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Third Quarter 2024: Oregonians at Work – Wage Growth in Many Industries, Job Growth Concentrated in Health Care and Social Assistance

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 2.04 million people working in jobs covered by the state's unemployment insurance system during the third quarter of 2024. This was a decrease of 9,500, or -0.5%, from the same quarter of the previous year. They earned a total of \$33.7 billion, with an average wage of about \$16,500 per worker for the quarter. The median hourly wage during the quarter was \$27.48.

Most Industries Experienced Wage Growth

Oregon employers reported over 2.2 million jobs during the third quarter of 2024. The vast majority of Oregonians (89.2%) held one job during the quarter. Approximately 9.3% of workers in the third quarter of 2024 held two jobs, 1.2% of workers held three jobs, and 0.3% of workers held four or more jobs. This is similar to a year ago in the third quarter of 2023.

Meanwhile, the median wage increased by \$0.24 over the year, after being adjusted for inflation according to the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). Inflation has slowed in the past year, and more industry wages have been able to keep up in their real purchasing power.

Thirteen industries had real wage gains, meaning that the median wage increased more than inflation. Construction had the largest real gain in median wage growth from third quarter 2023 to third quarter 2024 (\$1.35; 3.9%). However, two industries had decreases in real median wage: information, and health care and social assistance. Health care and social assistance jobs had the biggest decrease in both real percentage change (-3.1%) as well as the real dollar value decrease (-\$0.88).

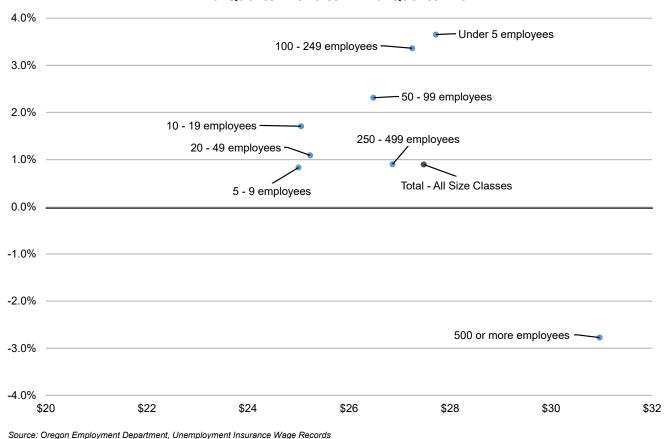
Real Change in Median Hourly Wage by Broad Industry Third Quarter 2023 to Third Quarter 2024

	3Q2024	Over th	ne Year
	Median Wage	Real Gain (\$)	Real Gain (%)
All Industries	\$27.48	\$0.24	0.9%
Construction	\$35.71	\$1.35	3.9%
Natural Resources and Mining	\$20.29	\$0.60	3.0%
Other Services	\$25.01	\$0.61	2.5%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	\$28.17	\$0.50	1.8%
Financial Activities	\$33.25	\$0.58	1.8%
Manufacturing	\$31.18	\$0.54	1.8%
Wholesale Trade	\$32.17	\$0.37	1.2%
Professional and Business Services	\$30.45	\$0.34	1.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	\$20.00	\$0.17	0.9%
State Government	\$48.69	\$0.41	0.8%
Retail Trade	\$20.18	\$0.14	0.7%
Local Government	\$38.21	\$0.19	0.5%
Private Educational Services	\$27.26	\$0.08	0.3%
Information	\$48.08	-\$0.26	-0.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	\$27.37	-\$0.88	-3.1%

Source: Oregon Employment Department, Unemployment Insurance Wage Records

Median wages and real gain over the past year can also be analyzed by firm class size. As has been the case historically, median wage tends to be the highest in firms with at least 500 employees. Median wage is usually lower in smaller firms. That is still the case in third quarter 2024. Further, if we look at how the median wage has fared over the past year when it comes to inflation, we see a pattern. Adjusting median wages for inflation according to CPI-U, we can determine if a wage is worth as much now as it was last year. As it turns out, workers at most sizes of firms had positive wage growth from third quarter 2023 to third quarter 2024. The exception is workers at firms with 500 or more employees, whose median wage decreased by 2.8%, adjusted for inflation.

Comparing Median Wage (\$) and Real Gain (%), Third Quarter 2023 to Third Quarter 2024



Health Care and Social Assistance Dominated Job Growth

Of the 10,600 jobs gained between third quarter 2023 and third quarter 2024, health care and social assistance experienced the largest growth (+28,400 jobs; +9.2%). The largest percentage decrease occurred in private educational services (-5.3%), while the largest decrease in jobs occurred in leisure and hospitality (-6,800).

Instead of looking at the raw numerical change, it can sometimes be more helpful to look at the percentage change in jobs. Some industries are larger than others by nature, and large increases or decreases, though they account for many jobs, are a small percentage when compared with the size of the industry. For example, information lost about 1,000 jobs between third quarter 2023 and third quarter 2024. This constituted a 2.7% decrease. For comparison's sake, leisure and hospitality decreased by about 2.6%, which was a loss of over 6,800 jobs.

It is also interesting to look at the composition of industries in the economy. As different industries experience fluctuations, the number of jobs can increase or decrease enough that the share of jobs for a particular industry increases or decreases within the economy. Generally speaking, adding jobs can lead to a larger share in the economy, while losing jobs can decrease an industry's share of jobs – though there are exceptions. From the third quarter of 2023 to the third quarter of 2024, the share of jobs in health care and social assistance

increased from making up 13.9% of all jobs to 15.1%. Retail trade also increased in its share of all jobs (10.4% to 10.7%).

Change in Number of Jobs by Broad Industry Third Quarter 2023 to Third Quarter 2024

	3Q2023 - 3Q2024	% of All	Jobs
	Change in Jobs	3Q2023	3Q2024
All Industries	10,558	100.0%	100.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	28,400	13.9%	15.1%
Retail Trade	9,676	10.4%	10.7%
Local Government	1,649	9.9%	9.9%
Natural Resources and Mining	514	4.7%	4.7%
Other Services	460	3.3%	3.3%
State Government	56	2.1%	2.1%
Information	-1,043	1.7%	1.7%
Wholesale Trade	-1,228	3.9%	3.8%
Private Educational Services	-1,867	1.6%	1.5%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	-2,565	3.6%	3.5%
Manufacturing	-2,621	9.1%	9.0%
Construction	-2,760	6.2%	6.1%
Financial Activities	-4,406	4.1%	3.9%
Professional and Business Services	-5,018	13.4%	13.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	-6,840	11.8%	11.5%

Source: Oregon Employment Department, Unemployment Insurance Wage Records

Looking at the industries that gained jobs between third quarter 2023 and third quarter 2024, health care and social assistance made up the majority of those gains, accounting for 70% of job growth. Losses were spread over a number of industries over the past year.

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 - 3rd 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	92,351	469,786	401,106	275,007	337,743	190,184	129,107	333,850	2,229,134	\$27.48
Natural Resources and Mining	8,175	41,067	21,987	11,491	12,979	3,193	1,404	3,452	103,748	\$20.29
Construction	1,821	10,258	18,458	19,314	28,027	18,343	15,936	23,508	135,665	\$35.71
Manufacturing	3,116	24,544	35,982	30,513	36,909	21,765	13,160	34,119	200,108	\$31.18
Wholesale Trade	1,356	10,096	14,453	12,457	16,798	9,330	5,713	15,489	85,692	\$32.17
Retail Trade	17,848	98,551	51,148	24,851	23,221	8,170	4,352	11,380	239,521	\$20.18
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	2,700	8,789	18,669	12,773	13,969	6,659	4,471	10,072	78,102	\$28.17
Information	834	3,382	2,862	2,878	5,115	4,361	3,402	14,561	37,395	\$48.08
Financial Activities	2,041	8,503	12,934	13,129	17,247	9,910	6,688	16,322	86,774	\$33.25
Professional and Business Services	8,599	53,272	49,119	32,492	41,793	26,854	18,952	61,724	292,805	\$30.45
Private Educational Services	1,553	7,309	5,440	4,495	5,615	3,418	2,014	3,358	33,202	\$27.26
Health Care & Social Assistance	6,277	62,257	75,579	45,591	45,892	23,032	18,303	59,908	336,839	\$27.37
Leisure and Hospitality	25,018	101,952	55,822	28,058	26,556	9,781	3,515	4,750	255,452	\$20.00
Other Services	4,991	17,851	13,586	9,793	12,019	5,926	3,388	6,848	74,402	\$25.01
State Government	65	565	1,844	3,426	9,496	8,798	7,062	15,023	46,279	\$48.69
Local Government	7,814	21,030	22,889	23,435	41,735	30,398	20,545	52,718	220,564	\$38.21
Non-classifiable	143	360	334	311	372	246	202	618	2,586	\$33.36

^{*}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 - 3rd 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	4.1%	21.1%	18.0%	12.3%	15.2%	8.5%	5.8%	15.0%	100.0%
Natural Resources and Mining	7.9%	39.6%	21.2%	11.1%	12.5%	3.1%	1.4%	3.3%	100.0%
Construction	1.3%	7.6%	13.6%	14.2%	20.7%	13.5%	11.7%	17.3%	100.0%
Manufacturing	1.6%	12.3%	18.0%	15.2%	18.4%	10.9%	6.6%	17.1%	100.0%
Wholesale Trade	1.6%	11.8%	16.9%	14.5%	19.6%	10.9%	6.7%	18.1%	100.0%
Retail Trade	7.5%	41.1%	21.4%	10.4%	9.7%	3.4%	1.8%	4.8%	100.0%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	3.5%	11.3%	23.9%	16.4%	17.9%	8.5%	5.7%	12.9%	100.0%
Information	2.2%	9.0%	7.7%	7.7%	13.7%	11.7%	9.1%	38.9%	100.0%
Financial Activities	2.4%	9.8%	14.9%	15.1%	19.9%	11.4%	7.7%	18.8%	100.0%
Professional and Business Services	2.9%	18.2%	16.8%	11.1%	14.3%	9.2%	6.5%	21.1%	100.0%
Private Educational Services	4.7%	22.0%	16.4%	13.5%	16.9%	10.3%	6.1%	10.1%	100.0%
Health Care & Social Assistance	1.9%	18.5%	22.4%	13.5%	13.6%	6.8%	5.4%	17.8%	100.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	9.8%	39.9%	21.9%	11.0%	10.4%	3.8%	1.4%	1.9%	100.0%
Other Services	6.7%	24.0%	18.3%	13.2%	16.2%	8.0%	4.6%	9.2%	100.0%
State Government	0.1%	1.2%	4.0%	7.4%	20.5%	19.0%	15.3%	32.5%	100.0%
Local Government	3.5%	9.5%	10.4%	10.6%	18.9%	13.8%	9.3%	23.9%	100.0%
Non-classifiable	5.5%	13.9%	12.9%	12.0%	14.4%	9.5%	7.8%	23.9%	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 - 3rd 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	8.9%	8.7%	5.5%	4.2%	3.8%	1.7%	1.1%	1.0%	4.7%
Construction	2.0%	2.2%	4.6%	7.0%	8.3%	9.6%	12.3%	7.0%	6.1%
Manufacturing	3.4%	5.2%	9.0%	11.1%	10.9%	11.4%	10.2%	10.2%	9.0%
Wholesale Trade	1.5%	2.1%	3.6%	4.5%	5.0%	4.9%	4.4%	4.6%	3.8%
Retail Trade	19.3%	21.0%	12.8%	9.0%	6.9%	4.3%	3.4%	3.4%	10.7%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	2.9%	1.9%	4.7%	4.6%	4.1%	3.5%	3.5%	3.0%	3.5%
Information	0.9%	0.7%	0.7%	1.0%	1.5%	2.3%	2.6%	4.4%	1.7%
Financial Activities	2.2%	1.8%	3.2%	4.8%	5.1%	5.2%	5.2%	4.9%	3.9%
Professional and Business Services	9.3%	11.3%	12.2%	11.8%	12.4%	14.1%	14.7%	18.5%	13.1%
Private Educational Services	1.7%	1.6%	1.4%	1.6%	1.7%	1.8%	1.6%	1.0%	1.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	6.8%	13.3%	18.8%	16.6%	13.6%	12.1%	14.2%	17.9%	15.1%
Leisure and Hospitality	27.1%	21.7%	13.9%	10.2%	7.9%	5.1%	2.7%	1.4%	11.5%
Other Services	5.4%	3.8%	3.4%	3.6%	3.6%	3.1%	2.6%	2.1%	3.3%
State Government	0.1%	0.1%	0.5%	1.2%	2.8%	4.6%	5.5%	4.5%	2.1%
Local Government	8.5%	4.5%	5.7%	8.5%	12.4%	16.0%	15.9%	15.8%	9.9%
Non-classifiable	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	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 - 3rd 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	92,351	469,786	401,106	275,007	337,743	190,184	129,107	333,850	2,229,134	\$27.48
Under 5 employees	7,653	23,419	22,700	15,942	18,427	10,584	7,161	20,718	126,604	\$27.72
5 - 9 employees	8,303	31,920	25,885	18,534	19,940	9,811	6,058	14,105	134,556	\$25.00
10 - 19 employees	10,743	45,286	35,588	25,484	28,754	14,028	8,634	17,899	186,416	\$25.05
20 - 49 employees	14,619	68,913	54,562	37,896	43,518	22,563	13,144	27,369	282,584	\$25.23
50 - 99 employees	7,680	46,669	42,271	28,799	33,826	18,598	11,586	24,207	213,636	\$26.48
100 - 249 employees	11,611	60,201	55,548	38,546	48,369	26,117	17,340	35,604	293,336	\$27.25
250 - 499 employees	8,502	49,348	41,534	29,379	35,717	18,836	12,527	27,645	223,488	\$26.86
500 or more employees	23,240	144,030	123,018	80,427	109,192	69,647	52,657	166,303	768,514	\$30.96

^{*}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 - 3rd 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	4.1%	21.1%	18.0%	12.3%	15.2%	8.5%	5.8%	15.0%	100.0%
Under 5 employees	6.0%	18.5%	17.9%	12.6%	14.6%	8.4%	5.7%	16.4%	100.0%
5 - 9 employees	6.2%	23.7%	19.2%	13.8%	14.8%	7.3%	4.5%	10.4 %	100.0%
10 - 19 employees	5.8%	24.3%	19.1%	13.7%	15.4%	7.5%	4.6%	9.6%	100.0%
20 - 49 employees	5.2%	24.4%	19.3%	13.4%	15.4%	8.0%	4.7%	9.7%	100.0%
50 - 99 employees	3.6%	21.8%	19.8%	13.5%	15.8%	8.7%	5.4%	11.3%	100.0%
100 - 249 employees	4.0%	20.5%	18.9%	13.1%	16.5%	8.9%	5.9%	12.1%	100.0%
250 - 499 employees	3.8%	22.1%	18.6%	13.1%	16.0%	8.4%	5.6%	12.4%	100.0%
500 or more employees	3.0%	18.7%	16.0%	10.5%	14.2%	9.1%	6.9%	21.6%	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 - 3rd 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	8.3%	5.0%	5.7%	5.8%	5.5%	5.6%	5.5%	6.2%	5.7%
5 - 9 employees	9.0%	6.8%	6.5%	6.7%	5.9%	5.2%	4.7%	4.2%	6.0%
10 - 19 employees	11.6%	9.6%	8.9%	9.3%	8.5%	7.4%	6.7%	5.4%	8.4%
20 - 49 employees	15.8%	14.7%	13.6%	13.8%	12.9%	11.9%	10.2%	8.2%	12.7%
50 - 99 employees	8.3%	9.9%	10.5%	10.5%	10.0%	9.8%	9.0%	7.3%	9.6%
100 - 249 employees	12.6%	12.8%	13.8%	14.0%	14.3%	13.7%	13.4%	10.7%	13.2%
250 - 499 employees	9.2%	10.5%	10.4%	10.7%	10.6%	9.9%	9.7%	8.3%	10.0%
500 or more employees	25.2%	30.7%	30.7%	29.2%	32.3%	36.6%	40.8%	49.8%	34.5%

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

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Table 7: Oregon - Unemployment Insurance Wage Record Summary Statistics - 3rd Quarter 2024

		12-Month	ĺ		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	2,041,994	-0.5%	100.0%	\$ 33,651,886,957	3.2%	100.0%	\$ 16,480	3.7%
One Job	1,820,943	-0.2%	89.2%	\$ 30,589,685,681	3.2%	90.9%	\$ 16,799	3.3%
Two Jobs	190,529	-2.5%	9.3%	\$ 2,644,989,191	3.4%	7.9%	\$ 13,882	6.1%
Three Jobs	24,024	-3.9%	1.2%	\$ 320,643,909	4.5%	1.0%	\$ 13,347	8.8%
Four or More Jobs	6,498	-9.0%	0.3%	\$ 96,568,176	-0.5%	0.3%	\$ 14,861	9.3%
Total Records	2,304,343	-0.8%						
Records per SSN	1.13							
Two or More Jobs	221,051	-2.9%	10.8%					
Workers in Oregon's workforce in 3rd Quarter 20	024 who:							
- did not work in Oregon in 2nd quarter 2024	177,456	1.9%						
- had not worked in Oregon since 1990	58,902	-1.6%						
- returned to Oregon's workforce*	118,554	3.8%						
Percent in workforce one year ago	84.5%							
Percent in same primary industry	84.7%							
Percent in new primary industry (3-digit NAICS)	15.3%							

^{*}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 - 3rd Quarter 2024

2024 3rd Quarter Wages

NA

Percent Change from Prior Year

All Workers

All Workers

		Quintile								
	All ¹	1	2	3	4	5				
Quintiles		\$5,112	\$10,012	\$14,872	\$23,380	NA				
Mean	\$16,480	\$2,450	\$7,672	\$12,316	\$18,564	\$41,397				
Median	\$12,249	\$2,427	\$7,733	\$12,249	\$18,291	\$32,480				

	Quintile								
	All ¹	1	2	3	4	5			
Quintiles		3.7%	4.0%	4.4%	4.8%	NA			
Mean	3.7%	3.7%	3.8%	4.1%	4.6%	3.1%			
Median	4.0%	3.8%	3.6%	4.0%	4.5%	4.7%			

Employed 200+ Hours

	Quintile									
		1	2	3	4	5				
Quintiles		\$8,488	\$12,258	\$17,016	\$25,701	NA				
Mean	\$19,179	\$6,081	\$10,382	\$14,469	\$20,816	\$44,145				
Median	\$14,396	\$6,224	\$10,390	\$14,396	\$20,560	\$34,947				

Employed 200+ Hours

	Quintile							
		1	2	3	4	5		
Quintiles		2.6%	2.9%	3.6%	4.0%	NA		
Mean	2.6%	2.7%	2.9%	3.3%	3.9%	1.6%		
Median	3 4%	2.8%	3.0%	3.4%	4 0%	4 0%		

Employed 350+ Hours

	Quintile					
		1	2	3	4	5
Quintiles		\$10,456	\$13,957	\$18,794	\$27,680	NA
Mean	\$21,247	\$8,368	\$12,159	\$16,190	\$22,678	\$46,842
Median	\$16,094	\$8,647	\$12,126	\$16,094	\$22,403	\$37,118

Employed 350+ Hours

	Quintile							
		1	2	3	4	5		
Quintiles		3.5%	3.6%	4.1%	4.2%	NA		
Mean	3.1%	3.3%	3.5%	3.9%	4.2%	2.2%		
Median	3.9%	3.3%	3.3%	3.9%	4.2%	4.0%		

¹2,041,994 SSNs

²1,640,803 SSNs

³1,329,632 SSNs