

HONORIUS

A.D. 393–423

Flavius Honorius was the younger son of Theodosius I and Aelia Flaccilla. He was proclaimed Augustus by Theodosius I in 393 and eventually succeeded as Western emperor in January 395 on the death of his father. He never held more than nominal power, as effective control lay with the general Stilicho whose daughter Honorius married. Stilicho also claimed he was the guardian of Arcadius, the Eastern emperor, and this led to a rupture between the Eastern and Western halves of the empire. During Honorius' reign barbarian invaders overran Gaul and Spain and he was plagued by the usurpations of Constantine III (407–411) and Jovinus (411–413) in Gaul, and of Maximus in Spain (409–411). Alaric's invasions of Italy and the realization of his own vulnerability led Honorius to remove his court to Ravenna in 402, where he was safe amidst the marshes. Thanks to the competence of his general Constantius, the barbarian threat was temporarily held in check, the usurpations were put down, and large parts of Gaul and Spain were recovered for the empire though Roman control of the island province of Britain was permanently lost. Honorius died in 423 leaving no heir.

Obverse legend.

A. DN HONORIVS PF AVG.

Obverse busts.

- a. pearl diadem, draped, cuirassed, right.
- b. pearl diadem, draped, cuirassed, left.
- c. pearl diadem, draped, cuirassed, right, right hand raised, hiding Victory on globe in left.

All coins are siliquae unless otherwise stated. For a discussion of fourth- and fifth-century silver denominations and their names, see the Introduction.

		VF	EF
12	Aa R̄ GLORIA ROMANORVM, Roma seated facing on throne, head l., hldg. globe in r. and spear in left. Ravenna RVPS. half siliqua	250	550
17†	Ac R̄ As last, emperor nimbate in mil. dres, stg. facing in a chariot drawn by six horses raising r. hand, hldg. globe in left. Constantinople $\frac{R}{CONOB}$ with objects depicted between the N and O which may be rings and a strong box. <i>Gnecchi pl. 36,15</i> multiple	12,500	25,000
18	Aa R̄ As last, emperor nimbate, stg. facing, head l., hldg. sceptre in r. hand, resting l. on shield. Constantinople $\frac{CON}{}$ <i>Gnecchi pl. 37,2</i> heavy miliarensis	750	1,750
19	Aa R̄ As last. Constantinople $\frac{*}{CON}$. <i>Gnecchi pl. 37,1</i> light miliarensis	700	1,650



19A	Ab R̄ As last, emperor nimbate, stg. facing, head l., raising r. hand, hldg. globe in l. Constantinople $\frac{*}{CON}$. light miliarensis	650	1,500
31	Aa R̄ SALVS REIPVBLICAE, Victory walking l. hldg. wreath. Rome? half siliqua	250	550