

Pay Differentials Between the Private Sector and Federal Government

	Private Sector	Federal Civilian Employees	% Difference
Hourly wages	\$18.27	\$28.64	57%
Annual wage and salary	\$50,111	\$78,901	57%
Annual total compensation	\$60,078	\$111,015	85%

Sources: Hourly wages: Predicted average wages for each sector using Current Population Survey data for 2006–2009. See Appendix B for details. Annual salary and compensation: Author's calculations of total payments per full-time-equivalent employee using data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis for 2006–2008. Excludes amortized pension costs for former personnel. See Appendix H for details. Both figures are inflation-adjusted to 2009 dollars using the Chained Consumer Price Index.