

## Distribution of employment by wage level, blacks and Hispanics, 1973-2007

Year	Share of employment below poverty-level wage (100)*					
	Black			Hispanic		
	0-75	75-100	Total**	0-75	75-100	Total**
<b>All</b>						
1973	20.2%	23.9%	44.1%	16.8%	25.4%	42.3%
1979	7.3	30.2	37.5	6.4	31.5	37.9
1989	19.8	20.9	40.7	21.8	24.4	46.2
2000	12.3	19.5	31.8	17.8	24.9	42.7
2007	11.4	22.6	34.0	15.0	26.8	41.8
<b>Change</b>						
1979-89	12.6%	-9.4%	3.2%	15.4%	-7.1%	8.3%
1989-2000	-7.5	-1.3	-8.9	-4.0	0.5	-3.5
2000-07	-0.9	3.1	2.2	-2.8	1.9	-0.9
<b>Men</b>						
1973	11.8%	20.2%	31.9%	10.6%	21.0%	31.7%
1979	4.9	22.3	27.2	4.3	22.8	27.1
1989	15.5	19.8	35.3	18.1	23.0	41.1
2000	10.0	16.3	26.3	14.5	23.7	38.2
2007	9.8	21.1	30.9	11.6	26.1	37.8
<b>Change</b>						
1979-89	10.6%	-2.5%	8.1%	13.8%	0.1%	14.0%
1989-2000	-5.4	-3.5	-8.9	-3.6	0.7	-2.9
2000-07	-0.2	4.8	4.6	-2.9	2.5	-0.4
<b>Women</b>						
1973	30.1%	28.1%	58.2%	27.6%	33.0%	60.6%
1979	9.8	38.7	48.5	9.6	44.8	54.5
1989	24.0	21.8	45.9	27.2	26.6	53.8
2000	14.3	22.2	36.5	22.6	26.7	49.3
2007	12.7	23.9	36.6	19.9	27.8	47.7
<b>Change</b>						
1979-89	14.2%	-16.9%	-2.7%	17.6%	-18.3%	-0.7%
1989-2000	-9.8	0.4	-9.4	-4.6	0.1	-4.4
2000-07	-1.5	1.7	0.2	-2.7	1.1	-1.6

\* 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 3.9 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.

