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LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS OF FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS IN 2004

The unemployment rate for the foreign born fell to 5.5 percent in 2004, down from 6.6 percent in the prior year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The jobless rate of the native born also fell to 5.5 percent in 2004, declining from 5.9 percent in the previous year.

This news release compares the labor force characteristics of the foreign born with those of their native-born counterparts. The 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 born outside the country or one of its outlying areas to parents who were not U.S. citizens. For further information about the survey, see the Technical Note.

Labor Force and Unemployment

In 2004, there were 21.4 million foreign-born persons in the United States labor force, comprising 14.5 percent of the total. (See table 1.) From 2002 to 2004, the number of foreign-born labor force participants grew by about 1.2 million on net and accounted for a little less than half of total labor force growth over the same period.

A little over two-thirds of foreign-born persons 16 years and over were in the labor force in 2004, about the same proportion as in the previous 2 years. Over the year, the labor force participation rate for the native born edged down from 66.1 to 65.7 percent.

Foreign-born men were more likely to be labor force participants (81.1 percent) than their native-born counterparts (72.0 percent). In contrast, foreign-born women were less likely to be labor force participants than native-born women—53.8 versus 60.0 percent. Over the year, the labor force participation rates of both men and women were about unchanged for the foreign born, while they edged down for their native-born counterparts.

Among the major race/ethnic groups, labor force participation of foreign-born non-Hispanic blacks edged down over the year. Among the native born, labor force participation declined for non-Hispanic Asians, but edged up for Hispanics or Latinos. (See tables 1 and 3.)

The labor force participation rate for foreign-born women with children under 18 was 58.4 percent in 2004, compared with 73.0 percent for native-born mothers. Participation rates for both groups were down from the prior year—by 1.2 and 0.6 percentage points, respectively. About 94 percent of both foreign-born and native-born fathers with children under 18 were in the labor force in 2004. (See table 2.)

The over-the-year decline in the unemployment rate of foreign-born workers—from 6.6 percent in 2003 to 5.5 percent in 2004—reflected declines in the rates for both men and women. The unemployment rate for foreign-born men fell from 6.2 to 5.0 percent, and the rate for foreign-born women declined from 7.1 to 6.3 percent. Among the native born, the unemployment rate for men declined from 6.3 percent in 2003 to 5.8 percent in 2004, while the rate for women was little changed. (See table 1.)

Occupation

The largest group of foreign-born workers was employed in management, professional, and related occupations (26.5 percent) in 2004. This was also the case for native-born workers, with 36.3 percent of them employed in this occupational category. An additional 22.8 percent of foreign-born workers were employed in service occupations and 18.4 percent were in sales and office occupations, as were 15.2 and 26.7 percent, respectively, of the native-born workers. (See table 4.)

Reflecting the downward trend in manufacturing employment as a whole, the proportions of both foreign-born and native-born workers employed in production, transportation, and material moving occupations declined from 2000 to 2004. In 2000, 20.4 percent of foreign-born and 13.8 percent of native-born workers were employed in these occupations. In 2004, the proportions were 17.5 percent for the foreign born and 12.1 percent for the native born.

Earnings

In 2004, the median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers (\$502), were 75.6 percent of those of their native-born counterparts (\$664). The earnings of foreign-born men (\$518) were 69.1 percent of those of native-born men (\$749), while foreign-born women had earnings (\$473) that were 81.0 percent of those of native-born women (\$585). While earnings for both the foreign-born and native-born groups rose over the year, the increase was relatively smaller for the foreign born (2.7 percent) than for their native-born counterparts (3.3 percent). The foreign-to-native-born earnings gap is narrower at higher education levels. For example, the median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers with a bachelor's degree or higher (\$943) were 94.9 percent of those of their native-born counterparts (\$994) in 2004. (See table 5.)

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 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 for 2004 are not strictly comparable with data for 2003 and earlier years because of the introduction in January 2004 of revised population controls used in the CPS. The effect of the revised population controls on the foreign- and native-born estimates is unknown. However, the effect of the new controls on the monthly CPS estimates was to decrease the December 2003 employment level by 409,000 and the unemployment level by 27,000. The updated controls had little or no effect on unemployment rates and other ratios. For additional information, see "Adjustments to Household Survey Population Estimates in January 2004" in the February 2004 issue of *Employment and Earnings*, available on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps04adj.pdf>.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200, TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

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 exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending upon the particular sample selected, and this 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.

For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and information on estimating standard errors, see the "Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error" section of *Employment and Earnings*.

Concepts and definitions

Foreign born. The foreign born are persons residing in the United States who were not U.S. citizens at birth. That is, they were born outside the United States or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam, to parents neither of whom 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.

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 the data on race and ethnicity in this release differs from that which appears in most analyses of CPS labor force data in that 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 (a) all those who, during the survey reference week, did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or who worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family-operated enterprise; and (b) all those who did not work but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, vacation, childcare problems, labor disputes, or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off and whether or not they were seeking other jobs.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work at that time, except for temporary illness, 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.

Median earnings. The median 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, 2003-04 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2003						2004					
	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	
TOTAL												
Total 16 years and over	221,168	146,510	66.2	137,736	8,774	6.0	223,357	147,401	66.0	139,252	8,149	5.5
Men	106,435	78,238	73.5	73,332	4,906	6.3	107,710	78,980	73.3	74,524	4,456	5.6
Women	114,733	68,272	59.5	64,404	3,868	5.7	115,647	68,421	59.2	64,728	3,694	5.4
FOREIGN BORN												
Total 16 years and over	31,331	21,117	67.4	19,731	1,385	6.6	31,763	21,433	67.5	20,255	1,178	5.5
Men	15,669	12,634	80.6	11,850	784	6.2	15,913	12,905	81.1	12,263	642	5.0
Women	15,662	8,482	54.2	7,881	601	7.1	15,849	8,528	53.8	7,992	536	6.3
Age												
16 to 24 years	4,135	2,456	59.4	2,203	252	10.3	4,191	2,497	59.6	2,278	219	8.8
25 to 34 years	7,784	5,925	76.1	5,551	375	6.3	7,821	5,988	76.6	5,670	318	5.3
35 to 44 years	7,450	6,026	80.9	5,673	353	5.9	7,481	6,085	81.3	5,787	298	4.9
45 to 54 years	5,245	4,200	80.1	3,935	264	6.3	5,342	4,305	80.6	4,096	210	4.9
55 to 64 years	3,195	2,016	63.1	1,903	113	5.6	3,294	2,050	62.2	1,945	105	5.1
65 years and over	3,521	494	14.0	465	28	5.8	3,634	507	14.0	479	28	5.5
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity¹												
White non-Hispanic or Latino	7,128	4,267	59.9	4,048	219	5.1	7,141	4,282	60.0	4,088	194	4.5
Black non-Hispanic or Latino	2,391	1,782	74.5	1,631	152	8.5	2,360	1,731	73.4	1,595	136	7.9
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino	6,867	4,613	67.2	4,324	289	6.3	7,062	4,738	67.1	4,530	208	4.4
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	14,627	10,226	69.9	9,513	713	7.0	14,878	10,439	70.2	9,808	631	6.0
Educational attainment												
Total, 25 years and over	27,196	18,661	68.6	17,528	1,133	6.1	27,572	18,936	68.7	17,977	959	5.1
Less than a high school diploma	8,823	5,376	60.9	4,949	427	7.9	8,796	5,351	60.8	4,974	377	7.0
High school graduates, no college ²	6,778	4,596	67.8	4,335	261	5.7	6,929	4,707	67.9	4,493	214	4.5
Some college or associate degree	4,147	2,991	72.1	2,811	180	6.0	4,259	3,104	72.9	2,944	161	5.2
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	7,447	5,698	76.5	5,433	265	4.7	7,587	5,773	76.1	5,566	207	3.6
NATIVE BORN												
Total 16 years and over	189,837	125,393	66.1	118,005	7,389	5.9	191,594	125,968	65.7	118,997	6,971	5.5
Men	90,766	65,603	72.3	61,481	4,122	6.3	91,797	66,075	72.0	62,261	3,813	5.8
Women	99,072	59,790	60.4	56,523	3,267	5.5	99,797	59,893	60.0	56,736	3,158	5.3
Age												
16 to 24 years	31,762	19,642	61.8	17,148	2,494	12.7	32,228	19,771	61.3	17,352	2,419	12.2
25 to 34 years	31,237	26,418	84.6	24,832	1,585	6.0	31,118	26,219	84.3	24,753	1,466	5.6
35 to 44 years	36,296	30,669	84.5	29,207	1,462	4.8	35,745	30,072	84.1	28,793	1,280	4.3
45 to 54 years	35,277	29,071	82.4	27,979	1,092	3.8	35,904	29,452	82.0	28,374	1,079	3.7
55 to 64 years	24,533	15,296	62.3	14,696	600	3.9	25,625	15,963	62.3	15,386	577	3.6
65 years and over	30,733	4,298	14.0	4,143	155	3.6	30,975	4,490	14.5	4,339	151	3.4
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity¹												
White non-Hispanic or Latino	148,569	98,833	66.5	94,057	4,776	4.8	149,414	98,920	66.2	94,480	4,440	4.5
Black non-Hispanic or Latino	22,484	14,215	63.2	12,644	1,571	11.1	22,876	14,355	62.8	12,817	1,537	10.7
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino	2,228	1,414	63.5	1,342	73	5.1	2,358	1,455	61.7	1,391	64	4.4
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	12,924	8,587	66.4	7,859	727	8.5	13,231	8,833	66.8	8,122	711	8.0
Educational attainment												
Total, 25 years and over	158,075	105,751	66.9	100,857	4,894	4.6	159,366	106,197	66.6	101,645	4,552	4.3
Less than a high school diploma	19,333	7,271	37.6	6,588	682	9.4	18,873	7,118	37.7	6,434	684	9.6
High school graduates, no college ²	52,701	33,330	63.2	31,522	1,808	5.4	52,930	33,128	62.6	31,451	1,676	5.1
Some college or associate degree	42,594	31,058	72.9	29,609	1,449	4.7	43,297	31,334	72.4	30,033	1,301	4.2
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	43,447	34,093	78.5	33,138	955	2.8	44,266	34,617	78.2	33,727	891	2.6

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

² Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

³ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2004, estimated levels for 2004 are not strictly comparable with those for 2003. See the Technical Note for further information.

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, 2003-04 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2003			2004		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
FOREIGN BORN						
With own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	12,520	5,985	6,534	12,740	6,060	6,680
Civilian labor force	9,488	5,593	3,895	9,614	5,710	3,904
Participation rate	75.8	93.4	59.6	75.5	94.2	58.4
Employed	8,896	5,284	3,611	9,125	5,474	3,652
Employment-population ratio	71.1	88.3	55.3	71.6	90.3	54.7
Unemployed	592	309	283	489	236	253
Unemployment rate	6.2	5.5	7.3	5.1	4.1	6.5
With own children 6 to 17, none younger						
Civilian noninstitutional population	6,253	2,893	3,360	6,268	2,907	3,361
Civilian labor force	4,975	2,663	2,313	5,024	2,715	2,309
Participation rate	79.6	92.0	68.8	80.1	93.4	68.7
Employed	4,688	2,516	2,172	4,785	2,605	2,180
Employment-population ratio	75.0	87.0	64.7	76.3	89.6	64.9
Unemployed	287	147	140	238	110	129
Unemployment rate	5.8	5.5	6.1	4.7	4.0	5.6
With own children under 6						
Civilian noninstitutional population	6,267	3,092	3,174	6,472	3,153	3,319
Civilian labor force	4,513	2,930	1,582	4,590	2,995	1,595
Participation rate	72.0	94.8	49.8	70.9	95.0	48.1
Employed	4,208	2,769	1,439	4,340	2,869	1,471
Employment-population ratio	67.1	89.5	45.3	67.1	91.0	44.3
Unemployed	305	162	143	250	126	124
Unemployment rate	6.8	5.5	9.0	5.5	4.2	7.8
With own children under 3						
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,740	1,878	1,862	3,789	1,865	1,924
Civilian labor force	2,618	1,786	832	2,596	1,778	819
Participation rate	70.0	95.1	44.7	68.5	95.3	42.6
Employed	2,450	1,693	757	2,457	1,705	751
Employment-population ratio	65.5	90.2	40.6	64.8	91.4	39.1
Unemployed	168	93	75	139	72	67
Unemployment rate	6.4	5.2	9.0	5.4	4.1	8.2
With no own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	18,811	9,684	9,127	19,023	9,853	9,170
Civilian labor force	11,629	7,041	4,588	11,819	7,195	4,624
Participation rate	61.8	72.7	50.3	62.1	73.0	50.4
Employed	10,836	6,566	4,270	11,130	6,789	4,340
Employment-population ratio	57.6	67.8	46.8	58.5	68.9	47.3
Unemployed	793	475	318	690	406	283
Unemployment rate	6.8	6.8	6.9	5.8	5.6	6.1
NATIVE BORN						
With own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	53,492	23,593	29,899	53,136	23,424	29,712
Civilian labor force	44,271	22,261	22,010	43,757	22,053	21,703
Participation rate	82.8	94.4	73.6	82.3	94.1	73.0
Employed	42,196	21,421	20,774	41,882	21,342	20,540
Employment-population ratio	78.9	90.8	69.5	78.8	91.1	69.1
Unemployed	2,075	839	1,236	1,875	711	1,163
Unemployment rate	4.7	3.8	5.6	4.3	3.2	5.4
With own children 6 to 17, none younger						
Civilian noninstitutional population	30,167	13,334	16,833	30,101	13,279	16,821
Civilian labor force	25,839	12,444	13,394	25,642	12,358	13,284
Participation rate	85.7	93.3	79.6	85.2	93.1	79.0
Employed	24,784	12,004	12,780	24,700	11,993	12,707
Employment-population ratio	82.2	90.0	75.9	82.1	90.3	75.5
Unemployed	1,054	440	614	942	365	577
Unemployment rate	4.1	3.5	4.6	3.7	3.0	4.3

See footnotes at end of table.

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, 2003-04 annual averages — Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2003			2004		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
NATIVE BORN—Continued						
With own children under 6						
Civilian noninstitutional population	23,324	10,259	13,065	23,036	10,145	12,891
Civilian labor force	18,432	9,816	8,616	18,115	9,696	8,419
Participation rate	79.0	95.7	65.9	78.6	95.6	65.3
Employed	17,411	9,417	7,994	17,182	9,349	7,833
Employment-population ratio	74.6	91.8	61.2	74.6	92.2	60.8
Unemployed	1,021	399	621	933	347	586
Unemployment rate	5.5	4.1	7.2	5.1	3.6	7.0
With own children under 3						
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,625	6,037	7,588	13,363	5,941	7,422
Civilian labor force	10,518	5,787	4,731	10,252	5,693	4,559
Participation rate	77.2	95.9	62.3	76.7	95.8	61.4
Employed	9,900	5,541	4,359	9,696	5,483	4,212
Employment-population ratio	72.7	91.8	57.4	72.6	92.3	56.8
Unemployed	617	245	372	556	210	346
Unemployment rate	5.9	4.2	7.9	5.4	3.7	7.6
With no own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	136,346	67,173	69,173	138,458	68,373	70,085
Civilian labor force	81,123	43,343	37,780	82,212	44,021	38,190
Participation rate	59.5	64.5	54.6	59.4	64.4	54.5
Employed	75,809	40,060	35,749	77,115	40,919	36,196
Employment-population ratio	55.6	59.6	51.7	55.7	59.8	51.6
Unemployed	5,314	3,283	2,031	5,096	3,102	1,994
Unemployment rate	6.6	7.6	5.4	6.2	7.0	5.2

NOTE: Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2004, estimated levels for 2004 are not strictly comparable with those for 2003. See the Technical Note for further information.

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, 2003-04 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2003				2004			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²
FOREIGN BORN								
White non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	910	1,857	1,238	2,506	899	1,833	1,281	2,474
Civilian labor force	291	1,029	772	1,825	298	981	811	1,814
Participation rate	32.0	55.4	62.4	72.8	33.2	53.5	63.3	73.3
Employed	274	978	730	1,749	279	948	768	1,747
Employment-population ratio	30.1	52.6	59.0	69.8	31.1	51.7	60.0	70.6
Unemployed	17	51	42	76	19	33	43	67
Unemployment rate	6.0	5.0	5.5	4.2	6.4	3.4	5.3	3.7
Black non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	366	629	477	564	371	650	451	569
Civilian labor force	223	494	393	490	220	495	364	487
Participation rate	60.9	78.5	82.2	86.9	59.4	76.1	80.7	85.6
Employed	195	458	361	458	198	463	332	463
Employment-population ratio	53.3	72.9	75.7	81.2	53.4	71.1	73.7	81.3
Unemployed	28	35	31	32	22	32	31	25
Unemployment rate	12.5	7.1	7.9	6.6	10.1	6.5	8.6	5.0
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	867	1,304	932	3,033	874	1,291	986	3,163
Civilian labor force	405	863	675	2,321	390	862	727	2,394
Participation rate	46.7	66.2	72.4	76.5	44.6	66.8	73.8	75.7
Employed	366	811	628	2,211	366	819	688	2,321
Employment-population ratio	42.2	62.2	67.3	72.9	41.9	63.4	69.8	73.4
Unemployed	39	51	47	110	24	43	40	72
Unemployment rate	9.7	6.0	7.0	4.7	6.1	5.0	5.4	3.0
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity								
Civilian noninstitutional population	6,645	2,916	1,428	1,247	6,618	3,088	1,474	1,280
Civilian labor force	4,436	2,160	1,093	983	4,422	2,315	1,147	997
Participation rate	66.8	74.1	76.6	78.9	66.8	75.0	77.9	77.9
Employed	4,095	2,040	1,036	940	4,111	2,209	1,102	957
Employment-population ratio	61.6	70.0	72.6	75.4	62.1	71.5	74.8	74.8
Unemployed	341	120	58	44	311	105	46	40
Unemployment rate	7.7	5.6	5.3	4.4	7.0	4.6	4.0	4.0
NATIVE BORN								
White non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,010	42,044	33,809	37,843	12,622	42,042	34,302	38,440
Civilian labor force	4,713	26,005	24,276	29,493	4,546	25,719	24,536	29,797
Participation rate	36.2	61.9	71.8	77.9	36.0	61.2	71.5	77.5
Employed	4,348	24,811	23,312	28,708	4,193	24,615	23,681	29,079
Employment-population ratio	33.4	59.0	69.0	75.9	33.2	58.5	69.0	75.6
Unemployed	365	1,194	965	786	353	1,103	854	718
Unemployment rate	7.7	4.6	4.0	2.7	7.8	4.3	3.5	2.4
Black non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,448	6,410	5,001	3,022	3,391	6,600	5,068	3,097
Civilian labor force	1,267	4,292	3,820	2,458	1,228	4,400	3,768	2,554
Participation rate	36.8	67.0	76.4	81.3	36.2	66.7	74.4	82.5
Employed	1,088	3,878	3,521	2,364	1,025	4,004	3,483	2,451
Employment-population ratio	31.6	60.5	70.4	78.2	30.2	60.7	68.7	79.1
Unemployed	179	414	298	95	203	396	285	104
Unemployment rate	14.1	9.6	7.8	3.9	16.5	9.0	7.6	4.1
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	132	294	358	755	142	320	381	807
Civilian labor force	50	174	251	611	55	174	259	640
Participation rate	38.0	59.0	70.2	81.0	38.4	54.6	68.0	79.2
Employed	46	167	243	593	52	170	252	624
Employment-population ratio	34.7	56.8	68.0	78.6	36.8	53.2	65.9	77.3
Unemployed	4	7	8	18	2	4	8	16
Unemployment rate	8.8	3.8	3.1	3.0	4.2	2.4	3.0	2.5

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, 2003-04 annual averages — Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2003				2004			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²
NATIVE BORN—Continued								
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity								
Civilian noninstitutional population	2,324	3,078	2,487	1,350	2,297	3,084	2,590	1,406
Civilian labor force	1,088	2,270	2,008	1,142	1,131	2,251	2,075	1,207
Participation rate	46.8	73.7	80.7	84.6	49.2	73.0	80.1	85.9
Employed	977	2,129	1,890	1,099	1,024	2,120	1,966	1,170
Employment-population ratio	42.1	69.1	76.0	81.4	44.6	68.8	75.9	83.3
Unemployed	110	141	118	43	106	131	109	37
Unemployment rate	10.2	6.2	5.9	3.8	9.4	5.8	5.2	3.1

¹ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

² 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. Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2004, estimated levels for 2004 are not strictly comparable with those for 2003. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 4. Employed foreign-born and native-born persons 16 years and over by occupation and sex, 2004 annual averages

(Percent distribution)

Occupation	Foreign born			Native born		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total employed (thousands)	20,255	12,263	7,992	118,997	62,261	56,736
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations	26.5	24.4	29.8	36.3	34.0	38.8
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	9.8	9.8	9.8	15.3	16.9	13.6
Management occupations	7.1	7.9	5.9	11.0	13.2	8.6
Business and financial operations occupations	2.7	1.9	3.9	4.3	3.7	5.0
Professional and related occupations	16.7	14.6	20.0	20.9	17.1	25.2
Computer and mathematical occupations	3.0	3.8	1.9	2.1	2.9	1.2
Architecture and engineering occupations	2.1	2.9	.8	2.0	3.3	.6
Life, physical, and social science occupations	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.0	.9
Community and social services occupations9	.7	1.4	1.7	1.2	2.1
Legal occupations5	.3	.8	1.2	1.2	1.2
Education, training, and library occupations	3.2	2.0	5.1	6.1	3.0	9.5
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	1.5	1.3	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.0
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	4.4	2.6	7.1	4.9	2.4	7.7
Service occupations	22.8	18.3	29.8	15.2	12.2	18.5
Healthcare support occupations	2.3	.5	5.1	2.1	.4	3.9
Protective service occupations	1.0	1.3	.4	2.2	3.3	1.0
Food preparation and serving related occupations	7.5	7.5	7.5	4.8	3.7	6.1
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	8.4	7.5	9.8	2.9	3.5	2.3
Personal care and service occupations	3.6	1.4	6.9	3.2	1.3	5.2
Sales and office occupations	18.4	13.3	26.3	26.7	18.0	36.2
Sales and related occupations	9.2	8.1	11.0	11.9	11.4	12.3
Office and administrative support occupations	9.2	5.2	15.4	14.8	6.5	23.9
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	14.7	23.3	1.6	9.7	17.8	.9
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.8	2.4	.9	.5	.8	.2
Construction and extraction occupations	9.7	15.8	.3	5.5	10.2	.3
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	3.2	5.1	.4	3.7	6.8	.4
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	17.5	20.7	12.5	12.1	18.1	5.5
Production occupations	10.6	11.3	9.6	6.1	8.4	3.7
Transportation and material moving occupations	6.8	9.4	2.8	6.0	9.8	1.8

NOTE: Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2004, estimated levels for 2004 are not strictly comparable with those for 2003. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers for the foreign born and native born by selected characteristics, 2003-04 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2003					2004				
	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born ¹	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born ¹
	Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings		Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings	
Total, 16 years and over	15,227	\$489	85,076	\$643	76.0	15,580	\$502	85,644	\$664	75.6
Men	9,666	503	46,560	732	68.7	9,902	518	47,099	749	69.1
Women	5,560	459	38,516	567	80.8	5,678	473	38,545	585	81.0
Age										
16 to 24 years	1,512	345	9,278	393	87.7	1,551	341	9,325	397	85.8
25 to 34 years	4,642	466	20,134	615	75.8	4,631	491	20,126	624	78.7
35 to 44 years	4,493	522	22,602	716	72.8	4,538	540	22,323	741	72.9
45 to 54 years	2,984	567	21,461	742	76.4	3,187	565	21,799	764	73.9
55 to 64 years	1,355	600	10,084	725	82.8	1,409	607	10,523	740	82.0
65 years and over	241	500	1,516	518	96.6	264	552	1,548	562	98.2
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity ²										
White non-Hispanic or Latino	2,863	681	66,371	683	99.7	2,852	731	66,563	702	104.1
Black non-Hispanic or Latino	1,266	515	10,258	515	99.8	1,268	533	10,374	529	100.8
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino	3,250	689	991	732	94.0	3,383	699	1,009	738	94.8
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	7,690	398	5,944	523	76.1	7,899	402	6,163	539	74.5
Educational attainment										
Total, 25 years and over	13,715	511	75,798	688	74.2	14,029	524	76,319	710	73.7
Less than a high school diploma	4,034	369	4,559	430	86.0	4,094	373	4,439	433	86.2
High school graduates, no college ³	3,359	467	23,724	569	82.1	3,486	478	23,655	586	81.5
Some college	2,135	576	22,475	647	89.0	2,216	595	22,630	668	89.0
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁴	4,186	909	25,040	971	93.6	4,234	943	25,595	994	94.9

¹ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

² Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races.

³ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁴ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2004, estimated levels for 2004 are not strictly comparable with those for 2003. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 6. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by census regions and divisions, 2003-04 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Census regions and divisions	2003						2004					
	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
FOREIGN BORN												
Northeast	6,936	4,577	66.0	4,275	301	6.6	7,030	4,666	66.4	4,409	258	5.5
New England	1,334	920	68.9	856	63	6.9	1,371	933	68.0	884	49	5.2
Middle Atlantic	5,601	3,657	65.3	3,419	238	6.5	5,659	3,734	66.0	3,525	209	5.6
South	9,158	6,305	68.8	5,932	373	5.9	9,402	6,485	69.0	6,177	308	4.8
South Atlantic	5,442	3,753	69.0	3,545	208	5.5	5,682	3,930	69.2	3,741	190	4.8
East South												
Central	389	275	70.7	262	12	4.5	433	313	72.3	307	6	2.0
West South												
Central	3,327	2,277	68.5	2,125	153	6.7	3,286	2,241	68.2	2,129	113	5.0
Midwest	3,504	2,404	68.6	2,235	169	7.0	3,460	2,364	68.3	2,226	138	5.8
East North Central ..	2,683	1,814	67.6	1,688	126	6.9	2,636	1,759	66.7	1,658	101	5.7
West North												
Central	820	589	71.8	546	43	7.3	824	605	73.4	568	37	6.2
West	11,733	7,831	66.7	7,290	542	6.9	11,870	7,918	66.7	7,444	474	6.0
Mountain	1,835	1,287	70.2	1,210	77	6.0	1,897	1,308	69.0	1,244	64	4.9
Pacific	9,899	6,544	66.1	6,079	465	7.1	9,974	6,610	66.3	6,200	410	6.2
NATIVE BORN												
Northeast	35,685	23,066	64.6	21,754	1,312	5.7	35,520	22,956	64.6	21,738	1,218	5.3
New England	9,809	6,670	68.0	6,321	348	5.2	9,800	6,603	67.4	6,288	315	4.8
Middle Atlantic	25,876	16,396	63.4	15,433	964	5.9	25,721	16,353	63.6	15,450	903	5.5
South	69,398	44,841	64.6	42,265	2,576	5.7	70,414	45,150	64.1	42,747	2,403	5.3
South Atlantic	35,584	23,041	64.8	21,850	1,191	5.2	36,308	23,330	64.3	22,206	1,125	4.8
East South												
Central	12,890	8,077	62.7	7,591	487	6.0	12,914	8,032	62.2	7,581	451	5.6
West South												
Central	20,924	13,723	65.6	12,824	899	6.5	21,192	13,787	65.1	12,960	827	6.0
Midwest	46,720	32,088	68.7	30,221	1,867	5.8	46,829	32,028	68.4	30,196	1,831	5.7
East North Central ..	32,487	21,877	67.3	20,504	1,374	6.3	32,559	21,837	67.1	20,502	1,335	6.1
West North												
Central	14,233	10,210	71.7	9,717	493	4.8	14,270	10,190	71.4	9,695	496	4.9
West	38,034	25,398	66.8	23,765	1,634	6.4	38,830	25,835	66.5	24,316	1,519	5.9
Mountain	12,477	8,471	67.9	7,996	475	5.6	12,838	8,724	68.0	8,277	448	5.1
Pacific	25,557	16,928	66.2	15,769	1,159	6.8	25,992	17,111	65.8	16,040	1,071	6.3

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 Division (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).

Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2004, estimated levels for 2004 are not strictly comparable with those for 2003. See the Technical Note for further information.