

Average (mean) duration of unemployment in weeks, not seasonally adjusted, May 2011
A comparison of new (5-year) and previous (2-year) topcodes

Characteristic	New topcode (5 years)	Previous topcode (2 years)	Difference (New - previous)
AGE AND SEX			
Total, 16 years and over	41.2	37.6	3.6
16 to 19 years	21.3	20.6	0.6
20 to 24 years	30.5	28.5	1.9
25 to 34 years	39.6	36.8	2.8
35 to 44 years	42.7	38.7	4.0
45 to 54 years	52.0	46.6	5.4
55 to 64 years	55.7	49.5	6.2
65 years and over	51.2	45.8	5.4
Men, 16 years and over	42.1	38.7	3.4
16 to 19 years	22.7	21.6	1.1
20 to 24 years	29.4	28.1	1.3
25 to 34 years	42.3	38.9	3.4
35 to 44 years	42.0	39.3	2.7
45 to 54 years	53.4	47.8	5.5
55 to 64 years	58.2	52.2	6.0
65 years and over	50.6	45.9	4.7
Women, 16 years and over	40.0	36.2	3.8
16 to 19 years	19.5	19.5	0.0
20 to 24 years	31.9	29.1	2.8
25 to 34 years	36.1	34.0	2.1
35 to 44 years	43.5	38.1	5.4
45 to 54 years	50.2	44.9	5.3
55 to 64 years	52.8	46.4	6.4
65 years and over	52.2	45.7	6.5
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY			
White, 16 years and over	40.0	36.6	3.4
Men	40.8	37.8	2.9
Women	39.1	35.1	3.9
Black or African American, 16 years and over	43.7	39.7	3.9
Men	44.3	40.1	4.3
Women	42.9	39.4	3.5
Asian, 16 years and over	46.2	40.7	5.5
Men	50.3	43.6	6.7
Women	42.2	37.9	4.3
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 16 years and over	39.0	35.1	3.9
Men	36.9	34.4	2.6
Women	41.7	36.0	5.7
MARITAL STATUS			
Men, 16 years and over	42.1	38.7	3.4
Married spouse present	46.4	42.2	4.2
Widowed, divorced, or separated	49.6	45.4	4.2
Never married	36.9	34.2	2.7
Women, 16 years and over	40.0	36.2	3.8
Married spouse present	45.5	39.9	5.5
Widowed, divorced, or separated	45.8	41.3	4.5
Never married	32.8	30.7	2.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Average (mean) duration of unemployment in weeks, not seasonally adjusted, May 2011
A comparison of new (5-year) and previous (2-year) topcodes — Continued

Characteristic	New topcode (5 years)	Previous topcode (2 years)	Difference (New - previous)
OCCUPATION			
Management, professional, and related occupations	42.6	38.7	3.9
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	47.2	43.0	4.2
Professional and related occupations	38.8	35.2	3.7
Service occupations	37.9	34.8	3.0
Sales and office occupations	41.5	37.9	3.7
Sales and related occupations	42.3	38.3	3.9
Office and administrative support occupations	40.8	37.4	3.4
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	44.2	40.6	3.7
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	29.4	26.2	3.2
Construction and extraction occupations	44.5	41.0	3.5
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	47.5	43.1	4.4
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	43.0	40.1	3.0
Production occupations	42.6	39.5	3.1
Transportation and material moving occupations	43.5	40.6	2.9
INDUSTRY ¹			
Agriculture and related industries	27.1	24.5	2.6
Nonagricultural industries ²	41.5	38.1	3.5
Construction	44.5	40.7	3.8
Manufacturing	46.9	43.0	3.9
Durable goods	48.9	45.1	3.9
Nondurable goods	43.3	39.4	3.9
Wholesale and retail trade	40.8	37.5	3.4
Transportation and utilities	43.5	41.3	2.2
Information	41.7	39.1	2.7
Financial activities	48.6	43.2	5.4
Professional and business services	40.9	37.3	3.6
Education and health services	36.8	34.0	2.8
Leisure and hospitality	35.1	32.5	2.5
Other services	43.0	38.7	4.4
Public administration	41.9	38.8	3.0
No previous work experience	35.9	31.6	4.3

¹ Includes wage and salary workers only.

² Includes other industries not shown separately.

NOTE: Differences are calculated using unrounded estimates and may differ slightly from calculations using the rounded average durations displayed in this table. With the release of data for January 2011, the Current Population Survey (CPS) was modified to allow respondents to

report durations of unemployment of up to 5 years. Previously, the CPS accepted unemployment durations of up to 2 years; any response of unemployment duration greater than this was entered as 2 years. With the release of data for January 2011, the official estimates of unemployment duration use the new 5-year topcode. This table presents research estimates using the previous 2-year topcode.