

Share of all workers earning poverty-level hourly wages, 1973-2005

	All	Men	Women	White	White men	White women	Black	Black men	Black women	Hispanic	Hispanic men	Hispanic women
1973	29.9%	17.4%	48.0%	27.5%	14.9%	46.1%	44.1%	31.9%	58.2%	42.3%	31.7%	60.6%
1974	29.7	16.8	48.3	27.6	14.6	46.7	42.6	29.5	57.1	41.2	31.3	58.5
1975	28.4	16.6	45.1	26.3	14.6	43.4	40.8	27.9	54.8	39.5	29.2	56.4
1976	30.0	18.1	46.3	27.9	15.9	44.8	42.1	30.0	54.9	42.3	33.0	56.2
1977	30.4	18.4	46.4	28.4	16.2	45.0	42.4	32.2	53.4	39.4	28.3	57.8
1978	27.0	15.6	42.1	25.1	13.7	40.4	37.7	25.5	50.4	36.4	26.0	52.4
1979	27.1	15.7	42.1	25.1	13.4	40.6	37.5	27.2	48.5	37.9	27.1	54.5
1980	29.3	17.7	43.9	27.2	15.2	42.4	40.4	30.3	50.7	39.6	30.6	53.2
1981	29.6	18.5	43.4	27.6	16.1	42.0	39.0	29.1	49.0	40.9	31.9	54.4
1982	28.5	18.4	40.6	26.5	16.1	39.3	38.8	30.3	47.3	38.6	31.0	49.7
1983	32.5	22.8	44.1	30.3	20.1	42.6	43.3	36.4	50.2	44.0	36.7	54.6
1984	31.5	22.1	42.8	29.2	19.3	41.3	42.2	35.1	49.2	42.9	36.1	52.6
1985	31.3	22.1	42.0	28.8	19.0	40.5	41.9	35.7	47.9	43.0	36.9	52.3
1986	29.6	21.2	39.5	27.1	18.1	37.7	39.7	32.8	46.3	42.1	36.4	51.0
1987	28.8	20.7	38.2	26.3	17.5	36.3	38.7	32.5	44.7	41.3	35.9	49.3
1988	30.4	22.4	39.5	27.7	19.1	37.5	40.2	33.9	46.2	43.9	38.5	51.9
1989	30.5	22.7	39.2	27.5	18.9	37.1	40.7	35.3	45.9	46.2	41.1	53.8
1990	30.0	22.5	38.4	26.9	18.7	36.2	40.2	34.5	45.6	46.2	42.1	52.3
1991	29.2	22.4	36.8	26.2	18.5	34.6	39.0	34.5	43.3	45.3	41.5	51.0
1992	31.2	24.9	38.1	28.0	20.8	35.8	41.7	38.1	44.9	47.2	43.7	52.3
1993	30.3	24.3	36.8	27.0	20.2	34.5	40.5	37.1	43.7	46.9	43.5	51.9
1994	30.9	24.8	37.6	27.3	20.4	34.8	41.0	36.2	45.4	48.6	45.3	53.4
1995	31.5	25.0	38.7	27.6	20.3	35.8	41.2	36.3	45.6	50.5	47.1	55.6
1996	30.3	24.2	37.0	26.3	19.3	33.9	41.3	36.8	45.3	48.3	44.9	53.2
1997	28.7	22.6	35.4	24.5	17.7	32.0	38.4	33.3	42.8	46.8	42.4	53.3
1998	27.4	21.4	33.9	23.4	16.9	30.5	35.8	29.8	40.9	44.7	40.5	51.0
1999	26.8	20.7	33.4	22.6	16.1	29.7	35.6	29.5	40.7	45.1	40.3	51.8
2000	25.1	19.6	31.1	21.1	15.0	27.6	31.8	26.3	36.5	42.7	38.2	49.3
2001	23.9	18.8	29.6	19.9	14.3	25.9	31.1	25.6	35.6	40.4	36.2	46.6
2002	23.1	18.4	28.2	19.2	14.2	24.6	29.3	24.6	33.3	38.8	34.0	45.6
2003	24.3	19.6	29.4	20.4	15.1	26.0	30.4	26.2	33.9	39.8	35.7	45.8
2004	24.2	19.7	29.2	20.1	15.1	25.5	30.7	26.1	34.5	39.6	35.6	45.5
2005	24.5	19.9	29.4	20.1	15.2	25.5	33.3	28.7	37.1	39.3	35.0	45.7

Source: *The State of Working America 2006-07*, tables 3.8 - 3.10. Based on analysis of CPS wage data described in Appendix B.

The poverty level wage is calculated using the preliminary estimate of the four-person weighted average poverty threshold in 2005 divided by 2,080 hours and deflated by CPI-U-RS to obtain levels for other years. The threshold is available at the Census Web site.