

[Related BLS programs](#) | [Related articles](#)**ABSTRACT**[March 1999, Vol. 122, No. 3](#)

Comparing benefit costs for full- and part-time workers

Michael K. Lettau

Economist, Office of Compensation and Working Conditions, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Thomas C. Buchmueller

Assistant professor at the Graduate School of Management, University of California, Irvine

Health insurance appears to be the only benefit representing a true "quasi-fixed cost" to employers, meaning that the cost per hour worked is greater for part-time employees than it is for full-time employees. This article analyzes data from two establishment surveys conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics — the Employee Benefits Survey (EBS) and the Employment Cost Index (ECI) survey.

▶ [Read excerpt](#) ▶ [Download full article in PDF](#) (76K)

Related BLS programs[Employee Benefit Survey](#)[Employment Cost Trends](#)**Related *Monthly Labor Review* articles**[Employer-provided benefits- employer cost versus employee value.](#) Dec. 1989[Compensation trends into the 21st century.](#) Feb. 1990[Growth of employer-sponsored group life insurance.](#) Oct. 1991[Employee participation in savings and thrift plans, 1993.](#) March 1996[Development and growth of employer-provided health insurance, The.](#) Mar. 1994[Employer-sponsored health insurance- what's offered, what's chosen-](#) Oct. 1995[Health benefits coverage among male workers.](#) Mar. 1995[Who really has access to employer-provided health benefits-](#) June 1995

Within *Monthly Labor Review Online*:

[Welcome](#) | [Current Issue](#) | [Index](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Archives](#)

Exit *Monthly Labor Review Online*:

[BLS Home](#) | [Publications & Research Papers](#)