

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [For Lower-Income Workers, Recent Economic Gains Endure](#)

### Article

**Link:** <https://www.wsj.com/economy/jobs/economy-blue-collar-wage-increases-a71e5eee>

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Publication	Wall Street Journal
Publication Date	March 07, 2024

**Tweet:** Recent wage gains for lower-income workers have slowed but may prove to be persistent as the workforce shrinks relative to the economy.

**Summary:** Economists say that while low-income workers' fortunes aren't as likely to outperform as much as in recent years, they aren't about to start backsliding again, thanks to a solid economy, retirements, a premium for in-person work and less exposure to the job-displacing effects of artificial intelligence. Arin Dube of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst found between 2019 and 2023, wages adjusted for inflation had risen most for the lowest 20% of paid workers. The only quintile to see its wages decline was the top 20%. A lot of the gains at the bottom came from workers changing to better-paying, higher-quality work, the authors found. Dube says he thinks prospects for lower-income workers are still favorable over the long term. Related: The Unexpected Compression: Competition at Work in the Low Wage Labor Market and Credit Bidenomics for Rising US Wages and Just How Bad Is the US Cost-of-Living Squeeze? We Did the Math

**Primary Topic:** Inequality

**Topics:** Business Cycle, GDP, Inequality, News article, Wages/Income, Workforce

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