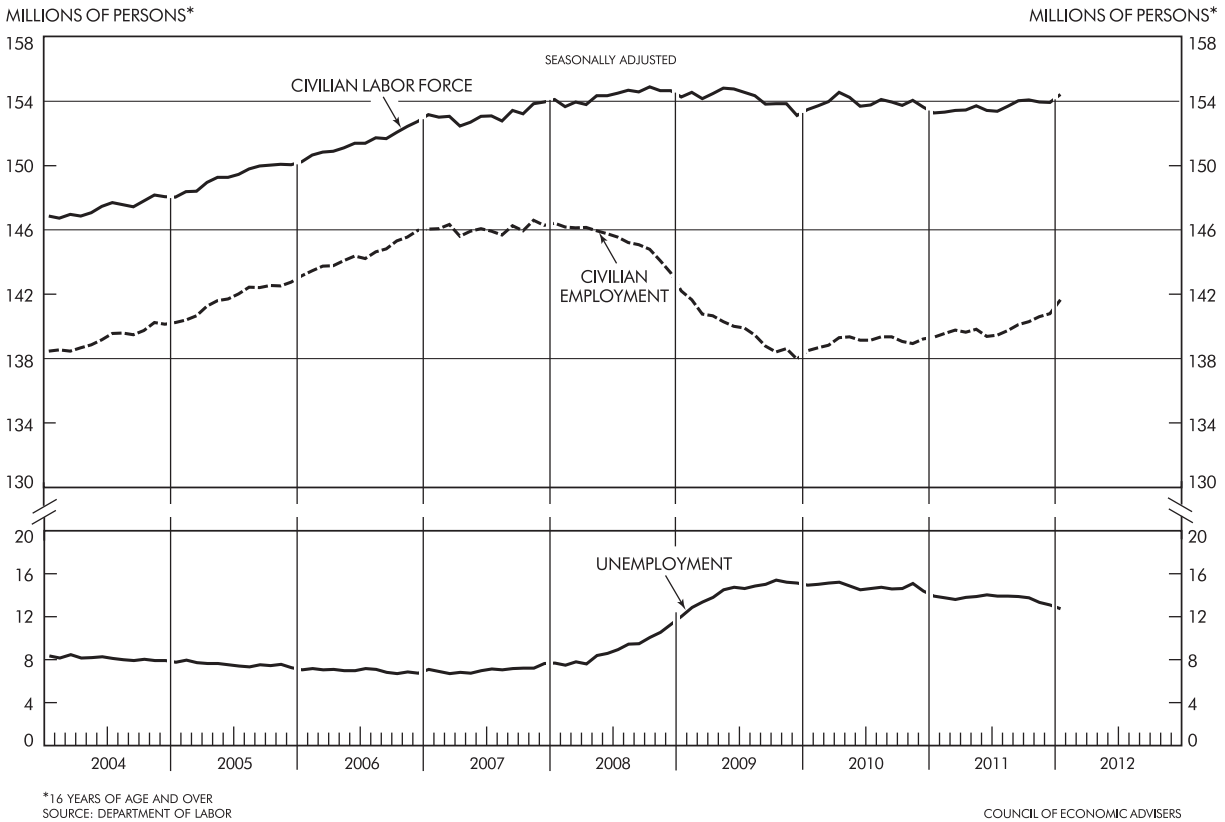
EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND WAGES

Status of the Labor Force

In January, employment as measured by the household survey was 141.6 million and unemployment was 12.8 million.



[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 [1]		
			Total	Men 20 years and over	Women 20 years and over	Both sexes 16–19 years	Total	Men 20 years and over	Women 20 years and over	Both sexes 16–19 years		Labor force participation rate	Employment/population ratio	Unemployment rate
2002	217,570	144,863	136,485	69,734	60,420	6,332	8,378	3,896	3,228	1,253	72,707	66.6	62.7	5.8
2003 [2]	221,168	146,510	137,736	70,415	61,402	5,919	8,774	4,209	3,314	1,251	74,658	66.2	62.3	6.0
2004 [2]	223,357	147,401	139,252	71,572	61,773	5,907	8,149	3,791	3,150	1,208	75,956	66.0	62.3	5.5
2005 [2]	226,082	149,320	141,730	73,050	62,702	5,978	7,591	3,392	3,013	1,186	76,762	66.0	62.7	5.1
2006 [2]	228,815	151,428	144,427	74,431	63,834	6,162	7,001	3,131	2,751	1,119	77,387	66.2	63.1	4.6
2007 [2]	231,867	153,124	146,047	75,337	64,799	5,911	7,078	3,259	2,718	1,101	78,743	66.0	63.0	4.6
2008 [2]	233,788	154,287	145,362	74,750	65,039	5,573	8,924	4,297	3,342	1,285	79,501	66.0	62.2	5.8
2009 [2]	235,801	154,142	139,877	71,341	63,699	4,837	14,265	7,555	5,157	1,552	81,659	65.4	59.3	9.3
2010 [2]	237,830	153,889	139,064	71,230	63,456	4,378	14,825	7,763	5,534	1,528	83,941	64.7	58.5	9.6
2011 [2]	239,618	153,617	139,869	72,182	63,360	4,327	13,747	6,898	5,450	1,400	86,001	64.1	58.4	8.9
2011: Jan [2]	238,704	153,250	139,330	71,593	63,403	4,334	13,919	7,001	5,440	1,479	85,454	64.2	58.4	9.1
Feb	238,851	153,302	139,551	71,901	63,351	4,299	13,751	6,931	5,467	1,352	85,550	64.2	58.4	9.0
Mar	239,000	153,392	139,764	71,918	63,515	4,332	13,628	6,887	5,336	1,404	85,608	64.2	58.5	8.9
Apr	239,146	153,420	139,628	71,942	63,431	4,255	13,792	6,953	5,430	1,410	85,726	64.2	58.4	9.0
May	239,313	153,700	139,808	72,161	63,385	4,262	13,892	7,043	5,493	1,356	85,613	64.2	58.4	9.0
June	239,489	153,409	139,385	71,981	63,088	4,316	14,024	7,135	5,482	1,408	86,080	64.1	58.2	9.1
July	239,671	153,358	139,450	71,930	63,257	4,262	13,908	7,047	5,449	1,412	86,313	64.0	58.2	9.1
Aug	239,871	153,674	139,754	72,098	63,322	4,333	13,920	6,991	5,462	1,467	86,198	64.1	58.3	9.1
Sept	240,071	154,004	140,107	72,340	63,406	4,362	13,897	6,901	5,584	1,412	86,067	64.1	58.4	9.0
Oct	240,269	154,057	140,297	72,379	63,520	4,398	13,759	6,912	5,461	1,386	86,213	64.1	58.4	8.9
Nov	240,441	153,937	140,614	72,846	63,352	4,416	13,323	6,594	5,359	1,370	86,503	64.0	58.5	8.7
Dec	240,584	153,887	140,790	73,080	63,323	4,387	13,097	6,356	5,425	1,316	86,697	64.0	58.5	8.5
2012: Jan [2]	242,269	154,395	141,637	73,170	64,078	4,389	12,758	6,064	5,370	1,324	87,874	63.7	58.5	8.3

[1] Civilian labor force (or employment) as percent of civilian noninstitutional population; and unemployment as percent of civilian labor force.
[2] Not strictly comparable with earlier data.

Note: Beginning January 2012, data reflect revised population controls and are not strictly comparable with earlier data.
See *Employment and Earnings* for details on breaks in series.

Source: Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics).

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