8	7.0	2.1	0.5	1.5
South.....	26,805	727	185	542	35.0	43.0	45.2	42.2	2.7	0.7	2.0
South Atlantic.....	13,874	328	51	277	18.1	19.4	12.5	21.6	2.4	0.4	2.0
East South Central.....	4,645	137	48	89	6.1	8.1	11.7	6.9	2.9	1.0	1.9
West South Central.....	8,286	262	86	176	10.8	15.5	21.0	13.7	3.2	1.0	2.1
West.....	17,475	259	65	194	22.8	15.3	15.9	15.1	1.5	0.4	1.1
Mountain.....	5,552	162	52	110	7.3	9.6	12.7	8.6	2.9	0.9	2.0
Pacific.....	11,924	97	13	84	15.6	5.7	3.2	6.5	0.8	0.1	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

Midwest:

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, 2006 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..	76,514	1,692	409	1,283	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	0.5	1.7
Alabama.....	1,202	43	13	30	1.6	2.5	3.2	2.3	3.6	1.1	2.5
Alaska.....	199	2	1	1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.0	0.5	0.5
Arizona.....	1,589	53	12	41	2.1	3.1	2.9	3.2	3.3	0.8	2.6
Arkansas.....	699	26	12	14	0.9	1.5	2.9	1.1	3.7	1.7	2.0
California.....	8,562	60	10	50	11.2	3.5	2.4	3.9	0.7	0.1	0.6
Colorado.....	1,149	37	8	29	1.5	2.2	2.0	2.3	3.2	0.7	2.5
Connecticut.....	914	13	2	11	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.9	1.4	0.2	1.2
Delaware.....	231	6	1	5	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	2.6	0.4	2.2
District of Columbia.....	100	3	1	2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	3.0	1.0	2.0
Florida.....	4,474	92	10	82	5.8	5.4	2.4	6.4	2.1	0.2	1.8
Georgia.....	2,127	55	5	50	2.8	3.3	1.2	3.9	2.6	0.2	2.4
Hawaii.....	347	4	1	3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.2	0.3	0.9
Idaho.....	425	13	5	8	0.6	0.8	1.2	0.6	3.1	1.2	1.9
Illinois.....	3,251	76	14	62	4.2	4.5	3.4	4.8	2.3	0.4	1.9
Indiana.....	1,826	34	8	26	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.4	1.4
Iowa.....	941	21	3	18	1.2	1.2	0.7	1.4	2.2	0.3	1.9
Kansas.....	780	23	6	17	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.3	2.9	0.8	2.2
Kentucky.....	1,175	26	8	18	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.4	2.2	0.7	1.5
Louisiana.....	994	33	12	21	1.3	2.0	2.9	1.6	3.3	1.2	2.1
Maine.....	397	9	1	8	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.6	2.3	0.3	2.0
Maryland.....	1,316	22	1	21	1.7	1.3	0.2	1.6	1.7	0.1	1.6
Massachusetts.....	1,619	35	1	34	2.1	2.1	0.2	2.7	2.2	0.1	2.1
Michigan.....	2,830	72	16	56	3.7	4.3	3.9	4.4	2.5	0.6	2.0
Minnesota.....	1,569	13	3	10	2.1	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.2	0.6
Mississippi.....	652	19	10	9	0.9	1.1	2.4	0.7	2.9	1.5	1.4
Missouri.....	1,581	36	12	24	2.1	2.1	2.9	1.9	2.3	0.8	1.5
Montana.....	285	6	5	1	0.4	0.4	1.2	0.1	2.1	1.8	0.4
Nebraska.....	549	15	3	12	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.9	2.7	0.5	2.2
Nevada.....	730	15	11	4	1.0	0.9	2.7	0.3	2.1	1.5	0.5
New Hampshire.....	370	8	1	7	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5	2.2	0.3	1.9
New Jersey.....	1,829	36	5	31	2.4	2.1	1.2	2.4	2.0	0.3	1.7
New Mexico.....	498	16	6	10	0.7	0.9	1.5	0.8	3.2	1.2	2.0
New York.....	4,166	67	11	56	5.4	4.0	2.7	4.4	1.6	0.3	1.3
North Carolina.....	2,246	52	12	40	2.9	3.1	2.9	3.1	2.3	0.5	1.8
North Dakota.....	187	6	2	4	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3	3.2	1.1	2.1
Ohio.....	3,426	93	29	64	4.5	5.5	7.1	5.0	2.7	0.8	1.9
Oklahoma.....	869	30	10	20	1.1	1.8	2.4	1.6	3.5	1.2	2.3
Oregon.....	1,021	10	-	10	1.3	0.6	-	0.8	1.0	-	1.0
Pennsylvania.....	3,456	96	35	61	4.5	5.7	8.6	4.8	2.8	1.0	1.8
Rhode Island.....	321	7	-	7	0.4	0.4	-	0.5	2.2	-	2.2
South Carolina.....	1,076	33	4	29	1.4	2.0	1.0	2.3	3.1	0.4	2.7
South Dakota.....	243	6	2	4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	2.5	0.8	1.6
Tennessee.....	1,616	49	16	33	2.1	2.9	3.9	2.6	3.0	1.0	2.0
Texas.....	5,724	173	52	121	7.5	10.2	12.7	9.4	3.0	0.9	2.1
Utah.....	724	17	4	13	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.3	0.6	1.8
Vermont.....	199	3	-	3	0.3	0.2	-	0.2	1.5	-	1.5
Virginia.....	1,840	51	10	41	2.4	3.0	2.4	3.2	2.8	0.5	2.2
Washington.....	1,795	23	2	21	2.3	1.4	0.5	1.6	1.3	0.1	1.2
West Virginia.....	463	14	7	7	0.6	0.8	1.7	0.5	3.0	1.5	1.5
Wisconsin.....	1,781	34	3	31	2.3	2.0	0.7	2.4	1.9	0.2	1.7
Wyoming.....	152	4	1	3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	2.6	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. Also, 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, 2006 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.....	76,514	1,692	409	1,283	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	0.5	1.7
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	14,271	75	29	46	18.7	4.4	7.1	3.6	0.5	0.2	0.3
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	3,910	21	5	16	5.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.5	0.1	0.4
Professional and related occupations.....	10,362	54	24	30	13.5	3.2	5.9	2.3	0.5	0.2	0.3
Service occupations.....	16,992	1,240	197	1,043	22.2	73.3	48.2	81.3	7.3	1.2	6.1
Healthcare support occupations.....	2,565	34	14	20	3.4	2.0	3.4	1.6	1.3	0.5	0.8
Protective service occupations.....	1,816	26	2	24	2.4	1.5	0.5	1.9	1.4	0.1	1.3
Food preparation and serving related occupations.....	6,524	1,003	120	883	8.5	59.3	29.3	68.8	15.4	1.8	13.5
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	3,685	86	34	52	4.8	5.1	8.3	4.1	2.3	0.9	1.4
Personal care and service occupations..	2,402	92	28	64	3.1	5.4	6.8	5.0	3.8	1.2	2.7
Sales and office occupations.....	21,092	225	131	94	27.6	13.3	32.0	7.3	1.1	0.6	0.4
Sales and related occupations.....	7,770	123	72	51	10.2	7.3	17.6	4.0	1.6	0.9	0.7
Office and administrative support occupations.....	13,322	102	59	43	17.4	6.0	14.4	3.4	0.8	0.4	0.3
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	10,321	39	11	28	13.5	2.3	2.7	2.2	0.4	0.1	0.3
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	597	17	7	10	0.8	1.0	1.7	0.8	2.8	1.2	1.7
Construction and extraction occupations.....	6,116	13	-	13	8.0	0.8	-	1.0	0.2	-	0.2
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	3,607	9	4	5	4.7	0.5	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	13,838	116	43	73	18.1	6.9	10.5	5.7	0.8	0.3	0.5
Production occupations.....	7,581	42	12	30	9.9	2.5	2.9	2.3	0.6	0.2	0.4
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	6,257	74	31	43	8.2	4.4	7.6	3.4	1.2	0.5	0.7

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



**Table 5. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by major industry group, 2006 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.....	76,514	1,692	409	1,283	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	0.5	1.7
Private sector.....	67,106	1,589	376	1,213	87.7	93.9	91.9	94.5	2.4	0.6	1.8
Agriculture and related industries.....	655	19	9	10	0.9	1.1	2.2	0.8	2.9	1.4	1.5
Nonagricultural industries.....	66,451	1,570	367	1,203	86.8	92.8	89.7	93.8	2.4	0.6	1.8
Mining.....	414	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction.....	6,144	13	3	10	8.0	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.2	-	0.2
Manufacturing.....	10,224	39	9	30	13.4	2.3	2.2	2.3	0.4	0.1	0.3
Durable goods .....	6,527	19	5	14	8.5	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
Nondurable goods .....	3,698	20	4	16	4.8	1.2	1.0	1.2	0.5	0.1	0.4
Wholesale and retail trade.....	12,921	140	76	64	16.9	8.3	18.6	5.0	1.1	0.6	0.5
Wholesale trade.....	1,988	11	3	8	2.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.4
Retail trade.....	10,933	129	72	57	14.3	7.6	17.6	4.4	1.2	0.7	0.5
Transportation and utilities.....	3,112	14	3	11	4.1	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.4
Information.....	1,476	15	12	3	1.9	0.9	2.9	0.2	1.0	0.8	0.2
Financial activities.....	3,449	18	13	5	4.5	1.1	3.2	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1
Professional and business services.....	5,648	52	16	36	7.4	3.1	3.9	2.8	0.9	0.3	0.6
Education and health services.....	11,559	122	56	66	15.1	7.2	13.7	5.1	1.1	0.5	0.6
Leisure and hospitality.....	8,407	1,067	152	915	11.0	63.1	37.2	71.3	12.7	1.8	10.9
Other services.....	3,097	91	28	63	4.0	5.4	6.8	4.9	2.9	0.9	2.0
Public sector.....	9,407	104	34	70	12.3	6.1	8.3	5.5	1.1	0.4	0.7
Federal.....	1,727	10	3	7	2.3	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.4
State.....	2,598	35	15	20	3.4	2.1	3.7	1.6	1.3	0.6	0.8
Local.....	5,082	59	16	43	6.6	3.5	3.9	3.4	1.2	0.3	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, 2006 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.....	76,514	1,692	409	1,283	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	0.5	1.7
Less than a high school diploma.....	12,760	477	186	291	16.7	28.2	45.5	22.7	3.7	1.5	2.3
Less than 1 year of high school.....	3,544	71	21	50	4.6	4.2	5.1	3.9	2.0	0.6	1.4
1 to 3 years of high school.....	7,830	376	157	219	10.2	22.2	38.4	17.1	4.8	2.0	2.8
4 years of high school, no diploma.....	1,386	30	8	22	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.7	2.2	0.6	1.6
High school graduates or more.....	63,574	1,215	223	992	83.1	71.8	54.5	77.3	1.9	0.4	1.6
High school graduates, no college.....	27,767	535	118	417	36.3	31.6	28.9	32.5	1.9	0.4	1.5
Some college or associate degree.....	25,031	553	91	462	32.7	32.7	22.2	36.0	2.2	0.4	1.8
Some college, no degree.....	17,039	435	77	358	22.3	25.7	18.8	27.9	2.6	0.5	2.1
Associate degree.....	7,992	119	14	105	10.4	7.0	3.4	8.2	1.5	0.2	1.3
Occupational program.....	4,326	60	7	53	5.7	3.5	1.7	4.1	1.4	0.2	1.2
Academic program.....	3,666	58	7	51	4.8	3.4	1.7	4.0	1.6	0.2	1.4
College graduates, total.....	10,956	127	14	113	14.3	7.5	3.4	8.8	1.2	0.1	1.0
Bachelor's degree.....	8,766	112	10	102	11.5	6.6	2.4	8.0	1.3	0.1	1.2
Master's degree.....	1,716	10	2	8	2.2	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.5
Professional degree.....	279	2	-	2	0.4	0.1	-	0.2	0.7	-	0.7
Doctoral degree.....	195	1	1	-	0.3	0.1	0.2	-	0.5	0.5	-

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, 2006 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
<b>BOTH SEXES</b>											
Total, 16 years and over.....	76,514	1,692	409	1,283	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	0.5	1.7
Under 25 years.....	16,649	866	247	619	21.8	51.2	60.4	48.2	5.2	1.5	3.7
16 to 19 years.....	5,687	436	165	271	7.4	25.8	40.3	21.1	7.7	2.9	4.8
20 to 24 years.....	10,962	430	82	348	14.3	25.4	20.0	27.1	3.9	0.7	3.2
25 years and over.....	59,865	826	162	664	78.2	48.8	39.6	51.8	1.4	0.3	1.1
25 to 34 years.....	17,019	358	51	307	22.2	21.2	12.5	23.9	2.1	0.3	1.8
25 to 29 years.....	9,187	241	36	205	12.0	14.2	8.8	16.0	2.6	0.4	2.2
30 to 34 years.....	7,833	117	15	102	10.2	6.9	3.7	8.0	1.5	0.2	1.3
35 to 44 years.....	16,396	191	32	159	21.4	11.3	7.8	12.4	1.2	0.2	1.0
35 to 39 years.....	7,823	96	13	83	10.2	5.7	3.2	6.5	1.2	0.2	1.1
40 to 44 years.....	8,573	94	19	75	11.2	5.6	4.6	5.8	1.1	0.2	0.9
45 to 54 years.....	15,672	150	31	119	20.5	8.9	7.6	9.3	1.0	0.2	0.8
45 to 49 years.....	8,560	86	15	71	11.2	5.1	3.7	5.5	1.0	0.2	0.8
50 to 54 years.....	7,111	64	16	48	9.3	3.8	3.9	3.7	0.9	0.2	0.7
55 to 64 years.....	8,402	72	24	48	11.0	4.3	5.9	3.7	0.9	0.3	0.6
55 to 59 years.....	5,442	39	12	27	7.1	2.3	2.9	2.1	0.7	0.2	0.5
60 to 64 years.....	2,960	34	12	22	3.9	2.0	2.9	1.7	1.1	0.4	0.7
65 years and over.....	2,376	55	24	31	3.1	3.3	5.9	2.4	2.3	1.0	1.3
65 to 69 years.....	1,276	26	13	13	1.7	1.5	3.2	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0
70 years and over.....	1,100	29	11	18	1.4	1.7	2.7	1.4	2.6	1.0	1.6
<b>MEN</b>											
Total, 16 years and over.....	38,193	568	146	422	49.9	33.6	35.7	32.9	1.5	0.4	1.1
Under 25 years.....	8,583	296	98	198	11.2	17.5	24.0	15.4	3.4	1.1	2.3
16 to 19 years.....	2,796	157	71	86	3.7	9.3	17.4	6.7	5.6	2.5	3.1
20 to 24 years.....	5,787	139	27	112	7.6	8.2	6.6	8.7	2.4	0.5	1.9
25 years and over.....	29,609	273	49	224	38.7	16.1	12.0	17.5	0.9	0.2	0.8
25 to 34 years.....	9,091	123	15	108	11.9	7.3	3.7	8.4	1.4	0.2	1.2
25 to 29 years.....	4,925	85	12	73	6.4	5.0	2.9	5.7	1.7	0.2	1.5
30 to 34 years.....	4,166	37	2	35	5.4	2.2	0.5	2.7	0.9	0.0	0.8
35 to 44 years.....	8,164	66	11	55	10.7	3.9	2.7	4.3	0.8	0.1	0.7
35 to 39 years.....	3,997	42	5	37	5.2	2.5	1.2	2.9	1.1	0.1	0.9
40 to 44 years.....	4,166	23	5	18	5.4	1.4	1.2	1.4	0.6	0.1	0.4
45 to 54 years.....	7,423	40	9	31	9.7	2.4	2.2	2.4	0.5	0.1	0.4
45 to 49 years.....	4,062	21	3	18	5.3	1.2	0.7	1.4	0.5	0.1	0.4
50 to 54 years.....	3,362	19	6	13	4.4	1.1	1.5	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.4
55 to 64 years.....	3,833	31	9	22	5.0	1.8	2.2	1.7	0.8	0.2	0.6
55 to 59 years.....	2,497	17	5	12	3.3	1.0	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.5
60 to 64 years.....	1,337	14	4	10	1.7	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.7
65 years and over.....	1,098	14	6	8	1.4	0.8	1.5	0.6	1.3	0.5	0.7
65 to 69 years.....	593	5	3	2	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.8	0.5	0.3
70 years and over.....	504	9	3	6	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.5	1.8	0.6	1.2
<b>WOMEN</b>											
Total, 16 years and over.....	38,321	1,124	263	861	50.1	66.4	64.3	67.1	2.9	0.7	2.2
Under 25 years.....	8,065	570	149	421	10.5	33.7	36.4	32.8	7.1	1.8	5.2
16 to 19 years.....	2,890	279	94	185	3.8	16.5	23.0	14.4	9.7	3.3	6.4
20 to 24 years.....	5,175	291	55	236	6.8	17.2	13.4	18.4	5.6	1.1	4.6
25 years and over.....	30,256	554	114	440	39.5	32.7	27.9	34.3	1.8	0.4	1.5
25 to 34 years.....	7,928	236	37	199	10.4	13.9	9.0	15.5	3.0	0.5	2.5
25 to 29 years.....	4,261	156	24	132	5.6	9.2	5.9	10.3	3.7	0.6	3.1
30 to 34 years.....	3,667	80	13	67	4.8	4.7	3.2	5.2	2.2	0.4	1.8
35 to 44 years.....	8,233	125	21	104	10.8	7.4	5.1	8.1	1.5	0.3	1.3
35 to 39 years.....	3,826	54	8	46	5.0	3.2	2.0	3.6	1.4	0.2	1.2
40 to 44 years.....	4,407	70	13	57	5.8	4.1	3.2	4.4	1.6	0.3	1.3
45 to 54 years.....	8,248	111	23	88	10.8	6.6	5.6	6.9	1.3	0.3	1.1
45 to 49 years.....	4,499	65	12	53	5.9	3.8	2.9	4.1	1.4	0.3	1.2
50 to 54 years.....	3,750	45	10	35	4.9	2.7	2.4	2.7	1.2	0.3	0.9
55 to 64 years.....	4,569	41	15	26	6.0	2.4	3.7	2.0	0.9	0.3	0.6
55 to 59 years.....	2,945	21	7	14	3.8	1.2	1.7	1.1	0.7	0.2	0.5
60 to 64 years.....	1,624	20	8	12	2.1	1.2	2.0	0.9	1.2	0.5	0.7
65 years and over.....	1,278	42	18	24	1.7	2.5	4.4	1.9	3.3	1.4	1.9
65 to 69 years.....	682	21	10	11	0.9	1.2	2.4	0.9	3.1	1.5	1.6
70 years and over.....	596	20	8	12	0.8	1.2	2.0	0.9	3.4	1.3	2.0

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, 2006 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
<b>BOTH SEXES</b>											
Total, 16 years and over....	76,514	1,692	409	1,283	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	0.5	1.7
Never married.....	27,081	1,084	276	808	35.4	64.1	67.5	63.0	4.0	1.0	3.0
16 to 24 years.....	14,636	796	231	565	19.1	47.0	56.5	44.0	5.4	1.6	3.9
25 years and over.....	12,446	288	45	243	16.3	17.0	11.0	18.9	2.3	0.4	2.0
25 to 54 years.....	11,770	273	39	234	15.4	16.1	9.5	18.2	2.3	0.3	2.0
Married, spouse present..	36,300	380	81	299	47.4	22.5	19.8	23.3	1.0	0.2	0.8
16 to 24 years.....	1,576	46	11	35	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.9	0.7	2.2
25 years and over.....	34,724	336	71	265	45.4	19.9	17.4	20.7	1.0	0.2	0.8
25 to 54 years.....	27,906	271	47	224	36.5	16.0	11.5	17.5	1.0	0.2	0.8
Other marital status.....	13,132	228	52	176	17.2	13.5	12.7	13.7	1.7	0.4	1.3
16 to 24 years.....	436	24	5	19	0.6	1.4	1.2	1.5	5.5	1.1	4.4
25 years and over.....	12,696	204	47	157	16.6	12.1	11.5	12.2	1.6	0.4	1.2
25 to 54 years.....	9,412	154	28	126	12.3	9.1	6.8	9.8	1.6	0.3	1.3
<b>MEN</b>											
Total, 16 years and over....	38,193	568	146	422	49.9	33.6	35.7	32.9	1.5	0.4	1.1
Never married.....	14,582	422	120	302	19.1	24.9	29.3	23.5	2.9	0.8	2.1
16 to 24 years.....	7,683	284	96	188	10.0	16.8	23.5	14.7	3.7	1.2	2.4
25 years and over.....	6,899	138	24	114	9.0	8.2	5.9	8.9	2.0	0.3	1.7
25 to 54 years.....	6,602	127	20	107	8.6	7.5	4.9	8.3	1.9	0.3	1.6
Married, spouse present..	18,482	100	18	82	24.2	5.9	4.4	6.4	0.5	0.1	0.4
16 to 24 years.....	720	10	2	8	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.6	1.4	0.3	1.1
25 years and over.....	17,762	89	16	73	23.2	5.3	3.9	5.7	0.5	0.1	0.4
25 to 54 years.....	14,114	68	8	60	18.4	4.0	2.0	4.7	0.5	0.1	0.4
Other marital status.....	5,128	48	9	39	6.7	2.8	2.2	3.0	0.9	0.2	0.8
16 to 24 years.....	180	2	-	2	0.2	0.1	-	0.2	1.1	-	1.1
25 years and over.....	4,948	45	8	37	6.5	2.7	2.0	2.9	0.9	0.2	0.7
25 to 54 years.....	3,962	34	6	28	5.2	2.0	1.5	2.2	0.9	0.2	0.7
<b>WOMEN</b>											
Total, 16 years and over....	38,321	1,124	263	861	50.1	66.4	64.3	67.1	2.9	0.7	2.2
Never married.....	12,499	662	156	506	16.3	39.1	38.1	39.4	5.3	1.2	4.0
16 to 24 years.....	6,953	512	135	377	9.1	30.3	33.0	29.4	7.4	1.9	5.4
25 years and over.....	5,546	150	21	129	7.2	8.9	5.1	10.1	2.7	0.4	2.3
25 to 54 years.....	5,168	147	19	128	6.8	8.7	4.6	10.0	2.8	0.4	2.5
Married, spouse present..	17,818	282	64	218	23.3	16.7	15.6	17.0	1.6	0.4	1.2
16 to 24 years.....	856	36	9	27	1.1	2.1	2.2	2.1	4.2	1.1	3.2
25 years and over.....	16,962	245	54	191	22.2	14.5	13.2	14.9	1.4	0.3	1.1
25 to 54 years.....	13,792	203	39	164	18.0	12.0	9.5	12.8	1.5	0.3	1.2
Other marital status.....	8,004	180	43	137	10.5	10.6	10.5	10.7	2.2	0.5	1.7
16 to 24 years.....	256	22	5	17	0.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	8.6	2.0	6.6
25 years and over.....	7,748	159	39	120	10.1	9.4	9.5	9.4	2.1	0.5	1.5
25 to 54 years.....	5,450	121	22	99	7.1	7.2	5.4	7.7	2.2	0.4	1.8

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

**Table 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, 2006 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.....	76,514	1,692	409	1,283	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	2.2	0.5	1.7
Hours vary.....	5,329	233	68	165	7.0	13.8	16.6	12.9	4.4	1.3	3.1
0 to 34 hours.....	15,890	897	261	636	20.8	53.0	63.8	49.6	5.6	1.6	4.0
0 to 4 hours.....	329	14	5	9	0.4	0.8	1.2	0.7	4.3	1.5	2.7
5 to 9 hours.....	868	57	17	40	1.1	3.4	4.2	3.1	6.6	2.0	4.6
10 to 14 hours.....	1,410	104	39	65	1.8	6.1	9.5	5.1	7.4	2.8	4.6
15 to 19 hours.....	2,210	137	47	90	2.9	8.1	11.5	7.0	6.2	2.1	4.1
20 to 24 hours.....	4,884	263	92	171	6.4	15.5	22.5	13.3	5.4	1.9	3.5
25 to 29 hours.....	2,115	120	21	99	2.8	7.1	5.1	7.7	5.7	1.0	4.7
30 to 34 hours.....	4,074	201	39	162	5.3	11.9	9.5	12.6	4.9	1.0	4.0
35 hours or more.....	55,294	562	80	482	72.3	33.2	19.6	37.6	1.0	0.1	0.9
35 to 39 hours.....	5,498	154	26	128	7.2	9.1	6.4	10.0	2.8	0.5	2.3
40 hours or more.....	49,796	409	55	354	65.1	24.2	13.4	27.6	0.8	0.1	0.7
40 hours.....	42,727	350	46	304	55.8	20.7	11.2	23.7	0.8	0.1	0.7
41 hours or more.....	7,069	57	8	49	9.2	3.4	2.0	3.8	0.8	0.1	0.7
41 to 44 hours.....	832	4	2	2	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2
45 to 48 hours.....	2,550	21	5	16	3.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.2	0.6
49 to 59 hours.....	2,629	21	1	20	3.4	1.2	0.2	1.6	0.8	-	0.8
60 hours or more.....	1,059	13	1	12	1.4	0.8	0.2	0.9	1.2	0.1	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 10. Employed wage and salary workers paid hourly rates with earnings at or below the prevailing Federal minimum wage by sex, 1979-2006 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
<b>BOTH SEXES</b>							
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 <sup>1</sup> .....	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 <sup>1</sup> .....	104,876	63,172	60.2	2,132	2,096	3,228	25.1
1991.....	103,723	62,627	60.4	2,377	2,906	25,283	28.4
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 <sup>1</sup> .....	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	2,863	2,861	3,724	25.4
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	114,533	70,735	61.8	2,990	2,764	24,754	26.7
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	116,730	71,440	61.2	2,834	1,593	4,427	6.2
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	118,963	72,306	60.8	2,194	1,146	3,340	4.6
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	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 <sup>1</sup> .....	122,358	72,946	59.6	1,555	545	2,100	2.9
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	123,554	73,939	59.8	1,483	520	2,003	2.7
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	125,889	75,609	60.1	1,403	479	1,882	2.5
2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	128,237	76,514	59.7	1,283	409	1,692	2.2
<b>MEN</b>							
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 <sup>1</sup> .....	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 <sup>1</sup> .....	55,553	32,104	57.8	2,712	2,385	2,097	23.4
1991.....	54,618	31,639	57.9	2,795	2,114	2,909	26.0
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 <sup>1</sup> .....	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	2,619	2,755	2,374	23.9
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	59,825	35,521	59.4	2,147	2,673	2,820	25.1
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	60,973	35,761	58.7	1,039	628	1,667	4.7
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	61,914	36,073	58.3	768	446	1,214	3.4
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	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 <sup>1</sup> .....	63,236	35,853	56.7	493	213	706	2.0
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	64,145	36,806	57.4	470	210	680	1.8
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	65,466	37,652	57.5	459	189	648	1.7
2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	66,811	38,193	57.2	422	146	568	1.5

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, 1979-2006 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
<b>WOMEN</b>							
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 <sup>1</sup> .....	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 <sup>1</sup> .....	49,323	31,069	63.0	<sup>2</sup> 1,420	<sup>2</sup> 711	<sup>2</sup> 1,131	<sup>2</sup> 6.9
1991.....	49,105	30,988	63.1	<sup>2</sup> 1,582	<sup>2</sup> 1,792	<sup>2</sup> 3,374	<sup>2</sup> 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 <sup>1</sup> .....	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	<sup>2</sup> 1,244	<sup>2</sup> 1,106	<sup>2</sup> 2,350	<sup>2</sup> 6.8
1997 <sup>1</sup> .....	54,708	35,214	64.4	<sup>2</sup> 1,843	<sup>2</sup> 1,092	<sup>2</sup> 2,935	<sup>2</sup> 8.3
1998 <sup>1</sup> .....	55,757	35,680	64.0	1,794	965	2,760	7.7
1999 <sup>1</sup> .....	57,050	36,233	63.5	1,426	700	2,126	5.9
2000 <sup>1</sup> .....	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 <sup>1</sup> .....	59,122	37,093	62.7	1,062	332	1,394	3.8
2004 <sup>1</sup> .....	59,408	37,133	62.5	1,013	310	1,323	3.6
2005 <sup>1</sup> .....	60,423	37,957	62.8	944	290	1,234	3.3
2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	61,426	38,321	62.4	861	263	1,124	2.9

<sup>1</sup> 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 2007 and subsequent issues of *Employment and Earnings*, a monthly BLS periodical.

<sup>2</sup> 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 all the self-employed, both unincorporated and incorporated. 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, 300,000 in 2005, and about 250,000 in 2006); to some extent, this may reflect rounding on the part of survey respondents.