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## WORK EXPERIENCE OF THE POPULATION – 2008

A total of 157.5 million persons worked at some point during 2008, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The proportion of workers who worked full time, year round in 2008 was 65.6 percent, down from 68.4 percent in 2007. The number of persons who experienced some unemployment in 2008 increased by 6.1 million to 21.2 million. This sharp increase reflects weak labor market conditions due to a recession that began in December 2007.

These data are based on information collected in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The ASEC collects information on employment and unemployment experienced during the prior calendar year. Additional information about the CPS and the ASEC, including concepts and definitions, is provided in the Technical Note. Highlights from the 2008 data include:

- The proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over who worked at some time during 2008 was 67.0 percent, down from 67.7 percent in 2007.
- The proportion of workers who worked full time, year round in 2008 was 65.6 percent, down from 68.4 percent in the prior year.
- The "work-experience unemployment rate"—defined as the number of persons unemployed at some time during the year as a proportion of the number of persons who worked or looked for work during the year—was 13.2 percent in 2008, up from 9.5 percent in 2007.
- About 3.2 million individuals looked for a job but did not work at all in 2008, up from 2.1 million in 2007.

### Persons with Employment

The percent of men who worked during 2008 was 73.1 percent, down from 74.1 percent in 2007. The proportion of women who worked at some point during 2008 was 61.3 percent, little changed from 2007. (See table 1.)

The proportions of whites (67.7 percent), blacks (62.5 percent), and Asians (67.4 percent) who worked at some time during the year fell in 2008. The proportion of Hispanics who worked at some point during 2008 was 67.7 percent, little different from 2007. (See table 2.)

Among those with work experience during 2008, 76.1 percent were employed year round (working 50 to 52 weeks, either full or part time), down from 78.2 percent in 2007. The percentage of women working year round fell by 1.4 percentage points to 74.3 percent in 2008, and the percentage of men employed year round fell by 2.8 percentage points to 77.7 percent. (See table 1.)

Of those employed at some time during 2008, 79.5 percent usually worked full time, down from 80.9 percent in 2007. Men were more likely to work full time during the year (86.0 percent) than were women (72.2 percent). The proportions of employed men and women working full time each declined by 1.4 percentage points.

### **Persons with Unemployment**

About 160.7 million persons worked or looked for work at some time in 2008. Of those, 21.2 million experienced some unemployment during the year, up from 15.1 million in 2007. Men accounted for the majority of the over-the-year increase in unemployment. (See table 3.)

At 13.2 percent in 2008, the "work-experience unemployment rate" (those looking for work during the year as a percent of those who worked or looked for work during the year) was 3.7 percentage points higher than in 2007. The 2008 rate was the highest since 1994. The rates for whites (12.6 percent), blacks (17.7 percent), Hispanics (17.5 percent), and Asians (10.0 percent) rose in 2008. (See tables 3 and 4.)

Overall, men continued to have higher "work-experience unemployment rates" in 2008 than did women, 14.5 versus 11.7 percent, respectively. Among whites, the rate for men (13.9 percent) was higher than that for women (11.1 percent). This also was the case among blacks (20.5 and 15.3 percent, respectively) and Hispanics (18.7 and 15.8 percent, respectively.) The rates for Asian men (9.5 percent) and Asian women (10.5 percent) were little different.

Among those who experienced unemployment in 2008, the median number of weeks spent looking for work was 15.2, up from 13.8 in 2007. The number of individuals who looked for a job but did not work at all increased by 1.1 million to about 3.2 million individuals in 2008. Of the 18.0 million persons who worked during 2008 and also experienced unemployment, 22.1 percent had 2 or more spells of joblessness, down from 23.8 percent in 2007.

## Technical Note

The data presented in this release were collected in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly sample survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data from the CPS are used to obtain the monthly estimates of the nation's employment and unemployment levels. The supplement, conducted in the months of February through April, includes questions about work activity during the prior calendar year. For instance, data collected in 2009 refer to the 2008 calendar year. Because the reference period is a full year, the number of persons with some employment or unemployment greatly exceeds the average levels for any given month, which are based on a 1-week reference period, and the corresponding annual average of the monthly estimates. As shown below, for example, the number experiencing any unemployment during 2008 was over twice the number unemployed in an average month during the year.

	Employed	Unemployed
2008 estimates (in thousands)		
Annual average of monthly estimates	145,362	8,924
Annual supplement data	157,472	21,205

In addition, estimates from the supplement differ from those obtained in the basic CPS because the questions used to classify workers as either employed or unemployed are different. More important, perhaps, is that fewer questions by which to categorize respondents are asked in the supplement. In regard to unemployment in particular, the supplement has no questions on the type of job search activity or on the respondent's availability to work. Also, individuals can be counted as both employed and unemployed in the work experience data, whereas, for a specific reference week, each person is only counted in one category and employment activity takes precedence over job search activity.

Work experience data for 2008, which were collected in the 2009 Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the CPS, are not strictly comparable with data for 2007 and earlier years because of the introduction in January 2009 of revised population controls used in the CPS. The effect of the revised population controls on the work experience estimates is unknown. However, the effect of the new controls on the monthly CPS estimates was to decrease the December 2008 employment level by 407,000 and the unemployment level by 42,000. For additional information, see "Adjustments to Household Survey Population Estimates in January 2009," available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cps/cps09adj.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps09adj.pdf).

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (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 on 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 "Reliability of estimates from the CPS," available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability).

## Concepts and definitions

*Persons who worked.* In the 2009 supplement, persons are considered to have worked if they responded "yes" to either the question "Did you work at a job or business at any time during 2008?" or "Did you do any temporary, part-time, or seasonal work even for a few days during 2008?"

*Unemployed persons.* Persons who worked during the year but not in every week are counted as unemployed if they also reported looking for work or being on layoff from a job during the year. Those who reported no work activity during the year are considered unemployed if they responded "yes" to the question "Even though you did not work in 2008, did you spend any time trying to find a job or on layoff?"

*Labor force participants.* Persons who either worked or were unemployed during the year.

*Usual full- and part-time employment.* These data refer to the number of hours a worker typically works during most weeks of the year. Workers are classified as full time if they usually worked 35 hours or more in a week; part-time employment refers to workers whose typical workweek was between 1 and 34 hours.

*Year-round and part-year employment.* Workers are classified as year round if they worked 50 to 52 weeks. Part-year employment refers to workers who worked fewer than 50 weeks.

**Table 1. Work experience of the population during the year by sex and extent of employment, 2007-08**

Extent of employment	Total		Men		Women	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
Numbers (in thousands)						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	232,995	235,086	112,695	113,758	120,300	121,328
Total who worked or looked for work .....	159,750	160,658	84,614	84,781	75,136	75,878
Percent of the population .....	68.6	68.3	75.1	74.5	62.5	62.5
Total who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	157,653	157,472	83,538	83,109	74,115	74,363
Percent of the population .....	67.7	67.0	74.1	73.1	61.6	61.3
Full time <sup>2</sup> .....	127,538	125,116	72,994	71,443	54,544	53,673
50 to 52 weeks .....	107,858	103,265	62,287	59,163	45,571	44,101
48 to 49 weeks .....	2,031	2,221	1,203	1,353	829	868
40 to 47 weeks .....	5,235	6,177	2,810	3,403	2,425	2,774
27 to 39 weeks .....	4,623	4,981	2,560	2,854	2,063	2,127
14 to 26 weeks .....	4,704	5,071	2,474	2,792	2,230	2,279
1 to 13 weeks .....	3,087	3,402	1,661	1,878	1,426	1,524
Part time <sup>3</sup> .....	30,115	32,356	10,544	11,665	19,571	20,690
50 to 52 weeks .....	15,472	16,553	4,930	5,419	10,541	11,134
48 to 49 weeks .....	832	875	296	301	536	575
40 to 47 weeks .....	2,580	2,791	903	939	1,678	1,852
27 to 39 weeks .....	2,776	2,954	961	1,209	1,815	1,744
14 to 26 weeks .....	4,248	4,519	1,709	1,900	2,539	2,620
1 to 13 weeks .....	4,207	4,662	1,745	1,897	2,462	2,765
Percent distribution						
Total who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full time <sup>2</sup> .....	80.9	79.5	87.4	86.0	73.6	72.2
50 to 52 weeks .....	68.4	65.6	74.6	71.2	61.5	59.3
48 to 49 weeks .....	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.1	1.2
40 to 47 weeks .....	3.3	3.9	3.4	4.1	3.3	3.7
27 to 39 weeks .....	2.9	3.2	3.1	3.4	2.8	2.9
14 to 26 weeks .....	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.0	3.1
1 to 13 weeks .....	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.3	1.9	2.0
Part time <sup>3</sup> .....	19.1	20.5	12.6	14.0	26.4	27.8
50 to 52 weeks .....	9.8	10.5	5.9	6.5	14.2	15.0
48 to 49 weeks .....	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.8
40 to 47 weeks .....	1.6	1.8	1.1	1.1	2.3	2.5
27 to 39 weeks .....	1.8	1.9	1.2	1.5	2.4	2.3
14 to 26 weeks .....	2.7	2.9	2.0	2.3	3.4	3.5
1 to 13 weeks .....	2.7	3.0	2.1	2.3	3.3	3.7

<sup>1</sup> Time worked includes paid vacation and sick leave.

<sup>2</sup> Usually worked 35 hours or more per week.

<sup>3</sup> Usually worked 1 to 34 hours per week.

NOTE: Data refer to persons 16 years and over. Data for 2008, which were collected in the 2009 Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey, are not strictly comparable with data for 2007

and earlier years because of the introduction of updated population controls, which are introduced annually with the release of January data. For additional information, see the technical note and "Adjustments to Household Survey Population Estimates in January 2009," available on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cps/cps09adj.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps09adj.pdf).

**Table 2. Work experience of the population during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2007-08**

(Numbers in thousands)

Extent of employment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	Total		Men		Women	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
<b>WHITE</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	189,045	190,503	92,469	93,246	96,576	97,257
Total who worked or looked for work .....	130,472	131,102	70,392	70,346	60,080	60,756
Percent of the population .....	69.0	68.8	76.1	75.4	62.2	62.5
Total who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	129,078	128,882	69,659	69,192	59,419	59,690
Percent of the population .....	68.3	67.7	75.3	74.2	61.5	61.4
Percent who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full time <sup>2</sup> .....	80.5	79.1	87.5	86.1	72.3	70.8
50 to 52 weeks .....	68.1	65.3	74.7	71.5	60.3	58.1
27 to 49 weeks .....	7.6	8.6	7.9	9.3	7.2	7.7
1 to 26 weeks .....	4.8	5.2	4.8	5.3	4.8	5.0
Part time <sup>3</sup> .....	19.5	20.9	12.5	13.9	27.7	29.2
50 to 52 weeks .....	10.1	10.8	5.9	6.5	15.0	15.8
27 to 49 weeks .....	4.1	4.3	2.7	3.0	5.8	5.9
1 to 26 weeks .....	5.3	5.8	4.0	4.4	6.9	7.4
<b>BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	27,709	28,117	12,448	12,644	15,261	15,474
Total who worked or looked for work .....	18,112	18,296	8,347	8,489	9,765	9,807
Percent of the population .....	65.4	65.1	67.1	67.1	64.0	63.4
Total who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	17,602	17,577	8,104	8,096	9,499	9,481
Percent of the population .....	63.5	62.5	65.1	64.0	62.2	61.3
Percent who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full time <sup>2</sup> .....	83.6	81.5	87.0	84.2	80.7	79.1
50 to 52 weeks .....	69.9	66.2	72.4	67.5	67.8	65.0
27 to 49 weeks .....	7.6	8.5	8.1	8.5	7.1	8.4
1 to 26 weeks .....	6.1	6.8	6.4	8.1	5.7	5.7
Part time <sup>3</sup> .....	16.4	18.5	13.0	15.8	19.3	20.9
50 to 52 weeks .....	7.9	9.1	5.6	6.9	9.9	10.9
27 to 49 weeks .....	2.9	3.3	1.9	2.6	3.7	3.9
1 to 26 weeks .....	5.6	6.2	5.5	6.3	5.8	6.0
<b>ASIAN</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	10,571	10,589	4,992	4,976	5,580	5,613
Total who worked or looked for work .....	7,291	7,270	3,810	3,840	3,480	3,430
Percent of the population .....	69.0	68.7	76.3	77.2	62.4	61.1
Total who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	7,171	7,138	3,745	3,783	3,427	3,356
Percent of the population .....	67.8	67.4	75.0	76.0	61.4	59.8
Percent who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full time <sup>2</sup> .....	83.7	83.0	89.1	88.7	77.8	76.6
50 to 52 weeks .....	74.3	72.0	80.5	77.6	67.5	65.7
27 to 49 weeks .....	5.6	6.2	5.3	6.2	5.9	6.1
1 to 26 weeks .....	3.8	4.8	3.4	4.8	4.4	4.8
Part time <sup>3</sup> .....	16.3	17.0	10.9	11.3	22.2	23.4
50 to 52 weeks .....	9.1	8.6	5.9	5.9	12.6	11.7
27 to 49 weeks .....	2.9	3.8	1.9	1.9	4.1	5.9
1 to 26 weeks .....	4.2	4.6	3.0	3.6	5.5	5.7

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 2. Work experience of the population during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2007-08 — Continued**

(Numbers in thousands)

Extent of employment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	Total		Men		Women	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	31,820	32,585	16,355	16,736	15,465	15,849
Total who worked or looked for work .....	22,092	22,546	13,113	13,189	8,978	9,358
Percent of the population .....	69.4	69.2	80.2	78.8	58.1	59.0
Total who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	21,791	22,049	12,978	12,929	8,814	9,120
Percent of the population .....	68.5	67.7	79.3	77.3	57.0	57.5
Percent who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Full time <sup>2</sup> .....	84.1	81.5	90.0	87.4	75.5	73.2
50 to 52 weeks .....	69.4	64.8	74.8	70.0	61.5	57.3
27 to 49 weeks .....	9.4	10.4	10.3	11.5	8.1	8.9
1 to 26 weeks .....	5.3	6.4	4.9	5.9	6.0	7.1
Part time <sup>3</sup> .....	15.9	18.5	10.0	12.6	24.5	26.8
50 to 52 weeks .....	8.3	9.6	5.0	6.2	13.3	14.6
27 to 49 weeks .....	3.1	3.9	2.3	3.0	4.2	5.2
1 to 26 weeks .....	4.5	4.9	2.8	3.4	6.9	7.0

<sup>1</sup> Time worked includes paid vacation and sick leave.

<sup>2</sup> Usually worked 35 hours or more per week.

<sup>3</sup> Usually worked 1 to 34 hours per week.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African

American, and Asian) do not sum to totals shown in table 1 because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Also, see Note, table 1.

**Table 3. Extent of unemployment during the year by sex, 2007-08**

Extent of unemployment	Total		Men		Women	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
Numbers (in thousands)						
Total who worked or looked for work .....	159,750	160,658	84,614	84,781	75,136	75,878
Percent with unemployment .....	9.5	13.2	10.3	14.5	8.6	11.7
Total with unemployment .....	15,117	21,205	8,685	12,306	6,432	8,899
Did not work but looked for work .....	2,097	3,187	1,076	1,672	1,021	1,514
1 to 14 weeks .....	918	1,124	390	479	527	645
15 weeks or more .....	1,179	2,062	686	1,193	494	869
Worked during the year .....	13,020	18,018	7,609	10,633	5,411	7,385
Year-round workers <sup>1</sup> with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment .....	500	763	365	484	135	279
Part-year workers <sup>2</sup> with unemployment .....	12,520	17,255	7,244	10,149	5,276	7,106
1 to 4 weeks .....	2,591	2,786	1,365	1,516	1,226	1,270
5 to 10 weeks .....	2,090	2,941	1,214	1,698	876	1,243
11 to 14 weeks .....	1,888	2,435	1,163	1,464	725	971
15 to 26 weeks .....	3,373	4,855	2,058	3,032	1,316	1,823
27 weeks or more .....	2,577	4,238	1,443	2,439	1,134	1,799
Median weeks of unemployment for all workers .....	13.8	15.2	14.0	15.7	13.6	14.7
With 2 spells or more of unemployment .....	3,098	3,989	1,982	2,621	1,116	1,368
2 spells .....	1,420	1,985	840	1,232	580	753
3 spells or more .....	1,678	2,004	1,143	1,389	536	616
Percent distribution						
Did not work but looked for work .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1 to 14 weeks .....	43.8	35.3	36.3	28.7	51.7	42.6
15 weeks or more .....	56.2	64.7	63.7	71.3	48.3	57.4
Worked during the year .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Year-round workers <sup>1</sup> with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment .....	3.8	4.2	4.8	4.6	2.5	3.8
Part-year workers <sup>2</sup> with unemployment .....	96.2	95.8	95.2	95.4	97.5	96.2
1 to 4 weeks .....	19.9	15.5	17.9	14.3	22.6	17.2
5 to 10 weeks .....	16.1	16.3	16.0	16.0	16.2	16.8
11 to 14 weeks .....	14.5	13.5	15.3	13.8	13.4	13.1
15 to 26 weeks .....	25.9	26.9	27.0	28.5	24.3	24.7
27 weeks or more .....	19.8	23.5	19.0	22.9	21.0	24.4
With 2 spells or more of unemployment .....	23.8	22.1	26.1	24.7	20.6	18.5
2 spells .....	10.9	11.0	11.0	11.6	10.7	10.2
3 spells or more .....	12.9	11.1	15.0	13.1	9.9	8.3

<sup>1</sup> Worked 50 or 51 weeks.

<sup>2</sup> Worked less than 50 weeks.

NOTE: See Note, table 1.

**Table 4. Extent of unemployment during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2007-08**

(Numbers in thousands)

Extent of unemployment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	Total		Men		Women	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
<b>WHITE</b>						
Total who worked or looked for work .....	130,472	131,102	70,392	70,346	60,080	60,756
Percent with unemployment .....	9.0	12.6	9.9	13.9	8.0	11.1
Total with unemployment .....	11,782	16,512	6,951	9,759	4,831	6,753
Did not work but looked for work .....	1,394	2,220	733	1,154	661	1,066
Worked during the year .....	10,388	14,291	6,218	8,605	4,170	5,687
Median weeks of unemployment for all workers .....	13.4	14.7	13.6	14.8	13.0	14.3
Percent who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Year-round workers <sup>2</sup> with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment .....	4.3	4.6	5.3	4.9	2.8	4.1
Part-year workers <sup>3</sup> with unemployment .....	95.7	95.4	94.7	95.1	97.2	95.9
1 to 4 weeks .....	20.7	15.7	18.7	14.7	23.6	17.3
5 to 14 weeks .....	30.8	31.0	31.2	31.0	30.1	30.8
15 weeks or more .....	44.2	48.8	44.8	49.5	43.5	47.8
With 2 spells or more of unemployment .....	24.3	22.7	26.5	25.3	20.9	18.7
<b>BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN</b>						
Total who worked or looked for work .....	18,112	18,296	8,347	8,489	9,765	9,807
Percent with unemployment .....	12.7	17.7	13.9	20.5	11.6	15.3
Total with unemployment .....	2,293	3,243	1,163	1,739	1,130	1,503
Did not work but looked for work .....	510	719	244	393	266	326
Worked during the year .....	1,783	2,524	919	1,346	864	1,177
Median weeks of unemployment for all workers .....	17.4	19.8	17.1	21.6	17.7	18.0
Percent who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Year-round workers <sup>2</sup> with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment .....	1.3	2.7	0.8	2.7	1.8	2.7
Part-year workers <sup>3</sup> with unemployment .....	98.7	97.3	99.2	97.3	98.2	97.3
1 to 4 weeks .....	15.2	13.8	14.6	12.6	16.0	15.2
5 to 14 weeks .....	28.5	24.1	30.0	22.6	26.8	25.9
15 weeks or more .....	55.0	59.3	54.5	62.1	55.4	56.1
With 2 spells or more of unemployment .....	21.4	20.4	22.9	22.0	19.9	18.6
<b>ASIAN</b>						
Total who worked or looked for work .....	7,291	7,270	3,810	3,840	3,480	3,430
Percent with unemployment .....	6.9	10.0	7.0	9.5	6.8	10.5
Total with unemployment .....	500	725	265	364	235	361
Did not work but looked for work .....	119	132	66	57	54	74
Worked during the year .....	381	593	200	307	181	287
Median weeks of unemployment for all workers .....	13.5	16.2	15.4	17.3	12.1	14.3
Percent who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Year-round workers <sup>2</sup> with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment .....	4.6	3.6	7.8	4.8	1.2	2.3
Part-year workers <sup>3</sup> with unemployment .....	95.4	96.4	92.2	95.2	98.8	97.7
1 to 4 weeks .....	18.2	17.6	9.8	12.9	27.5	22.6
5 to 14 weeks .....	31.7	26.4	30.9	26.5	32.5	26.3
15 weeks or more .....	45.5	52.4	51.5	55.8	38.9	48.8
With 2 spells or more of unemployment .....	15.9	15.3	12.9	15.9	19.1	14.7

See footnotes at end of table.



**Table 4. Extent of unemployment during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2007-08 — Continued**

(Numbers in thousands)

Extent of unemployment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	Total		Men		Women	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
<b>HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY</b>						
Total who worked or looked for work .....	22,092	22,546	13,113	13,189	8,978	9,358
Percent with unemployment .....	12.3	17.5	13.0	18.7	11.3	15.8
Total with unemployment .....	2,720	3,938	1,708	2,460	1,012	1,478
Did not work but looked for work .....	300	497	136	260	165	238
Worked during the year .....	2,420	3,441	1,572	2,200	848	1,240
Median weeks of unemployment for all workers .....	14.2	16.6	13.9	16.6	14.6	16.6
Percent who worked during the year <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Year-round workers <sup>2</sup> with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment .....	2.6	3.6	2.5	3.8	2.8	3.2
Part-year workers <sup>3</sup> with unemployment .....	97.4	96.4	97.5	96.2	97.2	96.8
1 to 4 weeks .....	21.1	13.3	20.4	12.2	22.4	15.2
5 to 14 weeks .....	29.9	29.1	31.9	29.6	26.3	28.2
15 weeks or more .....	46.4	54.0	45.3	54.4	48.5	53.3
With 2 spells or more of unemployment .....	27.8	26.1	30.8	30.2	22.1	18.7

<sup>1</sup> Time worked includes paid vacation and sick leave.

<sup>2</sup> Worked 50 or 51 weeks.

<sup>3</sup> Worked less than 50 weeks.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African

American, and Asian) do not sum to totals shown in table 3 because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Also, see Note, table 1.