August 2025

Contact information: Bingjie Kong Research Analyst 971-375-0923 Bingiie.Kong@employ.oregon.gov

Fourth Quarter 2024: Oregonians at Work: Median Wage and Employment by Firm Size and Industry

Oregon employers must report total wages and hours worked for each employee covered by unemployment insurance. These quarterly records cover more than two million individuals employed in the state but don't include roughly 230,000 self-employed workers. Past quarterly wage reports are available in the Oregonians @ Work drop-down menu at www.qualityinfo.org/data.

Oregon had 2.01 million workers covered by the state's unemployment insurance system during the fourth quarter of 2024. The workforce remained virtually unchanged from the same quarter of the previous year. They earned a total of \$35.9 billion, with an average wage of about \$17,826 per worker for the quarter. The median hourly wage during the quarter was \$28.35.

Most Industries Had Wage Gains

Oregon employers reported almost 2.2 million jobs during the fourth quarter of 2024. (Individuals with multiple jobs are counted for each job they hold.) Most Oregonians (89.7%) held one job during the quarter. Approximately 9.0% of workers in the fourth quarter of 2024 held two jobs, 1.1% of workers held three jobs, and 0.2% of workers held four or more jobs. This looks similar to a year ago in the fourth quarter of 2023.

Meanwhile, the median wage increased by \$0.37 over the year, after being adjusted for inflation according to the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). Inflation continued to ease through 2024 after a significant moderation in 2023, and 11 industries experienced real wage growth, meaning that the median wage increased more than inflation.

Construction had the largest real gain in median wage from fourth quarter 2023 to fourth quarter 2024 (\$1.20; 3.3%). While most industries kept pace with inflation, health care and social assistance, professional and business services, and information recorded declines in real median wages compared with the same quarter a year ago. Information had the biggest decrease in both real percentage change (-1.5%) as well as the real dollar value decrease (-\$0.76).

Real Change in Median Hourly Wage by Broad Industry Fourth Quarter 2023 to Fourth Quarter 2024

	4Q2024	Over th	ne Year
	Median Wage	Real Gain (\$)	Real Gain (%)
All Industries	\$28.35	\$0.37	1.3%
Construction	\$37.46	\$1.20	3.3%
Natural Resources and Mining	\$21.71	\$0.63	3.0%
Financial Activities	\$34.74	\$0.74	2.2%
Local Government	\$37.33	\$0.59	1.6%
Other Services	\$25.95	\$0.41	1.6%
Wholesale Trade	\$33.23	\$0.33	1.0%
Manufacturing	\$32.21	\$0.31	1.0%
Retail Trade	\$20.44	\$0.19	0.9%
Private Educational Services	\$27.93	\$0.21	0.8%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	\$27.99	\$0.12	0.4%
Leisure and Hospitality	\$20.25	\$0.02	0.1%
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$27.98	-\$0.15	-0.5%
Professional and Business Services	\$31.50	-\$0.38	-1.2%
Information	\$49.17	-\$0.76	-1.5%
State Government*	\$50.98	-	-

^{*}Hourly wages for State Government are not available for fourth quarter 2023.

Source: Oregon Employment Department, Unemployment Insurance Wage Records

Private Employment Concentrated in Small Businesses

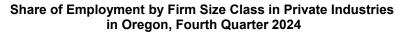
The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines an establishment as an economic unit that produces goods or services, usually at a single physical location, and is engaged in one or predominantly one activity. A firm is a legal entity possessing the right to conduct business on its own, either corporate or otherwise, and may consist of one establishment, a few establishments, or even a very large number of establishments. During the fourth quarter of 2024, Oregon's unemployment insurance system covered about 119,000 firms. The vast majority of firms (97.9%) had a single establishment. These businesses comprised 56.2% of employment for the quarter.

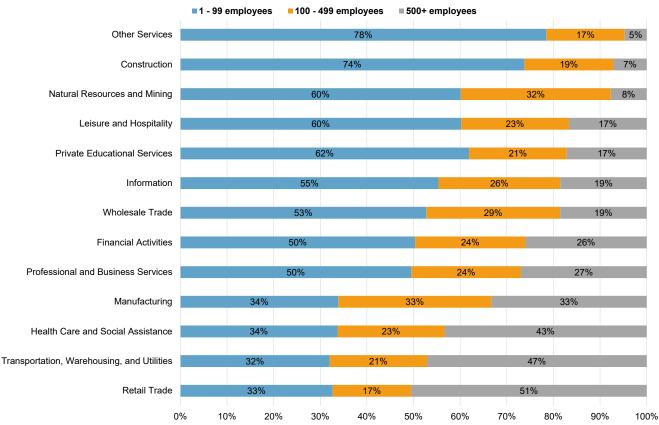
The Small Business Administration (SBA) defines a small business as an independent one with fewer than 500 employees. Some data sources use the total number of employees in a firm to classify business size class, other datasets use the number of employees in individual establishment, while others use a monetary classification such as firm revenue. Oregonians @ Work size class data use firm as the unit of analysis.

The public sector, including state government and local government, accounted for 12.7% of all jobs during the fourth quarter of 2024. Most workers in the public sector were employed by large agencies. State government had the greatest share of employment (83.0%) in firms with 500 or more employees, followed by local government (73.6%) for the quarter. Small businesses (firms with less than 500 employees) represented the greatest share of jobs (70.6%) for the private sector. Almost half (47.2%) of private employment fell in firms with one to 99 employees, and 23.4% fell in firms with 100 to 499 employees.

The share of employment by firm size class varies across industries within the private sector. Small businesses contributed the majority of employment in most priviate-sector industries, except for retail trade during the fourth quarter of 2024. Nine industries had at least 50% of jobs in firms with fewer than 100 employees. Other services had the highest share (78.5%), followed by construction (73.8%).

Large businesses made up a significant portion of employment in retail trade (50.5%); transportation, warehousing, and utilities (47.1%); and health care and social assistance (43.4%). For businesses with 100 to 499 employees, the share of jobs ranged from 16.8% in retail trade and other services to 32.8% for manufacturing in fourth quarter 2024. None of the industries had the greatest share of employment in firms with 100 to 499 employees.





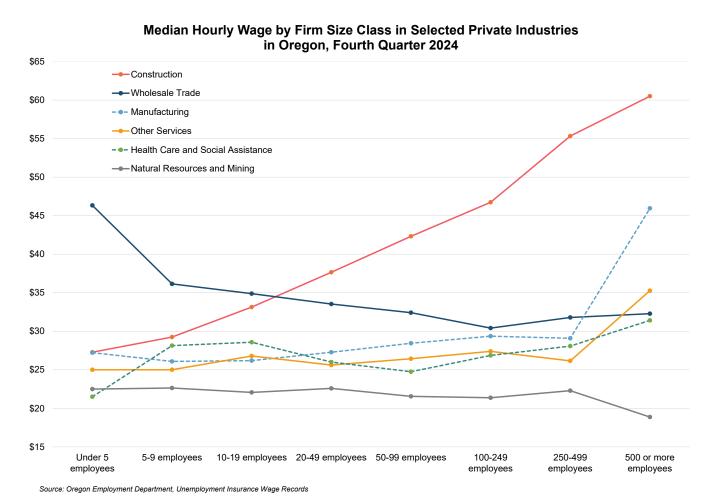
Source: Oregon Employment Department, Unemployment Insurance Wage Records

Not All Industries Saw Higher Median Wages in Larger Firms

The distribution of total wages across firm size classes closely mirrors the distribution of employment in many industries. However, notable differences emerged in some sectors. Industries such as manufacturing, health care and social assistance, construction and other services showed a larger share of total wages concentrated in firms with 500 or more employees, reflecting a higher pay in larger firms. In contrast, wholesale trade and natrual resources and mining had more of their total wages paid by firms with fewer than 100 employees.

Median wages increased in a nearly linear pattern across the eight firm size classes in construction during the fourth quarter of 2024. Health care and social assistance also showed an upward trend in median wages by firm size, though median wages fluctuated between size groups rather than rising steadily. Manufacturing and other services saw relatively modest median wage increases across most firm size classes before a sharp jump for firms with 500 or more employees.

Wholesale trade and natural resources and mining showed different patterns in median wages by firm size. Generally speaking, median wages declined as firm size increased in wholesale trade for the quarter. The biggest drop occurred between firms with fewer than five employees and those with five to nine employees. Median wages then continued to decrease gradually before a slight uptick at the 250 to 499 employees class, and remained flat for firms with 500 or more employees. Natrual resources and mining had a relatively steady median wage pattern across most firm size classes before experiencing a steep decline in the largest firm size group.



Note that non-classifiable jobs were excluded from much of this analysis. The individuals under non-classifiable work for employers who have not yet been assigned an industry code, so it really isn't a "sector." Those employees will start to show up under other industries in future quarters as we are able to determine the correct code. The wage change over time for this group is meaningless, because the employers – and their employees – included here change each quarter.

To provide better data, this analysis also filters out job records that probably contain errors. Jobs that report zero hours or more than 999 hours (about 77 hours per week) worked in a quarter and jobs that paid less than the federal minimum wage (\$7.25 per hour) are excluded. Jobs that paid more than \$500 per hour and reported less than 10 hours work during the quarter are also excluded.

Table 1: Oregon - Number of Jobs by Hourly Wage Level and Broad Industry - 4th Quarter 2024*

-	Under	\$15.00 -	\$20.00 -	\$25.00 -	\$30.00 -	\$40.00 -	\$50.00 -	\$60.00 or		Median
	\$15.00	\$19.99	\$24.99	\$29.99	\$39.99	\$49.99	\$59.99	more	Total	Wage
Total - All Industries	77,063	424,385	388,150	277,012	335,435	195,957	135,775	340,722	2,174,499	\$28.35
Natural Resources and Mining	4,245	25,241	17,670	8,550	10,187	3,356	1,571	3,261	74,081	\$21.71
Construction	1,615	8,312	15,937	17,669	26,171	17,497	15,005	26,172	128,378	\$37.46
Manufacturing	2,425	20,790	32,307	30,017	38,037	21,776	12,517	35,264	193,133	\$32.21
Wholesale Trade	1,263	9,086	13,238	11,974	16,667	9,366	5,643	16,668	83,905	\$33.23
Retail Trade	16,200	96,776	50,997	25,434	22,836	9,375	4,655	12,434	238,707	\$20.44
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	2,470	7,784	20,002	16,059	14,518	6,724	4,765	10,270	82,592	\$27.99
Information	620	3,281	2,550	2,902	5,152	4,307	3,307	14,891	37,010	\$49.17
Financial Activities	1,765	7,100	11,888	12,198	17,204	10,134	6,705	17,701	84,695	\$34.74
Professional and Business Services	7,357	48,059	46,816	33,157	40,823	27,022	19,298	64,569	287,101	\$31.50
Private Educational Services	1,676	6,426	5,513	4,864	5,948	3,651	2,074	3,309	33,461	\$27.93
Health Care & Social Assistance	5,898	57,828	76,125	47,672	47,903	23,650	19,170	62,676	340,922	\$27.98
Leisure and Hospitality	20,262	95,053	53,916	27,307	25,694	9,612	3,534	5,431	240,809	\$20.25
Other Services	3,936	16,531	13,389	9,878	11,914	6,165	3,596	7,382	72,791	\$25.95
State Government	421	774	1,129	2,292	8,426	9,180	7,760	16,103	46,085	\$50.98
Local Government	6,865	21,216	26,509	26,884	43,759	33,976	26,052	44,127	229,388	\$37.33
Non-classifiable	45	128	164	155	196	166	123	464	1,441	\$41.67

^{*}Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

0 (zero) hours reported 999 hours reported wages < \$7.25/hr calculated wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported federal government employment

Table 2: Oregon - Fraction of Jobs by Broad Industry by Hourly Wage Level - 4th Quarter 2024*

-	Under	\$15.00 -	\$20.00 -	\$25.00 -	\$30.00 -	\$40.00 -	\$50.00 -	\$60.00 or	
	\$15.00	\$19.99	\$24.99	\$29.99	\$39.99	\$49.99	\$59.99	more	Total
Total - All Industries	3.5%	19.5%	17.9%	12.7%	15.4%	9.0%	6.2%	15.7%	100.0%
Natural Resources and Mining	5.7%	34.1%	23.9%	11.5%	13.8%	4.5%	2.1%	4.4%	100.0%
Construction	1.3%	6.5%	12.4%	13.8%	20.4%	13.6%	11.7%	20.4%	100.0%
Manufacturing	1.3%	10.8%	16.7%	15.5%	19.7%	11.3%	6.5%	18.3%	100.0%
Wholesale Trade	1.5%	10.8%	15.8%	14.3%	19.9%	11.2%	6.7%	19.9%	100.0%
Retail Trade	6.8%	40.5%	21.4%	10.7%	9.6%	3.9%	2.0%	5.2%	100.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	3.0%	9.4%	24.2%	19.4%	17.6%	8.1%	5.8%	12.4%	100.0%
Information	1.7%	8.9%	6.9%	7.8%	13.9%	11.6%	8.9%	40.2%	100.0%
Financial Activities	2.1%	8.4%	14.0%	14.4%	20.3%	12.0%	7.9%	20.9%	100.0%
Professional and Business Services	2.6%	16.7%	16.3%	11.5%	14.2%	9.4%	6.7%	22.5%	100.0%
Private Educational Services	5.0%	19.2%	16.5%	14.5%	17.8%	10.9%	6.2%	9.9%	100.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1.7%	17.0%	22.3%	14.0%	14.1%	6.9%	5.6%	18.4%	100.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	8.4%	39.5%	22.4%	11.3%	10.7%	4.0%	1.5%	2.3%	100.0%
Other Services	5.4%	22.7%	18.4%	13.6%	16.4%	8.5%	4.9%	10.1%	100.0%
State Government	0.9%	1.7%	2.4%	5.0%	18.3%	19.9%	16.8%	34.9%	100.0%
Local Government	3.0%	9.2%	11.6%	11.7%	19.1%	14.8%	11.4%	19.2%	100.0%
Non-classifiable	3.1%	8.9%	11.4%	10.8%	13.6%	11.5%	8.5%	32.2%	100.0%

^{*}Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

0 (zero) hours reported
999 hours reported
wages < \$7.25/hr calculated
wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported
federal government employment

Table 3: Oregon - Fraction of Jobs by Hourly Wage Level by Broad Industry - 4th Quarter 2024*

-	Under	\$15.00 -	\$20.00 -	\$25.00 -	\$30.00 -	\$40.00 -	\$50.00 -	\$60.00 or	
	\$15.00	\$19.99	\$24.99	\$29.99	\$39.99	\$49.99	\$59.99	more	Total
Total - All Industries	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Natural Resources and Mining	5.5%	5.9%	4.6%	3.1%	3.0%	1.7%	1.2%	1.0%	3.4%
Construction	2.1%	2.0%	4.1%	6.4%	7.8%	8.9%	11.1%	7.7%	5.9%
Manufacturing	3.1%	4.9%	8.3%	10.8%	11.3%	11.1%	9.2%	10.3%	8.9%
Wholesale Trade	1.6%	2.1%	3.4%	4.3%	5.0%	4.8%	4.2%	4.9%	3.9%
Retail Trade	21.0%	22.8%	13.1%	9.2%	6.8%	4.8%	3.4%	3.6%	11.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	3.2%	1.8%	5.2%	5.8%	4.3%	3.4%	3.5%	3.0%	3.8%
Information	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	1.0%	1.5%	2.2%	2.4%	4.4%	1.7%
Financial Activities	2.3%	1.7%	3.1%	4.4%	5.1%	5.2%	4.9%	5.2%	3.9%
Professional and Business Services	9.5%	11.3%	12.1%	12.0%	12.2%	13.8%	14.2%	19.0%	13.2%
Private Educational Services	2.2%	1.5%	1.4%	1.8%	1.8%	1.9%	1.5%	1.0%	1.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	7.7%	13.6%	19.6%	17.2%	14.3%	12.1%	14.1%	18.4%	15.7%
Leisure and Hospitality	26.3%	22.4%	13.9%	9.9%	7.7%	4.9%	2.6%	1.6%	11.1%
Other Services	5.1%	3.9%	3.4%	3.6%	3.6%	3.1%	2.6%	2.2%	3.3%
State Government	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%	2.5%	4.7%	5.7%	4.7%	2.1%
Local Government	8.9%	5.0%	6.8%	9.7%	13.0%	17.3%	19.2%	13.0%	10.5%
Non-classifiable	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%

^{*}Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

0 (zero) hours reported
999 hours reported
wages < \$7.25/hr calculated
wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported
federal government employment

Table 4: Oregon - Number of Jobs by Hourly Wage Level and Firm Employment Size Class - 4th Quarter 2024*

•	Under	\$15.00 -	\$20.00 -	\$25.00 -	\$30.00 -	\$40.00 -	\$50.00 -	\$60.00 or		Median
	\$15.00	\$19.99	\$24.99	\$29.99	\$39.99	\$49.99	\$59.99	more	Total	Wage
Total - All Size Classes	77,063	424,385	388,150	277,012	335,435	195,957	135,775	340,722	2,174,499	\$28.35
Under 5 employees	7,318	22,352	22,330	15,813	18,710	11,029	7,556	23,535	128,643	\$28.85
5 - 9 employees	7,088	29,629	25,037	18,521	20,701	10,676	6,520	16,016	134,188	\$26.00
10 - 19 employees	8,966	41,471	33,604	25,341	29,079	14,564	9,468	20,655	183,148	\$26.15
20 - 49 employees	10,631	57,922	51,023	36,109	42,373	22,577	13,283	29,895	263,813	\$26.41
50 - 99 employees	6,310	42,101	40,496	28,266	33,856	18,890	11,782	25,047	206,748	\$27.27
100 - 249 employees	9,901	55,904	54,466	38,938	47,366	26,604	17,143	36,528	286,850	\$27.69
250 - 499 employees	6,697	41,649	38,386	28,083	33,770	19,081	12,147	26,643	206,456	\$27.67
500 or more employees	20,152	133,357	122,808	85,941	109,580	72,536	57,876	162,403	764,653	\$31.45

^{*}Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

0 (zero) hours reported
999 hours reported
wages < \$7.25/hr calculated
wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported
federal government employment

Table 5: Oregon - Fraction of Jobs by Firm Employment Size Class by Hourly Wage Level - 4th Quarter 2024*

_	Under	\$15.00 -	\$20.00 -	\$25.00 -	\$30.00 -	\$40.00 -	\$50.00 - 3	\$60.00 or	
	\$15.00	\$19.99	\$24.99	\$29.99	\$39.99	\$49.99	\$59.99	more	Total
Total - All Size Classes	3.5%	19.5%	17.9%	12.7%	15.4%	9.0%	6.2%	15.7%	100.0%
Under 5 employees	5.7%	17.4%	17.4%	12.3%	14.5%	8.6%	5.9%	18.3%	100.0%
5 - 9 employees	5.3%	22.1%	18.7%	13.8%	15.4%	8.0%	4.9%	11.9%	100.0%
10 - 19 employees	4.9%	22.6%	18.3%	13.8%	15.9%	8.0%	5.2%	11.3%	100.0%
20 - 49 employees	4.0%	22.0%	19.3%	13.7%	16.1%	8.6%	5.0%	11.3%	100.0%
50 - 99 employees	3.1%	20.4%	19.6%	13.7%	16.4%	9.1%	5.7%	12.1%	100.0%
100 - 249 employees	3.5%	19.5%	19.0%	13.6%	16.5%	9.3%	6.0%	12.7%	100.0%
250 - 499 employees	3.2%	20.2%	18.6%	13.6%	16.4%	9.2%	5.9%	12.9%	100.0%
500 or more employees	2.6%	17.4%	16.1%	11.2%	14.3%	9.5%	7.6%	21.2%	100.0%

^{*}Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

0 (zero) hours reported 999 hours reported wages < \$7.25/hr calculated wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported federal government employment

Table 6: Oregon - Fraction of Jobs in Hourly Wage Level by Firm Employment Size Class - 4th Quarter 2024*

•	Under	\$15.00 -	\$20.00 -	\$25.00 -	\$30.00 -	\$40.00 -	\$50.00 -	\$60.00 or	
	\$15.00	\$19.99	\$24.99	\$29.99	\$39.99	\$49.99	\$59.99	more	Total
Total - All Size Classes	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Under 5 employees	9.5%	5.3%	5.8%	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%	6.9%	5.9%
5 - 9 employees	9.2%	7.0%	6.5%	6.7%	6.2%	5.4%	4.8%	4.7%	6.2%
10 - 19 employees	11.6%	9.8%	8.7%	9.1%	8.7%	7.4%	7.0%	6.1%	8.4%
20 - 49 employees	13.8%	13.6%	13.1%	13.0%	12.6%	11.5%	9.8%	8.8%	12.1%
50 - 99 employees	8.2%	9.9%	10.4%	10.2%	10.1%	9.6%	8.7%	7.4%	9.5%
100 - 249 employees	12.8%	13.2%	14.0%	14.1%	14.1%	13.6%	12.6%	10.7%	13.2%
250 - 499 employees	8.7%	9.8%	9.9%	10.1%	10.1%	9.7%	8.9%	7.8%	9.5%
500 or more employees	26.2%	31.4%	31.6%	31.0%	32.7%	37.0%	42.6%	47.7%	35.2%

^{*}Count of records. Individuals holding multiple jobs will be counted more than once.

0 (zero) hours reported 999 hours reported

wages < \$7.25/hr calculated

wages > \$500/hr calculated and < 10 hours reported

federal government employment

Table 7: Oregon - Unemployment Insurance Wage Record Summary Statistics - 4th Quarter 2024

		12-Month			12-Month			12-Month
		Percent	Percent of	Total	Percent	Percent of	Mean Wages	Percent
	Count	Change	Total SSNs	Wages	Change	Total Wages	Per Quarter	Change
Total SSNs	2,011,916	0.0%	100.0%	\$ 35,864,094,190	6.5%	100.0%	\$ 17,826	6.5%
One Job	1,804,145	0.0%	89.7%	\$ 32,696,956,377	6.4%	91.2%	\$ 18,123	6.4%
Two Jobs	181,847	-0.8%	9.0%	\$ 2,777,989,413	6.9%	7.7%	\$ 15,277	7.8%
Three Jobs	21,346	-0.6%			8.9%	0.9%	·	9.6%
Four or More Jobs	4,578	3.9%	0.2%	\$ 76,743,063	9.1%	0.2%	\$ 16,763	5.0%
Total Records	2,252,463	-0.1%						
Records per SSN	1.12							
Two or More Jobs	207,771	-0.7%	10.3%					
Workers in Oregon's workforce in 4th Quarter 20)24 who:							
- did not work in Oregon in 3rd quarter 2024	140,304	0.9%						
 had not worked in Oregon since 1990 	39,196	-4.0%						
- returned to Oregon's workforce*	101,108	2.9%						
Percent in workforce one year ago	84.8%							
Percent in same primary industry	85.4%							
Percent in new primary industry (3-digit NAICS)	14.6%							

^{*}Did not work in Oregon in 3rd Quarter 2024, but have worked in Oregon at some point since 1990.

Table 8: Oregon - Quarterly Wages by Quintile and Hours Worked - 4th Quarter 2024

\$34,037

Current Quarter Wages

NA

Percent Change from Prior Year

All Workers

All Workers

(Quintile		
2	3	4	5
0,650	\$15,752	\$24,530	NA
8 257	\$13,069	\$19 628	\$45 559

\$13,000 \$19,372

	Quintile								
	All ¹	1	2	3	4	5			
Quintiles		5.2%	5.7%	6.4%	6.6%	NA			
Mean	6.5%	5.0%	5.3%	6.1%	6.8%	6.8%			
Median	6.1%	4.7%	5.2%	6.1%	6.9%	5.3%			

\$17,826

\$13,000

 All^1

Quintiles Mean

Median

1 \$5,588

\$2,617

\$2,560

Employed 200+ Hours

Employed 200+ Hours

		Quintile								
		1	2	3	4	5				
Quintiles		\$8,826	\$12,767	\$17,794	\$26,536	NA				
Mean	\$20,334	\$6,331	\$10,790	\$15,107	\$21,661	\$47,780				
Median	\$15,000	\$6,507	\$10,785	\$15,000	\$21,417	\$36,211				

\$8,333

	Quintile								
		1	2	3	4	5			
Quintiles		4.4%	5.3%	6.0%	5.6%	NA			
Mean	4.9%	4.0%	4.9%	5.7%	6.0%	4.4%			
Median	5.5%	3.8%	4.9%	5.5%	6.1%	4.1%			

Employed 350+ Hours

Employed 350+ Hours

	_	Quintile								
		1	2	3	4	5				
Quintiles		\$10,685	\$14,416	\$19,487	\$28,361	NA				
Mean	\$22,373	\$8,495	\$12,501	\$16,761	\$23,396	\$50,711				
Median	\$16,675	\$8,791	\$12,477	\$16,675	\$23,155	\$38,354				

	Quintile									
		1	2	3	4	5				
Quintiles		5.0%	5.6%	6.1%	5.4%	NA				
Mean	4.8%	4.5%	5.3%	5.9%	6.0%	3.8%				
Median	5.9%	4.5%	5.2%	5.9%	6.1%	3.9%				

¹2,011,916 SSNs

²1,652,974 SSNs

³1,373,460 SSNs