

## Real Earnings – November 2007

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Every month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics releases data on real earnings for production or nonsupervisory workers in the private sector. Real earnings reflect the value of workers' paychecks adjusted for inflation. They indicate whether or not wage increases have actually translated into an improved standard of living.

### Real Earnings Stats at a Glance

Year	October Average Hourly Earnings, Private Sector	October Earnings Adjusted for Inflation (October 2007 dollars)
2002	\$15.12	\$17.44
2003	\$15.43	\$17.46
2004	\$15.81	\$17.32
2005	\$16.30	\$17.06
2006	\$16.94	\$17.58
2007	\$17.58	\$17.58

- Average hourly earnings of production/nonsupervisory workers in the private sector were \$17.58 in November (seasonally adjusted). Hourly pay for manufacturing workers averaged \$17.37.
- Wage gains in the private sector were outpaced by inflation last month. Inflation-adjusted pay fell 3 cents in October and is unchanged from October 2006.
- Inflation adjusted earnings in manufacturing fell 4 cents in October. Earnings are 13 cents below January 2007 and 65 cents less than November 2003 when real earnings peaked.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics report can be found at:  
<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/realer.toc.htm>

Next release: December 14, 2007

UAW Research Department  
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