

# NATIONAL PAYROLL WEEK 2008

## "Getting Paid In America" Survey Results

**1. Actor Daniel Radcliffe, who portrays the title character in the popular Harry Potter movie franchise, earned \$15 million from June 2006 to June 2007, or about \$7,211 per hour\*. What will a worker earning the federal minimum wage make per hour beginning July 24, 2008?**

\*Calculation based on a 40 hour workweek for 52 weeks

\$5.25.....	1225.....	2.71%
\$5.50.....	1830.....	4.05%
\$6.00.....	3410.....	7.55%
\$5.85.....	11339.....	25.10%
\$6.55.....	27376.....	60.59%

**2. The average high-level lobbyist earns \$300,000 a year to influence the laws enacted by Congress. How much does a U.S. Congressman earn each year to pass the laws?**

\$155,000.....	12572.....	27.83%
\$221,235.....	6199.....	13.72%
\$200,000.....	7934.....	17.56%
\$183,460.....	10232.....	22.65%
\$169,300.....	8243.....	18.24%

**3. What's more important to you, better health benefits or higher wages?**

Health Benefits.....	20040.....	44.36%
Higher Wages.....	25140.....	55.64%

**4. How difficult would it be to meet your current financial obligations if your next paycheck were delayed for a week?**

Very difficult.....	15413.....	34.11%
Somewhat difficult.....	16533.....	36.59%
Not very difficult.....	7996.....	17.70%
Not at all difficult.....	5077.....	11.24%
Don't know.....	161.....	0.36%

**5. How do you receive your pay?**

Direct Deposit.....	40531.....	89.71%
Paycard.....	76.....	0.17%
Paper Paycheck.....	4573.....	10.12%

**6. How would you feel if your company no longer gave you a paper pay statement but instead provided a breakdown of your paycheck through an online portal?**

Would like it.....	12710.....	31.30%
Inconvenienced/unhappy.....	3575.....	8.80%
Wouldn't matter.....	10748.....	26.47%
Company already does it and I like it.....	12638.....	31.12%
Company already does it and I dislike it.....	936.....	2.31%

**7. The U.S. Treasury recently announced a special program to pay Social Security and other federal benefits using debit cards. How would you feel if your company paid you by depositing your payment to a "payroll card" (a card that acts like a debit card) instead of paying you with a paper check?**

Would like it.....	785.....	17.17%
Inconvenienced/unhappy.....	2425.....	53.03%
Wouldn't matter.....	1363.....	29.81%

**8. How certain are you that your payroll withholding and the net amount of your paycheck are correct each payday?**

Very certain.....	26770.....	59.25%
Somewhat certain.....	13003.....	28.78%
Not very certain.....	2688.....	5.95%
Not at all certain.....	1514.....	3.35%
Don't know.....	1205.....	2.67%

**9. Should the Social Security system be changed to allow employees to invest part of their Social Security contribution in their own private investment account?**

Yes.....	26589.....	58.85%
No.....	10336.....	22.88%
I don't know.....	8255.....	18.27%

**10. Are you for or against a universal healthcare system for the United States?**

For.....	20834.....	46.11%
Against.....	12795.....	28.32%
Don't know.....	11551.....	25.57%

**11. How do you think a universal healthcare system should be funded?**

Government (using your tax dollars).....	3438.....	16.50%
Employer.....	432.....	2.07%
A combination of both.....	16964.....	81.42%

**12. Which of Comedy Central's late-night talk show hosts deserve a higher salary?**

Jon Stewart.....	16386.....	36.27%
Stephen Colbert.....	7610.....	16.84%
I haven't heard of either.....	21184.....	46.89%

**13. Does your company offer a defined benefit plan for your retirement, such as a traditional pension plan?**

Yes.....19341.....42.81%  
No.....25839.....57.19%

**14. Does your company offer a defined contribution plan to help you save for retirement, such as a 401(k) plan?**

Yes.....40244.....89.07%  
No.....4936.....10.93%

**15. Do you participate in your company's 401(k) or other defined contribution plan?**

Yes.....33881.....84.19%  
No.....6363.....15.81%

**16. What percentage of your pay do you contribute?**

1% - 5 %.....14690.....43.36%  
6% - 10%.....13248.....39.10%  
11% - 15%.....3496.....10.32%  
16% - 20%.....1447.....4.27%  
21% or higher.....1000.....2.95%

**17. Does your company offer Medical Flexible Spending Account?**

Yes.....33208.....73.50%  
No.....9144.....20.24%  
Don't Know.....2828.....6.26%

**18. Do you participate?**

Yes.....15979.....48.12%  
No.....17229.....51.88%

**19. Does your company offer Health Savings Account?**

Yes.....16798.....37.18%  
No.....20846.....46.14%  
Don't Know.....7536.....16.68%

**20. Do you participate?**

Yes.....4552.....27.10%  
No.....12246.....72.90%

**21. Does your company offer Transportation Reimbursement Incentive Program (TRIP)**

Yes.....	9273.....	20.52%
No.....	27574.....	61.03%
Don't Know.....	8333.....	18.44%

**22. Do you participate?**

Yes.....	3654.....	39.26%
No.....	5654.....	60.74%

**23. Does your company offer Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account?**

Yes.....	26532.....	58.73%
No.....	11269.....	24.94%
Don't Know.....	7379.....	16.33%

**24. Do you participate?**

Yes.....	2620.....	9.87%
No.....	23912.....	90.13%

**25. How confident are you that your employer adequately protects your vital personal information from data breaches/identity theft? This includes data such as the amount of your salary/wages, social security number, and direct deposit bank account number.**

Very confident.....	21186.....	46.89%
Somewhat confident.....	18648.....	41.27%
Not very confident.....	3090.....	6.84%
Not at all confident.....	1100.....	2.43%
Don't know.....	1156.....	2.56%

**26. Some states now require that employers verify each new employee's eligibility to work in the U.S. by checking their information against federal social security and immigrant status databases. Are you for or against the mandatory use of this method to verify an employee's work eligibility?**

For.....	37810.....	83.69%
Against.....	1980.....	4.38%
No opinion.....	4335.....	9.59%
Don't know.....	1055.....	2.34%

**27. The U.S. government calculated a 2.3% increase in the cost of living for Americans in 2008\*. Did your most recent pay raise meet or exceed the increase in cost of living calculated by the government?**

**\*Social Security benefits rose by 2.3% in 2008 to account for an increase in the cost of living.**

Yes.....	23978.....	53.07%
No.....	13151.....	29.11%
Did not receive a raise.....	8051.....	17.82%

**28. What day is payday for you?**

Monday.....	510.....	1.13%
Tuesday.....	489.....	1.08%
Wednesday.....	1578.....	3.49%
Thursday.....	4980.....	11.02%
Friday.....	26826.....	59.38%
Saturday.....	65.....	0.14%
Sunday.....	30.....	0.07%
Day varies.....	10702.....	23.69%

**29. Would you like or dislike changing the current income tax system to a national sales tax, which would tax all purchases instead of income?**

Like.....	17705.....	39.19%
Dislike.....	9158.....	20.27%
Don't know.....	18317.....	40.54%

**30. The 2008 presidential election in the U.S. has featured the first female candidate to make a serious attempt at winning the nomination of a major political party. Despite this landmark achievement, women still earn less money than men. How much does the average woman reportedly earn for every dollar made by a man?**

\$0.63.....	6591.....	14.59%
\$0.65.....	10165.....	22.50%
\$0.71.....	10758.....	23.81%
\$0.76.....	8575.....	18.98%
\$0.77.....	9091.....	20.12%

**31. How did you hear about this survey?**

Co-worker/friend.....	17755.....	39.30%
Magazine advertisement.....	1377.....	3.05%
Newspaper advertisement.....	1331.....	2.95%
Online advertisement (banner ad).....	5469.....	12.11%
Radio.....	50.....	0.11%
Television.....	48.....	0.11%
Through my communications with the American Payroll Association.....	19149.....	42.38%

**32. Your Gender:**

Male.....	9583.....	21.31%
Female.....	35391.....	78.69%

**33. Your Age:**

18-34.....	11342.....	25.20%
35-54.....	26127.....	58.05%
55-65.....	7048.....	15.66%
Over 65.....	491.....	1.09%

**34. Family status:**

Married/partnered with children.....	23030.....	51.26%
Married/partnered without children.....	7207.....	16.04%
Single with children.....	6142.....	13.67%
Single without children.....	8549.....	19.03%

**35. Your employment status:**

Contract worker.....	584.....	1.30%
Employed full-time.....	41604.....	92.45%
Employed part-time (30 hours or less per week).....	216.....	4.80%
Self-employed.....	653.....	1.45%

**36. Size of the company that you work for:**

Less than 100 employees.....	7863.....	17.46%
100-499 employees.....	8581.....	19.05%
500-999 employees.....	4563.....	10.13%
1,000-4,999 employees.....	8681.....	19.28%
5,000-9,999 employees.....	4117.....	9.14%
10,000 or more employees.....	8616.....	19.13%
I don't know.....	2613.....	5.80%

**37. Your current position in your company:**

Executive/senior management.....	2224.....	4.95%
Middle management/supervisor.....	13658.....	30.38%
Non-management.....	26213.....	58.31%
Owner/partner.....	623.....	1.39%
Production worker.....	2238.....	4.98%

**38. Your industry/profession:**

Accounts Payable.....	755.....	1.72%
Agriculture.....	179.....	0.41%
Automotive.....	428.....	0.97%
Broadcasting/Cable.....	67.....	0.15%
Construction.....	988.....	2.25%
Education.....	2519.....	5.74%
Entertainment.....	225.....	0.51%
Finance.....	5759.....	13.11%
Food service.....	555.....	1.26%
Government.....	2546.....	5.80%
Health care.....	3840.....	8.74%
Other services.....	2035.....	4.63%
Payroll or human resources.....	8591.....	19.56%
Insurance.....	2512.....	5.72%
Internet services.....	292.....	0.66%
Legal services.....	660.....	1.50%
Manufacturing.....	3267.....	7.44%
Publishing.....	238.....	0.54%
Retail.....	1090.....	2.48%
Telecommunications.....	717.....	1.63%
Transportation.....	632.....	1.44%
Travel.....	178.....	0.41%
Utilities.....	628.....	1.43%
Other.....	5219.....	11.88%

**39. Your annual income:**

Less than \$15,000.....	1203.....	2.72%
\$15,000-\$30,000.....	6802.....	15.37%
\$30,001-\$50,000.....	17198.....	38.86%
\$50,001-\$75,000.....	11734.....	26.51%
\$75,001-\$100,000.....	4640.....	10.48%
\$100,001-\$150,000.....	2133.....	4.82%
More than \$150,000.....	546.....	1.23%

**40. Are you a member of the American Payroll Association?**

Yes.....	8622.....	19.19%
No.....	29418.....	65.47%
Don't know.....	6891.....	15.34%