

**A-38. Persons not in the labor force by desire and availability for work, age, and sex**

(In thousands)

Category	Total		Age						Sex			
	Aug. 2007	Aug. 2008	16 to 24 years		25 to 54 years		55 years and over		Men		Women	
			Aug. 2007	Aug. 2008	Aug. 2007	Aug. 2008	Aug. 2007	Aug. 2008	Aug. 2007	Aug. 2008	Aug. 2007	Aug. 2008
Total not in the labor force .....	78,717	78,719	14,655	14,439	21,632	21,324	42,430	42,956	29,813	29,986	48,904	48,734
Do not want a job now <sup>1</sup> .....	73,752	73,696	13,050	12,812	19,295	19,108	41,407	41,776	27,636	27,929	46,116	45,767
Want a job <sup>1</sup> .....	4,965	5,024	1,605	1,627	2,337	2,216	1,024	1,180	2,177	2,057	2,789	2,967
Did not search for work in previous year .....	3,045	2,881	968	835	1,311	1,182	766	864	1,299	1,066	1,746	1,815
Searched for work in previous year <sup>2</sup> .....	1,920	2,142	636	792	1,026	1,034	258	317	878	991	1,043	1,151
Not available to work now .....	556	502	197	166	307	271	52	65	192	182	364	320
Available to work now .....	1,365	1,640	439	626	720	763	206	252	686	809	679	832
Reason not currently looking:												
Discouragement over job prospects .....	392	381	96	125	229	197	67	59	209	237	184	144
Reasons other than discouragement <sup>3</sup> .....	972	1,259	343	500	491	566	138	193	477	572	495	688
Family responsibilities .....	190	168	57	38	111	115	22	15	58	36	131	132
In school or training .....	135	216	105	184	24	32	6	-	80	115	54	101
Ill health or disability .....	98	134	3	19	69	52	26	63	52	45	46	90
Other <sup>1</sup> .....	550	741	178	260	287	366	85	115	286	375	263	365

<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.  
 NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria.