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WORK AT HOME IN 2004

In May 2004, 20.7 million persons usually did some work at home as part of their primary job, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. These workers, who reported working at home at least once per week, accounted for about 15 percent of total nonagricultural employment in May 2004, essentially the same percentage as in May 2001. (See table A.)

These findings are from a special supplement to the May 2004 Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly survey of about 60,000 households that obtains information on employment and unemployment among the nation's civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over. Data on work at home were last collected in the CPS in May 2001. The May 2001 data presented in this release have been revised to be comparable with the May 2004 estimates. For further information, see the Technical Note.

Occupation and Industry

The likelihood of working at home varies greatly by occupation. This is not surprising, since some jobs are more readily done away from the workplace than others. Almost 30 percent of workers in management, professional, and related occupations reported working at home in May 2004. Nearly two-thirds of persons who usually worked at home were employed in these occupations. About 1 in 5 sales workers usually worked at home. In contrast, only 3 percent of workers in production, transportation, and material moving occupations performed job-related work at home. From an industry perspective, workers employed in professional and business services, in financial activities, and in education and health services were among the most likely to work at home in 2004. (See table 1.)

Pay Status

Of the 13.7 million wage and salary workers who usually did some work at home in 2004, about 3.3 million, or 1 in 4, had a formal arrangement with their employer to be paid for the time they put in at home. About half of these paid home workers spent 8 hours or more per week working at home, and about 1 in 7 put in 35 hours or more per week at home. On average, those with a formal arrangement to be paid for their work time at home logged about 19 hours per week at home. (See tables 3 and 6.)

About three-fourths of wage and salary workers who did job-related work at home on a regular basis did so without a formal arrangement to be paid for this work. Of these 10.2 million workers just taking work home from the job, about 22 percent regularly worked 8 hours or more per week at home. Workers doing unpaid job-related activity at home averaged about 7 hours per week at home. (See tables 4 and 6.)

Table A. Job-related work at home on primary job by selected characteristics, May 2001 and May 2004

(Percent)

Characteristic	Persons who usually worked at home ¹				
	Percent of total employed	Percent distribution by class of worker ²			
		Total	Wage and salary		Self-employed ³
			Paid work at home	Unpaid work at home	
May 2001 ^r					
Total, 16 years and over	14.9	100.0	17.1	51.9	30.2
Men	14.6	100.0	15.9	50.4	32.8
Women	15.2	100.0	18.3	53.5	27.3
White ⁴	16.2	100.0	17.1	51.5	30.6
Black or African American ⁴	7.7	100.0	15.1	57.7	26.0
Asian ⁴	10.0	100.0	18.6	56.8	24.0
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	6.6	100.0	18.5	48.8	31.4
Total, 25 years and over	16.7	100.0	16.9	51.7	30.5
Less than a high school diploma	4.2	100.0	18.2	16.4	64.3
High school graduates, no college ⁵	7.9	100.0	17.9	31.5	49.5
Some college or associate degree	12.9	100.0	19.6	36.5	42.3
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁶	32.3	100.0	15.6	63.1	20.7
May 2004					
Total, 16 years and over	15.1	100.0	16.2	49.3	33.7
Men	14.9	100.0	14.7	47.3	37.6
Women	15.4	100.0	17.8	51.4	29.4
White ⁴	16.3	100.0	16.4	49.0	33.8
Black or African American ⁴	7.9	100.0	14.2	53.0	31.0
Asian ⁴	12.7	100.0	14.2	52.1	33.7
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	7.1	100.0	19.1	45.0	34.4
Total, 25 years and over	17.0	100.0	16.0	49.1	34.0
Less than a high school diploma	4.9	100.0	15.7	24.0	58.9
High school graduates, no college ⁵	7.6	100.0	15.4	28.7	54.0
Some college or associate degree	13.7	100.0	19.4	32.8	46.7
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁶	31.6	100.0	15.0	60.5	24.1

¹ Persons who usually work at home are defined as those who work at home at least once per week as part of their primary job.

² Unpaid family workers and wage and salary workers who did not report pay status are included in the total but are not shown separately.

³ Includes both the incorporated and unincorporated self-employed.

⁴ Beginning in 2003, includes persons who selected this race group only; persons who selected more than one race group are not included. Prior to 2003, persons who reported more than one race group were included in the group they identified as their main race. Asian data for 2001 include Pacific Islanders.

⁵ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁶ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

^r = revised. Data for May 2001 have been revised to incorporate population controls from Census 2000 and new industry and occupational classifications. See the Technical Note for additional information.

NOTE: Data refer to employed persons in nonagricultural industries who reported that they usually work at home at least once per week as part of their primary job. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

Among those with a formal arrangement to be paid for work at home, more than half worked in management and professional jobs, and another 1 in 5 worked in sales occupations. Managers and professionals accounted for about four-fifths of those just taking work home from the job. Schoolteachers and instructors (excluding college) especially were likely to take work home, with 2.8 million—or about half of all teachers—reporting such activity in the May 2004 survey. About 1 in 10 persons who put in time at home without a formal arrangement worked in sales jobs. (See tables 1, 3, and 4.)

Self-Employed Persons and Home-Based Businesses

About one-third of persons who usually worked at home in May 2004 were self-employed. Of the 7.0 million self-employed persons who worked at home, two-thirds had a home-based business—that is, a business run from their home and no other location. Nearly half of self-employed persons with a home-based business worked at least 8 hours per week at home, and almost 22 percent put in 35 hours or more at home. On average, self-employed persons with a home-based business worked 25 hours per week at home. (See tables 1 and 5.)

About 45 percent of self-employed persons with home-based businesses were in management, professional, and related occupations in May 2004. Sixteen percent were employed in sales and related occupations. On an industry basis, about 1 in 4 self-employed persons with a home-based business worked in professional and business services. Some 18 percent of persons with a home-based business were employed in the construction industry. (See table 5.)

Demographics

Women and men were about equally likely to work at home in 2004, at about 15 percent each. Whites (16 percent) were twice as likely as blacks (8 percent) and Hispanics or Latinos (7 percent) to work at home, reflecting, at least in part, the relatively higher concentration of whites in occupations that are associated with work at home. Nearly 13 percent of Asians worked at home in 2004. The work-at-home rate for parents was slightly higher than for persons without children. Married persons were more likely to work at home than their non-married counterparts. (See tables 1 and 2.)

The likelihood of working at home increased with educational attainment. Employed persons 25 years and over with a bachelor's degree or higher were more than 6 times more likely to work at home as those without a high school diploma (32 and 5 percent, respectively). Much of this disparity is due to the varying occupational patterns of workers with different levels of education. For example, college graduates are much more likely to be employed in managerial and professional occupations—which have a greater work-at-home rate—than are high school dropouts. (See table 1.)

Reason for Job-Related Work at Home

Among wage and salary workers who were taking work home without a formal arrangement to be paid for that work, the most common reason for working at home was to “finish or catch up on work” (56 percent). An additional 32 percent reported that they worked at home at least once per week because it was the “nature of the job.” For those paid to work at home as part of a formal arrangement with their employer, the reasons were more varied. For example, 40 percent reported it was the “nature of the job,” 24 percent indicated that “business is conducted from home,” 13 percent worked at home to “finish or catch up on work,” and 9 percent arranged to work at home to “coordinate work schedule with personal or family needs.” Almost half of all self-employed workers—and more than 60 percent of those with home-based businesses—indicated the main reason for working at home was because their “business is conducted from

home.” An additional 24 percent of self-employed persons responded that it was the “nature of the job” to work at home. (See table 7.)

Use of Electronic Equipment

About 8 in 10 of those engaged in job-related work at home in May 2004 used a computer as part of their work at home, and just slightly fewer used a telephone. About 70 percent of all persons who usually worked at home made use of the Internet or e-mail to work at home. In general, wage and salary workers who were paid to work at home as part of a formal arrangement were more likely to use electronic equipment at home than those who were just taking work home from the job. (See table 6.)

Frequency of Work at Home

The focus of this report is the 20.7 million persons who reported in May 2004 that they worked at home at least once per week. The total number of persons who reported that they worked at home in the May 2004 survey—regardless of how often they engaged in home-based work activity—was 25.4 million (18.6 percent of total nonagricultural employment). This includes, in addition to those who usually worked at home, 1.9 million persons who worked at home at least once every 2 weeks, 1.6 million who worked at home at least once per month, and about 880,000 who worked at home less than once per month. While the total number of persons who reported some work at home in the May 2004 survey was about the same as in May 2001, the share working at home at least once per week (81 percent in May 2004) edged up somewhat. (See table 8.)

Technical Note

These data and other information on work at home were obtained from a supplement to the May 2004 Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly sample survey of about 60,000 households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), principally to gather information on employment and unemployment for the nation. Respondents to the May 2004 supplement answered questions about work schedules, job-related work at home, and other related topics. The data in this release pertain to workers who did some job-related work at home on their primary job in nonagricultural industries.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the “true” population values they represent. The exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending on the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the “true” population value because of sampling error. BLS analyses are generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence.

The CPS data also are affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling error can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and information on estimating standard errors, see the “Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error” section of *Employment and Earnings*.

Concepts

The principal concepts used in connection with the work-at-home data are described briefly below.

Work at home. Respondents were asked whether they do any of their work at home as part of their primary job in nonagricultural industries. Persons who worked at home at least once a week—referred to as those who usually worked at home—are the focus of this report. Wage and salary workers who worked at home were asked if they have a formal arrangement with their employer to be paid for the work that they do at home, or if they were just taking work home from the job.

Home-based business. Self-employed persons who usually worked at home and whose business is run from home and no other location are considered to have a home-based business. This includes all self-employed persons in nonagricultural industries, whether or not their business is incorporated who reported that they usually worked at home at least once per week as part of their primary job.

Data discussed in this release on job-related work at home were obtained from the following questions:

As part of this job, do you do any of your work at home?

1. Yes
2. No

(Wage and salary workers only) Do you have a formal arrangement with your employer to be paid for the work that you do at home, or were you just taking work home from the job?

1. Paid
2. Taking work home

(Self-employed only) Do you run your business from home or some other location?

1. Home
2. Some other location
3. Both

How frequently do you work at home? (Interviewer reads all.)

1. At least once a week
2. At least once every two weeks
3. At least once a month
4. Less than once a month

When you work at home, how many hours per week do you work at home for this job?

1. Hours: ____
2. It varies

Do you use any of the following equipment at home to do your work? (Interviewer reads all.)

1. Computer, including laptop
2. E-mail or Internet access
3. Fax
4. Telephone, cell phone, or pager
5. Some other electronic or communication equipment

What is the main reason why you work at home? (Interviewer reads all.)

1. Finish or catch up on work
2. Business is conducted from home
3. Nature of the job
4. Coordinate work schedule with personal or family needs
5. Reduce commuting time or expense
6. Local transportation or pollution control program
7. Some other reason

Special notes on May 2004 work-at-home data

This release focuses on persons who worked at home at least once per week on their primary job in nonagricultural industries. This group—referred to as those who usually worked at home—totaled 20.7 million in May 2004 and accounted for about four-fifths of all persons who responded that they did job-related work at home. When persons who worked at home less frequently are included (that is, at least once every 2 weeks, once per month, or less than once per month), a total of 25.4 million workers engaged in work at home to some degree in May 2004. Unpublished tabulations of May 2004 data for all workers—not restricted by frequency of work at home—are available upon request.

Historical comparability

Data in this release for May 2004 and May 2001 are not strictly comparable with earlier data on work at home. The May 2001 data in this release have been revised to incorporate population controls from Census 2000. The revised data also reflect new industry and occupational classifications, which affect the class of worker status—that is, the classification of workers as either self-employed or wage and salary workers. These changes affect comparability with 2001 estimates as originally published in “Work at Home in 2001” (USDL 02-107, March 1, 2002). In addition, changes in the wording of questions in 2001 affected comparability with data collected in previous surveys. For a fuller discussion of these changes, see the Technical Note of “Work at Home in 2001.”

Table 1. Job-related work at home on primary job by sex, occupation, industry, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, educational attainment, class of worker, and pay status, May 2004

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Total employed ¹	Persons who usually worked at home ²					
		Total	Percent of total employed	Percent distribution by class of worker ³			
				Total	Wage and salary		Self-employed ⁴
					Paid work at home	Unpaid work at home	
Total, 16 years and over	136,602	20,673	15.1	100.0	16.2	49.3	33.7
Men	72,417	10,780	14.9	100.0	14.7	47.3	37.6
Women	64,185	9,893	15.4	100.0	17.8	51.4	29.4
Occupation							
Management, professional, and related occupations	47,829	13,445	28.1	100.0	13.9	59.9	25.7
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	19,205	5,602	29.2	100.0	16.2	46.6	36.9
Professional and related occupations	28,623	7,842	27.4	100.0	12.2	69.5	17.7
Service occupations	22,752	1,414	6.2	100.0	20.6	20.9	54.8
Sales and office occupations	35,133	4,291	12.2	100.0	24.1	36.1	38.6
Sales and related occupations	15,886	3,137	19.7	100.0	21.8	35.4	42.2
Office and administrative support occupations	19,247	1,154	6.0	100.0	30.5	38.0	28.9
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	13,111	1,036	7.9	100.0	10.2	15.1	73.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	195	3	1.5	100.0	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Construction and extraction occupations	7,927	705	8.9	100.0	6.1	13.3	80.6
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	4,989	329	6.6	100.0	18.4	19.1	59.6
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	17,777	488	2.7	100.0	10.6	26.6	62.8
Production occupations	9,240	276	3.0	100.0	12.8	22.1	65.0
Transportation and material moving occupations	8,538	212	2.5	100.0	7.7	32.5	59.8
Industry							
Mining	491	44	9.0	100.0	(⁵)	(⁵)	(⁵)
Construction	10,316	1,491	14.5	100.0	7.1	19.4	72.8
Manufacturing	16,626	1,488	8.9	100.0	26.3	55.3	18.2
Wholesale and retail trade	20,766	2,416	11.6	100.0	21.1	36.2	41.8
Transportation and utilities	6,845	459	6.7	100.0	14.7	43.7	39.5
Information	3,520	638	18.1	100.0	30.0	41.6	28.4
Financial activities	9,874	2,210	22.4	100.0	21.3	39.9	38.4
Professional and business services	13,905	3,401	24.5	100.0	17.6	33.2	48.8
Education and health services	29,290	6,189	21.1	100.0	9.2	76.0	14.3
Leisure and hospitality	12,078	731	6.0	100.0	10.7	27.5	61.8
Other services	6,971	1,113	16.0	100.0	18.4	41.0	33.7
Public administration	5,918	493	8.3	100.0	31.4	67.6	—
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity							
White	111,756	18,255	16.3	100.0	16.4	49.0	33.8
Black or African American	15,800	1,245	7.9	100.0	14.2	53.0	31.0
Asian	5,630	718	12.7	100.0	14.2	52.1	33.7
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	17,577	1,255	7.1	100.0	19.1	45.0	34.4
Educational attainment							
Total, 25 years and over	117,610	20,024	17.0	100.0	16.0	49.1	34.0
Less than a high school diploma	10,979	539	4.9	100.0	15.7	24.0	58.9
High school graduates, no college ⁶	34,760	2,631	7.6	100.0	15.4	28.7	54.0
Some college or associate degree	32,772	4,482	13.7	100.0	19.4	32.8	46.7
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁷	39,099	12,372	31.6	100.0	15.0	60.5	24.1

¹ Includes persons who did not provide information on work at home.

² Persons who usually work at home are defined as those who work at home at least once per week as part of their primary job.

³ Unpaid family workers and wage and salary workers who did not report pay status are included in the total but are not shown separately.

⁴ Includes both the incorporated and unincorporated self-employed.

⁵ Data not shown where the base is less than 75,000.

⁶ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁷ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Data refer to employed persons in nonagricultural industries. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Dash represents or rounds to zero.

Table 2. Job-related work at home on primary job by sex, marital status, presence and age of children, class of worker, and pay status, May 2004

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Total employed ¹	Persons who usually worked at home ²					
		Total	Percent of total employed	Percent distribution by class of worker ³			
				Total	Wage and salary		Self-employed ⁴
					Paid work at home	Unpaid work at home	
Total, 16 years and over	136,602	20,673	15.1	100.0	16.2	49.3	33.7
Married, spouse present	77,243	14,623	18.9	100.0	16.4	48.1	34.6
Not married	59,359	6,050	10.2	100.0	15.7	52.2	31.5
Never married	36,857	3,087	8.4	100.0	17.7	58.1	23.2
Other marital status	22,502	2,963	13.2	100.0	13.6	46.1	40.2
Without own children under 18	86,591	12,090	14.0	100.0	15.4	50.5	33.4
With own children under 18	50,011	8,584	17.2	100.0	17.4	47.5	34.0
With youngest child 6 to 17	28,638	4,985	17.4	100.0	16.0	47.8	34.9
With youngest child under 6	21,373	3,599	16.8	100.0	19.2	47.3	32.8
Men, 16 years and over	72,417	10,780	14.9	100.0	14.7	47.3	37.6
Married, spouse present	43,493	8,114	18.7	100.0	15.0	47.5	37.1
Not married	28,924	2,666	9.2	100.0	13.9	46.8	39.1
Never married	20,104	1,565	7.8	100.0	16.2	50.3	33.3
Other marital status	8,820	1,101	12.5	100.0	10.5	41.8	47.4
Without own children under 18	46,514	6,247	13.4	100.0	14.5	46.5	38.6
With own children under 18	25,903	4,533	17.5	100.0	15.1	48.4	36.3
With youngest child 6 to 17	13,861	2,547	18.4	100.0	14.5	46.3	38.8
With youngest child under 6	12,042	1,986	16.5	100.0	15.8	51.0	33.0
Women, 16 years and over	64,185	9,893	15.4	100.0	17.8	51.4	29.4
Married, spouse present	33,750	6,509	19.3	100.0	18.2	48.8	31.4
Not married	30,435	3,384	11.1	100.0	17.1	56.5	25.5
Never married	16,754	1,522	9.1	100.0	19.2	66.2	12.7
Other marital status	13,681	1,862	13.6	100.0	15.3	48.6	35.9
Without own children under 18	40,077	5,842	14.6	100.0	16.3	54.8	27.9
With own children under 18	24,108	4,051	16.8	100.0	19.9	46.6	31.5
With youngest child 6 to 17	14,777	2,438	16.5	100.0	17.7	49.3	30.8
With youngest child under 6	9,331	1,614	17.3	100.0	23.4	42.6	32.6

¹ Includes persons who did not provide information on work at home.

² Persons who usually work at home are defined as those who work at home at least once per week as part of their primary job.

³ Unpaid family workers and wage and salary workers who did not report pay status are included in the total but are not shown separately.

⁴ Includes both the incorporated and unincorporated self-employed.

NOTE: Data refer to employed persons in nonagricultural industries. Children are own children and include sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children.

Table 3. Hours of paid job-related work at home on primary job among wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, May 2004

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Paid work at home ¹	Percent distribution by hours worked at home ²					Mean weekly hours usually worked at home
		Total	Hours vary	Less than 8 hours	8 hours or more		
					Total	35 hours or more	
Total, 16 years and over	3,349	100.0	29.0	21.1	49.5	14.8	18.6
Men	1,589	100.0	30.0	22.2	47.2	14.7	18.3
Women	1,760	100.0	28.0	20.0	51.6	14.8	18.9
Occupation							
Management, professional, and related occupations	1,866	100.0	27.8	23.0	48.7	12.2	16.5
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	908	100.0	25.9	19.2	54.5	15.9	18.8
Professional and related occupations	958	100.0	29.7	26.6	43.2	8.7	14.3
Service occupations	292	100.0	27.8	13.0	58.4	29.3	28.2
Sales and office occupations	1,035	100.0	31.6	16.7	51.4	16.0	20.8
Sales and related occupations	682	100.0	33.9	14.2	51.6	17.4	22.4
Office and administrative support occupations	352	100.0	27.3	21.5	51.2	13.3	18.1
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	105	100.0	31.3	44.1	24.7	4.1	8.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	2	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Construction and extraction occupations	43	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	60	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	52	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Production occupations	35	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Transportation and material moving occupations	16	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Industry							
Mining	6	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Construction	106	100.0	21.1	27.7	51.1	7.9	13.7
Manufacturing	391	100.0	20.6	23.2	56.2	11.8	16.2
Wholesale and retail trade	511	100.0	33.4	17.8	48.8	12.8	19.0
Transportation and utilities	68	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Information	191	100.0	27.9	22.6	49.5	17.0	19.5
Financial activities	471	100.0	37.7	11.0	49.8	16.0	22.2
Professional and business services	598	100.0	26.4	18.4	54.5	22.2	21.8
Education and health services	571	100.0	23.0	29.7	47.2	13.8	17.7
Leisure and hospitality	78	100.0	12.9	18.5	68.6	19.6	18.2
Other services	205	100.0	41.1	22.6	35.1	11.4	16.4
Public administration	155	100.0	39.0	23.8	37.2	2.3	11.7
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity							
White	2,999	100.0	28.1	20.9	50.8	15.3	19.0
Black or African American	176	100.0	36.8	33.6	29.6	5.4	11.7
Asian	102	100.0	32.5	3.5	58.9	18.6	22.7
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	240	100.0	32.7	12.6	54.7	16.9	21.1
Educational attainment							
Total, 25 years and over	3,214	100.0	29.2	20.5	49.9	15.0	18.9
Less than a high school diploma	85	100.0	12.1	19.8	67.1	35.6	26.7
High school graduates, no college ⁴	405	100.0	35.4	16.7	47.6	16.3	20.2
Some college or associate degree	870	100.0	28.2	25.5	46.2	14.9	17.9
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁵	1,854	100.0	29.1	19.0	51.3	13.8	18.7

¹ Includes persons who worked at home at least once per week but did not report the number of hours usually worked.

² Persons who did not report the number of hours worked are included in the total but are not shown separately.

³ Data not shown where the base is less than 75,000.

⁴ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁵ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Data refer to employed persons in nonagricultural industries who reported that they usually work at home at least once per week as part of their primary job and exclude the incorporated and unincorporated self-employed. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

Table 4. Hours of unpaid job-related work at home on primary job among wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, May 2004

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Unpaid work at home ¹	Percent distribution by hours worked at home ²					Mean weekly hours usually worked at home
		Total	Hours vary	Less than 8 hours	8 hours or more		
					Total	35 hours or more	
Total, 16 years and over	10,189	100.0	29.6	47.8	21.9	.9	6.8
Men	5,099	100.0	31.6	45.8	21.8	.8	6.9
Women	5,090	100.0	27.6	49.7	22.1	1.1	6.8
Occupation							
Management, professional, and related occupations	8,058	100.0	28.7	48.6	22.0	.8	6.8
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	2,608	100.0	30.9	51.2	17.4	.9	6.3
Professional and related occupations	5,450	100.0	27.6	47.4	24.2	.7	7.0
Service occupations	295	100.0	35.6	51.2	13.2	3.3	6.8
Sales and office occupations	1,549	100.0	32.9	40.9	25.3	1.3	7.5
Sales and related occupations	1,110	100.0	33.6	35.1	30.1	1.4	8.5
Office and administrative support occupations	438	100.0	30.9	55.7	13.1	1.2	5.2
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	157	100.0	36.6	47.9	15.5	.4	5.8
Construction and extraction occupations	94	100.0	32.9	55.0	12.2	-	4.5
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	63	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	130	100.0	28.4	66.4	5.2	-	3.3
Production occupations	61	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Transportation and material moving occupations	69	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Industry							
Mining	28	100.0	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)	(³)
Construction	290	100.0	23.8	61.6	14.6	.1	4.8
Manufacturing	822	100.0	28.5	53.3	16.8	.7	6.2
Wholesale and retail trade	876	100.0	29.6	45.2	24.0	1.3	7.0
Transportation and utilities	201	100.0	37.3	54.4	8.3	-	4.2
Information	266	100.0	29.0	38.6	32.3	2.0	8.3
Financial activities	881	100.0	36.9	38.2	24.1	1.3	8.1
Professional and business services	1,130	100.0	33.9	44.3	21.8	1.1	7.2
Education and health services	4,706	100.0	25.3	49.4	24.7	.6	6.8
Leisure and hospitality	201	100.0	30.9	55.1	14.0	.6	5.5
Other services	457	100.0	48.5	36.4	14.3	2.5	8.7
Public administration	333	100.0	32.2	58.7	7.3	1.2	5.0
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity							
White	8,952	100.0	28.8	48.3	22.1	.7	6.7
Black or African American	660	100.0	43.2	41.1	15.5	.8	6.3
Asian	374	100.0	27.0	44.5	27.6	2.5	8.4
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	564	100.0	23.0	59.0	17.6	1.9	6.5
Educational attainment							
Total, 25 years and over	9,836	100.0	29.8	47.3	22.2	1.0	6.9
Less than a high school diploma	130	100.0	45.7	49.0	5.3	-	4.9
High school graduates, no college ⁴	756	100.0	36.6	49.2	13.9	1.4	5.7
Some college or associate degree	1,471	100.0	31.5	49.9	18.0	.8	6.3
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁵	7,479	100.0	28.5	46.6	24.2	1.0	7.2

¹ Includes persons who worked at home at least once per week but did not report the number of hours usually worked.

² Persons who did not report the number of hours worked are included in the total but are not shown separately.

³ Data not shown where the base is less than 75,000.

⁴ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁵ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Data refer to employed persons in nonagricultural industries who reported that they usually work at home at least once per week as part of their primary job and exclude the incorporated and unincorporated self-employed. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Dash represents or rounds to zero.

Table 5. Self-employed persons with home-based businesses by selected characteristics, May 2004

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	Self-employed persons who worked at home ¹	Self-employed persons with home-based businesses ²							Mean weekly hours usually worked at home
		Total	Percent of self-employed who worked at home with a home-based business	Percent distribution by hours worked at home ³					
				Total	Hours vary	Less than 8 hours	8 hours or more		
							Total	35 hours or more	
Total, 16 years and over	6,960	4,627	66.5	100.0	37.7	13.3	48.7	22.3	25.4
Men	4,056	2,471	60.9	100.0	38.3	16.7	44.6	18.9	22.7
Women	2,904	2,156	74.2	100.0	37.1	9.4	53.5	26.2	28.3
Occupation									
Management, professional, and related occupations	3,458	2,103	60.8	100.0	38.5	9.9	51.3	23.8	26.6
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	2,067	1,289	62.3	100.0	39.7	9.7	50.3	23.3	25.6
Professional and related occupations	1,390	814	58.6	100.0	36.6	10.0	53.0	24.5	28.0
Service occupations	774	662	85.4	100.0	23.2	9.4	67.3	44.3	34.4
Sales and office occupations	1,657	990	59.8	100.0	41.4	12.5	46.0	16.1	23.0
Sales and related occupations	1,323	725	54.8	100.0	43.6	11.3	44.9	15.3	23.3
Office and administrative support occupations	334	265	79.2	100.0	35.4	15.5	49.2	18.3	22.1
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	765	620	81.0	100.0	43.0	27.8	28.5	5.3	12.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1	1	(⁴)	100.0	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	20.0
Construction and extraction occupations	568	481	84.6	100.0	42.8	31.6	24.8	3.0	9.8
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	196	138	70.6	100.0	43.9	14.8	41.2	13.2	23.2
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations ..	306	253	82.4	100.0	41.9	19.7	38.4	19.5	22.3
Production occupations	180	151	84.0	100.0	38.5	13.5	48.0	26.5	28.2
Transportation and material moving occupations	127	102	80.2	100.0	47.0	28.8	24.2	9.2	12.1
Industry									
Mining	11	6	(⁴)	100.0	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	(⁴)	9.2
Construction	1,086	843	77.6	100.0	40.9	27.1	31.5	5.1	12.2
Manufacturing	271	182	67.0	100.0	28.5	9.3	62.2	38.6	31.6
Wholesale and retail trade	1,011	585	57.9	100.0	46.4	11.6	42.0	14.9	23.9
Transportation and utilities	181	124	68.3	100.0	42.6	28.9	28.5	15.4	15.1
Information	181	136	74.9	100.0	30.7	6.6	62.7	37.8	32.1
Financial activities	848	443	52.2	100.0	39.5	7.9	52.2	22.4	26.5
Professional and business services	1,658	1,182	71.3	100.0	41.7	10.2	47.8	23.2	26.6
Education and health services	885	585	66.0	100.0	20.5	9.0	70.1	49.4	35.5
Leisure and hospitality	452	288	63.8	100.0	39.3	5.5	54.9	20.3	29.0
Other services	375	255	68.0	100.0	32.4	12.6	55.0	16.6	24.3
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity									
White	6,163	4,147	67.3	100.0	37.4	14.0	48.4	21.7	24.8
Black or African American	386	255	65.9	100.0	43.9	1.0	54.1	30.8	34.6
Asian	242	97	40.3	100.0	26.3	19.9	53.8	25.6	24.2
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	431	307	71.1	100.0	45.4	13.7	40.9	24.3	26.3
Educational attainment									
Total, 25 years and over	6,815	4,499	66.0	100.0	37.6	13.4	48.8	22.4	25.4
Less than a high school diploma	318	275	86.6	100.0	43.7	12.6	43.8	22.2	28.3
High school graduates, no college ⁵	1,420	1,087	76.6	100.0	36.2	19.5	43.9	22.2	23.3
Some college or associate degree	2,092	1,434	68.5	100.0	39.2	10.9	49.6	20.7	25.8
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁶	2,985	1,703	57.0	100.0	36.0	11.7	52.0	24.1	25.9

¹ Includes persons who worked at home at least once per week but did not report the number of hours usually worked.

² Refers to self-employed persons who worked at home and reported that they ran their business from home and no other location.

³ Persons who did not report the number of hours worked are included in the total but are not shown separately.

⁴ Data not shown where the base is less than 75,000.

⁵ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁶ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral

degrees.

NOTE: Data refer to self-employed persons, regardless of whether their business is incorporated, in nonagricultural industries who reported that they usually work at home at least once per week as part of their primary job. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

Table 6. Job-related work at home on primary job by usage of electronic equipment at home, sex, class of worker, and pay status, May 2004

Characteristic	Worked at home ¹ (in thousands)	Percent of workers using electronic equipment for work				
		Computer	Internet or e-mail	Fax	Telephone	Other
Total, 16 years and over	20,673	80.6	69.6	43.1	78.0	6.6
Men	10,780	82.9	73.0	48.6	83.4	7.7
Women	9,893	78.1	65.8	37.1	72.1	5.5
Class of worker and pay status ²						
Wage and salary workers ³	13,678	83.0	71.5	35.0	73.4	6.5
Paid work at home	3,349	84.8	78.3	55.3	84.6	10.2
Unpaid work at home	10,189	82.8	69.6	28.3	69.7	5.3
Self-employed ⁴	6,960	76.0	65.8	58.9	87.0	6.9
With a home-based business ⁵	4,627	74.0	63.2	58.9	86.9	6.6

¹ Includes persons who worked at home at least once per week. This total includes persons who did not report usage of electronic equipment.

² Excludes unpaid family workers, not shown separately.

³ Includes persons who worked at home but did not report pay status.

⁴ Includes both the incorporated and unincorporated self-employed.

⁵ Refers to self-employed persons who worked at home and reported that they ran their business from home and no

other location.

NOTE: Data refer to employed persons in nonagricultural industries who reported that they usually work at home at least once per week as part of their primary job. The sum of workers using electronic equipment at home exceeds the total number who worked at home because many of these workers used more than one type of equipment. "Other" electronic equipment includes scanners and other types of computer-related peripheral equipment.

Table 7. Job-related work at home on primary job by reason for working at home, sex, class of worker, and pay status, May 2004

Characteristic	Worked at home ¹ (in thousands)	Reason for working at home (percent)						
		Finish or catch up on work	Business is conducted from home	Nature of the job	Coordinate work schedule with personal or family needs	Reduce commuting time or expense	Local transportation or pollution control program	Some other reason
Total, 16 years and over	20,673	35.5	21.0	30.8	5.4	1.6	.1	5.2
Men	10,780	35.4	21.7	31.4	3.6	1.7	.1	5.5
Women	9,893	35.6	20.3	30.2	7.3	1.5	–	4.8
Class of worker and pay status ²								
Wage and salary workers ³	13,678	44.9	8.2	34.3	4.8	2.0	.1	5.3
Paid work at home	3,349	13.0	23.5	40.4	9.3	5.2	.2	7.7
Unpaid work at home	10,189	55.8	2.7	32.3	3.4	1.0	–	4.5
Self-employed ⁴	6,960	17.2	46.3	23.8	6.5	.7	.1	4.9
With a home-based business ⁵	4,627	4.7	63.8	21.1	5.1	.6	.1	4.0

¹ Persons who worked at home at least once per week. This total includes persons who did not report a reason for working at home.

² Excludes unpaid family workers, not shown separately.

³ Includes persons who worked at home but did not report pay status.

⁴ Includes both the incorporated and unincorporated self-employed.

⁵ Refers to self-employed persons who worked at home and reported that they ran their business from home and no other location.

NOTE: Data refer to employed persons in nonagricultural industries who reported that they usually work at home at least once per week as part of their primary job. Dash represents or rounds to zero.

Table 8. Job-related work at home on primary job by sex, occupation, industry, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, educational attainment, and frequency of work at home, May 2004

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Total who worked at home ¹	Worked at home at least once per week ²	Worked at home at least once every 2 weeks	Worked at home at least once per month	Worked at home less than once per month
Total, 16 years and over	25,437	20,673	1,929	1,637	881
Men	13,309	10,780	1,093	836	438
Women	12,128	9,893	835	800	443
Occupation					
Management, professional, and related occupations	16,665	13,445	1,377	1,092	536
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	7,073	5,602	608	523	270
Professional and related occupations	9,591	7,842	769	569	266
Service occupations	1,617	1,414	78	63	48
Sales and office occupations	5,285	4,291	347	373	209
Sales and related occupations	3,586	3,137	211	141	65
Office and administrative support occupations	1,700	1,154	137	232	144
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	1,273	1,036	105	57	55
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	3	3	—	—	—
Construction and extraction occupations	834	705	62	35	26
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	436	329	43	22	29
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	597	488	22	51	33
Production occupations	338	276	12	29	21
Transportation and material moving occupations	259	212	11	22	12
Industry					
Mining	51	44	3	—	2
Construction	1,758	1,491	122	77	52
Manufacturing	1,965	1,488	183	178	89
Wholesale and retail trade	2,939	2,416	213	164	114
Transportation and utilities	601	459	42	61	35
Information	849	638	98	77	33
Financial activities	2,739	2,210	212	190	89
Professional and business services	4,264	3,401	331	323	148
Education and health services	7,322	6,189	485	364	191
Leisure and hospitality	873	731	46	51	32
Other services	1,302	1,113	80	70	28
Public administration	773	493	114	82	69
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity					
White	22,418	18,255	1,728	1,422	749
Black or African American	1,554	1,245	97	106	75
Asian	924	718	69	81	45
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	1,491	1,255	64	100	48
Educational attainment					
Total, 25 years and over	24,579	20,024	1,854	1,565	827
Less than a high school diploma	599	539	13	29	11
High school graduates, no college ³	3,300	2,631	197	271	147
Some college or associate degree	5,686	4,482	448	431	278
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁴	14,995	12,372	1,197	835	392

¹ Includes persons who did not report frequency of work at home.

² Persons who usually work at home—that is, persons who worked at home at least once per week—are the focus of this report.

³ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁴ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Data refer to employed persons in nonagricultural industries who

reported that they work at home as part of their primary job. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Dash represents or rounds to zero.