



**Average Pay** The table shows the average hourly wage of production and nonsupervisory employees in private industries across the United States from 1966 to 2010. In Exercises 13–18, use the table. (See Examples 5 and 6.)

Average Hourly Wage of Production and Nonsupervisory Employees					
Year	Hourly Wage	Year	Hourly Wage	Year	Hourly Wage
1966	\$2.73	1981	\$7.44	1996	\$12.04
1967	\$2.85	1982	\$7.87	1997	\$12.51
1968	\$3.02	1983	\$8.20	1998	\$13.01
1969	\$3.22	1984	\$8.49	1999	\$13.49
1970	\$3.40	1985	\$8.74	2000	\$14.02
1971	\$3.63	1986	\$8.93	2001	\$14.54
1972	\$3.90	1987	\$9.14	2002	\$14.97
1973	\$4.14	1988	\$9.44	2003	\$15.37
1974	\$4.43	1989	\$9.80	2004	\$15.69
1975	\$4.73	1990	\$10.20	2005	\$16.13
1976	\$5.06	1991	\$10.52	2006	\$16.76
1977	\$5.44	1992	\$10.77	2007	\$17.43
1978	\$5.88	1993	\$11.05	2008	\$18.08
1979	\$6.34	1994	\$11.34	2009	\$18.62
1980	\$6.85	1995	\$11.65	2010	\$19.04



- Graph the average hourly wage of production and nonsupervisory employees from 1966 through 2010. Use the graph to describe the average hourly wage during these years.
- Compare your graph from Exercise 13 to the graph of the CPI on page 164. Do you think the average hourly wage of production and nonsupervisory employees depends on the CPI? Explain your reasoning.
- Did the average hourly wage of production and nonsupervisory employees have more buying power in 1990 than in 1970? Explain your reasoning.
- Did the average hourly wage of production and nonsupervisory employees have more buying power in 2010 than in 1990? Explain your reasoning.
- Would you be better off financially to earn \$50,000 in 1990 or \$75,000 in 2010? Explain your reasoning.
- There is a discrepancy in buying power between the federal minimum hourly wage and the average hourly wage of production and nonsupervisory employees. Since 1978, do you think this discrepancy has increased, decreased, or remained unchanged? Explain your reasoning.

