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TopCashback Survey: Americans Wish Employers Would Stuff a Little Extra Cash in Their Stockings This Season

National poll reveals 73 percent of Americans don't receive an end-of-year or holiday pay bonus Of those who see extra green around the holidays, the most common amounts are up to \$500

ROCHELLE PARK, N.J., December 11, 2018 – Americans' paychecks don't get merrier around the holidays. Just under three-fourths (73 percent) of Americans don't receive a holiday bonus or an end-of-year pay raise, according to a new survey by <u>TopCashback.com</u>, the USA's most generous cashback rebates and coupon site.

The cashback site conducted the survey online in November 2018 among a cross-section of 3,030 adults, aged 18 and over, to discuss holiday finances and expectations.

"While setting a tight budget always starts with good intentions, an unrealistic one can do more harm than good," says Chelsea Hudson, Personal Finance Expert at <u>TopCashback.com</u>. "To ensure you get your money's worth during this wonderful yet costly time of the year, remember to budget any extra cash to cover your monthly expenses before you splurge on parties, travel expenses, gifts, and holiday-themed activities."

Wishful thinking?

Despite so many respondents wishing for a little extra cash this season, only 12 percent of those who expect a holiday bonus or end-of-year pay raise received one. Are annual bonuses a thing of the past? A few respondents (3 percent) said their jobs confirm an annual holiday bonus and a quarter of Americans (25 percent) unwrap a holiday bonus but it's not always guaranteed.

Greener at the End of the Year

Americans on their employer's "nice" list report the most common amount to receive before taxes is up to \$500 (51 percent) but where does it go? One-third of participants (33 percent) use the extra cash to purchase holiday gifts, while 22 percent would put it toward savings. One-fifth of respondents look forward to paying down debt with their holiday bonuses and 12 percent expect to invest the money.

Shedding Light on Festive Finances

While discussing finances with family and friends is a socially taboo topic, participants admitted to telling others if they received a holiday bonus. Overall, respondents would disclose holiday bonuses and pay raises to family (87 percent) and friends (60 percent). However, despite respondents feeling comfortable discussing bonuses, 31 percent of Americans remain uncomfortable discussing their salary with others. Nearly half (48 percent) of respondents never lie about their income when asked.

"There is a clear-cut difference between people's expectations of money around the holiday season and reality," says Hudson. "The easiest way to save money on all your holiday expenses is to shop using deals, coupons and cashback sites such as TopCashback.com to get the most bang for your buck."

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About TopCashback.com

<u>TopCashback.com</u> is the USA's most generous cashback shopping site. It offers Americans savings and money back on everything they buy when clicking through the site to the 4,000 retailers available. TopCashback lists well-known brick and mortar stores, such as Walmart, Best Buy, GNC, Neiman Marcus, Macy's and Bloomingdale's, in addition to popular online businesses, including eBay, Amazon, Overstock, GiftCards, Hotels, Expedia, Groupon and so many more. TopCashback also provides a big selection of coupons, supplying extra instant money-off discounts and free shipping, to use in conjunction with earning cashback.

It passes all the commission – the entire amount – that retailers pay it, to advertise their products and services, back to its two million members. It's completely free to join and use, with no catch.

Members can have their cashback earnings deposited straight into their checking account or withdraw it in the form of PayPal credits, Amazon vouchers, American Express® gift cards or selected merchant partners' gift cards, the latter three of which are topped up with a bonus. Cashback is paid out as soon as funds are requested and there is no minimum amount necessary to withdraw.