



Technical information: (202) 691-6378  
<http://www.bls.gov/cps/>

USDL 08-0409

Media contact: (202) 691-5902

For release: 10:00 A.M. (EDT)  
Wednesday, March 26, 2008

## **FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS: LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IN 2007**

Foreign-born workers' share of the U.S. labor force continued to grow, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. In 2007, 24.0 million persons, or 15.7 percent of the U.S. civilian labor force age 16 and over, were foreign born. Their share of the labor force was up from 15.3 percent in 2006. The unemployment rate for the foreign born increased by 0.3 percentage point over the year to 4.3 percent in 2007. From 2003 to 2006, it had declined by 2.6 percentage points. The jobless rate of the native born, at 4.7 percent in 2007, was unchanged from the prior year.

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 from those of the native-born labor force. In 2007, men made up a larger proportion of the foreign-born labor force (60.3 percent) than they did of the native-born (52.4 percent) labor force. Also, a higher proportion of the foreign-born than the native-born labor force was made up of 25- to 54-year olds (76.4 and 66.6 percent, respectively); labor force participation is typically highest among persons in that age group. (See table 1.)

In 2007, Hispanics comprised 50.0 percent of the foreign-born labor force compared with 7.4 percent of the native-born labor force. Asians made up 21.9 percent of the foreign-born labor force compared with 1.3 percent of the native-born labor force. (Data in this release for persons who are white, black, or Asian do not include those of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. Data on persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are presented separately.)

In terms of educational attainment, 27.4 percent of the foreign-born labor force 25 years old and over had not completed high school in 2007, compared with 6.0 percent of the native-born labor force. Similar proportions of foreign-born and native-born persons in the labor force had a bachelor's or higher degree (31.1 and 34.2 percent, respectively). Foreign-born workers were less likely than native-born workers to be high school graduates (with no college) or to have some college or an associate degree.

## Labor Force and Unemployment

In 2007, about 24 million, or 68.5 percent, of the foreign born were in the labor force; that rate was little changed from a year earlier. In contrast, the labor force participation rate of native-born workers edged down by 0.2 percentage point to 65.6 percent in 2007. Over the year, the number of foreign-born labor force participants rose by 846,000; this represented about half of the total labor force increase in 2007. (See table 1.) From 2000 to 2007, the foreign born accounted for 47.7 percent of the net increase in the civilian labor force.

Foreign-born men were more likely to be labor force participants (81.9 percent) than their native-born counterparts (71.6 percent) in 2007. In contrast, 54.9 percent of foreign-born women were labor force participants compared with 60.1 percent of native-born women.

Foreign-born mothers with children under 18 years old were less likely to be labor force participants than native-born mothers—60.1 versus 73.7 percent. Among women with children under age 3, the participation rate for the foreign born was 44.3 percent, while that for the native born was 63.4 percent; both rates edged down over the year. The vast majority of both foreign- and native-born fathers with children under 18 were labor force participants—about 94 percent of each group. (See table 2.)

The unemployment rate of the foreign born increased from 4.0 percent in 2006 to 4.3 percent in 2007. Over the year, the jobless rate of the native born held steady at 4.7 percent. The unemployment rate of the foreign born was lower than that of the native born for the third year in a row. Over the year, the unemployment rate for foreign-born men rose from 3.5 to 4.1 percent, while the rate for foreign-born women was little changed at 4.6 percent. (See table 1.)

By region, the foreign born made up a larger share of the total labor force in the West (24.6 percent) and in the Northeast (18.3 percent) than for the nation as a whole (15.7 percent). In contrast, the shares of the labor force made up of foreign-born workers in the South (13.8 percent) and Midwest (7.5 percent) regions were less than for the nation. (See table 6.)

## Occupation

Foreign-born workers in 2007 were more likely than their native-born counterparts to be employed in service occupations (22.8 versus 15.4 percent); in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations (16.4 versus 9.7 percent), and in production, transportation, and material moving occupations (16.2 versus 11.7 percent). In contrast, native-born workers were more likely than foreign-born workers to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations—37.0 versus 27.2 percent. (See table 4.)

In 2007, about 1 in 4 foreign-born men were employed in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations, while nearly 1 in 3 women were in service occupations. As compared with the foreign born, a larger share of native-born women and men were employed in management, professional, and related occupations.

## Earnings

In 2007, the median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers were \$554, compared with \$722 for the native born. Among men, median earnings were \$585 per week for the foreign born, compared with \$809 for the native born; the median for foreign-born women was \$509, compared with \$627 for the native born. (See table 5.)

As with the native born, the earnings of foreign-born workers increased with education. Foreign-born workers 25 years of age and over with less than a high school education earned \$405 per week in 2007, while those with bachelor's degrees and higher earned about 2.6 times as much—\$1,057 a week.

The gap between the earnings of the foreign-born and the native-born workers narrows with higher levels of education. Among those with less than a high school diploma, full-time workers who were foreign born earned 84.6 percent as much as their native-born counterparts. Among those with a bachelor's degree and higher, foreign-born workers earned almost the same (98.3 percent) as native-born workers.

# 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 2007 are not strictly comparable with data for 2006 and earlier years because of the introduction in January 2007 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 increase the December 2006 employment level by 153,000 and the unemployment level by 10,000. 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 2007" available on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps07adj.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 Household Data section of the "Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error" at [http://www.bls.gov/cps/eetech\\_methods.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/cps/eetech_methods.pdf).

## 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, 2006-07 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006						2007					
	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 .....	228,815	151,428	66.2	144,427	7,001	4.6	231,867	153,124	66.0	146,047	7,078	4.6
Men .....	110,605	81,255	73.5	77,502	3,753	4.6	112,173	82,136	73.2	78,254	3,882	4.7
Women .....	118,210	70,173	59.4	66,925	3,247	4.6	119,694	70,988	59.3	67,792	3,196	4.5
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>												
Total, 16 years and over .....	33,733	23,148	68.6	22,225	923	4.0	35,017	23,994	68.5	22,967	1,027	4.3
Men .....	16,989	13,885	81.7	13,395	491	3.5	17,670	14,470	81.9	13,883	588	4.1
Women .....	16,743	9,263	55.3	8,831	432	4.7	17,347	9,524	54.9	9,085	439	4.6
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years .....	4,156	2,501	60.2	2,318	183	7.3	4,205	2,454	58.4	2,266	188	7.7
25 to 34 years .....	7,997	6,267	78.4	6,027	240	3.8	8,243	6,421	77.9	6,147	274	4.3
35 to 44 years .....	8,022	6,552	81.7	6,325	227	3.5	8,322	6,782	81.5	6,546	236	3.5
45 to 54 years .....	5,896	4,740	80.4	4,575	165	3.5	6,278	5,126	81.7	4,930	196	3.8
55 to 64 years .....	3,707	2,428	65.5	2,340	87	3.6	3,850	2,531	65.7	2,424	107	4.2
65 years and over .....	3,955	660	16.7	640	20	3.1	4,119	680	16.5	655	25	3.7
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity <sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino .....	7,329	4,503	61.4	4,344	159	3.5	7,492	4,599	61.4	4,428	171	3.7
Black non-Hispanic or Latino .....	2,450	1,807	73.7	1,708	99	5.5	2,610	1,901	72.8	1,795	106	5.6
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino .....	7,481	5,060	67.6	4,917	142	2.8	7,762	5,264	67.8	5,106	158	3.0
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	16,156	11,549	71.5	11,034	514	4.5	16,817	11,987	71.3	11,405	582	4.9
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over .....	29,576	20,647	69.8	19,908	739	3.6	30,812	21,540	69.9	20,701	839	3.9
Less than a high school diploma .....	9,361	5,865	62.7	5,566	299	5.1	9,456	5,893	62.3	5,585	308	5.2
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> ...	7,358	5,032	68.4	4,855	177	3.5	7,863	5,400	68.7	5,188	212	3.9
Some college or associate degree .....	4,511	3,346	74.2	3,232	114	3.4	4,780	3,538	74.0	3,387	151	4.3
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	8,347	6,405	76.7	6,255	149	2.3	8,713	6,709	77.0	6,541	168	2.5

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations by selected characteristics, 2006-07 annual averages—Continued**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006						2007					
	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>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Total, 16 years and over .....	195,082	128,280	65.8	122,202	6,078	4.7	196,850	129,130	65.6	123,079	6,051	4.7
Men .....	93,615	67,370	72.0	64,107	3,263	4.8	94,503	67,666	71.6	64,372	3,294	4.9
Women .....	101,467	60,910	60.0	58,095	2,815	4.6	102,347	61,464	60.1	58,707	2,757	4.5
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years .....	32,787	19,893	60.7	17,723	2,170	10.9	33,204	19,763	59.5	17,608	2,155	10.9
25 to 34 years .....	31,233	26,305	84.2	25,024	1,282	4.9	31,509	26,708	84.8	25,439	1,270	4.8
35 to 44 years .....	34,731	29,296	84.3	28,244	1,051	3.6	34,079	28,745	84.3	27,756	989	3.4
45 to 54 years .....	37,005	30,405	82.2	29,477	928	3.1	37,266	30,571	82.0	29,633	938	3.1
55 to 64 years .....	27,668	17,557	63.5	17,049	508	2.9	28,683	18,219	63.5	17,684	535	2.9
65 years and over .....	31,658	4,824	15.2	4,685	139	2.9	32,109	5,124	16.0	4,959	165	3.2
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity <sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino .....	150,979	100,126	66.3	96,262	3,864	3.9	151,596	100,279	66.1	96,411	3,868	3.9
Black non-Hispanic or Latino .....	23,668	14,905	63.0	13,500	1,405	9.4	23,921	14,961	62.5	13,671	1,290	8.6
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino .....	2,522	1,552	61.5	1,493	59	3.8	2,708	1,683	62.2	1,620	63	3.7
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	13,947	9,145	65.6	8,578	567	6.2	14,566	9,615	66.0	8,977	638	6.6
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over .....	162,295	108,387	66.8	104,479	3,908	3.6	163,645	109,367	66.8	105,471	3,896	3.6
Less than a high school diploma .....	18,181	6,893	37.9	6,326	567	8.2	17,177	6,514	37.9	5,936	578	8.9
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> .....	53,390	33,322	62.4	31,847	1,475	4.4	53,510	33,139	61.9	31,670	1,470	4.4
Some college or associate degree .....	44,500	32,064	72.1	30,911	1,152	3.6	45,051	32,349	71.8	31,225	1,124	3.5
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	46,224	36,108	78.1	35,394	714	2.0	47,908	37,365	78.0	36,640	725	1.9

<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: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. 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, 2006-07 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006			2007		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	13,239	6,283	6,956	13,970	6,640	7,329
Civilian labor force .....	10,068	5,912	4,155	10,667	6,260	4,407
Participation rate .....	76.0	94.1	59.7	76.4	94.3	60.1
Employed .....	9,674	5,731	3,943	10,245	6,055	4,190
Employment-population ratio .....	73.1	91.2	56.7	73.3	91.2	57.2
Unemployed .....	394	182	212	422	205	217
Unemployment rate .....	3.9	3.1	5.1	4.0	3.3	4.9
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	6,604	3,050	3,554	6,974	3,252	3,722
Civilian labor force .....	5,256	2,828	2,428	5,640	3,029	2,611
Participation rate .....	79.6	92.7	68.3	80.9	93.1	70.2
Employed .....	5,052	2,737	2,315	5,431	2,935	2,497
Employment-population ratio .....	76.5	89.7	65.1	77.9	90.2	67.1
Unemployed .....	204	91	113	209	94	115
Unemployment rate .....	3.9	3.2	4.6	3.7	3.1	4.4
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	6,635	3,233	3,402	6,996	3,388	3,608
Civilian labor force .....	4,812	3,084	1,727	5,027	3,231	1,795
Participation rate .....	72.5	95.4	50.8	71.9	95.4	49.8
Employed .....	4,622	2,994	1,628	4,814	3,120	1,693
Employment-population ratio .....	69.7	92.6	47.8	68.8	92.1	46.9
Unemployed .....	190	90	100	213	111	102
Unemployment rate .....	3.9	2.9	5.8	4.2	3.4	5.7
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	3,805	1,845	1,961	4,087	1,982	2,105
Civilian labor force .....	2,658	1,758	900	2,821	1,888	933
Participation rate .....	69.8	95.3	45.9	69.0	95.3	44.3
Employed .....	2,552	1,706	846	2,700	1,825	876
Employment-population ratio .....	67.1	92.5	43.1	66.1	92.1	41.6
Unemployed .....	105	51	54	120	63	57
Unemployment rate .....	4.0	2.9	6.0	4.3	3.4	6.1
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	20,493	10,706	9,787	21,047	11,030	10,018
Civilian labor force .....	13,080	7,973	5,107	13,327	8,210	5,117
Participation rate .....	63.8	74.5	52.2	63.3	74.4	51.1
Employed .....	12,552	7,664	4,888	12,722	7,828	4,895
Employment-population ratio .....	61.2	71.6	49.9	60.4	71.0	48.9
Unemployed .....	529	309	220	605	383	222
Unemployment rate .....	4.0	3.9	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.3
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	52,551	23,118	29,433	52,683	22,996	29,686
Civilian labor force .....	43,400	21,774	21,626	43,578	21,699	21,879
Participation rate .....	82.6	94.2	73.5	82.7	94.4	73.7
Employed .....	41,768	21,176	20,592	42,005	21,119	20,887
Employment-population ratio .....	79.5	91.6	70.0	79.7	91.8	70.4
Unemployed .....	1,632	598	1,034	1,573	581	992
Unemployment rate .....	3.8	2.7	4.8	3.6	2.7	4.5
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	29,775	13,114	16,662	29,861	13,085	16,775
Civilian labor force .....	25,296	12,219	13,077	25,413	12,197	13,216
Participation rate .....	85.0	93.2	78.5	85.1	93.2	78.8
Employed .....	24,471	11,912	12,559	24,622	11,889	12,733
Employment-population ratio .....	82.2	90.8	75.4	82.5	90.9	75.9
Unemployed .....	825	307	518	791	308	483
Unemployment rate .....	3.3	2.5	4.0	3.1	2.5	3.7

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, 2006-07 annual averages—Continued**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006			2007		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<b>NATIVE BORN—Continued</b>						
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	22,776	10,004	12,772	22,822	9,911	12,911
Civilian labor force .....	18,104	9,555	8,549	18,165	9,502	8,663
Participation rate .....	79.5	95.5	66.9	79.6	95.9	67.1
Employed .....	17,297	9,264	8,033	17,383	9,230	8,154
Employment-population ratio .....	75.9	92.6	62.9	76.2	93.1	63.2
Unemployed .....	807	291	516	782	272	509
Unemployment rate .....	4.5	3.0	6.0	4.3	2.9	5.9
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	13,433	5,963	7,470	13,406	5,851	7,554
Civilian labor force .....	10,481	5,706	4,775	10,412	5,624	4,788
Participation rate .....	78.0	95.7	63.9	77.7	96.1	63.4
Employed .....	9,992	5,523	4,469	9,935	5,457	4,478
Employment-population ratio .....	74.4	92.6	59.8	74.1	93.3	59.3
Unemployed .....	489	183	306	477	167	310
Unemployment rate .....	4.7	3.2	6.4	4.6	3.0	6.5
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	142,531	70,497	72,034	144,167	71,506	72,661
Civilian labor force .....	84,880	45,596	39,284	85,552	45,967	39,585
Participation rate .....	59.6	64.7	54.5	59.3	64.3	54.5
Employed .....	80,434	42,931	37,503	81,074	43,253	37,821
Employment-population ratio .....	56.4	60.9	52.1	56.2	60.5	52.1
Unemployed .....	4,446	2,665	1,781	4,478	2,714	1,764
Unemployment rate .....	5.2	5.8	4.5	5.2	5.9	4.5

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. 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, 2006-07 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006				2007			
	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 .....	940	1,803	1,296	2,647	895	1,850	1,338	2,701
Civilian labor force .....	349	971	848	1,969	306	1,035	882	1,991
Participation rate .....	37.1	53.8	65.4	74.4	34.1	55.9	65.9	73.7
Employed .....	331	937	819	1,920	292	993	850	1,937
Employment-population ratio .....	35.2	52.0	63.1	72.6	32.7	53.7	63.5	71.7
Unemployed .....	18	33	30	48	13	42	32	53
Unemployment rate .....	5.3	3.4	3.5	2.5	4.3	4.1	3.6	2.7
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	357	648	507	608	318	712	570	654
Civilian labor force .....	226	477	416	510	193	515	474	566
Participation rate .....	63.2	73.7	81.9	83.9	60.7	72.2	83.2	86.6
Employed .....	207	453	398	495	177	491	445	549
Employment-population ratio .....	57.8	69.9	78.4	81.4	55.6	68.9	78.1	84.1
Unemployed .....	19	25	18	15	16	24	29	17
Unemployment rate .....	8.6	5.2	4.3	3.0	8.4	4.7	6.1	3.0
<b>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	858	1,340	1,016	3,575	836	1,428	1,066	3,754
Civilian labor force .....	391	862	742	2,743	370	924	769	2,889
Participation rate .....	45.6	64.3	73.0	76.7	44.3	64.7	72.1	77.0
Employed .....	376	834	721	2,684	359	892	736	2,828
Employment-population ratio .....	43.8	62.3	71.0	75.1	43.0	62.5	69.0	75.3
Unemployed .....	15	27	21	58	11	32	33	61
Unemployment rate .....	3.9	3.2	2.8	2.1	3.0	3.5	4.3	2.1
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	7,167	3,506	1,615	1,424	7,368	3,801	1,726	1,508
Civilian labor force .....	4,875	2,677	1,279	1,111	5,001	2,877	1,352	1,189
Participation rate .....	68.0	76.4	79.2	78.0	67.9	75.7	78.3	78.9
Employed .....	4,631	2,587	1,234	1,085	4,736	2,764	1,297	1,155
Employment-population ratio .....	64.6	73.8	76.4	76.1	64.3	72.7	75.1	76.6
Unemployed .....	243	90	46	27	266	112	56	34
Unemployment rate .....	5.0	3.4	3.6	2.4	5.3	3.9	4.1	2.9
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>								
<b>White non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	11,847	42,087	35,100	39,751	11,099	41,790	35,413	41,067
Civilian labor force .....	4,369	25,714	24,931	30,787	4,092	25,333	25,048	31,725
Participation rate .....	36.9	61.1	71.0	77.4	36.9	60.6	70.7	77.3
Employed .....	4,079	24,773	24,157	30,200	3,783	24,377	24,281	31,150
Employment-population ratio .....	34.4	58.9	68.8	76.0	34.1	58.3	68.6	75.9
Unemployed .....	289	941	774	586	309	955	767	575
Unemployment rate .....	6.6	3.7	3.1	1.9	7.5	3.8	3.1	1.8
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	3,396	6,801	5,215	3,379	3,215	6,938	5,306	3,496
Civilian labor force .....	1,236	4,488	3,885	2,762	1,154	4,481	3,948	2,872
Participation rate .....	36.4	66.0	74.5	81.7	35.9	64.6	74.4	82.1
Employed .....	1,065	4,115	3,634	2,687	1,003	4,138	3,731	2,788
Employment-population ratio .....	31.4	60.5	69.7	79.5	31.2	59.6	70.3	79.7
Unemployed .....	171	373	251	75	151	343	216	84
Unemployment rate .....	13.8	8.3	6.5	2.7	13.1	7.7	5.5	2.9

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, 2006-07 annual averages—Continued**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006				2007			
	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>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	152	339	391	880	143	397	399	953
Civilian labor force .....	55	188	276	710	58	223	287	757
Participation rate .....	36.4	55.4	70.6	80.7	40.6	56.0	72.0	79.4
Employed .....	53	183	265	696	56	218	281	734
Employment-population ratio .....	35.1	54.0	67.7	79.2	39.4	54.8	70.3	77.0
Unemployed .....	2	5	11	13	2	5	7	23
Unemployment rate .....	3.4	2.6	4.1	1.9	2.9	2.2	2.3	3.0
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population .....	2,352	3,232	2,781	1,626	2,275	3,390	2,939	1,784
Civilian labor force .....	1,073	2,331	2,222	1,373	1,039	2,468	2,340	1,517
Participation rate .....	45.6	72.1	79.9	84.4	45.7	72.8	79.6	85.1
Employed .....	989	2,214	2,143	1,344	942	2,345	2,245	1,489
Employment-population ratio .....	42.0	68.5	77.1	82.6	41.4	69.2	76.4	83.5
Unemployed .....	85	117	79	29	97	122	94	29
Unemployment rate .....	7.9	5.0	3.6	2.1	9.4	5.0	4.0	1.9

<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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

**Table 4. Employed foreign-born and native-born persons 16 years and over by occupation and sex, 2007 annual averages**

(Percent distribution)

Occupation	Foreign Born			Native Born		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total .....	22,967	13,883	9,085	123,079	64,372	58,707
Percent .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations .....	27.2	25.1	30.4	37.0	34.4	39.9
Management, business, and financial operations occupations .....	10.4	10.4	10.4	15.6	17.0	14.1
Management occupations .....	7.4	8.1	6.3	11.2	13.3	8.9
Business and financial operations occupations .....	3.0	2.3	4.1	4.4	3.7	5.2
Professional and related occupations .....	16.8	14.7	20.0	21.4	17.4	25.9
Computer and mathematical occupations .....	3.4	4.2	2.0	2.2	3.1	1.2
Architecture and engineering occupations .....	2.0	2.8	.9	2.0	3.3	.6
Life, physical, and social science occupations .....	1.1	1.1	1.2	.9	1.0	.8
Community and social services occupations .....	.9	.6	1.3	1.7	1.3	2.1
Legal occupations .....	.4	.2	.7	1.3	1.2	1.4
Education, training, and library occupations .....	3.2	2.0	5.1	6.3	3.1	9.8
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations .....	1.4	1.3	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.0
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations .....	4.4	2.6	7.2	5.1	2.4	8.0
Service occupations .....	22.8	17.3	31.1	15.4	12.3	18.7
Healthcare support occupations .....	2.5	.6	5.4	2.1	.4	3.9
Protective service occupations .....	.8	1.0	.5	2.4	3.5	1.1
Food preparation and serving related occupations .....	7.5	7.1	8.1	4.8	3.7	6.1
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations .....	8.3	7.4	9.7	2.9	3.5	2.2
Personal care and service occupations .....	3.6	1.2	7.4	3.2	1.3	5.3
Sales and office occupations .....	17.5	12.4	25.1	26.2	17.9	35.2
Sales and related occupations .....	9.1	7.8	11.0	11.9	11.4	12.4
Office and administrative support occupations .....	8.4	4.7	14.1	14.3	6.5	22.8
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations .....	16.4	26.0	1.7	9.7	17.8	.9
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations .....	1.6	2.1	.9	.5	.7	.2
Construction and extraction occupations .....	11.8	19.1	.5	5.6	10.3	.4
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations .....	3.0	4.8	.3	3.7	6.8	.3
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations .....	16.2	19.2	11.7	11.7	17.6	5.3
Production occupations .....	9.3	9.6	8.8	5.9	8.1	3.5
Transportation and material moving occupations .....	6.9	9.6	2.9	5.8	9.5	1.9

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. 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, 2006-07 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2006					2007				
	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 .....	17,267	\$532	88,839	\$698	76.2	17,876	\$554	89,463	\$722	76.8
Men .....	10,931	563	48,816	782	72.0	11,329	585	48,969	809	72.3
Women .....	6,336	502	40,022	611	82.1	6,547	509	40,494	627	81.2
<b>AGE</b>										
16 to 24 years .....	1,608	379	9,753	414	91.5	1,650	391	9,599	435	89.8
25 to 34 years .....	5,008	508	20,407	647	78.4	5,078	520	20,792	669	77.8
35 to 44 years .....	5,035	597	22,159	776	76.9	5,186	604	21,814	807	74.7
45 to 54 years .....	3,567	612	22,814	801	76.4	3,816	615	22,877	817	75.2
55 to 64 years .....	1,703	608	11,919	787	77.3	1,761	632	12,435	828	76.3
65 years and over .....	345	554	1,787	588	94.3	386	518	1,946	622	83.3
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY <sup>2</sup></b>										
White non-Hispanic or Latino .....	3,051	765	68,410	740	103.3	3,084	805	68,484	762	105.6
Black non-Hispanic or Latino .....	1,349	563	10,939	557	101.1	1,442	585	11,160	569	102.8
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino .....	3,685	790	1,066	789	100.1	3,876	832	1,188	832	100.0
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity .....	9,010	430	6,683	572	75.1	9,297	448	6,904	605	74.0
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>										
Total, 25 years and over .....	15,659	575	79,085	743	77.4	16,225	586	79,864	763	76.7
Less than a high school diploma .....	4,542	396	4,487	462	85.8	4,582	405	4,164	479	84.6
High school graduates, no college <sup>3</sup> .....	3,813	507	24,210	607	83.5	3,928	511	24,069	617	82.9
Some college or associate degree .....	2,446	613	23,580	701	87.4	2,539	617	23,651	714	86.5
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>4</sup> .....	4,857	1,024	26,808	1,042	98.2	5,177	1,057	27,980	1,075	98.3

<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: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. 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, 2006-07 annual averages**

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	2006						2007					
	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 .....	7,494	4,992	66.6	4,775	217	4.3	7,742	5,113	66.0	4,887	225	4.4
New England .....	1,481	1,017	68.7	968	49	4.8	1,540	1,062	68.9	1,018	43	4.1
Middle Atlantic .....	6,012	3,974	66.1	3,807	168	4.2	6,202	4,051	65.3	3,869	182	4.5
South .....	10,289	7,304	71.0	7,061	243	3.3	10,711	7,536	70.4	7,265	272	3.6
South Atlantic .....	6,263	4,462	71.2	4,322	140	3.1	6,434	4,602	71.5	4,431	171	3.7
East South Central ...	531	388	73.1	373	15	3.8	567	424	74.8	412	12	2.9
West South Central ..	3,495	2,454	70.2	2,366	88	3.6	3,709	2,510	67.7	2,422	88	3.5
Midwest .....	3,659	2,542	69.5	2,434	107	4.2	3,791	2,626	69.3	2,506	120	4.6
East North Central ....	2,797	1,914	68.4	1,832	82	4.3	2,923	1,996	68.3	1,906	90	4.5
West North Central ...	862	628	72.9	602	26	4.1	868	630	72.6	600	30	4.8
West .....	12,291	8,310	67.6	7,955	356	4.3	12,773	8,719	68.3	8,309	410	4.7
Mountain .....	2,115	1,479	70.0	1,424	56	3.8	2,178	1,513	69.5	1,453	61	4.0
Pacific .....	10,176	6,831	67.1	6,531	300	4.4	10,595	7,206	68.0	6,857	349	4.8
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Northeast .....	35,260	22,895	64.9	21,829	1,066	4.7	35,327	22,881	64.8	21,863	1,018	4.4
New England .....	9,749	6,608	67.8	6,306	302	4.6	9,770	6,623	67.8	6,322	301	4.5
Middle Atlantic .....	25,512	16,288	63.8	15,524	764	4.7	25,556	16,257	63.6	15,541	717	4.4
South .....	72,469	46,624	64.3	44,473	2,151	4.6	73,484	47,086	64.1	44,994	2,092	4.4
South Atlantic .....	37,577	24,360	64.8	23,332	1,028	4.2	38,242	24,749	64.7	23,708	1,041	4.2
East South Central ....	13,155	8,188	62.2	7,757	431	5.3	13,223	8,199	62.0	7,792	407	5.0
West South Central ..	21,737	14,077	64.8	13,384	692	4.9	22,019	14,139	64.2	13,494	645	4.6
Midwest .....	47,428	32,401	68.3	30,778	1,623	5.0	47,517	32,377	68.1	30,697	1,680	5.2
East North Central ....	32,840	22,063	67.2	20,863	1,200	5.4	32,930	22,073	67.0	20,827	1,245	5.6
West North Central ...	14,588	10,339	70.9	9,916	423	4.1	14,587	10,305	70.6	9,870	435	4.2
West .....	39,925	26,358	66.0	25,121	1,238	4.7	40,522	26,786	66.1	25,525	1,261	4.7
Mountain .....	13,523	9,199	68.0	8,832	367	4.0	13,893	9,417	67.8	9,080	337	3.6
Pacific .....	26,402	17,159	65.0	16,288	871	5.1	26,629	17,368	65.2	16,445	923	5.3

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). Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.