

35. Persons not in the labor force by desire and availability for work, age, and sex

(In thousands)

Category	Total		Age						Sex			
	2007	2008	16 to 24 years		25 to 54 years		55 years and over		Men		Women	
			2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
Total not in the labor force .....	78,743	79,501	15,192	15,452	21,343	21,255	42,207	42,794	30,036	30,593	48,707	48,908
Do not want a job now <sup>1</sup> .....	74,040	74,519	13,510	13,719	19,256	19,087	41,275	41,712	27,914	28,365	46,126	46,154
Want a job <sup>1</sup> .....	4,703	4,983	1,683	1,733	2,088	2,168	933	1,082	2,122	2,228	2,581	2,755
Did not search for work in previous year .....	2,748	2,826	931	913	1,148	1,145	668	768	1,173	1,187	1,575	1,639
Searched for work in previous year <sup>2</sup> .....	1,955	2,157	751	819	939	1,023	264	314	950	1,041	1,005	1,115
Not available to work now .....	560	543	272	252	234	244	53	48	223	214	336	329
Available to work now <sup>3</sup> .....	1,395	1,614	479	568	705	780	211	266	726	827	669	787
Reason not currently looking:												
Discouragement over job prospects <sup>4</sup> .....	369	462	110	145	199	226	61	90	226	282	143	180
Reasons other than discouragement .....	1,026	1,152	370	422	506	554	150	176	500	545	526	607
Family responsibilities .....	160	171	31	35	109	111	21	25	37	45	123	126
In school or training .....	180	218	149	173	27	42	3	3	102	108	78	109
Ill health or disability .....	114	124	11	16	66	68	37	40	57	55	58	69
Other <sup>5</sup> .....	572	640	178	199	304	332	90	108	305	337	267	303

<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> Persons who have searched for work in the previous year and are available to work now also are referred to as "marginally attached to the labor force."

<sup>4</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.

<sup>5</sup> Includes those who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for such reasons as child care and transportation problems, as well as a small number for which reason for nonparticipation was not ascertained.

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