

News

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Bureau of Labor Statistics

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HIGHLIGHTS OF OKLAHOMA CITY, OK NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY FEBRUARY 2004

Workers in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area averaged \$15.67 per hour during February 2004, according to a new survey released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Acting Regional Commissioner John Gordon reported that white-collar workers averaged \$17.11 per hour and accounted for 62 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$15.59 per hour and represented 21 percent of the workforce, while the remainder worked in service occupations and earned \$9.52 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments with 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 203 firms representing 209,900 workers in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area, which is comprised of Canadian, Cleveland, Logan, McClain, Oklahoma, and Pottawatomie Counties in Oklahoma. Seventy-one percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Oklahoma City metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for 35 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, registered nurses averaged \$21.79 per hour; secretaries, \$12.22; and cashiers, \$7.57. Blue-collar occupations included bus drivers at \$11.92 per hour. In the service occupations, firefighters averaged \$17.85 per hour and nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants, \$8.73.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area averaged \$16.11 per hour and part-timers earned \$8.97. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$21.63 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$13.06. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$13.38 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$19.40.

National Compensation Survey, Oklahoma City, OK, February 2004 (continued)

The NCS is part of a statistical program that integrates three previously 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 judgment, supervision received and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Oklahoma City, OK National Compensation Survey February 2004 (Bulletin 3120-65). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Dallas Information Office by calling 214-767-6970. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm>. This release can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Dallas by dialing 214-767-9613 and requesting document number 9536.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Dallas Information Office at 214-767-6970 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. CT.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings¹, all workers² :Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Oklahoma City, OK, February 2004

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	\$15.67	3.9	\$14.99	5.1	\$17.49	2.3
All excluding sales	16.02	2.8	15.40	3.9	17.51	2.3
White collar	17.11	5.6	16.40	7.5	18.71	3.8
White collar excluding sales	17.96	3.4	17.52	4.8	18.76	3.9
Professional specialty and technical	21.87	2.4	21.96	4.8	21.79	1.0
Professional specialty	23.55	3.2	24.23	7.3	23.04	1.7
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	40.07	15.2	40.07	15.2	-	-
Mathematical and computer scientists	29.15	6.6	-	-	-	-
Natural scientists	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health related	20.19	5.7	20.69	7.5	18.43	4.2
Registered nurses	21.79	2.1	21.92	2.5	-	-
Teachers, college and university	31.66	11.7	22.57	7.1	-	-
Other post-secondary teachers	36.56	11.2	-	-	-	-
Teachers, except college and university	23.68	1.4	-	-	23.87	1.2
Elementary school teachers	24.03	1.6	-	-	24.03	1.6
Secondary school teachers	24.12	1.0	-	-	24.12	1.0
Teachers, n.e.c.	22.52	3.0	-	-	-	-
Substitute teachers	9.30	12.6	-	-	9.30	12.6
Librarians, archivists, and curators	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social scientists and urban planners	23.56	10.1	-	-	-	-
Psychologists	21.98	10.3	-	-	-	-
Social, recreation, and religious workers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lawyers and judges	-	-	-	-	-	-
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Technical	16.03	5.0	16.98	5.6	13.99	13.0
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	14.43	5.5	-	-	-	-
Licensed practical nurses	13.82	2.4	14.38	.9	-	-
Executive, administrative, and managerial	26.04	5.5	28.53	6.4	20.53	3.2
Executives, administrators, and managers	26.97	7.2	30.33	8.5	19.92	3.0
Personnel and labor relations managers	25.48	13.7	-	-	-	-
Administrators, education and related fields	23.37	16.8	-	-	-	-
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	33.92	13.1	34.05	13.2	-	-
Management related	23.79	5.0	24.44	5.5	22.19	12.2
Accountants and auditors	21.91	9.0	-	-	-	-
Sales	12.15	13.5	12.12	13.8	-	-
Supervisors, sales	20.97	11.4	-	-	-	-
Cashiers	7.57	9.0	7.41	9.2	-	-
Administrative support, including clerical	11.66	3.3	11.79	4.2	11.22	1.5
Secretaries	12.22	3.4	13.75	5.3	11.80	4.2
Receptionists	8.96	10.2	8.96	10.2	-	-
Records clerks, n.e.c.	11.14	9.2	11.17	10.9	-	-
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	11.33	8.7	11.45	11.2	-	-
General office clerks	12.58	9.7	12.74	10.6	-	-
Teachers' aides	8.00	9.0	-	-	8.00	9.0
Administrative support, n.e.c.	12.12	9.4	12.15	9.8	-	-
Blue collar	15.59	3.9	15.66	4.3	15.06	4.1
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.18	4.4	18.48	5.3	16.61	2.2
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.73	6.0	14.88	6.3	-	-
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	10.94	4.9	11.14	6.2	-	-
Transportation and material moving	16.44	10.3	16.97	11.6	14.00	2.2
Truck drivers	18.25	18.7	18.82	19.8	-	-
Bus drivers	11.92	9.9	-	-	11.92	9.9
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	12.95	11.1	12.95	11.1	-	-
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	8.84	3.6	8.51	3.1	13.49	13.1
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	8.03	4.5	7.95	4.4	-	-

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings¹, all workers²: Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Oklahoma City, OK, February 2004 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Service	\$9.52	4.1	\$7.20	6.2	\$14.00	4.9
Protective service	18.71	1.1	—	—	19.13	1.1
Firefighting	17.85	1.2	—	—	17.85	1.2
Police and detectives, public service	19.86	5.8	—	—	19.86	5.8
Food service	6.30	10.7	6.18	12.2	8.13	5.2
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	3.75	13.0	3.75	13.0	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	3.19	20.1	3.19	20.1	—	—
Waiters'/Waitresses' assistants	5.02	7.7	5.02	7.7	—	—
Other food service	7.64	6.6	7.59	7.4	8.13	5.2
Cooks	8.76	4.5	8.83	4.8	8.13	1.0
Food preparation, n.e.c.	6.73	3.3	—	—	—	—
Health service	8.70	3.0	8.52	2.6	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	8.73	3.6	8.57	2.7	—	—
Cleaning and building service	8.85	7.4	8.61	13.5	9.08	7.3
Janitors and cleaners	8.92	5.7	9.69	13.6	8.49	2.3
Personal service	7.09	15.6	—	—	—	—

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. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A.

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 group², National Compensation Survey, Oklahoma City, OK, February 2004

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	\$16.11	\$8.97	\$20.84	\$14.81	\$15.55	\$18.92
All excluding sales	16.42	9.30	21.04	15.11	15.97	19.12
White collar	17.44	11.15	20.83	16.78	16.94	21.36
White-collar excluding sales	18.17	13.07	21.39	17.62	17.84	—
Professional specialty and technical	21.93	19.90	24.49	21.46	21.87	—
Professional specialty	23.64	20.57	24.49	23.35	23.55	—
Technical	15.97	—	—	16.03	16.03	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	26.13	—	—	26.04	25.58	—
Sales	12.81	—	—	12.26	10.32	18.76
Administrative support, including clerical	11.85	8.55	16.14	11.29	11.66	—
Blue collar	15.95	8.32	21.63	13.06	15.70	13.51
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.18	—	20.47	17.12	18.16	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.81	—	—	10.86	15.31	—
Transportation and material moving	16.64	—	20.37	12.76	16.42	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	9.07	8.27	—	8.77	8.84	—
Service	10.11	5.41	18.69	7.69	9.52	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	3.8	8.9	1.8	4.1	3.9	9.8
All excluding sales	2.9	9.9	1.5	3.1	2.8	23.9
White collar	5.6	12.3	3.6	5.9	5.6	13.3
White-collar excluding sales	3.7	15.4	2.6	3.7	3.2	—
Professional specialty and technical	2.4	5.1	1.5	2.6	2.4	—
Professional specialty	3.2	6.9	1.5	3.8	3.2	—
Technical	5.2	—	—	5.0	5.0	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	5.6	—	—	5.5	5.4	—
Sales	14.6	—	—	14.0	3.3	7.0
Administrative support, including clerical	3.6	1.7	13.0	2.2	3.3	—
Blue collar	3.5	8.9	3.3	3.1	3.9	30.2
Precision production, craft, and repair	4.4	—	5.0	5.6	4.7	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	6.0	—	—	6.1	4.6	—
Transportation and material moving	10.2	—	8.0	7.1	10.8	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	2.8	10.8	—	3.4	3.6	—
Service	6.4	21.0	6.3	3.9	4.1	—

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. See appendix B for more information (in full publication).

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. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A in full publication.

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Table 3. Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group², private industry, National Compensation Survey, Oklahoma City, OK, February 2004

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	\$14.99	\$13.38	\$15.54	\$13.65	\$19.40
All excluding sales	15.40	13.09	16.17	14.24	19.40
White collar	16.40	15.38	16.64	15.11	19.36
White-collar excluding sales	17.52	15.43	17.93	16.81	19.36
Professional specialty and technical	21.96	18.85	22.54	19.51	25.27
Professional specialty	24.23	—	24.37	21.02	27.74
Technical	16.98	17.56	16.64	13.16	18.82
Executive, administrative, and managerial	28.53	—	29.17	27.92	31.38
Sales	12.12	15.25	—	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	11.79	11.75	11.80	11.86	11.71
Blue collar	15.66	15.64	15.67	12.85	22.91
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.48	16.45	20.15	20.05	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.88	—	15.06	10.71	—
Transportation and material moving	16.97	—	17.29	13.57	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	8.51	—	8.55	8.33	—
Service	7.20	6.91	7.46	7.06	8.65
	Relative error ⁴ (percent)				
All occupations	5.1	10.5	6.9	9.9	5.2
All excluding sales	3.9	10.2	4.9	8.9	5.2
White collar	7.5	8.3	9.3	13.5	6.7
White-collar excluding sales	4.8	9.9	5.4	9.7	6.7
Professional specialty and technical	4.8	8.0	4.2	9.5	2.3
Professional specialty	7.3	—	6.8	12.8	1.8
Technical	5.6	9.3	9.1	2.4	9.9
Executive, administrative, and managerial	6.4	—	7.0	7.6	16.5
Sales	13.8	16.0	—	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	4.2	11.5	5.8	9.2	6.8
Blue collar	4.3	9.8	5.9	7.3	9.8
Precision production, craft, and repair	5.3	6.9	8.9	9.5	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	6.3	—	7.2	8.1	—
Transportation and material moving	11.6	—	17.9	5.1	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	3.1	—	3.7	3.0	—
Service	6.2	15.9	10.6	13.9	2.4

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. See appendix B in full publication for more information.

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. For more information about RSEs, see appendix A in full publication.

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