

Earnings distribution of female and male U.S. year-round full-time workers by selected occupations: 1999

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, PHC-T-33

(earnings in thousands of dollars)		W O M E N				M E N				women's median earnings/ % of men's
Occupation	percent female	percentile of earnings			average earnings	percentile of earnings			average earnings	
		10th	median	90th		10th	median	90th		
<b>20 leading occupations for women full-time wage and salary workers</b> 2002 annual averages (Source: U.S. DOL Women's Bureau) <sup>1</sup>										
Retail Sales	39.2	10	20	47	26	14	31	78	42	64.5
Secretaries & admin. assistants	97.6	16	26	42	28	17	32	70	42	81.2
Elementary & middle school teachers	77.0	20	35	55	37	24	40	63	42	87.5
Registered nurses	90.6	27	42	64	45	29	45	80	53	93.3
Nursing aides, orderlies & attendants	85.6	11	19	33	22	13	23	45	29	82.6
Sales supervisors & proprietors	37.9	12	24	49	29	17	36	85	48	66.6
Cashiers	26.8	9	15	21	19	10	21	50	28	71.4
Bookkeepers, accounting clerks	89.2	15	25	40	27	16	30	60	36	83.3
Accountants & auditors	53.9	20	36	65	41	27	50	110	67	72.0
Investigators & adjusters	63.1	20	32	52	35	25	42	70	47	76.1
Receptionist & information clerks	93.6	13	20	32	22	13	25	57	33	80.0
Secondary school teachers	58.5	23	36	57	38	25	40	65	44	90.0
Medical & health service managers	67.1	22	42	75	48	27	57	130	72	73.6
Social workers	76.7	20	30	48	33	20	34	55	37	88.2
Managers, food serving & lodging	52.6	10	19	35	22	12	25	52	32	76.0
Cooks	41.1	9	15	25	17	10	17	31	20	88.2
General Office Clerks	85.0	14	24	38	26	15	28	55	35	85.7
Maids & housekeeping cleaners	83.6	8	15	26	17	11	19	33	22	78.9
Education administrators	57.8	20	40	76	46	30	59	99	65	67.7
Waiters & Waitresses	69.4	8	15	27	17	10	19	35	22	78.9

Note on accuracy: most percentage of median earnings calculations were made by MMO and may include inadvertent errors. Other unintentional errors may have occurred during the transfer of information from the primary source. To confirm or fact check specific figures, access the original Census Bureau tables at <http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/phc-t33.html>

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(earnings in thousands of dollars)		WOMEN				MEN				women's median earnings/ % of men's
Occupation	percent female	percentile of earnings			average earnings	percentile of earnings			average earnings	
		10th	median	90th		10th	median	90th		
<b>20 occupations with highest median earnings for women</b>										
Physicians and surgeons	23.7	33	88	200	86	37	140	330	170	62.8
Engineering managers	6.3	40	75	120	82	45	80	140	91	93.7
Dentists	14.5	25	68	150	86	42	110	270	140	61.8
Lawyers	25.7	31	66	150	85	35	90	250	130	73.3
Optometrists	20.6	32	65	100	69	40	84	170	98	77.3
Pharmacists	39.1	36	63	81	63	47	70	110	79	79.7
Chief executives	17.3	24	60	160	85	33	95	280	140	63.1
Economists	27.3	32	60	110	68	39	73	150	92	82.1
Computer & information systems mgrs	28.3	29	58	100	64	38	70	120	80	82.8
Sales engineers	5.4	31	57	100	66	36	63	110	73	90.4
Actuaries	30.7	32	56	120	70	40	80	200	110	70.0
Air Traffic Controllers	17.0	22	56	95	56	25	64	160	81	87.5
Chemical engineers	13.0	36	56	81	59	42	70	100	73	80.0
Computer software engineers	23.1	33	55	87	59	39	66	110	73	83.3
Natural science managers	30.2	28	55	119	65	34	84	150	95	65.4
Aerospace engineers	8.5	32	54	80	55	42	65	96	68	83.0
Electrical & Electronics engineers	7.8	31	54	83	56	39	65	100	70	83.0
Astronomers & physicists	12.3	24	51	86	55	33	71	120	75	68.0
Engineers, all others	9.4	30	51	82	55	35	61	100	68	83.6
Computer programmers	26.0	28	38	64	52	30	56	94	62	67.8

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Occupation	percent female	percentile of earnings			average earnings	percentile of earnings			average earnings	
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<b>20 occupations with lowest median earnings for females</b> <i>Occupations in bold are among the twenty leading occupations for women</i>										
Dishwashers	19.7	7	12	22	17	8	14	25	16	85.7
Farmers and ranchers	10.5	-1	12	50	22	-1	20	66	32	60.0
Counter attendants, food concession	67.3	8	13	25	17	9	16	37	20	81.2
Child care workers	95.4	5	14	30	17	9	21	44	25	66.6
Misc. agricultural workers	15.7	6	14	27	17	9	18	33	21	77.7
<b>Cashiers</b>	26.8	9	15	21	19	10	21	50	28	71.4
Combined food prep/service (fast food)	45.0	9	15	28	18	9	17	35	21	88.2
<b>Cooks</b>	41.1	9	15	25	17	10	17	31	20	88.2
Dining room/cafeteria attendants	38.5	9	15	26	18	9	15	28	19	100.0
Food preparation workers	56.2	9	15	26	17	9	16	32	20	93.7
Graders & sorters, agricultural	52.9	9	15	30	21	11	24	45	26	62.5
Hostess restaurant/lounge/coffee shop	82.7	8	15	28	18	10	20	48	28	75.0
Laundry & dry cleaning workers	55.1	10	15	27	18	11	22	50	28	68.1
<b>Maids &amp; housekeeping cleaners</b>	83.6	8	15	26	17	11	19	33	22	78.9
Pressers, textile/garment	60.2	10	15	27	18	11	22	42	26	68.1
Service station attendants	20.9	10	15	30	19	10	19	40	23	78.9
Teacher's assistants	89.3	9	15	28	18	10	20	42	25	75.0
<b>Waiters &amp; Waitresses</b>	69.4	8	15	27	17	10	19	35	22	78.9
Bartenders	47.3	9	16	30	19	11	21	40	24	66.6
Personal & home care aides	84.3	8	16	30	20	10	19	40	23	84.2

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<b>Miscellaneous occupations sorted by percentage of female workers</b>										
Preschool and kindergarten teachers	97.4	10	17	36	21	11	22	46	26	80.7
Tellers	92.1	12	18	28	20	12	20	35	24	94.2
Dietitians & nutritionists	88.6	16	33	52	35	15	35	82	47	94.2
Hairdressers/stylists & cosmetologists	87.6	8	18	38	22	12	26	60	34	69.2
Paralegals and legal assistants	87.6	20	33	52	36	20	36	70	45	80.0
Customer service representatives	69.2	15	25	42	28	16	31	65	38	80.6
Telemarketers	61.1	10	19	38	23	12	24	57	33	79.1
Public relations specialists	58.9	20	37	78	46	23	50	110	65	70.7
Human resources managers	54.6	20	40	80	48	24	52	110	65	73.8
Psychologists	53.5	24	45	77	50	30	60	110	68	73.5
Editors	50.7	20	36	69	42	23	43	90	53	79.2
Computer operators	49.9	16	26	45	29	20	35	65	41	74.2
Real estate brokers & sales agents	49.3	13	35	100	52	15	50	150	76	70.0
Postal service clerks	49.2	24	39	48	37	30	40	53	42	97.5
Writers and authors	46.4	12	36	74	44	13	43	110	64	68.7
Marketing and sales managers	39.2	22	43	95	54	30	70	150	85	63.5
Computer support specialists	36.3	22	38	64	41	23	42	76	48	85.4
Veterinarians	33.9	25	49	88	56	32	70	170	92	70.0
Financial analysts	31.7	25	45	120	74	30	70	300	140	64.2
Architects, except naval	16.4	24	40	71	47	28	53	108	67	70.1

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1. Occupations shown may only be approximate. Information from the DOL Women's Bureau appears to group similar occupations and may use slightly different occupational definitions than the Census Bureau data used to develop this comparison. For example "personal and home health aides" —an occupation where 84.3 of workers are female—may be grouped with "nursing aides, orderlies and attendants"; "maids and housekeeping cleaners" may be grouped with other occupations that involve cleaning, such as "janitors and building cleaners". There are also several possible occupational categories for "managers, food serving and lodging". Combined groups may have lower or higher median and/or average earnings than the occupations selected for this summary as the closest approximation of the Women's Bureau's list of the twenty leading occupations for women. Of the occupations listed, only four did not have direct correspondence with occupations analyzed in the Census Bureau study.