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## **FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS: LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IN 2005**

In 2005, foreign-born workers made up about 15 percent of the U.S. civilian labor force age 16 and over, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The unemployment rate for the foreign born fell to 4.6 percent in 2005, down from 5.5 percent in the prior year. Over the year, the jobless rate of the native born declined from 5.5 to 5.2 percent.

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. The foreign born include legally-admitted immigrants, refugees, temporary residents such as students and temporary workers, and undocumented immigrants. The survey data, however, do not separately identify the numbers of persons in these categories. For further information about the survey, see the Technical Note.

### Demographic Characteristics

The demographic characteristics of the foreign-born labor force differ significantly in many respects from those of the native born. For example, men made up a larger proportion of the foreign-born labor force (60 percent) in 2005 than they did of the native-born labor force (52 percent). Also, the proportion of the foreign-born labor force made up of 25- to 54-year olds is higher than for their native-born counterparts (76 and 68 percent, respectively). (See table 1.)

About 49 percent of the foreign-born labor force was Hispanic, and 22 percent was Asian, compared with about 7 and 1 percent, respectively, of the native-born labor force. One out of 5 of the foreign-born labor force was white, compared with nearly 4 out of 5 of the native-born labor force. (Data in this release are presented for non-Hispanic whites, blacks, and Asians and for persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.) (See table 1.)

In terms of educational attainment, 28 percent of the foreign-born labor force 25 years old and over had not completed high school in 2005, compared with about 7 percent of the native-born labor force. About equal proportions of both the foreign and native born had a bachelor's degree and higher (31 and 33 percent, respectively). (See table 1.)

On a regional basis, the foreign-born share of the labor force ranged from about a quarter in the West to 7 percent in the Midwest. (See table 6.)

## Labor Force and Unemployment

In 2005, foreign-born workers made up about 15 percent of the U.S. civilian labor force, little different from a year earlier. About 22 million, or 67.7 percent, of the foreign born were in the labor force in 2005, about the same proportion as in 2004. The labor force participation rate of the native born was 65.8 percent in 2005, about unchanged from the prior year. (See table 1.)

Over the year, the number of foreign-born labor force participants edged up by 609,000, about a third of the total labor force increase in 2005. Since 2000, the foreign born have accounted for 46 percent of the net gain in the total labor force.

Foreign-born men were more likely to be labor force participants (81.3 percent) than their native-born counterparts (71.9 percent). In contrast, 54.1 percent of foreign-born women were labor force participants, compared with 60.1 percent of native-born women.

The labor force participation rate of foreign-born women with children under 18 was 58.5 percent in 2005, compared with 73.2 percent for native-born mothers. Among women with children under age 3, the participation rate for the foreign born was 44.2 percent, while that for the native born was 62.0 percent. In 2005, participation among both groups of mothers of young children edged up from the prior year. About 96 percent of both foreign- and native-born fathers with children under 3 were in the labor force in 2005. (See table 2.)

The unemployment rate of the foreign born declined from 5.5 percent in 2004 to 4.6 percent in 2005. Over the year, the unemployment rate for foreign-born men declined from 5.0 to 4.1 percent, and the rate for foreign-born women declined from 6.3 to 5.4 percent. Among the native born, the unemployment rate declined from 5.5 to 5.2 percent. (See table 1.) In 2005, the unemployment rate of the foreign born was lower than that of the native born for the first time since the data series began in 1996.

## Occupation

Management, professional, and related occupations made up the largest share of employment for both foreign-born and native-born workers in 2005, 26 and 36 percent, respectively. Foreign-born workers were more likely than their native-born counterparts to be employed in several service occupations, including food preparation and serving related occupations, and building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations. Foreign-born workers also were more likely than the native born to be employed in farming, fishing, and forestry; construction and extraction; and production occupations. The foreign born were less likely than the native born to work in sales and office occupations. (See table 4.)

## Earnings

In 2005, the median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers were \$511, compared with \$677 for the native born. Among men, median earnings were \$523 per week for the foreign born, compared with \$760 for the native born; the median for foreign-born women was \$487, compared with \$596 for the native born. As with the native born, the earnings of foreign-born workers increased with education. The foreign born 25 years of age and over with less than a high school education earned \$385 per week in 2005, while those with bachelor's degrees and higher earned 2-1/2 times as much—\$960 a week. (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 2005 are not strictly comparable with data for 2004 and earlier years because of the introduction in January 2005 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 2004 employment level by 45,000 and the unemployment level by 4,000. 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 2005" available on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps05adj.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. The survey data, however, do not separately identify the number of persons in these categories.

*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, 2004-05 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2004						2005					
	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
<b>TOTAL</b>												
Total 16 years and over .....	223,357	147,401	66.0	139,252	8,149	5.5	226,082	149,320	66.0	141,730	7,591	5.1
Men .....	107,710	78,980	73.3	74,524	4,456	5.6	109,151	80,033	73.3	75,973	4,059	5.1
Women .....	115,647	68,421	59.2	64,728	3,694	5.4	116,931	69,288	59.3	65,757	3,531	5.1
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>												
Total 16 years and over .....	31,763	21,433	67.5	20,255	1,178	5.5	32,558	22,042	67.7	21,022	1,020	4.6
Men .....	15,913	12,905	81.1	12,263	642	5.0	16,321	13,263	81.3	12,720	544	4.1
Women .....	15,849	8,528	53.8	7,992	536	6.3	16,236	8,779	54.1	8,302	477	5.4
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years .....	4,191	2,497	59.6	2,278	219	8.8	4,168	2,469	59.2	2,277	192	7.8
25 to 34 years .....	7,821	5,988	76.6	5,670	318	5.3	7,902	6,094	77.1	5,824	270	4.4
35 to 44 years .....	7,481	6,085	81.3	5,787	298	4.9	7,620	6,162	80.9	5,930	232	3.8
45 to 54 years .....	5,342	4,305	80.6	4,096	210	4.9	5,578	4,473	80.2	4,285	188	4.2
55 to 64 years .....	3,294	2,050	62.2	1,945	105	5.1	3,499	2,278	65.1	2,163	115	5.1
65 years and over .....	3,634	507	14.0	479	28	5.5	3,791	566	14.9	542	24	4.2
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity <sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino .....	7,141	4,282	60.0	4,088	194	4.5	7,239	4,351	60.1	4,187	165	3.8
Black non-Hispanic or Latino .....	2,360	1,731	73.4	1,595	136	7.9	2,360	1,746	74.0	1,631	115	6.6
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino .....	7,062	4,738	67.1	4,530	208	4.4	7,289	4,922	67.5	4,728	194	3.9
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	14,878	10,439	70.2	9,808	631	6.0	15,360	10,794	70.3	10,252	541	5.0
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over .....	27,572	18,936	68.7	17,977	959	5.1	28,389	19,573	68.9	18,745	828	4.2
Less than a high school diploma .....	8,796	5,351	60.8	4,974	377	7.0	9,053	5,545	61.2	5,227	318	5.7
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> .....	6,929	4,707	67.9	4,493	214	4.5	7,106	4,804	67.6	4,599	205	4.3
Some college or associate degree .....	4,259	3,104	72.9	2,944	161	5.2	4,354	3,181	73.1	3,064	118	3.7
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	7,587	5,773	76.1	5,566	207	3.6	7,876	6,043	76.7	5,856	188	3.1
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Total 16 years and over .....	191,594	125,968	65.7	118,997	6,971	5.5	193,525	127,278	65.8	120,708	6,570	5.2
Men .....	91,797	66,075	72.0	62,261	3,813	5.8	92,830	66,769	71.9	63,254	3,516	5.3
Women .....	99,797	59,893	60.0	56,736	3,158	5.3	100,695	60,509	60.1	57,454	3,055	5.0
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years .....	32,228	19,771	61.3	17,352	2,419	12.2	32,505	19,821	61.0	17,493	2,328	11.7
25 to 34 years .....	31,118	26,219	84.3	24,753	1,466	5.6	31,162	26,247	84.2	24,856	1,391	5.3
35 to 44 years .....	35,745	30,072	84.1	28,793	1,280	4.3	35,385	29,868	84.4	28,699	1,168	3.9
45 to 54 years .....	35,904	29,452	82.0	28,374	1,079	3.7	36,529	29,930	81.9	28,922	1,008	3.4
55 to 64 years .....	25,625	15,963	62.3	15,386	577	3.6	26,666	16,701	62.6	16,186	515	3.1
65 years and over .....	30,975	4,490	14.5	4,339	151	3.4	31,278	4,712	15.1	4,552	160	3.4
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity <sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino .....	149,414	98,920	66.2	94,480	4,440	4.5	150,155	99,539	66.3	95,430	4,109	4.1
Black non-Hispanic or Latino .....	22,876	14,355	62.8	12,817	1,537	10.7	23,283	14,694	63.1	13,155	1,538	10.5
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino .....	2,358	1,455	61.7	1,391	64	4.4	2,444	1,496	61.2	1,434	62	4.2
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	13,231	8,833	66.8	8,122	711	8.0	13,773	9,030	65.6	8,380	650	7.2
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over .....	159,366	106,197	66.6	101,645	4,552	4.3	161,019	107,457	66.7	103,215	4,242	3.9
Less than a high school diploma .....	18,873	7,118	37.7	6,434	684	9.6	18,818	7,135	37.9	6,485	649	9.1
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> .....	52,930	33,128	62.6	31,451	1,676	5.1	53,302	33,392	62.6	31,799	1,593	4.8
Some college or associate degree .....	43,297	31,334	72.4	30,033	1,301	4.2	43,915	31,793	72.4	30,561	1,232	3.9
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	44,266	34,617	78.2	33,727	891	2.6	44,984	35,137	78.1	34,369	768	2.2

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

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>3</sup> Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2005, estimated levels for 2005 are not strictly comparable with those for 2004. 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, 2004-05 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2004			2005		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	12,740	6,060	6,680	12,781	6,084	6,697
Civilian labor force .....	9,614	5,710	3,904	9,653	5,737	3,916
Participation rate .....	75.5	94.2	58.4	75.5	94.3	58.5
Employed .....	9,125	5,474	3,652	9,247	5,547	3,700
Employment-population ratio .....	71.6	90.3	54.7	72.3	91.2	55.2
Unemployed .....	489	236	253	406	190	216
Unemployment rate .....	5.1	4.1	6.5	4.2	3.3	5.5
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	6,268	2,907	3,361	6,353	2,950	3,403
Civilian labor force .....	5,024	2,715	2,309	5,053	2,750	2,303
Participation rate .....	80.1	93.4	68.7	79.5	93.2	67.7
Employed .....	4,785	2,605	2,180	4,852	2,658	2,194
Employment-population ratio .....	76.3	89.6	64.9	76.4	90.1	64.5
Unemployed .....	238	110	129	201	93	108
Unemployment rate .....	4.7	4.0	5.6	4.0	3.4	4.7
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	6,472	3,153	3,319	6,428	3,134	3,294
Civilian labor force .....	4,590	2,995	1,595	4,600	2,987	1,613
Participation rate .....	70.9	95.0	48.1	71.6	95.3	49.0
Employed .....	4,340	2,869	1,471	4,395	2,889	1,505
Employment-population ratio .....	67.1	91.0	44.3	68.4	92.2	45.7
Unemployed .....	250	126	124	206	98	108
Unemployment rate .....	5.5	4.2	7.8	4.5	3.3	6.7
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	3,789	1,865	1,924	3,732	1,841	1,891
Civilian labor force .....	2,596	1,778	819	2,595	1,760	835
Participation rate .....	68.5	95.3	42.6	69.5	95.6	44.2
Employed .....	2,457	1,705	751	2,489	1,711	778
Employment-population ratio .....	64.8	91.4	39.1	66.7	93.0	41.1
Unemployed .....	139	72	67	106	49	57
Unemployment rate .....	5.4	4.1	8.2	4.1	2.8	6.8
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	19,023	9,853	9,170	19,777	10,237	9,539
Civilian labor force .....	11,819	7,195	4,624	12,389	7,526	4,863
Participation rate .....	62.1	73.0	50.4	62.6	73.5	51.0
Employed .....	11,130	6,789	4,340	11,775	7,173	4,603
Employment-population ratio .....	58.5	68.9	47.3	59.5	70.1	48.2
Unemployed .....	690	406	283	614	354	260
Unemployment rate .....	5.8	5.6	6.1	5.0	4.7	5.4
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	53,136	23,424	29,712	52,845	23,226	29,619
Civilian labor force .....	43,757	22,053	21,703	43,521	21,852	21,669
Participation rate .....	82.3	94.1	73.0	82.4	94.1	73.2
Employed .....	41,882	21,342	20,540	41,727	21,202	20,524
Employment-population ratio .....	78.8	91.1	69.1	79.0	91.3	69.3
Unemployed .....	1,875	711	1,163	1,794	650	1,145
Unemployment rate .....	4.3	3.2	5.4	4.1	3.0	5.3
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	30,101	13,279	16,821	30,095	13,252	16,843
Civilian labor force .....	25,642	12,358	13,284	25,526	12,329	13,197
Participation rate .....	85.2	93.1	79.0	84.8	93.0	78.4
Employed .....	24,700	11,993	12,707	24,600	11,977	12,623
Employment-population ratio .....	82.1	90.3	75.5	81.7	90.4	74.9
Unemployed .....	942	365	577	926	351	574
Unemployment rate .....	3.7	3.0	4.3	3.6	2.9	4.4

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, 2004-05 annual averages—Continued**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2004			2005		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<b>NATIVE BORN—Continued</b>						
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	23,036	10,145	12,891	22,749	9,974	12,776
Civilian labor force .....	18,115	9,696	8,419	17,995	9,524	8,472
Participation rate .....	78.6	95.6	65.3	79.1	95.5	66.3
Employed .....	17,182	9,349	7,833	17,127	9,225	7,901
Employment-population ratio .....	74.6	92.2	60.8	75.3	92.5	61.8
Unemployed .....	933	347	586	869	298	570
Unemployment rate .....	5.1	3.6	7.0	4.8	3.1	6.7
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	13,363	5,941	7,422	13,384	5,910	7,474
Civilian labor force .....	10,252	5,693	4,559	10,285	5,650	4,635
Participation rate .....	76.7	95.8	61.4	76.8	95.6	62.0
Employed .....	9,696	5,483	4,212	9,769	5,470	4,299
Employment-population ratio .....	72.6	92.3	56.8	73.0	92.6	57.5
Unemployed .....	556	210	346	516	180	336
Unemployment rate .....	5.4	3.7	7.6	5.0	3.2	7.3
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	138,458	68,373	70,085	140,680	69,605	71,076
Civilian labor force .....	82,212	44,021	38,190	83,757	44,917	38,840
Participation rate .....	59.4	64.4	54.5	59.5	64.5	54.6
Employed .....	77,115	40,919	36,196	78,981	42,051	36,930
Employment-population ratio .....	55.7	59.8	51.6	56.1	60.4	52.0
Unemployed .....	5,096	3,102	1,994	4,776	2,866	1,910
Unemployment rate .....	6.2	7.0	5.2	5.7	6.4	4.9

NOTE: Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2005, estimated levels for 2005 are not strictly comparable with those for 2004. 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, 2004-05 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2004				2005			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>								
<b>White non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	899	1,833	1,281	2,474	928	1,869	1,258	2,525
Civilian labor force .....	298	981	811	1,814	345	988	797	1,862
Participation rate .....	33.2	53.5	63.3	73.3	37.1	52.8	63.4	73.8
Employed .....	279	948	768	1,747	325	955	766	1,805
Employment-population ratio .....	31.1	51.7	60.0	70.6	35.0	51.1	60.9	71.5
Unemployed .....	19	33	43	67	19	33	31	57
Unemployment rate .....	6.4	3.4	5.3	3.7	5.6	3.4	3.9	3.1
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	371	650	451	569	361	641	499	558
Civilian labor force .....	220	495	364	487	219	490	407	468
Participation rate .....	59.4	76.1	80.7	85.6	60.7	76.5	81.5	83.9
Employed .....	198	463	332	463	203	458	382	452
Employment-population ratio .....	53.4	71.1	73.7	81.3	56.1	71.5	76.6	80.9
Unemployed .....	22	32	31	25	17	32	25	17
Unemployment rate .....	10.1	6.5	8.6	5.0	7.5	6.5	6.1	3.6
<b>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	874	1,291	986	3,163	857	1,332	998	3,385
Civilian labor force .....	390	862	727	2,394	402	845	725	2,606
Participation rate .....	44.6	66.8	73.8	75.7	46.9	63.5	72.7	77.0
Employed .....	366	819	688	2,321	378	804	702	2,524
Employment-population ratio .....	41.9	63.4	69.8	73.4	44.1	60.4	70.3	74.6
Unemployed .....	24	43	40	72	24	41	23	82
Unemployment rate .....	6.1	5.0	5.4	3.0	5.9	4.9	3.2	3.2
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	6,618	3,088	1,474	1,280	6,870	3,207	1,534	1,309
Civilian labor force .....	4,422	2,315	1,147	997	4,558	2,437	1,202	1,026
Participation rate .....	66.8	75.0	77.9	77.9	66.4	76.0	78.3	78.4
Employed .....	4,111	2,209	1,102	957	4,301	2,340	1,164	997
Employment-population ratio .....	62.1	71.5	74.8	74.8	62.6	72.9	75.9	76.2
Unemployed .....	311	105	46	40	257	98	38	29
Unemployment rate .....	7.0	4.6	4.0	4.0	5.6	4.0	3.1	2.9
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>								
<b>White non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	12,622	42,042	34,302	38,440	12,313	42,100	34,792	38,847
Civilian labor force .....	4,546	25,719	24,536	29,797	4,479	25,768	24,879	30,102
Participation rate .....	36.0	61.2	71.5	77.5	36.4	61.2	71.5	77.5
Employed .....	4,193	24,615	23,681	29,079	4,157	24,740	24,058	29,490
Employment-population ratio .....	33.2	58.5	69.0	75.6	33.8	58.8	69.1	75.9
Unemployed .....	353	1,103	854	718	322	1,027	821	612
Unemployment rate .....	7.8	4.3	3.5	2.4	7.2	4.0	3.3	2.0
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	3,391	6,600	5,068	3,097	3,464	6,778	5,039	3,211
Civilian labor force .....	1,228	4,400	3,768	2,554	1,277	4,538	3,780	2,617
Participation rate .....	36.2	66.7	74.4	82.5	36.9	66.9	75.0	81.5
Employed .....	1,025	4,004	3,483	2,451	1,077	4,135	3,518	2,528
Employment-population ratio .....	30.2	60.7	68.7	79.1	31.1	61.0	69.8	78.7
Unemployed .....	203	396	285	104	200	403	263	89
Unemployment rate .....	16.5	9.0	7.6	4.1	15.7	8.9	6.9	3.4
<b>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	142	320	381	807	158	303	380	859
Civilian labor force .....	55	174	259	640	57	162	257	680
Participation rate .....	38.4	54.6	68.0	79.2	36.3	53.5	67.8	79.2
Employed .....	52	170	252	624	56	158	249	664
Employment-population ratio .....	36.8	53.2	65.9	77.3	35.3	52.0	65.5	77.3
Unemployed .....	2	4	8	16	2	5	9	17
Unemployment rate .....	4.2	2.4	3.0	2.5	2.8	2.8	3.4	2.4

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, 2004-05 annual averages—Continued**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2004				2005			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>
<b>NATIVE BORN—Continued</b>								
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	2,297	3,084	2,590	1,406	2,455	3,182	2,735	1,504
Civilian labor force .....	1,131	2,251	2,075	1,207	1,163	2,313	2,164	1,272
Participation rate .....	49.2	73.0	80.1	85.9	47.4	72.7	79.1	84.5
Employed .....	1,024	2,120	1,966	1,170	1,066	2,195	2,064	1,235
Employment-population ratio .....	44.6	68.8	75.9	83.3	43.4	69.0	75.5	82.1
Unemployed .....	106	131	109	37	97	118	100	36
Unemployment rate .....	9.4	5.8	5.2	3.1	8.4	5.1	4.6	2.9

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>2</sup> 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 2005, estimated levels for 2005 are not strictly comparable with those for 2004. See the Technical Note for further information.

**Table 4. Employed foreign-born and native-born persons 16 years and over by occupation and sex, 2005 annual averages**

(Percent distribution)

Occupation	Foreign born			Native born		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total employed (thousands) .....	21,022	12,720	8,302	120,708	63,254	57,454
Percent .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations .....	26.2	23.9	29.6	36.2	33.7	39.1
Management, business, and financial operations occupations .....	9.5	9.2	10.0	15.3	16.7	13.7
Management occupations .....	6.6	7.2	5.7	11.0	13.1	8.7
Business and financial operations occupations .....	2.9	2.0	4.3	4.3	3.6	5.0
Professional and related occupations .....	16.7	14.7	19.6	21.0	16.9	25.4
Computer and mathematical occupations .....	3.2	3.9	2.1	2.1	3.0	1.2
Architecture and engineering occupations .....	2.2	3.0	.9	1.9	3.2	.5
Life, physical, and social science occupations .....	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.1	.9
Community and social services occupations .....	.9	.8	1.2	1.6	1.2	2.1
Legal occupations .....	.5	.3	.6	1.3	1.2	1.3
Education, training, and library occupations .....	3.2	1.9	5.2	6.2	3.0	9.7
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations .....	1.2	1.1	1.4	2.0	2.0	2.1
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations .....	4.3	2.6	7.1	4.8	2.3	7.6
Service occupations .....	22.8	17.8	30.4	15.2	12.0	18.7
Healthcare support occupations .....	2.6	.6	5.6	2.1	.4	4.0
Protective service occupations .....	.9	1.1	.5	2.2	3.3	1.1
Food preparation and serving related occupations .....	7.8	7.6	8.1	4.8	3.5	6.1
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations .....	8.1	7.0	9.7	2.9	3.5	2.3
Personal care and service occupations .....	3.5	1.4	6.7	3.1	1.3	5.2
Sales and office occupations .....	18.0	12.9	25.9	26.7	18.3	35.9
Sales and related occupations .....	9.1	8.0	11.0	12.0	11.6	12.5
Office and administrative support occupations .....	8.9	5.0	14.9	14.6	6.6	23.4
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations .....	16.0	25.2	1.9	9.9	18.1	1.0
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations .....	1.8	2.3	1.0	.5	.7	.2
Construction and extraction occupations .....	11.1	17.9	.6	5.6	10.4	.4
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations .....	3.2	5.1	.3	3.8	6.9	.3
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations .....	17.0	20.1	12.3	12.0	18.0	5.4
Production occupations .....	10.0	10.4	9.3	6.0	8.2	3.6
Transportation and material moving occupations .....	7.0	9.6	3.0	6.0	9.7	1.8

NOTE: Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2005, estimated levels for 2005 are not strictly comparable with those for 2004. 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, 2004-05 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2004					2005				
	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born <sup>1</sup>	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born <sup>1</sup>
	Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings		Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings	
Total, 16 years and over .....	15,580	\$502	85,644	\$664	75.6	16,340	\$511	87,220	\$677	75.6
Men .....	9,902	518	47,099	749	69.1	10,396	523	48,011	760	68.9
Women .....	5,678	473	38,545	585	81.0	5,945	487	39,210	596	81.7
<b>Age</b>										
16 to 24 years .....	1,551	341	9,325	397	85.8	1,578	353	9,529	404	87.3
25 to 34 years .....	4,631	491	20,126	624	78.7	4,831	495	20,181	633	78.3
35 to 44 years .....	4,538	540	22,323	741	72.9	4,700	587	22,403	755	77.8
45 to 54 years .....	3,187	565	21,799	764	73.9	3,352	563	22,299	772	73.0
55 to 64 years .....	1,409	607	10,523	740	82.0	1,582	607	11,192	757	80.2
65 years and over .....	264	552	1,548	562	98.2	297	494	1,616	578	85.4
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity <sup>2</sup></b>										
White non-Hispanic or Latino .....	2,852	731	66,563	702	104.1	2,978	733	67,458	720	101.8
Black non-Hispanic or Latino .....	1,268	533	10,374	529	100.8	1,326	521	10,671	521	100.0
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino .....	3,383	699	1,009	738	94.8	3,541	747	1,041	777	96.1
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	7,899	402	6,163	539	74.5	8,331	412	6,343	555	74.2
<b>Educational attainment</b>										
Total, 25 years and over .....	14,029	524	76,319	710	73.7	14,762	543	77,691	724	74.9
Less than a high school diploma .....	4,094	373	4,439	433	86.2	4,305	385	4,557	442	87.0
High school graduates, no college <sup>3</sup> .....	3,486	478	23,655	586	81.5	3,589	496	23,926	594	83.4
Some college or associate degree .....	2,216	595	22,630	668	89.0	2,316	592	23,155	679	87.2
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>4</sup> .....	4,234	943	25,595	994	94.9	4,553	960	26,053	1,023	93.8

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>4</sup> Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Due to the introduction of revised population controls in January 2005, estimated levels for 2005 are not strictly comparable with those for 2004. 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, 2004-05 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Census regions and divisions	2004						2005					
	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
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>												
Northeast .....	7,030	4,666	66.4	4,409	258	5.5	7,236	4,817	66.6	4,588	229	4.8
New England .....	1,371	933	68.0	884	49	5.2	1,450	996	68.6	946	50	5.0
Middle Atlantic .....	5,659	3,734	66.0	3,525	209	5.6	5,785	3,822	66.1	3,642	180	4.7
South .....	9,402	6,485	69.0	6,177	308	4.8	9,675	6,715	69.4	6,444	272	4.0
South Atlantic .....	5,682	3,930	69.2	3,741	190	4.8	5,879	4,073	69.3	3,920	152	3.7
East South												
Central .....	433	313	72.3	307	6	2.0	505	354	70.2	335	19	5.4
West South												
Central .....	3,286	2,241	68.2	2,129	113	5.0	3,291	2,288	69.5	2,188	100	4.4
Midwest .....	3,460	2,364	68.3	2,226	138	5.8	3,517	2,398	68.2	2,274	124	5.2
East North Central ..	2,636	1,759	66.7	1,658	101	5.7	2,671	1,802	67.5	1,706	96	5.3
West North												
Central .....	824	605	73.4	568	37	6.2	846	596	70.5	568	28	4.7
West .....	11,870	7,918	66.7	7,444	474	6.0	12,131	8,111	66.9	7,716	395	4.9
Mountain .....	1,897	1,308	69.0	1,244	64	4.9	1,972	1,344	68.1	1,289	55	4.1
Pacific .....	9,974	6,610	66.3	6,200	410	6.2	10,158	6,767	66.6	6,427	340	5.0
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Northeast .....	35,520	22,956	64.6	21,738	1,218	5.3	35,409	22,903	64.7	21,796	1,108	4.8
New England .....	9,800	6,603	67.4	6,288	315	4.8	9,763	6,572	67.3	6,261	311	4.7
Middle Atlantic .....	25,721	16,353	63.6	15,450	903	5.5	25,646	16,332	63.7	15,535	797	4.9
South .....	70,414	45,150	64.1	42,747	2,403	5.3	71,597	46,084	64.4	43,740	2,344	5.1
South Atlantic .....	36,308	23,330	64.3	22,206	1,125	4.8	36,968	23,909	64.7	22,797	1,112	4.7
East South												
Central .....	12,914	8,032	62.2	7,581	451	5.6	13,021	8,024	61.6	7,574	450	5.6
West South												
Central .....	21,192	13,787	65.1	12,960	827	6.0	21,608	14,151	65.5	13,369	783	5.5
Midwest .....	46,829	32,028	68.4	30,196	1,831	5.7	47,205	32,193	68.2	30,440	1,753	5.4
East North Central ..	32,559	21,837	67.1	20,502	1,335	6.1	32,777	21,944	66.9	20,661	1,283	5.8
West North												
Central .....	14,270	10,190	71.4	9,695	496	4.9	14,428	10,249	71.0	9,780	470	4.6
West .....	38,830	25,835	66.5	24,316	1,519	5.9	39,313	26,097	66.4	24,732	1,365	5.2
Mountain .....	12,838	8,724	68.0	8,277	448	5.1	13,167	8,919	67.7	8,500	418	4.7
Pacific .....	25,992	17,111	65.8	16,040	1,071	6.3	26,146	17,178	65.7	16,231	947	5.5

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 2005, estimated levels for 2005 are not strictly comparable with those for 2004. See the Technical Note for further information.