The statistics on this page offer a closer examination of the annual wage changes of U.S. workers that have not changed jobs over the year. They include graphs of the fraction of workers receiving a wage change of zero in several demographic subgroups of the U.S. labor force, as well as a histogram showing all of the reported wage changes among these workers in the last four quarters. The data for these statistics are drawn from a matched Current Population Survey dataset (see Daly, Hobijn, Wiles 2011 for details on the matching procedure). The Current Population Survey is a monthly nationally representative survey conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The summary statistics on this page will be updated on a quarterly frequency.

The above chart displays the percentage of workers who saw no change in their wage over the past year. This statistic is calculated for all workers, for workers paid at an hourly rate, and for non-hourly workers.
Estimates of the percent of workers with a rigid wage in time series charts are averages of monthly rates taken over a 12-month period. In the histogram and the table below, all observations over a 12-month period are pooled and then used to calculate the percent of rigid wages. Estimates from these two methods may differ very slightly.
Distribution of Nominal Wage Changes

4-Quarter Average 2016Q1 2016Q2 2016Q3 2016Q4 2017Q1

Difference of log wage from one year prior

25th Percentile -0.014 -0.014 -0.013 -0.008 -0.007
Median 0.026 0.029 0.029 0.031 0.031
75th Percentile 0.119 0.123 0.121 0.124 0.125

Percentage of workers reporting a wage change of zero


References


Nominal Wage Rigidity Data Release *(Excel document, 68 kb)*

Find out when data are updated through our Twitter page:

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