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FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS: LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS — 2010

The unemployment rate for the foreign born was 9.8 percent in 2010, little changed from a year earlier, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The jobless rate of the native born was 9.6 percent in 2010, up from 9.2 percent in 2009. The foreign born made up 15.8 percent of the labor force in 2010.

This news release compares the labor force characteristics of the foreign born with those of the native born. The data on nativity are collected as part of the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly sample survey of approximately 60,000 households. The foreign born are persons who reside in the United States but who were born outside the country or one of its outlying areas to parents who were not U.S. citizens. The foreign born include legally-admitted immigrants, refugees, temporary residents such as students and temporary workers, and undocumented immigrants. The survey data, however, do not separately identify the numbers of persons in these categories. For further information about the survey, see the Technical Note.

Highlights from the 2010 data:

- Over the year, the number of foreign-born labor force participants rose, while the number of native born in the labor force declined. (See table 1.)
- Hispanics accounted for 49.9 percent of the foreign-born labor force in 2010; Asians accounted for 21.8 percent. (See table 1.)
- Foreign-born workers were more likely than native-born workers to be employed in service occupations; production, transportation, and material moving occupations; and natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations. (See table 4.)
- The median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers were \$598 in 2010, compared with \$771 for their native-born counterparts. (See table 5.)

Demographic Characteristics

In 2010, men made up a larger share of the foreign-born labor force (59.0 percent) than they did of the native-born labor force (52.2 percent). The proportion of the foreign-born labor force made up of 25- to 54-year-olds was higher than for their native-born counterparts (76.1 and 65.2 percent, respectively). Labor force participation is typically highest among persons in that age bracket. (See table 1.)

Hispanics comprised 49.9 percent of the foreign-born labor force in 2010, compared with 8.2 percent of the native-born labor force. Asians made up 21.8 percent of the foreign-born labor force, compared with 1.4 percent of the native-born labor force. (Data in this release for persons who are white, black, or Asian do not include those of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. Data on persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are presented separately.)

In 2010, 26.5 percent of the foreign-born labor force age 25 and over had not completed high school, compared with 5.4 percent of the native-born labor force. Similar proportions of foreign-born and native-born persons in the labor force had a bachelor's degree or higher (31.1 and 35.3 percent, respectively). Foreign-born workers were less likely than the native born to have some college or an associate degree—17.1 versus 29.9 percent.

Labor Force and Unemployment

In 2010, the labor force participation rate of the foreign born was unchanged at 67.9 percent. From 2009 to 2010, the labor force participation rate of the native born fell by 0.8 percentage point to 64.1 percent. (See table 1.) In 2010, both the number of foreign-born labor force participants (24.4 million) and their share of the U.S. civilian labor force (15.8 percent) increased after showing little change in 2008 and 2009. The share of the U.S. civilian labor force that was foreign born grew steadily from 1996 to 2007.

The labor force participation rate of foreign-born men was 80.1 percent in 2010, compared with 69.5 percent for native-born men. The gap was narrower for women; 55.7 percent of foreign-born women were labor force participants, compared with 59.1 percent of native-born women.

Among the major race and ethnicity groups, labor force participation rates of foreign-born blacks (74.6 percent) increased in 2010, while the rate for foreign-born Asians (65.8 percent) fell. The participation rate for foreign-born whites (60.7 percent) and Hispanics (70.8 percent) showed little or no change in 2010. Among the native born, labor force participation rates of whites and Hispanics fell, while rates of Asians and blacks changed little.

The labor force participation rate of foreign-born mothers with children under age 18 was 60.8 percent in 2010, well below the figure of 73.2 percent for native-born mothers. Foreign-born mothers with younger children are much less likely to be labor force participants than their native-born counterparts. Among women with children under age 3, the participation rate for the foreign born was 46.5 percent in 2010, while that for the native born was 64.5 percent. The labor force participation rates of foreign- and native-born fathers with children under age 18 were similar, at 94.0 and 93.3 percent, respectively. (See table 2.)

By region, the foreign born made up a larger share of the labor force in 2010 in the West (24.2 percent) and in the Northeast (18.4 percent) than for the nation as a whole (15.8 percent). In contrast, the foreign born made up a smaller share of the labor force than for the nation as a whole in the South (14.1 percent) and Midwest (7.8 percent). Of the total 24.4 million foreign born in the labor force in 2010, about two-thirds lived in the West and the South. (See table 6.)

In 2010, the unemployment rate of the foreign born was 9.8 percent, little changed from a year earlier. The jobless rate for the native born increased by 0.4 percentage point to 9.6 percent. The unemployment rates for both foreign-born men and women were little changed in 2010, at 9.9 and 9.6 percent, respectively. Among the native born, the rate for men rose by 0.3 percentage point to 10.6 percent, while the rate for women was up by 0.6 percentage point to 8.5 percent. (See table 1.)

Occupation

In 2010, foreign-born workers were more likely than native-born workers to be employed in service occupations (25.0 versus 16.4 percent); in production, transportation, and material moving occupations (16.1 versus 10.8 percent); and in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations (13.6 versus 8.6 percent). Native-born workers were more likely than foreign-born workers to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations (38.9 versus 28.0 percent), and in sales and office occupations (25.3 versus 17.3 percent). (See table 4.)

Foreign-born men were more likely than native-born men to be employed in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations; production, transportation, and material moving occupations; and in service occupations. Compared with native-born women, foreign-born women were more likely to be employed in service occupations and in production, transportation, and material moving occupations.

Earnings

In 2010, the median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers (\$598) were 77.5 percent of the earnings of their native-born counterparts (\$771). Among men, median earnings for the foreign born were \$610 per week, while the native born earned \$873 per week. The median usual weekly earnings for foreign-born women were \$577, compared with \$686 for native-born women. Differences in earnings reflect a variety of factors, including variations in the distributions of foreign-born and native-born workers by educational attainment, occupation, industry, and geographic region. (See table 5.)

Hispanic foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers earned 76.4 percent as much as their native-born counterparts in 2010. For white, black, and Asian workers, earnings were similar for the foreign born and the native born.

The earnings of both foreign-born and native-born workers increase with education. In 2010, foreign-born workers age 25 and over with less than a high school education earned \$416 per week, while those with a bachelor's degree and higher earned about 2.7 times as much—\$1,119 per week. Among the native born, those with a bachelor's degree and higher earned about 2.4 times as much as those with less than a high school education—\$1,147 versus \$486 per week.

The gap between the earnings of foreign-born and native-born workers generally narrows with higher levels of education. Among those with less than a high school diploma in 2010, full-time workers who were foreign born earned 85.5 percent as much as their native-born counterparts. Among those with a bachelor's degree and higher, foreign-born workers earned almost as much (97.6 percent) as native-born workers.

Technical Note

The estimates in this release are based on annual average data from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS, which is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), is a monthly survey of about 60,000 households that provides information on the labor force status, demographics, and other characteristics of the nation's civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over. In response to the increased demand for statistical information about the foreign born, questions on nativity, citizenship, year of entry into the United States, and the parental nativity of respondents were added to the CPS beginning in January 1994. Prior to 1994, the primary sources of data on the foreign born were the decennial census, two CPS supplements (conducted in April 1983 and November 1989), and, to some extent, information collected by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (formerly known as the Immigration and Naturalization Service).

The foreign- and native-born data for 2010 are not strictly comparable with data for 2009 and earlier years because of the introduction in January 2010 of revised population controls used in the CPS. The effect of the revised population controls on the foreign- and native-born estimates is unknown. However, the effect of the new controls on the monthly CPS estimates was to decrease the December 2009 employment level by 243,000 and the unemployment level by 5,000. The new population controls had a negligible impact on unemployment rates and other percentage estimates. More detailed information on the population adjustments and their effect on national labor force estimates are available at www.bls.gov/cps/cps10adj.pdf.

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

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 exact difference, or *sampling error*, varies depending upon 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.

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. For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and information on estimating standard errors, see the Household Data section of the "Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error"

from *Employment and Earnings Online* at www.bls.gov/cps/eetech_methods.pdf.

Concepts and definitions

Foreign born. The foreign born are persons residing in the United States who were not U.S. citizens at birth. That is, they were born outside the United States or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam, to parents neither of whom was a U.S. citizen. The foreign-born population includes legally-admitted immigrants, refugees, temporary residents such as students and temporary workers, and undocumented immigrants. The survey data, however, do not separately identify the number of persons in these categories.

Native born. The native born are persons born in the United States or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam or who were born abroad of at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen.

Race and ethnicity groups. In this release, the data are presented for non-Hispanic whites, blacks, and Asians and for persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. These four groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups (including persons who selected more than one race category) are included in the overall totals but are not shown separately because the number of survey respondents is too small to develop statistically reliable estimates. The presentation of the data on race and ethnicity in this release differs from that which appears in most analyses of CPS labor force data because persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are separated from the race groups. Because persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity can be of any race, they are usually included in the race groups as well as shown separately in the Hispanic Latino ethnicity group. The reason for the difference in the data presentation in this release is because about half of the foreign born are of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity and they have somewhat different labor force characteristics than the non-Hispanic foreign born.

Employed. Employed persons are (a) all those who, during the survey reference week, did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or who worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family-operated enterprise; and (b) all those who did not work but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, vacation, childcare problems, labor disputes, or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off and whether or not they were seeking other jobs.

Unemployed. The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work at that time, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not be looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Civilian labor force. The civilian labor force comprises all persons classified as employed or unemployed.

Unemployment rate. The unemployment rate is the number unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

Labor force participation rate. The labor force participation rate is the labor force as a percent of the population.

Usual weekly earnings. Data represent earnings before taxes and other deductions and include any overtime pay,

commissions, or tips usually received (at the main job in the case of multiple jobholders). Earnings reported on a basis other than weekly are converted to a weekly equivalent.

Median earnings. The median is the amount which divides a given earnings distribution into two equal groups, one having earnings above the median and the other having earnings below the median.

Table 1. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations by selected characteristics, 2009-10 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2009						2010					
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force					Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force				
		Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed			Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed	
					Number	Unemployment rate					Number	Unemployment rate
TOTAL												
Total, 16 years and over	235,801	154,142	65.4	139,877	14,265	9.3	237,830	153,889	64.7	139,064	14,825	9.6
Men	114,136	82,123	72.0	73,670	8,453	10.3	115,174	81,985	71.2	73,359	8,626	10.5
Women	121,665	72,019	59.2	66,208	5,811	8.1	122,656	71,904	58.6	65,705	6,199	8.6
FOREIGN BORN												
Total, 16 years and over	35,216	23,926	67.9	21,608	2,317	9.7	35,869	24,356	67.9	21,969	2,387	9.8
Men	17,628	14,190	80.5	12,765	1,426	10.0	17,936	14,375	80.1	12,946	1,429	9.9
Women	17,588	9,735	55.4	8,844	891	9.2	17,934	9,981	55.7	9,023	958	9.6
Age												
16 to 24 years	3,542	1,986	56.1	1,681	304	15.3	3,533	1,975	55.9	1,661	314	15.9
25 to 34 years	7,637	5,907	77.3	5,330	577	9.8	7,714	5,936	77.0	5,387	550	9.3
35 to 44 years	8,379	6,847	81.7	6,210	637	9.3	8,470	6,884	81.3	6,265	619	9.0
45 to 54 years	6,819	5,588	81.9	5,096	491	8.8	6,949	5,719	82.3	5,172	547	9.6
55 to 64 years	4,321	2,838	65.7	2,590	249	8.8	4,528	3,011	66.5	2,727	284	9.4
65 years and over	4,517	760	16.8	701	59	7.8	4,674	831	17.8	757	74	8.9
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity ¹												
White non-Hispanic or Latino	7,249	4,334	59.8	4,002	332	7.7	7,363	4,470	60.7	4,138	332	7.4
Black non-Hispanic or Latino	2,812	2,037	72.4	1,807	231	11.3	2,898	2,162	74.6	1,893	269	12.4
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino	7,876	5,332	67.7	4,967	365	6.8	8,073	5,315	65.8	4,928	386	7.3
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	16,933	11,982	70.8	10,612	1,370	11.4	17,162	12,152	70.8	10,776	1,376	11.3
Educational attainment												
Total, 25 years and over	31,674	21,940	69.3	19,927	2,013	9.2	32,336	22,381	69.2	20,308	2,073	9.3
Less than a high school diploma	9,542	5,862	61.4	5,122	740	12.6	9,620	5,930	61.6	5,219	712	12.0
High school graduates, no college ² ...	7,992	5,371	67.2	4,875	496	9.2	8,284	5,663	68.4	5,087	576	10.2
Some college or associate degree	5,070	3,735	73.7	3,406	328	8.8	5,200	3,818	73.4	3,463	355	9.3
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	9,070	6,972	76.9	6,524	448	6.4	9,232	6,970	75.5	6,539	431	6.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations by selected characteristics, 2009-10 annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2009						2010					
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force					Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force				
		Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed			Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed	
					Number	Unemployment rate					Number	Unemployment rate
NATIVE BORN												
Total, 16 years and over	200,585	130,216	64.9	118,269	11,947	9.2	201,960	129,533	64.1	117,095	12,438	9.6
Men	96,508	67,933	70.4	60,905	7,028	10.3	97,238	67,610	69.5	60,414	7,196	10.6
Women	104,077	62,284	59.8	57,364	4,920	7.9	104,722	61,923	59.1	56,682	5,242	8.5
Age												
16 to 24 years	34,025	19,375	56.9	15,920	3,455	17.8	34,415	18,960	55.1	15,417	3,543	18.7
25 to 34 years	32,643	27,392	83.9	24,684	2,707	9.9	33,189	27,678	83.4	24,842	2,836	10.2
35 to 44 years	32,540	27,391	84.2	25,307	2,085	7.6	31,620	26,482	83.8	24,398	2,084	7.9
45 to 54 years	37,546	30,617	81.5	28,517	2,101	6.9	37,348	30,242	81.0	28,019	2,223	7.4
55 to 64 years	30,349	19,667	64.8	18,429	1,238	6.3	31,357	20,286	64.7	18,909	1,377	6.8
65 years and over	33,481	5,774	17.2	5,413	362	6.3	34,032	5,886	17.3	5,511	375	6.4
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity ¹												
White non-Hispanic or Latino	153,104	100,525	65.7	92,681	7,844	7.8	153,448	99,478	64.8	91,483	7,994	8.0
Black non-Hispanic or Latino	24,466	14,971	61.2	12,700	2,271	15.2	24,691	14,996	60.7	12,529	2,467	16.5
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino	2,756	1,681	61.0	1,542	138	8.2	2,900	1,782	61.5	1,641	141	7.9
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	15,958	10,370	65.0	9,034	1,336	12.9	16,551	10,596	64.0	9,130	1,467	13.8
Educational attainment												
Total, 25 years and over	166,560	110,842	66.5	102,349	8,492	7.7	167,546	110,573	66.0	101,679	8,895	8.0
Less than a high school diploma	16,587	6,284	37.9	5,249	1,035	16.5	16,046	5,949	37.1	4,896	1,053	17.7
High school graduates, no college ²	53,477	32,815	61.4	29,612	3,203	9.8	53,753	32,573	60.6	29,206	3,367	10.3
Some college or associate degree	46,657	33,080	70.9	30,482	2,599	7.9	47,022	33,022	70.2	30,284	2,738	8.3
Bachelor's degree and higher ³	49,839	38,662	77.6	37,007	1,655	4.3	50,724	39,029	76.9	37,293	1,736	4.4

¹ Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races.

² Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

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

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 2. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by presence and age of youngest child and sex, 2009-10 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2009			2010		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
FOREIGN BORN						
With own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,723	6,585	7,138	14,385	6,896	7,490
Civilian labor force	10,577	6,209	4,368	11,032	6,480	4,552
Participation rate	77.1	94.3	61.2	76.7	94.0	60.8
Employed	9,573	5,645	3,928	10,008	5,913	4,095
Employment-population ratio	69.8	85.7	55.0	69.6	85.7	54.7
Unemployed	1,003	563	440	1,025	568	457
Unemployment rate	9.5	9.1	10.1	9.3	8.8	10.0
With own children 6 to 17, none younger						
Civilian noninstitutional population	7,180	3,395	3,785	7,338	3,423	3,915
Civilian labor force	5,834	3,176	2,658	5,908	3,184	2,725
Participation rate	81.2	93.5	70.2	80.5	93.0	69.6
Employed	5,292	2,876	2,416	5,373	2,903	2,470
Employment-population ratio	73.7	84.7	63.8	73.2	84.8	63.1
Unemployed	542	299	242	536	281	255
Unemployment rate	9.3	9.4	9.1	9.1	8.8	9.4
With own children under 6						
Civilian noninstitutional population	6,543	3,190	3,353	7,047	3,473	3,574
Civilian labor force	4,743	3,033	1,710	5,124	3,296	1,827
Participation rate	72.5	95.1	51.0	72.7	94.9	51.1
Employed	4,281	2,769	1,512	4,635	3,010	1,625
Employment-population ratio	65.4	86.8	45.1	65.8	86.7	45.5
Unemployed	461	264	198	489	287	202
Unemployment rate	9.7	8.7	11.6	9.5	8.7	11.1
With own children under 3						
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,758	1,852	1,907	4,074	2,022	2,053
Civilian labor force	2,632	1,758	874	2,871	1,916	955
Participation rate	70.0	95.0	45.8	70.5	94.8	46.5
Employed	2,379	1,612	767	2,585	1,748	837
Employment-population ratio	63.3	87.0	40.2	63.4	86.4	40.8
Unemployed	253	146	107	286	168	118
Unemployment rate	9.6	8.3	12.2	10.0	8.8	12.3
With no own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	21,493	11,043	10,450	21,484	11,040	10,444
Civilian labor force	13,349	7,982	5,367	13,323	7,895	5,429
Participation rate	62.1	72.3	51.4	62.0	71.5	52.0
Employed	12,035	7,119	4,916	11,961	7,033	4,928
Employment-population ratio	56.0	64.5	47.0	55.7	63.7	47.2
Unemployed	1,314	862	452	1,362	862	501
Unemployment rate	9.8	10.8	8.4	10.2	10.9	9.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by presence and age of youngest child and sex, 2009-10 annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2009			2010		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
NATIVE BORN						
With own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	50,974	22,132	28,841	51,801	22,530	29,270
Civilian labor force	42,050	20,720	21,330	42,459	21,018	21,441
Participation rate	82.5	93.6	74.0	82.0	93.3	73.2
Employed	38,934	19,291	19,642	38,981	19,430	19,551
Employment-population ratio	76.4	87.2	68.1	75.3	86.2	66.8
Unemployed	3,116	1,429	1,687	3,478	1,588	1,890
Unemployment rate	7.4	6.9	7.9	8.2	7.6	8.8
With own children 6 to 17, none younger						
Civilian noninstitutional population	28,548	12,527	16,021	28,468	12,426	16,042
Civilian labor force	24,244	11,589	12,655	24,033	11,503	12,530
Participation rate	84.9	92.5	79.0	84.4	92.6	78.1
Employed	22,653	10,847	11,806	22,337	10,735	11,601
Employment-population ratio	79.4	86.6	73.7	78.5	86.4	72.3
Unemployed	1,591	743	848	1,697	768	929
Unemployment rate	6.6	6.4	6.7	7.1	6.7	7.4
With own children under 6						
Civilian noninstitutional population	22,426	9,606	12,820	23,333	10,104	13,229
Civilian labor force	17,806	9,131	8,675	18,426	9,515	8,911
Participation rate	79.4	95.1	67.7	79.0	94.2	67.4
Employed	16,281	8,445	7,836	16,644	8,695	7,949
Employment-population ratio	72.6	87.9	61.1	71.3	86.1	60.1
Unemployed	1,525	686	839	1,781	820	961
Unemployment rate	8.6	7.5	9.7	9.7	8.6	10.8
With own children under 3						
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,293	5,723	7,570	13,859	6,006	7,853
Civilian labor force	10,350	5,438	4,913	10,725	5,658	5,067
Participation rate	77.9	95.0	64.9	77.4	94.2	64.5
Employed	9,442	5,018	4,424	9,638	5,146	4,492
Employment-population ratio	71.0	87.7	58.4	69.5	85.7	57.2
Unemployed	908	420	488	1,087	511	575
Unemployment rate	8.8	7.7	9.9	10.1	9.0	11.4
With no own children under 18						
Civilian noninstitutional population	149,611	74,375	75,236	150,159	74,708	75,452
Civilian labor force	88,167	47,213	40,954	87,074	46,591	40,483
Participation rate	58.9	63.5	54.4	58.0	62.4	53.7
Employed	79,335	41,614	37,722	78,115	40,983	37,131
Employment-population ratio	53.0	56.0	50.1	52.0	54.9	49.2
Unemployed	8,831	5,599	3,232	8,960	5,608	3,352
Unemployment rate	10.0	11.9	7.9	10.3	12.0	8.3

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 3. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 25 years and over by educational attainment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2009-10 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2009				2010			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²
FOREIGN BORN								
White non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	832	1,729	1,370	2,763	870	1,773	1,364	2,832
Civilian labor force	266	899	865	2,004	307	937	883	2,053
Participation rate	32.0	52.0	63.1	72.5	35.3	52.8	64.8	72.5
Employed	238	823	804	1,877	282	851	818	1,935
Employment-population ratio	28.6	47.6	58.6	67.9	32.4	48.0	60.0	68.3
Unemployed	28	77	61	127	25	85	66	118
Unemployment rate	10.7	8.5	7.1	6.4	8.0	9.1	7.4	5.7
Black non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	347	748	661	719	420	739	685	740
Civilian labor force	194	544	525	615	246	556	568	623
Participation rate	56.0	72.7	79.5	85.5	58.5	75.3	82.9	84.2
Employed	164	482	474	563	203	481	508	570
Employment-population ratio	47.2	64.4	71.7	78.3	48.3	65.1	74.2	77.1
Unemployed	30	62	52	52	43	75	60	53
Unemployment rate	15.7	11.4	9.8	8.5	17.4	13.6	10.6	8.5
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	936	1,425	1,032	3,881	931	1,536	1,088	3,877
Civilian labor force	419	878	759	3,016	414	977	767	2,889
Participation rate	44.8	61.6	73.6	77.7	44.5	63.6	70.6	74.5
Employed	386	814	696	2,841	368	901	703	2,724
Employment-population ratio	41.3	57.2	67.5	73.2	39.5	58.6	64.7	70.3
Unemployed	33	64	64	175	46	76	64	165
Unemployment rate	7.9	7.3	8.4	5.8	11.2	7.8	8.3	5.7
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity								
Civilian noninstitutional population	7,376	4,020	1,929	1,596	7,351	4,146	1,989	1,667
Civilian labor force	4,959	3,002	1,526	1,247	4,937	3,134	1,542	1,316
Participation rate	67.2	74.7	79.1	78.1	67.2	75.6	77.5	78.9
Employed	4,314	2,712	1,378	1,158	4,341	2,802	1,383	1,225
Employment-population ratio	58.5	67.5	71.5	72.5	59.1	67.6	69.5	73.5
Unemployed	644	289	147	89	595	332	159	91
Unemployment rate	13.0	9.6	9.7	7.1	12.1	10.6	10.3	6.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 25 years and over by educational attainment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2009-10 annual averages—Continued

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2009				2010			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college ¹	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher ²
NATIVE BORN								
White non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	10,507	41,552	36,165	42,586	10,172	41,667	36,307	43,147
Civilian labor force	3,860	24,975	25,328	32,751	3,654	24,684	25,135	32,916
Participation rate	36.7	60.1	70.0	76.9	35.9	59.2	69.2	76.3
Employed	3,295	22,797	23,543	31,445	3,086	22,458	23,275	31,582
Employment-population ratio	31.4	54.9	65.1	73.8	30.3	53.9	64.1	73.2
Unemployed	565	2,178	1,785	1,306	568	2,225	1,860	1,334
Unemployment rate	14.6	8.7	7.0	4.0	15.5	9.0	7.4	4.1
Black non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	3,112	6,897	5,738	3,659	3,036	6,895	5,826	3,798
Civilian labor force	1,099	4,392	4,158	2,923	1,057	4,304	4,214	2,986
Participation rate	35.3	63.7	72.5	79.9	34.8	62.4	72.3	78.6
Employed	851	3,760	3,673	2,717	798	3,605	3,682	2,752
Employment-population ratio	27.4	54.5	64.0	74.3	26.3	52.3	63.2	72.5
Unemployed	248	631	486	206	259	698	532	235
Unemployment rate	22.6	14.4	11.7	7.0	24.5	16.2	12.6	7.9
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino								
Civilian noninstitutional population	126	360	465	962	133	387	471	1,008
Civilian labor force	51	201	315	779	54	228	329	817
Participation rate	40.2	55.7	67.8	81.0	40.5	58.9	69.9	81.0
Employed	47	186	291	743	49	212	304	777
Employment-population ratio	37.3	51.5	62.5	77.2	37.1	54.7	64.6	77.1
Unemployed	4	15	25	36	4	16	25	40
Unemployment rate	7.4	7.6	7.8	4.7	8.3	7.1	7.5	4.9
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity								
Civilian noninstitutional population	2,388	3,716	3,174	1,947	2,295	3,769	3,314	2,059
Civilian labor force	1,105	2,656	2,501	1,648	1,033	2,714	2,583	1,728
Participation rate	46.3	71.5	78.8	84.7	45.0	72.0	77.9	83.9
Employed	918	2,357	2,278	1,571	842	2,373	2,343	1,637
Employment-population ratio	38.5	63.4	71.8	80.7	36.7	63.0	70.7	79.5
Unemployed	186	299	223	77	191	342	240	91
Unemployment rate	16.9	11.3	8.9	4.7	18.5	12.6	9.3	5.3

¹ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

² Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 4. Employed foreign-born and native-born persons 16 years and over by occupation and sex, 2010 annual averages

(Percent distribution)

Occupation	Foreign born			Native born		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	21,969	12,946	9,023	117,095	60,414	56,682
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations	28.0	25.3	31.7	38.9	36.1	42.0
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	10.3	10.4	10.2	15.9	17.5	14.2
Management occupations	7.5	8.2	6.5	11.4	13.6	9.1
Business and financial operations occupations	2.8	2.2	3.7	4.5	4.0	5.2
Professional and related occupations	17.6	14.9	21.5	23.0	18.5	27.8
Computer and mathematical occupations	3.3	4.2	2.0	2.4	3.4	1.3
Architecture and engineering occupations	1.8	2.6	.7	1.9	3.2	.5
Life, physical, and social science occupations	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0
Community and social services occupations	1.0	.6	1.5	1.8	1.2	2.4
Legal occupations5	.4	.6	1.4	1.4	1.4
Education, training, and library occupations	3.6	2.1	5.7	6.7	3.3	10.3
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations	1.4	1.3	1.5	2.1	2.2	2.0
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations	5.0	2.6	8.4	5.7	2.8	8.9
Service occupations	25.0	19.1	33.4	16.4	13.5	19.4
Healthcare support occupations	2.8	.7	6.0	2.3	.5	4.3
Protective service occupations	1.1	1.4	.6	2.6	4.0	1.1
Food preparation and serving related occupations	7.9	7.9	8.0	5.1	4.0	6.2
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations	8.7	7.6	10.3	2.9	3.6	2.2
Personal care and service occupations	4.4	1.6	8.5	3.5	1.5	5.6
Sales and office occupations	17.3	12.8	23.8	25.3	17.8	33.3
Sales and related occupations	8.9	7.8	10.5	11.5	11.1	11.9
Office and administrative support occupations	8.4	5.0	13.4	13.8	6.7	21.4
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	13.6	22.0	1.5	8.6	15.9	.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.8	2.4	1.0	.5	.7	.2
Construction and extraction occupations	8.6	14.4	.3	4.5	8.5	.3
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	3.2	5.3	.2	3.6	6.7	.3
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	16.1	20.7	9.6	10.8	16.7	4.5
Production occupations	8.7	10.0	6.9	5.2	7.5	2.8
Transportation and material moving occupations	7.4	10.8	2.6	5.6	9.2	1.7

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers for the foreign born and native born by selected characteristics, 2009-10 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristic	2009					2010				
	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born ¹	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born ¹
	Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings		Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings	
Total, 16 years and over	15,965	\$602	83,855	\$761	79.1	16,253	\$598	83,278	\$771	77.5
Men	9,867	620	45,241	864	71.7	10,056	610	45,003	873	69.9
Women	6,099	567	38,614	670	84.6	6,197	577	38,275	686	84.1
AGE										
16 to 24 years	1,085	400	7,873	452	88.5	1,037	392	7,515	443	88.5
25 to 34 years	4,185	555	19,675	704	78.8	4,288	551	19,813	709	77.7
35 to 44 years	4,709	647	19,659	856	75.5	4,784	649	19,038	864	75.2
45 to 54 years	3,718	679	21,605	866	78.4	3,810	643	21,396	878	73.2
55 to 64 years	1,886	672	12,842	865	77.7	1,911	651	13,230	887	73.4
65 years and over	383	574	2,201	703	81.6	422	584	2,287	708	82.4
RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY ²										
White non-Hispanic or Latino	2,693	863	64,497	808	106.7	2,809	850	64,060	824	103.2
Black non-Hispanic or Latino	1,397	613	9,956	601	102.1	1,490	614	9,696	613	100.1
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino	3,726	877	1,101	908	96.6	3,665	871	1,179	841	103.5
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	7,964	479	6,660	632	75.8	8,092	480	6,745	629	76.4
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT										
Total, 25 years and over	14,881	621	75,982	805	77.1	15,216	615	75,764	818	75.2
Less than a high school diploma	3,817	415	3,472	498	83.3	3,895	416	3,258	486	85.5
High school graduates, no college ³	3,611	530	21,766	644	82.3	3,687	521	21,512	648	80.4
Some college or associate degree	2,460	641	22,657	733	87.4	2,560	656	22,335	741	88.4
Bachelor's degree and higher ⁴	4,993	1,129	28,088	1,138	99.2	5,073	1,119	28,658	1,147	97.6

¹ These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

² Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races.

³ Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

⁴ Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.

Table 6. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by census region and division, 2009-10 annual averages

(Numbers in thousands)

Census region and division	2009						2010					
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force					Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force				
		Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed			Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed	
					Number	Unemployment rate					Number	Unemployment rate
FOREIGN BORN												
Northeast	7,688	5,079	66.1	4,652	427	8.4	7,740	5,221	67.5	4,782	439	8.4
New England	1,421	974	68.5	888	85	8.8	1,465	1,013	69.2	923	90	8.9
Middle Atlantic	6,266	4,106	65.5	3,764	342	8.3	6,275	4,208	67.1	3,859	349	8.3
South	10,934	7,593	69.4	6,914	679	8.9	11,241	7,760	69.0	7,063	697	9.0
South Atlantic	6,361	4,432	69.7	3,996	436	9.8	6,556	4,534	69.2	4,075	459	10.1
East South Central ...	604	444	73.5	395	49	10.9	604	437	72.4	405	31	7.2
West South Central ..	3,969	2,717	68.5	2,523	194	7.2	4,082	2,789	68.3	2,583	206	7.4
Midwest	3,923	2,689	68.6	2,422	268	10.0	3,951	2,691	68.1	2,428	263	9.8
East North Central	2,995	2,016	67.3	1,805	211	10.5	3,018	2,029	67.2	1,827	203	10.0
West North Central ...	928	674	72.6	617	57	8.5	933	662	70.9	601	61	9.2
West	12,671	8,563	67.6	7,620	943	11.0	12,937	8,684	67.1	7,696	988	11.4
Mountain	2,154	1,463	67.9	1,320	143	9.8	2,216	1,463	66.0	1,300	163	11.1
Pacific	10,518	7,101	67.5	6,301	800	11.3	10,721	7,221	67.3	6,395	825	11.4
NATIVE BORN												
Northeast	35,785	23,268	65.0	21,336	1,932	8.3	36,130	23,093	63.9	21,081	2,011	8.7
New England	9,965	6,720	67.4	6,172	547	8.1	10,071	6,744	67.0	6,174	570	8.4
Middle Atlantic	25,820	16,548	64.1	15,163	1,385	8.4	26,059	16,349	62.7	14,907	1,441	8.8
South	75,111	47,388	63.1	43,142	4,246	9.0	75,818	47,446	62.6	42,984	4,462	9.4
South Atlantic	39,142	24,880	63.6	22,555	2,324	9.3	39,475	24,735	62.7	22,286	2,449	9.9
East South Central ...	13,416	8,064	60.1	7,211	852	10.6	13,529	8,176	60.4	7,337	839	10.3
West South Central ..	22,553	14,445	64.0	13,375	1,069	7.4	22,814	14,535	63.7	13,361	1,174	8.1
Midwest	47,717	32,077	67.2	29,026	3,050	9.5	47,955	31,840	66.4	28,843	2,996	9.4
East North Central	33,020	21,746	65.9	19,449	2,297	10.6	33,128	21,572	65.1	19,313	2,259	10.5
West North Central ...	14,696	10,330	70.3	9,578	753	7.3	14,827	10,268	69.2	9,530	737	7.2
West	41,972	27,484	65.5	24,765	2,719	9.9	42,058	27,154	64.6	24,187	2,968	10.9
Mountain	14,523	9,674	66.6	8,851	823	8.5	14,628	9,614	65.7	8,699	914	9.5
Pacific	27,449	17,810	64.9	15,914	1,896	10.6	27,429	17,541	63.9	15,487	2,053	11.7

NOTE: The states (plus the District of Columbia) that comprise the census divisions are: New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont); Middle Atlantic (New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania); South Atlantic (Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia); East South Central (Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee); West South Central Division (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas); East North Central (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin); West North Central (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota); Mountain (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming); Pacific (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington). Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. See the Technical Note for further information.