

Number of unemployment spells experienced by individuals from age 18 to age 46 in 1978-2010 by age, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity

Age and characteristic	Percent distribution of persons by number of unemployment spells												Mean number of spells
	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 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	9.2	10.4	12.2	11.1	10.0	8.1	7.3	6.6	4.9	3.9	16.4	5.4
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	18.1	18.3	16.1	12.2	11.7	7.6	5.9	4.0	3.1	1.2	1.6	2.9
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	55.8	20.1	11.7	5.5	2.9	2.5	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.9
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	65.3	17.1	8.0	4.7	2.7	1.3	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.7
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	75.1	15.7	6.1	1.9	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	70.0	15.5	8.2	3.5	1.8	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.6
Men, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	10.3	11.0	11.8	10.6	9.6	8.0	6.8	5.6	4.7	4.0	17.6	5.5
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	17.8	19.2	15.4	12.0	11.1	6.6	5.6	4.5	3.5	1.6	2.7	3.0
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	57.7	18.2	10.8	5.2	2.9	2.8	1.3	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	1.0
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	66.4	15.2	8.0	5.1	3.0	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.7
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	77.4	13.8	5.8	1.7	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	70.4	15.7	7.9	3.0	1.8	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.5
Women, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	7.9	9.8	12.6	11.6	10.4	8.2	7.8	7.6	5.2	3.8	15.0	5.3
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	18.4	17.4	16.9	12.5	12.4	8.7	6.2	3.5	2.7	0.9	0.5	2.8
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	53.7	22.2	12.6	5.7	2.9	2.1	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.9
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	64.2	19.1	8.0	4.2	2.4	1.3	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.7
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	72.7	17.7	6.5	2.0	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.4
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	69.6	15.3	8.5	4.0	1.7	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.6
White non-Hispanic, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	10.3	11.5	13.1	11.8	10.0	8.3	6.9	6.5	4.7	3.4	13.6	4.9
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	19.6	19.6	16.3	11.8	10.9	7.1	5.4	3.8	2.8	1.3	1.5	2.8
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	59.4	19.9	10.6	4.6	2.2	2.0	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.8
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	68.5	16.3	6.9	4.2	2.2	1.1	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.6
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	77.6	14.6	5.3	1.5	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	72.8	14.3	7.7	2.8	1.5	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5
White non-Hispanic men, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	11.8	12.3	12.6	11.3	9.7	8.3	6.5	5.3	4.4	3.3	14.5	5.0
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	19.7	20.8	15.3	11.5	10.1	6.0	5.0	4.4	3.0	1.7	2.5	2.8
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	62.1	17.5	9.5	4.2	2.2	2.5	1.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.8
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	70.0	14.5	6.6	4.5	2.5	1.0	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.6
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	80.4	12.6	4.8	1.4	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	73.7	14.5	7.1	2.3	1.4	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.5

Number of unemployment spells experienced by individuals from age 18 to age 46 in 1978-2010 by age, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity -- continued

Age and characteristic	Percent distribution of persons by number of unemployment spells												Mean number of spells
	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	
White non-Hispanic women, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	8.7	10.6	13.6	12.4	10.3	8.3	7.4	7.7	4.9	3.5	12.6	4.9
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	19.6	18.3	17.3	12.2	11.7	8.1	5.7	3.1	2.7	0.8	0.3	2.7
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	56.5	22.3	11.9	5.1	2.1	1.5	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.8
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	66.8	18.3	7.2	3.9	1.9	1.2	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.6
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	74.6	16.7	5.9	1.7	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.4
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	71.9	14.1	8.4	3.4	1.6	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5
Black non-Hispanic, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	4.1	4.8	8.4	8.5	9.4	6.7	8.5	7.5	5.6	6.4	30.1	7.4
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	10.1	11.7	14.5	14.2	16.7	10.5	9.0	5.0	4.7	1.4	2.2	3.6
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	40.0	20.9	16.8	9.4	5.6	5.0	1.3	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.5
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	50.9	20.1	13.4	6.6	4.6	2.8	1.0	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.1
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	64.0	19.8	10.3	3.1	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	58.3	20.3	10.9	6.2	2.6	0.9	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.8
Black non-Hispanic men, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	3.8	3.7	9.8	8.1	9.0	6.3	8.3	7.1	5.5	6.6	31.8	7.6
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	9.8	12.0	14.0	13.9	17.3	8.9	7.6	5.1	6.2	1.6	3.6	3.8
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	39.2	20.9	17.9	9.7	5.5	4.1	1.2	1.0	0.4	0.1	0.0	1.5
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	49.1	19.6	14.5	7.1	4.8	2.9	1.4	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.2
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	63.1	19.2	11.3	3.2	1.4	1.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	57.2	20.9	11.9	5.6	3.1	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Black non-Hispanic women, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	4.5	6.0	6.9	8.8	9.7	7.2	8.7	7.9	5.8	6.1	28.3	7.1
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	10.4	11.4	15.1	14.5	16.1	12.2	10.6	5.0	3.0	1.1	0.6	3.5
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	40.8	21.0	15.6	9.0	5.6	6.0	1.5	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.4
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	52.9	20.7	12.1	6.1	4.3	2.7	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.0
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	65.0	20.5	9.4	3.0	1.2	0.2	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	59.5	19.8	9.8	6.8	2.1	1.0	0.6	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.8
Hispanic or Latino, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	5.7	10.4	10.4	9.5	10.6	7.8	8.4	6.5	5.6	5.3	20.0	6.1
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	15.3	19.5	15.7	12.5	11.5	8.0	6.9	4.8	2.8	0.7	2.3	3.0
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	50.0	19.1	14.3	6.5	4.9	2.4	0.9	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	1.2
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	59.5	18.9	10.6	5.8	3.4	0.8	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	70.9	17.7	6.8	3.2	0.7	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	62.8	19.2	9.2	4.2	3.5	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.7
Hispanic or Latino men, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	5.7	11.8	7.6	9.3	8.5	6.5	7.7	6.1	5.1	7.0	24.7	6.7
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	12.8	18.5	14.5	14.0	10.1	8.2	9.4	6.1	3.0	0.7	2.7	3.3
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	48.0	18.0	12.9	6.9	5.6	4.0	1.5	1.8	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.4
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	59.3	15.9	11.5	6.7	4.2	1.1	1.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	72.9	15.6	7.0	2.6	0.7	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	62.8	17.2	9.1	4.6	4.5	1.1	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.8

Number of unemployment spells experienced by individuals from age 18 to age 46 in 1978-2010 by age, sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity -- continued

Age and characteristic	Percent distribution of persons by number of unemployment spells												Mean number of spells
	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	
Hispanic or Latino women, ages 18 to 46 in 1978-2010 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	5.7	8.7	13.6	9.7	12.9	9.3	9.3	6.9	6.1	3.2	14.6	5.4
Ages 18 to 24 in 1978-1988 <sup>2</sup> .....	100.0	18.2	20.8	17.0	10.8	13.1	7.7	4.0	3.2	2.5	0.7	1.9	2.7
Ages 25 to 29 in 1982-1993 .....	100.0	52.3	20.3	15.9	6.2	4.2	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9
Ages 30 to 34 in 1987-1998 .....	100.0	59.7	22.3	9.5	4.8	2.5	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Ages 35 to 39 in 1992-2003 .....	100.0	68.7	20.1	6.5	3.8	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Ages 40 to 46 in 1997-2010 <sup>3</sup> .....	100.0	62.7	21.5	9.3	3.8	2.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6

<sup>1</sup> This category excludes individuals who turned age 18 before Jan. 1, 1978, or who had not yet turned age 47 when interviewed in 2010-11.

<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 47 when interviewed in 2010-11.

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 45 to 54 in 2010-11. Educational attainment is defined as of the 2010-11 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.