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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

HEARING

before the

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

February 2, 1996

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JANUARY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Friday, February 2, 1996

UNITED STATES CONGRESS,
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

The Committee met at 9:37 a.m. in room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, the Honorable Rod Grams, Member of the Joint Economic Committee, presiding.

Present: Senator Grams.

Also Present: Greg Williams, Roni M. Singleton, Donald Evans III, Bill Buechner, Lee Price, Bill Spriggs, Jeff Given, and Michael Amery.

OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR ROD GRAMS

Senator Grams. This hearing will now come to order. I think we waited for hearing room 106 to make sure that we had the size of the room that we needed for this morning's hearing --

(Laughter.)

But, Dr. Abraham, thank you very much for coming this morning to discuss the January unemployment, or the January employment report, and the current employment situation.

I have a brief opening statement, and then I would, of course, like to hear from you this morning.

January's decline of 201,000 in nonfarm payrolls has been the worst decline in many years. The economy appears to be slowing dramatically. The rate of job growth has slowed continually over the last two years. In 1994, payroll employment rose an average of 294,000 per month. In 1995, that average gain fell to 146,000. So far, 1996 is not off to a good start.

Also troublesome is the jump in the unemployment rate last month, a trend that economists feel may continue without stronger economic growth.

The January report joins other indicators in suggesting just how slowly the economy is growing.

The Conference Board's survey of consumer confidence in January sunk to its lowest level since the summer of 1994. Housing and retail sales are disappointing, and that is confirming that the economy is not doing nearly as well as it had during previous recoveries.

Surveys, especially from my home area of the Midwest, indicate that the manufacturing sector is weakening, as well.

The Federal Reserve itself acknowledged the economic slowdown on Wednesday when it eased borrowing costs for businesses and consumers by lowering short-term interest rates.

Will that be enough to shore up a sluggish economy?

A recent *Wall Street Journal* survey of 65 economists put the forecast for real growth in the GDP this year at slightly less than 2 percent. Now if that is the case, it will not be enough to create the jobs and provide the profits that we need to stay on course to balancing the federal budget.

We should not accept the currently poor performance in the job market or the economy as a whole. Policies which reduce taxes, reduce the burdens of government, and balance the budget are absolutely, and obviously, essential for boosting American living standards and family incomes.

I would like to add that this report flies in the face of President Clinton's statement in the State of the Union Address just a week ago Tuesday that this economy is "the healthiest in three decades." Now I hope that the President is not content with the current state of the economy, because I certainly am not.

So once again, Commissioner Abraham, I want to thank you for attending today's hearing and I look forward to hearing your comments.

[The prepared statement of Senator Grams appears in the Submissions for the Record.]

STATEMENT OF

THE HONORABLE KATHARINE G. ABRAHAM, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

ACCOMPANIED BY THOMAS J. PLEWES, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS, AND KENNETH V. DALTON, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER, PRICES AND LIVING CONDITIONS

Ms. Abraham. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate your being here this morning to let us give this report and, in particular, to comment

on the January 1996 employment and unemployment data that we released this morning.

Payroll employment, as you noted, was down by 201,000 and the unemployment rate edged up to 5.8 percent in January.

Extremely heavy snowstorms in the Eastern part of the country caused many establishments to close or operate with reduced staff during the Payroll Survey reference week.

Employment estimates from the Payroll Survey include only workers paid during the reference period. Even for many of the workers who remained on payrolls in January, the weather conditions caused a reduction in their work hours.

The average workweek, a measure of the number of hours paid, fell by six-tenths of an hour.

In addition to the weather effects, a strike that involved building maintenance workers in both the building services and real estate industries accounted for 20,000 of the overall employment decline.

The largest employment decline over the month occurred in the services industry. Employment in help supply services, which is principally temporary help, was 61,000 below the December level, reflecting both the severe weather and the recent sluggishness in the industry.

Employment in private educational services was down by 25,000, due at least in part to weather-related school closings.

Health services gained only 9,000 jobs, well below its average increase of 24,000 jobs per month during 1995.

Personal services added 25,000 jobs in January, reflecting strong seasonal hiring among tax preparers.

Manufacturing employment decreased by 72,000 in January, as bad weather caused employment declines in some industries, and exacerbated the recent weakness in others.

Manufacturing industries that lost jobs included textiles, apparel, food products, lumber, printing and publishing, and rubber and plastics.

Transportation equipment employment declined by 22,000, mostly because automobile plants were shut down to reduce inventories.

Only the electronic components' industry continued its growth trend. The bad weather caused a 1.4-hour decline in the factory workweek.

Retail trade employment was down by 41,000. Eating and drinking places and miscellaneous retail establishment experienced sharp employment declines due, again at least in part, to the weather.

Employment in apparel stores showed a seasonally-adjusted increase of 10,000, reflecting the fact that the seasonal hiring before the holidays was weaker than normal, and subsequently there were fewer layoffs than our seasonal factors expected in January.

The construction industry gained 13,000 jobs on a seasonally-adjusted basis in January. Although the weather conditions in the Eastern part of the United States curtailed building activity, employment in highway construction actually rose because many of the firms in that industry performed snow removal services.

In addition, the weather in the Western part of the country was unusually warm and dry during January, allowing construction activity there to continue.

The finance industry gained 10,000 jobs in January with increases among commercial banks, security brokers, and mortgage bankers.

Real estate employment would have shown a small gain had it not been for the strike of building maintenance workers in that industry.

Turning to the Household Survey, the unemployment rate edged up to 5.8 percent in January, still within the relatively narrow range of 5.4 to 5.8 percent that we have seen for more than a year.

The rate for adult women rose by a half a percentage point to 5.1 percent, but the rates for other major demographic groups showed little or no change.

The civilian labor force increased by 553,000 in January, although it is still just half a percent larger than it was a year earlier.

I would like to mention just a couple of things concerning the January Household Survey data. These are more technical matters related to the impact of the shutdown and budget developments.

First off, the seasonal factors that we used to adjust the January 1996 data are the same as those we had published for the January 1995 estimates.

Normally we would have calculated new seasonal factors that reflected information from the survey through the end of last year, but the recent Government shutdown delayed that process.

We will introduce the new seasonal factors at the time we release the data from February, which will be issued on March 8th.

At that time, we also will publish revised historical estimates of seasonally-adjusted employment-unemployment and other Household Survey series.

Also, as we had previously announced, the size of the Household Survey Sample was reduced effective with the data for this month from 56,000 households to 50,000 households.

The principal effect of this reduction is that the sample is no longer of sufficient size to provide monthly labor force estimates for all of the largest states directly from the survey.

Monthly Labor Force estimates for these states now will be derived from the model-based procedure already in use for 39 states and the District of Columbia.

This sample reduction very slightly increases the margin of sampling error for the National Labor Force estimates.

In summary then with respect to this month's data, payroll employment was down in January and unemployment edged up. The effects of the severe weather, which unfortunately I am unable to quantify with any degree of confidence, make it difficult to determine whether a change has occurred in underlying labor market trends.

My colleagues, Mr. Plewes, Mr. Dalton, and I would of course be happy to answer any questions you might wish to raise.

[The prepared statement of Commissioner Abraham appears in the Submissions for the Record.]

Senator Grams. All right. Thank you very much, Dr. Abraham.

I guess I will start out, as I stated in my opening statement, that the average monthly nonfarm payroll gained in 1994, as recalled, 294,000 jobs. In 1995 the average gain was 146,000 jobs. Now this data tells us that the job market has again experienced significant losses.

Do you see this trend continuing?

What do you think this says about the economy and the job market itself?

Ms. Abraham. I think your numbers as to the rate of average growth in 1994 and 1995 are of course correct. I guess, looking at the data, I would maybe break them up a little bit.

What I would say, looking at the numbers, is that there was a slowdown in the rate of growth that occurred sometime around March or April of last year.

Since March of 1995 the average rate of growth in payroll employment has been running at 119,000 a month through December, and I guess the question is really what one makes of this month's report.

Unfortunately, I think it is very difficult to know what to make of it. It is clear that the blizzard had a big effect on these numbers; that payroll employment was depressed below what it otherwise would have been because of the blizzard.

The thing that I cannot tell you with any confidence is whether, absent the blizzard, we would have seen payroll employment continuing to run at the pace it has been running since last March; or whether it would have looked different.

I think the blizzard just really confounds things and makes it difficult to interpret the data.

Senator Grams. But it is pretty clear that the decline has been there significantly from 1994 through 1995, and now -- a lot can be said about the weather, but then we would probably see a blip in the February report that will be released in March if that is what you expect; but do you expect really a more positive number for February?

Ms. Abraham. Really, until we see the data, it is just hard to tell what they are going to show. But you are right, barring a natural disaster during the week containing February 12th, the February data ought to give us a better indication of whether this January number reflected the blizzard or whether it reflected a change in the underlying trend.

Senator Grams. Even though it hurt some jobs or job performance, like you mentioned, others have to be out there to help dig out from this so it increases jobs on the other side. So I don't know; I imagine the weather had some kind of an impact, but --

Ms. Abraham. I think it is pretty clear the weather had a substantial impact, but just how big is hard to say.

Senator Grams. So in your opinion what would be some of the industries most affected by the weather, and what were the job losses in those industries?

Ms. Abraham. It is sort of hard to sort this out. Construction, I think probably on net, wasn't I would guess much affected by the weather, in that the weather was very bad in the Northeastern part of the country but was good in other parts of the country. And then in addition, as I already mentioned, some of the employees of those construction firms were doing snow removal. So it is hard to say there what the impact was.

Manufacturing is an industry where I think there probably was some impact of the weather, but I think there were probably other things going on there, as well. It seems unlikely to me that the whole decline in manufacturing employment is attributable to --

Senator Grams. -- the weather.

Ms. Abraham. The weather.

Senator Grams. Other things such as?

Ms. Abraham. We know that some of the services' industries were affected by weather. Private educational services saw a decline of about 25,000 that I think we suspect is principally due to weather. That was mainly private institutions of higher education. It was concentrated there, and the pattern really seemed to be that it was showing up in the blizzard-affected states, not in other states. So I think we can feel somewhat confident that was weather-related.

An industry that has gotten a lot of attention in recent years has been the help supply industry, the temporary-help industry.

Employment there was down by just over 60,000. Again, with that industry it is hard to say that that was all weather.

Senator Grams. You did say, though, there were some other factors involved besides the weather?

Ms. Abraham. With help-supply in particular. I think some portion of that big decline in employment was weather-related, but it probably wasn't the whole story.

I wish I could give you numbers to sort of say this much was weather and this much was other things, but given the nature of the facts we have to work with I really can't do that.

What we can do is to look at the states that were not affected by the blizzard and then take a look at the ones that were.

But you can't say that, absent the blizzard, the Northeast would have looked like the rest of the country because we know that we had been seeing slower employment growth there, anyway.

Senator Grams. What have been some of those trends that have kind of gone through the industries and that you kind of referred to, outside of the weather, what would have been some of the problems or concerns you would have had with the numbers in January?

Ms. Abraham. I guess declines in manufacturing.

Senator Grams. What have been the trends over the last year that have caused you concerns, that have shown up maybe more dramatically

now because of the weather but, like you said, there is some underlying problems and concerns, as well?

Ms. Abraham. I guess the main thing in terms of just characterizing the data--

Senator Grams. Is it orders? Inventories? Retail sales?

Ms. Abraham. I am not really in a position to go beyond characterizing our data. Manufacturing was the industry that I principally had in mind where the weather probably exacerbated things that were going on in terms of an underlying trend. We have seen a significant reduction in manufacturing employment beginning about last March.

Manufacturing employment as of December was at 160,000 below where it had been at its recent peak in March. So then we see further declines in employment in some of those industries. Partly that is weather-related; partly it is probably not.

Do you have anything you would want to add to that, Tom?

Mr. Plewes. I do not think so. I think specifically we did mention in the testimony what is going on in the auto industry.

We saw that the inventories were getting to quite uncomfortable levels in December. In January, a number of plants were closed for inventory adjustment, about 13 plants around the country, and that produced a decline of about 22,000 in the transportation sector.

But many of those plants are now back on line. But during the survey week, they were out, so that showed a bit of an employment decline, and that seemed economically driven.

Ms. Abraham. Let me just correct my earlier figure. Manufacturing employment was down by 209,000 through December, from March through December.

Senator Grams. As I mentioned also in the opening statement, in the Midwest housing retail sales were also down. And as you said, autos were. I know, being in the home building business and development for a short while, that I know we always said that housing was the first affected and the last that saw any relief in a recession.

I know, talking with friends of mine in Minnesota, they have felt this for the last 12 months or more, the decline in sales, the soft market. You have reflected that in the auto industry as well, which is probably the second one that is affected.

I had a chance to tour the Anderson Window Plant in Minnesota a couple of weeks ago, and they said this has been a very soft year, which reflects gain the decline in the housing industry.

But overall, this is I think kind of a disturbing set of numbers that show that the economy is not performing up to par.

Is this consistent with the numbers, again, as we have reflected from 1994 to 1995, and going into 1996, without the weather even in mind, that there would have been some real concerning numbers in January as well?

Ms. Abraham. I guess from my point of view, not wanting to extrapolate beyond what I feel I can really back up with evidence, I think the January report is just real hard to interpret.

Senator Grams. Probably to go back and just to clarify, you were talking about some states, some areas of the country were more affected than others by the weather.

Ms. Abraham. Right.

Senator Grams. Maybe we could, for the record again, go back over those and talk about which states and which areas of the country were most affected and by what reasons.

Ms. Abraham. Well the main thing going on of course was the snow. You can get an idea of how impacted various areas were by looking at the depth of the snowfall during that week.

It is the Department of Commerce and the Department of Agriculture that put out a Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin. As part of that, I have got in front of me a map that shows the snowfall.

You can really see the very deep snowfall affecting all of the states in the Northeast, as far west as Ohio, and as far south as North Carolina. So all of the states in that area, representing very roughly about a quarter of the employment in the country, was in areas significantly impacted by the blizzard.

Senator Grams. And out West?

Ms. Abraham. Out West the weather was actually pretty good. If you were in California, you would not have felt like that was a bad week.

Senator Grams. I don't think so.

What about the seasonal factors? Talk about them again and their effects. Did the seasonal factors help boost the overall numbers? Or would you say the factors served to lower them?

Ms. Abraham. Well there are sort of two things. You ordinarily expect a fairly significant decline on a non-seasonally adjusted basis between December and January. In the payroll survey that is on the order of about 2.6 million.

So there are ordinarily big seasonal swings in employment at this time of year. So, looking at just the raw data would not give you a clear indication as to the underlying trend, which is why we seasonally adjust the data.

The Payroll Survey seasonal factors were derived in a way we ordinarily do. It is only with respect to the household survey data that we were delayed in updating the seasonal factors.

Using the new seasonal factors would not have affected what happened to the unemployment rate. It still would have gone up to 5.8 percent in January.

Senator Grams. Now adjusting for the weather and looking at the seasonal factors, would you say, or could you confirm that this report is a sign of extreme weakness in our economy today?

When would be the last time that payroll employment fell by more than 201,000?

Ms. Abraham. Let me answer the easy question first. The last time that payroll employment fell by as much as 201,000 would have been in April of 1991.

But in terms of interpreting the report and drawing conclusions from it, I think it is just very difficult. The question in my mind, as is I expect in yours, was we were running at a pace of between 100,000 to 150,000 jobs being added per month. That is, as you've noted already, down from what we had seen as an average for 1994 and early in 1995.

So the question that folks are going to have, looking at this month's experience, is: Has that pace slowed? And I think the blizzard just so confounded things that I really do not feel that I can say.

I think that I'm going to really want to look at the data for February assuming February is a normal month. I think we will have a better sense then; though, even then any month's or two's data needs to be interpreted a little cautiously.

Senator Grams. But you would agree that the economy is weakening under these numbers?

Ms. Abraham. It is clear that payroll employment growth has slowed since 1994 and early 1995. That much is quite clear. But whether we have seen a change in the trend is not clear to me.

Senator Grams. Now even though the employment fell in January, average hourly earnings rose dramatically. Now I want to go back historically, and I put this in that context, because isn't this the type of scenario where we have rising inflationary pressures and a contracting economy kind of reminiscent of the economy in the late '70s under President Jimmy Carter?

Do you see any parallels, or draw any similarities or cautions that we should be looking at?

Ms. Abraham. Well, I think we need to be a little cautious in interpreting those data. Let me try to explain why I think that.

Senator Grams. At first blush it is --

Ms. Abraham. At first blush it is certainly something that it makes sense to take a look at.

Why would I be cautious in drawing too much of a conclusion from that number? There are a couple of reasons.

One is that if you look at this average hourly earnings' series, it does jump around a lot from month to month. More than that, we have also seen an emerging pattern of bigger increases in the first month of the quarter than in subsequent months.

Now if that was something that had been there for a long time, our seasonal factors would take account of it and pull that effect out of the data; but because it is an emerging pattern, our seasonal factors have not had time to catch up. So that the increase may have been a little bit exaggerated because our seasonal factors were not working quite right.

But then in addition, the weather may have had an effect on this. We believe that the blizzard did have a significant effect on employment. You ordinarily see between December and January changes in employment mix, as far as the industries where people are working, that have an effect on average hourly earnings. They tend to go up a little bit just because of changes in industry mix.

But the effects of changes in industry mix on average hourly earnings were bigger between December and January this year than they usually are.

That is to say, the share of employment in low-wage industries fell more than it usually does. So as much as two to four cents of that six cent increase could have been attributable to the blizzard.

So, you know, although I hate to come in and report numbers but then say it is really hard to know what to conclude from them, I think that interpretation is again an issue with this month's numbers.

Senator Grams. The Consumer Price Index and Producer Price Index have not increased very rapidly, but they have increased. In addition, gold and commodity prices have also jumped. Again, putting this in with the other numbers, aren't these numbers or signs for concern?

Ms. Abraham. Well, just in terms of what the data show, the most recent Producer Price Index and Consumer Price Index data that we have are for December. Looking year over year, one of our Producer Price Indexes -- the Finished Goods Index -- rose by only 2.2 percent over the year-ended in December, which by historical standards -- I will let Ken characterize that.

Mr. Dalton. It is about in line with what happened in 1994. Mainly, it does not suggest that there are signs in there of some underlying pressures, as far as we can tell by looking at the past.

Ms. Abraham. The Consumer Price Index is actually lower than it was in 1994. It went up by 2.5 percent year over year ended in December. It had risen 2.7 percent in both 1994 and 1993, and was up 2.9 percent in 1992.

So we have had four years in a row where it has gone up less than 3 percent. It was back in the 1960s that it went up as little as 2.5 percent in a year, sometime before the start of the escalation of our involvement in Vietnam.

So I guess from my point of view, these numbers at this point look relatively low, although I am not in a position to speak about the future.

Senator Grams. I just have a couple more questions I would like to ask.

You know we have focused so far on the jobs' data. However, hours-worked, especially those in the manufacturing sector, fell dramatically. This is consistent with the data that is coming from the National Association of Purchasing Managers showing weakness in manufacturing.

Is this economy contracting?

Ms. Abraham. Well again just in terms of the data, the length of the factory work week peaked back in January 1995 at 42.2 hours, which is very high by historical standards. I believe that is a series high.

Through December the length of the factory workweek had fallen by an hour. So it had come down quite a lot. It is still high by historical standards, but well below its peak.

The 1.4 hour decrease in January, whether that is a continuation of declines or the blizzard, or in what proportion it reflects those two things, is just hard to say.

You may have looked at something on this I have not?

Mr. Plewes. Since the beginning of last year, employment and hours have been down in manufacturing. So that is a further--

Senator Grams. Since when? Last January? A year ago?

Mr. Plewes. Since last January. Employment really started going down in the March-April time frame, but hours started declining in January and have declined fairly steadily since.

This month, however, really has to be interpreted with caution because it is a very large drop, and at least in some areas as we have seen, it was clearly related to the weather.

Senator Grams. I guess in summing up, we kind of look at all these numbers and I guess I would ask how you would you sum up these numbers? Would you consider them disappointing?

I will go back again to where the President said that the economy was the healthiest that it has been in the last three decades.

Do you think that these numbers, this data you have this morning, supports that statement in any way, that the economy is healthy?

Ms. Abraham. I guess I think the numbers we have to report today are just exceptionally difficult to interpret. I do not feel like I at least know how to tease out what is happening to the underlying trend in view of the big impact that the blizzard had on things in January.

Senator Grams. Would you consider them disappointing? I do. That is why I asked how you would sum them up, or how would you characterize them.

I know the weather is some kind of factor, but I think, as Mr. Plewes said, too, I mean this just also supports data or trends from the last 12 months or more of a decline, a contracting of the economy, a shrinking of the work week, hours worked.

Ms. Abraham. I just would have to stick with saying I feel like they are real difficult to interpret, and will be very interested in what the February numbers look like.

Senator Grams. Maybe I should turn that around. Do you see anything good in these numbers?

(Laughter.)

Ms. Abraham. Well, I guess from my personal point of view the one good thing in these numbers is I had a little extra time at home with my kids, but I don't think that is what you were getting at.

The impact of the blizzard was just so large it is hard to sort out underlying economic conditions from the effect of the blizzard.

Senator Grams. I find it hard, then, to believe that the President used these numbers to base his statement on of the "healthiest economy in three years."

Ms. Abraham. Oh, he would not have seen these numbers.

Senator Grams. What would he have based that statement on, then? Earlier numbers?

Ms. Abraham. Data available through December.

Senator Grams. And those numbers were not that optimistic, were they?

Ms. Abraham. My goal is to try to make sure that the numbers are accurately reported and people understand what they are, but I really personally try to stay away from characterizing them.

Senator Grams. Okay. I guess if I wanted to know, we should ask the President himself --

Ms. Abraham. That is probably right.

Senator Grams. -- on what economic assumptions he based the fact that the economy is the healthiest in three decades.

Dr. Abraham, thank you very much. I do not have any further questions this morning but I would also like to just leave the record open in case any other Members of the Committee would like to submit any questions to you in writing within the next couple of days, and also if you have any additional information you would provide it to the Committee in writing, as well.

Ms. Abraham. Thank you very much, Senator.

Senator Grams. Any other closing comments that you would have?

(No response.)

Senator Grams. All right. Thank you very much. The hearing is adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 10:10 a.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE RECORD

PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR ROD GRAMS

Commissioner Abraham, thank you for coming this morning to discuss the January employment report and the current employment situation.

January's decline of 201,000 in non-farm payrolls was the worst decline in many years. The economy appears to be slowing dramatically. The rate of job growth has slowed continually over the past two years. In 1994, payroll employment rose an average of 294,000 per month. In 1995, that average gain fell to 146,000. So far, 1996 is not off to a good start.

Also troublesome is the jump in the unemployment rate last month, a trend economists fear may continue without stronger economic growth.

The January report joins other indicators in suggesting Just how slowly the economy is growing:

The Conference Board's survey of consumer confidence in January sunk to its lowest level since the summer of 1994. Housing and retail sales are disappointing, confirming that the economy is not doing nearly as well as it has during previous recoveries. Surveys, especially from my home area of the Midwest, indicate that the manufacturing sector is weakening as well.

The Federal Reserve itself acknowledged the economic slowdown on Wednesday, when it eased borrowing costs for businesses and consumers by lowering short-term interest rates.

Will that be enough to shore up a sluggish economy? A recent *Wall Street Journal* survey of 65 economists put the forecast for real growth in the GDP this year at slightly less than 2%. If that's the case, it won't be enough to create the jobs and provide the profits we need to stay on course to balancing the federal budget.

We should not accept the current poor performance in the job market or the economy as a whole. Policies which reduce taxes, reduce the burdens of government, and balance the budget are absolutely, and obviously, essential for boosting American living standards and family incomes.

I would like to add that this report flies in the face of President Clinton's statement in his State of the Union address just a week ago Tuesday that this economy is "the healthiest in three decades." I hope that the President is not content with the current state of the economy, because I certainly am not.

Once again, Commissioner Abraham, thank you for attending today's hearing. I look forward to hearing your comments.

PREPARED STATEMENT OF KATHARINE G. ABRAHAM

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I appreciate this opportunity to comment on the January 1996 employment and unemployment data that were released this morning.

Payroll employment was down by 201,000 and the unemployment rate edged up to 5.8 percent in January. Extremely heavy snowstorms in the eastern part of the country caused many establishments to close or operate with reduced staff during the payroll survey reference period. Employment estimates from the payroll survey include only workers paid during the reference period. Even for many of the workers who remained on payrolls in January, the weather conditions caused a reduction in their work hours; the average workweek -- a measure of the number of hours paid --fell by six-tenths of an hour. In addition to the weather effects, a strike that involved building maintenance workers in both the building services and real estate industries accounted for 20,000 of the overall employment decline.

The largest employment decline occurred in the services industry. Employment in help supply services was 61,000 below the December level, reflecting both the severe weather and recent sluggishness in the industry. Employment in private educational services was down by 25,000, due at least in part to weather-related school closings. Health services gained only 9,000 jobs, well below its average increase of 24,000 jobs per month during 1995. Personal services added 20,000 jobs in January, reflecting strong seasonal hiring among tax preparers.

Manufacturing employment decreased by 72,000 in January, as bad weather caused employment declines in some industries and exacerbated the recent weakness in others. Manufacturing industries that lost jobs included textiles, apparel, food products, lumber, printing and publishing, and rubber and plastics. Transportation equipment employment declined by 22,000, mostly because automobile plants were shut down to reduce inventories. Only the electronic components industry continued its growth trend. The bad weather caused a 1.4-hour decline in the factory workweek.

Retail trade employment was down by 41,000. Eating and drinking places and miscellaneous retail establishments experienced sharp employment declines, due at least in part to the weather. Employment in apparel stores showed a seasonally adjusted increase of 10,000, reflecting the fact that seasonal hiring before the holidays was

weaker than normal and subsequently there were fewer layoffs in January.

The construction industry gained 13,000 jobs on a seasonally adjusted basis in January. Although weather conditions in the eastern United States curtailed building activity, employment in highway construction actually rose because many of the firms in that industry performed snow-removal services. In addition, the weather in the western part of the country was unusually warm and dry during January, allowing construction activity there to continue.

The finance industry gained 10,000 jobs in January, with increases among commercial banks, security brokers, and mortgage bankers. Real estate employment would have shown a small gain had it not been for the strike of building maintenance workers in that industry.

Turning now to the household survey, the unemployment rate edged up to 5.8 percent in January, still within the relatively narrow range of 5.4 to 5.8 percent that we have seen for more than a year. The rate for adult women rose by half a percentage point, to 5.1 percent, but the rates for the other major demographic groups showed little or no change. The civilian labor force increased by 553,000 in January, though it is still just 0.5 percent larger than a year earlier.

I would like to mention two points concerning the January household survey data. First, the seasonal factors that we used to adjust the January 1996 data are the same as those that we had published for the January 1995 estimates. Normally, we already would have calculated new seasonal factors for the January to June 1996 period and completed our annual revisions to the seasonally adjusted historical series, but the recent government shutdown delayed this process. The new seasonal factors will be introduced with the data for February, which will be issued on March 8. At that time, we also will publish revised historical estimates of seasonally adjusted employment, unemployment, and other household survey series.

Also, as we had previously announced, the size of the household survey sample was reduced beginning in January, from 56,000 to 50,000. The principal effect of this reduction is that the sample is no longer of sufficient size to provide monthly labor force estimates for all of the largest states directly from the survey. Monthly labor force estimates for these states now will be derived from the model-based procedure already in use for 39 states and the District of Columbia. The sample reduction slightly increases the margin of sampling error for the national labor force estimates.

In summary, payroll employment was down in January and unemployment edged up. The effects of the severe weather, which unfortunately I am unable to quantify with any degree of confidence, make it difficult to determine whether a change has occurred in underlying labor market trends.

My colleagues and I now would be glad to answer your questions.

News
United States Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D.C. 20212

Technical information:
Household data:
National (202) 606-6378
606-6373
State 606-6392
Establishment data: 606-6555
Media contact: 606-5902

USDL 96-29

Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until 8:30 A.M. (EST), Friday, February 2, 1996.

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JANUARY 1996

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by 201,000 in January and the unemployment rate edged up to 5.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Unusually severe weather in the eastern part of the country affected the number of payroll jobs in January and also caused a particularly large drop in the average workweek. The jobless rate has held within a relatively narrow range since late 1994.

Chart 1. Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, February 1993 - January 1996

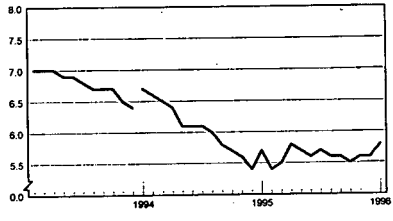
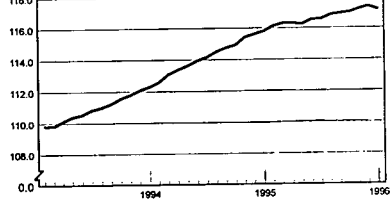


Chart 2. Nonfarm payroll employment, seasonally adjusted, February 1993 - January 1996



Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons increased by 294,000 in January to a level of 7.7 million. The unemployment rate edged up by 0.2 percentage point to 5.8 percent; it has fluctuated between 5.4 and 5.8 percent since the fall of 1994. The jobless rate for adult women rose by half a point in January to 5.1 percent. Rates for other major worker groups—adult men (4.9 percent), teenagers (18.0 percent), whites (5.0 percent), blacks (10.5 percent), and Hispanics (9.4 percent)—remained at or near their December levels. (See tables A-1 and A-2.)

The number of unemployed persons on temporary layoff rose by 190,000 in January, while the number who had left their jobs voluntarily fell by 124,000. The number of newly unemployed persons (less than 5 weeks duration) showed an increase of 220,000 in January. (See tables A-5 and A-6.)

Table A. Major indicators of labor market activity, seasonally adjusted
(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Quarterly averages 1995 III	Quarterly averages 1995 IV	Monthly data 1995 Nov.	Monthly data 1995 Dec.	Monthly data 1996 Jan.	Dec.-Jan. change
HOUSEHOLD DATA			Labor force status			
Civilian labor force	132,440	132,458	132,442	132,284	132,837	553
Employment	124,960	125,104	125,010	124,904	125,163	259
Unemployment	7,480	7,354	7,432	7,380	7,674	294
Not in labor force	66,367	66,894	66,913	67,224	66,797	-427
			Unemployment rates			
All workers	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.8	0.2
Adult men	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	.0
Adult women	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.6	5.1	.5
Teenagers	17.8	17.8	17.9	18.3	18.0	-.3
White	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	.0
Black	11.2	9.8	9.4	10.2	10.5	.3
Hispanic origin	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.4	.1
ESTABLISHMENT DATA			Employment			
Nonfarm employment	116,782	p117,195	117,212	p117,373	p117,172	p-201
Goods-producing [1]	24,159	p24,159	24,134	p24,184	p24,124	p-60
Construction	5,240	p5,295	5,295	p5,302	p5,315	p13
Manufacturing	18,344	p18,296	18,272	p18,316	p18,244	p-72
Service-producing [1]	92,622	p93,036	93,078	p93,189	p93,048	p-141
Retail trade	20,862	p20,952	20,989	p20,969	p20,928	p-41
Services	32,951	p33,170	33,185	p33,250	p33,167	p-83
Government	19,316	p19,313	19,300	p19,325	p19,313	p-12
			Hours of work[2]			
Total private	34.5	p34.4	34.4	p34.3	p33.7	p-0.6
Manufacturing	41.5	p41.4	41.5	p41.2	p39.8	p-1.4
Overtime	4.4	p4.4	4.4	p4.3	p4.1	p-.2
			Earnings[2]			
Average hourly earnings, total private	$11.51	p$11.60	$11.58	p$11.62	p$11.68	p$0.06
Average weekly earnings, total private	396.98	p399.31	398.35	p398.57	p393.62	p-4.95

[1] Includes other industries, not shown separately.
[2] Data relate to private production or nonsupervisory workers.
p = preliminary.

Total Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Total employment, at 125.2 million in January, was little changed over the month. The proportion of the working-age population that was employed (the employment-population ratio), at 62.7 percent, also was little different from the December figure. The number of persons working part time for economic reasons fell by 263,000 to 4.2 million. (See tables A-1 and A-3.)

The number of workers who held more than one job in January was 7.1 million (not seasonally adjusted). These multiple jobholders comprised 5.8 percent of all employed persons, the same as a year earlier. (See table A-8.)

The civilian labor force rose by 553,000 in January to a seasonally adjusted level of 132.8 million. The labor force participation rate, at 66.5 percent, has shown no clear trend since last spring. (See table A-1.)

Persons Not in the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

About 1.7 million persons (not seasonally adjusted) were marginally attached to the labor force in January—that is, they wanted and were available for work but had stopped looking for jobs sometime in the prior 12 months. The number of discouraged workers—persons who had stopped looking for work specifically because they believed no jobs were available to them—was 409,000 in January. Both figures were close to their levels of a year ago. (See table A-8.)

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonfarm payroll employment declined by 201,000 in January to 117.2 million, as a severe blizzard affecting the eastern portion of the country during the survey reference period kept workers off payrolls in a number of industries. The largest decline was in the services industry. Manufacturing employment also fell substantially, reflecting both the impact of the weather and continued weakness in several of its component industries. In addition to the weather effects, a strike in New York City that involved building maintenance employees in both the building services and real estate industries accounted for 20,000 of the overall employment decline. (See table B-1.)

Employment in the services industry fell by 83,000 in January. The record snowfall resulted in declines in some industries, such as educational and business services, and limited growth in others, such as health services. Within business services, employment in help supply services was down by 61,000. While job growth in the help supply industry has been sluggish in recent months, January's large decline also reflected the impact of the storm. The number of jobs in building services was down over the month due to the New York City strike, which reduced employment by about 13,000 workers. Personal services employment increased by 20,000, reflecting strong seasonal hiring among tax preparers.

Retail trade employment was down by 41,000 in January. The severe weather conditions contributed to the large employment declines in eating and drinking places and miscellaneous retail stores, such as toy and hobby shops.

Transportation and public utilities employment fell by 9,000 in January, resulting mainly from the impact of the blizzard on the trucking and warehousing industry. Continuing a pattern of recent job gains, employment in finance increased by 10,000 in January, spurred on by growth in mortgage bankers and brokers and commercial banks. Employment in wholesale trade edged down, reflecting the weakness in manufacturing.

Manufacturing employment fell by 72,000 in January. While employment in the industry has been on a downward trend since last April, severe weather conditions caused or added to January's job losses in a number of industries, including apparel, textiles, lumber, and furniture. Employment in transportation equipment, which has been slipping since last spring, fell by 22,000 in January, due to temporary automobile plant shutdowns for inventory control. In contrast, employment in electronic components continued its long-term growth trend.

The construction industry gained 13,000 jobs in January. Strong growth in some parts of the country not impacted by the blizzard, especially the West Coast, more than offset declines in the East. Weather-related job losses in parts of heavy construction were offset by snow-removal hiring in highway construction. Continuing its growth trend, employment in special trade contracting rose by 20,000; since August, job gains have totaled 93,000.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

The severe storm during the reference period had a negative impact on the average workweek for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls. The average workweek, which measures the number of hours paid, fell by 0.6 hour in January to 33.7 hours, seasonally adjusted. The manufacturing workweek declined by 1.4 hours, to 39.8 hours; factory overtime fell by 0.2 hour to 4.1 hours. (See table B-2.)

The index of aggregate weekly hours of private production or nonsupervisory workers on nonfarm payrolls fell sharply (2.0 percent), on a seasonally adjusted basis, to 130.3 (1982=100) in January. The manufacturing index, 101.0, declined by 4.1 percent. (See table B-5.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings of private production or nonsupervisory workers were up 6 cents in January to $11.68, seasonally adjusted; over the past year, average hourly earnings rose by 3.5 percent. Because of the decline in weekly hours, average weekly earnings fell by 1.2 percent to $393.62, a level that was little different from a year earlier. (See table B-3.)

The Employment Situation for February 1996 is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 8, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

The recent shutdown and weather-related closing of many federal agencies, including the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), has forced a delay in the updating of seasonal factors to be used in the first half of 1996 and the annual revisions in the seasonally adjusted household survey estimates. The seasonally adjusted household survey data for January 1996 presented in this release are based on seasonal factors calculated for January 1995. Those factors for major labor force estimates were published in the January 1995 issue of Employment and Earnings. The revisions of the unadjusted series for 1990-93 to reflect 1990 census-based population controls, adjusted for the estimated undercount, also are being postponed. These revisions have been rescheduled for introduction with the release of February data on March 8.

Effective with this release, BLS has discontinued publishing former table A-9, "Employment status of the civilian population for 11 large states." Because of budget reductions, the Current Population Survey sample is no longer of sufficient size to provide data for all of these states directly from the survey. Beginning with January 1996, estimates for these states will be based on the method currently used for each of the other states and the District of Columbia, and will be included in the news release, "State and Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment," usually issued about 4 weeks after "The Employment Situation" news release.

Explanatory Note

This news release presents statistics from two major surveys, the Current Population Survey (household survey) and the Current Employment Statistics survey (establishment survey). The household survey provides the information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment that appears in the A tables, marked HOUSEHOLD DATA. It is a sample survey of about 50,000 households conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The establishment survey provides the information on the employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls that appears in the B tables, marked ESTABLISHMENT DATA. This information is collected from payroll records by BLS in cooperation with State agencies. In March 1994, the sample included about 390,000 establishments employing over 47 million people.

For both surveys, the data for a given month relate to a particular week or pay period. In the household survey, the reference week is generally the calendar week that contains the 12th day of the month. In the establishment survey, the reference period is the pay period including the 12th, which may or may not correspond directly to the calendar week.

Coverage, definitions, and differences between surveys

Household survey. The sample is selected to reflect the entire civilian noninstitutional population. Based on responses to a series of questions on work and job search activities, each person 16 years and over in a sample household is classified as employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force.

People are classified as *employed* if they did any work at all as paid employees during the reference week; worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm; or worked without pay at least 15 hours in a family business or farm. People are also counted as employed if they were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

People are classified as *unemployed* if they meet all of the following criteria: They had no employment during the reference week; they were available for work at that time; and they made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons laid off from a job and expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The unemployment data derived from the household survey in no way depend upon the eligibility for or receipt of unemployment insurance benefits.

The *civilian labor force* is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. Those not classified as employed or unemployed are *not in the labor force*. The *unemployment rate* is the number unemployed as a percent of the labor force. The *labor force participation rate* is the labor force as a percent of the population, and the *employment-population ratio* is the employed as a percent of the population.

Establishment survey. The sample establishments are drawn from private nonfarm businesses such as factories, offices, and stores, as well as Federal, State, and local government entities. *Employees on nonfarm payrolls* are those who received pay for any part of the reference pay period, including persons on paid leave. Persons are counted in each job they hold. *Hours and earnings* data are for private businesses and relate only to production workers in the goods-producing sector and nonsupervisory workers in the service-producing sector.

Differences in employment estimates. The numerous conceptual and methodological differences between the household and establishment surveys result in important distinctions in the employment estimates derived from the surveys. Among these are:

- The household survey includes agricultural workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers among the employed. These groups are excluded from the establishment survey.
- The household survey includes people on unpaid leave among the employed. The establishment survey does not.
- The household survey is limited to workers 16 years of age and older. The establishment survey is not limited by age.
- The household survey has no duplication of individuals, because individuals are counted only once, even if they hold more than one job. In the establishment survey, employees working at more than one job and thus appearing on more than one payroll would be counted separately for each appearance.

Other differences between the two surveys are described in "Comparing Employment Estimates from Household and Payroll Surveys," which may be obtained from BLS upon request.

Seasonal adjustment

Over the course of a year, the size of the nation's labor force and the levels of employment and unemployment undergo sharp fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools. The effect of such seasonal variation can be very large; seasonal fluctuations may account for as much as 95 percent of the month-to-month changes in unemployment.

Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the statistics from month to month. These adjustments make nonseasonal developments, such as declines in economic activity or increases in the participation of women in the labor force, easier to spot. For example, the large number of youth entering the labor force each June is likely to obscure any other changes that have taken place relative to May, making it difficult to determine if the level of economic activity has risen or declined. However, because the effect of students finishing school in previous years is known, the statistics for the current year can be adjusted to allow for a comparable change. Insofar as the seasonal adjustment is made correctly, the adjusted figure provides a more useful tool with which to analyze changes in economic activity.

In both the household and establishment surveys, most seasonally adjusted series are independently adjusted. However, the adjusted series for many major estimates, such as total payroll employment, employment in most major industry divisions, total employment, and unemployment are computed by aggregating independently adjusted component series. For example, total unemployment is derived by summing the adjusted series for four major age-sex components; this

differs from the unemployment estimate that would be obtained by directly adjusting the total or by combining the duration, reasons, or more detailed age categories.

The numerical factors used to make the seasonal adjustments are recalculated twice a year. For the household survey, the factors are calculated for the January-June period and again for the July-December period. For the establishment survey, updated factors for seasonal adjustment are calculated for the May-October period and introduced along with new benchmarks, and again for the November-April period. In both surveys, revisions to historical data are made once a year.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the household and establishment surveys 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.

For example, the confidence interval for the monthly change in total employment from the household survey is on the order of plus or minus 359,000. Suppose the estimate of total employment increases by 100,000 from one month to the next. The 90-percent confidence interval on the monthly change would range from -259,000 to 459,000 (100,000 +/- 359,000). These figures do not mean that the sample results are off by these magnitudes, but rather that there is about a 90-percent chance that the "true" over-the-month change lies within this interval. Since this range includes values of less than zero, we could not say with confidence that employment had, in fact, increased. If, however, the reported employment rise was half a million, then all of the values within the 90-percent confidence interval would be greater than zero. In this case, it is likely (at least a 90-percent chance) that an employment rise had, in fact, occurred. The 90-percent confidence interval for the monthly change in unemployment is +/- 256,000, and for the monthly change in the unemployment rate it is +/- .22 percentage point.

In general, estimates involving many individuals or establishments have lower standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) than estimates which are based on a small number of observations. The precision of estimates is also improved when the data are cumulated over time such as for quarterly and annual averages. The seasonal adjustment process can also improve the stability of the monthly estimates.

The household and establishment surveys are also affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling errors 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 on a timely basis, mistakes made by respondents, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

For example, in the establishment survey, estimates for the most recent 2 months are based on substantially incomplete returns; for this reason, these estimates are labeled preliminary in the tables. It is only after two successive revisions to a monthly estimate, when nearly all sample reports have been received, that the estimate is considered final.

Another major source of nonsampling error in the establishment survey is the inability to capture, on a timely basis, employment generated by new firms. To correct for this systematic underestimation of employment growth (and other sources of error), a process known as bias adjustment is included in the survey's estimating procedures, whereby a specified number of jobs is added to the monthly sample-based change. The size of the monthly bias adjustment is based largely on past relationships between the sample-based estimates of employment and the total counts of employment described below.

The sample-based estimates from the establishment survey are adjusted once a year (on a lagged basis) to universe counts of payroll employment obtained from administrative records of the unemployment insurance program. The difference between the March sample-based employment estimates and the March universe counts is known as a benchmark revision, and serves as a rough proxy for total survey error. The new benchmarks also incorporate changes in the classification of industries. Over the past decade, the benchmark revision for total nonfarm employment has averaged 0.2 percent, ranging from zero to 0.6 percent.

Additional statistics and other information

More comprehensive statistics are contained in *Employment and Earnings*, published each month by BLS. It is available for $13.00 per issue or $31.00 per year from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. All orders must be prepaid by sending a check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or by charging to Mastercard or Visa.

Employment and Earnings also provides measures of sampling error for the household survey data published in this release. For unemployment and other labor force categories, these measures appear in tables 1-B through 1-H of its "Explanatory Notes." Measures of the reliability of the data drawn from the establishment survey and the actual amounts of revision due to benchmark adjustments are provided in tables 2-B through 2-G of that publication.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-606-STAT; TDD phone: 202-606-5897; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-326-2577.

Table A-1. Employment status of the civilian population by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted[1]					
	Jan. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
TOTAL									
Civilian noninstitutional population	197,753	199,508	199,634	197,753	199,005	199,192	199,355	199,508	199,634
Civilian labor force	130,698	132,008	131,396	132,136	132,591	132,648	132,442	132,284	132,837
Participation rate	66.1	66.2	65.8	66.8	66.6	66.6	66.4	66.3	66.5
Employed	122,597	125,136	123,126	124,639	125,140	125,399	125,010	124,904	125,183
Employment-population ratio	62.0	62.7	61.7	63.0	62.9	63.0	62.7	62.6	62.7
Agriculture	3,087	3,072	3,068	3,575	3,273	3,455	3,276	3,306	3,548
Nonagricultural industries	119,510	122,064	120,058	121,064	121,867	121,944	121,734	121,598	121,615
Unemployed	8,101	6,872	8,270	7,498	7,451	7,249	7,432	7,380	7,674
Unemployment rate	6.2	5.2	6.3	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.8
Not in labor force	67,055	67,500	68,238	65,617	66,414	66,544	66,913	67,224	66,797
Men, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	94,749	95,661	95,713	94,749	95,397	95,492	95,580	95,661	95,713
Civilian labor force	70,597	70,936	70,612	71,476	71,437	71,291	71,156	71,228	71,496
Participation rate	74.5	74.2	73.8	75.4	74.9	74.7	74.4	74.5	74.7
Employed	65,966	67,049	66,006	67,386	67,406	67,494	67,090	67,155	67,418
Employment-population ratio	69.6	70.1	69.0	71.1	70.7	70.7	70.2	70.2	70.4
Unemployed	4,631	3,887	4,605	4,090	4,029	3,797	4,065	4,073	4,078
Unemployment rate	6.6	5.5	6.5	5.7	5.6	5.3	5.7	5.7	5.7
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	87,528	88,172	88,223	87,528	87,940	88,027	88,046	88,172	88,223
Civilian labor force	67,044	67,164	66,990	67,539	67,343	67,251	67,138	67,190	67,498
Participation rate	76.6	76.2	75.9	77.2	76.6	76.4	76.3	76.2	76.5
Employed	63,086	63,961	63,129	64,133	64,061	64,243	63,837	63,888	64,176
Employment-population ratio	72.1	72.5	71.6	73.3	72.8	73.0	72.5	72.5	72.7
Agriculture	2,146	2,121	2,147	2,390	2,266	2,363	2,223	2,233	2,391
Nonagricultural industries	60,940	61,840	60,982	61,743	61,795	61,880	61,614	61,655	61,785
Unemployed	3,958	3,203	3,861	3,406	3,282	3,008	3,301	3,302	3,323
Unemployment rate	5.9	4.8	5.8	5.0	4.9	4.5	4.9	4.9	4.9
Women, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	103,004	103,847	103,921	103,004	103,608	103,700	103,775	103,847	103,921
Civilian labor force	60,102	61,072	60,784	60,660	61,154	61,357	61,286	61,056	61,341
Participation rate	58.3	58.8	58.5	58.9	59.0	59.2	59.1	58.8	59.0
Employed	56,631	58,087	57,119	57,252	57,732	57,905	57,920	57,749	57,745
Employment-population ratio	55.0	55.9	55.0	55.6	55.7	55.8	55.8	55.6	55.6
Unemployed	3,470	2,986	3,665	3,408	3,422	3,452	3,367	3,308	3,596
Unemployment rate	5.8	4.9	6.0	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.9
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	95,961	96,633	96,717	95,961	96,408	96,487	96,555	96,633	96,717
Civilian labor force	56,697	57,506	57,352	56,951	57,392	57,618	57,527	57,330	57,601
Participation rate	59.1	59.5	59.3	59.3	59.5	59.7	59.6	59.3	59.6
Employed	53,753	55,049	54,264	54,134	54,600	54,710	54,790	54,671	54,646
Employment-population ratio	56.0	57.0	56.1	56.4	56.6	56.7	56.7	56.6	56.5
Agriculture	762	771	748	877	753	821	800	824	861
Nonagricultural industries	52,991	54,278	53,516	53,257	53,847	53,889	53,990	53,848	53,785
Unemployed	2,944	2,456	3,088	2,817	2,792	2,908	2,737	2,658	2,955
Unemployment rate	5.2	4.3	5.4	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.6	5.1
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population	14,263	14,703	14,694	14,263	14,657	14,678	14,754	14,703	14,694
Civilian labor force	6,957	7,338	7,054	7,646	7,856	7,779	7,778	7,764	7,738
Participation rate	48.8	49.9	48.0	53.6	53.6	53.0	52.7	52.8	52.7
Employed	5,758	6,125	5,733	6,372	6,479	6,446	6,384	6,345	6,341
Employment-population ratio	40.4	41.7	39.0	44.7	44.2	43.9	43.3	43.2	43.2
Agriculture	179	180	173	308	253	272	254	249	296
Nonagricultural industries	5,579	5,946	5,560	6,064	6,225	6,174	6,130	6,096	6,045
Unemployed	1,199	1,213	1,322	1,274	1,378	1,332	1,394	1,420	1,397
Unemployment rate	17.2	16.5	18.7	16.7	17.5	17.1	17.9	18.3	18.0

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

Table A-2. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted[1]					
	Jan. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	166,361	167,545	167,669	166,361	167,200	167,327	167,441	167,545	167,669
Civilian labor force	110,848	111,816	111,180	111,876	112,247	112,232	111,978	111,848	112,217
Participation rate	66.6	66.6	66.3	67.2	67.1	67.1	66.9	66.8	66.9
Employed	104,718	106,490	104,900	106,368	106,851	106,815	106,331	106,296	106,551
Employment-population ratio	62.9	63.6	62.6	63.9	63.9	63.8	63.5	63.4	63.5
Unemployed	6,129	5,326	6,280	5,510	5,396	5,417	5,648	5,551	5,667
Unemployment rate	5.5	4.8	5.6	4.9	4.8	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.0
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	57,520	57,675	57,593	57,848	57,790	57,707	57,673	57,694	57,935
Participation rate	77.1	76.7	76.6	77.5	77.0	76.9	76.8	76.8	77.0
Employed	54,460	55,256	54,606	55,289	55,318	55,395	55,086	55,201	55,438
Employment-population ratio	73.0	73.5	72.6	74.1	73.8	73.8	73.3	73.4	73.7
Unemployed	3,060	2,419	2,987	2,559	2,472	2,312	2,587	2,494	2,497
Unemployment rate	5.3	4.2	5.2	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.3	4.3
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	47,302	47,764	47,546	47,443	47,958	48,003	47,821	47,852	47,681
Participation rate	58.9	59.1	58.8	59.0	59.4	59.5	59.2	59.0	59.0
Employed	45,147	45,934	45,285	45,419	45,988	45,871	45,792	45,615	45,559
Employment-population ratio	56.2	56.9	56.0	56.5	57.0	56.8	56.7	56.5	56.4
Unemployed	2,155	1,829	2,261	2,024	1,970	2,131	2,030	2,037	2,123
Unemployment rate	4.6	3.8	4.8	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.5
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	6,026	6,177	6,041	6,586	6,499	6,522	6,484	6,501	6,601
Participation rate	53.1	53.2	52.0	58.1	56.4	56.5	56.0	56.0	56.8
Employed	5,112	5,300	5,008	5,658	5,544	5,549	5,453	5,480	5,554
Employment-population ratio	45.1	45.7	43.1	49.9	48.1	48.0	47.1	47.2	47.8
Unemployed	914	878	1,033	928	955	973	1,031	1,021	1,047
Unemployment rate	15.2	14.2	17.1	14.1	14.7	14.9	15.9	15.7	15.9
Men	17.2	15.4	18.7	15.0	16.0	17.6	16.8	16.0	16.5
Women	13.1	13.0	15.3	13.1	13.3	12.0	15.0	15.4	15.1
BLACK									
Civilian noninstitutional population	23,089	23,419	23,424	23,089	23,323	23,357	23,389	23,419	23,424
Civilian labor force	14,420	14,888	14,752	14,697	14,823	14,883	15,071	15,017	15,029
Participation rate	62.5	63.6	63.0	63.7	63.6	63.7	64.4	64.1	64.2
Employed	12,893	13,489	13,152	13,192	13,147	13,413	13,682	13,481	13,453
Employment-population ratio	55.8	57.6	56.1	57.1	56.4	57.4	58.4	57.6	57.4
Unemployed	1,527	1,399	1,600	1,505	1,676	1,470	1,409	1,536	1,577
Unemployment rate	10.6	9.4	10.8	10.2	11.3	9.9	9.4	10.2	10.5
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	6,680	6,681	6,657	6,796	6,729	6,688	6,663	6,715	6,772
Participation rate	72.3	71.5	71.2	73.6	72.4	71.8	71.8	71.9	72.4
Employed	5,999	6,080	5,969	6,172	6,083	6,158	6,118	6,050	6,141
Employment-population ratio	64.9	65.1	63.8	66.8	65.4	66.1	66.0	64.7	65.7
Unemployed	681	602	689	624	646	530	544	666	631
Unemployment rate	10.2	9.0	10.3	9.2	9.6	7.9	8.2	9.9	9.3
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	7,057	7,327	7,315	7,127	7,116	7,284	7,414	7,338	7,387
Participation rate	60.8	62.3	62.2	61.4	60.7	62.1	63.1	62.4	62.8
Employed	6,438	6,815	6,651	6,521	6,442	6,845	6,857	6,808	6,739
Employment-population ratio	55.4	58.0	56.5	56.2	55.0	56.8	58.4	57.9	57.3
Unemployed	620	512	664	606	674	638	558	530	649
Unemployment rate	8.8	7.0	9.1	8.5	9.5	8.8	7.5	7.2	8.8
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	683	880	780	773	978	911	994	964	870
Participation rate	30.5	38.0	33.8	34.6	42.4	39.4	42.0	41.6	37.7
Employed	458	594	532	499	622	610	687	623	573
Employment-population ratio	20.5	25.7	23.1	22.3	27.0	26.4	29.0	26.9	24.8
Unemployed	226	286	248	275	356	301	307	341	297
Unemployment rate	33.0	32.5	31.8	35.5	36.4	33.1	30.9	35.3	34.1
Men	32.5	37.7	37.3	34.0	32.7	33.6	32.0	40.6	38.1
Women	33.6	27.5	27.1	37.1	39.7	32.6	29.8	30.4	30.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-2. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin — Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, age, and Hispanic origin	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted[1]					
	Jan. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
HISPANIC ORIGIN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	18,368	18,889	18,929	18,368	18,752	18,800	18,845	18,889	18,929
Civilian labor force	11,939	12,374	12,393	12,036	12,456	12,504	12,437	12,444	12,505
Participation rate	65.0	65.5	65.5	65.5	66.4	66.5	66.0	65.9	66.1
Employed	10,595	11,267	11,102	10,811	11,351	11,333	11,269	11,289	11,329
Employment-population ratio	57.7	59.8	58.7	58.9	60.5	60.3	59.8	59.8	59.8
Unemployed	1,344	1,108	1,291	1,224	1,105	1,171	1,168	1,155	1,176
Unemployment rate	11.3	9.0	10.4	10.2	8.9	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.4

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

Table A-3. Selected employment indicators

(In thousands)

Category	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
CHARACTERISTIC									
Total employed, 16 years and over	122,597	125,138	123,126	124,639	125,140	125,399	125,010	124,904	125,163
Married men, spouse present	41,185	42,129	41,580	41,601	42,257	42,393	42,049	42,045	42,000
Married women, spouse present	31,578	32,368	31,854	31,705	32,175	32,234	32,176	32,014	31,982
Women who maintain families	7,055	7,209	7,214	7,199	7,100	7,055	7,295	7,341	7,361
OCCUPATION									
Managerial and professional specialty	34,507	35,856	35,614	34,423	35,602	35,827	35,730	35,647	35,530
Technical, sales, and administrative support	37,155	37,474	36,761	37,267	37,606	37,364	37,334	36,993	36,871
Service occupations	16,672	16,730	16,487	17,012	16,818	17,084	16,909	16,831	16,823
Precision production, craft, and repair	13,398	13,484	13,302	13,784	13,506	13,463	13,274	13,497	13,685
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	17,644	18,328	17,755	18,212	17,974	17,995	18,264	18,323	18,328
Farming, forestry, and fishing	3,221	3,264	3,207	3,881	3,567	3,699	3,581	3,618	3,864
CLASS OF WORKER									
Agriculture:									
Wage and salary workers	1,523	1,618	1,609	1,866	1,744	1,844	1,743	1,753	1,971
Self-employed workers	1,533	1,422	1,420	1,663	1,491	1,541	1,500	1,549	1,540
Unpaid family workers	31	32	40	35	43	48	34	39	45
Nonagricultural industries:									
Wage and salary workers	110,646	113,084	111,266	111,987	112,674	112,950	112,802	112,570	112,614
Government	18,331	18,274	18,044	18,295	18,196	18,193	18,295	18,201	18,008
Private industries	92,315	94,810	93,223	93,692	94,478	94,756	94,507	94,369	94,606
Private households	959	973	874	1,075	982	980	994	996	960
Other industries	91,355	93,838	92,349	92,617	93,495	93,776	93,513	93,374	93,626
Self-employed workers	8,768	8,883	8,708	9,039	9,017	8,943	8,822	8,883	8,977
Unpaid family workers	96	97	83	95	121	100	104	106	83
PERSONS AT WORK PART TIME									
All industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,848	4,410	4,320	4,693	4,589	4,400	4,410	4,445	4,182
Slack work or business conditions	2,795	2,609	2,580	2,504	2,535	2,515	2,519	2,538	2,312
Could only find part-time work	1,704	1,485	1,466	1,777	1,738	1,636	1,647	1,593	1,528
Part time for noneconomic reasons	18,173	18,477	17,542	17,940	17,959	17,683	17,265	17,220	17,317
Nonagricultural industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,620	4,218	4,103	4,430	4,451	4,255	4,272	4,326	3,934
Slack work or business conditions	2,638	2,491	2,427	2,359	2,432	2,441	2,418	2,452	2,171
Could only find part-time work	1,677	1,464	1,444	1,737	1,716	1,582	1,631	1,567	1,497
Part time for noneconomic reasons	17,584	17,882	16,933	17,307	17,389	17,044	16,648	16,603	16,686

NOTE: Persons at work excludes employed persons who were absent from their jobs during the entire reference week for reasons such as vacation, illness, or industrial dispute. Part time for noneconomic reasons excludes persons who usually work full time but worked only 1 to 34 hours during the reference week for reasons such as holidays, illness, and bad weather.

Table A-4. Selected unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Category	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates[1]					
	Jan. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
CHARACTERISTIC									
Total, 16 years and over	7,498	7,380	7,674	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.8
Men, 20 years and over	3,406	3,302	3,323	5.0	4.9	4.5	4.9	4.9	4.9
Women, 20 years and over	2,817	2,658	2,955	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.6	5.1
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years	1,274	1,420	1,397	16.7	17.5	17.1	17.9	18.3	16.0
Married men, spouse present	1,455	1,354	1,437	3.4	3.5	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.3
Married women, spouse present	1,204	1,244	1,289	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.9
Women who maintain families	705	516	666	8.9	8.0	7.9	7.7	8.6	8.3
Full-time workers	5,938	5,902	6,171	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.7
Part-time workers	1,548	1,460	1,497	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.0
OCCUPATION[2]									
Managerial and professional specialty	802	903	880	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.4
Technical, sales, and administrative support	1,808	1,732	1,800	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.1	4.5	4.7
Precision production, craft, and repair	849	820	773	5.8	6.1	6.0	6.7	5.7	5.3
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	1,631	1,688	1,687	8.2	8.4	7.9	8.3	8.4	8.4
Farming, forestry, and fishing	329	298	350	7.8	7.1	8.3	7.7	7.6	8.3
INDUSTRY									
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	5,649	5,832	5,833	5.7	5.9	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.8
Goods-producing industries	1,779	1,857	1,817	6.4	6.6	6.4	6.9	6.5	6.4
Mining	38	54	33	5.1	3.3	6.6	7.1	8.3	5.2
Construction	767	740	743	11.7	12.7	11.7	12.2	11.4	11.1
Manufacturing	974	1,064	1,041	4.7	4.8	4.7	5.3	5.0	4.9
Durable goods	495	553	537	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.8	4.5	4.3
Nondurable goods	479	511	504	5.4	5.9	5.3	6.1	5.7	5.7
Service-producing industries	3,870	3,976	4,016	5.4	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.6
Transportation and public utilities	341	344	271	4.7	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.9	3.9
Wholesale and retail trade	1,721	1,680	1,762	6.6	7.2	6.3	6.2	6.5	6.6
Finance, insurance, and real estate	215	236	196	2.9	2.9	3.3	2.8	3.3	2.8
Services	1,593	1,716	1,787	5.2	5.1	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.6
Government workers	602	504	529	3.2	2.7	2.8	3.0	2.7	2.9
Agricultural wage and salary workers	225	265	237	10.7	11.6	12.2	11.6	13.2	10.8

[1] Unemployment as a percent of the civilian labor force.
[2] Seasonally adjusted unemployment data for service occupations are not available because the seasonal component, which is small relative to the trend-cycle and irregular components, cannot be separated with sufficient precision.

Table A-5. Duration of unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Duration	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Less than 5 weeks	3,307	2,327	3,301	2,937	2,868	2,740	2,812	2,712	2,932
5 to 14 weeks	2,265	2,405	2,485	2,122	2,272	2,348	2,376	2,434	2,329
15 weeks and over	2,529	2,140	2,483	2,386	2,352	2,296	2,297	2,307	2,343
15 to 26 weeks	1,143	1,014	1,215	1,033	1,071	1,068	1,048	1,082	1,105
27 weeks and over	1,387	1,126	1,268	1,353	1,281	1,228	1,249	1,224	1,237
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	16.5	16.2	15.5	16.7	16.3	16.2	16.5	16.2	15.7
Median duration, in weeks	7.7	8.2	7.9	7.9	8.0	8.1	7.9	8.2	8.1
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	40.8	33.9	39.9	39.4	38.3	37.1	37.6	36.4	38.6
5 to 14 weeks	28.0	35.0	30.1	28.5	30.3	31.8	31.7	32.7	30.6
15 weeks and over	31.2	31.1	30.0	32.0	31.4	31.1	30.7	31.0	30.8
15 to 26 weeks	14.1	14.8	14.7	13.9	14.3	14.5	14.0	14.5	14.5
27 weeks and over	17.1	16.4	15.3	18.2	17.1	16.6	16.7	16.4	16.3

Table A-6. Reason for unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	4,350	3,533	4,425	3,658	3,367	3,452	3,516	3,495	3,721
On temporary layoff	1,539	1,090	1,728	1,061	874	972	1,062	1,001	1,191
Not on temporary layoff	2,810	2,443	2,697	2,598	2,492	2,480	2,455	2,494	2,531
Permanent job losers	1,995	1,716	1,853	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Persons who completed temporary jobs	816	727	844	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Job leavers	686	795	803	694	887	753	856	937	813
Reentrants	2,580	2,098	2,503	2,468	2,578	2,502	2,509	2,431	2,413
New entrants	485	448	540	597	614	550	573	609	652
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	53.7	51.4	53.5	49.2	45.2	47.8	47.2	46.8	49.0
On temporary layoff	19.0	15.9	20.9	14.3	11.7	13.4	14.2	13.4	15.7
Not on temporary layoff	34.7	35.6	32.6	34.9	33.5	34.2	32.9	33.4	33.3
Job leavers	8.5	11.6	9.7	9.3	11.9	10.4	11.5	12.5	10.7
Reentrants	31.8	30.5	30.3	33.4	34.6	34.5	33.7	32.5	31.8
New entrants	6.0	6.5	6.5	8.0	8.3	7.6	7.7	8.1	8.6
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	3.3	2.7	3.4	2.8	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.8
Job leavers	.5	.6	.6	.5	.7	.6	.6	.7	.6
Reentrants	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8
New entrants	.4	.3	.4	.5	.5	.4	.4	.5	.5

[1] Not available.

Table A-7. Unemployed persons by sex and age, seasonally adjusted

Age and sex	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates[1]					
	Jan. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995	Jan. 1996
Total, 16 years and over	7,498	7,380	7,674	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.8
16 to 24 years	2,464	2,655	2,713	11.4	12.8	12.3	12.1	12.5	12.8
16 to 19 years	1,274	1,420	1,397	16.7	17.5	17.1	17.9	18.3	18.0
16 to 17 years	633	666	656	20.0	19.8	20.3	19.8	21.0	20.7
18 to 19 years	629	749	727	14.2	15.8	14.9	16.7	16.4	16.0
20 to 24 years	1,190	1,236	1,316	8.5	10.1	9.5	8.7	9.2	9.8
25 years and over	4,971	4,790	4,903	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.4
25 to 54 years	4,365	4,213	4,338	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.5
55 years and over	606	542	566	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.8	3.5	3.6
Men, 16 years and over	4,090	4,073	4,078	5.7	5.6	5.3	5.7	5.7	5.7
16 to 24 years	1,366	1,478	1,437	12.0	12.9	13.0	12.7	13.1	12.9
16 to 19 years	684	770	758	17.4	18.3	19.5	19.0	19.1	18.9
16 to 17 years	338	357	362	20.9	20.2	21.6	22.0	21.6	22.4
18 to 19 years	329	407	377	14.5	16.8	17.9	17.4	17.1	16.0
20 to 24 years	682	708	682	9.1	9.8	9.3	9.2	9.8	9.5
25 years and over	2,672	2,626	2,589	4.5	4.3	3.9	4.5	4.4	4.3
25 to 54 years	2,352	2,314	2,300	4.8	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.5
55 years and over	347	290	319	4.0	4.0	3.2	3.7	3.3	3.6
Women, 16 years and over	3,408	3,308	3,596	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.9
16 to 24 years	1,098	1,177	1,276	10.7	12.8	11.5	11.3	11.9	12.8
16 to 19 years	591	649	641	15.9	16.8	14.5	16.8	17.4	17.1
16 to 17 years	294	310	294	19.1	19.3	19.0	17.6	20.2	19.0
18 to 19 years	300	342	350	13.9	14.8	11.6	15.9	15.6	16.0
20 to 24 years	508	528	635	7.8	10.4	9.7	8.0	8.5	10.2
25 years and over	2,299	2,163	2,313	4.6	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.5
25 to 54 years	2,014	1,900	2,038	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.6
55 years and over	259	252	247	3.7	3.0	3.7	4.0	3.7	3.5

[1] Unemployment as a percent of the civilian labor force.

Table A-8. Persons not in the labor force and multiple jobholders by sex, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Total		Men		Women	
	Jan. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1995	Jan. 1996
NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE						
Total not in the labor force	67,055	68,238	24,152	25,101	42,902	43,137
Persons who currently want a job	5,999	5,751	2,407	2,340	3,592	3,410
Searched for work and available to work now[1]	1,783	1,737	821	871	962	865
Reason not currently looking:						
Discouragement over job prospects[2]	440	409	248	241	192	167
Reasons other than discouragement[3]	1,343	1,328	573	630	770	698
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS						
Total multiple jobholders[4]	7,158	7,127	3,855	3,758	3,301	3,370
Percent of total employed	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.9
Primary job full time, secondary job part time	4,288	4,013	2,616	2,366	1,673	1,647
Primary and secondary jobs both part time	1,533	1,605	456	498	1,077	1,107
Primary and secondary jobs both full time	233	239	176	173	57	66
Hours vary on primary or secondary job	1,074	1,236	596	699	478	538

[1] Data refer to persons who have searched for work during the prior 12 months and were available to take a job during the reference week.

[2] Includes thinks no work available, could not find work, lacks schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination.

[3] Includes those who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for such reasons as child-care and transportation problems, as well as a small number for which reason for nonparticipation was not determined.

[4] Includes persons who work part time on their primary job and full time on their secondary job(s), not shown separately.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995p	Jan. 1996p	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995p	Jan. 1996p
Total	114,014	118,158	118,176	115,378	115,810	116,932	117,000	117,212	117,373	117,172
Total private	94,849	98,436	98,503	96,120	96,588	97,612	97,685	97,912	98,048	97,859
Goods-producing	23,697	24,335	24,102	23,538	24,293	24,157	24,159	24,134	24,184	24,124
Mining	580	574	567	555	590	573	571	567	566	565
Metal mining	49.8	50.8	50.8	50.6	50	51	51	51	51	51
Coal mining	109.8	105.3	103.2	101.5	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Oil and gas extraction	323.9	310.9	310.5	305.1	325	311	309	306	307	306
Nonmetallic minerals, except fuels	96.1	106.6	102.9	97.6	105	105	105	105	105	106
Construction	4,743	5,434	5,210	4,854	5,201	5,262	5,287	5,295	5,302	5,315
General building contractors	1,182.7	1,256.4	1,230.2	1,166.5	1,250	1,229	1,230	1,234	1,234	1,230
Heavy construction, except building	617.1	775.7	696.2	611.1	742	750	749	739	737	734
Special trade contractors	2,943.4	3,401.8	3,283.9	3,076.3	3,209	3,283	3,308	3,322	3,331	3,351
Manufacturing	18,374	18,327	18,325	18,129	18,502	18,322	18,301	18,272	18,316	18,244
Production workers	12,698	12,662	12,659	12,495	12,813	12,659	12,634	12,618	12,654	12,595
Durable goods	10,544	10,588	10,633	10,535	10,596	10,572	10,565	10,553	10,613	10,581
Production workers	7,213	7,240	7,285	7,204	7,259	7,232	7,220	7,211	7,268	7,240
Lumber and wood products	754.5	756.4	754.8	735.7	767	752	755	753	756	751
Furniture and fixtures	506.7	498.0	499.0	494.6	508	495	494	495	497	495
Stone, clay, and glass products	522.1	543.1	532.9	516.5	542	537	538	539	538	536
Primary metal industries	715.5	715.4	717.0	715.2	716	710	711	714	715	715
Blast furnaces and basic steel products	239.5	239.3	240.0	239.0	239	238	238	239	239	239
Fabricated metal products	1,423.3	1,440.0	1,441.7	1,433.0	1,428	1,429	1,433	1,433	1,437	1,437
Industrial machinery and equipment	2,016.7	2,056.5	2,068.7	2,067.9	2,017	2,047	2,055	2,061	2,069	2,068
Computer and office equipment	340.7	343.7	344.7	345.2	341	340	344	344	345	345
Electronic and other electrical equipment	1,606.7	1,643.2	1,649.1	1,642.2	1,608	1,631	1,635	1,637	1,643	1,644
Electronic components and accessories	562.9	599.2	604.8	605.6	563	591	596	599	604	606
Transportation equipment	1,760.2	1,697.9	1,739.1	1,707.2	1,764	1,738	1,713	1,691	1,727	1,705
Motor vehicles and equipment	924.7	924.1	939.0	908.8	932	932	933	920	929	916
Aircraft and parts	459.5	411.5	439.2	437.9	459	439	413	409	437	437
Instruments and related products	849.1	837.7	837.8	836.0	850	842	840	836	837	837
Miscellaneous manufacturing	389.1	400.0	393.3	386.4	396	391	391	394	394	393
Nondurable goods	7,830	7,739	7,692	7,594	7,906	7,750	7,736	7,719	7,703	7,663
Production workers	5,485	5,422	5,374	5,291	5,554	5,427	5,414	5,405	5,386	5,355
Food and kindred products	1,646.8	1,686.9	1,665.1	1,632.8	1,690	1,680	1,683	1,679	1,682	1,675
Tobacco products	43.1	39.5	40.9	40.2	40	39	39	38	38	38
Textile mill products	667.9	644.1	637.8	625.7	672	644	643	643	638	629
Apparel and other textile products	945.1	882.2	867.1	845.9	957	898	884	877	870	857
Paper and allied products	689.9	682.0	681.4	677.8	693	684	684	682	681	681
Printing and publishing	1,556.3	1,556.3	1,559.3	1,542.8	1,557	1,552	1,550	1,552	1,550	1,543
Chemicals and allied products	1,049.6	1,037.3	1,035.0	1,035.1	1,055	1,040	1,041	1,039	1,036	1,039
Petroleum and coal products	142.6	139.9	137.2	134.7	147	141	141	139	139	139
Rubber and misc. plastics products	977.1	965.6	964.7	958.5	982	966	965	966	966	981
Leather and leather products	112.0	105.6	103.4	100.8	113	106	106	104	103	101
Service-producing	90,317	93,823	94,074	91,840	91,517	92,775	92,841	93,078	93,189	93,048
Transportation and public utilities	6,063	6,285	6,318	6,180	6,129	6,206	6,217	6,240	6,251	6,242
Transportation	3,832	4,017	4,057	3,930	3,886	3,938	3,947	3,973	3,987	3,980
Railroad transportation	236.3	236.7	235.9	232.6	241	236	236	236	237	237
Local and interurban passenger transit	438.2	479.9	483.6	477.3	428	457	457	462	467	467
Trucking and warehousing	1,818.9	1,923.7	1,955.6	1,848.2	1,864	1,872	1,882	1,895	1,900	1,892
Water transportation	158.9	153.6	150.7	147.3	168	157	155	157	154	154
Transportation by air	750.0	780.2	789.3	786.6	754	770	774	780	787	789
Pipelines, except natural gas	16.9	16.0	15.9	15.5	17	16	16	16	16	16
Transportation services	413.1	427.1	425.8	422.7	416	430	427	427	426	425
Communications and public utilities	2,231	2,268	2,261	2,250	2,243	2,268	2,270	2,267	2,264	2,262
Communications	1,320.5	1,370.7	1,364.1	1,360.8	1,327	1,368	1,367	1,367	1,363	1,360
Electric, gas, and sanitary services	910.5	897.7	896.9	889.5	916	902	903	900	901	894
Wholesale trade	6,198	6,386	6,390	6,338	6,251	6,346	6,359	6,373	6,393	6,389
Durable goods	3,595	3,708	3,718	3,702	3,615	3,686	3,697	3,708	3,718	3,721
Nondurable goods	2,603	2,678	2,672	2,636	2,636	2,660	2,662	2,665	2,675	2,668

See footnotes at end of table.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry – Continued

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]
Retail trade	20,432	21,279	21,566	20,608	20,760	20,899	20,897	20,989	20,969	20,928
Building materials and garden supplies	806.7	854.2	853.8	826.6	851	853	853	860	865	872
General merchandise stores	2,615.5	2,732.2	2,795.6	2,566.1	2,562	2,534	2,556	2,553	2,516	2,511
Department stores	2,284.6	2,402.1	2,449.6	2,249.4	2,236	2,220	2,245	2,239	2,207	2,199
Food stores	3,307.0	3,417.7	3,448.8	3,374.2	3,325	3,368	3,372	3,394	3,391	3,391
Automotive dealers and service stations	2,152.2	2,234.4	2,234.1	2,222.6	2,182	2,223	2,231	2,237	2,248	2,252
New and used car dealers	986.5	1,014.4	1,013.6	1,014.5	993	1,005	1,008	1,013	1,017	1,021
Apparel and accessory stores	1,129.2	1,127.0	1,173.6	1,089.2	1,122	1,078	1,074	1,086	1,072	1,082
Furniture and home furnishings stores	940.5	986.8	1,006.1	982.1	933	959	962	966	966	974
Eating and drinking places	6,878.2	7,204.3	7,242.6	6,936.0	7,188	7,259	7,236	7,262	7,279	7,240
Miscellaneous retail establishments	2,602.2	2,722.7	2,811.3	2,611.2	2,597	2,625	2,613	2,631	2,632	2,606
Finance, insurance, and real estate	6,863	6,971	6,985	6,946	6,927	6,957	6,977	6,991	7,001	7,009
Finance	3,300	3,330	3,342	3,340	3,312	3,316	3,325	3,337	3,342	3,352
Depository institutions	2,062.3	2,046.5	2,049.2	2,046.8	2,067	2,049	2,048	2,051	2,047	2,051
Commercial banks	1,492.5	1,487.6	1,491.0	1,489.2	1,497	1,487	1,489	1,492	1,491	1,494
Savings institutions	292.4	275.6	273.5	272.6	293	279	277	276	273	273
Nondepository institutions	477.0	501.0	506.8	509.7	478	491	497	503	508	511
Mortgage bankers and brokers	227.1	237.3	239.8	243.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Security and commodity brokers	527.0	532.2	535.1	535.1	530	531	532	533	536	538
Holding and other investment offices	234.0	250.2	251.1	248.8	237	245	248	250	251	252
Insurance	2,228	2,250	2,253	2,253	2,233	2,249	2,253	2,252	2,256	2,258
Insurance carriers	1,531.5	1,540.7	1,541.2	1,540.5	1,535	1,542	1,543	1,542	1,543	1,544
Insurance agents, brokers, and service	696.3	709.0	712.0	712.2	698	707	710	710	713	714
Real estate	1,335	1,391	1,390	1,353	1,382	1,392	1,399	1,402	1,403	1,399
Services[3]	31,598	33,180	33,142	32,510	32,228	33,047	33,076	33,185	33,250	33,167
Agricultural services	483.0	588.5	552.7	507.6	575	588	593	593	602	604
Hotels and other lodging places	1,526.0	1,568.4	1,565.3	1,532.2	1,614	1,635	1,621	1,630	1,629	1,623
Personal services	1,192.9	1,112.9	1,124.6	1,203.9	1,148	1,135	1,138	1,139	1,136	1,156
Business services	6,348.2	6,884.5	6,867.2	6,563.1	6,513	6,745	6,752	6,769	6,799	6,724
Services to buildings	853.9	892.4	891.9	873.1	868	888	889	890	895	887
Personnel supply services	2,270.1	2,541.1	2,511.9	2,262.3	2,408	2,458	2,446	2,450	2,453	2,391
Help supply services	2,011.5	2,252.8	2,221.7	1,992.7	2,138	2,174	2,170	2,168	2,170	2,109
Computer and data processing services	997.1	1,089.6	1,103.0	1,100.6	994	1,072	1,081	1,089	1,101	1,097
Auto repair, services, and parking	993.3	1,041.3	1,046.5	1,043.3	1,006	1,029	1,039	1,043	1,053	1,056
Miscellaneous repair services	335.4	342.4	344.7	341.1	340	343	341	342	347	345
Motion pictures	540.8	591.2	594.6	589.8	545	602	598	593	589	595
Amusement and recreation services	1,211.2	1,333.5	1,323.3	1,269.2	1,380	1,501	1,485	1,500	1,470	1,459
Health services	9,113.3	9,385.9	9,414.5	9,386.1	9,141	9,324	9,349	9,386	9,405	9,414
Offices and clinics of medical doctors	1,558.3	1,607.7	1,617.2	1,608.4	1,563	1,599	1,600	1,609	1,616	1,615
Nursing and personal care facilities	1,666.3	1,716.6	1,718.2	1,711.5	1,672	1,704	1,706	1,713	1,717	1,717
Hospitals	3,788.3	3,833.2	3,838.9	3,840.9	3,792	3,827	3,832	3,833	3,839	3,845
Home health care services	584.7	628.1	629.2	620.8	591	619	622	626	629	627
Legal services	925.4	928.6	929.1	925.3	931	932	930	930	931	930
Educational services	1,812.3	2,041.5	2,003.8	1,841.9	1,843	1,883	1,892	1,890	1,899	1,874
Social services	2,231.1	2,304.1	2,309.4	2,287.2	2,244	2,294	2,291	2,293	2,298	2,299
Child day care services	520.6	541.1	541.0	533.8	514	529	525	525	527	528
Residential care	620.5	638.9	642.1	641.5	623	640	640	640	642	644
Museums and botanical and zoological gardens	72.5	80.7	80.3	76.0	80	81	82	83	83	84
Membership organizations	2,028.0	2,049.8	2,050.0	2,019.9	2,062	2,056	2,052	2,060	2,062	2,055
Engineering and management services	2,611.8	2,754.0	2,763.1	2,751.6	2,634	2,728	2,743	2,762	2,774	2,777
Engineering and architectural services	784.4	812.6	812.2	809.5	793	806	810	813	816	819
Management and public relations	741.2	833.5	837.5	827.5	752	823	826	835	842	841
Services, nec	40.6	42.4	42.0	41.1	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Government	19,165	19,722	19,673	19,258	19,222	19,320	19,315	19,300	19,325	19,313
Federal	2,820	2,783	2,814	2,768	2,838	2,812	2,801	2,800	2,794	2,788
Federal, except Postal Service	1,985.3	1,932.3	1,919.7	1,909.7	2,004	1,966	1,952	1,946	1,937	1,931
State	4,539	4,737	4,678	4,528	4,599	4,601	4,600	4,599	4,590	4,586
Education	1,855.5	2,080.4	2,028.4	1,879.2	1,889	1,919	1,917	1,919	1,914	1,914
Other State government	2,683.9	2,656.3	2,649.7	2,648.3	2,710	2,682	2,683	2,680	2,676	2,672
Local	11,806	12,202	12,181	11,962	11,785	11,907	11,914	11,901	11,941	11,939
Education	6,730.9	7,023.7	7,020.3	6,834.7	6,577	6,683	6,663	6,670	6,686	6,681
Other local government	5,075.1	5,178.7	5,160.7	5,126.8	5,208	5,224	5,251	5,231	5,255	5,258

[1] These series are not published seasonally adjusted because the seasonal component, which is small relative to the trend-cycle and irregular components, cannot be separated with sufficient precision.

[2] This series is not suitable for seasonal adjustment because it has very little seasonal and irregular movement. Thus, the not seasonally adjusted series can be used for analysis of cyclical and long-term trends.

[3] Includes other industries, not shown separately.

[p] = preliminary.

NOTE: The October estimates for Federal Government and higher aggregates have been revised upward by 2,000 due to a furlough-related delay in incorporating the final counts.

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]
Total private	34.4	34.4	34.5	33.4	34.8	34.5	34.6	34.4	34.3	33.7
Goods-producing	41.1	41.2	41.1	39.1	41.6	41.1	41.0	40.9	40.6	39.5
Mining	44.8	44.8	44.8	43.5	44.9	45.0	45.0	44.3	44.5	43.6
Construction	37.7	38.5	38.0	36.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Manufacturing	42.0	41.9	42.0	39.7	42.2	41.7	41.5	41.5	41.2	39.8
Overtime hours	4.6	4.6	4.6	3.9	4.9	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.1
Durable goods	42.9	42.7	42.8	40.7	43.0	42.5	42.4	42.4	42.0	40.7
Overtime hours	5.0	5.0	5.1	4.2	5.3	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.4
Lumber and wood products	40.7	40.7	40.4	38.6	41.2	40.7	40.9	40.6	40.0	39.0
Furniture and fixtures	40.6	40.2	41.0	36.1	40.8	39.6	39.5	39.7	39.8	36.2
Stone, clay, and glass products	42.3	43.2	42.5	40.5	43.6	43.2	43.1	42.9	42.7	41.6
Primary metal industries	44.9	44.3	44.4	43.1	44.8	43.7	43.9	44.0	43.7	43.0
Blast furnaces and basic steel products	45.5	44.6	44.6	43.7	45.7	43.7	44.4	44.7	44.2	43.9
Fabricated metal products	43.1	42.8	43.2	40.9	43.2	42.7	42.3	42.3	42.1	40.9
Industrial machinery and equipment	44.2	43.6	44.1	42.1	44.0	43.4	43.1	43.5	43.1	41.9
Electronic and other electrical equipment	42.2	42.2	42.2	39.9	42.1	42.1	42.1	41.7	41.1	39.7
Transportation equipment	44.3	44.2	43.8	41.9	44.6	43.9	43.6	43.9	42.8	42.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	45.6	45.3	45.4	43.0	46.1	44.9	44.7	45.0	44.4	43.2
Instruments and related products	41.9	41.8	42.3	40.3	41.8	41.5	41.4	41.5	41.4	40.1
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39.8	40.4	40.1	37.6	40.1	40.1	39.8	39.7	39.5	37.9
Nondurable goods	40.7	40.8	40.9	38.3	41.0	40.5	40.3	40.4	40.3	38.5
Overtime hours	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.4	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.8
Food and kindred products	41.1	41.4	41.3	39.0	41.5	41.1	40.9	40.7	40.6	39.4
Tobacco products	39.1	40.8	39.1	33.8	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Textile mill products	41.5	40.9	40.6	35.9	41.8	40.5	40.4	40.6	40.2	36.0
Apparel and other textile products	37.2	37.0	37.4	33.1	37.5	37.1	36.6	36.6	37.0	33.3
Paper and allied products	44.0	43.5	43.7	41.6	44.0	42.9	42.8	43.2	42.9	41.6
Printing and publishing	38.1	38.7	38.4	36.8	38.5	38.1	38.0	38.2	37.8	37.2
Chemicals and allied products	43.3	43.5	44.2	42.3	43.3	43.4	43.2	43.2	43.4	42.3
Petroleum and coal products	43.8	43.8	43.7	42.8	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rubber and misc. plastics products	42.2	41.8	42.2	40.3	42.3	41.6	41.5	41.5	41.5	40.2
Leather and leather products	37.8	38.0	37.9	34.8	38.0	38.4	38.1	37.7	37.5	34.9
Service-producing	32.6	32.6	32.7	31.9	32.9	32.7	32.9	32.7	32.6	32.2
Transportation and public utilities	39.4	39.5	39.5	38.5	39.8	39.5	39.5	39.5	39.5	38.9
Wholesale trade	38.2	38.2	38.2	37.6	38.4	38.3	38.4	38.2	38.1	37.8
Retail trade	28.2	28.6	29.0	27.4	29.0	28.8	28.9	28.8	28.6	28.1
Finance, insurance, and real estate	36.3	35.6	35.8	35.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Services	32.4	32.3	32.3	31.8	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

[1] Data relate to production workers in mining and manufacturing; construction workers in construction; and nonsupervisory workers in transportation and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employees on private nonfarm payrolls.

[2] These series are not published seasonally adjusted because the seasonal component, which is small relative to the trend-cycle and irregular components, cannot be separated with sufficient precision.

[p] = preliminary.

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Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	Jan. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995p	Jan. 1996p	Jan. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995p	Jan. 1996p
Total private	$11.36	$11.60	$11.63	$11.75	$390.78	$399.04	$401.24	$392.45
Seasonally adjusted	11.29	11.58	11.62	11.68	392.89	398.35	396.57	393.62
Goods-producing	12.80	13.17	13.21	13.25	526.08	542.60	542.93	518.08
Mining	15.25	15.38	15.56	15.63	683.20	689.02	697.09	679.91
Construction	14.67	15.20	15.09	15.20	553.06	585.20	573.42	556.32
Manufacturing	12.23	12.47	12.58	12.63	513.66	522.49	526.36	501.41
Durable goods	12.81	12.99	13.09	13.11	549.55	554.67	560.25	533.58
Lumber and wood products	9.95	10.22	10.31	10.29	404.97	415.95	416.52	397.19
Furniture and fixtures	9.67	9.94	10.01	10.04	392.80	399.59	410.41	382.44
Stone, clay, and glass products	12.19	12.56	12.52	12.58	515.64	542.59	532.10	509.49
Primary metal industries	14.54	14.70	14.67	14.78	652.85	651.21	651.35	637.02
Blast furnaces and basic steel products	17.30	17.56	17.30	17.60	787.15	783.18	771.58	769.12
Fabricated metal products	12.04	12.24	12.40	12.36	518.92	523.87	535.68	505.52
Industrial machinery and equipment	13.15	13.37	13.45	13.50	581.23	582.93	593.15	568.35
Electronic and other electrical equipment	11.59	11.80	11.88	11.88	489.10	497.96	501.34	474.01
Transportation equipment	16.60	16.71	16.82	16.73	735.38	738.58	736.72	700.99
Motor vehicles and equipment	17.12	17.43	17.49	17.30	780.67	789.58	794.05	743.90
Instruments and related products	12.54	12.85	12.90	12.90	525.43	537.13	545.67	519.87
Miscellaneous manufacturing	9.98	10.11	10.24	10.31	397.20	406.44	410.62	387.66
Nondurable goods	11.44	11.75	11.86	11.95	465.61	479.40	485.07	457.69
Food and kindred products	10.85	11.06	11.15	11.05	445.94	457.88	460.50	430.95
Tobacco products	18.71	19.83	18.08	18.94	731.56	809.06	706.93	640.17
Textile mill products	9.35	9.54	9.57	9.56	388.03	390.19	388.54	383.20
Apparel and other textile products	7.53	7.75	7.81	7.87	280.12	286.75	292.09	280.50
Paper and allied products	14.01	14.39	14.54	14.60	616.44	625.97	635.40	607.36
Printing and publishing	12.24	12.39	12.48	12.44	466.34	479.49	479.23	457.79
Chemicals and allied products	15.40	15.94	16.10	16.28	666.82	693.39	711.62	688.84
Petroleum and coal products	19.19	19.46	19.57	19.45	840.52	852.35	855.21	832.46
Rubber and misc. plastics products	10.82	11.03	11.17	11.15	456.60	461.05	471.37	449.35
Leather and leather products	8.13	8.27	8.39	8.53	307.31	314.26	317.98	296.84
Service-producing	10.86	11.06	11.10	11.25	354.04	360.56	362.97	358.88
Transportation and public utilities	14.08	14.44	14.41	14.50	554.75	570.38	569.20	558.25
Wholesale trade	12.30	12.50	12.60	12.67	469.86	477.50	481.32	476.39
Retail trade	7.64	7.79	7.81	7.91	215.45	222.79	226.49	216.73
Finance, insurance, and real estate	12.17	12.50	12.59	12.64	441.77	445.00	450.72	451.25
Services	11.39	11.60	11.69	11.80	369.04	374.68	377.59	375.24

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

p = preliminary.

Table B-4. Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]	Percent change from: Dec. 1995-Jan. 1996
Total private:							
Current dollars	$11.29	$11.54	[c]$11.59	$11.58	$11.62	$11.68	0.5
Constant (1982) dollars[2]	7.39	7.44	[c]7.45	7.44	N.A.	N.A.	(3)
Goods-producing	12.84	13.12	13.14	13.16	$13.16	13.30	1.1
Mining	15.08	15.42	15.50	15.44	15.54	15.46	-.5
Construction	14.74	15.14	15.14	15.17	15.09	15.29	1.3
Manufacturing	12.21	12.43	12.45	12.47	12.49	12.60	.9
Excluding overtime[4]	11.56	11.78	11.84	11.84	11.87	12.00	1.1
Service-producing	10.74	10.99	[c]11.06	11.04	11.10	11.14	.4
Transportation and public utilities	14.03	14.31	14.44	14.41	14.37	14.44	.5
Wholesale trade	12.23	12.48	12.53	12.50	12.59	12.61	.2
Retail trade	7.59	7.76	7.76	7.78	7.82	7.86	.5
Finance, insurance, and real estate	12.06	12.45	12.56	12.51	12.55	12.53	-.2
Services	11.26	11.48	11.56	11.55	11.61	11.66	.4

1 See footnote 1, table B-2.
2 The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) is used to deflate this series.
3 Change was -.1 percent from October 1995 to November 1995, the latest month available.
4 Derived by assuming that overtime hours are paid at the rate of time and one-half.
N.A. = not available.
p = preliminary.
c = corrected.

Table B-5. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry

(1982=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]
Total private	128.5	134.1	134.3	126.3	132.7	133.0	133.8	133.3	132.9	130.3
Goods-producing	107.2	111.1	109.6	101.0	112.0	109.9	109.7	109.3	108.8	105.5
Mining	53.5	53.8	53.3	50.4	54.7	53.9	53.7	52.3	52.8	51.6
Construction	123.0	148.0	138.2	121.7	143.9	143.6	145.4	144.0	142.5	142.7
Manufacturing	107.4	107.0	107.3	100.0	108.9	106.3	105.7	105.7	105.3	101.0
Durable goods	108.0	108.0	108.8	102.2	109.0	107.3	106.7	106.7	106.4	102.8
Lumber and wood products	133.5	133.8	132.2	123.1	137.9	133.0	134.1	132.7	131.5	126.2
Furniture and fixtures	128.1	124.4	126.9	110.9	129.2	122.0	121.1	122.0	122.6	111.2
Stone, clay, and glass products	102.6	110.3	105.8	97.3	110.7	108.6	108.9	108.4	107.6	104.6
Primary metal industries	94.4	93.2	93.8	90.8	94.1	91.3	91.7	92.4	92.1	90.6
Blast furnaces and basic steel products	74.5	73.1	73.5	71.5	75.1	71.0	72.1	73.0	72.6	71.7
Fabricated metal products	114.5	114.9	116.0	109.1	115.2	113.5	112.7	112.8	112.5	109.3
Industrial machinery and equipment	103.0	103.7	105.7	100.9	102.5	102.8	102.5	103.8	103.3	100.4
Electronic and other electrical equipment	108.8	110.2	110.4	104.1	108.7	108.9	109.0	108.4	108.9	103.5
Transportation equipment	119.5	114.9	118.7	110.8	120.9	118.4	115.0	113.8	115.0	111.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	158.5	158.2	162.5	148.9	161.8	158.0	157.7	156.2	156.9	151.4
Instruments and related products	74.8	74.3	75.1	71.8	74.7	74.0	73.8	73.6	73.5	71.5
Miscellaneous manufacturing	102.9	107.6	104.6	96.2	106.1	103.8	103.4	103.9	103.7	99.2
Nondurable goods	106.8	105.7	105.1	96.9	108.8	105.0	104.3	104.3	103.7	98.6
Food and kindred products	111.3	116.2	113.9	105.1	116.3	114.4	114.0	113.5	113.4	109.7
Tobacco products	65.3[1]	61.0	61.5	53.4	60.4	57.5	55.8	58.4	55.2	49.0
Textile mill products	97.6	92.4	90.8	78.5	99.0	91.5	91.0	91.6	89.9	79.3
Apparel and other textile products	86.2	79.1	78.3	67.4	88.1	80.8	78.5	77.6	77.6	68.8
Paper and allied products	112.1	109.5	110.2	104.6	112.8	108.6	108.3	108.9	108.1	105.1
Printing and publishing	125.2	127.1	126.8	119.5	126.8	125.0	124.2	125.3	123.7	121.1
Chemicals and allied products	102.1	103.5	104.7	99.9	102.8	103.2	103.3	103.1	102.9	100.4
Petroleum and coal products	75.6	74.7	72.5	69.4	79.8	75.6	75.6	73.6	74.4	73.7
Rubber and misc. plastics products	145.4	142.2	143.2	135.7	146.8	141.3	141.0	141.4	141.0	135.8
Leather and leather products	51.4	48.1	47.0	41.9	51.9	49.6	48.6	47.5	46.1	42.4
Service-producing	138.1	144.4	145.4	137.7	141.9	143.4	144.6	144.0	143.7	141.5
Transportation and public utilities	122.1	127.7	128.3	121.4	124.9	125.6	126.0	126.5	126.9	124.3
Wholesale trade	117.2	121.1	121.1	117.8	118.9	120.8	121.2	120.7	120.8	119.6
Retail trade	124.4	131.9	135.8	121.8	130.4	130.2	130.6	130.5	129.4	127.0
Finance, insurance, and real estate	125.1	125.1	125.8	124.6	125.3	125.2	126.4	125.8	126.2	124.6
Services	162.4	170.5	170.0	163.6	166.7	170.1	171.7	170.8	170.6	168.2

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

[p] = preliminary.

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Table B-4. Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]	Percent change from: Dec. 1995-Jan. 1996
Total private:							
Current dollars	$11.29	$11.54	[c]$11.59	$11.58	$11.62	$11.68	0.5
Constant (1982) dollars[2]	7.39	7.44	[c] 7.45	7.44	N.A.	N.A.	(3)
Goods-producing	12.84	13.12	13.14	13.16	$13.16	13.30	1.1
Mining	15.08	15.42	15.50	15.44	15.54	15.48	-.5
Construction	14.74	15.14	15.14	15.17	15.09	15.29	1.3
Manufacturing	12.21	12.43	12.45	12.47	12.49	12.60	.9
Excluding overtime[4]	11.56	11.78	11.84	11.84	11.87	12.00	1.1
Service-producing	10.74	10.99	[c]11.06	11.04	11.10	11.14	.4
Transportation and public utilities	14.03	14.31	14.44	14.41	14.37	14.44	.5
Wholesale trade	12.23	12.48	12.53	12.50	12.59	12.61	.2
Retail trade	7.59	7.76	7.76	7.78	7.82	7.86	.5
Finance, insurance, and real estate	12.06	12.45	12.56	12.51	12.55	12.53	-.2
Services	11.26	11.48	11.56	11.55	11.61	11.66	.4

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

[2] The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) is used to deflate this series.

[3] Change was -.1 percent from October 1995 to November 1995, the latest month available.

[4] Derived by assuming that overtime hours are paid at the rate of time and one-half.

N.A. = not available.

[p] = preliminary.

c = corrected.

Table B-5. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry

(1982=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]	Jan. 1995	Sept. 1995	Oct. 1995	Nov. 1995	Dec. 1995[p]	Jan. 1996[p]
Total private	128.5	134.1	134.3	126.3	132.7	133.0	133.8	133.3	132.9	130.3
Goods-producing	107.2	111.1	109.6	101.0	112.0	109.9	109.7	109.3	108.8	105.5
Mining	53.5	53.8	53.3	50.4	54.7	53.9	53.7	52.3	52.8	51.6
Construction	123.0	148.0	138.2	121.7	143.9	143.6	145.4	144.0	142.5	142.7
Manufacturing	107.4	107.0	107.3	100.0	108.9	106.3	105.7	105.7	105.3	101.0
Durable goods	108.0	108.0	108.8	102.2	109.0	107.3	106.7	106.7	106.4	102.8
Lumber and wood products	133.5	133.8	132.2	123.1	137.9	133.0	134.1	132.7	131.5	126.2
Furniture and fixtures	128.1	124.4	126.9	110.9	129.2	122.0	121.1	122.0	122.6	111.2
Stone, clay, and glass products	102.6	110.3	105.8	97.3	110.7	108.6	108.9	108.4	107.6	104.6
Primary metal industries	94.4	93.2	93.8	90.8	94.1	91.3	91.7	92.4	92.1	90.6
Blast furnaces and basic steel products	74.5	73.1	73.5	71.5	75.1	71.0	72.1	73.0	72.6	71.7
Fabricated metal products	114.5	114.9	116.0	109.1	115.2	113.5	112.7	112.8	112.5	109.3
Industrial machinery and equipment	103.0	103.7	105.7	100.9	102.5	102.8	102.5	103.8	103.3	100.4
Electronic and other electrical equipment	108.8	110.2	110.4	104.1	108.7	108.9	109.0	108.4	106.9	103.5
Transportation equipment	119.5	114.9	118.7	110.8	120.9	118.4	115.0	113.8	115.0	111.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	158.5	158.2	162.5	148.9	161.8	158.0	157.7	156.2	156.9	151.4
Instruments and related products	74.8	74.3	75.1	71.8	74.7	74.0	73.8	73.6	73.5	71.5
Miscellaneous manufacturing	102.9	107.6	104.6	96.2	106.1	103.8	103.4	103.9	103.7	99.2
Nondurable goods	106.8	105.7	105.1	96.9	108.8	105.0	104.3	104.3	103.7	98.6
Food and kindred products	111.3	116.2	113.9	105.1	116.3	114.4	114.0	113.5	113.4	109.7
Tobacco products	65.3	61.0	61.5	53.4	60.4	57.5	55.6	58.4	55.2	49.0
Textile mill products	97.6	92.4	90.8	78.5	99.0	91.5	91.0	91.6	89.9	79.3
Apparel and other textile products	86.2	79.1	78.3	67.4	88.1	80.8	78.5	77.6	77.6	68.8
Paper and allied products	112.1	109.5	110.2	104.6	112.8	108.6	106.3	108.9	108.1	105.1
Printing and publishing	125.2	127.1	126.8	119.5	126.8	125.0	124.2	125.3	123.7	121.1
Chemicals and allied products	102.1	103.5	104.7	99.9	102.8	103.2	103.3	103.1	102.9	100.4
Petroleum and coal products	75.6	74.7	72.5	69.4	79.8	75.6	75.6	73.6	74.4	73.7
Rubber and misc. plastics products	145.4	142.2	143.2	135.7	146.8	141.3	141.0	141.4	141.0	135.8
Leather and leather products	51.4	48.1	47.0	41.9	51.9	49.8	48.6	47.5	46.1	42.4
Service-producing	138.1	144.4	145.4	137.7	141.9	143.4	144.6	144.0	143.7	141.5
Transportation and public utilities	122.1	127.7	128.3	121.4	124.9	125.6	126.0	126.5	126.9	124.3
Wholesale trade	117.2	121.1	121.1	117.8	118.9	120.8	121.2	120.7	120.8	119.6
Retail trade	124.4	131.9	135.8	121.8	130.4	130.2	130.6	130.5	129.4	127.0
Finance, insurance, and real estate	125.1	125.1	125.8	124.6	125.3	125.2	126.4	125.8	126.2	124.6
Services	162.4	170.5	170.0	163.6	166.7	170.1	171.7	170.8	170.6	168.2

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.

[p] = preliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-6. Diffusion indexes of employment change, seasonally adjusted

(Percent)

Time span	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Private nonfarm payrolls, 356 industries[1]											
Over 1-month span:												
1992	42.3	45.2	50.1	57.3	53.7	48.2	53.5	49.6	53.4	57.0	52.2	58.1
1993	57.6	61.5	51.4	58.3	61.4	55.1	57.7	56.3	61.4	59.7	61.1	60.7
1994	60.0	63.3	65.9	62.4	58.0	63.8	60.5	61.5	60.7	61.1	65.3	61.1
1995	60.3	61.7	57.6	51.3	46.2	55.3	48.5	54.9	50.6	53.7	57.9	P58.3
1996	P46.2											
Over 3-month span:												
1992	40.2	42.6	50.7	56.3	56.3	54.6	50.6	51.3	52.5	54.9	58.7	59.1
1993	64.0	61.2	61.8	58.8	61.4	61.8	59.3	61.8	62.6	66.7	65.7	63.6
1994	68.8	70.9	69.8	67.1	66.0	66.0	68.4	68.3	67.8	67.3	68.1	67.4
1995	66.4	64.9	57.9	49.3	50.6	47.9	52.8	50.3	52.5	54.4	P57.6	P57.2
1996												
Over 6-month span:												
1992	43.4	46.2	48.3	50.8	55.1	55.3	52.7	52.2	56.7	55.9	63.6	63.2
1993	63.2	63.8	62.8	64.2	60.8	63.9	64.5	64.7	66.2	67.3	70.8	70.8
1994	71.2	70.2	70.5	69.5	69.8	69.1	70.5	70.9	69.0	69.0	67.4	67.0
1995	65.9	58.8	56.3	52.2	49.2	49.6	50.3	56.0	P53.1	P55.5		
1996												
Over 12-month span:												
1992	47.2	42.3	42.7	44.1	48.0	52.5	55.8	60.7	59.7	61.4	62.9	62.9
1993	64.9	63.9	64.0	65.4	67.0	67.6	67.6	67.0	70.2	69.4	68.8	69.4
1994	68.4	70.8	71.9	70.2	69.5	69.7	70.4	70.8	70.4	70.2	66.0	64.0
1995	63.1	60.8	58.1	58.3	56.6	P55.9	P53.2					
1996												
	Manufacturing payrolls, 139 industries[1]											
Over 1-month span:												
1992	37.1	40.3	46.0	57.2	48.2	46.0	56.1	42.8	50.7	47.5	51.4	52.5
1993	52.2	57.9	52.9	44.2	51.4	46.0	50.7	48.6	56.1	54.7	56.5	54.3
1994	59.4	61.2	59.4	56.5	55.0	59.0	54.0	56.5	53.2	59.4	59.0	57.6
1995	56.8	54.7	49.6	44.2	36.7	41.7	39.6	46.8	40.3	50.4	43.9	P49.6
1996	P41.7											
Over 3-month span:												
1992	29.9	36.0	45.0	51.4	52.2	54.3	45.3	50.7	43.9	49.6	51.4	53.6
1993	60.8	60.4	57.2	46.4	46.4	50.7	49.6	54.3	53.2	60.1	56.1	57.6
1994	65.1	66.5	64.4	59.0	58.6	58.3	61.5	59.0	61.5	60.4	64.0	62.2
1995	61.5	56.1	47.1	35.6	32.4	28.8	32.7	33.1	41.0	39.6	P44.2	P41.7
1996												
Over 6-month span:												
1992	33.5	36.0	39.6	47.5	51.8	52.5	47.5	48.9	52.5	47.1	57.9	58.3
1993	57.6	56.5	56.1	55.0	49.3	52.2	55.4	57.9	56.8	57.6	65.1	62.9
1994	61.9	62.9	64.4	61.5	60.8	59.0	62.2	62.6	61.5	64.0	61.5	61.5
1995	57.2	47.1	40.3	32.7	26.6	25.9	29.9	32.7	P33.8	P39.6		
1996												
Over 12-month span:												
1992	42.4	36.7	36.3	36.0	39.6	45.7	50.0	55.8	57.9	56.8	58.3	56.5
1993	56.8	57.9	55.8	56.6	57.2	57.6	58.6	59.0	61.2	60.4	60.1	59.4
1994	58.3	59.7	61.9	61.5	61.5	61.5	61.9	63.3	61.5	59.7	56.5	49.6
1995	46.8	43.2	40.6	37.1	34.9	P33.1	P28.4					
1996												

[1] Based on seasonally adjusted data for 1-, 3-, and 6-month spans and unadjusted data for the 12-month span. Data are centered within the span.

P = preliminary.

NOTE: Figures are the percent of industries with employment increasing plus one-half of the industries with unchanged employment, where 50 percent indicates an equal balance between industries with increasing and decreasing employment.

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