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# THE EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK OF LOWER-WAGE WORKERS IN AMERICA

Conducted by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research  
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*Interview dates: August 1 -- September 6, 2012*

*Interviews: 1,606 adults age 18-74 currently employed full or part-time, or,  
on a temporary lay-off of 6 months or less; not self-employed;  
and, earning \$35,000 or less, full-time equivalent, per year*

*Margin of error: +/- 2.9 percentage points at the 95% confidence level*

*NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.*

*All results shown are percentages unless otherwise labeled.*

- Q1. Generally speaking, would you say that things in this country are heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Right Direction	27
Wrong Direction	71
Don't Know	1
Refused	2

- Q2. How easy or difficult is it for you and your family to get ahead financially these days? Would you say...Very easy, somewhat easy, neither easy nor difficult, somewhat difficult, very difficult?)**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Very/somewhat easy</b>	<b>8</b>
Very easy	1
Somewhat easy	7
Neither easy nor difficult	18
<b>Somewhat/very difficult</b>	<b>74</b>
Somewhat difficult	40
Very difficult	34
Don't know	*
Refused	*

- Q3. Compared to four years ago, is your family's financial situation better today, worse today or about the same as it was four years ago? (If Better/Worse, ask:) Is that much better/worse or just somewhat better/worse?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Much/somewhat better</b>	<b>19</b>
Much better	6
Somewhat better	13
About the same	31
<b>Somewhat/much worse</b>	<b>50</b>
Somewhat worse	28
Much worse	21
Don't know	-
Refused	*

**Q4. How much do you worry about each of the following... Do you worry a lot, some, not much, or not at all? How about... [AP trend question] (Randomize list)**

	<b>A lot/ Some</b>	A lot	Some	<b>Not much/ Not at all</b>	Not much	Not at all	Does not apply	Don't know	Refused
AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012									
Being unable to pay your bills	<b>71</b>	35	36	<b>29</b>	17	12	*	-	*
Facing major unexpected medical expenses	<b>70</b>	35	34	<b>30</b>	18	12	*	*	*
Losing your job	<b>54</b>	27	27	<b>45</b>	27	18	*	*	*
Being unable to keep up with your mortgage or rent	<b>53</b>	26	28	<b>45</b>	21	24	1	-	*
Having enough money to send your children to college	<b>38</b>	22	16	<b>57</b>	10	46	5	-	5
Being unable to afford additional education for your career	<b>38</b>	18	20	<b>62</b>	21	41	1	-	*
Not having childcare	<b>17</b>	8	9	<b>77</b>	11	66	6	-	1

**Q5. (At your main job), [are/were] you employed by government, by a private for-profit company, or by a non-profit organization?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Government	12
Private for-profit company	69
A non-profit organization	17
Don't know	1
Refused	1

**Q6. About how many people employed in that business, corporation or organization?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Small: 1-9	13
Medium: 10-199	39
Large: 200 or more	45
Don't know	2
Refused	1

- Q8. Is/Was this business or organization mainly manufacturing, retail trade, wholesale trade, a hospital or doctor's office or other health care setting, a restaurant or other service business, or something else?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Retail trade	18
A restaurant or other service business	14
Manufacturing	11
Hospital or doctor's office or other health care setting	11
Wholesale trade	2
Something else	44
Don't know	*
Refused	*

- Q9. (Thinking about your main job) What kind of work [do/did] you do, that is, what [is/was] your occupation? Is it...[READ LIST UNTIL RESPONDENT SAYS "YES"]**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Service	17
Sales or Retail	15
Clerical	13
Management	8
Manufacturing	7
Construction	5
Technology	3
Farming or Agriculture	2
Other	30
Don't know	-
Refused	*

- Q10. All in all, how satisfied would you say you [are/were] with your job? Would you say very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not too satisfied, not at all satisfied?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Very/somewhat satisfied</b>	<b>74</b>
Very satisfied	23
Somewhat satisfied	51
<b>Not too/at all satisfied</b>	<b>25</b>
Not too satisfied	18
Not at all satisfied	7
Don't know	-
Refused	1

**Q11. How long [have you worked/did you work] for your employer? Include all positions you have had at this employer.**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Less than 1 year	22
1 to 5 years	39
6 to 10 years	17
11 or more years	21
Don't know	*
Refused	*

**Q12. On this job, [are/were] you covered by a union or employee association contract, or not?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Yes	12
No	87
Don't know	*
Refused	1

**Q13. When you first started your job with your [current employer/most recent employer]), did you feel completely prepared to do the work, very prepared, somewhat prepared, a little prepared, or not at all prepared to do the work?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Completely/very prepared</b>	<b>59</b>
Completely prepared	27
Very prepared	32
Somewhat prepared	28
<b>A little/not at all prepared</b>	<b>13</b>
A little prepared	9
Not at all prepared	4
Don't know	-
Refused	*

**Q14. Which of the following benefits (are/were) available to you on your job, even if you (are/were) not receiving them? How about...[INSERT ITEM]? Is [INSERT ITEM] available to you on your job, or not? (Randomize list)**

AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
A health plan or medical insurance	69	30	*	1
Paid vacation	67	32	*	1
Paid holidays	66	33	*	1
Regular performance evaluations	62	37	*	1
Retirement program	56	43	1	1
Paid sick days	53	45	*	1
Dependent care flexible savings plan or child care assistance	25	73	1	1

**Q15. I am going to read you several statements. For each, please tell me if you strongly agree, agree, neither agree nor disagree, disagree, or strongly disagree. (First/Next) do you agree or disagree with (insert item)? (Randomize list)**

AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012	Strongly agree/agree	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree/strongly disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Refused
You and your co-workers [have/had] the skills and experience to do your jobs well	<b>83</b>	30	52	12	<b>5</b>	4	1	*	1
You [have/had] regular shifts or hours from week to week	<b>75</b>	35	40	7	<b>17</b>	12	6	-	*
Your employer [offers/offered] good benefits	<b>48</b>	14	34	22	<b>30</b>	18	12	*	*
Your employer [has/had] trouble finding people with good skills or experience to do jobs similar to yours	<b>45</b>	13	32	29	<b>26</b>	22	4	*	1
You [have/had] a good chance of getting a promotion when it is deserved	<b>30</b>	8	22	26	<b>43</b>	25	18	1	1
You [are/were] paid well for your job	<b>32</b>	6	26	24	<b>43</b>	28	15	-	1

**Q16. Do you feel like your employer [values/valued] you for the work that you [do/did], or [does/did] your employer treat you like you could easily be replaced with someone else?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Values me for the work that I do	62
Treats me like I could easily replaced	37
Don't know	*
Refused	1

- Q19. All in all, how likely is it that you will try hard to find a job with another organization within the next 12 months? Would you say very likely, likely, unlikely, or very unlikely?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Very/likely</b>	<b>41</b>
Very likely	20
Likely	21
<b>Unlikely/very unlikely</b>	<b>59</b>
Unlikely	28
Very unlikely	31
Don't know	*
Refused	1

IF "VERY LIKELY" OR "LIKELY" IN Q19.

- 19a. What is the main reason that you will try to find another job? [Open end with pre-codes, telephone interviews only to date]**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Need better pay	40
Looking for better benefits	8
Looking for better hours/shifts	7
Lack of opportunity to advance	6
Unhappy with managers or bosses	4
Unhappy with co-workers	1
Other	35

- Q21. Thinking about workers at your position or level at your (current/most recent) employer, how much opportunity do you think there (is/was) for advancement or promotion to a higher position that pays more? Do you think there (is/was) a great deal, some, a little, or no opportunity for advancement or promotion?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>A great deal/some</b>	<b>33</b>
A great deal	7
Some	26
<b>A little/no opportunity</b>	<b>67</b>
A little	35
No opportunity	32
Don't know	*
Refused	*

- Q22. How important to you is the opportunity to be promoted? Is it very important, important, somewhat important, or not at all important?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Very important/important</b>	<b>49</b>
Very important	23
Important	26
<b>Somewhat/Not at all important</b>	<b>51</b>
Somewhat important	26
Not at all important	25
Don't know	-
Refused	*

- Q23. How confident [are/were] you that you [understand/understood] what you [need/needed] to do to be promoted? Would you say you [are/were] extremely confident, very confident, moderately confident, only a little confident or not confident at all?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Extremely/very confident</b>	<b>60</b>
Extremely confident	25
Very confident	35
<b>Moderately confident</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Only a little/Not at all confident</b>	<b>15</b>
Only a little confident	9
Not confident at all	6
Don't know	*
Refused	1

- Q25. [Have/Did] you [received/receive] any promotions to a higher position that pays more while working for your [present/most recent] employer?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Yes	30
No	69
Don't know	*
Refused	1



**Q26. Over the last five years, has your pay increased rapidly, made steady advances, stayed about the same, or lost some ground?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Increased rapidly/steady advances</b>	<b>35</b>
Increased rapidly	4
Made steady advances	31
<b>Stayed about the same</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Lost some ground</b>	<b>20</b>
Don't know	1
Refused	1

**Q27. When was the most recent time you received a pay increase?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Never	14
Less than 1 year	42
1-3 years	30
4 or more years	13
Don't know	*
Refused	1

**Q28. How confident are you that your [current/most recent] job will help you achieve your long-term career goals? Are you...**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Extremely/very confident</b>	<b>20</b>
Extremely confident	6
Very confident	14
Moderately confident	29
<b>Not too/Not at all confident</b>	<b>50</b>
Not too confident	24
Not confident at all	26
Don't know	*
Refused	1

- Q29. How confident are you that you will be able to keep up with the new technologies and skills required for your [current/most recent] job? Extremely confident, very confident, moderately confident, not too confident or not confident at all?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Extremely/very confident</b>	<b>69</b>
Extremely confident	32
Very confident	38
Moderately confident	23
<b>Not too/Not at all confident</b>	<b>7</b>
Not too confident	4
Not confident at all	3
Don't know	-
Refused	1

- Q30. How confident are you that your [current/most recent] employer [will/would] help you learn these new technologies and skills to remain qualified for the job? Extremely confident, very confident, moderately confident, not too confident or not confident at all?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Extremely/very confident</b>	<b>48</b>
Extremely confident	18
Very confident	30
Moderately confident	28
<b>Not too/Not at all confident</b>	<b>23</b>
Not too confident	14
Not confident at all	9
Don't know	*
Refused	1

ORDER OF Q31 AND Q32 RANDOMIZED

- Q31. How important do you believe job training is to advancing your career? Would you say not at all important, slightly important, moderately important, very important or extremely important?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Extremely/very important</b>	<b>49</b>
Extremely important	19
Very important	31
Moderately important	25
<b>Slightly/not at all important</b>	<b>25</b>
Slightly important	17
Not at all important	8
Don't know	-
Refused	1

- Q32. How important do you believe general education is to advancing your career? Would you say not at all important, slightly important, moderately important, very important or extremely important?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Extremely/very important</b>	<b>41</b>
Extremely important	16
Very important	25
Moderately important	28
<b>Slightly/not at all important</b>	<b>31</b>
Slightly important	18
Not at all important	12
Don't know	-
Refused	1

- Q33. Have you ever used any of the following or not? How about... (Randomized list)**

AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
Job search or placement websites such as Careerbuilder.com or Monster.com	41	59	-	*
Community colleges	32	68	*	1
Temporary placement agencies that promise permanent positions	26	74	*	1
For-profit training programs or schools like The University of Phoenix, ITT Technical Institute, DeVry University or Strayer University	7	93	-	*
Day laborer pools	5	94	*	1

- Q34. [Is/Was] it easy, hard, or neither easy nor hard to get additional training through your [current/most recent] employer? Would you say very (easy/hard) or somewhat (easy/hard)?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Very/somewhat easy</b>	<b>33</b>
Very easy	12
Somewhat easy	21
Neither easy nor hard	36
<b>Somewhat/very hard</b>	<b>30</b>
Somewhat hard	14
Very hard	16
Don't know	*
Refused	1

**Q35. Some employers offer programs or benefits to make it easier to get additional training or education. [Does/did] your [current/most recent] employer offer the following programs or benefits, or not? How about... (Randomized list)**

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012				
On the job training or apprenticeships specific to your current job	36	63	*	1
Coaching or mentoring	29	70	*	1
Training for a credential or certificate	26	73	1	1
Online training or classes	24	75	*	1
Reduced work hours or requirements to attend training or classes	23	75	*	1
Tuition assistance	22	76	1	1
Career advising	15	83	1	1
Onsite education like GED or ESL classes	6	92	1	1

IF "YES" IN Q35

**Q35a. Have you personally participated this program or benefit?**

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012				
On the job training or apprenticeships specific to your current job	64	35	-	*
Online training or classes	63	37	-	*
Training for a credential or certificate	56	44	-	-
Coaching or mentoring	53	47	-	-
Reduced work hours or requirements to attend training or classes	45	55	-	*
Career advising	35	65	-	-
Onsite education like GED or ESL classes	30	70	-	-
Tuition assistance	24	75	-	1

IF "YES" IN Q35a

**Q35b. How helpful was the program or benefit to your career advancement? Would you say extremely helpful, very helpful, moderately helpful, a little helpful, or not at all helpful?**

AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012	Extremely/ very helpful	Extremely Helpful	Very helpful	Moderately Helpful	A little/ Not at all helpful	A little helpful	Not helpful at all	Don't know	Refused
Tuition assistance	74	47	27	15	12	7	5	-	-
Training for a credential or certificate	67	33	34	15	18	10	8	-	-
Career advising	65	32	34	23	12	12	-	-	-
Onsite education like GED or ESL classes	64	33	31	23	13	9	3	-	-
On the job training or apprenticeships specific to your current job	63	30	33	20	17	13	4	-	1
Reduced work hours or requirements to attend training or classes	62	27	35	20	18	10	9	-	-
Coaching or mentoring	61	24	37	23	16	12	4	-	*
Online training or classes	39	14	26	35	25	17	8	-	1

**Q36. Have you personally participated in any of the following government-funded programs? (Randomize list)**

AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
Pell grants	18	82	*	*
Workforce Investment Act or one stop employment centers	7	91	*	1
GED programs	6	93	-	1
GI bill	4	95	*	1
Summer youth employment program	4	95	-	*
SNAP employment and training	3	97	*	1
Welfare funded employment and training services	3	96	*	1
Adult literacy programs	2	98	*	1
General assistance work program	2	97	*	*
Senior community service employment program	1	98	*	*
Trade adjustment assistance act or TAA	1	98	*	*

- Q37. How helpful have each of the following been to you personally in your work? Extremely helpful, very helpful, moderately helpful, not too helpful or not helpful at all? How about [INSERT ITEM]? Has/have [INSERT ITEM] been extremely helpful, very helpful, moderately helpful, not too helpful or not helpful at all to you personally in advancing your career? (Randomize list)**

	<b>Extremely/ very helpful</b>	Extremely helpful	Very helpful	Moderately helpful	<b>Not too/not at all helpful</b>	Not too helpful	Not helpful at all	Don't know	Refused
AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012									
Your friends and family	<b>48</b>	19	29	24	<b>26</b>	12	14	*	1
Mentors including co-workers, teachers and supervisors	<b>37</b>	12	25	23	<b>39</b>	13	25	*	2
Employers	<b>30</b>	9	22	30	<b>38</b>	18	20	*	2
High schools	<b>29</b>	10	18	23	<b>47</b>	11	35	*	2
4-year colleges	<b>19</b>	9	10	12	<b>66</b>	9	57	1	3
2-year colleges	<b>16</b>	6	11	13	<b>68</b>	9	58	1	3
Unions	<b>7</b>	3	4	9	<b>81</b>	7	74	1	3
The U.S. government	<b>9</b>	2	7	13	<b>75</b>	14	61	1	2
State or local governments	<b>8</b>	3	5	16	<b>73</b>	13	60	1	2

- Q38. How much of the responsibility do you think each of the following groups share for helping workers get ahead in their careers? Would you say no responsibility at all, a little, a moderate amount, a lot, or almost all of the responsibility? How about [INSERT ITEM]? (Randomize list)**

	<b>Almost all/a lot of the responsibility</b>	Almost all of the responsibility	A lot	A moderate amount	<b>A little/no responsibility</b>	A little	No responsibility	Don't know	Refused
AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012									
Yourself	<b>78</b>	51	27	14	<b>6</b>	4	2	-	2
Colleges	<b>37</b>	6	31	32	<b>28</b>	16	12	*	3
Employers	<b>35</b>	7	28	38	<b>24</b>	17	8	*	3
Mentors including co- workers, teachers and supervisors	<b>32</b>	5	27	37	<b>29</b>	19	10	*	2
Your friends and family	<b>29</b>	5	24	35	<b>33</b>	23	11	*	2
High schools	<b>27</b>	5	22	34	<b>37</b>	23	14	*	2
Unions	<b>13</b>	3	10	25	<b>58</b>	25	33	1	3
The U.S. government	<b>11</b>	3	8	26	<b>61</b>	27	34	-	3
State or local governments	<b>11</b>	3	8	27	<b>59</b>	28	31	*	3

**Profile Questions**

**D1. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or none of these?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Democrat	28
Republican	31
Independent	21
None of these	20
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	*
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

**D2. IF "Democrat," ASK: Do you consider yourself a strong or moderate Democrat?  
IF "Republican," ASK: Do you consider yourself a strong or moderate Republican?  
IF "INDEPENDENT" OR "NONE," DK OR REFUSED ASK: Do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
<b>Democrat</b>	<b>43</b>
Democrat - strong	13
Democrat - moderate	21
Democrat - unknown intensity	9
<b>Ind/None/DK/Ref. - DO NOT LEAN</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Republican</b>	<b>43</b>
Ind/None/DK/Ref. - Lean Republican	18
Republican - moderate	16
Republican - strong	9
<b>None/Other/DK/Refused</b>	<b>3</b>

D3. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

IF "Liberal," ASK: Would you say you are strongly or somewhat liberal?

IF "Conservative," ASK: Would you say you are strongly or somewhat conservative?

	AP-NORC 8/1- 9/6/2012
<b>Liberal</b>	<b>24</b>
Liberal - strongly	9
Liberal - somewhat	15
<b>Conservative</b>	<b>33</b>
Conservative - strongly	13
Conservative - somewhat	20
<b>Moderate</b>	<b>40</b>
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	1
Refused (DO NOT READ)	3



*The following questions are for classification purposes only. Be assured that your responses will be aggregated with those of other participants to this survey.*

**D6. What is your marital status? Are you...**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Married/Living as Married/Co-Habiting	55
Separated	2
Divorced	12
Widowed	2
Never Married	28
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	-
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

**D7. What is the last grade of school you completed?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Less than high school graduate	7
High school graduate	35
Technical/trade school	7
Some college	24
College graduate (BA or BS)	20
Some graduate school	3
Graduate degree (PhD, MD, JD, Master's Degree)	4
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	-
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

**D8. In what year were you born? AGE**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
18-29	25
30-49	35
50-64	35
65 and older	6
Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

**D9. Which one of the following best describes where you live?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Urban area	25
Suburban area	43
Rural area	31
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	*
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

**D10. In the past 12 months, have you (or anyone in your household) received...?**

AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
Food stamps	16	84	-	1
Supplemental security income (SSI)	7	92	-	1
Assistance to pay for utility bills	5	94	*	1
Free or reduced medical care	16	83	*	1

**D15. Are you the parent or guardian of one or more children under the age of 18, or not?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Yes	28
No	72
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	-
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

**D16. How many different cell-phone numbers, if any, could I have reached you for this call?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
0	13
1	70
2	13
3	2
4	1
5 or more	1
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	-
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

**D17. How many different landline telephone numbers, if any, are there in your home that I could have reached you on for this call? This includes listed or unlisted numbers. To answer this question, please don't count cell phones or landlines used ONLY for faxes or modems.**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
0	44
1	53
2	2
3	1
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	-
Refused (DO NOT READ)	*

ASKED IF D16 AND D17 GREATER THAN "0"

**D18. Generally speaking, would you say you use your landline phone most of the time, your cell phone most of the time, or would you say you use both about equally?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Landline	22
Cellphone	47
Both equally	31
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	-
Refused (DO NOT READ)	-

ASKED OF THOSE WITH CELLPHONE ONLY

**D19. How many adults, in addition to you, carry and use this cell phone at least once a week or more?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
0	47
1	40
2	10
3	1
4	1
5 or more	*
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	-
Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

**Race and Ethnicity (derived)**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
White, Caucasian, non-Hispanic	71
Black, African-American, non-Hispanic	10
Other, non-Hispanic	4
Hispanic	10
2+ Races, non-Hispanic	4
Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

- D28. Does your total household [IF SINGLE: "PERSONAL"] income fall below \$50,000 dollars, or is it \$50,000 or higher?**

**INTERVIEWER NOTE: If asked, this is 'yearly' household income**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Below \$50,000 (ASK D29)	68
\$50,000+ (ASK D30)	29
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	1
Refused (DO NOT READ)	3

ASK IF "BELOW \$50K" IN D28

- D29. And in which group does your total household [IF SINGLE: "PERSONAL"] income fall?**

ASK IF "\$50K OR HIGHER" IN D28

- D30. And in which group does your total household [IF SINGLE: "PERSONAL"] income fall?**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Under \$10,000	4
\$10,000 to under \$20,000	10
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	19
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	17
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	11
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	20
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	11
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	6
\$150,000 or more	2
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	*
Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

- D32. INTERVIEWER RECORD GENDER (IF YOU ARE UNSURE, ASK THE FOLLOWING: Are you male or female?)**

	AP-NORC 8/1-9/6/2012
Male	48
Female	51
Don't know (DO NOT READ)	-
Refused (DO NOT READ)	1

## Study Methodology

This AP-NORC Center multi-mode survey was conducted from August 1 through September 6, 2012. It was made possible by a grant to the AP-NORC Center by The Joyce Foundation. AP and NORC staff collaborated on all aspects of the study, with input from NORC's Economics, Labor, and Population Studies Department, AP's subject matter experts, and the Joyce Foundation staff. Cognitive testing was performed on a draft version of the questionnaire instrument to ensure understandability and validity of survey questions.

Telephone interviews were conducted by NORC professional interviewers who were carefully trained on the administration of this study. Web interviews were conducted using the GfK KnowledgePanel®. A total of 1,606 adults who met the following eligibility criteria were interviewed by phone or web:

- Age 18-74;
- Currently employed full or part time, or, on a temporary lay-off of 6 months or less ;
- Not self-employed; and,
- Earning \$35,000 or less, full-time equivalent, per year.

Telephone interviews were conducted with 109 respondents on landlines and 247 respondents on cellular telephones, for a total of 356 respondents. Cellular telephone respondents were offered a \$10 monetary incentive for participating, as compensation for telephone usage charges. Telephone interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish, depending on respondent preference. The final response rate was 30.2 percent, based on the widely accepted Council of American Survey Research Organizations (CASRO) method. Under this method, our response rate is calculated as the product of the resolution rate (75 percent), the screener rate (56 percent), and the interview completion rate (71 percent).

Web interviews were conducted with 1,250 members of the GfK KnowledgePanel® who were employed or temporarily unemployed. All web interviews were conducted in English. Some 9,090 panelists were randomly drawn from the KnowledgePanel; 4,420 responded to the invitation, yielding a final stage completion rate of 48.6% percent. The recruitment rate for this study, reported by GfK, was 14.9% and the profile rate was 65.1%, for a cumulative response rate of 4.7%

Sampling weights for the CATI and web samples respectively were calculated to adjust for sample design aspects (such as unequal probabilities of selection) and for nonresponse bias arising from differential response rates across various demographic groups. Poststratification variables included age, sex, race/ethnicity, region, education, and landline/cellular telephone use. Both samples were then combined to produce the final weights. Population control totals for employed, low-income workers aged 18 to 74 years were derived using the 2010 American Community Survey and the 2011 National Health Interview Survey. The weighted data, which reflects the target population of this study, were used for all analyses. The overall margin of error was +/- 2.9 percentage points.

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- The Associated Press is the world's essential news organization, bringing fast, unbiased news to all media platforms and formats.
- NORC at the University of Chicago is one of the oldest and most respected, independent research institutions in the world.

The two organizations have established the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

The founding principles of the AP-NORC Center include a mandate to carefully preserve and protect the scientific integrity and objectivity of NORC and the journalistic independence of The Associated Press. All work conducted by the Center conforms to the highest levels of scientific integrity to prevent any real or perceived bias in the research. All of the work of the Center is subject to review by its advisory committee to help ensure it meets these standards. The Center will publicize the results of all studies and make all datasets and study documentation available to scholars and the public.