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HIGHLIGHTS OF MELBOURNE-TITUSVILLE-PALM BAY, FL NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY NOVEMBER 2003

Workers in the Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay metropolitan area averaged \$18.14 per hour during November 2003, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin reported that white-collar workers averaged \$20.82 per hour and accounted for 62 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$14.37 per hour and represented 23 percent of the workforce, while the remainder worked in service occupations and earned \$12.62 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 97 firms representing 84,300 workers in the Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay metropolitan area, which includes Brevard County in Florida. Seventy-eight percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Melbourne metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 14 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, secretaries averaged \$13.50 per hour; general office clerks, \$12.51; and cashiers, \$7.96. Blue-collar occupations included truck drivers earning \$11.11 per hour and stock handlers and baggers at \$7.85. In the service occupations, public service police and detectives averaged \$17.40 per hour; and firefighting, \$15.27.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Melbourne area averaged \$19.40 per hour and part-timers earned \$8.59. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$16.32 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$14.08. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$10.86 per hour, while those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$23.37.

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

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay, FL National Compensation Survey November 2003 (Bulletin 3120-43). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Atlanta Information Office by calling 404-331-3415. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/home.htm>. Select survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Atlanta by dialing 404-331-3403 and requesting document 9490.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Atlanta Information Office at 404-331-3415 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay, FL, November 2003

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$18.14	3.6	\$17.04	4.3	\$21.98	2.8
All excluding sales	19.40	3.5	18.52	4.4	22.01	2.8
White collar	20.82	3.5	19.73	4.5	24.14	4.9
White collar excluding sales	23.73	2.9	23.53	3.7	24.17	4.8
Professional specialty and technical	27.01	2.3	26.96	3.1	27.10	3.3
Professional specialty	28.74	2.6	29.20	4.1	28.07	2.6
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	31.87	2.0	32.59	.5	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	—	—	—	—	—	—
Natural scientists	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health related	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, college and university	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social scientists and urban planners	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Technical	20.42	9.4	21.12	10.7	15.85	12.6
Executive, administrative, and managerial	29.70	6.0	31.57	7.3	24.64	11.8
Executives, administrators, and managers	33.59	7.7	33.76	9.0	32.64	4.1
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	33.12	9.7	33.09	10.0	—	—
Management related	20.97	4.5	22.69	7.4	19.45	1.4
Sales	9.31	7.0	9.31	7.0	—	—
Sales workers, other commodities	8.30	.9	8.30	.9	—	—
Cashiers	7.96	8.6	7.97	8.7	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	12.30	3.5	11.91	4.0	13.54	4.2
Secretaries	13.50	5.2	13.34	7.6	—	—
Records clerks, n.e.c.	9.38	4.4	—	—	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	12.39	6.6	—	—	—	—
General office clerks	12.51	3.5	12.44	3.9	—	—
Administrative support, n.e.c.	11.31	8.8	—	—	13.25	15.2
Blue collar	14.37	4.8	14.52	5.2	11.94	6.3
Precision production, craft, and repair	17.34	3.4	17.60	3.6	13.31	7.2
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	16.77	7.6	17.06	8.3	—	—
Inspectors, testers, and graders	11.78	19.7	11.78	19.7	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	12.69	25.7	12.76	26.3	—	—
Transportation and material moving	12.14	4.3	12.43	4.1	—	—
Truck drivers	11.11	7.4	11.35	7.5	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	8.69	6.2	8.65	6.4	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers	7.85	8.8	7.85	8.8	—	—
Service	12.62	7.7	8.76	8.3	18.39	1.3
Protective service	18.72	2.5	—	—	18.65	2.6
Firefighting	15.27	8.4	—	—	—	—
Police and detectives, public service	17.40	.4	—	—	17.40	.4
Food service	7.60	5.3	7.60	5.3	—	—
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other food service	7.72	5.6	7.72	5.6	—	—
Health service	9.38	2.0	9.38	2.0	—	—
Cleaning and building service	8.20	2.1	8.18	2.0	—	—
Personal service	9.93	4.3	10.08	4.6	—	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

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

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

Table 2. Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² National Compensation Survey, Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay, FL, November 2003

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$19.40	\$8.59	\$22.12	\$17.20	\$18.42	\$10.18
All excluding sales	20.29	9.31	22.34	18.61	19.54	-
White collar	21.96	9.59	25.92	19.61	21.37	-
White-collar excluding sales	23.87	18.01	26.42	22.93	23.98	-
Professional specialty and technical	27.14	-	28.01	26.52	27.01	-
Professional specialty	28.95	-	28.81	28.70	28.74	-
Technical	20.43	-	-	20.29	20.42	-
Executive, administrative, and managerial	29.74	-	-	29.95	29.70	-
Sales	10.36	7.49	-	9.16	9.20	-
Administrative support, including clerical	12.36	-	13.71	12.14	12.48	-
Blue collar	14.91	-	16.32	14.08	14.42	-
Precision production, craft, and repair	17.34	-	19.41	17.05	17.34	-
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	12.73	-	-	12.76	12.69	-
Transportation and material moving	12.26	-	13.13	11.49	12.02	-
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	8.92	-	13.28	8.09	8.63	-
Service	14.84	7.34	15.24	11.57	12.62	-
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	4.1	12.1	2.2	4.2	3.3	10.0
All excluding sales	3.6	16.5	2.0	4.3	3.5	-
White collar	3.8	18.4	2.8	4.4	2.7	-
White-collar excluding sales	3.0	20.6	2.8	3.8	2.8	-
Professional specialty and technical	2.4	-	1.5	3.2	2.3	-
Professional specialty	2.8	-	.8	4.1	2.6	-
Technical	9.5	-	-	11.2	9.4	-
Executive, administrative, and managerial	6.1	-	-	5.7	6.0	-
Sales	7.7	8.5	-	7.2	8.2	-
Administrative support, including clerical	3.6	-	10.0	3.1	3.3	-
Blue collar	5.2	-	7.2	4.8	4.9	-
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.4	-	6.3	3.5	3.4	-
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	25.6	-	-	26.3	25.7	-
Transportation and material moving	4.0	-	10.0	8.9	4.3	-
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	7.6	-	11.3	3.5	6.3	-
Service	8.8	5.4	4.2	8.2	7.7	-

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

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

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

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

⁶ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

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Table 3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, Melbourne-Titusville-Palm Bay, FL, November 2003

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
Mean					
All occupations	\$17.04	\$10.86	\$19.63	\$12.91	\$23.37
All excluding sales	18.52	11.69	21.05	14.35	23.78
White collar	19.73	12.48	21.64	14.37	24.55
White-collar excluding sales	23.53	17.74	24.40	20.30	25.18
Professional specialty and technical	26.96	—	27.33	21.16	27.77
Professional specialty	29.20	—	30.00	23.99	30.37
Technical	21.12	—	21.11	—	21.52
Executive, administrative, and managerial	31.57	24.42	32.46	29.60	34.02
Sales	9.31	8.11	10.20	9.46	—
Administrative support, including clerical	11.91	11.08	12.14	11.56	12.34
Blue collar	14.52	10.89	16.80	11.73	22.04
Precision production, craft, and repair	17.60	13.87	19.08	12.93	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	12.76	—	15.82	10.95	—
Transportation and material moving	12.43	11.75	—	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	8.65	7.97	—	—	—
Service	8.76	7.16	10.60	9.12	12.00
Relative error ⁴ (percent)					
All occupations	4.3	12.3	4.0	9.1	4.0
All excluding sales	4.4	13.7	3.6	10.2	3.1
White collar	4.5	19.1	5.0	14.1	5.4
White-collar excluding sales	3.7	20.2	4.4	16.2	4.3
Professional specialty and technical	3.1	—	2.7	7.0	2.0
Professional specialty	4.1	—	4.0	10.1	4.3
Technical	10.7	—	11.0	—	10.9
Executive, administrative, and managerial	7.3	40.6	9.7	22.6	7.4
Sales	7.0	4.6	6.0	9.4	—
Administrative support, including clerical	4.0	9.1	3.4	5.9	4.7
Blue collar	5.2	8.8	5.2	8.1	1.8
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.6	5.8	4.7	10.1	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	26.3	—	16.4	12.8	—
Transportation and material moving	4.1	3.5	—	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	6.4	5.1	—	—	—
Service	8.3	5.2	9.6	5.6	12.3

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain

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

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

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