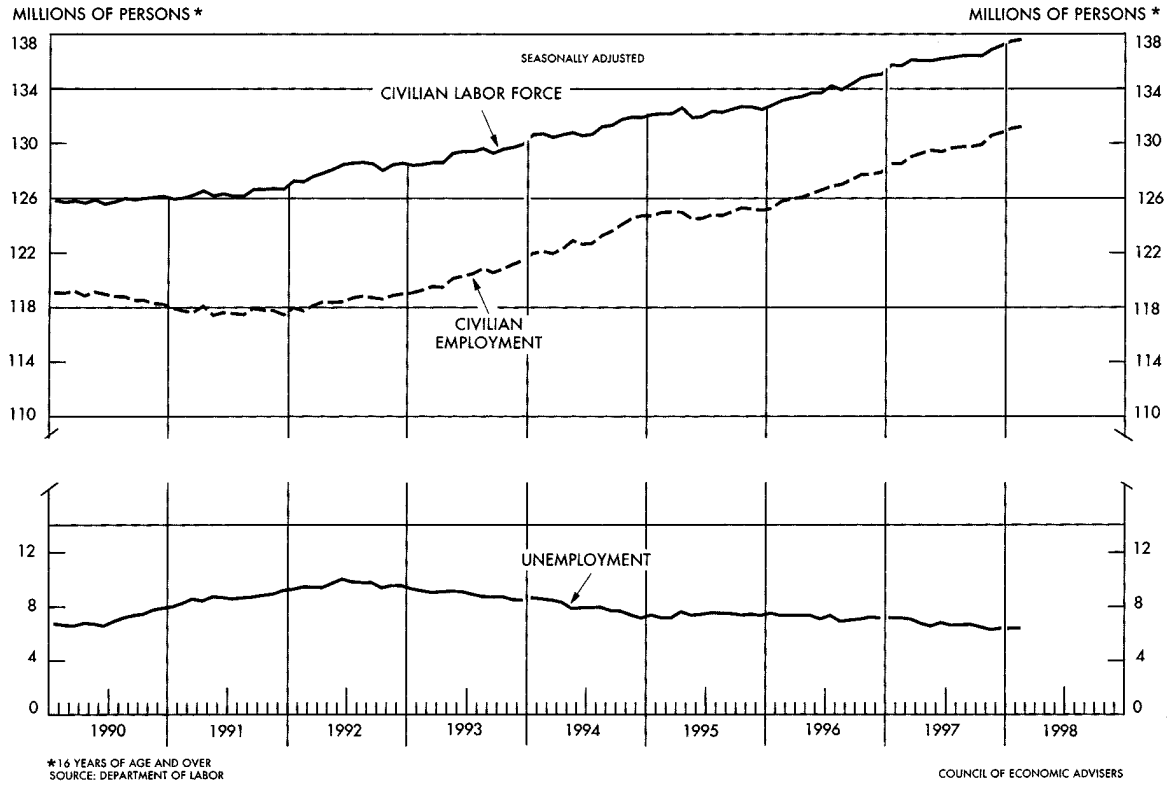
EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND WAGES

STATUS OF THE LABOR FORCE

In February, employment rose by 80,000 and unemployment fell by 16,000.



[Thousands of persons 16 years of age and over, except as noted; monthly data seasonally adjusted except as noted by NSA]

Period	Civilian noninstitutional population NSA	Civilian labor force	Civilian employment				Unemployment		Not in labor force	Percent [2]		
			Total	Agricultural	Nonagricultural		Total	15 weeks and over		Labor force participation rate	Employment/population ratio	Unemployment rate
					Total	Part time for economic reasons [1]						
1988	184,613	121,669	114,968	3,169	111,800	4,965	6,701	1,610	62,944	65.9	62.3	5.5
1989	186,393	123,869	117,342	3,199	114,142	4,657	6,528	1,375	62,523	66.5	63.0	5.3
1990 [3]	189,164	125,840	118,793	3,223	115,570	4,950	7,047	1,525	63,324	66.5	62.8	5.6
1991	190,925	126,346	117,718	3,269	114,449	5,874	8,628	2,357	64,578	66.2	61.7	6.8
1992	192,805	128,105	118,492	3,247	115,245	6,240	9,613	3,408	64,700	66.4	61.5	7.5
1993	194,838	129,200	120,259	3,115	117,144	6,230	8,940	3,094	65,638	66.3	61.7	6.9
1994 [4]	196,814	131,056	123,060	3,409	119,651	4,414	7,996	2,860	65,758	66.6	62.5	6.1
1995	198,584	132,304	124,900	3,440	121,460	4,279	7,404	2,363	66,280	66.6	62.9	5.6
1996	200,591	133,943	126,708	3,443	123,264	4,123	7,236	2,316	66,647	66.8	63.2	5.4
1997 [3]	203,133	136,297	129,558	3,399	126,159	3,879	6,739	2,062	66,837	67.1	63.8	4.9
1997: Feb	202,389	135,689	128,515	3,340	125,175	4,075	7,174	2,158	66,700	67.0	63.5	5.3
Mar	202,513	136,115	129,035	3,387	125,648	3,957	7,080	2,079	66,398	67.2	63.7	5.2
Apr	202,674	136,043	129,275	3,462	125,813	4,204	6,768	2,088	66,631	67.1	63.8	5.0
May	202,832	136,060	129,494	3,418	126,076	3,853	6,566	2,076	66,772	67.1	63.8	4.8
June	203,000	136,206	129,392	3,389	126,003	3,819	6,814	2,069	66,794	67.1	63.7	5.0
July	203,166	136,294	129,661	3,452	126,209	3,858	6,633	2,128	66,872	67.1	63.8	4.9
Aug	203,364	136,404	129,747	3,379	126,368	3,832	6,657	2,027	66,960	67.1	63.8	4.9
Sept	203,570	136,439	129,761	3,422	126,339	3,739	6,678	2,109	67,131	67.0	63.7	4.9
Oct	203,767	136,406	129,910	3,327	126,583	3,732	6,496	1,990	67,361	66.9	63.8	4.8
Nov	203,941	136,864	130,575	3,384	127,191	3,689	6,289	1,865	67,077	67.1	64.0	4.6
Dec	204,098	137,169	130,777	3,385	127,392	3,654	6,392	1,964	66,929	67.2	64.1	4.7
1998: Jan [3]	204,238	137,493	131,083	3,319	127,764	3,865	6,409	1,811	66,745	67.3	64.2	4.7
Feb	204,400	137,557	131,163	3,335	127,829	3,743	6,393	1,830	66,844	67.3	64.2	4.6

[1] Persons at work. Economic reasons include slack work, material shortages, inability to find fulltime work, etc.

[2] Civilian labor force (or employment) as percent of civilian noninstitutional population; and unemployment as percent of civilian labor force.

[3] Not strictly comparable with earlier data.

[4] Data beginning January 1994 are not directly comparable with data for earlier periods because of a major redesign of the household survey questionnaire.

NOTE.—Data beginning January 1998 reflect new composite estimation procedures and revised population controls. See *Employment and Earnings,* February 1998, for details.

Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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