

THE WORKS PROGRAM

-- Works Progress Administration --

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WPA Workers Average \$50.03 Monthly Throughout Country.

The monthly wage rate at which the 2,600,000 Works Progress Administration workers employed during the month of December had been assigned to work projects averaged \$50.03 for the United States, according to preliminary summaries of a wage rate tabulation released today by Administrator Harry L. Hopkins.

The average monthly wage rate varied from \$26.78 in the southern region where the lowest earnings schedule is in effect, to \$58.10 in the 32 states comprising Region I, where the highest rates obtain and in which over 70 per cent of the assigned workers were employed.

In Regions II and III, the monthly wage rates averaged \$40.40 and \$29.07, respectively (see attached, Table I).

Only 15 per cent of all persons assigned at the established monthly wage schedule were to receive less than \$30 per month in wages. Nearly a third were to receive between \$30 and \$50, while more than half the workers were assigned at wages in excess of \$50 per month. Of the latter, only 8 per cent were scheduled to receive more than \$70 per month. Table II, attached, presents these data in detail.

The monthly wage rates shown in this tabulation exceed the average amount actually earned per person during the month because some employees were assigned to

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the program during the month and, consequently, were not paid for the full month. The wage rate figures also overstate actual earnings to the extent that workers were voluntarily absent from the job or absent because of sickness. The figures showing average actual earnings will be available in the near future.

The average monthly wage rate for workers employed on the WPA program in each State in December is presented in Table III, attached.

Table I

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Assigned Monthly Wage Rates of WPA Workers,
by Wage Rate Regions(Excluding persons not assigned at the
established monthly wage schedule)

December, 1935

Wage Rate Regions	Total Workers		Assigned Monthly Wage Rates
	Number	Percent of Total	
TOTAL U. S.	2,588,842	100.0	\$50.03
Region I	1,814,485	70.1	58.10
Region II	195,192	7.5	40.42
Region III	310,528	12.0	29.07
Region IV	268,637	10.4	26.78

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Table II

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Assigned Monthly Wage Rates of Workers
Employed on WPA Projects(Excluding persons not assigned at the
established monthly wage schedule)

December, 1935

Monthly Wage Rate	Number of Persons	Percent of Total
TOTAL U. S.	2,588,842	100.0
\$100 or over	17,500	0.7
90.00 - 99.99	57,689	2.2
80.00 - 89.99	91,847	3.5
70.00 - 79.99	55,139	2.1
60.00 - 69.99	496,249	19.2
50.00 - 59.99	675,943	26.1
40.00 - 49.99	548,083	21.2
30.00 - 39.99	269,001	10.4
20.00 - 29.99	284,266	11.0
Less than \$20 <u>A/</u>	93,125	3.6

A/ All workers employed at monthly wage rates of less than \$20 were assigned at \$18.90 and \$19.00 per month.

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Table III

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
Assigned Monthly Wage Rates of WPA Workers by State and Wage Region
(Excluding persons not assigned at the established monthly wage schedule)
December, 1935

State	Average Monthly Wage Rate	State	Average Monthly Wage Rate
U. S. Total			\$ 50.03
Region I		Region II	
Arizona	49.65	Delaware	48.47
California	59.83	District of Columbia	47.33
Colorado	51.75	Kansas	38.18
Connecticut	64.33	Maryland	45.75
Idaho	44.25	Missouri (Excl. St. Louis) <u>B/</u>	38.10
Illinois	54.20	Nebraska	42.00
Indiana	51.95	West Virginia	41.15
Iowa	49.42	Texas (36 counties) <u>C/</u>	32.65
Kentucky (2 counties) <u>A/</u>	56.95	Region III	
Maine	48.76	Arkansas <u>A/</u>	26.40
Massachusetts	59.38	Kentucky (Excl. 2 counties)	24.42
Michigan	54.87	Louisiana	37.92
Minnesota	55.95	Oklahoma	26.75
Missouri (St. Louis City) <u>B/</u>	51.10	Texas (Excl. 36 counties) <u>C/</u>	30.32
Montana	46.92	Virginia	29.80
Nevada	46.85	Region IV	
New Hampshire	49.83	Alabama	28.95
New Jersey	56.05	Florida	27.63
New Mexico	44.98	Georgia	26.63
New York City	72.23	Mississippi	24.33
New York (Excl. N.Y.C.)	60.90	North Carolina	23.93
North Dakota	44.35	South Carolina	26.22
Ohio	55.45	Tennessee	28.38
Oregon	54.50		
Pennsylvania	59.97		
Rhode Island	56.93		
South Dakota	43.80		
Utah	51.45		
Vermont	44.20		
Washington	54.82		
Wisconsin	56.33		
Wyoming	46.05		

A/ Campbell and Kenton counties are classified in Region I. The remainder of the State is classified in Region III. The average wage rate for the entire State in December was \$25.60.

B/ St. Louis City is classified in Region I. The remainder of the State is in Region II. The average wage rate for the entire State in December was \$44.1

C/ Thirty-six small counties in Texas are classified in Region II. The remainder of the State is in Region III. The average wage rate for the entire State in December was \$30.40.