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## **FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS: LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS — 2018**

The unemployment rate for foreign-born persons in the United States was 3.5 percent in 2018, down from 4.1 percent in 2017, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The jobless rate of native-born persons was 4.0 percent in 2018, down from 4.4 percent in 2017.

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 not U.S. citizens at birth. Specifically, they were born outside the United States (or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam), and neither parent was a U.S. citizen. The foreign born include legally-admitted immigrants, refugees, temporary residents such as students and temporary workers, and undocumented immigrants. The survey does not separately identify persons in these categories, however. For further information about the survey, see the Technical Note in this news release.

### **Highlights from the 2018 data:**

- In 2018, there were 28.2 million foreign-born persons in the U.S. labor force, comprising 17.4 percent of the total. (See table 1.)
- Hispanics accounted for nearly half of the foreign-born labor force in 2018, and Asians accounted for one-quarter. (See table 1.) (Data in this news 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.)
- Foreign-born men were more likely to participate in the labor force than native-born men (77.9 percent versus 67.3 percent), while foreign-born women were less likely to participate than native-born women (54.3 percent versus 57.6 percent). (See table 1.)
- Foreign-born workers were more likely than native-born workers to be employed in service occupations and less likely to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations. (See table 4.)
- The median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers were \$758 in 2018, compared with \$910 for their native-born counterparts. (See table 5.) (Differences in earnings reflect a variety of factors, including variations in the distributions of foreign-born and native-born workers by educational attainment, occupation, industry, and geographic region.)

## Demographic Characteristics

The demographic composition of the foreign-born labor force differs from that of the native-born labor force. In 2018, men accounted for 57.5 percent of the foreign-born labor force, compared with 52.2 percent of the native-born labor force. By age, the proportion of the foreign-born labor force made up of 25- to 54-year-olds (73.2 percent) was higher than for the native-born labor force (62.0 percent). Labor force participation is typically highest among persons in that age bracket. (See table 1.)

In 2018, nearly half (47.7 percent) of the foreign-born labor force was Hispanic, and one-quarter (25.1 percent) was Asian. Hispanics and Asians made up much lower percentages of the native-born labor force, at 11.1 percent and 2.1 percent, respectively. About 16.6 percent of the foreign-born labor force was White and 9.5 percent was Black, compared with 71.7 percent and 12.3 percent, respectively, of the native-born labor force.

In terms of educational attainment, the proportion of the foreign-born labor force age 25 and over that had not completed high school was 21.2 percent in 2018, much higher than the figure for the native-born labor force, at 4.1 percent. The foreign born were less likely than the native born to have some college or an associate degree—16.8 percent versus 28.9 percent. The proportions for foreign-born and native-born high school graduates (25.1 percent versus 25.6 percent) and those with a bachelor's degree or higher (36.9 percent versus 41.4 percent) were more similar.

## Labor Force

In 2018, the share of the U.S. civilian labor force that was foreign born increased to 17.4 percent from 17.1 percent in 2017. (See table 1.) The share of the U.S. civilian labor force that was foreign born was 13.3 percent in 2000.

In 2018, the labor force participation rate of the foreign born was 65.7 percent, little changed from the prior year. The participation rate for the native born was 62.3 percent, about unchanged from 2017. Foreign-born men continued to participate in the labor force at a considerably higher rate (77.9 percent) in 2018 than their native-born counterparts (67.3 percent). In contrast, 54.3 percent of foreign-born women were labor force participants, somewhat lower than the rate of 57.6 percent for native-born women.

Labor force participation rates for the foreign-born varied across the major race and ethnicity groups in 2018, ranging from 59.7 percent for foreign-born Whites to 70.8 percent for foreign-born Blacks. By contrast, participation rates for the native born showed less variation across race and ethnicity groups, ranging from 60.9 percent for native-born Blacks to 64.5 percent for native-born Hispanics. Across all race and ethnicity groups, participation rates showed little or no change from 2017 to 2018 for both the foreign born and the native born.

In 2018, foreign-born mothers with children under age 18 were less likely to be labor force participants than were native-born mothers—61.0 percent versus 74.7 percent. Labor force participation differences between foreign-born and native-born mothers were greater among those with younger children than among those with older children. Among women with children under age 6, the participation rate for foreign-born mothers was 50.8 percent, 18.6 percentage points below that for native-born mothers, at 69.4 percent. In comparison, the labor force participation rate of foreign-born mothers with children ages 6 to 17 (68.4 percent) was 10.5 percentage points lower than that for native-born mothers with children ages 6 to 17 (78.9 percent). The labor force participation rates of foreign-born and native-born

fathers with children under age 18 were more similar, at 93.8 percent and 93.1 percent, respectively. (See table 2.)

By region, the foreign born made up a larger share of the labor force in the West (24.4 percent) and in the Northeast (20.1 percent) in 2018 than for the nation as a whole (17.4 percent). In contrast, the foreign born made up a smaller share of the labor force than for the nation as a whole in the South (16.2 percent) and the Midwest (9.4 percent). (See table 6.)

## **Unemployment**

The unemployment rate of the foreign born declined from 4.1 percent to 3.5 percent from 2017 to 2018, and the jobless rate for the native born fell from 4.4 percent to 4.0 percent. The over-the-year decrease in the unemployment rates of the foreign born and the native born reflected decreases in the rates for both men and women. The unemployment rates for foreign-born men and women were 3.0 percent and 4.1 percent, respectively, and the jobless rates for native-born men and women were 4.2 percent and 3.8 percent. (See table 1.)

For both the foreign born and the native born, jobless rates vary considerably by race and ethnicity. Among the foreign born, Blacks had the highest unemployment rate in 2018 (4.6 percent). The unemployment rate was 3.8 percent for Hispanics, 3.4 percent for Whites, and 2.6 percent for Asians. Among the native born, Blacks also had the highest jobless rate (6.8 percent), followed by Hispanics (5.5 percent), Asians (3.8 percent), and Whites (3.2 percent).

## **Occupation**

In 2018, foreign-born workers continued to be more likely than native-born workers to be employed in service occupations (23.3 percent versus 15.9 percent); natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations (14.0 percent versus 8.3 percent); and production, transportation, and material moving occupations (15.0 percent versus 11.3 percent). (See table 4.)

As in past years, native-born workers were more likely than foreign-born workers to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations (41.6 percent versus 32.7 percent) and sales and office occupations (22.9 percent versus 14.9 percent).

In 2018, employed foreign-born men and women were more likely than their native-born counterparts to work in service occupations; natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations; and production, transportation, and material moving occupations. Among men, the employment disparity was especially great in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations—22.8 percent of the foreign born versus 15.1 percent of the native born. The disparity for women was most pronounced in service occupations—32.5 percent of the foreign born worked in that occupation group, compared with 19.0 percent of the native born. By contrast, employed native-born men and women were more likely than their foreign-born counterparts to work in management, professional, and related occupations and in sales and office occupations.

## **Earnings**

In 2018, median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born, full-time wage and salary workers (\$758) were 83.3 percent of the earnings of their native-born counterparts (\$910). Among men, median weekly earnings for the foreign born (\$815) were 80.9 percent of the earnings of the native born (\$1,007).

Median earnings for foreign-born women (\$678) were 83.7 percent of the earnings of native-born women (\$810). (See table 5.) Differences in earnings reflect a variety of factors, including variations in the distributions of foreign-born and native-born workers by educational attainment, occupation, industry, and geographic region.

Among the major race and ethnicity groups, Hispanic foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers earned 83.8 percent as much as their native-born counterparts in 2018. For Black workers, earnings for the foreign born and the native born were almost the same. White and Asian foreign-born workers earned more than their native-born counterparts.

The earnings of both foreign-born and native-born workers increase with education. In 2018, foreign-born workers age 25 and over with less than a high school diploma earned \$535 per week, while those with a bachelor's degree and higher earned about 2.5 times as much—\$1,362 per week. Among the native born, those with a bachelor's degree and higher earned about 2.3 times as much as those with less than a high school diploma—\$1,309 versus \$578 per week.

Native-born workers earn more than the foreign born at most educational attainment levels. However, there is a relatively small gap between the earnings of foreign-born and native-born workers for those with a bachelor's degree and higher. For example, among high school graduates (no college), full-time workers who were foreign born earned 83.8 percent as much as their native-born counterparts in 2018. Among those with a bachelor's degree and higher, the earnings of foreign-born workers (\$1,362) were slightly higher than the earnings of native-born workers (\$1,309).

# 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 eligible 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 presented in this release are not strictly comparable with data for earlier years due to the introduction of updated population estimates, or controls, used in the CPS. The population controls are updated each year in January to reflect the latest information about population change. Additional information is available from the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#pop](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#pop).

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 component of this difference that occurs because samples differ by chance is known as *sampling error*, and its 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, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

Additional information about the reliability of data from the CPS and estimating standard errors is available at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability).

## Definitions

Definitions of the principal terms used in this release are presented below.

*Foreign born.* The foreign born are persons residing in the United States who were not U.S. citizens at birth. Specifically, they were born outside the United States (or one of its outlying areas such as Guam or Puerto Rico), and neither parent 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 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 all those who, during the survey reference week, (a) did any work at all as paid employees; (b) worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family member's business. Persons who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor dispute, or another reason also are counted as employed.

*Unemployed.* The unemployed are those who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work at that time, 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.

*Full-time wage and salary workers.* These are workers who usually work 35 hours or more per week at their sole or principal job and receive wages, salaries, and other types of compensation. The group includes employees in both the private and public sectors but, for purposes of the earnings series, excludes all self-employed persons, regardless of whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

*Median earnings.* The median earnings 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, 2017-2018 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2017						2018					
	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		
<b>TOTAL</b>												
Total, 16 years and over.....	255,079	160,320	62.9	153,337	6,982	4.4	257,791	162,075	62.9	155,761	6,314	3.9
Men.....	123,275	85,145	69.1	81,402	3,743	4.4	124,678	86,096	69.1	82,698	3,398	3.9
Women.....	131,804	75,175	57.0	71,936	3,239	4.3	133,112	75,978	57.1	73,063	2,916	3.8
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>												
Total, 16 years and over.....	41,500	27,373	66.0	26,254	1,119	4.1	42,898	28,202	65.7	27,217	986	3.5
Men.....	20,135	15,735	78.1	15,171	564	3.6	20,803	16,203	77.9	15,714	488	3.0
Women.....	21,365	11,638	54.5	11,083	555	4.8	22,095	12,000	54.3	11,502	497	4.1
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years.....	3,547	1,886	53.2	1,727	159	8.4	3,443	1,761	51.2	1,638	124	7.0
25 to 34 years.....	7,820	5,898	75.4	5,656	242	4.1	7,946	6,092	76.7	5,877	215	3.5
35 to 44 years.....	9,189	7,299	79.4	7,043	256	3.5	9,499	7,520	79.2	7,302	219	2.9
45 to 54 years.....	8,481	6,826	80.5	6,592	234	3.4	8,715	7,044	80.8	6,844	200	2.8
55 to 64 years.....	6,146	4,209	68.5	4,040	169	4.0	6,542	4,425	67.6	4,255	170	3.8
65 years and over.....	6,317	1,256	19.9	1,196	60	4.8	6,754	1,360	20.1	1,301	58	4.3
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity<sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino.....	7,524	4,503	59.9	4,324	179	4.0	7,837	4,676	59.7	4,517	160	3.4
Black non-Hispanic or Latino.....	3,599	2,575	71.5	2,430	145	5.6	3,786	2,682	70.8	2,560	122	4.6
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino.....	10,738	6,903	64.3	6,684	220	3.2	11,118	7,082	63.7	6,895	187	2.6
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	19,174	13,098	68.3	12,540	558	4.3	19,683	13,457	68.4	12,950	507	3.8
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over.....	37,953	25,488	67.2	24,527	961	3.8	39,455	26,441	67.0	25,579	862	3.3
Less than a high school diploma.....	9,510	5,566	58.5	5,309	257	4.6	9,616	5,607	58.3	5,378	229	4.1
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> .....	9,697	6,412	66.1	6,160	252	3.9	10,127	6,629	65.5	6,415	214	3.2
Some college or associate degree.....	6,070	4,273	70.4	4,116	156	3.7	6,366	4,448	69.9	4,301	147	3.3
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	12,677	9,237	72.9	8,942	294	3.2	13,347	9,758	73.1	9,485	273	2.8
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Total, 16 years and over.....	213,579	132,946	62.2	127,083	5,863	4.4	214,892	133,872	62.3	128,544	5,328	4.0
Men.....	103,140	69,410	67.3	66,231	3,179	4.6	103,875	69,894	67.3	66,984	2,910	4.2
Women.....	110,439	63,536	57.5	60,852	2,684	4.2	111,018	63,979	57.6	61,560	2,418	3.8
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years.....	34,603	19,275	55.7	17,479	1,796	9.3	34,561	19,223	55.6	17,539	1,684	8.8
25 to 34 years.....	36,138	30,187	83.5	28,782	1,405	4.7	36,635	30,682	83.8	29,447	1,235	4.0
35 to 44 years.....	30,763	25,735	83.7	24,849	886	3.4	31,071	26,099	84.0	25,315	784	3.0
45 to 54 years.....	33,306	26,737	80.3	25,911	827	3.1	32,525	26,267	80.8	25,529	738	2.8
55 to 64 years.....	35,544	22,690	63.8	22,024	666	2.9	35,572	22,929	64.5	22,310	619	2.7
65 years and over.....	43,225	8,321	19.3	8,038	283	3.4	44,529	8,673	19.5	8,404	269	3.1
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity<sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino.....	154,598	96,148	62.2	92,779	3,369	3.5	154,396	95,991	62.2	92,952	3,038	3.2
Black non-Hispanic or Latino.....	26,764	16,239	60.7	14,965	1,274	7.8	27,076	16,484	60.9	15,355	1,129	6.8
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino.....	4,219	2,614	62.0	2,515	99	3.8	4,408	2,761	62.6	2,657	104	3.8
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	22,197	14,242	64.2	13,398	843	5.9	23,051	14,879	64.5	14,063	816	5.5
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over.....	178,976	113,672	63.5	109,604	4,067	3.6	180,332	114,650	63.6	111,005	3,644	3.2
Less than a high school diploma.....	13,128	4,776	36.4	4,359	417	8.7	12,635	4,671	37.0	4,323	347	7.4
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> .....	52,496	29,462	56.1	28,050	1,412	4.8	52,465	29,382	56.0	28,135	1,247	4.2
Some college or associate degree.....	51,191	33,424	65.3	32,166	1,257	3.8	51,038	33,138	64.9	32,036	1,101	3.3
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	62,161	46,009	74.0	45,029	981	2.1	64,193	47,459	73.9	46,511	949	2.0

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>3</sup> Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**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, 2017-2018 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2017			2018		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	15,292	7,162	8,130	15,770	7,446	8,324
Civilian labor force.....	11,557	6,669	4,888	12,062	6,984	5,078
Participation rate.....	75.6	93.1	60.1	76.5	93.8	61.0
Employed.....	11,141	6,481	4,660	11,675	6,815	4,860
Employment-population ratio.....	72.9	90.5	57.3	74.0	91.5	58.4
Unemployed.....	416	187	228	387	168	219
Unemployment rate.....	3.6	2.8	4.7	3.2	2.4	4.3
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	8,682	3,966	4,716	8,948	4,120	4,827
Civilian labor force.....	6,848	3,660	3,188	7,127	3,824	3,303
Participation rate.....	78.9	92.3	67.6	79.7	92.8	68.4
Employed.....	6,606	3,562	3,044	6,904	3,733	3,171
Employment-population ratio.....	76.1	89.8	64.5	77.2	90.6	65.7
Unemployed.....	243	99	144	223	91	132
Unemployment rate.....	3.5	2.7	4.5	3.1	2.4	4.0
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	6,609	3,196	3,414	6,823	3,326	3,497
Civilian labor force.....	4,709	3,008	1,700	4,935	3,160	1,775
Participation rate.....	71.2	94.1	49.8	72.3	95.0	50.8
Employed.....	4,536	2,920	1,616	4,771	3,082	1,689
Employment-population ratio.....	68.6	91.4	47.3	69.9	92.7	48.3
Unemployed.....	173	88	85	164	77	87
Unemployment rate.....	3.7	2.9	5.0	3.3	2.4	4.9
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	3,600	1,764	1,836	3,720	1,828	1,892
Civilian labor force.....	2,478	1,662	816	2,589	1,732	857
Participation rate.....	68.8	94.2	44.4	69.6	94.8	45.3
Employed.....	2,383	1,609	774	2,504	1,695	809
Employment-population ratio.....	66.2	91.2	42.2	67.3	92.7	42.8
Unemployed.....	95	53	42	85	37	48
Unemployment rate.....	3.8	3.2	5.1	3.3	2.2	5.6
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	26,209	12,974	13,235	27,128	13,357	13,771
Civilian labor force.....	15,816	9,066	6,750	16,140	9,219	6,921
Participation rate.....	60.3	69.9	51.0	59.5	69.0	50.3
Employed.....	15,113	8,690	6,423	15,542	8,899	6,643
Employment-population ratio.....	57.7	67.0	48.5	57.3	66.6	48.2
Unemployed.....	704	377	327	599	320	279
Unemployment rate.....	4.4	4.2	4.8	3.7	3.5	4.0
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	48,896	21,578	27,318	48,464	21,467	26,998
Civilian labor force.....	40,318	19,993	20,325	40,144	19,984	20,161
Participation rate.....	82.5	92.7	74.4	82.8	93.1	74.7
Employed.....	38,895	19,438	19,457	38,915	19,501	19,414
Employment-population ratio.....	79.5	90.1	71.2	80.3	90.8	71.9
Unemployed.....	1,423	555	868	1,229	483	746
Unemployment rate.....	3.5	2.8	4.3	3.1	2.4	3.7
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	27,604	12,187	15,416	26,933	11,874	15,059
Civilian labor force.....	23,212	11,152	12,060	22,810	10,929	11,880
Participation rate.....	84.1	91.5	78.2	84.7	92.0	78.9
Employed.....	22,458	10,866	11,591	22,193	10,696	11,497
Employment-population ratio.....	81.4	89.2	75.2	82.4	90.1	76.3



**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, 2017-2018 annual averages — Continued**

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2017			2018		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Unemployed.....	754	286	468	617	233	384
Unemployment rate.....	3.2	2.6	3.9	2.7	2.1	3.2
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	21,292	9,391	11,901	21,532	9,593	11,939
Civilian labor force.....	17,106	8,841	8,265	17,335	9,055	8,280
Participation rate.....	80.3	94.1	69.4	80.5	94.4	69.4
Employed.....	16,437	8,572	7,866	16,723	8,805	7,918
Employment-population ratio.....	77.2	91.3	66.1	77.7	91.8	66.3
Unemployed.....	669	269	399	612	249	363
Unemployment rate.....	3.9	3.0	4.8	3.5	2.8	4.4
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	12,690	5,649	7,041	12,556	5,623	6,933
Civilian labor force.....	10,060	5,348	4,712	9,932	5,328	4,605
Participation rate.....	79.3	94.7	66.9	79.1	94.8	66.4
Employed.....	9,661	5,185	4,476	9,576	5,174	4,401
Employment-population ratio.....	76.1	91.8	63.6	76.3	92.0	63.5
Unemployed.....	399	163	236	357	153	204
Unemployment rate.....	4.0	3.1	5.0	3.6	2.9	4.4
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	164,683	81,562	83,121	166,428	82,408	84,020
Civilian labor force.....	92,629	49,417	43,211	93,728	49,910	43,818
Participation rate.....	56.2	60.6	52.0	56.3	60.6	52.2
Employed.....	88,188	46,793	41,395	89,629	47,483	42,146
Employment-population ratio.....	53.6	57.4	49.8	53.9	57.6	50.2
Unemployed.....	4,441	2,625	1,816	4,099	2,427	1,672
Unemployment rate.....	4.8	5.3	4.2	4.4	4.9	3.8

NOTE: Own children include sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**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, 2017-2018 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2017				2018			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>								
<b>White non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	574	1,653	1,364	3,445	644	1,708	1,361	3,617
Civilian labor force.....	206	841	812	2,409	250	849	817	2,515
Participation rate.....	35.9	50.9	59.6	69.9	38.9	49.7	60.0	69.5
Employed.....	193	803	779	2,341	238	823	791	2,440
Employment-population ratio.....	33.7	48.6	57.1	68.0	36.9	48.2	58.1	67.5
Unemployed.....	13	39	33	68	12	26	27	75
Unemployment rate.....	6.3	4.6	4.1	2.8	4.9	3.1	3.3	3.0
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	388	895	798	1,113	391	946	908	1,156
Civilian labor force.....	210	628	612	911	196	666	684	950
Participation rate.....	54.3	70.1	76.7	81.9	50.3	70.4	75.3	82.1
Employed.....	197	593	585	866	187	637	653	911
Employment-population ratio.....	50.7	66.3	73.2	77.8	47.8	67.4	71.9	78.8
Unemployed.....	14	35	27	45	10	28	31	38
Unemployment rate.....	6.5	5.5	4.5	5.0	4.9	4.2	4.5	4.0
<b>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	1,052	1,932	1,381	5,515	1,015	1,955	1,402	5,844
Civilian labor force.....	421	1,185	940	3,983	403	1,145	934	4,257
Participation rate.....	40.0	61.3	68.1	72.2	39.7	58.6	66.7	72.8
Employed.....	404	1,154	909	3,864	393	1,121	910	4,152
Employment-population ratio.....	38.4	59.7	65.8	70.1	38.7	57.3	64.9	71.0
Unemployed.....	17	31	31	120	10	24	24	106
Unemployment rate.....	4.0	2.6	3.3	3.0	2.5	2.1	2.6	2.5
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	7,438	5,108	2,433	2,458	7,514	5,410	2,577	2,585
Civilian labor force.....	4,698	3,694	1,850	1,824	4,730	3,908	1,930	1,923
Participation rate.....	63.2	72.3	76.0	74.2	62.9	72.2	74.9	74.4
Employed.....	4,488	3,551	1,789	1,766	4,534	3,777	1,867	1,870
Employment-population ratio.....	60.3	69.5	73.5	71.8	60.3	69.8	72.4	72.4
Unemployed.....	210	143	61	58	196	131	63	53
Unemployment rate.....	4.5	3.9	3.3	3.2	4.1	3.4	3.2	2.7
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>								
<b>White non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	7,804	38,295	37,581	50,848	7,423	37,857	37,328	52,012
Civilian labor force.....	2,713	20,767	23,817	37,050	2,641	20,379	23,507	37,817
Participation rate.....	34.8	54.2	63.4	72.9	35.6	53.8	63.0	72.7
Employed.....	2,524	19,959	23,057	36,326	2,479	19,670	22,855	37,117
Employment-population ratio.....	32.3	52.1	61.4	71.4	33.4	52.0	61.2	71.4
Unemployed.....	189	808	760	724	162	708	652	700
Unemployment rate.....	7.0	3.9	3.2	2.0	6.1	3.5	2.8	1.9
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	2,486	7,507	6,754	5,065	2,427	7,487	6,713	5,555
Civilian labor force.....	785	4,355	4,632	3,888	782	4,340	4,571	4,259
Participation rate.....	31.6	58.0	68.6	76.8	32.2	58.0	68.1	76.7
Employed.....	663	3,998	4,352	3,766	684	4,029	4,324	4,146
Employment-population ratio.....	26.7	53.3	64.4	74.4	28.2	53.8	64.4	74.6
Unemployed.....	123	357	280	122	98	311	247	112
Unemployment rate.....	15.6	8.2	6.0	3.1	12.6	7.2	5.4	2.6
<b>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	141	476	610	1,714	164	516	602	1,854

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, 2017-2018 annual averages — Continued**

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2017				2018			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>
Civilian labor force.....	54	279	420	1,355	69	309	414	1,468
Participation rate.....	38.4	58.6	68.9	79.1	41.8	60.0	68.7	79.2
Employed.....	52	269	407	1,329	65	299	400	1,440
Employment-population ratio.....	36.8	56.6	66.8	77.5	39.7	58.0	66.4	77.7
Unemployed.....	2	10	13	26	4	10	14	28
Unemployment rate.....	4.3	3.5	3.1	1.9	5.1	3.4	3.3	1.9
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	2,291	4,904	4,787	3,422	2,223	5,227	4,903	3,613
Civilian labor force.....	1,057	3,273	3,556	2,837	1,023	3,531	3,624	2,989
Participation rate.....	46.1	66.7	74.3	82.9	46.0	67.6	73.9	82.7
Employed.....	974	3,091	3,407	2,759	954	3,369	3,487	2,900
Employment-population ratio.....	42.5	63.0	71.2	80.6	42.9	64.5	71.1	80.3
Unemployed.....	83	182	149	78	69	162	137	88
Unemployment rate.....	7.8	5.6	4.2	2.7	6.8	4.6	3.8	3.0

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

**Table 4. Employed foreign-born and native-born persons 16 years and over by occupation and sex, 2018  
annual averages**  
[Percent distribution]

Occupation	Foreign born			Native born		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total employed (in thousands).....	27,217	15,714	11,502	128,544	66,984	61,560
<b>Occupation as a percent of total employed</b>						
Total employed.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	32.7	30.7	35.5	41.6	38.0	45.6
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	12.3	12.4	12.1	17.5	18.7	16.2
Management occupations.....	8.5	9.3	7.5	12.4	14.2	10.5
Business and financial operations occupations.....	3.7	3.1	4.6	5.1	4.5	5.8
Professional and related occupations.....	20.5	18.4	23.4	24.1	19.3	29.4
Computer and mathematical occupations.....	5.1	6.6	3.0	2.9	4.1	1.6
Architecture and engineering occupations.....	2.2	3.2	0.9	2.1	3.4	0.7
Life, physical, and social science occupations.....	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.9
Community and social service occupations.....	0.9	0.6	1.3	1.9	1.2	2.6
Legal occupations.....	0.6	0.4	0.8	1.4	1.3	1.4
Education, training, and library occupations.....	3.7	2.2	5.7	6.5	3.2	10.0
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations.....	1.4	1.3	1.6	2.3	2.4	2.2
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations.....	5.4	2.9	8.8	6.2	2.8	9.8
Service occupations.....	23.3	16.6	32.5	15.9	13.1	19.0
Healthcare support occupations.....	2.7	0.6	5.5	2.3	0.6	4.1
Protective service occupations.....	0.9	1.2	0.5	2.3	3.4	1.1
Food preparation and serving related occupations.....	6.7	6.1	7.6	5.0	4.0	6.0
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	8.2	6.9	10.0	2.8	3.5	2.1
Personal care and service occupations.....	4.8	1.8	8.9	3.6	1.6	5.8
Sales and office occupations.....	14.9	11.2	19.9	22.9	16.8	29.5
Sales and related occupations.....	7.7	6.9	8.7	10.7	10.3	11.1
Office and administrative support occupations.....	7.2	4.3	11.2	12.2	6.5	18.4
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	14.0	22.8	2.0	8.3	15.1	0.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	1.6	2.0	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.2
Construction and extraction occupations.....	9.5	15.9	0.7	4.5	8.3	0.3
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	2.9	4.9	0.2	3.3	6.1	0.3
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	15.0	18.6	10.1	11.3	16.9	5.1
Production occupations.....	7.4	7.9	6.7	5.1	7.3	2.8
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	7.6	10.7	3.4	6.1	9.6	2.3

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers for the foreign born and native born by selected characteristics, 2017-2018 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2017					2018				
	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born
	Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings		Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings	
Total, 16 years and over.....	19,914	\$730	93,358	\$885	82.5	20,627	\$758	94,939	\$910	83.3
Men.....	12,123	776	50,857	978	79.3	12,469	815	51,673	1,007	80.9
Women.....	7,791	660	42,501	788	83.8	8,158	678	43,266	810	83.7
<b>AGE</b>										
16 to 24 years.....	1,065	506	9,216	521	97.1	993	522	9,436	551	94.7
25 to 34 years.....	4,610	701	23,586	786	89.2	4,668	752	24,207	819	91.8
35 to 44 years.....	5,560	790	20,102	1,003	78.8	5,803	802	20,648	1,035	77.5
45 to 54 years.....	5,009	760	20,642	1,019	74.6	5,215	779	20,351	1,059	73.6
55 to 64 years.....	2,958	765	16,199	1,007	76.0	3,154	774	16,430	1,035	74.8
65 years and over.....	712	721	3,615	937	76.9	795	733	3,867	977	75.0
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY<sup>1</sup></b>										
White non-Hispanic or Latino.....	3,040	1,080	67,242	955	113.1	3,135	1,083	67,771	986	109.8
Black non-Hispanic or Latino.....	1,885	682	11,669	683	99.9	2,023	699	12,109	697	100.3
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino.....	5,189	1,076	1,943	1,007	106.9	5,387	1,129	2,041	1,065	106.0
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	9,579	596	10,036	724	82.3	9,852	621	10,445	741	83.8
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>										
Total, 25 years and over.....	18,848	751	84,142	937	80.1	19,635	775	85,503	965	80.3
Less than a high school diploma.....	4,113	506	2,925	560	90.4	4,097	535	2,902	578	92.6
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> ...	4,539	619	21,472	734	84.3	4,879	632	21,358	754	83.8
Some college or associate degree... ..	3,003	727	24,384	808	90.0	3,125	755	24,350	837	90.2
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	7,193	1,340	35,362	1,271	105.4	7,534	1,362	36,893	1,309	104.0

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>3</sup> Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 6. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by census region and division, 2017-2018 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Census region and division	2017						2018					
	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
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>												
Northeast.....	8,623	5,586	64.8	5,326	260	4.7	8,914	5,787	64.9	5,576	212	3.7
New England.....	1,939	1,311	67.6	1,247	64	4.9	1,976	1,372	69.4	1,318	54	3.9
Middle Atlantic.....	6,684	4,275	64.0	4,079	196	4.6	6,938	4,416	63.6	4,258	158	3.6
South.....	14,232	9,554	67.1	9,214	340	3.6	14,562	9,719	66.7	9,405	314	3.2
South Atlantic.....	8,400	5,669	67.5	5,452	217	3.8	8,633	5,766	66.8	5,583	183	3.2
East South Central.....	716	494	68.9	476	17	3.5	748	510	68.2	492	18	3.6
West South Central....	5,116	3,391	66.3	3,285	106	3.1	5,181	3,443	66.5	3,330	113	3.3
Midwest.....	4,451	3,051	68.5	2,929	122	4.0	4,907	3,289	67.0	3,178	111	3.4
East North Central....	3,239	2,180	67.3	2,102	78	3.6	3,584	2,351	65.6	2,273	78	3.3
West North Central....	1,212	871	71.9	827	44	5.0	1,323	938	70.9	905	33	3.5
West.....	14,194	9,183	64.7	8,785	397	4.3	14,515	9,407	64.8	9,058	349	3.7
Mountain.....	2,688	1,793	66.7	1,710	83	4.6	2,766	1,850	66.9	1,788	62	3.3
Pacific.....	11,506	7,390	64.2	7,075	315	4.3	11,749	7,558	64.3	7,270	287	3.8
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Northeast.....	36,630	22,924	62.6	21,905	1,019	4.4	36,657	22,937	62.6	21,996	941	4.1
New England.....	10,074	6,614	65.7	6,364	250	3.8	10,143	6,721	66.3	6,488	232	3.5
Middle Atlantic.....	26,557	16,310	61.4	15,541	769	4.7	26,513	16,217	61.2	15,508	709	4.4
South.....	81,780	49,496	60.5	47,274	2,222	4.5	82,746	50,181	60.6	48,209	1,972	3.9
South Atlantic.....	42,584	25,865	60.7	24,727	1,138	4.4	43,140	26,161	60.6	25,162	999	3.8
East South Central....	14,160	8,217	58.0	7,848	369	4.5	14,224	8,289	58.3	7,954	335	4.0
West South Central....	25,036	15,414	61.6	14,698	716	4.6	25,382	15,731	62.0	15,093	638	4.1
Midwest.....	48,973	31,679	64.7	30,369	1,310	4.1	48,821	31,589	64.7	30,415	1,174	3.7
East North Central....	33,663	21,403	63.6	20,431	972	4.5	33,510	21,324	63.6	20,452	872	4.1
West North Central....	15,310	10,277	67.1	9,938	339	3.3	15,311	10,265	67.0	9,963	301	2.9
West.....	46,196	28,847	62.4	27,536	1,311	4.5	46,669	29,164	62.5	27,923	1,241	4.3
Mountain.....	15,968	10,121	63.4	9,718	404	4.0	16,220	10,341	63.8	9,920	421	4.1
Pacific.....	30,229	18,726	61.9	17,818	908	4.8	30,449	18,824	61.8	18,003	820	4.4

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 (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.