

Table 595. Persons Not in the Labor Force: 2007

[In thousands (78,743 represents 78,743,000). Annual average of monthly figures. Civilian noninstitutional population 16 years old and over. Based on the Current Population Survey; see text, Section 1, and Appendix III]

Status and reason	Total	Age			Sex	
		16 to 24 years old	25 to 54 years old	55 years old and over	Male	Female
Total not in the labor force.	78,743	15,192	21,343	42,207	30,036	48,707
Do not want a job now ¹	74,040	13,510	19,256	41,275	27,914	46,126
Want a job now	4,703	1,683	2,088	933	2,122	2,581
In the previous year—						
Did not search for a job.	2,748	931	1,148	668	1,173	1,575
Did search for a job ²	1,955	751	939	265	950	1,005
Not available for work now	560	272	234	53	223	336
Available for work now, not looking for work. . .	1,395	479	705	211	726	669
Reason for not currently looking for work:						
Discouraged over job prospects ³	369	110	199	61	226	143
Family responsibilities	160	31	109	21	37	123
In school or training	180	149	27	3	102	78
Ill health or disability	114	11	66	37	57	58
Other ⁴	572	178	304	90	305	267

¹ Includes some persons who are not asked if they want a job. ² Persons who had a job in the prior 12 months must have searched since the end of that job. ³ Includes such things as believes no work available, could not find work, lacks necessary schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination. ⁴ Includes such things as child care and transportation problems.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment and Earnings Online," January 2008 issue. See Internet site <<http://www.bls.gov/opub/ee/home.htm>> and <<http://www.bls.gov/cps/home.htm>>.