

## Distribution of employment by wage level, all workers and whites, 1973-2007

Year	Share of employment below poverty-level wage (100)*					
	All			White		
	0-75	75-100	Total**	0-75	75-100	Total**
<b>All</b>						
1973	11.7%	18.2%	29.9%	10.3%	17.1%	27.5%
1979	4.9	22.2	27.1	4.5	20.6	25.1
1989	13.9	16.5	30.5	12.3	15.1	27.5
2000	9.8	15.3	25.1	8.0	13.0	21.1
2007	9.4	17.0	26.4	7.9	14.1	21.9
<b>Change</b>						
1979-89	9.0%	-5.7%	3.3%	7.8%	-5.4%	2.4%
1989-2000	-4.1	-1.3	-5.3	-4.3	-2.1	-6.4
2000-07	-0.5	1.7	1.3	-0.2	1.1	0.9
<b>Men</b>						
1973	5.6%	11.9%	17.4%	4.6%	10.3%	14.9%
1979	2.8	12.9	15.7	2.4	11.0	13.4
1989	9.5	13.2	22.7	7.7	11.2	18.9
2000	7.3	12.4	19.6	5.4	9.6	15.0
2007	7.1	14.7	21.8	5.5	11.1	16.6
<b>Change</b>						
1979-89	6.7%	0.3%	7.0%	5.3%	0.2%	5.5%
1989-2000	-2.2	-0.8	-3.0	-2.3	-1.6	-3.9
2000-07	-0.2	2.3	2.1	0.1	1.5	1.6
<b>Women</b>						
1973	20.5%	27.5%	48.0%	18.9%	27.2%	46.1%
1979	7.8	34.4	42.1	7.4	33.2	40.6
1989	19.0	20.3	39.2	17.6	19.5	37.1
2000	12.7	18.4	31.1	10.9	16.7	27.6
2007	11.9	19.5	31.4	10.4	17.2	27.6
<b>Change</b>						
1979-89	11.2%	-14.1%	-2.9%	10.2%	-13.6%	-3.4%
1989-2000	-6.3	-1.8	-8.1	-6.7	-2.9	-9.5
2000-07	-0.7	1.1	0.3	-0.6	0.5	0.0

\* The wage ranges are equivalent in 2007 dollars to: \$7.65 and below (0-75), \$7.65-\$10.20 (75-100).

\*\* Combines lowest two categories and represents the share of wage earners earning poverty-level wages.

Source: Authors' analysis of CPS ORG data.

Table 3.8 from: Mishel, Lawrence, Jared Bernstein, and Heidi Shierholz, *The State of Working America* 2008/2009. An Economic Policy Institute Book. Ithaca, N.Y.: ILR Press, an imprint of Cornell University Press, 2009.

