

# Half of Americans earn \$18 per hour or less

Half of American jobs pay less than \$18 per hour, an inflation-adjusted rate that has barely budged in 17 years. An analysis of Labor Department data by the nonprofit Economic Policy Institute found that wages at the 50th percentile—now \$18.17 per hour—increased 1% last year, but lingering effects of the Great Recession have limited overall growth to 0.3% since 2000.