

35. Persons not in the labor force by desire and availability for work, age, and sex

(In thousands)

Category	Total		Age						Sex			
	2001	2002	16 to 24 years		25 to 54 years		55 years and over		Men		Women	
			2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
Total not in the labor force	71,359	72,707	12,347	12,976	19,814	20,358	39,198	39,373	26,396	27,085	44,962	45,621
Do not want a job now ¹	66,769	68,029	10,616	11,254	17,797	18,286	38,355	38,489	24,403	24,994	42,366	43,035
Want a job ¹	4,590	4,677	1,730	1,722	2,017	2,071	842	884	1,993	2,091	2,597	2,586
Did not search for work in previous year ..	2,731	2,673	939	910	1,150	1,112	642	651	1,134	1,135	1,597	1,538
Searched for work in previous year ²	1,859	2,004	791	812	867	960	201	233	859	956	1,000	1,048
Not available to work now	593	565	300	272	256	252	37	41	228	227	365	338
Available to work now	1,266	1,439	492	540	611	708	163	191	631	729	634	710
Reason not currently looking:												
Discouragement over job prospects ³	321	369	104	110	170	209	47	51	192	226	129	143
Reasons other than discouragement ..	945	1,070	388	430	441	499	116	141	440	503	505	567
Family responsibilities	133	150	32	31	89	99	13	20	29	34	105	116
In school or training	203	238	172	195	30	41	1	2	111	126	92	112
Ill health or disability	96	107	16	16	56	61	25	30	45	50	51	56
Other ⁴	513	575	168	188	266	299	77	88	255	292	257	283

¹ Includes some persons who are not asked if they want a job.

² Persons who had a job in the prior 12 months must have searched since the end of that job.

³ Includes believes no work available, could not find work, lacks necessary schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and

other types of discrimination.

⁴ Includes those who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for such reasons as child-care and transportation problems, as well as a small number for which reason for nonparticipation was not ascertained.