CPA

Practice **Advisor**

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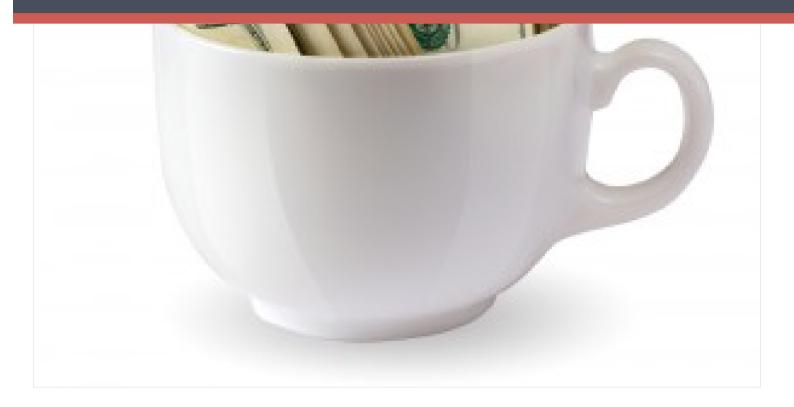
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Among working parents with children 18 years old and younger living at home with them, 29 percent say they spend money on daycare per month. Of these working parents who spend money on daycare, more than 1 in 3 (36 percent) spend \$500 or more per ...

Jul. 05, 2016

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The simple act of going to work — waking up, getting dressed, jumping in your car, dropping the kids off at day care, grabbing coffee — takes a bite out of your paycheck.

How much? According to a new CareerBuilder survey, the average amount of money people spend to go to work each month is \$276, or around \$3,300 per year. Similarly, when it comes to searching for a new job, beyond dedication and determination, for many finding a new position requires a financial investment. 1 in 5 workers (19 percent) said it cost them money just to find a job. Of these workers, (27 percent) said it cost them \$200 or more.

The national survey was conducted online by Harris Poll on behalf of CareerBuilder between February 10 and March 17, 2016, and included a representative sample of 3,031 full time, US workers in the private sector across industries and company sizes.

"The cost of work is often what the rest of your budget is centered around," said Rosemary Haefner, chief human resources officer at CareerBuilder. "Knowing how much it amounts to can help you trim costs and make different lifestyle choices if

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majority (63 percent) spend less than \$25 on gas a week:

- Less than \$10:17 percent
- \$10 to less than \$25: 47 percent
- \$25 to less than \$50: 30 percent
- \$50 or more: 7 percent

Public Transportation

Of those that take public transportation (7 percent), nearly half (47 percent) spend \$25 or more on fare per week:

- Less than \$10:19 percent
- \$10 to less than \$25: 34 percent
- \$25 to less than \$50: 33 percent
- \$50 or more: 14 percent

Lunch

While most workers (72 percent) say they bring their lunch to work, half of employees that buy their lunch (50 percent) spend \$25 or more on it a week:

- Less than \$10:19 percent
- \$10 to less than \$25: 31 percent
- \$25 to less than \$50: 37 percent
- \$50 or more 13 percent

Daycare

Among working parents with children 18 years old and younger living at home with them, 29 percent say they spend money on daycare per month. Of these working

parents who spend money on daycare, more than 1 in 3 (36 percent) spend \$500 or

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than \$10 per week on pet care:

- Less than \$10: 52 percent
- \$10 to less than \$25: 33 percent
- \$25 to less than \$50: 12 percent
- \$50 or more: 3 percent

Coffee

Half of workers (49 percent) buy coffee during a typical work week. Of these workers, the spend is:

- Less than \$10: 71 percent
- \$10 to less than \$25: 25 percent
- \$25 or more: 3 percent

Clothing, Shoes and Accessories

When asked how much they spend on clothing, shoes and accessories for work in a given year, nearly half (47 percent) spend \$250 or more; nearly 1 in 4 (24 percent) spend \$500 or more; and more than 1 in 10 employees (13 percent) spend \$750 or more:

- Less than \$250: 53 percent
- \$250 to \$499: 24 percent
- \$500 to \$749: 11 percent
- \$750 to \$999: 5 percent
- \$1,000 to \$1,499: 4 percent
- \$1,500 to \$1,999: 1 percent

• \$2,000 or more: 2 percent

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- rimaing (resumes, cover fecters, etc.). 44 percent
- Travel: 40 percent
- Networking events: 7 percent
- Computer hardware/software: 6 percent
- Recruiters: 5 percent

When asked what they spent the most money on during their job search, most employees who incurred costs said clothes, followed by transportation and travel:

- Clothing: 39 percent
- Transportation: 22 percent
- Travel: 21 percent
- Printing (resumes, cover letters, etc.): 7 percent
- Recruiters: 1 percent
- Computer hardware/software: 1 percent
- Networking events: Less than 1 percent

Payroll

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