



September 2007

## Wage and Benefit Settlements – 2007

Wage and benefit settlements reported to the Construction Labor Research Council so far in 2007 have resulted in an average first year increase of \$1.81 or 4.4 percent. These amounts are somewhat below the averages reported earlier this year and the averages at this time last year. The average first year increase a year earlier was \$1.87 or 4.8 percent.

The pattern of lower increases this year compared to 2006 is also evidenced in the second and third year averages. The dollar amounts this year are slightly lower, but they translate into lower percentage increases as the overall wage and fringe rate has increased. Over half the newly negotiated contracts continue to have increases clustered between 3.0 and 4.9 percent.

### Regional Variation

Neither of the regions with sufficient results to report findings at this time were close to the national averages. The middle atlantic was a half percentage point above and the east north central a half a percentage point below. These results are similar to a year earlier, although there has been some decline in the east north central which accounts for the greatest number of workers covered by new agreements.

### Craft Variation

Reported craft averages reflect the areas in which settlements were reached. With most crafts near the all crafts average, they reflect the locations throughout the country in which negotiations occurred in 2007. This year's mix of settlements is different than most years as it includes fewer carpenter and laborer agreements.

### Contract Duration

The traditional contract duration of three years continues to prevail. There were some longer agreements.

**Settlement Dollar Report by US (Summary)**

U.S.TOTALS	Year													Total	Average	Covered
		.99 or Less	1.00	1.20	1.40	1.60	1.80	2.00	2.20	2.40	2.60	Over	2.59			
	1	17	15	22	28	9	13	5	14	6	24	164	\$1.81	182,805		
	2	11	7	12	22	17	14	3	14	10	13	123	\$1.90	145,106		
	3	8	8	13	15	11	10	5	9	18	12	114	\$1.94	136,441		

**Settlement Percent Report by US (Summary)**

U.S.TOTALS	Year													Total	Average	Covered
		0 or less	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	Over	7.9	Over			
	1	1	3	17	47	42	37	15	1	1	164	4.4%	182,805			
	2	1	1	10	37	47	20	6	1	123	4.3%	145,106				
	3		2	12	33	39	22	6	6	114	4.2%	136,441				

Wage and Benefit Settlements  
United States, Selected Regions and Crafts<sup>1</sup>

	<u>Settlements</u>	<u>Coverage</u> <u>Workers</u>	<u>Average Increase<sup>2</sup></u>			
			<u>Dollar</u>		<u>Percent</u>	
			<u>1st</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>2nd</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>1st</u> <u>Year</u>	<u>2nd</u> <u>Year</u>
United States	164	182,805	\$1.81	\$1.90	4.4%	4.3%
			<u>Regions</u>			
Middle Atlantic	31	30,033	2.16	2.15	5.0%	4.8%
East North Central	76	83,464	1.64	1.65	3.9%	3.7%
			<u>Crafts</u>			
Bricklayers	21	13,009	1.55	*	3.7%	*
Ironworkers	23	22,172	2.07	*	4.6%	*
Laborers	22	32,233	1.63	1.69	4.7%	4.6%
Sheet Metal Workers	19	10,747	1.96	2.05	4.4%	4.4%

<sup>1</sup> Areas with a sufficient number of settlements to show a meaningful average.

<sup>2</sup> Weighted by number of workers covered.

\* Too few agreements to show a meaningful average.

## STATES and REGIONS

### New England

Connecticut  
Maine  
Massachusetts  
New Hampshire  
Rhode Island  
Vermont

### Middle Atlantic

District of Columbia  
Delaware  
Maryland  
New Jersey  
New York  
Pennsylvania

### Southeast

Alabama  
Florida  
Georgia  
Kentucky  
Mississippi  
North Carolina  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Virginia

### East North Central

Illinois  
Indiana  
Michigan  
Minnesota  
Ohio  
West Virginia  
Wisconsin

### West North Central

Iowa  
Kansas  
Missouri  
Nebraska

### South Central

Arkansas  
Louisiana  
New Mexico  
Oklahoma  
Texas

### Mountain-Northern Plains

Colorado  
Montana  
North Dakota  
South Dakota  
Utah  
Wyoming

### Southwest Pacific

Arizona  
California  
Hawaii  
Nevada

### Northwest

Alaska  
Idaho  
Oregon  
Washington

This report has been prepared from information collected and maintained by CLRC. Reasonable efforts have been made to assure the accuracy of the data, summaries and analyses. However, due to the nature of the information and the collection process, accuracy, cannot be guaranteed. CLRC disclaims any liability from any damages of any kind which may result from the use of these data.