

News

United States
Department
of Labor



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Fax-on-Demand Document No.9895
<http://www.bls.gov/ro5>

For Immediate Release:
Wednesday, December 17, 2003

HIGHLIGHTS OF CLEVELAND-AKRON, OH NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY DECEMBER 2002

Workers in the Cleveland-Akron metropolitan area averaged \$18.47 per hour during December 2002, according to a new survey released by the U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Peter J. Hebein reported that white-collar workers averaged \$22.60 per hour and accounted for 51 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$15.76 per hour and represented 29 percent of the workforce, while the remainder worked in service occupations and earned \$11.06 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for all 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 622 firms representing 698,200 workers in the Cleveland-Akron metropolitan area, which is comprised of Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties. Seventy-seven percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Cleveland-Akron metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for more than 110 detailed occupations. Among white-collar workers, mechanical engineers averaged \$26.67 per hour; licensed practical nurses, \$17.44; and telephone operators, \$10.69. Blue-collar occupations included automobile mechanics earning \$18.60 per hour; bus drivers at \$17.27; and mixing and blending machine operators at \$13.71. In the service occupations, nursing aides, orderlies and attendants averaged \$10.04 per hour and bartenders, \$4.18.

Within any occupational category, the industry sector in which one works can account for some of the difference in earnings. For example, social workers earned more, on average, in State and local government (\$20.79) than in private establishments (\$15.86). The same can be said for general office clerks who earned \$13.82 in private industry but \$17.42 in State and local government. However, for some occupations, industry had no significant impact; wages for secretaries and janitors and cleaners were virtually identical in private industry compared to State and local government.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Cleveland-Akron area averaged \$19.45 per hour and part-timers earned \$10.43. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$19.07 per hour, while their non-union counterparts made \$13.36. Private industry workers in establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$15.44 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$20.33.

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 Cleveland-Akron, OH National Compensation Survey December 2002 (Bulletin 3120-01). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the BLS Information Office in Chicago by calling 312-353-1880. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at www.bls.gov/ncs/ocs/compub.htm. Survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service by dialing (312) 353-1880, menu option 1. Up to five documents at a time may be selected and faxed to you within minutes, 24 hours a day.

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For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Chicago Information Office at (312) 353-1880 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Technical Note

Because the NCS is a sample survey, it is subject to sampling errors. Sampling errors occur because observations come only from a sample and not from an entire population. The sample used for this survey is one of a number of possible samples of the same size that could have been selected using the sample design. Estimates derived from the different samples would differ from each other. A measure of the variation among these differing estimates is the standard error. It can be used to measure the precision with which an estimate from a particular sample approximates the expected result of all possible samples. The chances are about 68 out of a 100 that an estimate from the survey differs from a complete population figure by less than the standard error. The chances are about 90 out of 100 that this difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error. The statements of comparisons appearing in this publication are significant at a 1.6 standard error level or better. This means that for the differences cited, the estimated difference is greater than 1.6 times the standard error of the difference.

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Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Cleveland-Akron, OH, December 2002

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	\$18.47	2.3	\$17.34	3.0	\$22.65	2.9
All excluding sales	18.57	2.2	17.37	2.9	22.66	2.9
White collar	22.60	2.6	21.32	3.7	26.14	4.0
White collar excluding sales	23.32	2.6	22.12	3.7	26.17	4.0
Professional specialty and technical	26.19	2.3	23.26	3.0	30.65	4.3
Professional specialty	28.21	2.6	25.34	2.9	31.17	4.7
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	31.65	2.4	31.66	2.5	—	—
Industrial engineers	31.61	8.0	31.61	8.0	—	—
Mechanical engineers	26.67	.0	26.67	.0	—	—
Engineers, n.e.c.	31.88	1.6	31.88	1.6	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	28.27	5.9	29.30	5.6	—	—
Computer systems analysts and scientists	28.67	8.1	30.06	8.4	—	—
Natural scientists	27.08	7.0	27.67	8.2	—	—
Chemists, except biochemists	26.94	10.2	26.94	10.2	—	—
Health related	24.64	1.6	22.67	1.8	36.20	4.9
Physicians	40.13	22.9	—	—	—	—
Registered nurses	23.13	2.2	22.80	2.2	25.41	6.9
Respiratory therapists	20.79	.2	20.79	.2	—	—
Physical therapists	23.30	6.4	23.30	6.4	—	—
Teachers, college and university	39.94	7.2	36.83	6.8	40.95	8.9
Teachers, except college and university	31.92	4.9	20.82	17.7	33.64	4.8
Prekindergarten and kindergarten	21.47	19.2	—	—	—	—
Elementary school teachers	34.26	4.0	—	—	36.08	2.9
Secondary school teachers	34.86	5.1	26.11	.5	—	—
Teachers, n.e.c.	33.68	4.0	—	—	32.95	2.3
Librarians, archivists, and curators	28.50	16.4	—	—	30.09	17.2
Librarians	28.50	16.4	—	—	30.09	17.2
Social scientists and urban planners	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	19.43	4.0	15.86	5.8	20.79	2.6
Social workers	19.43	4.0	15.86	5.8	20.79	2.6
Lawyers and judges	35.52	17.1	—	—	—	—
Lawyers	35.52	17.1	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	21.72	6.2	21.71	6.3	—	—
Professional, n.e.c.	18.21	6.3	18.13	6.5	—	—
Technical	19.56	4.6	19.44	5.0	20.81	10.2
Clinical laboratory technologists and technicians	16.87	6.5	16.87	6.5	—	—
Radiological technicians	19.99	12.6	21.08	14.1	—	—
Licensed practical nurses	17.44	1.8	17.23	1.7	—	—
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	18.07	25.7	17.96	26.7	—	—
Electrical and electronic technicians	22.22	9.1	—	—	—	—
Drafters	21.18	10.3	21.18	10.3	—	—
Chemical technicians	20.98	9.8	20.98	9.8	—	—
Computer programmers	25.29	24.3	—	—	—	—
Technical and related, n.e.c.	18.25	12.9	18.06	18.3	18.72	9.5
Executive, administrative, and managerial	31.66	4.9	32.43	5.3	28.30	8.8
Executives, administrators, and managers	36.94	6.3	38.44	7.0	31.34	8.7
Administrators and officials, public administration	23.60	13.5	—	—	23.60	13.5
Financial managers	45.72	11.8	45.76	11.8	—	—
Managers, marketing, advertising, and public relations	38.06	8.6	40.52	7.4	—	—
Administrators, education and related fields	41.28	6.3	28.85	15.5	47.18	3.3
Managers, service organizations, n.e.c.	29.10	10.4	32.98	7.3	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	35.06	9.7	35.20	9.8	—	—
Management related	22.35	2.7	22.65	2.9	20.57	6.7
Accountants and auditors	20.68	5.9	20.46	6.3	—	—
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	22.28	9.2	22.42	9.5	—	—
Management related, n.e.c.	22.10	5.9	22.28	7.1	—	—
Sales	16.94	7.6	16.91	7.7	—	—
Supervisors, sales	21.80	11.9	21.93	12.5	—	—
Sales, other business services	25.08	12.3	25.08	12.3	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Cleveland-Akron, OH, December 2002 — 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)
White collar —Continued						
Sales —Continued						
Sales workers, other commodities	\$10.26	12.4	\$10.26	12.4	—	—
Cashiers	9.14	7.4	8.86	7.4	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	14.23	1.7	14.00	1.8	\$14.98	4.4
Supervisors, general office	21.37	8.0	20.75	9.9	—	—
Secretaries	15.28	3.3	15.50	3.6	14.76	6.5
Interviewers	11.89	3.9	11.89	3.9	—	—
Receptionists	12.02	5.4	11.43	3.5	—	—
Order clerks	14.00	4.5	14.00	4.5	—	—
Library clerks	11.17	7.9	—	—	11.22	8.8
File clerks	10.94	3.4	10.94	3.4	—	—
Records clerks, n.e.c.	12.73	8.0	12.95	9.3	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	14.10	4.8	14.21	5.2	—	—
Payroll and timekeeping clerks	14.80	5.7	14.26	5.4	—	—
Billing clerks	12.76	2.0	12.76	2.0	—	—
Telephone operators	10.69	1.0	10.69	1.0	—	—
Mail clerks, except postal service	9.89	8.2	9.89	8.2	—	—
Dispatchers	11.36	24.3	—	—	—	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks	13.31	4.6	13.31	4.6	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks	12.59	12.6	12.59	12.6	—	—
Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators	13.49	9.7	13.49	9.7	—	—
Investigators and adjusters, except insurance	16.01	15.4	16.01	15.4	—	—
Bill and account collectors	13.41	7.9	13.41	7.9	—	—
General office clerks	14.97	4.3	13.82	6.3	17.42	6.4
Teachers' aides	13.56	14.2	—	—	13.70	13.7
Administrative support, n.e.c.	13.59	8.1	13.66	10.0	—	—
Blue collar	15.76	3.0	15.59	3.3	17.49	1.0
Precision production, craft, and repair						
Supervisors, mechanics and repairers	16.86	34.7	—	—	—	—
Automobile mechanics	18.60	2.7	—	—	—	—
Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics	18.81	6.3	—	—	—	—
Industrial machinery repairers	21.80	10.6	21.82	10.8	—	—
Machinery maintenance	12.47	5.7	—	—	—	—
Millwrights	24.85	4.8	24.85	4.8	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	17.97	4.7	17.61	6.2	—	—
Electricians	24.54	7.2	25.25	7.1	—	—
Painters, construction and maintenance	22.71	15.4	—	—	—	—
Plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters	21.18	8.0	21.80	9.2	—	—
Supervisors, production	19.74	5.3	19.74	5.3	—	—
Tool and die makers	21.72	5.0	21.72	5.0	—	—
Inspectors, testers, and graders	16.39	10.7	15.39	10.6	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors						
Punching and stamping press operators	12.08	11.0	12.08	11.0	—	—
Grinding, abrading, buffing, and polishing machine operators	14.59	2.5	14.59	2.5	—	—
Numerical control machine operators	17.94	10.9	17.94	10.9	—	—
Fabricating machine operators, n.e.c.	18.05	12.4	18.05	12.4	—	—
Molding and casting machine operators	11.26	10.5	11.26	10.5	—	—
Laundering and dry cleaning machine operators	8.47	2.1	8.47	2.1	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators	12.33	5.3	12.33	5.3	—	—
Mixing and blending machine operators	13.71	.3	13.71	.3	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	15.22	6.6	15.06	6.7	—	—
Welders and cutters	14.87	19.9	14.87	19.9	—	—
Assemblers	13.78	3.3	13.78	3.3	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	13.09	5.2	13.09	5.2	—	—
Transportation and material moving						
Truck drivers	18.95	9.2	19.02	9.1	17.18	9.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Cleveland-Akron, OH, December 2002 — 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)
Blue collar —Continued						
Transportation and material moving —Continued						
Bus drivers	\$17.27	2.0	—	—	\$17.34	2.0
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	14.05	11.5	\$14.05	11.5	—	—
Miscellaneous material moving equipment operators, n.e.c.	17.20	16.0	—	—	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers						
Groundskeepers and gardeners, except farm	10.19	4.8	12.53	7.0	15.43	5.9
Production helpers	15.62	10.8	9.89	3.9	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers	10.70	7.5	15.62	10.8	—	—
Machine feeders and offbearers	11.52	4.3	10.69	7.8	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c.	12.36	8.1	11.52	4.3	—	—
Hand packers and packagers	12.55	4.7	12.36	8.1	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	11.88	14.9	12.55	4.7	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	11.88	14.9	11.30	17.1	—	—
Service						
Protective service	11.06	3.1	8.94	2.2	16.05	7.5
Firefighting	14.79	17.9	9.33	6.4	19.32	11.7
Police and detectives, public service	18.13	9.1	—	—	18.13	9.1
Protective service, n.e.c.	21.08	6.2	—	—	21.08	6.2
Food service	12.91	13.0	—	—	—	—
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	7.58	3.3	7.02	3.3	11.73	3.7
Bartenders	3.36	9.2	3.36	9.2	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	4.18	3.9	4.18	3.9	—	—
Other food service	3.59	14.6	3.59	14.6	—	—
Supervisors, food preparation and service	9.01	3.1	8.49	3.2	11.73	3.7
Cooks	13.97	5.8	14.72	9.2	—	—
Kitchen workers, food preparation	10.63	6.9	10.29	9.2	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c.	7.19	8.5	7.15	8.7	—	—
Health service	8.19	9.4	7.58	8.3	11.52	1.7
Health aides, except nursing	10.73	3.0	10.17	3.0	13.93	9.1
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	12.37	3.9	10.62	4.3	14.90	5.7
Cleaning and building service	10.04	3.4	10.05	3.5	—	—
Maids and housemen	12.02	4.2	11.98	6.7	12.08	4.3
Janitors and cleaners	9.00	7.5	9.00	7.5	—	—
Personal service	12.32	3.9	12.54	6.2	12.08	4.3
Early childhood teachers' assistants	12.78	11.9	10.01	3.9	17.35	12.1
Child care workers, n.e.c.	8.12	4.7	—	—	—	—
Service, n.e.c.	16.77	6.8	—	—	—	—
Service, n.e.c.	8.21	8.5	7.95	10.5	—	—

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. See Appendix B in printed Bulletin 3120-01.

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, Cleveland-Akron, OH, December 2002**

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	\$19.45	\$10.43	\$20.26	\$17.74	\$18.36	\$22.05
All excluding sales	19.47	10.73	20.38	17.78	18.52	22.19
White collar	23.24	14.83	24.63	22.12	22.55	23.48
White-collar excluding sales	23.68	17.70	25.19	22.83	23.25	27.05
Professional specialty and technical	26.72	20.74	30.54	24.31	26.19	—
Professional specialty	28.84	21.84	31.07	26.60	28.21	—
Technical	19.81	16.59	25.14	18.81	19.56	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	31.69	26.50	—	31.92	31.28	—
Sales	19.16	7.90	11.45	17.34	14.63	21.96
Administrative support, including clerical	14.42	11.11	14.28	14.21	14.21	14.87
Blue collar	16.12	9.50	19.07	13.36	15.77	14.33
Precision production, craft, and repair	19.84	—	22.60	17.35	19.72	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.44	8.20	18.50	12.20	14.29	—
Transportation and material moving	16.92	14.82	18.05	14.44	16.79	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	13.64	8.99	15.56	10.31	12.70	—
Service	12.65	7.41	15.67	8.63	11.06	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	2.2	4.2	2.7	3.1	2.3	8.3
All excluding sales	2.1	4.2	2.6	2.9	2.3	18.0
White collar	2.8	6.5	4.9	3.1	2.9	9.6
White-collar excluding sales	2.8	5.4	4.8	3.1	2.9	23.5
Professional specialty and technical	2.3	3.6	5.0	2.8	2.3	—
Professional specialty	2.3	3.9	4.9	2.9	2.6	—
Technical	4.9	3.3	12.1	4.9	4.6	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	4.9	18.5	—	4.9	5.4	—
Sales	7.8	4.2	5.5	7.5	8.4	9.3
Administrative support, including clerical	1.7	4.5	6.3	1.6	1.7	16.9
Blue collar	3.1	4.5	3.7	1.9	3.0	10.1
Precision production, craft, and repair	5.0	—	2.6	5.5	4.9	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	2.0	.7	6.6	2.4	1.7	—
Transportation and material moving	9.9	3.2	7.2	12.7	9.6	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	7.4	3.7	5.4	2.9	6.6	—
Service	5.6	7.0	7.3	2.3	3.1	—

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 in printed Bulletin 3120-01.

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.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.

Table 3. **Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, Cleveland-Akron, OH, December 2002**

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	\$17.34	\$15.44	\$18.02	\$16.52	\$20.33
All excluding sales	17.37	15.03	18.13	16.65	20.31
White collar	21.32	20.58	21.54	21.49	21.60
White-collar excluding sales	22.12	21.89	22.16	22.73	21.61
Professional specialty and technical	23.26	22.78	23.32	22.85	23.66
Professional specialty	25.34	25.60	25.31	25.04	25.51
Technical	19.44	18.22	19.61	18.73	20.23
Executive, administrative, and managerial	32.43	36.61	31.44	32.31	29.89
Sales	16.91	17.98	15.83	14.73	-
Administrative support, including clerical	14.00	13.34	14.20	13.85	14.55
Blue collar	15.59	14.08	16.21	13.60	22.92
Precision production, craft, and repair	20.04	18.61	20.65	16.62	26.05
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	14.25	12.42	14.81	12.63	22.45
Transportation and material moving	16.67	13.95	17.98	17.47	19.12
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	12.53	12.16	12.78	11.32	17.72
Service	8.94	7.14	9.83	9.29	10.59
Relative error ⁴ (percent)					
All occupations	3.0	5.0	3.5	5.2	3.2
All excluding sales	2.9	5.0	3.4	5.0	3.1
White collar	3.7	6.0	4.2	7.2	4.2
White-collar excluding sales	3.7	6.8	4.1	6.8	4.2
Professional specialty and technical	3.0	12.4	3.1	6.0	4.4
Professional specialty	2.9	19.0	2.4	4.1	3.1
Technical	5.0	6.4	5.3	9.3	7.8
Executive, administrative, and managerial	5.3	5.5	6.8	11.4	6.7
Sales	7.7	7.7	13.1	15.0	-
Administrative support, including clerical	1.8	6.1	1.4	3.1	1.9
Blue collar	3.3	4.3	5.5	4.0	2.4
Precision production, craft, and repair	5.9	4.1	8.7	8.7	2.7
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	1.8	4.2	2.6	3.0	6.1
Transportation and material moving	12.6	17.7	9.3	12.6	8.6
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	7.0	9.7	8.2	3.8	10.7
Service	2.2	6.2	3.5	2.3	6.0

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 printed Bulletin 3120-01.

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.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria.