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# THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

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**HEARING**  
**before the**  
**JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE**  
**CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES**

**ONE HUNDRED FOURTH CONGRESS**

**SECOND SESSION**

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**September 6, 1996**

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Printed for the use of the Joint Economic Committee



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON: 1996

35-091 CC

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For sale by the U.S. Government Printing Office  
Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Sales Office, Washington, DC 20402  
ISBN 0-16-053730-4

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[Created pursuant to Sec. 5(a) of Public Law 304, 79th Congress]

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# THE AUGUST EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Friday, September 6, 1996

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

The Committee met at 9:30 a.m., in Room 562, Dirksen Senate Office Building, the Honorable Connie Mack, Chairman of the Committee, presiding.

**Present:** Senator Mack and Representatives Maloney and Hinchey.

**Staff Present:** Paul Merski, Ross Lindholm, Shelley Hymes, Jeff Styles, Stacey Gavin, Greg Williams, Don Evans, Roni Singleton, Bill Spriggs, Eric Mader, Chuck Marr, and Jim Datri.

## OPENING STATEMENT OF SENATOR CONNIE MACK, CHAIRMAN

**Senator Mack.** Dr. Abraham, welcome once again to the hearing of the Joint Economic Committee. We look forward to your report on employment and unemployment. We always appreciate your willingness to come before the Committee and I look forward to hearing your comments.

In August, the unemployment rate declined to 5.1 percent, while nonfarm payrolls increased by 250,000. I'm always encouraged when the employment reports are positive. I'm pleased that more Americans have found jobs.

But even with today's numbers, the fact remains that this is the weakest economic recovery in 100 years. Economic growth is still anemic, which means that incomes are still stagnant.

Real median household incomes have simply not increased during the Clinton Administration. In fact, they have fallen considerably from the levels of the late 1980s.

According to the most recent data, total wages and benefits increased at only a 2.9 percent annual rate during the second quarter of this year. And with inflation running at an annual rate of 3.5 percent since the beginning of the year, worker's compensation simply isn't keeping up.

Real after-tax incomes have only grown at 1.8 percent in the three and one-half years since President Clinton took office, and that's just about half

as fast as the 3.2 percent pace America experienced during the 10 years before he took office.

American families will only see their incomes grow if we have a strong economy. Although GDP grew at a 4.8 percent annual rate during the second quarter of the year, economic growth since 1993 has averaged an anemic 2.5 percent, far below the 3.7 percent growth rate Bill Clinton inherited.

In addition, the Federal Reserve projects a 1996 growth of only 2.5 to 2.75 percent. And the outlook for 1997 is even bleaker — 1.75 to 2.25 percent GDP growth.

We can do better and we must do better. Unless the economy grows faster than the 2.5 percent and produces more high-paying permanent jobs, American families will see no meaningful increase in their standards of living. Nor will they feel more optimistic about their futures.

Congresswoman Maloney, do you have an opening statement you would like to give?

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

### **OPENING STATEMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN MALONEY**

**Representative Maloney.** Yes, I do. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Today's job report is another indication that the President's economic plan is working. Two hundred and fifty thousand new jobs were created last month.

The report shows that unemployment is the lowest in seven years, at 5.1 percent.

The 250,000 new jobs that were created builds on the nearly 200,000 jobs we created in July. All of this builds on what we learned during the last three and one-half years under President Clinton's leadership, leadership that has helped create more than 10 million new jobs.

It's a record of making very tough decisions. Under President Clinton's plan, passed without a single Republican vote, the deficit has been cut to \$117 billion this year, by 60 percent, the lowest deficit as a percentage of the GDP of any major economy and less than half of what it was when he took office.

And while we still have a ways to go, the result is an economy that continues to grow stronger and stronger. In our global economy, job-creating exports have increased by one-third, up \$162 billion. We have

the highest rate of new business incorporations since World War II, and the lowest combined rates of unemployment, inflation and mortgage rates since the 1960s, which is the biggest tax cut of all for working Americans and retirees on fixed incomes.

Mortgage rates have been at their lowest level in 30 years. As a result, millions of Americans have been able to purchase their first home, giving us the highest home-ownership rate in 15 years.

And notice of these accomplishments aren't coming out of the Democratic National Committee. They're being reported by the mainstream financial press.

Money Magazine reported last month, and I quote: "The majority of Americans are better off on most pocketbook issues after three and one-half years under President Clinton, who presided over the kind of economic progress any Republican would be proud to post."

*Barron's* reported in March, and I quote: "In short, Clinton's economic record is remarkable. Clinton also rightfully boasted that our economy is the healthiest that it's been in 30 years."

In fact, were it not for the interest on the debt accumulated during the Reagan and Bush years, we would be running a surplus.

Alan Greenspan concluded earlier this year that deficit reduction and President Clinton's 1993 economic plan was, and I quote, "an unquestioned factor in contributing to the improvement in economic activity that occurred thereafter."

And the just-released 0.2 percent increase in the Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the sixth consecutive monthly increase, tells us this economic growth shows no sign of slowing.

President Clinton has proven that responsible deficit reduction that maintains our investments in research and development, and our cities, our children, our schools and infrastructure can work.

Unfortunately, some on the other side are supporting a discredited supply-side agenda that could easily wipe out all the progress that President Clinton has made on the deficit, and then some.

Mr. Dole is planning a tax cut that would give away \$548 billion over seven years. But he is not going to tell us what he'd have to take away to pay for it. Will it be health care? Medicare? Education? Environmental protection?

No one knows, and I would like to mention the challenge that Mr. Stark, the Ranking Member of this Committee, has repeatedly said, that he

will give anyone, any Republican willing to spell out where the cuts will fall, \$1,000 or more.

*The New York Times* wrote that balancing the Dole tax plan would require, and I quote, "far deeper reductions in Federal spending than anything contemplated, even by the most ardent Republican budget-cutters."

The plan does not add up, and I do not believe it will work.

I further believe that the Federal Reserve, which has been very hawkish on inflation, would raise interest rates if the Dole plan went through, dampening growth, if a risky supply-side budget were passed into law.

The question the American people are facing is, "Do we stay the course, or do we go back to the budget-busting policies of the 1980s?"

I truly believe the American people are beyond being fooled by false promises. When you look at the numbers, when you look at the facts, it's clear that President Clinton and the Democrats have done a very good job.

And today's employment situation and report underscores that.

Could I make one mention that I just noted, Mr. Mack, which is a record? And that's the employment for women 16 years and over. It's at 56.1 percent, the highest ever in our history. And I'm particularly happy to see that.

Thank you.

**Senator Mack.** Very good. Commissioner Abraham?

#### 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, Congresswoman Maloney.

We, my colleagues and I, appreciate the opportunity to be here this morning to comment on the labor market data that we have to release.

Nonfarm payroll employment increased, as has been noted, by 193,000 in July, somewhat below the average — excuse me. I seem to have been given the wrong — that's not what happened this month. Thank you.

(Laughter.)

**Senator Mack.** I thought you were just heading into a review.

**Ms. Abraham.** It's not April 1st.

(Laughter.)

I apologize. The unemployment rate fell to 5.1 percent in August, from 5.4 percent in July. Nonfarm payroll employment, as has been noted, rose by 250,000 in August, about in line with the average monthly gains thus far this year.

The August increase of 173,000 in private-sector employment, however, fell short of the 215,000 monthly gain for the seven months ending in July.

For the second month in a row, employment growth in services was somewhat slower than normal. Still, with an addition of 81,000 jobs, services accounted for nearly half of the over-the-month rise in private nonfarm employment.

During the first half of 1996, to put this in a little context, monthly gains in the services industry averaged about 120,000.

Business services sustained its long-term upward trend, led by continued strength and help supplied by computer services. Growth also continued in the related engineering and management services industry.

Employment in most other services industries was relatively weak in August.

Health services, in particular, posted its third consecutive month of anemic growth and private education lost jobs following strong gains in each of the preceding two months.

An increase of 77,000 in government employment was concentrated in local government, particularly education. I would note, however, that precise seasonal adjustment for local education is problematic during the summer and fall, when the industry sheds and then adds large numbers of employees.

The seasonally-adjusted employment estimates are very sensitive to the timing of school openings and to changing school schedules more generally, something that I'd be happy to talk a bit more about, if you'd like.

Robust growth in finance, insurance and real estate continued in August. Over the last 12 months, employment in this industry has risen by 174,000.

Continued activity in the finance and real estate components accounted for an overall gain of 20,000 jobs over the month.

Retail trade added only 21,000 jobs in August, after several months of larger gains. Growth in general merchandise stores, food stores, and auto dealers and service stations was partially offset by a loss of 28,000 jobs in eating and drinking places.



Employment in that industry had risen by 70,000 over the prior two months.

In the goods-producing sector, manufacturing had an employment gain of 25,000 in August, offsetting a decline of similar magnitude in the prior month.

Plants reopening from vacation shutdowns were partly responsible for an employment rise of 24,000 in motor vehicles and equipment. This was about twice the size of the previous month's decrease.

Smaller job gains were scattered throughout durable goods manufacturing, although there was a decline of 6,000 jobs in electronic equipment.

Among nondurable goods industries, rubber and miscellaneous plastics added 7,000 workers. In apparel and other textile products, employment fell by 13,000. This industry has lost nearly 10 percent of its employment over the past year.

Average hours of production and nonsupervisory workers edged up by a tenth of an hour to 34.4 hours per week. Average hourly earnings of workers on private and nonfarm payrolls rose six cents in August. Though erratic on a month-to-month basis, the rate of increase in hourly earnings has drifted upwards over the last several years.

Turning to data from the household survey, as has also been noted, the unemployment rate fell by three-tenths of a percentage point to 5.1 percent, after seasonal adjustment. The number of unemployed persons dropped by 467,000, to 6.8 million.

This decline in unemployment was particularly large among persons from 20 to 24 years old and among those age 55 and over.

Some of the fall in unemployment may be explained by the late timing of the August survey reference week. This likely caused the survey to capture more of the seasonal movement of both employed and unemployed youth out of the labor force at the end of the summer than it would have captured had the survey week fallen earlier in the month.

The large drop in the number of persons unemployed due to job loss and the declines in joblessness among adults suggest, however, that at least some of the improvement in the unemployment rate is unrelated to the timing of the survey reference period.

In summary, the labor market continued to improve in August. Payroll employment continued to grow, although the pace of private-sector employment growth has slowed somewhat.

The unemployment rate fell, reaching its lowest level since 1989.

We are, of course, happy to answer any questions or discuss any topics you might like to raise.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Abraham and accompanying press release appear in the Submissions for the Record.]

**Senator Mack.** Again, thank you for your report. I'll just start with a question related to the last comments that you made with respect to the timing, the seasonality.

What is your sense about what this, the timing of the survey, the seasonal concerns? What effect would they have, or do you believe they had, on the unemployment numbers?

**Ms. Abraham.** Unfortunately, we do believe that there was some effect of the reference week timing. We always conduct the survey with reference to the week, including the 12th of the month.

This year, the 12th was on the Monday, which meant that we were looking at —

**Senator Mack.** Say that to me again. I missed the first part of that.

**Ms. Abraham.** Our survey always covers the week including the 12th of the month. August 12th this year was a Monday, which meant that we were looking at a week that ran from Sunday the 11th through Saturday the 17th, which is relatively late in the month.

The issue there is that if you have young people who are working or looking for work during the summer, at some point, they're going to leave the labor force to get ready to go back to school.

With the later survey reference, we probably will be getting more of that registering in the survey data than ordinarily would be the case.

And so, we think that that partly accounts for the decline in unemployment.

But if you look at the unemployment rate for adults, those rates fell as well. Looking at the rate for men age 20 years and over, their rate fell from 4.7 percent to 4.2 percent. It's probably better to look at the rate for even a slightly older group.

If you look at the rate for men age 25 and over, that fell from 4.0 to 3.8 percent. I wanted to look rather than trusting my memory.

So I think there is some indication of real strength in the data that's not related to the timing. You wouldn't expect seasonality to be an issue for the men age 25 plus. And their rate went down as well.

**Senator Mack.** So you don't think that those factors, then, have any significant — or the likelihood that there would be any significant change in the numbers, if you could factor out those —

**Ms. Abraham.** No. I just can't say how much impact it would have. I think the timing was important. I can't quantify the magnitude of the impact on the rate, unfortunately.

**Senator Mack.** A moment ago, Congresswoman Maloney raised the issue with respect to, and making a point about the positive number of 56 percent, of women who are employed.

Earlier this year, in fact, I think last month, you released a mid-1990 review of worker displacement. That report indicated that, in essence, women are being displaced from the work force at twice the rate of men.

Can you give us an indication of what you think that report says? Is there a trend there?

Can you explain that to us?

**Ms. Abraham.** Well, I would have to compile the whole time series of figures with respect specifically to the displacement rate for women.

We've been doing these worker displacement surveys since 1984, so we've now got a bit of a time series. The earliest data apply to 1979.

One thing that we have seen over that period from 1979 forward is a shift in the industries where displacement is occurring.

Back in the earlier part of the period, displacement was concentrated very disproportionately in manufacturing, in the industries where there has been historical patterns of people being laid off. And that spread, so that we're now more likely than used to be the case to see people being permanently displaced in finance, insurance and real estate, for example.

I wouldn't be surprised, given the distribution of female employment across industries, to see, looking at the data, that that was a factor in displacement rates among women.

I do have some information on displacement rates here. The survey covers people age 20 and over. First I'm looking at the rates for men, and not imposing any kind of a restriction with how long people had to have held their job before they were displaced.

The displacement rate for men age 20 and over over the period 1991 to 1993, was 8.6 percent. For women, it was 7.3 percent.

**Senator Mack.** Yes. I think the part that I'm referring to is that displaced women left the labor force at twice the rate of men.

**Ms. Abraham.** Okay.

**Senator Mack.** I think that number was 20 percent versus 9 percent.

**Ms. Abraham.** That sounds consistent with my recollection of what the data showed.

**Senator Mack.** And I was curious as to whether you all have any input as to why you believe that is taking place.

**Ms. Abraham.** Tom, do you have anything that you would say on that?

Historically, it has been true, though it's less true now than it used to be, that women on average were less attached to the labor market than men. But in trying to link that up specifically to these data —

**Mr. Plewes.** We aren't quite sure. The industries from which women lose their job are somewhat different from the industries from which men lose their jobs in these displacements.

Men tend to lose their jobs from the goods-producing sector, women from the service-producing sector. As they lose their jobs, there may be less in the way of jobs for them in the skills that they possessed in the service-producing sector.

**Senator Mack.** Well, let me ask you. Isn't it fair to say that the job growth in the nongoods-producing sector of the economy is actually faster than in the goods-producing? Therefore, there would be more opportunities to job replacement, if you will, which seems to fly in the face of that point of view.

**Mr. Plewes.** That's correct. But I think that there's perhaps a skill level difference, also. That the women who are losing their jobs in the service-producing sector have a lower average level of skills than the men who are losing their jobs in the goods-producing sector and they're able to find jobs sooner.

That's pure speculation based on some other factors that we have.

**Ms. Abraham.** The short answer is that I think we don't have evidence that would really let us give a definitive answer to your question.

**Senator Mack.** Is that something that you're pursuing?

**Ms. Abraham.** Well —

**Senator Mack.** For example —

**Ms. Abraham.** I'm sitting here thinking about how we would go about looking into this.

**Senator Mack.** Let me ask you, does it concern you that women are leaving the labor force at twice the rate of men?

**Ms. Abraham.** Without knowing more about the factors that were responsible for that, I don't know quite what to make of it.

And I'm trying to think how we could get at that. We survey these people once and we ask them, were you ever displaced? But we don't follow up with them and ask them, if you're out of the labor force —

**Senator Mack.** Let me ask you then — what are we supposed to be learning from this information that you're gathering?

If we can't draw meaningful conclusions from it, what is the value?

**Ms. Abraham.** I certainly wouldn't say I don't think that we can draw meaningful conclusions from it. I'm trying to —

**Senator Mack.** I realize that the comment that was made just a minute ago was just kind of off the top of the head. I find myself having to do that many, many, many times.

But if it is accurate that what you're saying is that women are less skilled or have not received the education level necessary, that would be an important factor to know.

**Ms. Abraham.** What we could do, and I think it would be interesting to look at and we will do this, is we can look in a bit more detail. Work is in fact ongoing. We continue to poke and probe at these data.

We can look at the occupational mix of the women who were displaced, look at their educational levels and see whether there's anything there.

We also do have information from these women about, if they're out of the labor force, what they're doing. It's limited, but we do have some information on what they're doing, whether they are people who are saying that they'd like work but don't believe there's any work available for them. That would push you one way in terms of an interpretation. Or whether they're saying something else about why they are at home.

I think there are some things that we can look at. We haven't done it yet.

**Senator Mack.** Let me raise just one more question, then I'll turn to Congresswoman Maloney. I will probably have some additional questions.

But let's get to the issue of the size of the labor force. As I understand it, from the data this month, there was a decline in the labor force.

**Ms. Abraham.** That is correct.

**Senator Mack.** And if I remember correctly — it was a fairly significant decline.

Is that not correct?

**Ms. Abraham.** That's correct. That's at least partly, I think, related to the matter we already discussed, which is the timing of the survey

reference week and the withdrawal of younger workers from the labor force, presumably because they're getting ready to go back to school.

**Senator Mack.** Let me see if I understand this, then.

Are you suggesting that youngsters going back to school is the reason for the large decline? There aren't any other factors?

**Ms. Abraham.** I believe it is. If you look at the figures broken out by age, the overall decline in the labor force was 296,000 over the month. The decline in the labor force age 16 to 24 years old was 454,000.

So it more than accounted for it.

The labor force for individuals age 25 and over actually rose by 196,000.

**Senator Mack.** Well, give me some comparisons in the other areas as to what kind of — have we been experiencing growth in the labor force in the other components?

**Ms. Abraham.** Over a longer period of time?

**Senator Mack.** Yes.

**Ms. Abraham.** Just looking back over —

**Senator Mack.** The reason I'm pursuing this question is because it seems to me it was either February or March, somewhere around that time, where we had another significant reduction in the labor force. It seems to me it was in the neighborhood of 300,000.

**Ms. Abraham.** It was April. You have a very good memory. It was a decline of 294,000 in April. And also in June, there was a decline.

But, nonetheless, if we look back over the last year, August 1995 through August 1996, the labor force has grown over that period by about 1.6 million.

There had been an extended period of time prior to that when we were seeing almost no labor force growth, and that was puzzling. It's not surprising for a few months at a stretch to see little labor force growth, but this went on long enough to surprise us.

But over the last year, particularly since the start of the year, we have seen a resumption of labor force growth, on average.

**Senator Mack.** This, in a sense, is not really unexpected, is it? There has been a lot written over the years that we were going to see a slowdown in the rate of growth in the labor market.

**Ms. Abraham.** In the labor force.

**Senator Mack.** The labor force, excuse me. That was a factor that was used in discussions, for example, having to do with changes with respect to the limit on earnings for seniors.

People said that we should not be discouraging seniors from remaining in the labor force because we're going to need skilled employees.

So there's been a sense out there that there's going to be a tightening in the labor force for quite some time.

What do you anticipate the growth the labor force to be over the next several years?

**Ms. Abraham.** Well, we don't do that kind of short-term projections.

**Senator Mack.** Who does that?

**Ms. Abraham.** We make projections that are out roughly 10 years ahead. The problem with doing short-term projections is that you're got to make assumptions about what business cycle conditions are going to look like and, as you know, we're not in that sort of forecasting business.

I'm afraid I just don't have off the top of my head the numbers from our long-term projections.

Tom may.

**Mr. Plewes.** We can provide that for the record. We have that projected out to 2005. Then we can bring it back in time on an annual average basis for you. We can do that.

**Senator Mack.** All right.

**Mr. Plewes.** And it strikes me that it's somewhere around 1.2 million, but we'll get that.

**Senator Mack.** One million two hundred thousand?

**Mr. Plewes.** One million two hundred thousand.

**Senator Mack.** And this growth August to August was what, again? 1.4 million?

**Ms. Abraham.** It was about 1.6 million.

**Senator Mack.** All right. Congresswoman Maloney?

**Representative Maloney.** I would like to go back to some of the points that you raised earlier on the female employment and the improved record with displaced workers and really, I think, the record of low black adult unemployment rate and employment levels is an improvement, too.

I'd like to ask you, Dr. Abraham, what was the female employment to population ratio in January, 1993?

**Ms. Abraham.** Do you have that in hand, Tom? He might be able to find this more quickly in his tables.

(Pause.)

I have found it. In January of 1993, for adult women age 20 and over, the employment to population ratio was 54.6 percent.

**Representative Maloney.** And what is the female employment to population ratio today?

**Ms. Abraham.** Again, for the same group, women 20 years and over, it was 57.2 percent.

**Representative Maloney.** And has the share of women with jobs ever been higher in the history of our country?

**Ms. Abraham.** Looking back over this series, the 57.2 percent seems to be higher than it has been. The overall employment to population ratio, also is at its highest level, at 63.3 percent.

**Representative Maloney.** Is this a record high?

**Ms. Abraham.** It's higher than it has been, yes, it is.

**Representative Maloney.** Ever in the history of our country?

**Ms. Abraham.** Ever in the history of the compilation of these data, which go back to 1950.

**Representative Maloney.** To 1950. Two weeks ago, the BLS issued a report using the displaced worker survey. It covered the work experience of workers between January, 1993 and December, 1995.

A previous survey was taken covering the period from January, 1991 to December, 1993. In the previous survey, what was the total number of displaced workers?

**Ms. Abraham.** Do you have that here?

**Mr. Plewes.** Displaced workers are defined in two different ways. The most narrow definition is persons who are 20 years and over, who have lost their jobs because a plant or company closed or moved, because of insufficient work, or their position or shift was abolished. Also, they had some length of experience with that employer, such as three years.

The last time we measured this two years ago, which pertained to the period 1990 to 1993, there were 4.5 million. This time when we measured it, this past January, there were 3.8 million, a decline of about 718,000 between those two periods in which we took the survey.

**Representative Maloney.** So there are fewer displaced workers. And those who lose their jobs, are they having a greater success at finding jobs in your data?



**Ms. Abraham.** The share of workers who report that they have found jobs over the 1993 to 1995 period is slightly higher than the share that was reported finding jobs over the 1991 to 1993 period.

Seventy-three percent, over the most recent period, as compared to 68 percent in the prior period.

**Representative Maloney.** So is it fair to say that this is a sign that we have a stronger economy?

**Ms. Abraham.** It's certainly telling you that these displaced workers are more likely to find jobs.

**Representative Maloney.** What was the unemployment rate for black adults in January of 1993? And what was the unemployment rate for black adults in June of 1994?

**Ms. Abraham.** Let me pull that out of these tables. It will take me just a second to locate that.

The overall black unemployment rate was 14.1 percent in January of 1993.

**Representative Maloney.** For adults.

**Ms. Abraham.** For adults. Do you have the overall adult rate, Tom? I've got a rate separately for men and a rate for women, is what I have in hand.

**Representative Maloney.** You don't have it compiled?

**Ms. Abraham.** I don't have the average. I don't have the whole long-time series on all black adults.

**Representative Maloney.** All right. For men, then. For men.

**Ms. Abraham.** For men, it was 12.7 percent in January of 1993.

**Representative Maloney.** And what is the unemployment rate for adult men in June of 1994?

**Ms. Abraham.** In June of 1994? In June of 1994, it was 9.9 percent for adult men. And last month, August of 1996, it was 8.2 percent.

**Representative Maloney.** So has the monthly unemployment rate for black adults gone above 10 percent since June of 1994?

**Ms. Abraham.** For adult men it has. It was 10.2 percent in July of 1994, 10.9 percent in March of this year, 10.1 percent in February of this year.

The rates for women in those corresponding months were lower.

**Representative Maloney.** Okay. Well, thank you very much.

**Senator Mack.** I only really have one other question to pursue, and that has to do with average weekly earnings.

Average weekly earnings are up \$3.25 in August. Still, this only makes up for a little more than half of the \$5.92 decline in July.

When are we likely to see meaningful gain in income? Can you give us a sense what the \$3.25 increase in August means? And how does it relate to the balance of the year?

**Ms. Abraham.** To the balance of the year, meaning the period prior?

**Senator Mack.** Say until January.

**Ms. Abraham.** Let me get those figures also out so that I have them in front of me.

Do you have the time series on the average weekly earnings, Tom?

That series does, as you know, tend to, like the average hourly earnings, jump around some.

**Senator Mack.** Is there a more meaningful measure from your standpoint?

**Ms. Abraham.** All we have here, unfortunately, is the whole time series on the average hourly earnings, not the average weekly earnings.

Tom may be able to find some historical figures on the average weekly earnings. This is, as you know, the series for production, nonsupervisory, workers. Those workers account for about 80 percent of the work force, so that they do omit 20 percent of individuals.

The people they omit are the supervisors and highly paid professionals, so such workers are disproportionately not represented. So there is a group that's left out.

**Senator Mack.** Okay. The reason that I moved back to —

**Ms. Abraham.** I have these now.

**Senator Mack.** Okay.

**Ms. Abraham.** Thank you. Thank you, Ken. You were asking about —

**Senator Mack.** I guess I'm giving you an opportunity to make a statement about average weekly earnings. I guess the bottom line for most Americans, if they're listening to this discussion, are probably wondering what it's all about.

It would seem to me that what would be meaningful to my son or daughter would be how much money do they have in their pocket?

Congresswoman Maloney and I can discuss and debate growth rates in the economy and how well we think the economy is performing. But, I

think to the average person, what they're interested in is what happens to their income. That income can be defined in many different ways — average weekly earnings, median family income, and so forth.

The real issue is, “Are people, are workers better off today than they were a year ago, two years ago, three years ago?”

Vice President Gore, at the time Senator Gore, and Senator Tim Wirth, made a constant charge as to what was happening to the incomes of workers and families in America that hasn't improved in the last 23 years or so.

I'm giving you an opportunity to respond to, but a conclusion in my own mind that I've drawn, is that while Vice President Gore and Senator Wirth at the time wanted to make the case that, would a Clinton Administration change those trends?

And I guess what I'm saying to you is, from the data that I've looked at, I've seen no change in those trends.

**Ms. Abraham.** I guess for answering the question that I now understand you to be posing, I probably would not look at this average weekly earning series for the reason that there are significant groups omitted from the series.

So it's not really giving you an overall average. It's giving you a figure for production or nonsupervisory workers. And I think —

**Senator Mack.** Again, what figures, then, would you use?

**Ms. Abraham.** I would be inclined to look at what I think are probably the best data we have to get a time series on earnings, which would be figures from the Current Population Survey. We publish quarterly a series on median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers. That's, I think, the best data that we have at this point for looking at a long-term trend.

The fact that you remarked upon, that for a very long period of time, these data go back to 1979, and from that point forward, we have seen relatively little movement in median weekly earnings.

**Senator Mack.** So, again, tell me which set of numbers you think is the best, from your perspective. I know that there will probably be a debate about which numbers to use.

**Ms. Abraham.** Well, there are obviously a variety of data that you could look at. But if you're interested in earnings as opposed to the wage rate of the average worker, and you're interested in having a long-time series so that you can put it into some perspective, I think the thing that we

would really have to look at would be this median usual weekly earnings series.

**Senator Mack.** And that is —

**Ms. Abraham.** I wouldn't have anything else to offer you to look at.

**Senator Mack.** And that is different than, say, real median household income.

**Ms. Abraham.** That's different than household income. That's not a series that we could produce. One could look at that as well, obviously.

**Senator Mack.** Okay.

**Ms. Abraham.** I don't have those data here.

**Senator Mack.** Congressman Hinchey?

**Representative Hinchey.** Mr. Chairman, good morning.

**Senator Mack.** Welcome. We'll turn to you if you'd like to be involved.

**Representative Hinchey.** Well, I would love to be involved. Thank you very much.

**Senator Mack.** Good.

## OPENING STATEMENT OF

### REPRESENTATIVE MAURICE HINCHEY

**Representative Hinchey.** Dr. Abraham, sorry I missed your opening statement, but there are just a couple of questions that I would like to ask.

They have to do with the information that came out this morning on job growth in August that showed, as I understand it, more than 10.2 million jobs have been added to nonfarm payroll since 1993.

Is that correct?

**Ms. Abraham.** I believe that it's 10.5 million..

**Representative Hinchey.** Ten million five hundred thousand?

**Ms. Abraham.** I believe that's correct. It looks like 10.5.

**Representative Hinchey.** So the record is 10.5 million jobs, nonfarm jobs, being added to the Nation's economy since January of 1993.

**Ms. Abraham.** That's correct.

**Representative Hinchey.** The question arises, then, of course, what is the origin to these jobs? Can we trace these jobs to some change in public policy? Are there some events that have been taking place that give rise to the creation of these jobs?

I would argue, for example, that the deficit reduction program which was inaugurated as part of the budget resolution of January, 1993, plays

a direct role in the strength of the economy that we are seeing, expressing itself in various ways, including the creation of these 10.5 million jobs.

The deficit, as you know, is now down to less than half of what it was three years ago. That has caused a continuing policy on the part of the Federal Reserve Board to be restrained in its approach to interest rates and interest rates have remained low.

It is this combination of factors that I would argue is one of the main reasons why we're seeing such indications of strength in the economy.

Would you agree with that?

**Ms. Abraham.** That's not something that really would be within my area of expertise to comment on.

**Representative Hinchey.** So that's beyond your level of expertise. Okay.

We are hearing speculation — first of all, these numbers that were released today with regard to the jobs in July —

**Ms. Abraham.** August.

**Representative Hinchey.** There's some deviation from the norm with regard to these statistics in that they were collected a little bit later in the month than normally occurs.

Is that true?

**Ms. Abraham.** The timing of the survey reference period fell later in the month than usual. That's something that we believe likely affected the unemployment figures, labor force figures, from the household survey. We incorporate a correction for that into our payroll employment figures and we don't feel that the timing of the survey reference period would have affected them.

We think we've accounted for that.

**Representative Hinchey.** There would be some argument that the lateness of the survey may have had some impact on the jobs of younger people, say for example, people under 20 years of age.

**Ms. Abraham.** Right, as measured in the household survey.

**Representative Hinchey.** Yes.

**Ms. Abraham.** Right.

**Representative Hinchey.** Do you discount that?

**Ms. Abraham.** No. In terms of the size of the labor force, of persons age 16 to 24, the late survey reference timing did have an effect on that.

These job figures that you're citing come from a different survey done of employers.

**Representative Hinchey.** Okay.

**Ms. Abraham.** And with the data for that survey, we make an adjustment for the timing of the survey reference period that we aren't able to make with the household survey data.

So I don't think that the survey reference timing would have had an effect on the payroll survey data.

**Representative Hinchey.** Okay. So at the time that this survey was taken, because of the adjustments that you have made, really doesn't play a role in the results that you're showing, that these results would be the same, regardless of what time you took the survey because of the adjustments that you have made.

**Ms. Abraham.** The jobs figures that we report, the growth of 250,000 nonfarm jobs, 173,000 in the private sector, which, because of some peculiarities in local government employment, would be what I might be inclined to focus on, should not have been affected by the timing of the survey reference period.

We've taken that into account.

**Representative Hinchey.** As a result of this job production that you're reporting to us, the unemployment rate has fallen, as I understand it, from 5.4 percent to about 5.1.

Is that correct?

**Ms. Abraham.** That's correct, though there is a bit of a caution attached to that. That's a household survey number and there is this caution because of the timing of the survey there.

**Representative Hinchey.** Yes. Now we might anticipate, based upon the history of this kind of thing, that the markets might react in some way this morning.

What would you anticipate in that regard?

**Ms. Abraham.** Well, again, that's not something that I'd really like to comment on.

**Representative Hinchey.** You don't want to comment on that. Okay. Well, we might anticipate that the markets would act negatively to these strong job production figures, which seems somewhat anomalous to the average person, but, nevertheless, that's the way things seem to work, don't they?

**Senator Mack.** The latest report is that the market is up six points at this stage.

**Representative Hinchey.** Well, that's great. I'm glad to hear that.

**Ms. Abraham.** Facts are always preferred to speculation.

(Laughter.)

**Representative Hinchey.** That's very good news, Mr. Chairman.

The other speculation, of course, is that the Federal Reserve Board, which meets later this month, may, as a result of these strong economic figures, move to raise interest rates.

Would you care to comment on that?

**Ms. Abraham.** No. I certainly wouldn't want to speculate on what the Federal Reserve Board is likely to do.

**Representative Hinchey.** Yes, that's a rather arcane pursuit, isn't it?

Well, we certainly hope that that's not the case. It would be my hope, Mr. Chairman, and I hope yours as well, that the Federal Reserve would take these new figures as very welcome figures and they would continue their policy of restraint with regard to interest rates and continue to do everything possible to keep interest rates as low as possible so that we could continue to have stronger economic growth than we have seen, say, for example, over the course of the previous decade or so.

Shall I continue, Mr. Chairman, or is that enough time?

**Senator Mack.** I know that the Congresswoman has another question or two.

**Representative Maloney.** That's fine. I yield to my colleague, my distinguished colleague from New York. Do you have other points that you want to make?

**Representative Hinchey.** The economy, since 1979, some might argue since 1973, has seen a growing increase and disparity in both income and wealth. And part of that is a result of the failure of the economy, really, during the decade of the 1980s to produce enough good jobs at good salaries.

We now seem to be seeing what we might hope would be the beginnings of a reversal of that trend. These jobs that you're reporting today, as I understand it, are jobs both in manufacturing and in the private sector, although they are predominantly in the private sector.

The argument by some has been that private-sector jobs are always lower-paying jobs, and although private-sector — service-sector jobs, rather, not private-sector jobs, but service-sector jobs are always lower-paying jobs. And although that's true in some instances, the indications that I've seen are that it is not true in every instance, that service-sector jobs in fact can be good paying jobs and that some of the reporting that you're doing today indicates that there is actually an increase in salaries.

Is that correct?

**Ms. Abraham.** Well, just to comment first on the kinds of jobs that have been created over the last, I don't know, six or seven years, that kind of time frame.

We have, as you note, been tending to add jobs in service-producing industries rather than goods-producing industries.

On average, there is some suggestion that we're adding jobs in lower-paying industries. At the same time, if you look at the occupational mix of the jobs that are being added, we're tending to add jobs in higher-paying occupations.

So if you break the data out by industry and occupation cells, the growth has been tilted a bit towards higher-paying industry and occupation cells.

At the same time, we also have seen a fair bit of growth in lower-paying industry and occupation cells. That's consistent with the other trend that you noted, which is the growing trend towards inequality, the trend towards growing inequality.

**Representative Hinchey.** The trend toward growing inequality.

Do you see any indication in the figures that you are reporting this morning, any indication of any movement away from that trend?

**Ms. Abraham.** I'd really hesitate from answering that kind of question. We don't pay much of any attention at all to just one month's data.

To answer that kind of question, you have to be looking at data from our household survey.

**Representative Hinchey.** Yes.

**Ms. Abraham.** We interview 50,000 households each month, which sounds like a lot. For answering the sort of question you're asking now, you really need to accumulate over a longer period to get meaningful answers.

**Representative Hinchey.** Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**Senator Mack.** Go ahead.

**Representative Maloney.** Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I really would like to return to your line of questioning on average hourly wages, and really, to look at the record under the Reagan years and the Clinton years on real wages and manufacturing employment.



We have now in our country another debate over supply-side policies, some believing, some Republicans believing that lower taxes will generate growth that favors low-wage workers.

So I would like to really elicit numbers from the Reagan record on average wages and manufacturing employment.

I understand your Bureau publishes data on average hourly earnings controlling for inflation. Is that correct?

And I believe that your data is kept using the purchasing power of the dollar in 1982.

**Ms. Abraham.** Yes, that is correct.

**Representative Maloney.** Okay.

**Ms. Abraham.** I do not have that whole time series here. Someone else might have it.

**Representative Maloney.** So you wouldn't have the average hourly earnings in January of 1981? You don't have that data with you?

**Ms. Abraham.** We may.

**Representative Maloney.** Could I submit in writing a list of questions and you could get back?

**Ms. Abraham.** This is certainly something that we can provide for the record. But I have it here.

On a 1982 constant-dollar basis, you asked first about —

**Representative Maloney.** 1981.

**Ms. Abraham.** 1981.

**Representative Maloney.** The average hourly earning in January of 1981.

**Ms. Abraham.** The average hourly earnings in January of 1981 were \$7.79 on a 1982 dollar basis.

**Representative Maloney.** Okay.

**Ms. Abraham.** That's deflated, using the Consumer Price Index.

**Representative Maloney.** And what were the real average hourly earnings in January of 1989?

**Ms. Abraham.** In January of 1989, just to be clear what these figures are, these are these figures for production, nonsupervisory workers, covering 80 percent of the work force, leaving out about 20 percent who are going to tend to be the higher paid.

That figure, deflated by the CPI in January of 1989, was \$7.72.

**Representative Maloney.** So the real average hourly earnings fell from January, 1981 to January, 1989.

**Ms. Abraham.** Real average hourly earnings for production, nonsupervisory workers. That's not, as I've already noted, an overall average.

**Representative Maloney.** Yes. Yes. So it fell. Right? During the Reagan years.

**Ms. Abraham.** According to these figures, it fell by seven cents.

**Representative Maloney.** And I'd like to know what your payroll numbers show, exactly what happened to manufacturing employment under the Reagan supply-side policies.

What was manufacturing employment in January of 1981?

**Ms. Abraham.** In January of 1989, manufacturing employment was 19,458,000.

**Representative Maloney.** In January, 1981?

**Ms. Abraham.** I don't have a figure that goes back that far. Do you, Tom?

**Representative Maloney.** The manufacturing employment in January of 1981, you don't have it?

**Ms. Abraham.** I don't have it here. My table only goes back to 1985.

**Representative Maloney.** Okay.

**Ms. Abraham.** I can give you that figure.

**Representative Maloney.** In 1985, what was it?

**Ms. Abraham.** In 1985, it was 19,472,000.

**Representative Maloney.** And what was the employment in January of 1989?

**Ms. Abraham.** Nineteen million four hundred fifty-eight thousand.

**Representative Maloney.** So manufacturing fell.

**Ms. Abraham.** Over that period, it fell a bit.

**Representative Maloney.** I'd like to know, if you could get it to me at a later time, what the manufacturing employment was in 1981, January of 1981.

But given your numbers, real average hourly earnings fell and manufacturing employment fell during the Reagan years.

Now let's look at what has been happening recently.

What was manufacturing employment in January of 1993?

**Ms. Abraham.** Manufacturing employment in January of 1993 was 18,109,000.

**Representative Maloney.** And what is your latest report for August?

**Ms. Abraham.** For August, it's 18,295,000. It had risen for a period of time up through March of 1995, and has come some bit down since then.

**Representative Maloney.** And what were real average hourly wages, using 1982 dollars, in January of 1993?

**Ms. Abraham.** In January of 1993, this production, nonsupervisory worker series, showed average hourly earnings on a constant dollar basis, 1982 dollars, of \$7.43.

**Senator Mack.** Seven, what?

**Ms. Abraham.** Seven dollars and forty-three cents. That's the constant dollar, 1982 dollars.

**Representative Maloney.** For January, 1993.

**Ms. Abraham.** 1993.

**Representative Maloney.** Okay. And what were real average hourly wages, using 1982 dollars, in your latest report, which would be for July, 1996?

**Ms. Abraham.** Seven dollars and thirty-seven cents an hour.

**Representative Maloney.** So I think it's fair to say that new jobs have been created in manufacturing.

**Ms. Abraham.** Right.

**Representative Maloney.** And I think it's probably fair to say that average hourly wages appear to have stopped their fall.

Is that a fair statement?

**Ms. Abraham.** The decline over the first period you asked me about was seven cents. The decline over this period, this shorter period, is six cents. I should note that the series I've been referring to was not adjusted for seasonal variations. I'd like to supply a seasonally-adjusted series for the record.

**Representative Maloney.** Okay. Thank you.

**Senator Mack.** I only have a couple of other comments and then I've got other requirements, so I'm going to have to end the hearing.

Since 1973 and 1979 have been raised and, in essence, a debate laid out as to the policies of those of us who believe that lower taxes and less government create more jobs and more opportunity, it seems appropriate

that I at least put in my comments with respect to what I believe the data shows.

Again, this is driven a lot by a debate that took place on the Senate floor back in probably 1991, with Senator Wirth and at that time, Senator Gore.

And the reality is if you use median-family income, and if you want to take the period from 1973 to the present, there is only one period of time in which real median-family income rose consistently. And that was from 1983 to 1989.

You can go back and look at those figures and, in fact, that is what took place.

I might add that all income groups during that period of time, in fact, increased.

The second point that I would make is that there has been this running debate that's been taking place about the quality of jobs.

There was a report that came out of the Joint Economic Committee several years ago indicating that the quality of jobs that were being created in America were low-paying jobs.

That report has been pulled apart, discredited time and time again.

The third point that I would make with respect to — there seems to be something implied that a low-paying job somehow or another is a low-quality job or is not a good job.

I would make the point that I would want to see us create as many low-paying jobs in America as we could to give an opportunity for those people who have never been employed to in fact be employed because there are many people in the employment field who believe that the greatest opportunity for a better job is having the first job.

And so what we ought to be concentrating on is the creation of jobs in America, increasing the rate of growth in the economy, which in fact will provide greater opportunity for people.

Again, I would ask you to go back and look at the period of time in the 1980s, during the so-called supply-side experiment and the Reagan years.

You're going to find that, again, real median-family income increased and increased in all economic, all income levels.

So with that, Dr. Abraham, I thank you for coming once again to share with us your report. We appreciate your being here.

**Ms. Abraham.** Thank you, Senator.

[Whereupon, at 10:34 a.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

**SUBMISSIONS FOR THE RECORD****PREPARED STATEMENT OF SENATOR MACK**

Commissioner Abraham, thank you for coming this morning to discuss the August employment report and the current employment situation. We always appreciate your willingness to come before the committee, and I look forward to hearing your comments.

In August, the unemployment rate fell to 5.1 percent, while nonfarm payrolls increased by 250,000.

I am always encouraged when the employment reports are positive. I'm pleased that more Americans have found jobs. But even with today's numbers, the fact remains that this is the weakest economic recovery in 100 years. Economic growth is still anemic, which means that incomes are still stagnant.

- Real median household incomes have simply not increased during the Clinton administration. In fact, they have fallen considerably from the levels of the late 1980s.
- According to the most recent data, total wages and benefits increased at only a 2.9 percent annual rate during the second quarter of this year. With inflation running at an annual rate of 3.5 percent since the beginning of the year, workers' compensation simply isn't keeping up.
- Real after tax incomes have only grown 1.8 percent in the three and a half years since President Clinton took office. That's just half as fast as the 3.2 percent pace America experienced during the ten years before he took office.

Hardworking Americans will only see their incomes grow if we have a strong economy. Although GDP grew at a 4.8 percent annual rate during the second quarter of the year, economic growth since 1993 (the Clinton era) has averaged an anemic 2.5 percent, far below the 3.7 percent growth rate Bill Clinton inherited. Additionally, the Federal Reserve projects 1996 growth of only 2 ½ percent to 2 ¾ percent. The outlook for 1997 is even bleaker: 1 ¾ percent to 2 ¼ percent GDP growth. We can do better. We must do better.

Unless the economy grows faster than 2.5 percent, and produces more high-paying, permanent jobs, Americans will see no meaningful increase in their standards of living, nor will they feel more optimistic about their futures.

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

## PREPARED STATEMENT OF MS. ABRAHAM

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to comment on the employment and unemployment data released this morning.

The unemployment rate fell to 5.1 percent in August, from 5.4 percent in July. Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 250,000 in August, about in line with the average monthly gains thus far this year. The August increase of 173,000 in private sector employment, however, fell short of the 215,000 monthly gain for the seven months ending in July.

For the second month in a row, employment growth in services was somewhat slower than normal. Still, with an addition of 81,000 jobs, it accounted for nearly half of the over-the-month rise in private nonfarm employment. During the first half of 1996, monthly gains in the industry averaged about 120,000. Business services sustained its long-term upward trend, led by continued strength in help supply and computer services. Growth also continued in the related engineering and management services industry. Employment in most other services industries was relatively weak in August. Health services posted its third consecutive month of anemic growth, and private education lost jobs following strong gains in each of the preceding two months.

An increase of 77,000 in government employment was concentrated in local government, particularly education. It should be noted that precise seasonal adjustment for local education is problematic during the summer and fall, when the industry sheds and then adds large numbers of employees. The seasonally adjusted employment estimates are very sensitive to the timing of school openings and to changing school schedules more generally.

Robust growth in finance, insurance, and real estate continued in August. Over the last 12 months, employment in this industry has risen by 174,000. Continued activity in the finance and real estate components accounted for an overall gain of 20,000 jobs over the month. Retail trade added only 21,000 jobs in August after several months of larger gains. Growth in general merchandise stores, food stores, and auto dealers and service stations was partially offset by a loss of 28,000 jobs in eating and drinking places. Employment in that industry had risen by 70,000 over the prior two months.

In the goods-producing sector, manufacturing had an employment gain of 25,000 in August, offsetting a decline of similar magnitude in the prior month. Plants reopening from vacation shutdowns were partly responsible for an employment rise of 24,000 in motor vehicles and equipment. This

was twice the size of the previous month's decrease. Smaller job gains were scattered throughout durable goods manufacturing, although there was a decline of 6,000 jobs in electronic equipment. Among nondurable goods industries, rubber and miscellaneous plastics added 7,000 workers. In apparel and other textile products, employment fell by 13,000; the industry has lost nearly 10 percent of its employment over the past year.

Average hours of production and nonsupervisory workers edged up by a tenth of an hour to 34.4 hours per week. Average hourly earnings of workers on private nonfarm payrolls rose 6 cents in August. Though erratic on a month-to-month basis, the rate of increase in hourly earnings has drifted upwards over the last several years.

Turning to data from the household survey, the unemployment rate fell by three-tenths of a percentage point to 5.1 percent, after seasonal adjustment. The number of unemployed persons dropped by 467,000 to 6.8 million. The decline in unemployment was particularly large among persons 20 to 24 years old and among those age 55 and over. Some of the fall in unemployment may be explained by the late timing of the August survey reference week. This likely caused the survey to capture more of the seasonal movement of both employed and unemployed youth out of the labor force at the end of summer than it would have captured had the survey week fallen earlier in the month (as it did in each of the prior 3 years). The large drop in the number of persons unemployed due to job loss and the declines in joblessness among adults suggest, however, that at least some of the improvement in the unemployment rate is unrelated to the timing of the survey reference period.

In summary, the labor market continued to improve in August. Payroll employment continued to grow, though the pace of private sector employment growth has slowed somewhat. The unemployment rate fell, reaching its lowest level since 1989.

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: (202) 606-6378  
606-6373

USDL 96-365

Establishment data:  
Media contact:

606-6555  
606-5902

Transmission of material in this release is  
embargoed until 8:30 A.M. (EDT),  
Friday, September 6, 1996.

## THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: AUGUST 1996

Unemployment declined in August, and nonfarm payroll employment continued to increase. The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The nation's jobless rate fell from 5.4 to 5.1 percent. The number of jobs on nonfarm payrolls rose by 250,000 in August; private sector employment increased by 173,000. Average hourly earnings were up by 6 cents over the month.

Chart 1. Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted.  
Percent September 1993 - August 1996

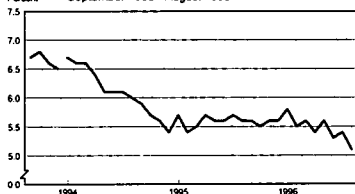
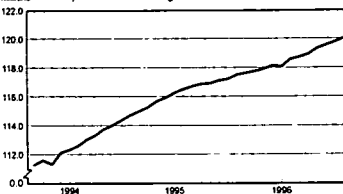


Chart 2. Nonfarm payroll employment, seasonally adjusted.  
Millions September 1993 - August 1996



### Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

Both the number of unemployed persons and the unemployment rate fell in August. The number of persons who were unemployed, at 6.8 million, was 467,000 below July's level. The unemployment rate, at 5.1 percent, was 0.3 percentage point lower than in July. The August decline in unemployment occurred primarily among workers 20 to 24 years old, whose jobless rate fell from 9.7 to 8.3 percent, and among those 55 years and over, whose rate declined from 3.8 to 3.1 percent. (See tables A-1 and A-8.)

Among the unemployed, both the number of persons who had been looking for work for less than 5 weeks and the number who had been looking from 5 to 14 weeks fell in August. Unemployment among persons who had lost their job also declined substantially over the month. (See tables A-5 and A-6.)



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

Category	Quarterly averages		Monthly data			July-Aug. change
	1996		1996			
	I	II	June	July	Aug.	
<b>HOUSEHOLD DATA</b>						
Labor force status						
Civilian labor force.....	133,192	133,647	133,669	134,181	133,885	-296
Employment.....	125,680	126,389	126,610	126,884	127,055	171
Unemployment.....	7,512	7,258	7,060	7,297	6,830	-467
Not in labor force.....	66,584	66,633	66,790	66,460	66,962	502
Unemployment rates						
All workers.....	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.1	-0.3
Adult men.....	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.2	-.5
Adult women.....	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.9	4.6	-.3
Teenagers.....	17.4	16.3	15.9	16.4	17.2	.8
White.....	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.4	-.3
Black.....	10.7	10.3	10.1	10.5	10.5	0
Hispanic origin.....	9.7	9.2	8.8	9.0	8.7	-.3
<b>ESTABLISHMENT DATA</b>						
Employment						
Nonfarm employment.....	118,462	119,272	119,554	p119,782	p120,032	p250
Goods-producing <sup>1</sup> .....	24,187	24,249	24,275	p24,266	p24,295	p29
Construction.....	5,308	5,380	5,403	p5,426	p5,432	p6
Manufacturing.....	18,308	18,294	18,297	p18,270	p18,295	p25
Service-producing <sup>1</sup> .....	94,275	95,024	95,279	p95,516	p95,737	p221
Retail trade.....	21,317	21,499	21,575	p21,663	p21,684	p21
Services.....	33,877	34,257	34,383	p34,457	p34,538	p81
Government.....	19,365	19,435	19,451	p19,490	p19,567	p77
Hours of work <sup>2</sup>						
Total private.....	34.3	34.4	34.7	p34.3	p34.4	p0.1
Manufacturing.....	40.9	41.7	41.8	p41.6	p41.7	p.1
Overtime.....	4.2	4.6	4.6	p4.4	p4.4	p.0
Earnings <sup>2</sup>						
Average hourly earnings.						
total private.....	\$11.65	\$11.76	\$11.83	p\$11.81	p\$11.87	p\$0.06
Average weekly earnings.						
total private.....	399.22	404.56	410.50	p405.08	p408.33	p3.25

<sup>1</sup> Includes other industries, not shown separately.

<sup>2</sup> Data relate to private production or nonsupervisory workers.

p = preliminary.

### Total Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Total employment was about unchanged in August at 127.1 million. At 63.3 percent, the proportion of the population 16 years and over with jobs (the employment-population ratio) also was little different from the July figure. Over the past year, total employment has increased by 2.2 million and the employment-population ratio has risen by half a percentage point. The civilian labor force edged down in August to 133.9 million, after expanding by a half million in July. (See table A-1.)

The number of persons who held more than one job in August was 7.5 million (not seasonally adjusted). These multiple jobholders comprised 5.9 percent of the total employed. (See table A-9.)

### Persons Not in the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

About 1.4 million persons (not seasonally adjusted) were marginally attached to the labor force in August—that is, they wanted and were available for work but had stopped looking for jobs sometime in the prior 12 months. Of this total, discouraged workers—those who were no longer looking specifically because they believed no jobs were available for them—numbered 415,000. (See table A-9.)

### Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Nonfarm payroll employment rose by 250,000 in August to 120.0 million, seasonally adjusted, about in line with the average monthly gain so far this year. Employment in services rose by 81,000 in August, following a gain of 74,000 in July. During the first half of 1996, services added an average of 120,000 jobs per month. The recent slowdown was in part related to weakness in health services. Job growth in health services has averaged just 8,000 per month since May, following an average monthly gain of 29,000 jobs during the first 5 months of the year. Services employment in August also was held down by a decline of 16,000 jobs in private educational services. This decline followed large gains in June and July. In August, strong job growth continued in business services, particularly help supply and computer services, and in engineering and management services. (See table B-1.)

Government employment rose by 77,000 in August. Nearly two-thirds of the gain took place in local education, which has had three consecutive large employment increases, after seasonal adjustment. The magnitude of the seasonal swings in local education employment, the yearly variation in the timing of school openings and closings, and the recent movement toward more year-round education, all make precise seasonal adjustment of the job count for local education difficult during the summer and autumn. Federal government employment continued to decline in August; since its most recent peak in May 1992, job losses have totaled 236,000.

Both finance and real estate continued to add jobs in August. Transportation and public utilities employment rose by 15,000 over the month, although there were unusual movements in some of the transportation components. Trucking lost 7,000 jobs, while air transportation had a large increase of 9,000. Communications also continued its strong growth pattern, adding 7,000 jobs.

Retail trade gained just 21,000 jobs in August, after having added an average of 80,000 jobs per month over the April-July period. Employment growth in department and food stores was particularly strong, and most other retail industries added workers as well. These increases, however, were partly offset by a decline of 28,000 in eating and drinking places, which followed a gain of 70,000 over the prior 2 months. Wholesale trade added only 7,000 jobs over the month, continuing the trend toward slower growth that began in March.

Manufacturing employment increased by 25,000 in August, offsetting a decline of similar magnitude in July. The largest over-the-month increase was in motor vehicle and equipment manufacturing, where workers returned from unusually widespread July vacation shutdowns. Continued gains in fabricated metals and aircraft were nearly offset by losses in electronic equipment. Within nondurables, job growth continued in rubber and miscellaneous plastics. Apparel experienced a large decline in August, and has lost nearly 10 percent of its jobs over the past year. Elsewhere in the goods-producing sector, employment in construction was little changed in August, after rising by 203,000 during the first 7 months of the year.

#### Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

The average workweek for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls inched up 0.1 hour in August to 34.4 hours, seasonally adjusted. The manufacturing workweek also edged up 0.1 hour to 41.7 hours, and factory overtime was unchanged at 4.4 hours. (See table B-2.)

The index of aggregate weekly hours of private production or nonsupervisory workers on nonfarm payrolls rose 0.6 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis, to 136.9 (1982=100) in August. The manufacturing index edged up 0.4 percent to 106.2. (See table B-5.)

#### Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings of private production or nonsupervisory workers on nonfarm payrolls rose 6 cents in August to \$11.87, seasonally adjusted. Average weekly earnings increased by 0.8 percent to \$408.33. Over the past year, both average hourly earnings and average weekly earnings have risen by 3.6 percent. (See table B-3.)

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The Employment Situation for September 1996 is scheduled to be released on Friday, October 4, at 8:30 A.M. (EDT).

## 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 June 1996, 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 376,000. 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 -276,000 to 476,000 (100,000 +/- 376,000). 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 +/- 258,000, and for the monthly change in the unemployment rate it is +/- .21 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 I-B through I-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.

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

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 <sup>1</sup>					
	Aug. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996
	<b>TOTAL</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population	198,801	200,641	200,847	198,801	200,101	200,278	200,459	200,641	200,847
Civilian labor force	133,383	138,272	135,011	132,298	133,361	133,910	133,663	134,181	133,885
Participation rate	67.1	67.9	67.2	66.5	66.6	66.9	66.9	66.9	66.7
Employed	125,928	129,579	128,143	124,859	126,095	126,462	126,810	126,884	127,055
Employment-population ratio	63.3	64.1	63.8	62.8	63.0	63.1	63.2	63.2	63.3
Agriculture	3,697	3,862	3,706	3,376	3,368	3,491	3,382	3,502	3,421
Nonagricultural industries	122,229	124,717	124,437	121,483	122,726	122,971	123,228	123,382	123,633
Unemployed	7,457	7,693	6,868	7,430	7,296	7,446	7,080	7,297	6,830
Unemployment rate	5.6	5.6	5.1	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.1
Not in labor force	65,418	64,369	65,836	66,503	66,741	66,368	66,790	66,460	66,962
<b>Men, 16 years and over</b>									
Civilian noninstitutional population	95,287	96,230	96,335	95,287	95,955	96,048	96,140	96,230	96,335
Civilian labor force	72,132	73,801	72,888	71,259	71,935	72,241	72,121	72,375	71,973
Participation rate	75.7	76.7	75.7	74.8	75.0	75.2	75.0	75.2	74.7
Employed	68,326	69,819	69,533	67,248	67,833	68,278	68,283	68,400	68,442
Employment-population ratio	71.7	72.6	72.2	70.6	70.8	71.1	71.1	71.1	71.0
Unemployed	3,807	3,982	3,355	4,011	4,052	3,964	3,837	3,975	3,531
Unemployment rate	5.3	5.4	4.6	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.3	4.9
<b>Men, 20 years and over</b>									
Civilian noninstitutional population	87,005	88,614	88,650	87,005	88,440	88,530	88,570	88,614	88,650
Civilian labor force	67,446	68,639	68,390	67,218	67,821	68,064	68,118	68,274	68,114
Participation rate	77.7	77.5	77.1	78.5	78.7	78.9	78.9	77.0	78.8
Employed	64,394	65,818	65,723	63,982	64,355	64,818	64,962	65,094	65,286
Employment-population ratio	73.3	74.0	74.1	72.8	73.0	73.2	73.3	73.5	73.6
Agriculture	2,441	2,529	2,477	2,297	2,292	2,337	2,292	2,381	2,352
Nonagricultural industries	61,953	63,090	63,248	61,685	62,063	62,480	62,669	62,713	62,933
Unemployed	3,052	3,020	2,665	3,236	3,266	3,246	3,157	3,179	2,829
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.4	3.9	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.2
<b>Women, 16 years and over</b>									
Civilian noninstitutional population	103,514	104,411	104,512	103,514	104,148	104,230	104,319	104,411	104,512
Civilian labor force	61,250	62,471	62,123	61,039	61,426	61,669	61,848	61,806	61,812
Participation rate	59.2	59.8	59.4	59.0	59.2	59.2	59.2	59.2	59.2
Employed	57,000	58,760	58,610	57,611	58,161	58,184	58,326	58,434	58,613
Employment-population ratio	55.6	56.3	56.1	55.7	55.8	55.8	55.9	56.0	56.1
Unemployed	3,850	3,711	3,514	3,428	3,264	3,485	3,222	3,322	3,299
Unemployment rate	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.3	5.7	5.2	5.4	5.3
<b>Women, 20 years and over</b>									
Civilian noninstitutional population	96,327	97,064	97,146	96,327	96,858	96,925	96,999	97,064	97,146
Civilian labor force	57,065	57,933	57,992	57,291	57,763	57,915	57,893	58,102	58,225
Participation rate	59.2	59.7	59.7	59.5	59.6	59.8	59.7	59.9	59.9
Employed	53,963	54,880	55,028	54,458	55,080	55,014	55,211	55,286	55,322
Employment-population ratio	56.0	56.5	56.6	56.5	56.8	56.8	56.9	56.9	57.2
Agriculture	865	913	880	811	813	831	842	863	829
Nonagricultural industries	53,098	53,968	54,148	53,647	54,247	54,183	54,369	54,403	54,683
Unemployed	3,102	3,052	2,966	2,833	2,704	2,901	2,682	2,837	2,704
Unemployment rate	5.4	5.3	5.1	4.9	4.7	5.0	4.6	4.9	4.6
<b>Both sexes, 16 to 19 years</b>									
Civilian noninstitutional population	14,589	14,963	15,051	14,589	14,805	14,823	14,890	14,963	15,051
Civilian labor force	8,872	9,701	8,629	7,789	7,776	7,892	7,898	7,805	7,945
Participation rate	60.9	64.8	57.3	53.5	52.5	53.5	53.4	52.2	52.1
Employed	7,589	8,060	7,392	6,419	6,480	6,630	6,437	6,524	6,248
Employment-population ratio	52.0	54.0	49.1	44.1	43.8	44.7	43.2	43.6	41.5
Agriculture	390	420	349	268	263	323	248	258	240
Nonagricultural industries	7,179	7,640	7,043	6,151	6,217	6,308	6,189	6,288	6,008
Unemployed	1,303	1,620	1,237	1,370	1,296	1,301	1,221	1,280	1,297
Unemployment rate	14.7	16.7	14.3	17.8	16.7	16.4	15.9	16.4	17.2

<sup>1</sup> The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

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 <sup>1</sup>					
	Aug. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996
<b>WHITE</b>									
Civilian noninstitutional population	167,058	168,345	168,489	167,058	167,973	168,098	168,222	168,345	168,489
Civilian labor force	112,815	114,808	113,713	111,939	112,613	113,109	112,941	113,078	112,832
Participation rate	67.5	68.2	67.5	67.0	67.0	67.3	67.1	67.2	67.0
Employed	107,479	109,338	108,801	106,512	107,319	107,612	107,757	107,772	107,828
Employment-population ratio	64.3	64.9	64.6	63.8	64.0	64.0	64.1	64.0	64.0
Unemployed	5,336	5,470	4,912	5,427	5,294	5,487	5,184	5,304	5,004
Unemployment rate	4.7	4.8	4.3	4.8	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.7	4.4
<b>Men, 20 years and over</b>									
Civilian labor force	57,800	58,789	58,553	57,614	58,202	58,340	58,428	58,456	58,354
Participation rate	77.1	77.9	77.5	76.9	77.3	77.4	77.5	77.5	77.3
Employed	55,567	56,584	56,566	55,171	55,778	55,914	56,047	56,079	56,174
Employment-population ratio	74.2	75.0	74.9	73.6	74.1	74.2	74.3	74.3	74.4
Unemployed	2,234	2,205	1,985	2,443	2,424	2,426	2,379	2,378	2,179
Unemployment rate	3.9	3.8	3.4	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	3.7
<b>Women, 20 years and over</b>									
Civilian labor force	47,632	47,928	47,980	47,790	47,884	48,103	47,956	47,981	48,124
Participation rate	59.1	59.1	59.1	59.3	59.3	59.4	59.3	59.2	59.3
Employed	45,368	45,779	45,847	45,741	45,937	45,976	46,063	46,009	46,217
Employment-population ratio	58.3	58.5	58.5	58.7	58.8	58.8	58.9	58.8	59.0
Unemployed	2,266	2,148	2,113	2,049	1,947	2,128	1,894	1,972	1,907
Unemployment rate	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.1	4.4	3.9	4.1	4.0
<b>Both sexes, 16 to 19 years</b>									
Civilian labor force	7,383	8,092	7,200	6,535	6,527	6,686	6,658	6,639	6,584
Participation rate	54.2	59.3	50.5	58.8	55.7	56.6	55.5	56.0	53.5
Employed	6,545	6,975	6,387	5,600	5,604	5,723	5,647	5,684	5,437
Employment-population ratio	58.9	58.9	53.7	48.7	47.8	48.6	47.8	48.0	45.7
Unemployed	838	1,117	813	935	923	963	911	955	917
Unemployment rate	11.3	13.8	11.3	14.3	14.1	14.1	13.9	14.4	14.4
Men	12.3	15.1	12.1	15.7	15.2	15.2	14.7	16.8	15.8
Women	10.2	12.3	10.5	12.8	12.9	12.9	13.0	12.0	13.2
<b>BLACK</b>									
Civilian noninstitutional population	23,284	23,811	23,650	23,284	23,519	23,549	23,579	23,811	23,650
Civilian labor force	14,910	15,590	15,470	14,781	14,971	15,149	14,955	15,279	15,361
Participation rate	64.0	66.0	65.4	63.5	63.7	64.3	63.4	64.7	65.0
Employed	13,230	13,785	13,792	13,159	13,399	13,599	13,451	13,871	13,750
Employment-population ratio	56.8	58.4	58.3	56.5	57.0	57.7	57.0	57.9	58.1
Unemployed	1,680	1,805	1,677	1,622	1,573	1,551	1,504	1,609	1,611
Unemployment rate	11.3	11.6	10.8	11.0	10.5	10.2	10.1	10.5	10.5
<b>Men, 20 years and over</b>									
Civilian labor force	6,704	6,876	6,888	6,896	6,899	6,785	6,728	6,887	6,890
Participation rate	72.0	73.0	73.2	71.9	71.3	72.2	71.5	72.9	73.2
Employed	6,081	6,233	6,320	6,080	6,055	6,136	6,110	6,233	6,326
Employment-population ratio	65.3	66.2	67.1	65.3	64.5	65.3	64.9	66.2	67.2
Unemployed	623	643	568	616	641	650	617	654	564
Unemployment rate	9.3	9.3	8.2	9.2	9.6	9.6	9.2	9.2	8.2
<b>Women, 20 years and over</b>									
Civilian labor force	7,112	7,489	7,478	7,138	7,300	7,373	7,273	7,504	7,511
Participation rate	60.8	63.1	63.1	61.0	61.9	62.4	62.4	63.4	63.4
Employed	6,449	6,741	6,749	6,511	6,687	6,758	6,743	6,830	6,824
Employment-population ratio	55.1	57.0	57.0	55.7	56.7	57.2	57.0	57.7	57.8
Unemployed	663	727	729	627	613	615	630	674	687
Unemployment rate	9.3	9.7	9.7	8.8	8.4	8.3	8.5	9.0	9.1
<b>Both sexes, 16 to 19 years</b>									
Civilian labor force	1,094	1,245	1,104	947	978	990	854	908	950
Participation rate	48.0	52.8	48.2	41.8	41.9	42.3	36.4	38.5	40.2
Employed	700	810	723	588	657	705	598	607	599
Employment-population ratio	30.7	34.1	30.3	24.8	28.2	30.1	25.4	25.8	25.1
Unemployed	394	435	381	378	319	286	256	301	361
Unemployment rate	36.0	34.9	34.5	40.0	32.7	28.9	30.0	33.1	37.6
Men	39.8	41.9	38.4	43.0	34.1	27.4	35.3	43.3	38.9
Women	32.1	28.6	32.4	37.0	31.3	30.2	25.0	20.9	36.5

See footnotes at end of table.

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

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 <sup>1</sup>					
	Aug. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996
<b>HISPANIC ORIGIN</b>									
Civilian noninstitutional population	18,702	19,238	19,292	18,702	19,080	19,131	19,184	19,238	19,292
Civilian labor force	12,453	12,893	12,889	12,355	12,511	12,514	12,576	12,641	12,677
Participation rate	66.6	67.0	67.3	66.1	65.6	65.4	65.6	65.7	66.7
Employed	11,270	11,707	11,844	11,173	11,294	11,365	11,472	11,500	11,550
Employment-population ratio	60.3	60.9	61.4	59.7	59.2	59.4	59.8	59.8	60.9
Unemployed	1,183	1,186	1,145	1,182	1,217	1,149	1,104	1,141	1,127
Unemployment rate	9.5	9.2	8.8	9.6	9.7	9.2	8.8	9.0	8.7

<sup>1</sup> 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					
	Aug. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996
<b>CHARACTERISTIC</b>									
Total employed, 16 years and over	125,826	128,579	128,143	124,859	126,095	126,462	126,810	126,854	127,055
Married men, spouse present	42,060	42,821	42,622	42,086	42,067	42,406	42,587	42,478	42,622
Widowed women, spouse present	31,614	32,157	32,209	32,153	31,868	32,330	32,649	32,713	32,732
Women who maintain families	7,202	7,157	7,276	7,205	7,389	7,314	7,360	7,230	7,291
<b>OCCUPATION</b>									
Managerial and professional specialty	35,313	36,181	36,265	35,614	36,115	36,257	36,696	36,361	36,520
Technical, sales, and administrative support	37,510	38,210	37,971	37,431	37,638	37,681	37,683	37,795	37,858
Service occupations	17,144	17,801	17,571	16,959	16,939	17,312	17,215	17,418	17,387
Precision production, craft, and repair	13,722	13,721	14,029	13,387	13,595	13,439	13,572	13,439	13,701
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	18,195	18,540	18,344	17,879	18,124	18,282	18,137	18,322	18,075
Farming, forestry, and fishing	4,041	4,126	3,982	3,577	3,545	3,560	3,472	3,594	3,500
<b>CLASS OF WORKER</b>									
<b>Agriculture:</b>									
Wage and salary workers	1,983	2,109	1,991	1,779	1,862	2,026	1,900	1,863	1,802
Self-employed workers	1,660	1,686	1,635	1,550	1,484	1,456	1,457	1,564	1,528
Unpaid family workers	54	66	79	45	52	46	35	52	65
<b>Nonagricultural industries:</b>									
Wage and salary workers	113,145	115,495	115,358	112,448	113,527	114,032	114,130	114,294	114,634
Government	17,758	17,781	17,737	18,314	18,290	18,256	18,329	18,294	18,288
Private industries	95,387	97,714	97,620	94,134	95,237	95,776	95,801	96,000	96,346
Private households	970	985	1,030	933	844	918	812	835	1,009
Other industries	94,417	96,729	96,590	93,201	94,393	94,858	94,989	95,055	95,339
Self-employed workers	8,975	9,088	8,958	8,863	9,061	8,878	9,073	8,998	8,878
Unpaid family workers	109	134	124	106	101	124	136	130	121
<b>PERSONS AT WORK PART TIME</b>									
<b>All industries:</b>									
Part time for economic reasons	4,553	4,646	4,407	4,467	4,525	4,277	4,301	4,366	4,354
Slack work or business conditions	2,462	2,553	2,388	2,546	2,594	2,218	2,322	2,589	2,477
Could only find part-time work	1,658	1,795	1,615	1,834	1,571	1,719	1,569	1,494	1,610
Part time for noneconomic reasons	18,070	15,551	15,459	17,894	17,487	17,620	18,211	17,814	18,229
<b>Nonagricultural industries:</b>									
Part time for economic reasons	4,318	4,441	4,218	4,291	4,287	4,068	4,146	4,159	4,205
Slack work or business conditions	2,311	2,437	2,242	2,414	2,476	2,092	2,215	2,457	2,350
Could only find part-time work	1,614	1,701	1,586	1,810	1,534	1,663	1,542	1,479	1,600
Part time for noneconomic reasons	14,468	14,910	14,866	17,251	16,994	17,038	17,623	17,157	17,613

NOTE: Persons at work excludes employed persons who were absent from their job 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.



## HOUSEHOLD DATA

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-4. Selected unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Category	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates <sup>1</sup>					
	Aug. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996
<b>CHARACTERISTIC</b>									
Total, 16 years and over .....	7,439	7,297	6,630	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.1
Men, 20 years and over .....	3,236	3,179	2,829	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.2
Women, 20 years and over .....	2,833	2,837	2,704	4.9	4.7	5.0	4.6	4.9	4.6
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years .....	1,370	1,289	1,297	17.6	16.7	16.4	15.9	16.4	17.2
Married men, spouse present .....	1,433	1,309	1,258	3.3	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.9
Married women, spouse present .....	1,241	1,194	1,085	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.2
Women who maintain families .....	560	721	704	7.2	6.8	6.7	7.6	9.1	8.8
Full-time workers .....	5,922	5,825	5,383	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.3	4.9
Part-time workers .....	1,487	1,505	1,476	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.6	6.1	5.9
<b>OCCUPATION<sup>2</sup></b>									
Managerial and professional specialty .....	924	922	786	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.1
Technical, sales, and administrative support .....	1,704	1,842	1,685	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.1	4.6	4.3
Precision production, craft, and repair .....	920	778	754	6.4	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.2
Operators, fabricators, and laborers .....	1,538	1,545	1,534	8.4	8.0	8.3	7.9	7.7	7.8
Farming, forestry, and fishing .....	259	242	216	6.6	6.0	9.1	7.7	6.3	5.8
<b>INDUSTRY</b>									
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers .....	5,820	5,635	5,418	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.3
Goods-producing industries .....	1,817	1,848	1,582	6.5	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.6
Mining .....	27	16	25	4.4	4.4	2.1	4.7	2.8	4.4
Construction .....	762	661	575	12.0	10.2	10.0	9.5	10.1	8.6
Manufacturing .....	1,028	970	981	4.9	4.8	5.1	5.1	4.6	4.7
Durable goods .....	511	514	464	4.2	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.2	3.8
Nondurable goods .....	517	455	517	5.9	4.8	5.5	5.7	5.3	6.0
Service-producing industries .....	4,003	3,869	3,836	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.2	5.4	5.2
Transportation and public utilities .....	310	308	303	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.2
Wholesale and retail trade .....	1,677	1,690	1,664	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.3
Finance, insurance, and real estate .....	240	211	177	3.3	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.4
Services .....	1,776	1,781	1,692	5.6	5.8	5.7	5.1	5.5	5.2
Government workers .....	558	606	500	2.9	2.9	3.3	2.7	3.2	2.7
Agricultural wage and salary workers .....	170	175	144	8.7	10.9	10.0	9.2	8.6	7.4

<sup>1</sup> Unemployment as a percent of the civilian labor force.<sup>2</sup> 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					
	Aug. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996
<b>NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED</b>									
Less than 5 weeks .....	2,576	2,941	2,364	2,715	2,412	2,815	2,485	2,701	2,488
5 to 14 weeks .....	2,865	2,540	2,402	2,373	2,337	2,334	2,160	2,322	2,129
15 weeks and over .....	2,211	2,212	2,102	2,371	2,388	2,336	2,435	2,319	2,248
15 to 26 weeks .....	975	822	835	1,129	1,108	1,020	1,116	958	978
27 weeks and over .....	1,237	1,391	1,268	1,242	1,282	1,317	1,319	1,361	1,270
Average (mean) duration, in weeks .....	16.2	16.1	17.3	16.3	17.4	16.8	17.6	16.8	17.4
Median duration, in weeks .....	8.4	7.7	8.6	8.4	8.8	8.3	8.1	8.6	8.5
<b>PERCENT DISTRIBUTION</b>									
Total unemployed .....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks .....	34.6	38.2	34.4	36.4	33.8	37.6	35.1	36.8	36.2
5 to 14 weeks .....	35.8	33.0	35.0	31.8	32.7	31.2	30.5	31.8	31.0
15 weeks and over .....	29.7	28.8	30.6	31.8	33.5	31.2	34.4	31.6	32.8
15 to 26 weeks .....	13.1	10.7	12.2	15.1	15.5	15.6	15.6	15.1	14.3
27 weeks and over .....	16.6	18.1	16.5	16.7	18.0	17.6	18.6	18.5	16.5

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-6. Reason for unemployment  
(Numbers in thousands)

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Aug. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996
<b>NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED</b>									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs .....	3,331	3,323	2,932	3,455	3,825	3,388	3,431	3,343	3,054
On temporary layoff .....	910	974	777	1,032	1,118	1,154	990	923	889
Not on temporary layoff .....	2,420	2,349	2,155	2,423	2,509	2,234	2,441	2,391	2,165
Permanent job losers .....	1,697	1,686	1,459	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Persons who completed temporary jobs .....	724	653	696	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Job leavers .....	696	772	608	865	702	661	678	749	773
Reentrants .....	2,620	2,716	2,556	2,525	2,379	2,784	2,419	2,529	2,448
New entrants .....	609	882	573	581	550	532	528	623	548
<b>PERCENT DISTRIBUTION</b>									
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 .....	44.7	43.2	42.7	48.5	50.0	48.0	48.6	48.1	44.8
On temporary layoff .....	12.2	12.7	11.3	13.9	15.4	15.7	14.0	13.1	13.0
Not on temporary layoff .....	32.5	30.5	31.4	32.6	34.6	30.3	34.6	33.0	31.7
Job leavers .....	12.0	10.0	11.8	11.6	9.7	8.0	9.8	10.3	11.3
Reentrants .....	35.1	35.3	37.2	34.0	32.8	37.8	34.3	34.9	35.0
New entrants .....	6.2	11.5	6.3	7.8	7.8	7.2	7.5	6.6	6.0
<b>UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE</b>									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs .....	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.3
Job leavers .....	.7	.6	.6	.7	.5	.5	.5	.6	.6
Reentrants .....	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.8	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.8
New entrants .....	.5	.6	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.5	.4

<sup>1</sup> Not available.

Table A-7. Range of alternative measures of labor underutilization  
(Percent)

Measure	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Aug. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996
U-1 Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force .....	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7
U-2 Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force .....	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.3
U-3 Total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force (official unemployment rate) .....	5.6	5.6	5.1	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.1
U-4 Total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers .....	5.9	5.9	5.4	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
U-5 Total unemployed, plus discouraged workers, plus all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers .....	6.6	6.7	6.1	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
U-6 Total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers .....	10.0	10.0	9.3	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Not available.

NOTE: This range of alternative measures of labor underutilization replaces the U1-U7 range published in table A-7 of this release prior to 1994. Marginally attached workers are persons who currently are neither working nor looking for work but indicate that they want and are available for a job and have looked for work sometime in the recent past. Discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally

attached, have given a job-market related reason for not currently looking for a job. Persons employed part time for economic reasons are those who want and are available for full-time work but have had to settle for a part-time schedule. For further information, see "BLS introduces new range of alternative unemployment measures," in the October 1995 issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

## HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-6. Unemployed persons by sex and age, seasonally adjusted

Age and sex	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates <sup>1</sup>					
	Aug. 1995	July 1996	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996	Aug. 1996
<b>Total, 16 years and over</b> .....	7,439	7,297	6,830	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.1
16 to 24 years .....	2,856	2,563	2,380	12.4	11.8	12.2	11.7	12.2	11.5
16 to 19 years .....	1,370	1,280	1,297	17.6	16.7	16.4	15.9	16.4	17.2
16 to 17 years .....	653	637	602	20.7	18.7	19.4	19.0	19.4	19.1
18 to 19 years .....	701	840	698	15.3	15.3	14.2	13.4	14.1	16.0
20 to 24 years .....	1,288	1,253	1,083	9.5	9.0	9.7	9.3	9.7	8.3
<b>25 years and over</b> .....	4,784	4,720	4,459	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.2	3.9
25 to 54 years .....	4,181	4,105	3,945	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.1
55 years and over .....	582	607	493	3.7	3.3	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.1
<b>Men, 16 years and over</b> .....	4,011	3,975	3,531	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.5	4.9
16 to 24 years .....	1,489	1,492	1,237	13.1	12.8	12.9	12.4	13.3	11.5
16 to 19 years .....	775	795	702	19.2	17.9	17.2	17.0	19.4	18.2
16 to 17 years .....	366	408	341	22.2	21.2	20.0	20.5	24.2	22.0
18 to 19 years .....	404	389	362	16.9	16.1	15.4	14.2	16.1	15.9
20 to 24 years .....	714	696	535	9.8	9.9	10.4	9.7	9.8	7.7
25 years and over .....	2,526	2,468	2,307	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.8
25 to 54 years .....	2,196	2,115	2,005	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.1	3.8
55 years and over .....	315	345	291	3.7	3.0	3.3	3.5	3.8	3.2
<b>Women, 16 years and over</b> .....	3,428	3,322	3,299	5.6	5.3	5.7	5.2	5.4	5.3
16 to 24 years .....	1,169	1,071	1,144	11.6	10.7	11.4	11.0	10.9	11.6
16 to 19 years .....	595	485	595	15.9	15.3	15.6	14.8	13.1	16.2
16 to 17 years .....	297	229	260	19.2	16.1	19.8	17.5	14.4	16.3
18 to 19 years .....	297	251	336	13.5	14.4	12.9	12.5	11.8	16.0
20 to 24 years .....	574	586	548	9.1	8.1	8.8	8.7	9.5	8.9
25 years and over .....	2,258	2,234	2,153	4.4	4.2	4.5	4.1	4.3	4.1
25 to 54 years .....	1,885	1,889	1,940	4.5	4.2	4.6	4.2	4.4	4.3
55 years and over .....	267	282	202	3.8	3.6	3.9	3.6	3.7	2.9

<sup>1</sup> Unemployment as a percent of the civilian labor force.

Table A-9. Persons not in the labor force and multiple jobholders by sex, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Total		Men		Women	
	Aug. 1995	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Aug. 1996	Aug. 1995	Aug. 1996
<b>NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE</b>						
Total not in the labor force .....	65,418	65,836	23,155	23,447	42,264	42,389
Persons who currently want a job .....	5,719	5,668	2,127	2,116	3,592	3,547
Searched for work and available to work now <sup>1</sup> .....	1,510	1,436	673	687	837	749
Reason not currently looking:						
Discouragement over job prospects <sup>2</sup> .....	410	415	241	256	169	159
Reasons other than discouragement <sup>3</sup> .....	1,101	1,021	433	432	668	590
<b>MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS</b>						
Total multiple jobholders <sup>4</sup> .....	7,565	7,525	4,189	4,089	3,376	3,436
Percent of total employed .....	6.0	5.9	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.9
Primary job full time, secondary job part time .....	4,290	4,252	2,655	2,528	1,736	1,724
Primary and secondary jobs both part time .....	1,626	1,514	875	813	1,061	1,001
Primary and secondary jobs both full time .....	278	245	195	192	83	53
Hours vary on primary or secondary job .....	1,222	1,477	743	848	488	630

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Includes those who think no work available, could not find work, lacks schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Includes persons who work part time on their primary job and full time on their secondary job(s), not shown separately.

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996P	Aug. 1996P	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996P	Aug. 1996P	
Total	117,206	120,578	119,539	119,750	117,499	118,928	119,335	119,554	119,782	120,032	
Total private	99,082	101,066	101,143	101,496	98,130	99,531	99,877	100,103	100,292	100,465	
Goods-producing	24,629	24,585	24,549	24,757	24,179	24,209	24,262	24,275	24,266	24,295	
Mining	587	578	580	579	578	573	576	575	570	568	
Metal mining	52.1	53.0	53.0	53.2	51	51	52	52	52	52	
Coal mining	105.4	100.6	100.5	97.5	105	101	101	101	100	97	
Oil and gas extraction	319.5	313.2	314.2	315.1	314	314	316	314	310	311	
Nonmetallic minerals, except fuels	109.9	111.6	112.5	113.3	106	107	107	108	106	108	
Construction	5,494	5,626	5,743	5,776	5,164	5,353	5,384	5,403	5,426	5,432	
General building contractors	1,256.0	1,269.2	1,287.2	1,291.6	1,194	1,227	1,229	1,233	1,230	1,229	
Heavy construction, except building	822.8	823.9	835.3	842.6	752	785	764	768	768	770	
Special trade contractors	3,415.1	3,532.4	3,620.1	3,642.2	3,218	3,361	3,391	3,402	3,428	3,433	
Manufacturing	18,548	18,381	18,226	18,402	18,439	18,283	18,302	18,297	18,270	18,295	
Production workers	12,853	12,702	12,541	12,720	12,765	12,623	12,632	12,635	12,615	12,631	
Durable goods	10,857	10,747	10,632	10,714	10,853	10,654	10,679	10,695	10,682	10,714	
Production workers	7,291	7,373	7,253	7,329	7,300	7,290	7,302	7,327	7,318	7,339	
Lumber and wood products	773.3	774.0	774.7	780.4	761	761	762	766	764	767	
Furniture and fixtures	505.7	501.9	491.9	501.8	507	498	500	500	500	501	
Stone, clay, and glass products	548.0	547.8	544.6	548.3	536	534	537	536	535	536	
Primary metal industries	707.6	709.3	694.9	703.3	709	704	705	708	700	703	
Blast furnaces and basic steel products	241.0	239.4	238.3	239.4	241	238	239	239	237	237	
Fabricated metal products	1,436.9	1,457.2	1,439.8	1,456.3	1,438	1,440	1,443	1,450	1,453	1,458	
Industrial machinery and equipment	2,057.6	2,098.7	2,082.4	2,080.8	2,067	2,066	2,067	2,088	2,087	2,089	
Computer and office equipment	351.2	360.9	359.9	359.6	351	358	360	359	357	359	
Electronic and other electrical equipment	1,623.8	1,655.6	1,648.2	1,649.9	1,625	1,650	1,652	1,651	1,650	1,652	
Electronic components and accessories	587.0	616.2	615.9	615.4	586	615	615	614	616	615	
Transportation equipment	1,778.5	1,778.5	1,744.6	1,773.1	1,787	1,763	1,773	1,775	1,769	1,791	
Motor vehicles and equipment	968.4	973.0	934.9	960.2	972	958	965	967	955	979	
Aircraft and parts	445.7	445.7	450.6	454.4	449	447	449	446	446	454	
Instruments and related products	836.3	836.5	831.6	834.1	835	832	834	835	831	833	
Miscellaneous manufacturing	389.6	387.8	378.9	385.6	388	386	386	386	385	384	
Nondurable goods	7,891	7,634	7,594	7,688	7,786	7,829	7,823	7,602	7,588	7,581	
Production workers	5,562	5,329	5,298	5,392	5,465	5,333	5,330	5,308	5,297	5,292	
Food and kindred products	1,759.3	1,647.3	1,679.3	1,726.0	1,678	1,666	1,664	1,647	1,640	1,644	
Tobacco products	44.1	37.7	37.3	40.0	43	41	41	41	41	39	
Textile mill products	663.8	641.6	630.9	637.6	662	636	637	637	637	634	
Apparel and other textile products	926.9	856.6	828.1	840.0	922	859	853	847	848	835	
Paper and allied products	696.3	681.6	677.2	680.1	692	677	679	676	673	674	
Printing and publishing	1,539.3	1,527.8	1,525.4	1,524.2	1,541	1,527	1,525	1,528	1,527	1,525	
Chemicals and allied products	1,038.1	1,026.9	1,025.1	1,027.9	1,031	1,024	1,025	1,020	1,019	1,022	
Petroleum and coal products	146.6	142.3	142.2	142.7	143	139	139	140	139	139	
Rubber and misc. plastics products	971.6	974.4	959.2	972.5	972	962	963	969	967	974	
Leather and leather products	105.3	97.3	92.0	96.9	104	98	97	97	97	95	
Service-producing	92,577	95,993	94,990	94,993	90,320	94,719	95,073	95,279	95,516	95,737	
Transportation and public utilities	6,170	6,384	6,324	6,335	6,187	6,294	6,311	6,327	6,333	6,348	
Transportation	3,904	4,070	4,026	4,034	3,936	4,015	4,028	4,043	4,051	4,062	
Railroad transportation	239.2	231.8	233.0	232.4	236	233	232	231	230	230	
Local and interurban passenger transit	366.5	452.8	383.8	394.4	432	442	450	453	459	465	
Trucking and warehousing	1,894.9	1,905.1	1,907.0	1,907.3	1,872	1,882	1,891	1,890	1,887	1,890	
Water transportation	180.0	177.3	181.7	179.5	175	173	187	171	172	173	
Transportation by air	794.2	846.6	853.4	861.4	789	837	837	844	847	856	
Pipelines, except natural gas	14.9	14.2	14.3	14.2	15	14	14	14	14	14	
Transportation services	414.4	441.7	442.8	445.2	415	434	437	440	442	444	
Communications and public utilities	2,286	2,294	2,298	2,301	2,251	2,279	2,283	2,284	2,282	2,286	
Communications	1,345.2	1,391.5	1,397.1	1,403.3	1,339	1,378	1,384	1,388	1,391	1,398	
Electric, gas, and sanitary services	920.9	902.8	900.8	897.5	912	901	899	896	891	888	
Wholesale trade	6,472	6,622	6,630	6,628	6,437	6,550	6,567	6,576	6,586	6,593	
Durable goods	3,767	3,883	3,895	3,881	3,752	3,844	3,850	3,858	3,861	3,866	
Nondurable goods	2,705	2,739	2,745	2,747	2,685	2,706	2,717	2,718	2,725	2,727	

See footnotes at end of table.

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

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

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996P	Aug. 1996P	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996P	Aug. 1996P
Retail trade .....	21,388	21,774	21,786	21,870	21,225	21,422	21,499	21,575	21,663	21,684
Building materials and garden supplies .....	890.6	959.5	954.3	948.2	871	896	907	917	925	925
General merchandise stores .....	2,638.9	2,660.3	2,676.8	2,702.3	2,679	2,679	2,728	2,726	2,733	2,745
Department stores .....	2,314.9	2,349.2	2,365.2	2,390.1	2,349	2,358	2,406	2,406	2,415	2,430
Food stores .....	3,390.6	3,445.9	3,451.9	3,460.4	3,377	3,401	3,416	3,422	3,431	3,445
Automotive dealers and service stations .....	2,220.8	2,294.8	2,312.1	2,319.5	2,193	2,253	2,259	2,272	2,285	2,294
New and used car dealers .....	1,000.9	1,033.0	1,030.4	1,041.7	996	1,025	1,027	1,030	1,033	1,037
Apparel and accessory stores .....	1,127.0	1,091.1	1,092.0	1,098.5	1,126	1,098	1,100	1,101	1,101	1,098
Furniture and home furnishings stores .....	936.5	962.8	971.2	976.6	947	957	963	972	982	986
Eating and drinking places .....	7,569.4	7,719.3	7,688.5	7,707.1	7,378	7,469	7,454	7,485	7,524	7,496
Miscellaneous retail establishments .....	2,813.6	2,640.1	2,638.7	2,657.5	2,654	2,669	2,672	2,680	2,685	2,695
Finance, insurance, and real estate .....	6,906	7,032	7,073	7,085	6,833	6,942	6,964	6,967	6,987	7,007
Finance .....	3,252	3,337	3,354	3,384	3,235	3,303	3,315	3,319	3,329	3,344
Depository institutions .....	2,032.6	2,041.2	2,046.9	2,049.3	2,020	2,023	2,026	2,029	2,031	2,032
Commercial banks .....	1,474.9	1,479.2	1,485.2	1,487.1	1,464	1,467	1,469	1,470	1,471	1,474
Savings institutions .....	272.4	268.0	266.7	265.7	271	266	267	267	265	264
Nondepository institutions .....	486.1	511.3	514.4	519.5	466	(5)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Mortgage bankers and brokers .....	207.3	231.6	232.5	235.1	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Security and commodity brokers .....	526.6	543.1	548.3	550.7	522	534	538	541	543	548
Holding and other investment offices .....	227.5	241.6	244.0	244.9	227	241	244	240	242	245
Insurance .....	2,248	2,296	2,272	2,289	2,241	2,256	2,261	2,259	2,261	2,261
Insurance carriers .....	1,547.6	1,555.4	1,560.7	1,559.7	1,543	1,549	1,552	1,551	1,553	1,554
Insurance agents, brokers, and service .....	700.0	710.4	711.5	709.1	698	707	709	708	708	707
Real estate .....	1,406	1,429	1,447	1,452	1,357	1,383	1,388	1,389	1,387	1,402
Services <sup>2</sup> .....	33,517	34,689	34,781	34,821	33,269	34,114	34,274	34,383	34,457	34,538
Agricultural services .....	633.1	686.2	685.1	676.2	580	606	605	615	618	619
Hotels and other lodging places .....	1,791.2	1,799.3	1,827.9	1,829.9	1,662	1,673	1,681	1,704	1,689	1,694
Personal services .....	1,125.1	1,147.7	1,135.0	1,138.8	1,166	1,179	1,177	1,175	1,176	1,182
Business services .....	6,909.3	7,198.7	7,246.4	7,353.8	6,831	7,065	7,152	7,189	7,226	7,275
Services to buildings .....	894.7	903.3	898.8	900.5	896	900	903	895	893	891
Personnel supply services .....	2,541.4	2,636.4	2,673.9	2,757.5	2,477	2,569	2,622	2,648	2,670	2,697
Help supply services .....	2,250.3	2,337.1	2,374.2	2,446.8	2,190	2,272	2,322	2,353	2,370	2,393
Computer and data processing services .....	1,097.3	1,194.5	1,205.9	1,219.0	1,099	1,169	1,184	1,195	1,206	1,218
Auto repair, services, and parking .....	1,032.0	1,096.1	1,106.2	1,111.7	1,025	1,072	1,078	1,085	1,097	1,105
Miscellaneous repair services .....	360.5	368.6	369.1	368.8	356	363	364	368	365	365
Motion pictures .....	500.5	531.1	537.3	542.2	491	517	528	526	531	528
Amusement and recreation services .....	1,684.4	1,736.7	1,774.9	1,788.3	1,451	1,517	1,516	1,504	1,514	1,518
Health services .....	9,316.9	9,586.8	9,604.0	9,608.7	9,291	9,520	9,555	9,566	9,571	9,580
Offices and clinics of medical doctors .....	1,618.5	1,677.8	1,683.7	1,688.0	1,611	1,659	1,668	1,674	1,678	1,678
Nursing and personal care facilities .....	1,705.1	1,745.7	1,753.0	1,756.3	1,698	1,733	1,740	1,744	1,748	1,749
Hospitals .....	3,796.2	3,857.0	3,862.1	3,854.8	3,788	3,844	3,851	3,847	3,846	3,846
Home health care services .....	635.9	659.7	656.1	653.6	637	658	658	657	655	654
Legal services .....	929.3	943.8	946.0	939.7	922	926	928	929	932	934
Educational services .....	1,694.3	1,822.3	1,754.3	1,715.5	1,976	1,994	1,987	2,001	2,016	2,000
Social services .....	2,305.2	2,390.4	2,380.5	2,371.4	2,336	2,385	2,395	2,396	2,403	2,410
Child day care services .....	516.5	553.3	515.0	517.4	568	569	571	570	568	571
Residential care .....	647.8	671.0	674.8	676.1	643	661	663	665	668	670
Museums and botanical and zoological gardens .....	87.3	91.7	93.2	91.3	81	84	85	85	85	85
Membership organizations .....	2,175.3	2,182.1	2,211.3	2,183.4	2,141	2,137	2,147	2,148	2,148	2,148
Engineering and management services .....	2,780.5	2,914.3	2,918.9	2,926.1	2,769	2,863	2,866	2,901	2,893	2,914
Engineering and architectural services .....	229.4	257.1	258.3	261.5	216	234	238	249	244	247
Management and public relations .....	839.1	908.7	913.1	921.1	833	892	891	901	903	914
Services, nec .....	44.7	46.1	46.2	46.9	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Government .....	18,124	19,512	18,396	18,254	19,369	19,397	19,458	19,451	19,490	19,567
Federal .....	2,839	2,763	2,777	2,767	2,822	2,776	2,776	2,758	2,753	2,748
Federal, except Postal Service .....	1,989.2	1,931.1	1,928.9	1,916.9	1,977	1,920	1,918	1,926	1,898	1,894
State .....	4,380	4,509	4,412	4,401	4,538	4,645	4,655	4,654	4,665	4,672
Education .....	1,639.3	1,786.9	1,677.5	1,681.7	1,935	1,956	1,963	1,968	1,984	1,981
Other State government .....	2,741.0	2,721.9	2,734.4	2,719.1	2,703	2,689	2,692	2,686	2,681	2,691
Local .....	10,905	12,220	11,207	11,086	11,909	11,875	12,027	12,041	12,072	12,147
Education .....	5,443.7	6,752.4	5,814.6	5,564.6	6,664	6,692	6,800	6,724	6,777	6,825
Other local government .....	5,461.0	5,467.2	5,591.9	5,521.4	5,245	5,203	5,337	5,317	5,295	5,322

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> Includes other industries, not shown separately.

<sup>3</sup> This series is 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.

<sup>P</sup> preliminary.

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers<sup>1</sup> on private nonfarm payrolls by industry

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted					Seasonally adjusted				
	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1996 <sup>P</sup>
Total private .....	34.8	34.9	34.6	34.8	34.4	34.3	34.2	34.7	34.3	34.4
Goods-producing .....	41.2	41.4	40.9	41.3	40.9	41.0	40.9	41.2	41.0	41.0
Mining .....	44.7	46.0	44.7	45.0	44.4	45.0	45.2	45.8	44.8	44.5
Construction .....	39.8	39.6	39.8	39.8	39.7	39.9	39.1	38.7	38.7	38.7
Manufacturing .....	41.5	41.9	41.1	41.8	41.5	41.5	41.7	41.8	41.6	41.7
Overtime hours .....	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.7	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.4
Durable goods .....	42.3	42.7	41.7	42.5	42.3	42.4	42.5	42.6	42.3	42.5
Overtime hours .....	4.7	4.9	4.4	4.9	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.0	4.7	4.7
Lumber and wood products .....	41.1	41.6	40.8	41.4	40.6	40.7	41.0	41.2	41.2	40.9
Furniture and fixtures .....	40.1	39.5	39.2	40.0	39.7	39.2	39.7	39.5	39.7	39.5
Stone, clay, and glass products .....	43.7	44.1	43.5	44.2	43.1	43.4	43.2	43.5	43.2	43.4
Primary metal industries .....	43.4	44.3	43.5	43.9	43.7	43.9	44.3	44.1	43.9	44.3
Blast furnaces and basic steel products .....	43.8	44.5	44.3	43.7	43.9	44.1	44.4	44.5	44.2	43.9
Fabricated metal products .....	42.2	42.7	41.6	42.6	42.2	42.3	42.6	42.6	42.4	42.5
Industrial machinery and equipment .....	43.0	43.3	42.4	42.6	43.5	43.1	43.2	43.3	42.9	42.9
Electronic and other electrical equipment .....	41.4	41.6	40.5	41.4	41.6	41.0	41.3	41.6	41.2	41.5
Transportation equipment .....	43.5	44.5	42.7	44.2	43.6	44.6	44.5	44.4	44.0	44.6
Motor vehicles and equipment .....	44.3	45.7	43.3	45.2	44.5	46.1	46.5	45.7	45.4	46.1
Instruments and related products .....	41.2	42.0	41.0	41.6	41.5	41.4	41.6	41.9	41.4	41.8
Miscellaneous manufacturing .....	39.9	39.7	38.9	40.0	39.9	39.6	39.9	39.8	39.7	39.9
Nondurable goods .....	40.6	40.8	40.3	40.9	40.4	40.4	40.6	40.7	40.5	40.5
Overtime hours .....	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.4	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.0
Food and kindred products .....	41.7	40.9	40.9	41.6	41.2	41.0	41.1	41.1	40.7	40.7
Tobacco products .....	40.4	41.1	38.7	39.9	40.0	40.4	39.4	39.4	39.3	39.6
Textile mill products .....	41.0	41.4	40.2	41.2	40.7	40.3	40.6	41.0	40.8	40.8
Apparel and other textile products .....	37.0	37.9	36.8	37.5	36.8	36.5	37.2	37.6	37.1	37.3
Paper and allied products .....	42.7	43.4	43.1	43.1	42.9	43.4	43.4	43.5	43.3	43.0
Printing and publishing .....	38.2	37.9	37.9	38.4	38.1	38.1	38.3	38.1	38.2	38.2
Chemicals and allied products .....	42.8	43.4	43.0	43.1	43.1	42.9	43.2	43.4	43.3	43.5
Petroleum and coal products .....	43.2	44.7	44.5	44.3	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rubber and misc. plastics products .....	41.1	41.7	40.8	41.6	41.3	41.5	41.4	41.5	41.6	41.5
Leather and leather products .....	38.6	39.1	37.9	38.7	38.2	37.6	38.3	38.5	38.5	38.6
Service-producing .....	33.0	33.2	32.9	33.0	32.6	32.5	32.5	33.0	32.5	32.7
Transportation and public utilities .....	39.8	40.1	39.6	39.9	39.4	39.4	39.2	40.0	39.2	39.5
Wholesale trade .....	38.3	38.6	38.1	38.3	38.2	38.1	38.1	38.7	38.0	38.2
Retail trade .....	29.5	29.4	29.5	29.5	28.7	28.6	28.8	29.0	28.7	28.8
Finance, insurance, and real estate .....	35.7	36.5	35.6	35.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Services .....	32.7	32.8	32.5	32.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

<sup>1</sup> 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.  
<sup>2</sup> 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.  
<sup>P</sup> = preliminary.

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers<sup>1</sup> on private nonfarm payrolls by industry

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1996 <sup>P</sup>
Total private .....	\$11.37	\$11.76	\$11.74	\$11.77	\$395.68	\$410.42	\$406.20	\$409.60
Seasonally adjusted .....	11.46	11.83	11.81	11.87	394.22	410.50	405.08	408.33
Goods-producing .....	13.10	13.44	13.55	13.58	539.72	556.42	554.20	560.85
Mining .....	15.29	15.57	15.54	15.47	683.46	716.22	694.84	696.15
Construction .....	15.20	15.32	15.49	15.54	604.96	606.67	618.50	618.49
Manufacturing .....	12.35	12.75	12.80	12.84	512.53	534.23	526.08	536.71
Durable goods .....	12.92	13.32	13.36	13.46	546.52	568.76	557.11	572.05
Lumber and wood products .....	10.20	10.45	10.47	10.51	419.22	434.72	427.18	435.11
Furniture and fixtures .....	9.88	10.11	10.12	10.15	396.59	399.35	396.70	406.00
Stone, clay, and glass products .....	12.47	12.81	12.93	12.93	544.94	564.92	562.46	571.51
Primary metal industries .....	14.63	14.92	15.12	15.14	634.94	660.96	657.72	664.85
Blast furnaces and basic steel products .....	17.43	17.69	18.02	18.11	763.43	787.21	798.29	791.41
Fabricated metal products .....	12.10	12.49	12.46	12.60	510.62	533.32	519.17	536.76
Industrial machinery and equipment .....	13.24	13.52	13.57	13.65	569.32	585.42	575.37	581.49
Electronic and other electrical equipment .....	11.73	12.16	12.24	12.25	485.62	506.86	495.72	507.15
Transportation equipment .....	16.67	17.26	17.33	17.61	725.15	768.07	739.99	778.38
Motor vehicles and equipment .....	17.20	17.91	18.00	18.37	761.96	818.49	779.40	830.32
Instruments and related products .....	12.70	13.09	13.20	13.22	523.24	548.78	541.20	549.95
Miscellaneous manufacturing .....	9.99	10.35	10.40	10.45	396.60	410.90	404.56	418.00
Nondurable goods .....	11.56	11.93	12.02	11.97	469.34	486.74	484.41	489.57
Food and kindred products .....	10.90	11.24	11.27	11.17	454.53	459.72	460.94	484.67
Tobacco products .....	18.56	21.52	21.13	19.66	749.62	804.47	817.73	784.43
Textile mill products .....	9.44	9.67	9.67	9.69	387.04	400.34	388.73	399.23
Apparel and other textile products .....	7.68	7.98	7.95	7.99	284.16	302.44	292.56	299.63
Paper and allied products .....	14.20	14.64	14.81	14.76	606.34	635.38	638.31	636.16
Printing and publishing .....	12.36	12.53	12.64	12.70	472.15	474.89	479.06	487.68
Chemicals and allied products .....	15.57	16.15	16.18	16.24	666.40	700.31	695.74	699.94
Petroleum and coal products .....	19.14	18.86	19.01	18.85	826.65	843.04	845.95	835.06
Rubber and misc. plastics products .....	10.93	11.16	11.25	11.26	449.22	465.37	458.00	468.42
Leather and leather products .....	8.14	8.48	8.42	8.62	314.20	331.57	319.12	333.59
Service-producing .....	10.78	11.20	11.14	11.16	355.74	371.84	366.51	368.28
Transportation and public utilities .....	14.24	14.47	14.55	14.56	566.75	580.25	576.18	580.94
Wholesale trade .....	12.40	12.85	12.90	12.81	474.92	496.58	487.68	490.62
Retail trade .....	7.65	7.97	7.94	7.96	225.68	234.32	234.23	234.82
Finance, insurance, and real estate .....	12.26	12.76	12.69	12.70	438.40	465.74	451.76	453.39
Services .....	11.22	11.67	11.61	11.63	366.89	382.78	377.33	380.30

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table B-2.

P = preliminary.

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-4. Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers<sup>1</sup> on private nonfarm payrolls by industry, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Percent change from: July 1996- Aug. 1996
Total private:							
Current dollars .....	\$11.46	\$11.72	\$11.73	\$11.83	\$11.81	\$11.87	0.5
Constant (1982) dollars <sup>2</sup> .....	7.39	7.40	7.38	7.44	7.41	N.A.	(3)
Goods-producing .....	13.10	13.40	13.38	13.45	13.49	13.59	.7
Mining .....	15.43	15.44	15.48	15.59	15.59	15.60	.1
Construction .....	15.14	15.29	15.31	15.40	15.47	15.48	-.1
Manufacturing .....	12.42	12.74	12.72	12.77	12.80	12.93	1.0
Excluding overtime <sup>3</sup> .....	11.79	12.09	12.06	12.12	12.18	12.28	1.0
Service-producing .....	10.91	11.15	11.18	11.29	11.25	11.30	.4
Transportation and public utilities	14.27	14.49	14.50	14.56	14.56	14.62	.4
Wholesale trade .....	12.48	12.71	12.71	12.91	12.81	12.87	.5
Retail trade .....	7.72	7.90	7.93	8.00	7.98	8.02	.5
Finance, insurance, and real estate .....	12.37	12.64	12.76	12.86	12.77	12.83	.5
Services .....	11.40	11.65	11.69	11.79	11.77	11.81	.3

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table B-2.<sup>2</sup> The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) is used to deflate this series.<sup>3</sup> Change was -.4 percent from June 1996 to July

1996, the latest month available.

<sup>4</sup> Derived by assuming that overtime hours are paid at the rate of time and one-half.

N.A. = not available.

P = preliminary.



## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-5. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers<sup>1</sup> on private nonfarm payrolls by industry (1982=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	Aug. 1995	June 1996	July 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1995	Apr. 1996	May 1996	June 1996	July 1996 <sup>P</sup>	Aug. 1996 <sup>P</sup>
Total private .....	136.5	139.9	138.6	140.0	133.4	135.2	135.4	137.7	136.1	136.9
Goods-producing .....	113.0	113.3	111.4	114.1	109.7	109.9	110.0	110.7	110.1	110.5
Mining .....	55.1	56.8	55.1	55.5	53.4	54.8	55.2	55.9	54.1	53.7
Construction .....	155.8	158.1	163.0	163.8	140.3	146.7	144.3	147.0	147.8	147.8
Manufacturing .....	107.6	107.3	103.9	107.2	106.9	105.7	106.2	106.5	105.8	106.2
Durable goods .....	107.5	109.9	105.5	108.6	107.8	107.7	108.4	108.9	108.1	108.9
Lumber and wood products .....	138.4	140.4	137.4	140.8	134.2	134.5	135.9	137.2	137.0	136.2
Furniture and fixtures .....	125.8	123.3	119.4	124.9	125.1	121.1	124.2	122.6	123.9	123.2
Stone, clay, and glass products .....	112.7	114.2	111.5	114.3	108.4	109.1	108.6	109.7	108.8	109.4
Primary metal industries .....	90.1	93.0	88.9	91.0	91.3	91.0	92.0	92.3	90.7	92.0
Blast furnaces and basic steel products .....	72.3	73.8	72.9	71.8	72.5	72.4	73.3	73.5	72.2	71.7
Fabricated metal products .....	113.0	116.3	111.4	115.6	113.1	113.5	114.5	115.3	115.1	115.8
Industrial machinery and equipment .....	101.6	104.4	101.1	101.4	103.7	103.4	103.7	103.9	102.9	103.2
Electronic and other electrical equipment .....	106.7	108.7	105.0	107.1	107.6	107.0	107.8	108.3	107.9	108.0
Transportation equipment .....	120.1	124.6	116.0	122.8	121.4	122.9	122.5	123.8	122.1	125.5
Motor vehicles and equipment .....	161.8	170.3	153.3	164.8	163.4	168.0	171.7	169.6	165.2	171.3
Instruments and related products .....	73.0	74.4	71.5	73.3	73.5	72.9	73.6	74.0	72.6	73.5
Miscellaneous manufacturing .....	103.2	102.5	97.2	102.2	102.9	101.4	102.1	102.3	101.3	101.0
Nondurable goods .....	107.9	103.8	101.8	105.3	105.6	102.9	103.3	103.3	102.6	102.5
Food and kindred products .....	123.2	111.8	114.4	120.9	114.3	113.7	114.2	112.6	111.1	111.2
Tobacco products .....	67.9	57.8	52.6	60.9	63.4	64.0	60.5	62.5	60.3	56.9
Textile mill products .....	95.5	93.2	88.8	92.5	94.5	90.1	90.9	91.6	91.2	91.0
Apparel and other textile products .....	83.1	78.2	72.9	75.8	82.4	75.5	76.4	76.7	75.9	74.9
Paper and allied products .....	110.2	109.3	107.7	108.8	106.6	106.5	106.4	107.5	107.3	107.3
Printing and publishing .....	124.6	121.9	121.4	123.4	124.4	122.7	123.2	122.7	122.8	122.8
Chemicals and allied products .....	101.9	101.2	99.6	100.3	102.0	100.1	100.4	100.6	100.0	100.4
Petroleum and coal products .....	78.5	78.9	78.6	78.9	77.1	72.8	72.9	76.7	76.3	77.3
Rubber and misc. plastics products .....	140.8	142.9	136.8	142.3	141.4	139.8	140.1	141.0	141.3	142.1
Leather and leather products .....	49.2	45.2	40.4	44.4	48.1	43.9	44.1	44.4	43.2	43.3
Service-producing .....	147.0	151.9	150.9	151.6	144.1	146.6	146.8	149.8	147.7	148.8
Transportation and public utilities .....	125.9	131.3	128.9	129.9	124.8	127.6	127.2	130.1	127.6	128.8
Wholesale trade .....	123.3	127.3	125.4	125.8	122.1	123.7	124.0	126.1	123.9	124.5
Retail trade .....	136.5	138.7	139.6	139.6	131.9	132.7	134.0	135.4	134.6	135.1
Finance, insurance, and real estate .....	124.5	129.9	127.4	127.9	123.2	124.6	124.3	128.9	125.4	126.4
Services .....	174.1	180.8	179.8	180.9	170.8	175.1	174.7	178.7	176.3	178.0

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1, table B-2.

P = preliminary.

## ESTABLISHMENT DATA

## 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 <sup>1</sup>												
Over 1-month span:												
1992	43.7	43.7	50.0	57.3	55.5	50.1	52.2	49.0	52.1	56.3	53.2	57.4
1993	60.0	60.8	51.3	58.6	61.7	55.2	57.7	57.0	61.9	59.7	61.8	59.6
1994	58.8	62.1	66.0	64.2	60.3	63.5	61.5	62.1	60.8	61.5	63.1	63.9
1995	63.2	59.3	54.9	54.6	51.4	55.1	54.1	57.4	51.8	54.8	56.3	59.4
1996	52.4	63.2	60.0	52.4	62.2	57.4	P55.2	P58.3				
Over 3-month span:												
1992	39.7	41.9	49.7	57.0	58.4	55.8	50.6	50.1	52.8	54.4	57.6	61.2
1993	63.8	61.2	61.1	59.8	63.1	62.9	59.7	63.1	64.5	67.1	64.6	63.5
1994	67.1	69.5	70.4	68.7	66.4	66.0	68.5	69.5	65.3	65.6	68.0	67.8
1995	66.6	63.2	56.9	53.4	54.2	52.9	56.6	53.8	54.2	54.6	58.3	57.0
1996	60.7	61.8	61.2	60.0	61.0	P63.2	P60.4					
Over 6-month span:												
1992	43.3	46.8	47.5	52.5	54.9	56.7	53.8	52.2	55.5	57.6	63.9	61.9
1993	63.3	65.2	63.8	64.2	62.4	65.9	65.7	63.9	66.3	67.3	70.8	69.5
1994	70.8	71.6	69.0	69.8	69.5	69.5	69.2	69.0	69.2	68.5	69.1	66.6
1995	66.3	60.8	58.7	54.4	53.5	54.1	53.1	56.3	55.9	54.1	56.2	61.8
1996	60.3	62.9	63.8	P63.8	P63.5							
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	69.5	69.2	70.1
1994	70.2	71.6	71.8	71.8	72.1	71.8	71.5	72.1	70.1	69.4	65.7	65.0
1995	62.6	60.8	60.1	61.2	58.1	57.7	54.5	58.7	58.8	57.3	59.4	59.8
1996	P60.3	P62.6										
Manufacturing payrolls, 139 industries <sup>1</sup>												
Over 1-month span:												
1992	37.4	39.9	43.9	56.8	50.0	48.9	52.2	44.6	47.5	47.8	51.4	54.7
1993	52.5	56.5	50.7	45.7	54.0	45.7	49.3	49.3	59.4	53.2	53.6	55.0
1994	56.5	60.1	59.7	58.6	53.2	57.9	57.6	53.8	55.8	54.7	57.2	59.4
1995	56.8	55.0	46.0	45.3	39.2	40.3	45.0	45.0	42.4	45.3	46.4	47.5
1996	42.1	48.2	48.2	39.6	53.2	49.6	P44.6	P51.1				
Over 3-month span:												
1992	29.9	33.5	43.9	49.6	55.4	53.2	46.8	47.8	45.7	47.5	51.1	54.7
1993	60.8	58.3	53.2	47.8	48.9	54.0	50.4	58.3	57.8	59.7	54.7	57.6
1994	63.7	64.4	66.2	60.8	56.1	56.8	60.8	58.6	54.0	56.1	60.1	60.8
1995	60.4	51.8	43.5	34.9	33.1	32.0	33.1	35.6	38.8	39.6	40.6	38.8
1996	38.8	39.9	37.8	43.2	45.3	P48.2	P45.0					
Over 6-month span:												
1992	32.4	34.9	39.9	46.8	52.2	54.3	48.2	47.8	51.1	51.1	56.8	56.5
1993	56.5	59.0	56.8	55.4	50.7	57.9	58.4	56.5	57.8	56.8	64.4	60.8
1994	62.2	64.4	60.4	61.5	59.0	56.8	56.5	57.2	60.1	55.8	59.7	55.8
1995	55.4	45.0	38.5	33.5	27.7	28.8	28.8	30.6	33.5	33.1	34.2	38.8
1996	32.0	37.4	37.1		P38.5	P43.9						
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	59.7	60.1	57.6
1994	57.9	58.6	60.8	60.8	60.8	63.3	59.4	60.1	57.2	55.8	49.6	47.5
1995	42.1	40.3	39.9	40.6	34.5	31.7	25.9	28.8	28.1	24.1	27.0	29.1
1996	P32.4	P34.9										

<sup>1</sup> 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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Honorable Connie Mack  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Mack:

I am writing to provide further information on questions that you raised at the September 6 Joint Economic Committee hearing.

During a discussion of our most recent survey of worker displacement, you asked why women who are displaced from their jobs are less likely to remain in the labor force than men. As a starting point for examining this question, I think it is important to note some general differences between the labor market behavior of men and women unrelated to displacement. First, women who are in the labor force in any given month are more likely than men to have left the labor force by the following month, whether they had been working or looking for work in the earlier month. Second, women in general are less likely to be in the labor force at all than men. I have enclosed a table showing the labor force participation rates for women and men as of February 1996, the time of our most recent displaced worker survey. For each age group, the labor force participation rate (the proportion of a population that is employed or unemployed) is lower for women than men, both overall as well as among those who have experienced displacement from a job. In fact, the differences between the rates of participation for women and men tend to be smaller among the displaced than among the population as a whole.

Although the gender gap in labor force participation has narrowed considerably over the last three decades, differences in participation between women and men persist. While there are many reasons why women are less likely to be in the labor force than men, certainly one is the need of families to balance labor market activity with childrearing, elder care, and other home activities for which women traditionally have assumed greater responsibility. In this regard, data on the marital status of displaced workers are informative. As shown in the enclosed table 2, among women age 25 to 54, those who are married are much more likely to be out of the labor force following displacement from a job than are single women or those who are widowed, divorced, or separated. Indeed, rates of labor force withdrawal

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following displacement are not much different for unmarried women than for unmarried men. In making the decision about whether to seek a new job after displacement, therefore, the ability to depend on other family members together with the pull of competing family responsibilities appear to be important factors.

Another factor for some workers might be their previous level of commitment to the labor force. Women are somewhat more likely than men to have been displaced from part-time jobs. The trade-offs between continued participation in the labor force and other responsibilities undoubtedly are different for part-time workers who, by definition, were committing less time to the labor market (and were earning much less) than were their full-time counterparts. As shown in the enclosed tables, the proportion of women out of the labor force following job displacement also varies by occupation and level of education, although, in all cases, women displaced from jobs were more likely than men to be out of the labor force following job loss.

Definitively sorting through the many, and undoubtedly interrelated, factors affecting labor market outcomes for women following displacement from a job is beyond the scope of this letter. We will continue to consider this issue as we analyze these data further. I think it is important to note, however, that it is only through the collection of data on key issues, such as worker displacement, that we at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, other researchers, and policymakers can hope to improve our understanding of the situations faced by workers and their families in our changing economy.

At the September 6 hearing, you also asked about the projected future growth of the labor force. According to our most recent projections, the labor force is expected to increase by 16.1 million between 1994 and 2005, an increase of about 1.5 million people per year. I have enclosed an article from the Monthly Labor Review that discusses our labor force projections in some detail.

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I hope you find this information and the enclosed materials useful. If I can provide further assistance to you on these or other topics, I will be happy to do so.

Sincerely yours,

KATHARINE G. ABRAHAM  
Commissioner

Enclosures

**Table 1. Labor force participation rates of all workers and displaced workers by sex and age, February 1996**

Sex and age	All workers	Displaced workers <sup>1</sup>
<b>Characteristic</b>		
Women, 20 years and over.....	59.5	80.0
20 to 24 years.....	69.1	82.8
25 to 54 years.....	75.8	84.6
55 years and over.....	24.1	55.6
Men, 20 years and over.....	76.3	91.1
20 to 24 years.....	81.1	94.8
25 to 54 years.....	91.4	95.6
55 years and over.....	37.7	65.8
<b>Difference between: men's and women's rates</b>		
20 years and over.....	16.8	11.1
20 to 24 years.....	12.0	12.0
25 to 54 years.....	15.6	11.0
55 years and over.....	13.6	10.2

<sup>1</sup>Data refer to persons who had 3 or more years of tenure on a job they had lost or left between January 1993 and December 1995 because of plant or company closings or moves, insufficient work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts.

Table 2. Displaced workers 25 to 54 years old by sex, marital status, and employment status in February 1996

Sex and marital status	Total (thousands)	Percent distribution by employment status			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
<b>Men</b>					
25 to 54 years.....	1,724	100.0	82.2	13.4	4.4
Single.....	271	100.0	74.0	19.6	6.4
Married, spouse present.....	1,206	100.0	84.5	11.6	3.8
Widowed, divorced, or separated.....	247	100.0	79.5	15.4	5.1
<b>Women</b>					
25 to 54 years.....	1,322	100.0	73.6	11.0	15.4
Single.....	230	100.0	83.2	11.8	5.0
Married, spouse present.....	807	100.0	67.4	12.1	20.5
Widowed, divorced, or separated.....	285	100.0	83.3	7.2	9.5

\*Data refer to persons who had 3 or more years of tenure on a job they had lost or left between January 1993 and December 1995 because of plant or company closings or moves, insufficient work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 3. Displaced workers by occupation of lost job and employment status in February 1996

Occupation of lost job and sex	Total* (thousands)	Percent distribution by employment status			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
<b>Men</b>					
Total, 20 years and over <sup>a</sup> .....	2,115	100.0	77.7	13.3	8.9
Executive, administrative, and managerial.....	370	100.0	80.5	8.9	10.6
Professional specialty.....	223	100.0	77.6	14.2	8.2
Technicians and related support.....	76	100.0	88.6	4.9	6.6
Sales occupations.....	198	100.0	79.4	15.0	5.7
Administrative support, including clerical.....	139	100.0	78.5	10.3	11.1
Service occupations.....	100	100.0	83.6	12.9	3.3
Precision production, craft, and repair.....	470	100.0	81.7	9.4	8.9
Operators, fabricators, and laborers.....	482	100.0	68.8	19.8	11.4
Farming, forestry, and fishing.....	33	100.0	( <sup>a</sup> )	( <sup>a</sup> )	( <sup>a</sup> )
<b>Women</b>					
Total, 20 years and over <sup>a</sup> .....	1,641	100.0	67.7	12.3	20.0
Executive, administrative, and managerial.....	263	100.0	70.5	10.5	19.0
Professional specialty.....	198	100.0	81.4	7.8	10.8
Technicians and related support.....	47	100.0	( <sup>a</sup> )	( <sup>a</sup> )	( <sup>a</sup> )
Sales occupations.....	234	100.0	58.0	18.3	23.7
Administrative support, including clerical.....	512	100.0	70.4	11.1	18.5
Service occupations.....	121	100.0	70.7	10.3	19.0
Precision production, craft, and repair.....	46	100.0	( <sup>a</sup> )	( <sup>a</sup> )	( <sup>a</sup> )
Operators, fabricators, and laborers.....	213	100.0	51.5	15.5	33.0
Farming, forestry, and fishing.....	3	100.0	( <sup>a</sup> )	( <sup>a</sup> )	( <sup>a</sup> )

<sup>a</sup>Data refer to persons who had 3 or more years of tenure on a job they had lost or left between January 1993 and December 1995 because of plant or company closings or moves, insufficient work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts

\*Total includes a small number who did not report occupation.

<sup>a</sup>Data not shown where base is less than 75,000.



**Table 4. Displaced workers by educational attainment, sex, and employment status in February 1996**

Educational attainment and sex	Total <sup>1</sup> (thousands)	Percent distribution by employment status			
		Total	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the labor force
<b>Total</b>					
Total, 20 years and over <sup>2</sup> .....	3,755	100.0	73.4	12.9	13.8
Less than a high school diploma.....	383	100.0	57.8	26.1	16.0
High school graduates, no college.....	1,198	100.0	71.8	12.3	15.9
Some college, less than a bachelor's degree.....	1,258	100.0	74.9	10.5	14.6
College graduates.....	917	100.0	79.9	11.2	8.8
<b>Men</b>					
Total, 20 years and over <sup>2</sup> .....	2,115	100.0	77.7	13.3	8.9
Less than a high school diploma.....	250	100.0	65.6	26.0	8.5
High school graduates, no college.....	664	100.0	79.1	11.5	9.4
Some college, less than a bachelor's degree.....	656	100.0	76.1	13.4	10.5
College graduates.....	545	100.0	83.9	9.5	6.6
<b>Women</b>					
Total, 20 years and over <sup>2</sup> .....	1,641	100.0	67.7	12.3	20.0
Less than a high school diploma.....	133	100.0	43.5	26.3	30.2
High school graduates, no college.....	534	100.0	62.7	13.3	24.0
Some college, less than a bachelor's degree.....	602	100.0	73.5	7.3	19.1
College graduates.....	372	100.0	74.1	13.7	12.1

<sup>1</sup>Data refer to persons who had 3 or more years of tenure on a job they had lost or left between January 1993 and December 1995 because of plant or company closings or moves, insufficient work, or the abolishment of their positions or shifts

NOTE: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding.

*Employment outlook: 1994–2005***The 2005 labor force:  
growing, but slowly**

*The labor force is projected to grow at a slower rate than the pace in 1994; however, labor force participation growth varies widely by race and Hispanic origin group*

Howard N Fullerton, Jr.

**B**y 2005, the number of persons working or looking for work, is expected to reach 147 million, an increase of 16 million from 1994, according to the latest projections of the labor force made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.<sup>1</sup> This 12-percent rate of increase is slower than the 16-percent increase over the previous 11-year period, 1982 to 1993, when the labor force grew by 18 million. BLS projections show that the labor force increase in *numerical* terms also will be much smaller in the projected period than in the corresponding historic period.

The rate of growth in the women's labor force is expected to slow down, but it will still increase at a faster rate than that of men. (See table 1.) This slower rate of projected labor force growth is most prominent among young women. Women, as a result of a faster rate of growth than men, are projected to represent a slightly greater portion of the labor force in 2005 than in 1994—increasing from 46 to 48 percent. The number of men in the labor force is projected to grow, but at a slower rate than in the past as labor force participation for men in most age groups is projected to continue declining. The projected labor force growth will be affected by the aging of the baby-boom generation, those born between 1946 and 1964: at ages 45 to 64, this cohort is

expected to show the most labor force growth. The different race or Hispanic origin groups have shown—and are projected to continue to show—widely varied growth rates because of divergent rates of population growth in the past.

Making projections is not an exact science; consequently, to indicate the range of uncertainty, BLS prepares alternative—low, moderate, and high—projections.<sup>2</sup> Under these alternatives, the work force in 2005 varies from 144 million to 153 million. This range reflects different assumptions about changes in labor force participation rates and in the likely level of immigration. This article focuses primarily on the middle or moderate projection—in which the labor force is expected to total 147 million—and represents a third look at the 2005 labor force by BLS.<sup>3</sup> The BLS projections are based on Bureau of Census projections of the population and BLS projections of labor force participation.<sup>4</sup>

This article describes the demographic labor force projections, made by BLS for 136 age, sex, race, or Hispanic origin groups composing the future labor force.<sup>5</sup> Changes in the labor force are explored because of labor force participation rate or population changes. This article also examines dynamics of the changes resulting from persons entering, leaving, or staying in the labor force; factors leading to changes in the

Howard N Fullerton, Jr. is a demographic statistician in the Office of Employment Projections, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

SEP 13 1996

Honorable Carolyn B. Maloney  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-3214

Dear Congresswoman Maloney:

I deeply regret the confusion concerning the historical trend in real average hourly earnings that occurred during last Friday's hearing of the Joint Economic Committee. I responded to your inquiries regarding changes in that series by providing data which did not match the data that had been furnished to you by your staff. The data I reported were not seasonally adjusted; your staff had given you seasonally adjusted figures. I am sorry that this explanation for the discrepancy between the two sets of numbers did not occur to me during the hearing, and would add that, on reflection, I would consider the seasonally adjusted data supplied by your staff more appropriate for making the kinds of comparisons that you were requesting. I am enclosing the seasonally adjusted data series, which I believe matches the information your staff had extracted from the Bureau of Labor Statistics Website.

At your request, I also am enclosing information on manufacturing employment for the period since January 1981. The data that I had on hand at the hearing covered only the period from 1985 forward.

I appreciated the opportunity to testify before you, and hope that I will have the opportunity to do so again.

Sincerely yours,

KATHARINE G. ABRAHAM  
Commissioner

Enclosures

BLS/OEUS

PLEWES/tle a:maloney.doc typed 9/11/96

cc: Gen.Files, Comm.RF, Cong.Liaison, Abraham, Plewes,  
Werking, Bill Spriggs, rf, df, sf.

09/17/96

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS  
LABSTAT SERIES REPORT

SERIES EES00500049

TOTAL PRIVATE NONAGRICULTURAL ESTABLISHMENTS REAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS, 1982 DOLLARS  
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, FOR PRODUCTION OR NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS

YR	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	ANNUAL AVERAGE
64	7.23	7.26	7.26	7.29	7.30	7.30	7.33	7.39	7.37	7.34	7.38	7.41	NA
65	7.38	7.45	7.48	7.45	7.49	7.47	7.50	7.55	7.53	7.59	7.60	7.58	NA
66	7.58	7.57	7.57	7.58	7.61	7.62	7.65	7.58	7.62	7.62	7.63	7.63	NA
67	7.69	7.67	7.70	7.70	7.70	7.72	7.75	7.76	7.74	7.74	7.78	7.78	NA
68	7.80	7.80	7.84	7.87	7.88	7.89	7.89	7.91	7.94	7.92	7.96	7.97	NA
69	7.97	7.98	7.95	7.96	7.99	8.00	7.98	8.02	8.00	8.01	8.02	8.01	NA
70	7.99	8.00	8.01	7.97	8.00	8.01	8.02	8.05	8.03	8.00	8.00	8.01	NA
71	8.07	8.10	8.17	8.15	8.21	8.19	8.18	8.23	8.23	8.25	8.26	8.29	NA
72	8.43	8.41	8.47	8.51	8.52	8.50	8.50	8.55	8.56	8.59	8.59	8.62	NA
73	8.63	8.61	8.58	8.59	8.55	8.56	8.63	8.46	8.51	8.48	8.47	8.46	NA
74	8.39	8.35	8.31	8.29	8.31	8.35	8.30	8.28	8.25	8.24	8.15	8.16	NA
75	8.12	8.11	8.12	8.11	8.13	8.13	8.09	8.13	8.11	8.09	8.12	8.09	NA
76	8.10	8.16	8.18	8.18	8.22	8.23	8.24	8.27	8.26	8.27	8.31	8.32	NA
77	8.30	8.29	8.30	8.31	8.32	8.31	8.34	8.33	8.35	8.39	8.38	8.37	NA
78	8.42	8.42	8.42	8.45	8.42	8.41	8.41	8.40	8.42	8.39	8.39	8.38	NA
79	8.38	8.36	8.32	8.22	8.21	8.17	8.14	8.11	8.10	8.04	8.01	7.99	NA
80	7.90	7.88	7.82	7.79	7.75	7.74	7.76	7.77	7.76	7.76	7.75	7.73	NA
81	7.72	7.71	7.74	7.72	7.71	7.70	7.65	7.67	7.66	7.65	7.67	7.65	NA
82	7.69	7.69	7.72	7.72	7.71	7.64	7.64	7.66	7.66	7.65	7.68	7.74	NA
83	7.78	7.81	7.80	7.77	7.78	7.78	7.79	7.72	7.79	7.81	7.80	7.81	NA
84	7.81	7.80	7.82	7.85	7.82	7.84	7.83	7.77	7.77	7.75	7.78	7.79	NA
85	7.77	7.76	7.76	7.76	7.75	7.77	7.76	7.77	7.80	7.76	7.74	7.76	NA
86	7.71	7.76	7.82	7.85	7.85	7.83	7.83	7.84	7.81	7.83	7.85	7.83	NA
87	7.80	7.78	7.77	7.74	7.75	7.72	7.70	7.72	7.70	7.70	7.72	7.72	NA
88	7.71	7.70	7.71	7.70	7.71	7.69	7.68	7.65	7.66	7.67	7.66	7.66	NA
89	7.67	7.68	7.64	7.63	7.59	7.59	7.62	7.62	7.64	7.63	7.62	7.61	NA
90	7.56	7.57	7.55	7.56	7.56	7.56	7.56	7.50	7.48	7.43	7.43	7.45	NA
91	7.41	7.44	7.45	7.45	7.45	7.47	7.45	7.47	7.47	7.46	7.44	7.45	NA
92	7.42	7.44	7.43	7.42	7.41	7.42	7.42	7.44	7.41	7.39	7.39	7.39	NA
93	7.40	7.39	7.40	7.38	7.39	7.37	7.39	7.39	7.40	7.38	7.39	7.38	NA
94	7.42	7.41	7.40	7.42	7.42	7.41	7.39	7.35	7.38	7.41	7.39	7.38	NA
95	7.40	7.39	7.37	7.39	7.36	7.39	7.41	7.39	7.42	7.42	7.44	7.44	NA
96	7.41	7.42	7.40	7.40	7.38	7.44	7.41	(3)	(3)				

3) PRELIMINARY DATA

SOURCE: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES) SURVEY, PHONE 202-606-6555; WORLD WIDE WEB ADDRESS <http://stats.bls.gov>

1/96

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS  
LABSTAT SERIES REPORT

SERIES BES30000001

SIC 20-39: MANUFACTURING: ALL EMPLOYEES  
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED, IN THOUSANDS

YR	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	ANNUAL AVERAGE
81	20236	20197	20227	20274	20277	20286	20278	20219	20240	20119	19960	19756	NA
82	19555	19479	19344	19136	19013	18828	18663	18519	18471	18242	18095	18047	NA
83	18062	18060	18077	18159	18260	18330	18443	18495	18654	18788	18901	18972	NA
84	19066	19172	19263	19329	19372	19420	19484	19498	19462	19480	19467	19483	NA
85	19472	19420	19393	19328	19285	19246	19200	19186	19124	19124	19108	19110	NA
86	19105	19077	19039	19016	18986	18924	18883	18881	18879	18860	18860	18867	NA
87	18852	18890	18899	18909	18924	18920	18976	19021	19072	19117	19183	19216	NA
88	19206	19237	19262	19286	19299	19320	19344	19303	19323	19362	19410	19436	NA
89	19458	19464	19480	19471	19453	19413	19392	19374	19332	19281	19289	19271	NA
90	19134	19247	19235	19218	19182	19155	19127	19074	19012	18955	18797	18755	NA
91	18657	18542	18472	18429	18428	18383	18374	18390	18353	18326	18285	18230	NA
92	18162	18120	18098	18132	18139	18130	18129	18097	18067	18063	18059	18069	NA
93	18109	18103	18089	18068	18068	18047	18038	18046	18070	18075	18098	18114	NA
94	18143	18168	18198	18231	18264	18310	18341	18381	18400	18435	18475	18514	NA
95	18544	18557	18560	18555	18519	18493	18447	18439	18415	18378	18353	18367	NA
96	18309	18332	18282	18283	18302	18297	18270	18295					

3) PRELIMINARY DATA  
SOURCE: CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS (CES) SURVEY, PHONE 202-606-6555; WORLD WIDE WEB ADDRESS <http://stats.bls.gov>

ISBN 0-16-053730-4



9 780160 537301 90000

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