

# Labor Market Indicators

TABLE B-22. Civilian labor force, 1929-2018  
[Monthly data seasonally adjusted, except as noted]

Year or month	Civilian noninstitutional population <sup>1</sup>	Civilian labor force					Not in labor force	Civilian labor force participation rate <sup>2</sup>	Civilian employment/population ratio <sup>3</sup>	Unemployment rate, civilian workers <sup>4</sup>
		Total	Employment			Unemployment				
			Total	Agricultural	Non-agricultural					
		Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over						Percent		
1929 .....		49,180	47,630	10,450	37,180	1,550				3.2
1930 .....		49,820	45,480	10,340	35,140	4,340				8.7
1931 .....		50,420	42,400	10,290	32,110	8,020				15.9
1932 .....		51,000	38,940	10,170	28,770	12,060				23.6
1933 .....		51,590	38,760	10,090	28,670	12,830				24.9
1934 .....		52,230	40,890	9,900	30,990	11,340				21.7
1935 .....		52,870	42,260	10,110	32,150	10,610				20.1
1936 .....		53,440	44,410	10,000	34,410	9,030				16.9
1937 .....		54,000	46,300	9,820	36,480	7,700				14.3
1938 .....		54,610	44,220	9,690	34,530	10,390				19.0
1939 .....		55,230	45,750	9,610	36,140	9,480				17.2
1940 .....	99,840	55,640	47,520	9,540	37,980	8,120	44,200	55.7	47.6	14.6
1941 .....	99,900	55,910	50,350	9,100	41,250	5,560	43,990	56.0	50.4	9.9
1942 .....	98,640	56,410	53,750	9,250	44,500	2,660	42,230	57.2	54.5	4.7
1943 .....	94,640	55,540	54,470	9,080	45,390	1,070	39,100	58.7	57.6	1.9
1944 .....	93,220	54,630	53,960	8,950	45,010	670	38,590	58.6	57.9	1.2
1945 .....	94,090	53,860	52,820	8,580	44,240	1,040	40,230	57.2	56.1	1.9
1946 .....	103,070	57,520	55,250	8,320	46,930	2,270	45,550	55.8	53.6	3.9
1947 .....	106,018	60,168	57,812	8,256	49,557	2,356	45,850	56.8	54.5	3.9
		Thousands of persons 16 years of age and over								
1947 .....	101,827	59,350	57,038	7,890	49,148	2,311	42,477	58.3	56.0	3.9
1948 .....	103,068	60,621	58,343	7,629	50,714	2,276	42,447	58.8	56.6	3.8
1949 .....	103,994	61,286	57,651	7,658	49,993	3,637	42,708	58.9	55.4	5.9
1950 .....	104,995	62,208	58,918	7,160	51,758	3,288	42,787	59.2	56.1	5.3
1951 .....	104,621	62,017	59,961	6,726	53,235	2,055	42,604	59.2	57.3	3.3
1952 .....	105,231	62,138	60,250	6,500	53,749	1,883	43,093	59.0	57.3	3.0
1953 .....	107,056	63,015	61,179	6,260	54,919	1,834	44,041	58.9	57.1	2.9
1954 .....	108,321	63,643	60,109	6,205	53,904	3,532	44,678	58.8	55.5	5.5
1955 .....	109,683	65,023	62,170	6,450	55,722	2,852	44,660	59.3	56.7	4.4
1956 .....	110,954	66,552	63,799	6,283	57,514	2,750	44,402	60.0	57.5	4.1
1957 .....	112,265	66,929	64,071	5,947	58,123	2,859	45,336	59.6	57.1	4.3
1958 .....	113,727	67,639	63,036	5,586	57,450	4,602	46,088	59.5	55.4	6.8
1959 .....	115,329	68,369	64,630	5,565	59,065	3,740	46,960	59.3	56.0	5.5
1960 .....	117,245	69,628	65,778	5,458	60,318	3,852	47,617	59.4	56.1	5.5
1961 .....	118,771	70,459	65,746	5,200	60,546	4,714	48,312	59.3	55.4	6.7
1962 .....	120,153	70,614	66,702	4,944	61,759	3,911	49,539	58.8	55.5	5.5
1963 .....	122,416	71,833	67,762	4,687	63,076	4,070	50,583	58.7	55.4	5.7
1964 .....	124,485	73,091	69,305	4,523	64,782	3,786	51,394	58.7	55.7	5.2
1965 .....	126,513	74,455	71,088	4,361	66,726	3,366	52,058	58.9	56.2	4.5
1966 .....	128,058	75,770	72,895	3,979	68,915	2,875	52,288	59.2	56.9	3.8
1967 .....	129,874	77,347	74,372	3,844	70,527	2,975	52,527	59.6	57.3	3.8
1968 .....	132,028	78,737	75,920	3,817	72,103	2,817	53,291	59.6	57.5	3.6
1969 .....	134,335	80,734	77,902	3,606	74,296	2,832	53,602	60.1	58.0	3.5
1970 .....	137,085	82,771	78,678	3,463	75,215	4,093	54,315	60.4	57.4	4.9
1971 .....	140,216	84,382	79,367	3,394	75,972	5,016	55,834	60.2	56.6	5.9
1972 .....	144,126	87,034	82,153	3,484	78,669	4,882	57,091	60.4	57.0	5.6
1973 .....	147,096	89,429	85,064	3,470	81,594	4,365	57,667	60.8	57.8	4.9
1974 .....	150,120	91,949	86,794	3,515	83,279	5,156	58,171	61.3	57.8	5.6
1975 .....	153,153	93,775	85,846	3,408	82,438	7,929	59,377	61.2	56.1	8.5
1976 .....	156,150	96,158	88,752	3,331	85,421	7,406	59,991	61.6	56.8	7.7
1977 .....	159,033	99,009	92,017	3,283	88,734	6,991	60,025	62.3	57.9	7.1
1978 .....	161,910	102,251	96,048	3,387	92,661	6,202	59,659	63.2	59.3	6.1
1979 .....	164,863	104,962	98,824	3,347	95,477	6,137	59,900	63.7	59.9	5.8
1980 .....	167,745	106,940	99,303	3,364	95,938	7,637	60,806	63.8	59.2	7.1
1981 .....	170,130	108,670	100,397	3,368	97,030	8,273	61,460	63.9	59.0	7.6
1982 .....	172,271	110,204	99,526	3,401	96,125	10,678	62,067	64.0	57.8	9.7
1983 .....	174,215	111,550	100,834	3,383	97,450	10,717	62,665	64.0	57.9	9.6
1984 .....	176,383	113,544	105,005	3,321	101,685	8,539	62,839	64.4	59.5	7.5
1985 .....	178,206	115,461	107,150	3,179	103,971	8,312	62,744	64.8	60.1	7.2
1986 .....	180,587	117,834	109,587	3,163	106,434	8,237	62,752	65.3	60.7	7.0
1987 .....	182,753	119,865	112,440	3,208	109,232	7,425	62,888	65.6	61.5	6.2
1988 .....	184,613	121,669	114,968	3,169	111,800	6,701	62,944	65.9	62.3	5.5
1989 .....	186,393	123,869	117,342	3,199	114,142	6,528	62,523	66.5	63.0	5.3

<sup>1</sup> Not seasonally adjusted.

<sup>2</sup> Civilian labor force as percent of civilian noninstitutional population.

<sup>3</sup> Civilian employment as percent of civilian noninstitutional population.

<sup>4</sup> Unemployed as percent of civilian labor force.

See next page for continuation of table.

TABLE B–22. Civilian labor force, 1929–2018—*Continued*

[Monthly data seasonally adjusted, except as noted]

Year or month	Civilian noninstitutional population <sup>1</sup>	Civilian labor force					Not in labor force	Civilian labor force participation rate <sup>2</sup>	Civilian employment/population ratio <sup>3</sup>	Unemployment rate, civilian workers <sup>4</sup>
		Total	Employment			Unemployment				
			Total	Agricultural	Non-agricultural					
	Thousands of persons 16 years of age and over							Percent		
1990 .....	189,164	125,840	118,793	3,223	115,570	7,047	63,324	66.5	62.8	5.6
1991 .....	190,925	126,346	117,718	3,269	114,449	8,628	64,578	66.2	61.7	6.8
1992 .....	192,805	128,105	118,492	3,247	115,245	9,613	64,700	66.4	61.5	7.5
1993 .....	194,838	129,200	120,259	3,115	117,144	8,940	65,638	66.3	61.7	6.9
1994 .....	196,814	131,056	123,060	3,409	119,651	7,996	65,758	66.6	62.5	6.1
1995 .....	198,584	132,304	124,900	3,440	121,460	7,404	66,280	66.6	62.9	5.6
1996 .....	200,591	133,943	126,708	3,443	123,264	7,236	66,647	66.8	63.2	5.4
1997 .....	203,133	136,297	129,558	3,399	126,159	6,739	66,837	67.1	63.8	4.9
1998 .....	205,220	137,673	131,463	3,378	128,085	6,210	67,547	67.1	64.1	4.5
1999 .....	207,753	139,368	133,488	3,281	130,207	5,880	68,385	67.1	64.3	4.2
2000 <sup>5</sup> .....	212,577	142,583	136,891	2,464	134,427	5,692	69,994	67.1	64.4	4.0
2001 .....	215,092	143,734	136,933	2,299	134,635	6,801	71,359	66.8	63.7	4.7
2002 .....	217,570	144,863	136,485	2,311	134,174	8,378	72,707	66.6	62.7	5.8
2003 .....	221,168	146,510	137,736	2,275	135,461	8,774	74,658	66.2	62.3	6.0
2004 .....	223,357	147,401	139,252	2,232	137,020	8,149	75,956	66.0	62.3	5.5
2005 .....	226,082	149,320	141,730	2,197	139,532	7,591	76,762	66.0	62.7	5.1
2006 .....	228,815	151,428	144,427	2,206	142,221	7,001	77,387	66.2	63.1	4.6
2007 .....	231,867	153,124	146,047	2,095	143,952	7,078	78,743	66.0	63.0	4.6
2008 .....	233,788	154,287	145,362	2,168	143,194	8,924	79,501	66.0	62.2	5.8
2009 .....	235,801	154,142	139,877	2,103	137,775	14,265	81,659	65.4	59.3	9.3
2010 .....	237,830	153,889	139,064	2,206	136,858	14,825	83,941	64.7	58.5	9.6
2011 .....	239,618	153,617	139,869	2,254	137,615	13,747	86,001	64.1	58.4	8.9
2012 .....	243,284	154,975	142,469	2,186	140,283	12,506	88,310	63.7	58.6	8.1
2013 .....	245,679	155,389	143,929	2,130	141,799	11,460	90,290	63.2	58.6	7.4
2014 .....	247,947	155,922	146,305	2,237	144,068	9,617	92,025	62.9	59.0	6.2
2015 .....	250,801	157,130	148,834	2,422	146,411	8,296	93,671	62.7	59.3	5.3
2016 .....	253,538	159,187	151,436	2,460	148,976	7,751	94,351	62.8	59.7	4.9
2017 .....	255,079	160,320	153,337	2,454	150,883	6,982	94,759	62.9	60.1	4.4
2018 .....	257,791	162,075	155,761	2,425	153,336	6,314	95,716	62.9	60.4	3.9
2016: Jan .....	252,397	158,371	150,622	2,390	148,160	7,749	94,026	62.7	59.7	4.9
Feb .....	252,577	158,705	150,934	2,454	148,444	7,771	93,872	62.8	59.8	4.9
Mar .....	252,768	159,079	151,146	2,555	148,375	7,932	93,689	62.9	59.8	5.0
Apr .....	252,969	158,891	150,963	2,572	148,377	7,928	94,077	62.8	59.7	5.0
May .....	253,174	158,700	151,074	2,556	148,511	7,626	94,475	62.7	59.7	4.8
June .....	253,397	158,899	151,104	2,514	148,673	7,795	94,498	62.7	59.6	4.9
July .....	253,620	159,150	151,450	2,423	149,006	7,700	94,470	62.8	59.7	4.8
Aug .....	253,854	159,582	151,766	2,564	149,285	7,817	94,272	62.9	59.8	4.9
Sept .....	254,091	159,810	151,877	2,432	149,514	7,933	94,281	62.9	59.8	5.0
Oct .....	254,321	159,768	151,949	2,330	149,610	7,819	94,553	62.8	59.7	4.9
Nov .....	254,540	159,629	152,150	2,394	149,839	7,480	94,911	62.7	59.8	4.7
Dec .....	254,742	159,779	152,276	2,323	149,947	7,503	94,963	62.7	59.8	4.7
2017: Jan .....	254,082	159,693	152,128	2,411	149,709	7,565	94,389	62.9	59.9	4.7
Feb .....	254,246	159,854	152,417	2,437	149,939	7,437	94,392	62.9	59.9	4.7
Mar .....	254,414	160,036	152,958	2,503	150,260	7,078	94,378	62.9	60.1	4.4
Apr .....	254,588	160,169	153,150	2,682	150,432	7,019	94,419	62.9	60.2	4.4
May .....	254,767	159,910	152,920	2,501	150,397	6,991	94,857	62.8	60.0	4.4
June .....	254,957	160,124	153,176	2,466	150,816	6,948	94,833	62.8	60.1	4.3
July .....	255,151	160,383	153,456	2,349	151,073	6,927	94,769	62.9	60.1	4.3
Aug .....	255,357	160,706	153,591	2,378	151,312	7,115	94,651	62.9	60.1	4.4
Sept .....	255,562	161,190	154,399	2,286	152,143	6,791	94,372	63.1	60.4	4.2
Oct .....	255,766	160,436	153,847	2,487	151,353	6,588	95,330	62.7	60.2	4.1
Nov .....	255,949	160,626	153,945	2,461	151,562	6,682	95,323	62.8	60.1	4.2
Dec .....	256,109	160,636	154,065	2,512	151,628	6,572	95,473	62.7	60.2	4.1
2018: Jan .....	256,780	161,123	154,482	2,480	152,030	6,641	95,657	62.7	60.2	4.1
Feb .....	256,934	161,900	155,213	2,450	152,695	6,687	95,033	63.0	60.4	4.1
Mar .....	257,097	161,646	155,160	2,331	152,664	6,486	95,451	62.9	60.4	4.0
Apr .....	257,272	161,551	155,216	2,312	152,860	6,335	95,721	62.8	60.3	3.9
May .....	257,454	161,667	155,539	2,353	153,127	6,128	95,787	62.8	60.4	3.8
June .....	257,642	162,129	155,592	2,363	153,267	6,537	95,513	62.9	60.4	4.0
July .....	257,843	162,209	155,964	2,493	153,425	6,245	95,633	62.9	60.5	3.9
Aug .....	258,066	161,802	155,604	2,346	153,376	6,197	95,264	62.7	60.3	3.8
Sept .....	258,290	162,055	156,069	2,478	153,634	5,986	95,235	62.7	60.4	3.7
Oct .....	258,514	162,694	156,582	2,418	154,135	6,112	95,821	62.9	60.6	3.8
Nov .....	258,708	162,821	156,803	2,556	154,297	6,018	95,886	62.9	60.6	3.7
Dec .....	258,888	163,240	156,945	2,522	154,520	6,294	95,649	63.1	60.6	3.9

<sup>5</sup> Beginning in 2000, data for agricultural employment are for agricultural and related industries; data for this series and for nonagricultural employment are not strictly comparable with data for earlier years. Because of independent seasonal adjustment for these two series, monthly data will not add to total civilian employment.

Note: Labor force data in Tables B–22 through B–28 are based on household interviews and usually relate to the calendar week that includes the 12th of the month. Historical comparability is affected by revisions to population controls, changes in occupational and industry classification, and other changes to the survey. In recent years, updated population controls have been introduced annually with the release of January data, so data are not strictly comparable with earlier periods. Particularly notable changes were introduced for data in the years 1953, 1960, 1962, 1972, 1973, 1978, 1980, 1990, 1994, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2008 and 2012. For definitions of terms, area samples used, historical comparability of the data, comparability with other series, etc., see *Employment and Earnings* or concepts and methodology of the CPS at <http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#concepts>.

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