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Technical information: (202) 691-6378 • cpsinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/cps
Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS: LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS – 2009

The share of the U.S. labor force composed of the foreign born was little changed in 2009, and their unemployment rate rose from 5.8 to 9.7 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The jobless rate of the native born increased from 5.8 percent in 2008 to 9.2 percent in 2009.

This news release compares the labor force characteristics of the foreign born with those of their native-born counterparts. The data on nativity are collected as part of the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly sample survey of approximately 60,000 households. The foreign born are persons who reside in the United States but who were born outside the country or one of its outlying areas to parents who were not U.S. citizens. The foreign born include legally-admitted immigrants, refugees, temporary residents such as students and temporary workers, and undocumented immigrants. The survey data, however, do not separately identify the numbers of persons in these categories. For further information about the survey, see the Technical Note.

Some highlights from the 2009 data are:

- Both the number of foreign-born labor force participants (23.9 million) and their share of the U.S. civilian labor force (15.5 percent) were little changed in 2009 for the second year in a row.
- The unemployment rate of the foreign born (9.7 percent) was higher than that of the native born (9.2 percent) for the first time since 2003.
- In 2009, the median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers were 79.1 percent of those of their native-born counterparts.
- Hispanics accounted for 50.1 percent of the foreign-born labor force, and another 22.3 percent was Asian.
- The number of foreign-born white non-Hispanics in the labor force declined, while the number of foreign born in the other major race and ethnicity groups showed little change.

Demographic Characteristics

In 2009, men made up a larger proportion of the foreign-born labor force (59.3 percent) than they did of the native-born labor force (52.2 percent). The proportion of the foreign-born labor force made up of 25-

to 54-year-olds was higher than for their native-born counterparts (76.7 and 65.6 percent, respectively); labor force participation is typically highest among persons in that age bracket. (See table 1.)

Hispanics comprised 50.1 percent of the foreign-born labor force in 2009, compared with 8.0 percent of the native-born labor force. Asians made up 22.3 percent of the foreign-born labor force, compared with 1.3 percent of the native-born labor force. (Data in this release for persons who are white, black, or Asian do not include those of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. Data on persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are presented separately.)

In 2009, 26.7 percent of the foreign-born labor force 25 years old and over had not completed high school, compared with 5.7 percent of the native-born labor force. Similar proportions of foreign-born and native-born persons in the labor force had a bachelor's or higher degree (31.8 and 34.9 percent, respectively). Foreign-born workers were less likely than native-born workers to have some college or an associate degree—17.0 versus 29.8 percent.

Labor Force and Unemployment

In 2009, 67.9 percent of the foreign born were in the labor force, little changed from 2008. Over the year, the labor force participation rate of native-born workers fell by 0.7 percentage point to 64.9 percent. In 2009, both the number of foreign-born labor force participants (23.9 million) and their share of the U.S. civilian labor force (15.5 percent) were little changed for the second year in a row, after increasing steadily from 1996 to 2007. (See table 1.)

The labor force participation rate of foreign-born men was 80.5 percent in 2009, compared with 70.4 percent for native-born men. Among women, 55.4 percent of foreign-born women were labor force participants, compared with 59.8 percent of native-born women.

Among the major race and ethnicity groups, labor force participation rates of foreign-born whites (59.8 percent), blacks (72.4 percent), and Asians (67.7 percent) were down over the year. The rate for foreign-born Hispanics (70.8 percent) was little changed in 2009. Among the native born, labor force participation rates for all the major race and ethnicity groups fell over the year.

In 2009, foreign-born mothers with children under age 18 were less likely to be labor force participants than native-born mothers—61.2 versus 74.0 percent. Among women with children under age 3, the participation rate for the foreign born was 45.8 percent, while that for the native born was 64.9 percent. The labor force participation rate of both foreign- and native-born fathers with children under age 18 was about 94 percent. (See table 2.)

The over-the-year increase in the unemployment rate of foreign-born workers—from 5.8 percent in 2008 to 9.7 percent in 2009—reflected increases in the rates for both men and women. The unemployment rate for foreign-born men rose from 5.7 to 10.0 percent, and the rate for foreign-born women was up from 6.0 to 9.2 percent. Among the native born, the unemployment rate increased from 5.8 to 9.2 percent over the year. The rate for men rose from 6.2 to 10.3 percent, while the rate for women was up from 5.3 to 7.9 percent. (See table 1.)

By region, the foreign born made up a larger share of the labor force in 2009 in the West (23.8 percent) and in the Northeast (17.9 percent) than for the nation as a whole (15.5 percent). In contrast, the foreign born made up a smaller share of the labor force than for the nation in the South (13.8 percent) and Midwest (7.7 percent). (See table 6.)

Occupation

In 2009, foreign-born workers were more likely than native-born workers to be employed in service occupations (24.7 versus 16.3 percent); in production, transportation, and material moving occupations (15.8 versus 10.6 percent); and in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations (13.5 versus 8.8 percent). Native-born workers were more likely than foreign-born workers to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations—38.9 versus 28.9 percent. (See table 4.)

Foreign-born men were more likely than native-born men to be employed in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations; production, transportation, material moving occupations; and in service occupations. Compared with native-born women, foreign-born women were more likely to be employed in service occupations and in production, transportation, and material moving occupations.

Earnings

In 2009, the median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers were \$602, compared with \$761 for the native born. Among men, median earnings for the foreign born were \$620 per week, while the native born earned \$864 per week. The median usual weekly earnings for foreign-born women were \$567, compared with \$670 for native-born women. (See table 5.)

As with the native born, the earnings of foreign-born workers increased with education. Foreign-born workers age 25 and over with less than a high school education earned \$415 per week in 2009, while those with bachelor's degrees and higher earned about 2.7 times as much— \$1,129 per week.

The gap between the earnings of foreign-born and native-born workers narrows with higher levels of education. Among those with less than a high school diploma in 2009, full-time workers who were foreign born earned 83.3 percent as much as their native-born counterparts. Among those with a bachelor's degree and higher, foreign-born workers earned almost as much (99.2 percent) as native-born workers.

Technical Note

The estimates in this release are based on annual average data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS, which is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), is a monthly survey of about 60,000 households that provides information on the labor force status, demographics, and other characteristics of the nation's civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over. In response to the increased demand for statistical information about the foreign born, questions on nativity, citizenship, year of entry into the United States, and the parental nativity of respondents were added to the CPS beginning in January 1994. Prior to 1994, the primary sources of data on the foreign born were the decennial census, two CPS supplements (conducted in April 1983 and November 1989), and, to some extent, information collected by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (formerly known as the Immigration and Naturalization Service).

The foreign- and native-born data for 2009 are not strictly comparable with data for 2008 and earlier years because of the introduction in January 2009 of revised population controls used in the CPS. The effect of the revised population controls on the foreign- and native-born estimates is unknown. However, the effect of the new controls on the monthly CPS estimates was to decrease the December 2008 employment level by 407,000 and the unemployment level by 42,000. The new population controls had a negligible impact on unemployment rates and other percentage estimates. More detailed information on the population adjustments and their effect on national labor force estimates are available at www.bls.gov/cps/cps09adj.pdf.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200, Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the CPS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the "true" population values they represent. The exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending upon the particular sample selected, and this variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate. There is about a 90-percent chance, or level of confidence, that an estimate based on a sample will differ by no more than 1.6 standard errors from the "true" population value because of sampling error. BLS analyses are generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence.

The CPS data also are affected by nonsampling error. *Nonsampling error* can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, in ability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information and errors made in the collection or processing of the data. For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS

and information on estimating standard errors, see the Household Data section of the "Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error" from *Employment and Earnings Online* at www.bls.gov/cps/eetech_methods.pdf.

Concepts and definitions

Foreign born. The foreign born are persons residing in the United States who were not U.S. citizens at birth. That is, they were born outside the United States or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam, to parents neither of whom was a U.S. citizen. The foreign-born population includes legally-admitted immigrants, refugees, temporary residents such as students and temporary workers, and undocumented immigrants. The survey data, however, do not separately identify the number of persons in these categories.

Native born. The native born are persons born in the United States or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam or who were born abroad of at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen.

Race and ethnicity groups. In this release, the data are presented for non-Hispanic whites, blacks, and Asians and for persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. These four groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups (including persons who selected more than one race category) are included in the overall totals but are not shown separately because the number of survey respondents is too small to develop statistically reliable estimates. The presentation of the data on race and ethnicity in this release differs from that which appears in most analyses of CPS labor force data because persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are separated from the race groups. Because persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity can be of any race, they are usually included in the race groups as well as shown separately in the Hispanic or Latino ethnicity group. The reason for the difference in the data presentation in this release is because about half of the foreign born are of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity and they have somewhat different labor force characteristics than the non-Hispanic foreign born.

Employed. Employed persons are (a) all those who, during the survey reference week, did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or who worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family-operated enterprise; and (b) all those who did not work but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, vacation, childcare problems, labor disputes, or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off and whether or not they were seeking other jobs.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work at that time, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons who

were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force comprises all persons classified as employed or unemployed.

Unemployment rate. The unemployment rate is the number unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

Labor force participation rate. The labor force participation

rate is the labor force as a percent of the population.

Usual weekly earnings. Data represent earnings before taxes and other deductions and include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received (at the main job in the case of multiple jobholders). Earnings reported on a basis other than weekly are converted to a weekly equivalent.

Median earnings. The median is the amount which divides a given earnings distribution into two equal groups, one having earnings above the median and the other having earnings below the median.

Table 1. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations by selected characteristics, 2008-09 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2008						2009					
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force					Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force				
		Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed			Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed	
					Number	Unemployment rate					Number	Unemployment rate
TOTAL												
Total, 16 years and over	233,788	154,287	66.0	145,362	8,924	5.8	235,801	154,142	65.4	139,877	14,265	9.3
Men	113,113	82,520	73.0	77,486	5,033	6.1	114,136	82,123	72.0	73,670	8,453	10.3
Women	120,675	71,767	59.5	67,876	3,891	5.4	121,665	72,019	59.2	66,208	5,811	8.1
FOREIGN BORN												
Total, 16 years and over	35,317	24,063	68.1	22,660	1,403	5.8	35,216	23,926	67.9	21,608	2,317	9.7
Men	17,688	14,400	81.4	13,578	822	5.7	17,628	14,190	80.5	12,765	1,426	10.0
Women	17,629	9,663	54.8	9,082	581	6.0	17,588	9,735	55.4	8,844	891	9.2
Age												
16 to 24 years	3,845	2,211	57.5	1,979	232	10.5	3,542	1,986	56.1	1,681	304	15.3
25 to 34 years	7,992	6,236	78.0	5,866	371	5.9	7,637	5,907	77.3	5,330	577	9.8
35 to 44 years	8,327	6,814	81.8	6,473	341	5.0	8,379	6,847	81.7	6,210	637	9.3
45 to 54 years	6,602	5,380	81.5	5,083	297	5.5	6,819	5,588	81.9	5,096	491	8.8
55 to 64 years	4,126	2,700	65.4	2,580	120	4.5	4,321	2,838	65.7	2,590	249	8.8
65 years and over	4,424	721	16.3	679	42	5.9	4,517	760	16.8	701	59	7.8
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity ¹												
White non-Hispanic or Latino	7,517	4,531	60.3	4,305	226	5.0	7,249	4,334	59.8	4,002	332	7.7
Black non-Hispanic or Latino	2,743	2,007	73.2	1,863	144	7.2	2,812	2,037	72.4	1,807	231	11.3
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino	7,894	5,382	68.2	5,185	197	3.7	7,876	5,332	67.7	4,967	365	6.8
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	16,816	11,889	70.7	11,067	822	6.9	16,933	11,982	70.8	10,612	1,370	11.4
Educational attainment												
Total, 25 years and over	31,472	21,852	69.4	20,681	1,171	5.4	31,674	21,940	69.3	19,927	2,013	9.2
Less than a high school diploma	9,420	5,759	61.1	5,316	443	7.7	9,542	5,862	61.4	5,122	740	12.6
High school graduates, no college ²	8,098	5,514	68.1	5,201	312	5.7	7,992	5,371	67.2	4,875	496	9.2
Some college or associate degree	4,951	3,648	73.7	3,457	190	5.2	5,070	3,735	73.7	3,406	328	8.8
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	9,003	6,931	77.0	6,705	226	3.3	9,070	6,972	76.9	6,524	448	6.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations by selected characteristics, 2008-09 annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2008						2009					
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force					Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force				
		Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed			Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed	
					Number	Unemployment rate					Number	Unemployment rate
NATIVE BORN												
Total, 16 years and over	198,471	130,224	65.6	122,703	7,521	5.8	200,585	130,216	64.9	118,269	11,947	9.2
Men	95,424	68,119	71.4	63,908	4,211	6.2	96,508	67,933	70.4	60,905	7,028	10.3
Women	103,047	62,104	60.3	58,795	3,310	5.3	104,077	62,284	59.8	57,364	4,920	7.9
Age												
16 to 24 years	33,639	19,821	58.9	17,223	2,599	13.1	34,025	19,375	56.9	15,920	3,455	17.8
25 to 34 years	32,001	27,096	84.7	25,517	1,579	5.8	32,643	27,392	83.9	24,684	2,707	9.9
35 to 44 years	33,372	28,247	84.6	26,984	1,264	4.5	32,540	27,391	84.2	25,307	2,085	7.6
45 to 54 years	37,357	30,623	82.0	29,446	1,177	3.8	37,546	30,617	81.5	28,517	2,101	6.9
55 to 64 years	29,364	18,915	64.4	18,232	682	3.6	30,349	19,667	64.8	18,429	1,238	6.3
65 years and over	32,737	5,522	16.9	5,300	222	4.0	33,481	5,774	17.2	5,413	362	6.3
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity ¹												
White non-Hispanic or Latino	152,157	100,679	66.2	95,909	4,770	4.7	153,104	100,525	65.7	92,681	7,844	7.8
Black non-Hispanic or Latino	24,157	15,101	62.5	13,524	1,577	10.4	24,466	14,971	61.2	12,700	2,271	15.2
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino	2,669	1,674	62.7	1,600	74	4.4	2,756	1,681	61.0	1,542	138	8.2
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	15,325	10,135	66.1	9,279	856	8.4	15,958	10,370	65.0	9,034	1,336	12.9
Educational attainment												
Total, 25 years and over	164,832	110,403	67.0	105,480	4,923	4.5	166,560	110,842	66.5	102,349	8,492	7.7
Less than a high school diploma	16,702	6,406	38.4	5,757	649	10.1	16,587	6,284	37.9	5,249	1,035	16.5
High school graduates, no college ²	53,017	32,749	61.8	30,896	1,854	5.7	53,477	32,815	61.4	29,612	3,203	9.8
Some college or associate degree	46,153	33,070	71.7	31,582	1,488	4.5	46,657	33,080	70.9	30,482	2,599	7.9
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	48,959	38,177	78.0	37,245	932	2.4	49,839	38,662	77.6	37,007	1,655	4.3

¹ Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races.

² Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

³ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 2. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by presence and age of youngest child and sex, 2008-09 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2008			2009		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
FOREIGN BORN						
With own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,864	6,618	7,245	13,723	6,585	7,138
Civilian labor force	10,626	6,228	4,399	10,577	6,209	4,368
Participation rate	76.6	94.1	60.7	77.1	94.3	61.2
Employed	10,047	5,929	4,118	9,573	5,645	3,928
Employment-population ratio	72.5	89.6	56.8	69.8	85.7	55.0
Unemployed	580	299	281	1,003	563	440
Unemployment rate	5.5	4.8	6.4	9.5	9.1	10.1
With own children 6 to 17, none younger						
Civilian noninstitutional population	7,173	3,359	3,814	7,180	3,395	3,785
Civilian labor force	5,791	3,123	2,668	5,834	3,176	2,658
Participation rate	80.7	93.0	69.9	81.2	93.5	70.2
Employed	5,505	2,985	2,520	5,292	2,876	2,416
Employment-population ratio	76.7	88.9	66.1	73.7	84.7	63.8
Unemployed	286	138	148	542	299	242
Unemployment rate	4.9	4.4	5.5	9.3	9.4	9.1
With own children under 6						
Civilian noninstitutional population	6,691	3,259	3,431	6,543	3,190	3,353
Civilian labor force	4,835	3,104	1,731	4,743	3,033	1,710
Participation rate	72.3	95.2	50.4	72.5	95.1	51.0
Employed	4,542	2,944	1,598	4,281	2,769	1,512
Employment-population ratio	67.9	90.3	46.6	65.4	86.8	45.1
Unemployed	294	161	133	461	264	198
Unemployment rate	6.1	5.2	7.7	9.7	8.7	11.6
With own children under 3						
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,923	1,927	1,996	3,758	1,852	1,907
Civilian labor force	2,727	1,837	890	2,632	1,758	874
Participation rate	69.5	95.3	44.6	70.0	95.0	45.8
Employed	2,558	1,745	813	2,379	1,612	767
Employment-population ratio	65.2	90.6	40.7	63.3	87.0	40.2
Unemployed	169	92	78	253	146	107
Unemployment rate	6.2	5.0	8.7	9.6	8.3	12.2
With no own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	21,453	11,070	10,383	21,493	11,043	10,450
Civilian labor force	13,436	8,173	5,264	13,349	7,982	5,367
Participation rate	62.6	73.8	50.7	62.1	72.3	51.4
Employed	12,613	7,650	4,964	12,035	7,119	4,916
Employment-population ratio	58.8	69.1	47.8	56.0	64.5	47.0
Unemployed	823	523	300	1,314	862	452
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.4	5.7	9.8	10.8	8.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by presence and age of youngest child and sex, 2008-09 annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2008			2009		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
NATIVE BORN						
With own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	51,642	22,467	29,175	50,974	22,132	28,841
Civilian labor force	42,762	21,144	21,617	42,050	20,720	21,330
Participation rate	82.8	94.1	74.1	82.5	93.6	74.0
Employed	40,859	20,403	20,455	38,934	19,291	19,642
Employment-population ratio	79.1	90.8	70.1	76.4	87.2	68.1
Unemployed	1,903	741	1,162	3,116	1,429	1,687
Unemployment rate	4.5	3.5	5.4	7.4	6.9	7.9
With own children 6 to 17, none younger						
Civilian noninstitutional population	29,259	12,841	16,418	28,548	12,527	16,021
Civilian labor force	24,936	11,955	12,981	24,244	11,589	12,655
Participation rate	85.2	93.1	79.1	84.9	92.5	79.0
Employed	23,974	11,555	12,419	22,653	10,847	11,806
Employment-population ratio	81.9	90.0	75.6	79.4	86.6	73.7
Unemployed	963	400	562	1,591	743	848
Unemployment rate	3.9	3.3	4.3	6.6	6.4	6.7
With own children under 6						
Civilian noninstitutional population	22,384	9,627	12,757	22,426	9,606	12,820
Civilian labor force	17,825	9,189	8,636	17,806	9,131	8,675
Participation rate	79.6	95.5	67.7	79.4	95.1	67.7
Employed	16,885	8,849	8,036	16,281	8,445	7,836
Employment-population ratio	75.4	91.9	63.0	72.6	87.9	61.1
Unemployed	940	340	600	1,525	686	839
Unemployment rate	5.3	3.7	6.9	8.6	7.5	9.7
With own children under 3						
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,358	5,758	7,600	13,293	5,723	7,570
Civilian labor force	10,419	5,517	4,902	10,350	5,438	4,913
Participation rate	78.0	95.8	64.5	77.9	95.0	64.9
Employed	9,841	5,299	4,542	9,442	5,018	4,424
Employment-population ratio	73.7	92.0	59.8	71.0	87.7	58.4
Unemployed	578	218	360	908	420	488
Unemployment rate	5.5	3.9	7.4	8.8	7.7	9.9
With no own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	146,829	72,957	73,872	149,611	74,375	75,236
Civilian labor force	87,462	46,975	40,487	88,167	47,213	40,954
Participation rate	59.6	64.4	54.8	58.9	63.5	54.4
Employed	81,844	43,505	38,339	79,335	41,614	37,722
Employment-population ratio	55.7	59.6	51.9	53.0	56.0	50.1
Unemployed	5,618	3,470	2,148	8,831	5,599	3,232
Unemployment rate	6.4	7.4	5.3	10.0	11.9	7.9

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 3. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 25 years and over by educational attainment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2008-09 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2008				2009			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²
FOREIGN BORN								
White non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	891	1,884	1,360	2,744	832	1,729	1,370	2,763
Civilian labor force	276	990	885	2,024	266	899	865	2,004
Participation rate	30.9	52.5	65.1	73.7	32.0	52.0	63.1	72.5
Employed	253	939	838	1,952	238	823	804	1,877
Employment-population ratio	28.4	49.9	61.6	71.2	28.6	47.6	58.6	67.9
Unemployed	22	50	48	71	28	77	61	127
Unemployment rate	8.1	5.1	5.4	3.5	10.7	8.5	7.1	6.4
Black non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	334	758	629	677	347	748	661	719
Civilian labor force	192	561	501	582	194	544	525	615
Participation rate	57.4	74.0	79.7	86.0	56.0	72.7	79.5	85.5
Employed	176	516	466	559	164	482	474	563
Employment-population ratio	52.9	68.1	74.0	82.5	47.2	64.4	71.7	78.3
Unemployed	15	45	36	24	30	62	52	52
Unemployment rate	7.9	8.0	7.1	4.1	15.7	11.4	9.8	8.5
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	864	1,453	1,033	3,880	936	1,425	1,032	3,881
Civilian labor force	402	951	758	2,979	419	878	759	3,016
Participation rate	46.6	65.5	73.4	76.8	44.8	61.6	73.6	77.7
Employed	375	913	725	2,898	386	814	696	2,841
Employment-population ratio	43.4	62.8	70.2	74.7	41.3	57.2	67.5	73.2
Unemployed	27	39	33	81	33	64	64	175
Unemployment rate	6.8	4.1	4.4	2.7	7.9	7.3	8.4	5.8
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity								
Civilian noninstitutional population	7,292	3,940	1,852	1,579	7,376	4,020	1,929	1,596
Civilian labor force	4,871	2,967	1,439	1,245	4,959	3,002	1,526	1,247
Participation rate	66.8	75.3	77.7	78.9	67.2	74.7	79.1	78.1
Employed	4,495	2,790	1,368	1,198	4,314	2,712	1,378	1,158
Employment-population ratio	61.6	70.8	73.9	75.9	58.5	67.5	71.5	72.5
Unemployed	376	177	71	47	644	289	147	89
Unemployment rate	7.7	6.0	5.0	3.7	13.0	9.6	9.7	7.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 25 years and over by educational attainment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2008-09 annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2008				2009			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²
NATIVE BORN								
White non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	10,723	41,180	35,972	41,982	10,507	41,552	36,165	42,586
Civilian labor force	3,975	24,863	25,386	32,458	3,860	24,975	25,328	32,751
Participation rate	37.1	60.4	70.6	77.3	36.7	60.1	70.0	76.9
Employed	3,644	23,659	24,397	31,727	3,295	22,797	23,543	31,445
Employment-population ratio	34.0	57.5	67.8	75.6	31.4	54.9	65.1	73.8
Unemployed	331	1,204	990	731	565	2,178	1,785	1,306
Unemployment rate	8.3	4.8	3.9	2.3	14.6	8.7	7.0	4.0
Black non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,128	6,923	5,533	3,582	3,112	6,897	5,738	3,659
Civilian labor force	1,167	4,467	4,125	2,881	1,099	4,392	4,158	2,923
Participation rate	37.3	64.5	74.6	80.4	35.3	63.7	72.5	79.9
Employed	979	4,046	3,815	2,769	851	3,760	3,673	2,717
Employment-population ratio	31.3	58.4	69.0	77.3	27.4	54.5	64.0	74.3
Unemployed	187	420	310	113	248	631	486	206
Unemployment rate	16.0	9.4	7.5	3.9	22.6	14.4	11.7	7.0
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	147	360	442	929	126	360	465	962
Civilian labor force	57	210	308	737	51	201	315	779
Participation rate	38.9	58.2	69.6	79.3	40.2	55.7	67.8	81.0
Employed	55	200	301	715	47	186	291	743
Employment-population ratio	37.7	55.4	68.2	76.9	37.3	51.5	62.5	77.2
Unemployed	2	10	6	23	4	15	25	36
Unemployment rate	2.9	4.9	2.1	3.1	7.4	7.6	7.8	4.7
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity								
Civilian noninstitutional population	2,264	3,587	3,131	1,835	2,388	3,716	3,174	1,947
Civilian labor force	1,040	2,609	2,476	1,588	1,105	2,656	2,501	1,648
Participation rate	45.9	72.8	79.1	86.5	46.3	71.5	78.8	84.7
Employed	931	2,442	2,353	1,537	918	2,357	2,278	1,571
Employment-population ratio	41.1	68.1	75.2	83.8	38.5	63.4	71.8	80.7
Unemployed	109	167	123	50	186	299	223	77
Unemployment rate	10.4	6.4	5.0	3.2	16.9	11.3	8.9	4.7

¹ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

² Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 4. Employed foreign-born and native-born persons 16 years and over by occupation and sex, 2009 annual averages

(Percent distribution)

Occupation	Foreign Born			Native Born		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	21,608	12,765	8,844	118,269	60,905	57,364
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations	28.9	26.5	32.5	38.9	36.1	41.8
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	10.7	10.7	10.7	16.3	18.0	14.4
Management occupations	7.6	8.6	6.3	11.7	14.1	9.1
Business and financial operations occupations	3.0	2.1	4.3	4.6	3.9	5.3
Professional and related occupations	18.2	15.8	21.8	22.6	18.1	27.4
Computer and mathematical occupations	3.3	4.2	2.1	2.3	3.4	1.2
Architecture and engineering occupations	2.1	3.1	.7	1.9	3.2	.5
Life, physical, and social science occupations	1.2	1.2	1.3	.9	.9	.9
Community and social services occupations	1.0	.7	1.4	1.8	1.3	2.4
Legal occupations5	.4	.6	1.4	1.3	1.4
Education, training, and library occupations	3.5	2.1	5.5	6.7	3.2	10.3
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	1.3	1.3	1.5	2.1	2.1	2.0
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	5.3	2.8	8.7	5.6	2.6	8.7
Service occupations	24.7	19.0	32.8	16.3	13.3	19.5
Healthcare support occupations	2.6	.6	5.6	2.3	.4	4.3
Protective service occupations	1.0	1.3	.6	2.5	3.8	1.1
Food preparation and serving related occupations	8.0	8.0	8.0	5.1	3.9	6.3
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	8.5	7.4	10.2	3.0	3.7	2.2
Personal care and service occupations	4.5	1.7	8.5	3.4	1.5	5.6
Sales and office occupations	17.0	12.8	23.1	25.5	17.8	33.5
Sales and related occupations	8.9	8.1	10.0	11.6	11.2	12.0
Office and administrative support occupations	8.2	4.7	13.1	13.9	6.6	21.6
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	13.5	21.9	1.4	8.8	16.3	.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.6	2.2	.8	.5	.7	.2
Construction and extraction occupations	8.8	14.8	.3	4.7	8.8	.3
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	3.0	4.9	.3	3.6	6.8	.3
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	15.8	19.8	10.1	10.6	16.4	4.4
Production occupations	8.5	9.2	7.5	4.9	7.1	2.6
Transportation and material moving occupations	7.4	10.6	2.7	5.7	9.3	1.8

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers for the foreign born and native born by selected characteristics, 2008-09 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2008					2009				
	Foreign Born		Native Born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born ¹	Foreign Born		Native Born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born ¹
	Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings		Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings	
Total, 16 years and over	17,328	\$595	89,320	\$744	79.9	15,965	\$602	83,855	\$761	79.1
Men	10,848	613	48,591	842	72.9	9,867	620	45,241	864	71.7
Women	6,480	557	40,729	651	85.5	6,099	567	38,614	670	84.6
AGE										
16 to 24 years	1,337	402	9,284	451	89.1	1,085	400	7,873	452	88.5
25 to 34 years	4,786	572	20,857	689	83.0	4,185	555	19,675	704	78.8
35 to 44 years	5,118	635	21,290	842	75.4	4,709	647	19,659	856	75.5
45 to 54 years	3,846	663	22,794	848	78.2	3,718	679	21,605	866	78.4
55 to 64 years	1,849	661	12,914	849	77.9	1,886	672	12,842	865	77.7
65 years and over	392	568	2,181	659	86.2	383	574	2,201	703	81.6
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY ²										
White non-Hispanic or Latino	2,984	846	68,334	788	107.3	2,693	863	64,497	808	106.7
Black non-Hispanic or Latino	1,472	601	10,905	588	102.2	1,397	613	9,956	601	102.1
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino	3,988	864	1,184	865	99.8	3,726	877	1,101	908	96.6
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	8,686	483	7,122	621	77.8	7,964	479	6,660	632	75.8
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT										
Total, 25 years and over	15,992	614	80,036	788	78.0	14,881	621	75,982	805	77.1
Less than a high school diploma	4,213	417	3,908	493	84.6	3,817	415	3,472	498	83.3
High school graduates, no college ³	3,920	523	23,472	633	82.7	3,611	530	21,766	644	82.3
Some college or associate degree	2,582	651	23,944	729	89.3	2,460	641	22,657	733	87.4
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁴	5,277	1,092	28,713	1,119	97.6	4,993	1,129	28,088	1,138	99.2

¹ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

² Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races.

³ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁴ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 6. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by census regions and divisions, 2008-09 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Census regions and divisions	2008						2009					
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force					Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force				
		Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed			Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed	
					Number	Unemployment rate					Number	Unemployment rate
FOREIGN BORN												
Northeast	7,652	5,044	65.9	4,793	251	5.0	7,688	5,079	66.1	4,652	427	8.4
New England	1,491	1,023	68.6	963	60	5.8	1,421	974	68.5	888	85	8.8
Middle Atlantic	6,162	4,021	65.3	3,830	192	4.8	6,266	4,106	65.5	3,764	342	8.3
South	10,912	7,610	69.7	7,198	412	5.4	10,934	7,593	69.4	6,914	679	8.9
South Atlantic	6,474	4,577	70.7	4,301	276	6.0	6,361	4,432	69.7	3,996	436	9.8
East South Central ...	583	434	74.5	413	21	4.9	604	444	73.5	395	49	10.9
West South Central ..	3,855	2,599	67.4	2,484	115	4.4	3,969	2,717	68.5	2,523	194	7.2
Midwest	3,931	2,708	68.9	2,547	161	5.9	3,923	2,689	68.6	2,422	268	10.0
East North Central	3,015	2,047	67.9	1,927	120	5.9	2,995	2,016	67.3	1,805	211	10.5
West North Central ...	916	661	72.2	620	41	6.2	928	674	72.6	617	57	8.5
West	12,822	8,701	67.9	8,122	579	6.7	12,671	8,563	67.6	7,620	943	11.0
Mountain	2,195	1,529	69.6	1,445	83	5.5	2,154	1,463	67.9	1,320	143	9.8
Pacific	10,627	7,172	67.5	6,677	495	6.9	10,518	7,101	67.5	6,301	800	11.3
NATIVE BORN												
Northeast	35,527	23,186	65.3	21,903	1,283	5.5	35,785	23,268	65.0	21,336	1,932	8.3
New England	9,839	6,659	67.7	6,299	360	5.4	9,965	6,720	67.4	6,172	547	8.1
Middle Atlantic	25,688	16,527	64.3	15,604	923	5.6	25,820	16,548	64.1	15,163	1,385	8.4
South	74,203	47,437	63.9	44,826	2,611	5.5	75,111	47,388	63.1	43,142	4,246	9.0
South Atlantic	38,649	24,989	64.7	23,584	1,406	5.6	39,142	24,880	63.6	22,555	2,324	9.3
East South Central ...	13,316	8,134	61.1	7,619	515	6.3	13,416	8,064	60.1	7,211	852	10.6
West South Central ..	22,238	14,314	64.4	13,624	691	4.8	22,553	14,445	64.0	13,375	1,069	7.4
Midwest	47,526	32,231	67.8	30,279	1,953	6.1	47,717	32,077	67.2	29,026	3,050	9.5
East North Central	32,903	21,939	66.7	20,483	1,456	6.6	33,020	21,746	65.9	19,449	2,297	10.6
West North Central ...	14,623	10,293	70.4	9,796	497	4.8	14,696	10,330	70.3	9,578	753	7.3
West	41,215	27,369	66.4	25,694	1,675	6.1	41,972	27,484	65.5	24,765	2,719	9.9
Mountain	14,227	9,635	67.7	9,148	487	5.1	14,523	9,674	66.6	8,851	823	8.5
Pacific	26,988	17,734	65.7	16,546	1,188	6.7	27,449	17,810	64.9	15,914	1,896	10.6

NOTE: The states (plus the District of Columbia) that comprise the census divisions are: New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont); Middle Atlantic (New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania); South Atlantic (Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia); East South Central (Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee); West South Central Division (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas); East North Central (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin); West North Central (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota); Mountain (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming); Pacific (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington). Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.