

**Number of unemployment spells experienced by individuals from age 18 to age 42 in 1978-2006 by age, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity**

Characteristic	Percent distribution of persons by number of unemployment spells											Mean number of spells held	
	Total	0 spells	1 spell	2 spells	3 spells	4 spells	5 spells	6 spells	7 spells	8 spells	9 spells	10 spells or more	
Total, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	9.5	11.8	12.1	12.5	9.6	8.0	6.6	6.4	5.4	3.5	14.6	5.1
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	21.8	21.1	17.1	13.0	10.3	6.7	4.8	2.7	1.5	0.6	0.3	2.4
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	48.4	22.5	12.5	7.8	4.2	2.4	1.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	1.1
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	61.3	18.1	9.4	5.7	2.4	1.5	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.8
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	72.9	16.3	6.6	2.1	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	75.0	14.8	6.4	2.7	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Men, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	10.4	12.6	11.5	12.5	8.9	7.4	5.9	5.4	5.8	3.9	15.8	5.2
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	22.2	21.5	15.3	12.5	9.5	7.1	4.9	3.8	1.9	0.9	0.5	2.5
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	49.7	20.4	11.9	7.9	4.8	2.6	1.5	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.0	1.2
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	62.5	16.2	8.9	5.7	2.8	1.7	1.3	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.9
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	74.9	14.7	6.1	1.5	1.9	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	75.6	13.9	6.7	2.8	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Women, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	8.7	11.0	12.7	12.5	10.3	8.5	7.4	7.4	4.9	3.1	13.5	4.9
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	21.4	20.6	18.9	13.6	11.1	6.4	4.8	1.6	1.0	0.3	0.1	2.3
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	47.0	24.7	13.2	7.6	3.5	2.2	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.1
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	60.1	20.2	9.8	5.8	2.0	1.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.8
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	70.7	18.0	7.0	2.7	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	74.4	15.6	6.2	2.7	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
White non-Hispanic, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	10.6	13.0	13.0	13.2	9.6	8.1	6.3	6.2	4.9	3.2	11.9	4.7
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	23.4	22.0	16.9	12.5	9.7	6.1	4.7	2.6	1.3	0.6	0.3	2.3
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	51.8	22.6	11.7	6.7	3.2	2.2	1.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	1.0
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	65.1	17.1	8.4	5.1	1.9	1.2	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.7
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	75.9	15.3	5.3	1.5	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	77.2	13.9	5.6	2.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
White non-Hispanic men, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	11.7	14.1	12.2	13.3	9.0	7.6	5.5	5.3	4.9	3.7	12.6	4.7
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	23.9	22.8	15.1	11.5	8.9	6.5	4.5	3.7	1.8	0.9	0.4	2.3
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	53.5	20.3	10.9	6.8	3.8	2.4	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	1.1
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	66.5	15.3	7.7	4.9	2.4	1.3	1.1	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.7
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	78.6	13.3	4.7	1.0	1.9	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	78.3	13.1	5.5	2.4	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3

Number of unemployment spells experienced by individuals from age 18 to age 36 in 1978-2000 by age, sex, race, and Hispanic ethnicity

continued

Characteristic	Total	Percent distribution of persons by number of unemployment spells											Mean number of spells held
		0 spells	1 spell	2 spells	3 spells	4 spells	5 spells	6 spells	7 spells	8 spells	9 spells	10 spells or more	
White non-Hispanic women, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	9.5	11.9	13.7	13.1	10.3	8.7	7.2	7.2	4.8	2.6	11.1	4.6
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	22.8	21.2	18.8	13.5	10.5	5.7	4.9	1.4	0.9	0.3	0.1	2.2
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	50.0	25.0	12.4	6.6	2.5	2.0	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.0
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	63.6	19.0	9.1	5.3	1.4	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.7
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	73.1	17.4	6.0	2.0	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.4
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	76.0	14.8	5.7	2.7	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Black non-Hispanic, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	4.4	5.8	8.3	10.2	8.7	6.7	8.1	7.1	7.5	4.8	28.5	7.0
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	13.3	15.7	18.5	16.4	13.6	10.5	5.5	3.3	2.1	0.5	0.5	2.9
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	32.8	21.5	16.2	12.7	8.4	4.0	2.6	0.9	0.7	0.0	0.1	1.7
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	44.7	22.0	13.5	8.3	5.2	3.5	1.8	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.0	1.3
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	59.0	20.2	12.2	5.4	1.8	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	65.3	18.2	10.5	3.4	1.9	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Black non-Hispanic men, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	4.2	5.1	9.7	9.6	8.7	6.2	7.8	5.6	8.8	3.8	30.6	7.2
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	13.6	15.8	16.9	17.0	12.2	10.1	5.9	3.6	3.2	1.0	0.8	3.0
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	33.3	21.8	15.2	12.0	9.1	3.7	2.8	1.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	1.8
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	44.7	20.3	14.4	8.6	4.6	3.7	2.4	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	1.4
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	58.7	19.6	13.1	4.9	2.0	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	63.6	17.5	12.3	4.3	1.6	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Black non-Hispanic women, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	4.6	6.6	6.7	10.7	8.6	7.2	8.3	8.8	6.2	5.8	26.3	6.8
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	13.0	15.5	20.3	15.8	15.1	10.9	5.2	3.0	1.0	0.0	0.2	2.8
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	32.2	21.3	17.3	13.5	7.8	4.4	2.5	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.1	1.7
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	44.8	23.9	12.5	8.0	5.8	3.2	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	1.2
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	59.2	20.9	11.2	6.0	1.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	67.2	19.0	8.5	2.4	2.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Hispanic or Latino, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	6.6	12.0	10.6	9.7	10.1	8.0	7.6	6.6	6.8	5.3	16.8	5.6
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	20.0	21.5	16.4	13.5	10.7	6.8	5.3	3.4	1.1	0.6	0.7	2.5
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	41.5	23.6	15.4	9.9	5.1	2.0	1.2	1.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	1.3
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	55.8	19.3	11.9	6.5	2.7	1.3	1.3	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3	1.0
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	67.9	19.9	7.8	2.4	1.1	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	69.2	18.1	6.9	3.6	1.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Hispanic or Latino men, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	6.4	12.3	7.6	9.1	7.7	6.7	7.2	5.9	9.3	6.1	21.6	6.3
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	17.7	18.6	14.4	15.2	11.1	8.1	7.4	4.6	1.2	0.3	1.4	2.8
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	40.1	18.6	16.8	12.1	6.5	2.9	1.2	1.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	1.5
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	55.3	16.9	11.9	5.7	3.5	2.2	2.4	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.5	1.1
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	67.9	20.3	7.8	1.1	1.8	0.7	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	69.1	18.0	6.8	3.5	1.8	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5

**Number of unemployment spells experienced by individuals from age 18 to age 36 in 1978-2000 by age, sex, race, and Hispanic ethnicity**

**continued**

Characteristic	Percent distribution of persons by number of unemployment spells											Mean number of spells held	
	Total	0 spells	1 spell	2 spells	3 spells	4 spells	5 spells	6 spells	7 spells	8 spells	9 spells		
Hispanic or Latino women, ages 18 to 42 in 1978-2006 <sup>1</sup> ....	100.0	6.7	11.7	13.9	10.2	12.7	9.4	8.0	7.4	4.0	4.4	11.4	4.9
Ages 18 to 22 in 1978-1986 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	22.5	24.6	18.5	11.5	10.3	5.5	3.0	2.1	1.0	0.9	0.0	2.1
Ages 23 to 27 in 1980-1991 .....	100.0	43.1	29.0	13.8	7.5	3.5	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.1
Ages 28 to 32 in 1985-1996 .....	100.0	56.4	21.8	12.0	7.4	1.8	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Ages 33 to 37 in 1990-2001 .....	100.0	68.0	19.4	7.8	3.8	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Ages 38 to 42 in 1995-2006 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	69.3	18.2	7.0	3.8	1.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5

<sup>1</sup> This category excludes individuals who turned age 18 before Jan. 1, 1978, or who had not yet turned age 43 when interviewed in 2006-07.

<sup>2</sup> This category excludes individuals who turned age 18 before Jan. 1, 1978.

<sup>3</sup> This category excludes individuals who had not yet turned age 43 when interviewed in 2006-07.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY79)

The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 consists of men and women who were born in the years 1957-64 and were ages 14 to 22 when first interviewed in 1979. These individuals were ages 41 to 50 in 2006-07. Educational attainment is defined as of the 2006-07 survey. Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups, which are included in the overall totals, are not shown separately because their representation in the survey sample is not sufficiently large to provide statistically reliable estimates.