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USUAL WEEKLY EARNINGS OF WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS FOURTH QUARTER 2009

Median weekly earnings of the nation's 98.7 million full-time wage and salary workers were \$748 in the fourth quarter of 2009, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. This was 2.7 percent higher than a year earlier, compared with a gain of 1.4 percent in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) over the same period.

Data on usual weekly earnings are collected as part of the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample survey of households in which respondents are asked, among other things, how much each wage and salary worker usually earns. (See the Technical Note.) Highlights from the fourth-quarter data are:

- **Women** who usually worked full time had median earnings of \$670 per week, or 81.2 percent of the \$825 median for **men**. The **female-to-male earnings ratios** were higher among blacks (93.4 percent) and Hispanics (86.6 percent) than among whites (79.9 percent) or Asians (83.5 percent). (See table 1.)
- Among the major **race and ethnicity groups**, median earnings for black men working at full-time jobs were \$653 per week, 76.8 percent of the median for white men (\$850). The difference was less among women, as median earnings for black women (\$610) were 89.8 percent of those for white women (\$679). Overall, median earnings of Hispanics who worked full time (\$547) were lower than those of blacks (\$629), whites (\$763), and Asians (\$877). (See table 1.)
- Usual weekly earnings of full-time workers varied by **age**. Among men, those age 45 to 54 and age 55 to 64 had the highest median weekly earnings, \$967 and \$953, respectively. Among women, weekly earnings were highest for those age 55 to 64 (\$750). (See table 2.)
- Among the major **occupational groups**, persons employed full time in management, professional, and related occupations had the highest median weekly earnings—\$1,227 for men and \$909 for women. Persons employed in service jobs earned the least. (See table 3.)
- By **educational attainment**, full-time workers age 25 and over without a high school diploma had median weekly earnings of \$449, compared with \$638 for high school graduates (no college) and \$1,121 for those holding at least a bachelor's degree. Among college graduates with advanced degrees (professional or master's degree and above), the highest earning 10 percent

of male workers made \$3,342 or more per week, compared with \$2,156 or more for their female counterparts. (See table 4.)

Annual Averages for 2008 and 2009

In addition to the data for the fourth quarter, this release includes 2008 and 2009 annual average weekly earnings for major demographic and occupational groups, and 2009 annual average data for educational attainment groups (tables 6, 7, and 8). Annual average data on median usual earnings for men and women by detailed occupational categories will appear in the January 2010 edition of *Employment and Earnings Online* at www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm.

Technical Note

The estimates in this release were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), which provides the basic information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment. The survey is conducted monthly for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau from a scientifically selected national sample of about 60,000 households, with coverage in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The earnings data are collected from one-quarter of the CPS monthly sample and are limited to wages and salaries. The data, therefore, exclude self-employment income.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Reliability

Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample rather than the entire population is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent. The exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the "true" population value because of sampling error. BLS analyses are generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence.

The CPS data also are affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling errors can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information on a timely basis, mistakes made by respondents, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and information on estimating standard errors, see the Household Data section of the "Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error" available on the BLS Web site at http://www.bls.gov/cps/eetech_methods.pdf.

Definitions

The principal definitions used in connection with the earnings series are described briefly below.

Usual weekly earnings. Data represent earnings before taxes and other deductions and include any overtime pay,

commissions, or tips usually received (at the main job in the case of multiple jobholders). Prior to 1994, respondents were asked how much they usually earned per week. Since January 1994, respondents have been asked to identify the easiest way for them to report earnings (hourly, weekly, biweekly, twice monthly, monthly, annually, other) and how much they usually earn in the reported time period.

Earnings reported on a basis other than weekly are converted to a weekly equivalent. The term "usual" is as perceived by the respondent. If the respondent asks for a definition of usual, interviewers are instructed to define the term as more than half the weeks worked during the past 4 or 5 months.

Medians (and other quantiles) of weekly earnings. The median (or upper limit of the second quartile) is the amount which divides a given earnings distribution into two equal groups, one having earnings above the median and the other having earnings below the median. Ten percent of a given distribution have earnings below the upper limit of the first decile (90 percent have higher earnings); 25 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the first quartile (75 percent have higher earnings); 75 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the third quartile (25 percent have higher earnings); and 90 percent have earnings below the upper limit of the ninth decile (10 percent have higher earnings).

The estimating procedure places each reported or calculated weekly earnings value into \$50-wide intervals which are centered around multiples of \$50. The actual value is estimated through the linear interpolation of the interval in which the quantile boundary lies.

Over-the-year changes in the medians (and other quantile boundaries) for specific groups may not necessarily be consistent with the movements estimated for the overall quantile boundary. The most common reasons for this possible anomaly are: (1) There could be a change in the relative weights of the subgroups. For example, the medians of both 16-to-24 year olds and those 25 years and over may rise; but if the lower-earning 16-to-24 group accounts for a greatly increased share of the total, the overall median could actually fall. (2) There could be a large change in the shape of the distribution of reported earnings, particularly near a quantile boundary. This could be caused by survey observations that are clustered at rounded values, such as \$250, \$300, \$400. An estimate lying in a \$50-wide centered interval containing such a cluster or "spike" tends to change more slowly than one in other intervals.

Wage and salary workers. Workers who receive

wages, salaries, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. The group includes employees in both the private and public sectors but, for the purposes of the earnings series, excludes all self-employed persons, regardless of whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

Full-time workers. Workers who usually work 35 hours or more per week at their sole or principal job.

Part-time workers. Workers who usually work fewer

than 35 hours per week at their sole or principal job.

Constant dollars. The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) is used to convert current dollars to constant (1982) dollars.

Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. Refers to persons who identified themselves in the enumeration process as being Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.

Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings			
	4th 2008	4th 2009	In current dollars		In constant (1982) dollars	
			4th 2008	4th 2009	4th 2008	4th 2009
SEX AND AGE						
Total, 16 years and over.....	105,774	98,720	\$728	\$748	\$330	\$334
Men, 16 years and over.....	58,505	54,422	807	825	366	368
16 to 24 years.....	5,487	4,658	462	476	209	212
25 years and over.....	53,018	49,764	859	871	389	389
Women, 16 years and over.....	47,269	44,298	650	670	295	299
16 to 24 years.....	4,392	3,648	449	436	203	195
25 years and over.....	42,877	40,650	679	700	308	313
RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX						
White.....	85,378	79,964	748	763	339	341
Men.....	48,379	45,152	833	850	377	379
Women.....	36,999	34,813	667	679	302	303
Black or African American.....	12,593	11,530	593	629	269	281
Men.....	5,833	5,324	618	653	280	292
Women.....	6,760	6,207	569	610	258	272
Asian.....	5,235	4,968	889	877	403	392
Men.....	2,886	2,744	989	941	448	420
Women.....	2,348	2,224	782	786	354	351
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	15,595	14,513	535	547	242	244
Men.....	9,770	9,007	563	581	255	259
Women.....	5,825	5,506	512	503	232	224

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by age, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 4th quarter 2009 averages, not seasonally adjusted

Age, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	Total		Men		Women	
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings
TOTAL						
16 years and over.....	98,720	\$748	54,422	\$ 825	44,298	\$670
16 to 24 years.....	8,306	456	4,658	476	3,648	436
16 to 19 years.....	916	368	568	375	348	352
20 to 24 years.....	7,390	473	4,090	488	3,300	449
25 years and over.....	90,414	780	49,764	871	40,650	700
25 to 54 years.....	73,054	773	40,575	860	32,479	695
25 to 34 years.....	23,819	689	13,424	721	10,396	649
35 to 44 years.....	23,817	828	13,589	923	10,229	721
45 to 54 years.....	25,417	842	13,563	967	11,855	714
55 years and over.....	17,361	818	9,189	930	8,171	726
55 to 64 years.....	14,743	849	7,734	953	7,009	750
65 years and over.....	2,618	656	1,455	747	1,162	592
White						
16 years and over.....	79,964	763	45,152	850	34,813	679
16 to 24 years.....	6,756	456	3,805	473	2,951	441
25 years and over.....	73,208	802	41,347	895	31,861	709
25 to 54 years.....	58,581	794	33,430	883	25,151	704
55 years and over.....	14,627	842	7,917	960	6,710	730
Black or African American						
16 years and over.....	11,530	629	5,324	653	6,207	610
16 to 24 years.....	990	422	505	434	485	413
25 years and over.....	10,540	655	4,818	680	5,722	634
25 to 54 years.....	8,906	651	4,080	685	4,826	625
55 years and over.....	1,634	686	738	661	896	713
Asian						
16 years and over.....	4,968	877	2,744	941	2,224	786
16 to 24 years.....	263	505	171	508	91	503
25 years and over.....	4,705	903	2,572	972	2,133	813
25 to 54 years.....	3,869	915	2,153	1,000	1,715	811
55 years and over.....	836	855	419	892	418	821
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity						
16 years and over.....	14,513	547	9,007	581	5,506	503
16 to 24 years.....	1,660	402	1,035	411	625	377
25 years and over.....	12,853	581	7,972	604	4,881	522
25 to 54 years.....	11,352	584	7,086	605	4,265	525
55 years and over.....	1,502	547	886	586	616	507

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table 3. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by occupation and sex, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

Occupation and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	4th 2008	4th 2009	4th 2008	4th 2009
TOTAL				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	40,749	39,555	\$1,019	\$1,036
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	16,531	15,814	1,109	1,115
Professional and related occupations.....	24,219	23,741	980	994
Service occupations.....	14,853	14,002	487	482
Sales and office occupations.....	24,765	22,950	622	633
Sales and related occupations.....	10,077	9,391	674	662
Office and administrative support occupations.....	14,688	13,559	607	623
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	11,305	9,685	719	742
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	714	670	428	414
Construction and extraction occupations.....	6,269	5,119	715	737
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4,322	3,895	769	811
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	14,101	12,529	591	612
Production occupations.....	7,627	6,475	600	617
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	6,474	6,054	581	605
Men				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	19,529	18,965	1,238	1,227
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	8,963	8,576	1,344	1,278
Professional and related occupations.....	10,566	10,388	1,171	1,169
Service occupations.....	7,389	6,991	539	566
Sales and office occupations.....	9,521	9,116	737	737
Sales and related occupations.....	5,574	5,359	826	780
Office and administrative support occupations.....	3,947	3,757	652	673
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	10,914	9,317	723	751
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	562	546	441	428
Construction and extraction occupations.....	6,169	5,025	714	738
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4,183	3,747	770	817
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	11,152	10,034	630	651
Production occupations.....	5,551	4,775	666	680
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	5,602	5,259	602	624
Women				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	21,221	20,591	881	909
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	7,568	7,238	926	943
Professional and related occupations.....	13,653	13,353	862	892
Service occupations.....	7,464	7,011	441	418
Sales and office occupations.....	15,244	13,834	583	593
Sales and related occupations.....	4,503	4,032	529	519
Office and administrative support occupations.....	10,741	9,803	596	611
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	390	368	596	506
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	152	124	396	374
Construction and extraction occupations.....	100	95	769	687
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	138	149	719	632
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	2,949	2,495	458	482
Production occupations.....	2,077	1,700	458	483
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	873	795	460	480

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table 4. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 4th quarter 2009 averages, not seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
SEX, RACE, AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY						
Total, 16 years and over.....	98,720	\$355	\$ 499	\$ 748	\$1,146	\$1,738
Men.....	54,422	379	545	825	1,267	1,910
Women.....	44,298	333	462	670	989	1,457
White.....	79,964	363	508	763	1,166	1,769
Men.....	45,152	384	562	850	1,314	1,945
Women.....	34,813	341	473	679	1,003	1,473
Black or African American.....	11,530	312	423	629	918	1,272
Men.....	5,324	331	447	653	966	1,356
Women.....	6,207	301	408	610	889	1,224
Asian.....	4,968	366	539	877	1,353	1,899
Men.....	2,744	378	595	941	1,465	2,100
Women.....	2,224	351	494	786	1,232	1,725
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	14,513	301	383	547	819	1,283
Men.....	9,007	313	398	581	867	1,389
Women.....	5,506	290	356	503	740	1,145
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT						
Total, 25 years and over.....	90,414	376	524	780	1,184	1,781
Less than a high school diploma.....	7,088	285	342	449	617	823
High school graduates, no college ¹	24,446	342	460	638	900	1,238
Some college or associate degree.....	25,066	385	518	735	1,027	1,419
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	33,814	545	759	1,121	1,645	2,320
Bachelor's degree only.....	21,977	511	710	1,020	1,495	2,103
Advanced degree.....	11,836	648	908	1,309	1,900	2,891
Men, 25 years and over.....	49,764	400	590	871	1,337	1,979
Less than a high school diploma.....	4,832	301	378	506	686	917
High school graduates, no college ¹	14,426	376	514	721	994	1,370
Some college or associate degree.....	12,861	431	607	833	1,177	1,604
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	17,645	601	873	1,273	1,896	2,790
Bachelor's degree only.....	11,547	572	790	1,168	1,745	2,402
Advanced degree.....	6,097	743	1,019	1,519	2,277	3,342
Women, 25 years and over.....	40,650	348	484	700	1,021	1,497
Less than a high school diploma.....	2,256	263	304	371	477	606
High school graduates, no college ¹	10,020	319	405	547	748	996
Some college or associate degree.....	12,205	350	477	640	888	1,158
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	16,169	507	692	963	1,384	1,893
Bachelor's degree only.....	10,430	484	639	890	1,265	1,744
Advanced degree.....	5,739	600	798	1,122	1,583	2,156

1 Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

2 Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Ten percent of all full-time wage and salary workers earn less than the upper limit of the first decile; 25 percent earn less than the upper limit of the first quartile; 50 percent earn less than the upper limit of the second quartile, or median; 75 percent earn less than the upper limit of the third quartile; and 90 percent earn less than the upper limit of the ninth decile. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of part-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	4th 2008	4th 2009	4th 2008	4th 2009
SEX AND AGE				
Total, 16 years and over.....	22,913	24,548	\$218	\$228
Men, 16 years and over.....	7,528	8,299	212	224
16 to 24 years.....	3,601	3,285	164	171
25 years and over.....	3,927	5,015	279	273
Women, 16 years and over.....	15,385	16,249	221	230
16 to 24 years.....	4,614	4,623	157	165
25 years and over.....	10,770	11,625	261	266
RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX				
White.....	19,158	20,685	219	227
Men.....	6,200	6,859	211	221
Women.....	12,958	13,826	222	231
Black or African American.....	2,250	2,351	210	225
Men.....	812	877	218	244
Women.....	1,438	1,474	207	214
Asian.....	901	856	240	268
Men.....	285	297	211	276
Women.....	616	559	256	265
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	2,886	3,548	221	223
Men.....	1,088	1,466	243	234
Women.....	1,799	2,082	211	218

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table 6. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, annual averages

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings			
	2008	2009	In current dollars		In constant (1982) dollars	
			2008	2009	2008	2009
SEX AND AGE						
Total, 16 years and over.....	106,648	99,820	\$722	\$739	\$323	\$333
Men, 16 years and over.....	59,439	55,108	798	819	358	368
16 to 24 years.....	5,996	5,014	461	458	207	206
25 years and over.....	53,444	50,094	857	873	384	393
Women, 16 years and over.....	47,209	44,712	638	657	286	295
16 to 24 years.....	4,625	3,943	420	424	188	191
25 years and over.....	42,584	40,769	670	687	300	309
RACE, HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY, AND SEX						
White.....	86,022	80,873	742	757	333	341
Men.....	49,082	45,730	825	845	370	380
Women.....	36,940	35,144	654	669	293	301
Black or African American.....	12,821	11,713	589	601	264	270
Men.....	6,031	5,386	620	621	278	279
Women.....	6,790	6,327	554	582	248	262
Asian.....	5,266	4,923	861	880	386	396
Men.....	2,919	2,727	966	952	433	428
Women.....	2,347	2,196	753	779	337	351
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	15,807	14,624	529	541	237	243
Men.....	9,961	9,150	559	569	251	256
Women.....	5,846	5,474	501	509	225	229

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table 7. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by occupation and sex, annual averages

Occupation and sex	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
TOTAL				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	40,154	39,080	\$1,025	\$1,044
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	16,310	15,879	1,128	1,138
Professional and related occupations.....	23,845	23,201	980	994
Service occupations.....	14,814	14,299	475	470
Sales and office occupations.....	25,232	23,503	614	624
Sales and related occupations.....	10,113	9,489	656	665
Office and administrative support occupations.....	15,119	14,014	601	612
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	11,609	10,216	702	719
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	756	707	420	416
Construction and extraction occupations.....	6,432	5,267	688	718
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4,420	4,242	774	781
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	14,840	12,722	594	605
Production occupations.....	8,008	6,576	595	610
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	6,832	6,145	593	599
Men				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	19,619	18,928	1,238	1,248
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	8,847	8,635	1,343	1,334
Professional and related occupations.....	10,773	10,293	1,169	1,191
Service occupations.....	7,355	7,113	537	524
Sales and office occupations.....	9,597	9,045	733	737
Sales and related occupations.....	5,594	5,281	796	793
Office and administrative support occupations.....	4,003	3,765	651	657
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	11,159	9,800	705	727
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	612	572	427	428
Construction and extraction occupations.....	6,293	5,154	688	719
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	4,253	4,075	774	787
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	11,709	10,222	637	648
Production occupations.....	5,763	4,865	659	678
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	5,946	5,357	615	618
Women				
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	20,535	20,152	892	907
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	7,463	7,244	941	955
Professional and related occupations.....	13,072	12,908	867	880
Service occupations.....	7,458	7,187	418	418
Sales and office occupations.....	15,635	14,458	578	590
Sales and related occupations.....	4,518	4,208	516	525
Office and administrative support occupations.....	11,117	10,249	590	602
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	450	416	607	542
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	144	135	392	372
Construction and extraction occupations.....	139	113	747	673
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	167	167	779	644
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	3,131	2,500	462	472
Production occupations.....	2,245	1,712	464	472
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	886	788	455	472

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

Table 8. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 2009 annual averages

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
TOTAL						
Total, 25 years and over.....	90,863	\$375	\$ 518	\$ 774	\$1,187	\$1,800
Less than a high school diploma.....	7,289	281	343	454	617	859
High school graduates, no college ¹	25,377	341	454	626	894	1,230
Some college or associate degree.....	25,117	382	513	726	1,030	1,422
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	33,080	554	768	1,137	1,680	2,388
Bachelor's degree only.....	21,271	512	719	1,025	1,536	2,177
Advanced degree.....	11,809	663	916	1,328	1,905	2,885
Men						
Total, 25 years and over.....	50,094	400	581	873	1,345	1,978
Less than a high school diploma.....	4,919	296	378	500	686	935
High school graduates, no college ¹	14,758	379	505	716	995	1,363
Some college or associate degree.....	12,936	423	591	835	1,174	1,589
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	17,481	608	884	1,327	1,907	2,880
Bachelor's degree only.....	11,255	579	811	1,200	1,767	2,483
Advanced degree.....	6,227	741	1,032	1,535	2,248	3,319
Women						
Total, 25 years and over.....	40,769	345	479	687	1,016	1,485
Less than a high school diploma.....	2,370	252	304	382	501	630
High school graduates, no college ¹	10,619	313	402	542	734	988
Some college or associate degree.....	12,181	351	470	630	877	1,173
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	15,599	507	700	970	1,386	1,905
Bachelor's degree only.....	10,017	479	640	891	1,258	1,770
Advanced degree.....	5,583	613	826	1,144	1,580	2,168
White, total						
Total, 25 years and over.....	73,545	382	535	799	1,224	1,862
Less than a high school diploma.....	5,975	283	345	464	623	879
High school graduates, no college ¹	20,579	352	475	651	920	1,262
Some college or associate degree.....	20,129	392	530	749	1,066	1,464
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	26,862	571	783	1,152	1,738	2,463
Bachelor's degree only.....	17,346	521	733	1,051	1,571	2,277
Advanced degree.....	9,516	679	929	1,341	1,916	2,900
White men						
Total, 25 years and over.....	41,569	409	595	898	1,372	2,019
Less than a high school diploma.....	4,184	298	379	504	691	952
High school graduates, no college ¹	12,243	390	521	740	1,019	1,397
Some college or associate degree.....	10,677	440	611	868	1,213	1,647
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	14,465	626	911	1,352	1,922	2,899
Bachelor's degree only.....	9,421	595	847	1,241	1,849	2,521
Advanced degree.....	5,044	756	1,054	1,559	2,293	3,456
White women						
Total, 25 years and over.....	31,976	351	488	702	1,034	1,512
Less than a high school diploma.....	1,791	256	304	378	504	627
High school graduates, no college ¹	8,335	319	411	556	748	1,008
Some college or associate degree.....	9,452	359	482	645	895	1,203
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	12,397	510	705	976	1,398	1,915
Bachelor's degree only.....	7,925	482	643	894	1,265	1,811
Advanced degree.....	4,472	621	835	1,149	1,589	2,184
Black or African American, total						
Total, 25 years and over.....	10,679	331	435	621	923	1,312
Less than a high school diploma.....	767	258	325	413	538	768
High school graduates, no college ¹	3,544	312	393	533	741	988
Some college or associate degree.....	3,513	341	447	608	863	1,145
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	2,855	488	653	921	1,338	1,868
Bachelor's degree only.....	1,929	460	611	853	1,225	1,660
Advanced degree.....	926	577	785	1,094	1,552	2,072
Black or African American men						
Total, 25 years and over.....	4,877	348	467	656	980	1,428
Less than a high school diploma.....	403	278	360	453	603	812
High school graduates, no college ¹	1,823	327	413	588	813	1,074

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 8. Quartiles and selected deciles of usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, 2009 annual averages — Continued

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)	Upper limit of:				
		First decile	First quartile	Second quartile (median)	Third quartile	Ninth decile
Some college or associate degree.....	1,460	\$371	\$487	\$ 655	\$ 953	\$1,247
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	1,190	494	666	987	1,486	2,015
Bachelor's degree only.....	812	483	618	898	1,372	1,891
Advanced degree.....	378	559	856	1,152	1,782	2,321
Black or African American women						
Total, 25 years and over.....	5,802	322	416	600	879	1,227
Less than a high school diploma.....	364	247	304	391	483	625
High school graduates, no college ¹	1,720	303	374	497	659	888
Some college or associate degree.....	2,052	329	418	581	787	1,037
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	1,665	484	647	886	1,235	1,681
Bachelor's degree only.....	1,117	446	605	832	1,150	1,546
Advanced degree.....	548	583	752	1,040	1,447	1,901
Asian, total						
Total, 25 years and over.....	4,642	383	578	907	1,420	1,979
Less than a high school diploma.....	326	265	340	421	618	842
High school graduates, no college ¹	734	303	413	592	820	1,157
Some college or associate degree.....	755	365	492	712	1,012	1,383
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	2,828	533	782	1,168	1,723	2,305
Bachelor's degree only.....	1,624	491	713	1,017	1,496	1,942
Advanced degree.....	1,205	660	950	1,400	1,909	2,728
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, total						
Total, 25 years and over.....	12,917	305	396	576	858	1,311
Less than a high school diploma.....	3,942	281	329	421	584	771
High school graduates, no college ¹	3,959	308	397	555	782	1,100
Some college or associate degree.....	2,835	355	482	658	941	1,357
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	2,180	471	663	985	1,461	2,135
Bachelor's degree only.....	1,568	444	622	892	1,317	1,908
Advanced degree.....	612	543	894	1,260	1,881	2,521
Hispanic or Latino men						
Total, 25 years and over.....	8,087	318	413	598	902	1,398
Less than a high school diploma.....	2,844	291	358	469	619	821
High school graduates, no college ¹	2,539	325	419	594	849	1,202
Some college or associate degree.....	1,535	381	515	729	1,062	1,467
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	1,170	487	727	1,106	1,701	2,505
Bachelor's degree only.....	820	477	676	998	1,516	2,309
Advanced degree.....	350	524	937	1,397	1,991	2,915
Hispanic or Latino women						
Total, 25 years and over.....	4,829	291	366	529	775	1,155
Less than a high school diploma.....	1,098	254	297	355	460	583
High school graduates, no college ¹	1,420	289	361	495	681	919
Some college or associate degree.....	1,300	335	441	592	804	1,113
Bachelor's degree and higher ²	1,010	434	624	884	1,266	1,762
Bachelor's degree only.....	748	407	590	806	1,123	1,585
Advanced degree.....	262	571	831	1,152	1,551	2,108

1 Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

2 Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Ten percent of all full-time wage and salary workers earn less than the upper limit of the first decile; 25 percent earn less than the upper limit of the first quartile; 50 percent earn less than the upper limit of the second quartile, or median; 75 percent earn less than the upper limit of the third quartile; and 90 percent earn less than the upper limit of the ninth decile. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.