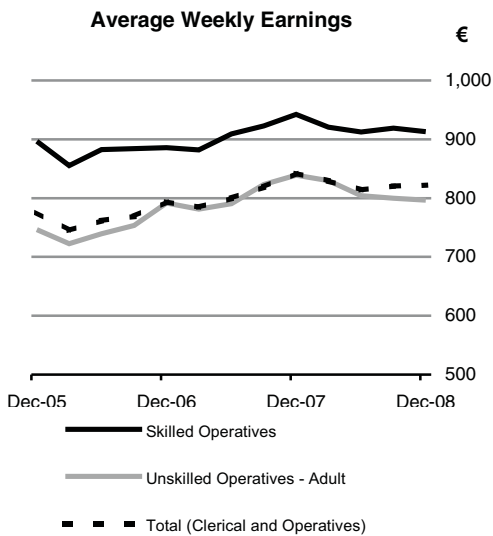




## Earnings and Hours Worked in Construction

December 2008 (Provisional)  
September 2008 (Final)



	Averages (total clerical and operatives)		
	Weekly rate	Hourly rate	Hours worked
<b>December 2007</b>	€842.29	€18.77	44.9
<b>December 2008</b>	€822.31	€19.20	42.8
<b>% annual change</b>	-2.4%	+2.3%	-4.7%

### 2.4% decrease in average weekly earnings

The average weekly earnings for clerical and operative workers in the construction industry decreased from €842.29 to €822.31 in the 12 months between December 2007 and December 2008, a fall of 2.4%. There was an increase of 2.3% in the hourly rate paid to all grades - from €18.77 to €19.20 - and the number of hours worked per week decreased by 4.7% from 44.9 hours to 42.8 hours. See *Table 1*.

Weekly earnings for adult unskilled workers fell by 5.0% from €838.96 to €796.63 between December 2008 and the same month in 2007. The hourly rate rose from €17.56 to €17.65 and the number of hours worked each week decreased from 47.8 to 45.1

Skilled operatives saw their weekly earnings decrease by 3.1% from €942.51 to €913.07 over the same period. The hourly rate rose from €21.02 to €21.22 and the number of hours worked each week decreased from 44.8 to 43.0.

This data series is available on the CSO's data dissemination service. See [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie) and go to Database Direct.

In order to reduce burden on respondents and in an attempt to streamline surveys in the CSO, this is the final release of this inquiry and contains provisional figures for December 2008 reference period.

Please see forthcoming results from the Earnings, Hours and Employment Costs Survey (EHECS) for an alternative short-term indicator concerning earnings and hours worked in the construction sector. For more information regarding this inquiry, please email: [ehecs@cso.ie](mailto:ehecs@cso.ie)

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**Table 1 Average Earnings and Hours Worked for Main Categories of Employees**

Period	Average Earnings		Average Hours Worked	Average Earnings		Average Hours Worked	
	Per Hour €	Per Week €	Per Week <sup>1</sup>	Per Hour €	Per Week €	Per Week <sup>1</sup>	
	<b>Total (Clerical and Operatives)</b>			<b>Foremen</b>			
<b>2004</b>	<b>15.99</b>	<b>703.87</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>20.02</b>	<b>906.50</b>	<b>45.3</b>	
<b>2005</b>	<b>17.13</b>	<b>754.36</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>21.75</b>	<b>994.01</b>	<b>45.7</b>	
<b>2006</b>	<b>17.49</b>	<b>767.00</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>22.13</b>	<b>993.38</b>	<b>44.9</b>	
<b>2007</b>	<b>18.48</b>	<b>811.38</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>23.67</b>	<b>1,059.16</b>	<b>44.8</b>	
<b>2008<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>19.03</b>	<b>821.50</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>24.68</b>	<b>1,087.73</b>	<b>44.1</b>	
2004	March	15.67	678.22	43.3	19.45	872.90	44.9
	June	15.89	698.25	44.0	19.85	892.16	45.0
	September	16.14	712.62	44.2	19.89	905.64	45.5
	December	16.25	726.38	44.7	20.89	955.29	45.7
2005	March	16.67	737.19	44.2	21.29	977.34	45.9
	June	17.31	758.23	43.8	21.76	1,007.26	46.3
	September	17.05	745.97	43.8	21.65	975.88	45.1
	December	17.49	776.05	44.4	22.28	1,015.57	45.6
2006	March	17.29	743.78	43.0	21.56	958.31	44.5
	June	17.29	761.83	44.1	22.07	992.44	45.0
	September	17.47	768.76	44.0	22.22	1,000.89	45.1
	December	17.90	793.61	44.3	22.68	1,021.86	45.1
2007	March	18.25	784.41	43.0	23.22	1,038.00	44.7
	June	18.46	800.05	43.3	23.65	1,049.55	44.4
	September	18.44	818.76	44.4	23.74	1,070.32	45.1
	December	18.77	842.29	44.9	24.06	1,078.76	44.8
2008	March	19.03	829.22	43.6	24.27	1,079.12	44.5
	June	18.93	813.88	43.0	24.83	1,086.62	43.8
	September <sup>2</sup>	18.97	820.59	43.2	24.74	1,102.07	44.5
	December <sup>3</sup>	19.20	822.31	42.8	24.89	1,083.12	43.5
		<b>Male Clerical</b>		<b>Female Clerical</b>			
<b>2004</b>		<b>15.14</b>	<b>616.06</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>12.45</b>	<b>453.49</b>	<b>36.4</b>
<b>2005</b>		<b>16.30</b>	<b>662.48</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>13.26</b>	<b>486.21</b>	<b>36.7</b>
<b>2006</b>		<b>16.56</b>	<b>663.68</b>	<b>40.1</b>	<b>13.75</b>	<b>496.43</b>	<b>36.1</b>
<b>2007</b>		<b>17.65</b>	<b>708.52</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>14.64</b>	<b>532.02</b>	<b>36.4</b>
<b>2008<sup>3</sup></b>		<b>18.65</b>	<b>741.76</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>15.20</b>	<b>542.18</b>	<b>35.7</b>
2004	March	14.90	597.41	40.1	12.21	440.15	36.0
	June	14.58	597.41	41.0	12.29	449.83	36.6
	September	15.27	626.88	41.1	12.52	454.91	36.3
	December	15.82	642.53	40.6	12.77	469.08	36.7
2005	March	16.36	671.94	41.1	12.92	467.77	36.2
	June	16.26	669.34	41.2	13.28	489.49	36.9
	September	16.24	648.86	39.9	13.05	475.85	36.4
	December	16.35	659.76	40.4	13.77	511.72	37.2
2006	March	15.99	638.51	39.9	13.59	494.35	36.4
	June	16.32	655.78	40.2	13.54	490.37	36.2
	September	16.54	665.19	40.2	13.73	501.21	36.5
	December	17.37	695.24	40.0	14.13	499.79	35.4
2007	March	17.48	695.92	39.8	14.26	513.45	36.0
	June	17.49	704.16	40.3	14.43	526.06	36.5
	September	17.71	712.22	40.2	14.63	528.15	36.1
	December	17.90	721.79	40.3	15.23	560.41	36.8
2008	March	18.14	724.98	40.0	14.88	540.39	36.3
	June	18.20	719.01	39.5	15.19	544.70	35.9
	September <sup>2</sup>	19.09	762.07	39.9	15.40	543.50	35.3
	December <sup>3</sup>	19.15	760.96	39.7	15.33	540.13	35.2

1. See Background Notes

2. Revised

3. Provisional

**Table 1 Average Earnings and Hours Worked for Main Categories of Employees - Continued**

Period	Average Earnings		Average Hours Worked	Average Earnings		Average Hours Worked	
	Per Hour	Per Week	Per Week <sup>1</sup>	Per Hour	Per Week	Per Week <sup>1</sup>	
	€	€		€	€		
	<b>Skilled Operatives</b>			<b>Unskilled Operatives- Adults</b>			
<b>2004</b>	<b>18.62</b>	<b>820.62</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>14.64</b>	<b>676.46</b>	<b>46.2</b>	
<b>2005</b>	<b>19.94</b>	<b>876.96</b>	<b>44.0</b>	<b>15.72</b>	<b>725.63</b>	<b>46.2</b>	
<b>2006</b>	<b>20.03</b>	<b>877.03</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>16.34</b>	<b>751.82</b>	<b>46.0</b>	
<b>2007</b>	<b>20.85</b>	<b>914.22</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>17.34</b>	<b>808.53</b>	<b>46.6</b>	
<b>2008<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>21.26</b>	<b>916.37</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>17.69</b>	<b>807.54</b>	<b>45.6</b>	
2004	March	18.05	782.36	43.3	14.42	653.38	45.3
	June	18.68	824.57	44.1	14.44	667.97	46.3
	September	18.96	840.04	44.3	14.75	681.00	46.2
	December	18.79	835.49	44.5	14.93	703.47	47.1
2005	March	19.54	853.79	43.7	15.09	705.80	46.8
	June	20.24	871.37	43.1	15.92	738.08	46.4
	September	19.91	885.94	44.5	15.69	712.18	45.4
	December	20.08	896.75	44.7	16.19	746.44	46.1
2006	March	19.73	855.50	43.4	16.26	722.62	44.4
	June	20.07	882.65	44.0	15.89	739.33	46.5
	September	20.27	884.29	43.6	16.23	753.77	46.5
	December	20.04	885.68	44.2	16.98	791.57	46.6
2007	March	20.94	882.16	42.1	17.03	781.55	45.9
	June	20.80	909.23	43.7	17.33	790.40	45.6
	September	20.64	922.98	44.7	17.45	823.19	47.2
	December	21.02	942.51	44.8	17.56	838.96	47.8
2008	March	21.28	920.77	43.3	17.99	829.71	46.1
	June	21.13	912.50	43.2	17.71	803.92	45.4
	September <sup>2</sup>	21.40	919.12	43.0	17.41	799.90	45.9
	December <sup>3</sup>	21.22	913.07	43.0	17.65	796.63	45.1
		<b>Unskilled Operatives - Juveniles</b>			<b>Apprentices</b>		
<b>2004</b>		<b>9.08</b>	<b>369.69</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>10.45</b>	<b>425.54</b>	<b>40.7</b>
<b>2005</b>		<b>10.15</b>	<b>397.96</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>11.19</b>	<b>452.80</b>	<b>40.5</b>
<b>2006</b>		<b>11.53</b>	<b>464.10</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>10.78</b>	<b>442.29</b>	<b>41.0</b>
<b>2007</b>		<b>13.47</b>	<b>549.90</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>11.85</b>	<b>477.75</b>	<b>40.3</b>
<b>2008<sup>3</sup></b>		<b>13.12</b>	<b>474.61</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>12.60</b>	<b>513.16</b>	<b>40.7</b>
2004	March	8.85	368.63	41.6	10.07	403.35	40.1
	June	8.57	353.16	41.2	10.48	415.35	39.6
	September	9.07	368.00	40.6	10.58	433.32	41.0
	December	9.84	388.98	39.5	10.68	450.13	42.2
2005	March	9.87	400.95	40.6	10.91	444.04	40.7
	June	10.27	413.28	40.2	11.63	460.12	39.6
	September	10.32	389.97	37.8	11.22	450.50	40.1
	December	10.12	387.65	38.3	11.01	456.52	41.5
2006	March	10.50	398.54	38.0	10.75	431.55	40.1
	June	11.90	475.58	40.0	10.53	427.47	40.6
	September	10.75	441.76	41.1	10.65	437.89	41.1
	December	12.97	540.50	41.7	11.17	472.26	42.3
2007	March	13.44	553.18	41.2	11.38	445.19	39.1
	June	13.18	558.55	42.4	11.97	463.05	38.7
	September	13.28	563.84	42.4	11.88	487.24	41.0
	December	13.98	524.04	37.5	12.15	515.53	42.4
2008	March	13.78	518.46	37.6	12.20	495.34	40.6
	June	12.62	479.55	38.0	12.33	490.82	39.8
	September <sup>2</sup>	12.60	474.64	37.7	12.99	531.14	40.9
	December <sup>3</sup>	13.48	425.78	31.6	12.89	535.35	41.5

1. See Background Notes

2. Revised

3. Provisional

## Background Notes

- Background** This survey began in 1969. The results from quarter 3 of 1969 until quarter 1 of 1975 referred to enterprises in the Building and Construction sector with 15 or more employees. Since quarter 2 of 1975, the survey has covered enterprises with 10 or more employees. A full time series from 1986 onwards is available in the Database Direct service on [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie). Less detailed statistics prior to 1986 are also available electronically.
- Scope** Data are collected for a specific week in the middle of the last month of each quarter. The details collected each quarter are in respect of skilled and unskilled workers and other employees (managerial, technical, clerical and supervisory). The information collected for each category of employee are total number of persons engaged, total earnings and total hours worked during the survey week.
- Definitions**
- Total number engaged:** All persons who were at work or on holidays with pay during the week in question.
- Total weekly earnings:** Gross pay including overtime and all fixed allowances, before deduction of income tax and employee's social insurance payments. "Wet time" payments are also included but lodging allowance is not.
- Hours worked:** Respondents are asked to include overtime hours as hours actually worked and not as hours paid for. Travelling time, if applicable, and hours for which staff were paid for being available for work but were unable to do so due to the weather, are also included. The corresponding payments are included in the earnings total.
- Derived Averages** The average earnings and hours worked are derived from the total employment, earnings and hours worked of all businesses responding in the quarter. Comparisons between different periods can, therefore, be affected by the establishment or closure of businesses whose rates differ significantly from the average. The way employers report information on piece work may also affect the results. Businesses employing piece workers can only provide an estimate of hours worked which may, in some instances, differ significantly from hours actually worked.

### Sample Size (Number of Persons) Surveyed In Each Occupational Category

		Clerical		Foremen	Skilled Operatives	Unskilled Operatives		Apprentices	Total Clerical and Operatives
		Male	Female			Adults	Juveniles <sup>1</sup>		
2005	March	333	746	1,628	4,676	5,618	69	1,641	14,711
	June	384	937	1,732	3,984	5,096	118	1,565	13,816
	September	480	1,043	1,940	4,291	6,009	106	1,614	15,483
	December	539	1,191	2,190	5,226	6,923	83	1,692	17,844
2006	March	543	1,168	2,124	5,078	6,694	70	1,629	17,306
	June	556	1,151	1,943	5,196	6,532	235	1,466	17,079
	September	585	1,165	1,989	5,049	6,565	192	1,546	17,091
	December	511	1,090	1,864	4,535	6,276	101	1,351	15,728
2007	March	577	1,208	1,900	4,710	5,809	94	1,549	15,847
	June	670	1,307	2,083	4,950	6,390	248	1,532	17,180
	September	535	1,080	1,674	4,061	4,974	217	1,244	13,785
	December	541	1,119	1,882	4,316	5,469	70	1,397	14,794
2008	March	546	1,126	1,608	3,934	5,260	52	1,097	13,623
	June	519	1,148	1,618	4,117	5,236	102	1,247	13,987
	September <sup>2</sup>	445	1,029	1,540	3,730	4,526	56	1,302	12,628
	December <sup>3</sup>	398	951	1,418	2,951	3,572	32	838	10,160

**NB** These figures are presented for information purposes only, to indicate sample size. They are not, in any sense, an indicator of employment trends in the construction sector.

1. Juveniles may be defined (generally speaking) as workers under the minimum wage age threshold, and students on summer work.

2. Revised

3. Provisional