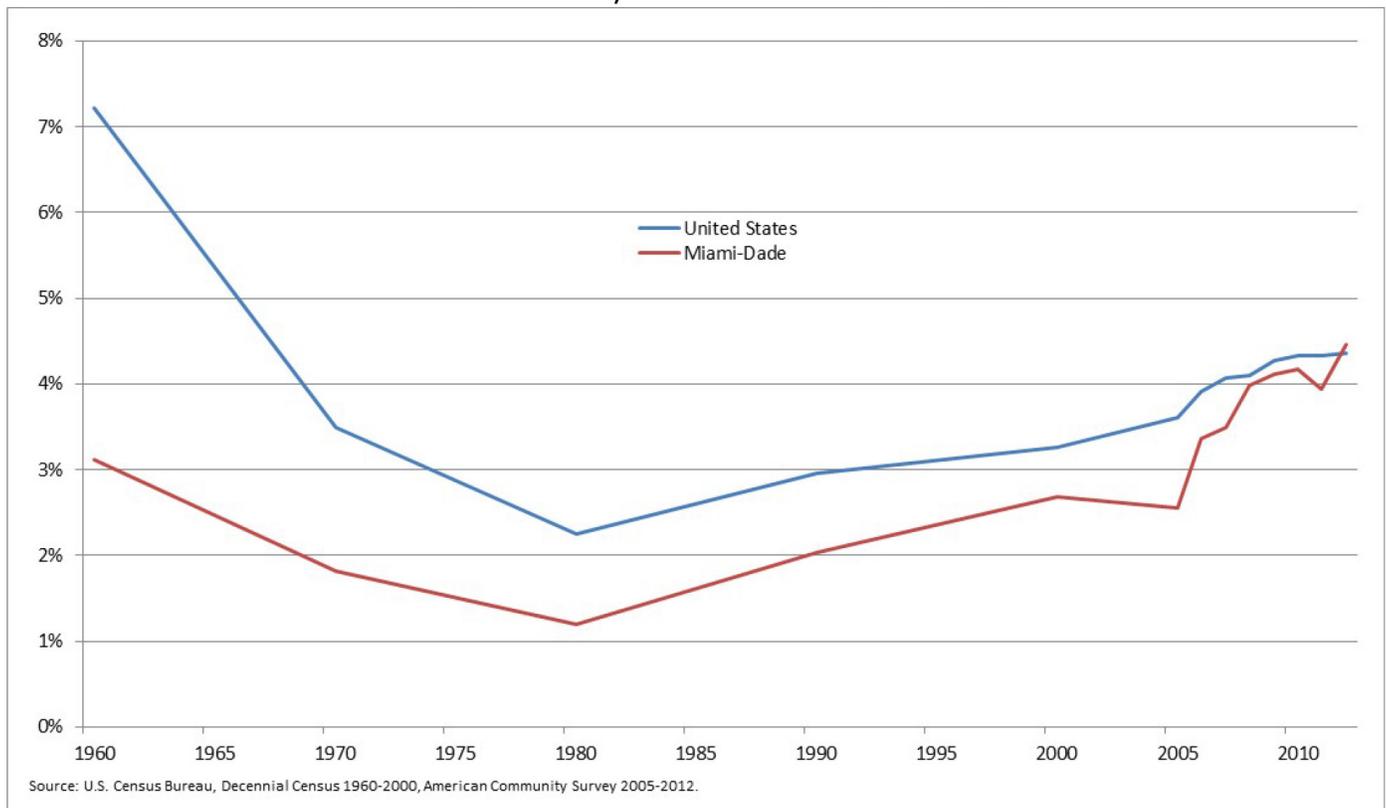


## Worked at Home in Miami-Dade County

Most employees work at their job site and are involved in a daily commuting routine. But for a small segment of the workforce, their commuting time is zero: this segment works at home. This edition of At A Glance looks at the “Home Worker” segment of the workforce, not those that telecommute once or twice a week, but those whose main job site is at their home. The primary information source for this report comes from the decennial census and more recent yearly American Community Surveys. The share of the workforce that works from home is under five percent. If we look back the trend has been going up, possibly because of the entrance of women to the workforce and the introduction of technologies that make it easier to

work remotely. But if we look back further it is clear that there was a time when working at home was more common than in recent years. The first census that included questions about commuting and thus, home workers, was the 1960 census. Back then, 7.2 percent of all workers in the United States worked at home. By the 1970 Census, the share of at home workers had fallen sharply to 3.5 percent and continued its decline during the seventies down to a low of 2.3 percent in the 1980 Census. Since then, there has been a slow and steady increase to: 3 percent in 1990; 3.3 percent in 2000; 4.3 percent in 2010; and finally, 4.4 percent in the latest American Community Survey conducted in 2012.

Chart 1  
Percent of Workers Who Worked At Home  
Miami-Dade County and United States 1960-2012



As can be seen in Chart 1, Miami-Dade county followed a similar pattern as the nation but with three notable differences: first, Miami-Dade had less than half the share of at home workers than the nation in 1960; second, the County continued to stay below the nation for the period analyzed; and third, there was an exception for the last year when the share of home workers in the County surpassed the nation’s share.

The rest of this report sets aside the historical trends, with comparisons to the nation, and focuses on the differences between the overall workforce and the “worked-at-home” subset of the workforce in Miami-Dade County in 2012.

As mentioned previously, approximately 4.5 percent of all workers in Miami-Dade County reported that they worked at home. Interestingly,

the share of male workers that worked from home was 5.2 percent; considerably higher than the share of female workers at 3.7 percent. Also, the median age of the worked-at-home population was higher than that of the general workforce at 45.2 versus 42.3 percent. Furthermore, those that worked at home are less likely to live in a household with no vehicle than the general workforce, 3.6 percent versus 5.0 percent.

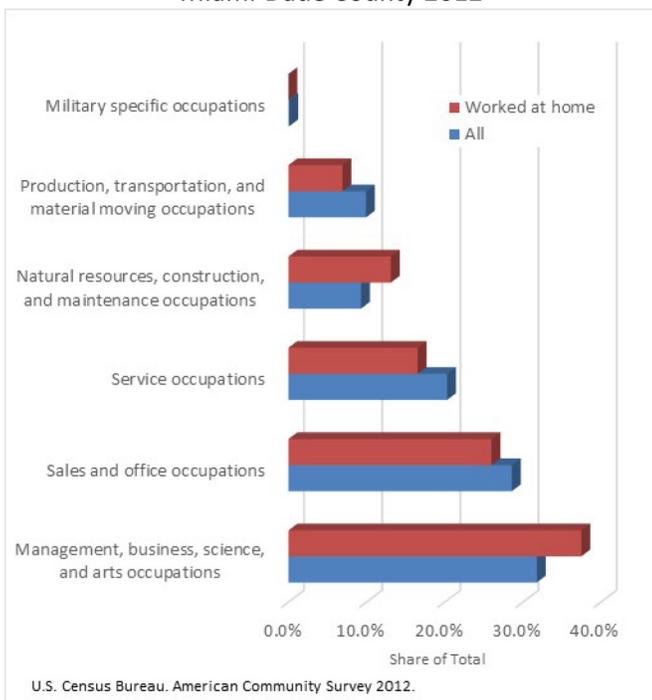
Although only 14 percent of the overall workforce in the county are self-employed, 62 percent of those who “work-at-home” fall in this category. Of the remaining 38 percent, 33.5 percent work for private companies and less than 5 percent work for government.

In terms of occupation, those who worked at home are much more likely to be in “Natural Resources, Construction and Maintenance” as

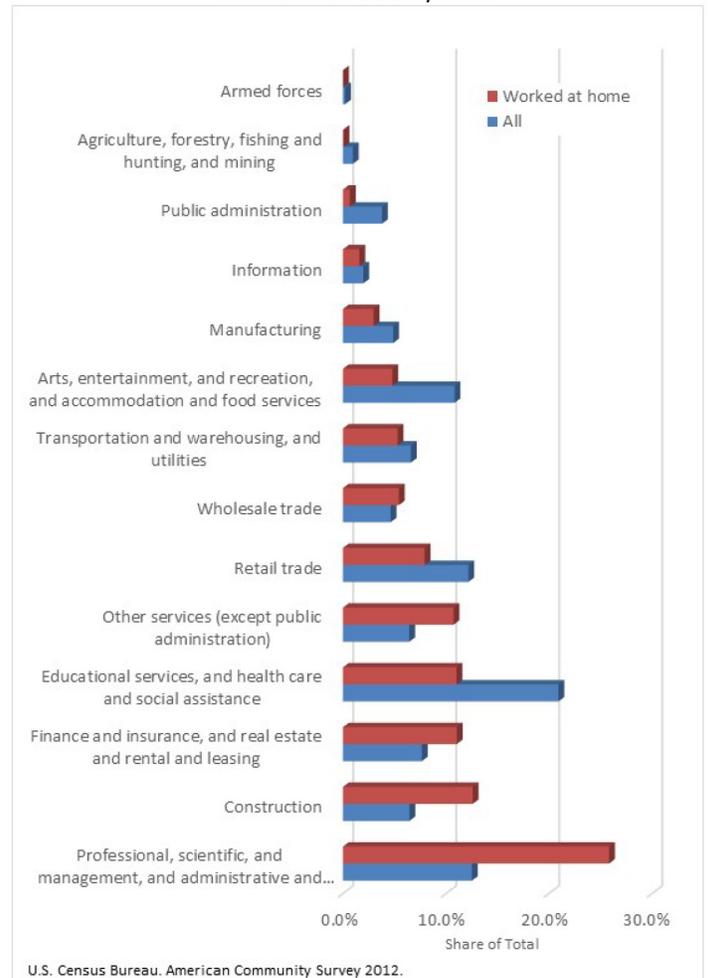
well as in “Management, Business, Science, and Arts” occupations, and less likely to be in “Production, Transportation, and Material Moving” and “Service” occupations than those who commute to work. (See Chart 2)

In terms of Industries, “at home workers” are much more likely than the overall workforce to be in “Professional, Scientific and Management”, “Construction”, “Other Services” and “Finance and Insurance, and Real Estate and Leasing”. Those who “work-at-home” are less likely to be found in “Public Administration”, “Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation”, and “Accommodation and Food Services”, “Educational Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance”, and “Manufacturing”. (See Chart 3)

**Chart 2**  
Occupation of Home Workers Compared to All Workers  
Miami-Dade County 2012



**Chart 3**  
Industry of Home Workers Compared to All Workers  
Miami-Dade County 2012

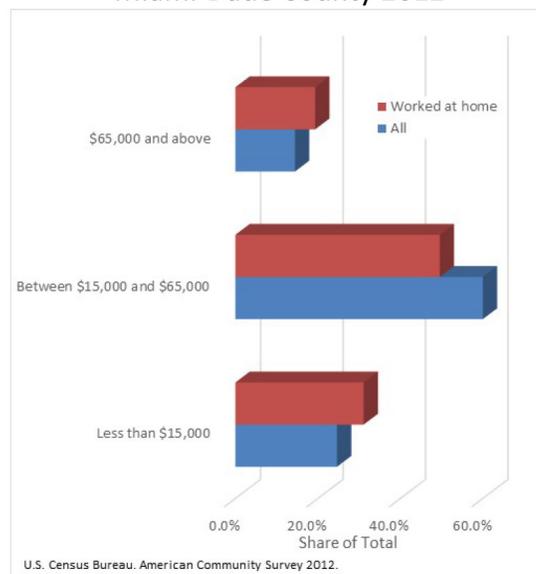


When it comes to earnings, there are many more very low wage earners as well as many more high wage earners, in relative terms, among home workers than in the overall workforce. In other words, income inequality is higher among home-based workers than among the county's workforce as a whole.

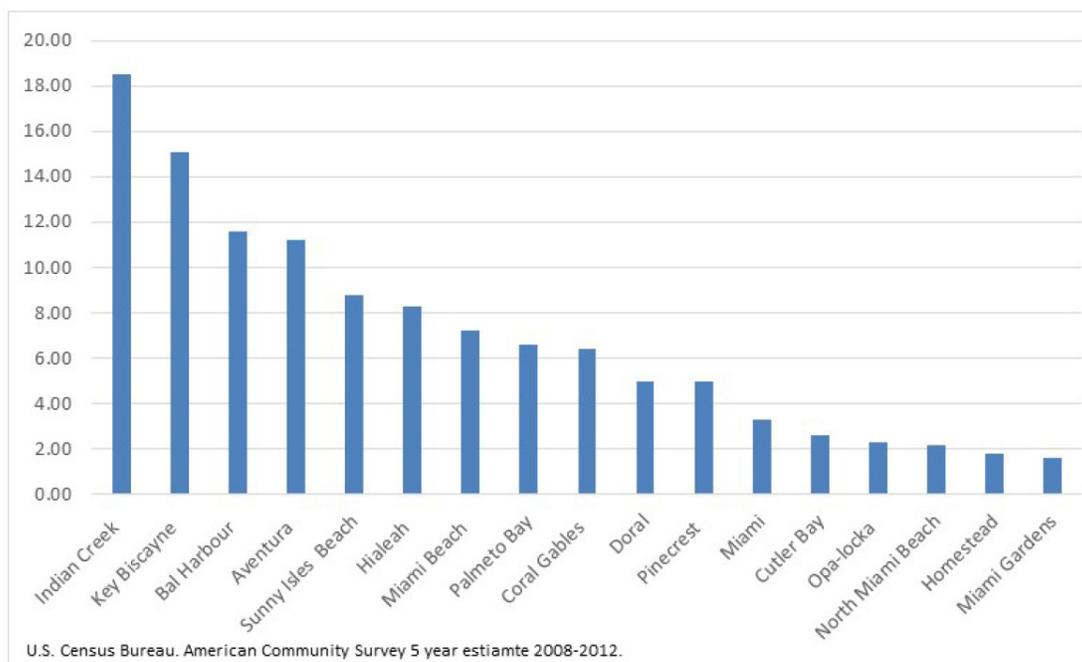
As Chart 4 depicts, while 19.3 percent of home-based workers earn more than \$65,000 annually, only 14.4 percent of the total countywide workforce earns at least that amount. On the lower end, 31.1 percent of home workers earn an annual income of less than \$15,000, compared with just 24.7 percent of the overall workforce. Observations that are related to higher income inequality and that show up in the comparison between Home Workers and the overall workforce are that the median earnings is lower, the poverty rate is higher, and the homeownership rate is higher, for those working at home than for the overall workforce.

Within Miami-Dade County, the municipalities with the highest proportion of home based workers are the Villages of Indian Creek and Key Biscayne; followed by Bal Harbor, Aventura and Sunny Isles Beach. Incorporated areas with very low percentages of at home workers include Miami Gardens, Homestead, North Miami Beach and Opa-Locka.

**Chart 4**  
Earnings of Home Workers Compared to All Workers  
Miami-Dade County 2012



**Chart 5**  
Home Worker Share  
Selected Municipalities 2008-2012



### Home Workers Compared to the Overall Workforce Miami-Dade County 2012

	Overall		Home Workers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Median Age	42.3		45.2	
Percent of all workers working at home				4.5%
Percent of all Male working at home				5.2%
Percent of all Female working at home				3.7%
<b>Workers 16 years and over</b>	<b>1,145,429</b>		<b>51,144</b>	
<b>OCCUPATION</b>				
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	364,023	31.8%	19,165	37.5%
Service occupations	232,556	20.3%	8,456	16.5%
Sales and office occupations	327,371	28.6%	13,289	26.0%
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	106,415	9.3%	6,700	13.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	113,625	9.9%	3,534	6.9%
Military specific occupations	1,439	0.1%	0	0.0%
<b>INDUSTRY</b>				
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	10,986	1.0%	33	0.1%
Construction	73,937	6.5%	6,443	12.6%
Manufacturing	55,839	4.9%	1,526	3.0%
Wholesale trade	53,036	4.6%	2,775	5.4%
Retail trade	139,438	12.2%	4,056	7.9%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	75,466	6.6%	2,713	5.3%
Information	22,551	2.0%	814	1.6%
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	87,745	7.7%	5,650	11.0%
Professional, scientific, and mgmnt, and admin and waste mgmn	143,372	12.5%	13,207	25.8%
Educational services, and health care and social assistance	239,564	20.9%	5,634	11.0%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation and foo	124,052	10.8%	2,451	4.8%
Other services (except public administration)	73,675	6.4%	5,487	10.7%
Public administration	43,400	3.8%	348	0.7%
Armed forces	2,368	0.2%	7	0.0%
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>				
Private for-profit wage and salary workers:	869,424	75.9%	30,348	59.3%
Employee of private company workers	795,936	69.5%	17,143	33.5%
Self-employed in own incorporated business workers	73,488	6.4%	13,205	25.8%
Private not-for-profit wage and salary workers	62,013	5.4%	1,461	2.9%
Local government workers	83,651	7.3%	256	0.5%
State government workers	20,716	1.8%	178	0.3%
Federal government workers	21,380	1.9%	272	0.5%
Self-employed in own not incorporated business workers	86,958	7.6%	18,275	35.7%
Unpaid family workers	1,287	0.1%	354	0.7%

**Home Workers Compared to the Overall Workforce**  
**Miami-Dade County 2012**  
**(Continued)**

	Overall		Home Workers	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Workers 16 years and over in households</b>	<b>1,140,826</b>		<b>50,175</b>	
<b>TENURE</b>				
Householder lived in owner-occupied housing units	667,875	58.5%	30,838	61.5%
Householder lived in renter-occupied housing units	472,951	41.5%	19,337	38.5%
<b>VEHICLES AVAILABLE</b>				
No vehicle available	57,210	5.0%	1,831	3.6%
1 vehicle available	288,636	25.3%	15,277	30.4%
2 vehicles available	488,352	42.8%	21,297	42.4%
3 or more vehicles available	306,628	26.9%	11,770	23.5%
<b>Workers 16 years and over with earnings</b>	<b>1,145,292</b>		<b>51,007</b>	
<b>EARNINGS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS</b>				
\$1 to \$9,999 or loss	144,137	12.6%	8,634	16.9%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	138,037	12.1%	7,235	14.2%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	244,216	21.3%	8,549	16.8%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	173,345	15.1%	6,628	13.0%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	171,288	15.0%	5,658	11.1%
\$50,000 to \$64,999	108,819	9.5%	4,440	8.7%
\$65,000 to \$74,999	34,787	3.0%	1,857	3.6%
\$75,000 or more	130,663	11.4%	8,006	15.7%
Median Earnings in the past 12 months	\$26,926		\$25,959	
<b>Workers 16 years and over for whom poverty status is determined</b>	<b>1,142,686</b>		<b>50,680</b>	
<b>POVERTY STATUS</b>				
Below 100 percent of the poverty level	102,334	9.0%	5,450	10.8%
100 to 149 percent of the poverty level	126,778	11.1%	6,674	13.2%
At or above 150 percent of the poverty level	913,574	79.9%	38,556	76.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2012

Prepared by Miami-Dade County, Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Research Section 2014.

**Home Worker Share of Total Workforce**  
**Selected Municipalities and Counties**  
**2008-2012**

Area	Percent
Indian Creek	18.5
Key Biscayne	15.1
Bal Harbour	11.6
Aventura	11.2
Sunny Isles Beach	8.8
Hialeah	8.3
Miami Lakes	8.3
El Portal	7.8
Golden Beach	7.7
Miami Beach	7.2
Bay Harbor Islands	6.8
Palmetto Bay	6.6
Coral Gables	6.4
West Palm Beach	6.1
Fort Lauderdale	5.9
Virginia Gardens	5.8
<b>Palm Beach County</b>	<b>5.4</b>
Surfside	5.1
Miami Shores	5.0
Doral	5.0
Pinecrest	5.0
<b>Broward County</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Miami Springs	4.2
Sweetwater	4.2
<b>Miami-Dade County</b>	<b>4.1</b>
Miami	3.3
Medley	2.8
West Miami	2.8
Cutler Bay	2.6
North Bay Village	2.5
Hialeah Gardens	2.5
South Miami	2.4
North Miami	2.3
Opa-locka	2.3
North Miami Beach	2.2
Homestead	1.8
Miami Gardens	1.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2008-2012 5-Year Estimates

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