

NEWS RELEASE

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
U. S. D E P A R T M E N T O F L A B O R



For release 10:00 a.m. (EDT) Wednesday, September 25, 2019

USDL-19-1692

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(NOTE: This news release was reissued on November 7, 2019, to correct errors in tables 1, 2, and 3 and in the text of the release. Tables 4 and 5 in this release were not affected by the error. Detailed information is available on page 5.)

CHARACTERISTICS OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPLICANTS AND BENEFIT RECIPIENTS — 2018

In 2018, about 1 in 4 (26 percent) of the unemployed who worked in the past 12 months had applied for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Of the unemployed who had not applied, 3 out of 5 did not apply because they did not believe they were eligible to receive UI benefits.

Only people who have previously worked are eligible for UI benefits, and they generally must apply shortly after their last job. Therefore, estimates presented in this news release are restricted to people who had worked at some point in the 12 months prior to the survey. In 2018, nearly two-thirds of the unemployed had worked in the last 12 months. Other unemployed people, including those who entered the labor force for the first time and those who last worked more than a year ago, are excluded from these data.

This information was obtained in a supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly sample survey of about 60,000 households that provides data on employment and unemployment in the United States. This supplement, which was conducted in May and September 2018, was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Chief Evaluation Office. Estimates in this news release—referred to as 2018 estimates—are averages of data collected in both months. The official measure of unemployment from the CPS is based on job search and current availability for employment, rather than on application for or receipt of UI benefits. A more detailed description of the concepts and definitions used in the supplement is included in the Technical Note in this news release.

Highlights from the 2018 data:

- The majority—74 percent—of unemployed people who worked in the past 12 months had not applied for UI benefits since their last job. Twenty-six percent of unemployed people who worked in the past 12 months had applied for UI benefits. (See table 1.)

- Unemployed people covered by a union contract on their last job were about twice as likely to have applied for UI benefits as those who were not covered: 53 percent versus 24 percent. (See table 2.)
- Among unemployed people who had not applied for UI benefits, 59 percent did not apply because they thought they were ineligible to receive benefits. Another 12 percent cited attitudes about or barriers to applying, such as they did not need the money, they had a negative attitude about UI, they did not know about UI, or they had problems with the application process. (See table 3.)
- Two-thirds of unemployed people who had applied for UI benefits since their last job received benefits. (See table 1.)

Unemployment Insurance Applicants

In 2018, 26 percent of the unemployed who worked in the past 12 months had applied for UI benefits since their last job. (See table 1.)

The likelihood of applying for UI benefits varied by reason for unemployment. Thirty-eight percent of job losers and people who completed temporary jobs had applied for UI benefits since their last job. The figure was lower for people with other reasons for unemployment: 10 percent for job leavers and 9 percent for reentrants to the labor force who worked in the last year. (Job leavers are unemployed people who left their jobs voluntarily, and reentrants are unemployed people who have past work experience but were not in the labor force before beginning their current job search.)

People with longer durations of unemployment were more likely to apply for UI benefits than were people with shorter durations of joblessness. For example, 38 percent of people looking for work for 15 to 26 weeks and 37 percent of those looking for 27 weeks and over had applied for UI benefits, compared with 27 percent of those looking for work for 5 to 14 weeks. Those unemployed for less than 5 weeks were the least likely to apply for UI benefits, at 17 percent.

Unemployed men were more likely than unemployed women to have applied for UI benefits (27 percent, compared with 23 percent). There was little difference in the likelihood of applying for benefits by race or Hispanic ethnicity.

The likelihood of applying for UI benefits increased with age. About 7 percent of unemployed people ages 16 to 24 had applied since their last job, compared with 32 percent of those ages 25 to 54 and 37 percent of those 55 years and over.

In general, unemployed people with higher educational attainment were more likely to have applied for UI benefits than were those with lower educational attainment. Among unemployed people age 25 and older, 40 percent of those with a bachelor's degree and higher had applied for UI benefits. By contrast, 22 percent of those with less than a high school diploma had applied.

Unemployed people with a professional certification or license, who tend to have greater educational attainment, were more likely to have applied for UI benefits than those without such a credential (33 percent, compared with 24 percent).

People last employed in management, professional, and related occupations were the most likely to have applied for UI benefits (38 percent), compared with people in other major occupational groups. Those last employed in service occupations were the least likely to have applied (15 percent). (See table 2.)

By industry, unemployed people who last worked in leisure and hospitality (12 percent) and in other services (10 percent) were least likely to have applied for UI benefits. In other industries, the likelihood of applying ranged from 46 percent for financial activities to 23 percent for wholesale and retail trade.

Unemployed people who were covered by a union contract on their last job were about twice as likely to have applied for UI benefits, 53 percent compared with 24 percent of those who were not covered.

Reason for Not Applying for Unemployment Insurance Benefits

Of the unemployed in 2018 who worked in the last 12 months but did not apply for UI benefits, 59 percent did not apply because they believed they were ineligible. Eligibility issues include: their work was not covered by UI, they quit their job, they were terminated for misconduct, they had insufficient past work, and they had previously exhausted their benefits. (See table 3.)

Twelve percent of unemployed people who had not applied for UI benefits had not done so because of attitudes about or barriers to applying—for example, they did not need the money or want the hassle, they had a negative attitude about UI, they did not know about UI or did not know how to apply, or they had problems with the application process.

Another 25 percent of unemployed people who had not applied for UI benefits reported other reasons, such as they expected to start work soon, they did not apply for personal reasons, or they planned to file for benefits soon.

About 5 percent of unemployed people who had not applied for UI benefits did not provide a reason for not applying.

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Recipients

In 2018, 66 percent of unemployed people who had applied for UI benefits since their last job received benefits. (See table 1.)

Among unemployed applicants, 69 percent of job losers and people who completed temporary jobs received benefits. This was higher than the figure of 55 percent for reentrants to the labor force.

Applicants who were unemployed less than 5 weeks were less likely to receive benefits (42 percent) than were those with longer durations of joblessness. For example, 78 percent of applicants unemployed for 27 weeks and over had received benefits.

Men and women who applied for UI benefits were about equally likely to have received benefits (66 percent and 65 percent, respectively). There was little difference in the likelihood of receiving benefits by race or Hispanic ethnicity.

Older applicants were more likely than younger applicants to have received UI benefits since their last job. Seventy-eight percent of applicants age 55 and older had received UI benefits, compared with 64 percent of applicants ages 25 to 54.

The majority of applicants age 25 and older had received benefits, regardless of their educational attainment. For example, about two-thirds of high school graduates (with no college) received benefits since their last job.

Seventy-one percent of applicants with a certification or license had received UI benefits, little different from the 65 percent of those without a certification or license.

The percentage of applicants who had received benefits ranged from 54 percent for those who last worked in production, transportation, and material moving occupations to 71 percent for those in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations. (See table 2.)

Applicants who were covered by a union contract in their last job were more likely to have received UI benefits. About four-fifths (82 percent) of applicants who were covered by a union contract had received benefits since their last job, compared with roughly two-thirds (64 percent) of applicants who were not covered.

People Marginally Attached to the Labor Force

Some individuals may be eligible for UI benefits even though they were not classified as unemployed in the survey. In 2018, 17 percent of people marginally attached to the labor force had applied for UI benefits since their last job. (These estimates are restricted to people who had worked in the past 12 months.) (See table 4.)

People marginally attached to the labor force are those who are neither employed nor unemployed, who want a job, have searched for work during the prior 12 months (but not in the last 4 weeks), and were available to take a job. If they had looked for work in the last 4 weeks, they would be counted as unemployed.

More than half (54 percent) of people marginally attached to the labor force had not applied for UI benefits since their last job because they believed they were ineligible to receive benefits. Another 14 percent had not applied due to attitudes about or barriers to applying for UI benefits, and 23 percent had not applied for UI benefits for other reasons. Nine percent of people marginally attached to the labor force who had not applied for UI benefits did not provide a reason for not applying. (See table 5.)

Data Corrections

This news release, originally issued on September 25, 2019, contained errors in tables 1, 2, and 3 and in the text of the release. The estimates in the original news release were not correctly restricted to unemployed people who worked in the last 12 months, but also included unemployed people who had worked more than 12 months ago.

Estimates in this reissued news release have been restricted to unemployed people who worked in the past 12 months. After this correction, the number of unemployed people who had worked in the past 12 months was 3.7 million, rather than 5.3 million as originally published. The corrected number of unemployed who had applied for UI benefits was 947,000, instead of 1.2 million as originally published.

Although estimates of numbers of the unemployed and the numbers of UI applicants changed considerably, most percentages derived from those levels showed little meaningful difference, and the key analytical findings in this news release were largely unaffected. The corrected proportion of unemployed people who applied for UI benefits was 26 percent for those who worked in the past 12 months, compared with 23 percent as originally published. The share of the unemployed who applied for UI benefits remained roughly 1 in 4.

Estimates of people marginally attached to the labor force, including all data in tables 4 and 5, were unaffected by the error.

Technical Note

The data presented in this news release were collected through a supplement to the May and September 2018 Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly survey of about 60,000 eligible households that provides data on employment and unemployment for the nation's civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over. The CPS is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The U.S. Department of Labor's Chief Evaluation Office sponsored the collection of the May and September 2018 supplement to obtain information about the number and characteristics of those who do and do not file for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, as well as information on those who receive benefits. These data provide information not available from the UI program administrative data or the monthly CPS.

One of the most persistent misconceptions about the CPS unemployment measure is that it is based on the number of people who apply for or receive UI benefits. However, data on UI program participation cannot be used to determine unemployment because the CPS concept includes people who are not eligible for benefits, who have exhausted their benefits, and who do not apply for benefits. The monthly CPS does not include questions about UI participation.

Only people who have previously worked are eligible for UI benefits, and they generally must apply shortly after their last job. Therefore, estimates presented in this news release are restricted to people who had worked at some point in the 12 months prior to the survey. In 2018, nearly two-thirds of the unemployed had worked in the last 12 months. Other unemployed people, including those who entered the labor force for the first time and those who last worked more than a year ago, are excluded from this news release.

The estimates in this release—referred to as 2018 estimates—are averages of data collected in May and September 2018. Data are weighted to produce nationally representative estimates. The supplement weights are controlled to population estimates that are averaged over the 2 months.

Information in this news release will be made available to sensory-impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Definitions

The principle definitions used in this news release are described below. Additional information about CPS concepts and definitions is available on the BLS website at www.bls.gov/cps/definitions.htm.

Unemployed who worked in the past 12 months. In the CPS, people are classified as unemployed if they were not employed during the survey reference week; were available for work during the survey reference week (except for temporary illness); and had made at least one specific, active effort to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the survey reference week. People who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Data in this news release exclude unemployed people with no previous work experience and those who last worked more than 12 months prior to the survey. However, all unemployed persons expecting to be recalled from temporary layoff are included, regardless of whether they worked in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Marginally attached to the labor force who worked in the past 12 months. People marginally attached to the labor force are those who are neither employed nor unemployed, who want a job, have searched for work during the prior 12 months, and were available to take a job during the survey reference week, but had not looked for work in the 4-week period ending with the survey reference week. If they had looked for work in the 4-week period, they would be counted as unemployed.

Data in this news release on people marginally attached to the labor force refer to those who worked in the past 12 months, a subset of total marginally attached.

Unemployment Insurance (UI). The federal-state UI program provides unemployment benefits to eligible workers (as determined under state law). The UI payments (benefits) are intended to provide temporary financial assistance to unemployed workers. Each state administers a separate UI program within guidelines established by federal law. Eligibility for UI benefit amounts and the length of time benefits are available are determined by the state law under which UI claims are established. For more information about

state UI programs, visit <https://oui.doleta.gov/unemploy/uifactsheet.asp>.

UI benefit applicants. In the CPS, UI applicants are people who applied for UI benefits since their last job. Whether a person applied for UI benefits was determined through answers to the question: “Have you applied for unemployment benefits since your last job?” Data in this news release refer to unemployed individuals and people marginally attached to the labor force who had worked in the past 12 months.

UI benefit recipients. In the CPS, these individuals are UI applicants who received UI benefits since their last job. This information was obtained from the following question: “Have you received any unemployment benefits since your last job?” This question was asked of people who had applied for UI benefits since their last job. Data in this news release refer to unemployed individuals and people marginally attached to the labor force who had worked in the past 12 months.

Union coverage on last job. Data in this news release refer both to union members and to those who were covered by a union contract on their last job. Union coverage on the last job is based on the question: “Were you a union member or covered by a union contract on your last job?”

Main reason for not applying for UI benefits. This information is based on responses to the question: “There are a variety of reasons why people might not apply for unemployment benefits. What are the reasons you have not applied for unemployment benefits since your last job?” Interviewers could record more than one reason. If respondents provided more than one reason, interviewers asked which was their main reason.

Comparability of the estimates

Previous supplements collected data on UI applicants and benefit recipients in 2005, 1993, 1989, and 1976. The 2018 supplement questions used to identify UI applicants and benefit recipients were similar to the 2005 supplement but were different from questions used in earlier years.

The 2018 estimates are not strictly comparable with those from prior years. Changes in survey methods affect the comparability of estimates over time. For example, the questions were not the same in all supplements. Also, collection periods differed across supplements, and the supplements were not always administered to all CPS respondents. For example, the 2018 supplement was collected in 2 nonconsecutive

months (May and September) from the full CPS sample. The supplements for 2005, 1993, and 1989 were collected in 4 different months, and the questions were asked of about one-fourth of the CPS sample (the outgoing rotations). (Specifically, the 2005 supplement data were collected in January, May, July, and November; the 1993 supplement was administered in February, June, August, and November; and the 1989 supplement was conducted in May, August, and November 1989 and in February 1990.) The 1976 supplement was administered to the full sample in May 1976.

Other factors should also be considered when analyzing the data. Different points in the business cycle, changes in state UI laws, and the seasonal nature of applying for UI benefits can further complicate comparisons of data over time. For example, the unemployment rate in 2018 was relatively low by historical standards, which may impact the number and characteristics of people who apply for UI benefits.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the CPS 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 component of this difference that occurs because samples differ by chance is known as *sampling error*, and its 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.

The CPS data also are affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling error 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, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

General information about the reliability of data from the CPS is available at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability.

Table 1. Unemployment insurance (UI) benefit applicants and recipients among unemployed persons who had worked in the past 12 months by selected characteristics, 2018

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Unemployed who worked in the past 12 months ¹	UI benefit applicants					Did not apply for UI benefits
		Total	Percent of unemployed	UI benefit recipients			
				Total	Percent of UI benefit applicants	Percent of unemployed	
Age							
Total, 16 years and over.....	3,711	947	25.5	623	65.8	16.8	2,727
16 to 24 years.....	1,053	71	6.8	34	-	3.2	977
25 to 54 years.....	2,070	657	31.7	418	63.6	20.2	1,386
55 years and over.....	587	219	37.2	171	78.3	29.2	363
Sex							
Men.....	2,046	559	27.3	370	66.2	18.1	1,466
Women.....	1,665	388	23.3	253	65.1	15.2	1,261
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity							
White.....	2,635	701	26.6	476	67.9	18.1	1,909
Black or African American.....	704	166	23.5	100	60.5	14.2	536
Asian.....	158	36	22.6	18	-	11.5	120
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	821	196	23.8	116	59.1	14.1	618
Disability status							
With a disability.....	239	61	25.4	41	-	17.3	177
With no disability.....	3,472	887	25.5	582	65.6	16.8	2,549
Foreign born status							
Foreign born.....	511	138	27.0	89	64.7	17.5	367
Native born.....	3,200	809	25.3	534	65.9	16.7	2,359
Reason for unemployment							
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs.....	2,109	801	38.0	555	69.4	26.3	1,291
Job leavers.....	708	69	9.7	25	-	3.5	631
Reentrants.....	893	78	8.7	43	54.8	4.8	805
Duration of unemployment							
Less than 5 weeks.....	1,579	261	16.5	109	41.7	6.9	1,310
5 to 14 weeks.....	1,114	302	27.1	209	69.2	18.8	805
15 to 26 weeks.....	652	248	38.1	199	80.0	30.5	390
27 weeks and over.....	366	136	37.1	106	78.4	29.0	222
Certification and licensing status							
With a certification or license.....	505	165	32.6	117	70.8	23.1	339
Without a certification or license.....	3,205	783	24.4	506	64.7	15.8	2,388
Educational attainment							
Total, 25 years and over.....	2,657	876	33.0	589	67.3	22.2	1,749
Less than a high school diploma.....	321	69	21.5	36	-	11.1	252
High school graduates, no college ²	859	255	29.7	169	66.1	19.6	587
Some college or associate degree.....	766	271	35.3	174	64.3	22.7	486
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	711	281	39.6	211	74.9	29.6	424

¹ Includes a relatively small number of persons who did not provide information about applying for UI benefits, not shown separately.

² Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

³ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Estimates are an average of data collected in May and September 2018. Data exclude unemployed persons with no previous work experience and those who last worked more than 12 months prior to the survey. However, all unemployed persons expecting to be recalled from temporary layoff are included, regardless of whether they worked in the 12 months prior to the survey. Estimates for the above race groups (White, Black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria (values not shown where base is less than 75,000).

Table 2. Unemployment insurance (UI) benefit applicants and recipients among unemployed persons who had worked in the past 12 months by characteristics of last job, 2018

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Unemployed who worked in the past 12 months ¹	UI benefit applicants					Did not apply for UI benefits
		Total	Percent of unemployed	UI benefit recipients			
				Total	Percent of UI benefit applicants	Percent of unemployed	
Total, 16 years and over.....	3,711	947	25.5	623	65.8	16.8	2,727
Union status on last job²							
Union member or represented by a union.....	172	91	52.7	74	81.7	43.0	81
Nonunion.....	3,464	837	24.2	536	64.1	15.5	2,610
Occupation of last job³							
Management, professional, and related occupation.....	795	299	37.6	205	68.5	25.7	484
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	318	155	48.8	107	69.1	33.7	159
Professional and related occupations.....	477	144	30.1	97	67.9	20.4	325
Service occupations.....	843	128	15.2	85	66.7	10.1	703
Sales and office occupations.....	906	223	24.6	149	66.6	16.4	676
Sales and related occupations.....	497	91	18.3	64	70.5	12.9	404
Office and administrative support occupations.....	409	132	32.4	85	63.9	20.7	271
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	479	142	29.6	101	71.0	21.0	334
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	60	14	-	6	-	-	46
Construction and extraction occupations.....	335	108	32.1	81	75.7	24.3	226
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	84	20	24.2	13	-	15.9	62
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations...	672	154	22.9	84	54.3	12.4	516
Production occupations.....	284	68	23.8	36	-	12.7	214
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	388	86	22.2	48	55.2	12.3	301
Industry of last job³							
Agriculture and related industries.....	90	33	36.2	18	-	20.0	57
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction.....	16	7	-	4	-	-	9
Construction.....	370	113	30.4	87	76.8	23.4	257
Manufacturing.....	386	121	31.4	84	69.1	21.7	258
Wholesale and retail trade.....	664	152	22.9	98	64.3	14.7	507
Transportation and utilities.....	165	40	24.4	16	-	9.7	122
Information.....	66	23	-	19	-	-	43
Financial activities.....	160	73	45.6	55	-	34.4	83
Professional and business services.....	474	129	27.3	77	59.8	16.3	344
Education and health services.....	520	148	28.5	102	69.0	19.7	361
Leisure and hospitality.....	565	69	12.3	44	-	7.8	490
Other services.....	144	15	10.3	7	-	4.8	129
Public administration.....	74	22	-	12	-	-	52

¹ Includes a relatively small number of persons who did not provide information about applying for UI benefits, not shown separately.

² Refers to union members and those covered by a union contract on their last job. Data do not sum to total because some individuals did not respond to the question about union membership.

³ Persons whose last job was in the U.S. Armed Forces are included in the unemployed total, but not shown separately.

NOTE: Estimates are an average of data collected in May and September 2018. Data exclude unemployed persons with no previous work experience and those who last worked more than 12 months prior to the survey. However, all unemployed persons expecting to be recalled from temporary layoff are included, regardless of whether they worked in the 12 months prior to the survey. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria (values not shown where base is less than 75,000).

Table 3. Main reason for not applying for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits among unemployed persons who had worked in the past 12 months, 2018

[Numbers in thousands]

Main reason for not applying for UI benefits	Unemployed persons ¹ who did not apply for UI benefits	
	Total	Percent distribution
Total, 16 years and over.....	2,727	100.0
Eligibility issues.....	1,611	59.1
Job separation type (quit, misconduct, etc.) or work not covered by UI...	884	32.4
Insufficient past work.....	496	18.2
Previous exhaustion of benefits.....	18	0.7
Any other reason concerning eligibility.....	213	7.8
Attitude about or barrier to applying for UI benefits.....	314	11.5
Do not need the money or do not want the hassle.....	176	6.5
Negative attitude about UI.....	39	1.4
Do not know about UI or do not know how to apply.....	79	2.9
Problems with application process.....	19	0.7
Other reasons for not applying for UI benefits.....	676	24.8
Expect to start working soon.....	355	13.0
Did not apply for personal reasons.....	91	3.4
Plan to file soon.....	86	3.2
All other reasons.....	143	5.2
Reason not provided.....	126	4.6

¹ Data exclude unemployed persons with no previous work experience and those who last worked more than 12 months prior to the survey. However, all unemployed persons expecting to be recalled from temporary layoff are included, regardless of whether they worked in the 12 months prior to the survey.

NOTE: Estimates are an average of data collected in May and September 2018. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria (values not shown where base is less than 75,000).

Table 4. Unemployment insurance (UI) benefit applicants and recipients among persons marginally attached to the labor force who had worked in the past 12 months by selected characteristics, 2018

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Marginally attached to the labor force who worked in the past 12 months ¹	UI benefit applicants				Did not apply for UI benefits
		Total	Percent of marginally attached	UI benefit recipients		
				Total	Percent of marginally attached	
Age						
Total, 16 years and over.....	477	81	17.0	45	9.5	387
16 to 24 years.....	144	11	7.7	5	3.2	128
25 to 54 years.....	246	48	19.4	28	11.6	194
55 years and over.....	87	23	25.8	12	14.1	65
Sex						
Men.....	262	40	15.4	28	10.5	218
Women.....	215	41	19.0	18	8.3	169
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity						
White.....	324	60	18.5	39	12.0	261
Black or African American.....	98	12	12.2	-	-	82
Asian.....	23	7	-	5	-	13
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	70	9	-	8	-	61
Educational attainment						
Total, 25 years and over.....	333	70	21.1	41	12.3	258
Less than a high school diploma.....	40	10	-	10	-	30
High school graduates, no college ²	125	23	18.5	15	11.7	98
Some college or associate degree.....	92	17	18.0	2	2.2	75
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	76	21	27.3	14	19.0	55

¹ Includes a relatively small number of persons who did not provide information about applying for UI benefits, not shown separately.

² Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

³ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Estimates are an average of data collected in May and September 2018. Persons marginally attached to the labor force are those who are neither employed nor unemployed, who want a job, have searched for work during the prior 12 months, and were available to take a job during the reference week, but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks prior to the survey. All data in this table refer to the subset of persons marginally attached to the labor force who have worked in the past 12 months. Estimates for the above race groups (White, Black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria (values not shown where base is less than 75,000).

Table 5. Main reason for not applying for unemployment insurance (UI) benefits among persons marginally attached to the labor force who had worked in the past 12 months, 2018

[Numbers in thousands]

Main reason for not applying for UI benefits	Marginally attached ¹ who did not apply for UI benefits	
	Total	Percent distribution
Total, 16 years and over.....	387	100.0
Eligibility issues.....	209	54.2
Job separation type (quit, misconduct, etc.) or work not covered by UI...	129	33.4
Insufficient past work.....	51	13.1
Previous exhaustion of benefits.....	5	1.3
Any other reason concerning eligibility.....	24	6.3
Attitude about or barrier to applying for UI benefits.....	55	14.2
Do not need the money or do not want the hassle.....	25	6.5
Negative attitude about UI.....	6	1.6
Do not know about UI or do not know how to apply.....	14	3.5
Problems with application process.....	10	2.5
Other reasons for not applying for UI benefits.....	88	22.7
Expect to start working soon.....	24	6.1
Did not apply for personal reasons.....	22	5.6
Plan to file soon.....	16	4.2
All other reasons.....	26	6.8
Reason not provided.....	35	8.9

¹ Data refer to the subset of persons marginally attached to the labor force who have worked in the past 12 months. (Persons marginally attached to the labor force are those who are neither employed nor unemployed, who want a job, have searched for work during the prior 12 months, and were available to take a job during the reference week, but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks prior to the survey.)

NOTE: Estimates are an average of data collected in May and September 2018. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria (values not shown where base is less than 75,000).