

**HOUSEHOLD DATA  
ANNUAL AVERAGES**

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

(In thousands)

Category	Total		Age						Sex			
	2003	2004	16 to 24 years		25 to 54 years		55 years and over		Men		Women	
			2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
Total not in the labor force .....	74,658	75,956	13,800	14,151	20,980	21,288	39,878	40,517	28,197	28,730	46,461	47,225
Do not want a job now <sup>1</sup> .....	69,932	71,103	12,079	12,422	18,857	19,136	38,996	39,545	26,073	26,565	43,859	44,538
Want a job <sup>1</sup> .....	4,726	4,852	1,721	1,729	2,124	2,152	882	971	2,124	2,165	2,603	2,687
Did not search for work in previous year .....	2,631	2,715	882	886	1,129	1,145	620	684	1,127	1,126	1,503	1,590
Searched for work in previous year <sup>2</sup> .....	2,096	2,137	838	843	995	1,006	262	288	996	1,040	1,099	1,097
Not available to work now .....	564	563	274	279	248	242	43	42	231	230	333	333
Available to work now .....	1,531	1,574	565	565	747	764	220	245	765	809	766	765
Reason not currently looking:												
Discouragement over job prospects <sup>3</sup> .....	457	466	134	142	248	240	75	84	266	288	190	178
Reasons other than discouragement .....	1,075	1,108	431	423	499	524	145	161	499	521	576	587
Family responsibilities .....	153	157	37	28	94	104	22	24	35	38	118	119
In school or training .....	239	244	194	199	42	43	3	2	125	131	114	112
Ill health or disability .....	113	123	15	18	72	71	26	35	51	56	62	67
Other <sup>4</sup> .....	570	584	184	178	292	306	94	100	288	296	282	288

<sup>1</sup> Includes some persons who are not asked if they want a job.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

NOTE: Beginning in January 2004, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.