

Minimum Wage

Compiled by Keely Merchant, August 2014

www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lrb/pubs/tapthepower.htm

Minimum wage legislation has always been contentious; positions on the issue range from the abolishment of the minimum wage to a substantial increase and subsequent tie to inflation. The federal minimum wage was raised to \$7.25 in 2009, the federal tipped minimum wage was set at \$2.13 in 1991. The Wisconsin minimum wage is \$7.25 and the Wisconsin tipped minimum wage is \$2.33. Leading economists disagree on the effects of minimum wage increases on the economy, some saying it causes employers to cut a significant amount of jobs, while others say employers will add jobs because the increase in purchasing power by low-wage workers will improve the economy. As some cities and states raise their minimum wage above the federal level, economists will have more data with which to work.

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History of the tipped minimum wage.
- Bivens, Josh, et al. "Raising America's Pay: Why It's Our Central Economic Policy Challenge." *Briefing Paper* 378. Washington, DC: Economic Policy Institute, June 4, 2014. (331.22/Ec7) <http://www.epi.org/publication/raising-americas-pay/>.
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Statistics and charts comparing minimum wages across the United States.
- Burnett, Jennifer. "The State of the Minimum Wage." *Capitol Research*. Lexington, KY: The Council of State Governments, February 2013. (331.22/C83/pt.1) <http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/kc/system/files/minwage.pdf>.
Data showing the effects of raising the federal minimum wage to \$9.00 in each state.
- Center on Wisconsin Strategy. *Raising the Minimum Wage to \$10.10 Per Hour in Wisconsin*. Madison, WI: Center on Wisconsin Strategy, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2014. (331.222/C33) http://www.cows.org/_data/documents/1592.pdf.
Minimum wage statistics related to Wisconsin, and the impact of raising the minimum wage to \$10.10 an hour in Wisconsin.
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- Congressional Budget Office. *The Effects of a Minimum-Wage Increase on Employment and Family Income*. Washington, DC: Congressional Budget Office, 2014. (331.223/X10) <http://www.cbo.gov/publication/44995>.
- Congressional Budget Office. *Testimony on Increasing the Minimum Wage: Effects on Employment and Family Income*. Washington, DC: Congressional Budget Office, 2014. <http://www.cbo.gov/publication/45138>.
- Congressional Digest Corporation. "Raising the Minimum Wage: The Renewed Debate Over Fair Labor Standards – Should Congress Increase the Federal Minimum Wage and Index It to Inflation?" *Congressional Digest* 92, no. 5. (May 2013). (331.223/C761d) <http://congressionaldigest.com/issue/raising-the-minimum-wage/>. Available full text on the legislative network.
Several topics related to the minimum wage are covered here: the Fair Labor Standards timeline, minimum wage overview, President Obama's proposal, workers, and the legislative background on Fair Labor Standards.
- Dunkelberg, William. *Forbes*. "Why Raising the Minimum Wage Kills Jobs." December 31, 2012. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/williamdunkelberg/2012/12/31/why-raising-the-minimum-wage-kills-jobs/>.
- Ferdman, Roberto A. "Waitresses of the World Unite: The Tipped Minimum Wage Hasn't Increased in 23 Years." *The Washington Post*. July 10, 2014. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2014/07/10/the-other-minimum-wage-in-america-and-why-it-makes-no-sense/>.
State by state data on the tipped minimum wage with interactive maps and charts.
- Flinn, Christopher J. *The Minimum Wage and Labor Market Outcomes*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2010. (331.22/F64)
"Flinn develops a job search and wage bargaining model that is capable of generating labor market outcomes consistent with observed wage and unemployment duration distributions, and also can account for observed changes in employment rates and wages after a minimum wage change."
- Johnson, Nicholas. "Evidence Shows that Raising the Minimum Wage Hasn't Cost Jobs." *Capitol Ideas* 57, no. 2 (2014): 22-25. (029/C83b/2014/v.57/no.2) http://www.csg.org/pubs/capitolideas/2014_mar_apr/minimumwagehikes.aspx.
Data comparing job growth between states that have and have not increased their minimum wage above the federal minimum wage.

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- Maciag, Mike. "Where the Minimum Wage Has the Least Buying Power." *Governing*, March 27, 2014. <http://www.governing.com/topics/mgmt/gov-cities-where-minimum-wage-has-most-least-buying-power.html>.
Data and analysis for more than 300 cities comparing the cost of living to the minimum wage.
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Overview of the current debate surrounding raising the minimum wage.
- Mejeur, Jeanne. "Maximum Divide on Minimum Wage." *State Legislatures* 40, no. 3 (March 2014): 14-17. (328.11/N214/2014/v.40/no.3) <http://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/maximum-divide-on-minimum-wage.aspx>.
Information on minimum wage laws across the states as well as a good summary of the arguments for and against raising the minimum wage.
- Neumark, David, and William L. Wascher. *Minimum Wages*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2008. (331.22/N39)
This book offers a comprehensive overview of the evidence on the economic effects of minimum wages. Neumark and Wascher argue that minimum wages do not achieve the main goals set forth by their supporters.
- Piketty, Thomas. *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2014. (330.52/P58)
An analysis of wealth and inequality in the current era.
- Rugaber, Christopher S. "US States with Higher Minimum Wages Gain More Jobs." *Associated Press*, July 19, 2014. <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/us-states-higher-minimum-wages-gain-more-jobs>.
The 13 U.S. states that raised their minimum wages at the beginning of 2014 are adding jobs at a faster pace than those that did not, according to the United States Department of Labor.
- Sherk, James, and John L. Ligon. "Unprecedented Minimum-Wage Hike Would Hurt Jobs and the Economy." *Issue Brief* No. 4102. Washington, DC: The Heritage Foundation, 2013. <http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2013/12/unprecedented-minimum-wage-hike-would-hurt-jobs-and-the-economy>.
- Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. *Historical Resume of Minimum Wage Regulations in Wisconsin*. Madison, WI: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, 2003. (331.222) <http://cdm16119.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/ref/collection/p267601coll4/id/300>.
Background on minimum wage regulations in Wisconsin from 1911 – 2003.

Related Web Sites

- Burnett, Jennifer. "State-by-State: Minimum Wage Trends in 2014." *The Council of State Governments Knowledge Center*. January 30, 2014. <http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/kc/content/state-state-minimum-wage-trends-2014>.
A state-by-state look at how states are approaching the minimum wage right now with links to local news articles.
- International Monetary Fund. *2014 Article IV Consultation with the United States of America Concluding Statement of the IMF Mission*. Accessed July 17, 2014. <http://www.imf.org/external/np/ms/2014/061614.htm>.
Describes the preliminary findings of IMF staff at the conclusion of the 2014 U.S. Article IV mission highlighting five broad themes to strengthen the recovery and long-term outlook, including raising the minimum wage.
- National Conference of State Legislatures. "State Minimum Wages: 2014 Minimum Wage by State." Accessed July 28, 2014. <http://www.ncsl.org/research/labor-and-employment/state-minimum-wage-chart.aspx>.
Summary of state legislation with a table showing state minimum wages.
- United States Department of Labor.
Historical and current information about minimum wage laws, fact sheets, posters, e-tools and guidance including:
- "Changes in Basic Minimum Wages in Non-Farm Employment Under State Law: Selected Years 1968-2013." Accessed July 25, 2014. <http://www.dol.gov/whd/state/stateMinWageHis.htm>.
 - "Databases, Tables & Calculators by Subject." Accessed July 25, 2014. <http://www.bls.gov/data/>.
 - "History of Changes to the Minimum Wage Law." Accessed July 17, 2014. <http://www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/coverage.htm>.
 - "History of Federal Minimum Wage Rates Under the Fair Labor Standards Act, 1938 – 2009." Accessed July 17, 2014. <http://www.dol.gov/whd/minwage/chart.htm>.
Chart showing changes to the federal minimum wage over time.
 - "Minimum Wage Laws in the United States – January 1, 2014." Accessed July 22, 2014. <http://www.dol.gov/WHD/minwage/america.htm>.
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Clippings: On microfiche through 1980, on shelf from 1980-2001, in LRBclip from 2002 to date. (Noncirculating and LRBclip database available for use in the library.)

- Minimum Wage: Wisconsin (331.222/W7z); State (331.222/Z); Federal (331.223/Z); General (331.22/Z)

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