

# NEWS RELEASE

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**(NOTE: BLS reissued this news release on December 20, 2021, to correct 2019 and 2020 data on the number and percent of total married-couple families with only one spouse employed. The incorrect data appeared in the text of the news release, in table 2 of the news release, and in the online database.)**

## EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES — 2020

In 2020, 9.8 percent of families included an unemployed person, twice the figure of 4.9 percent in 2019, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The increase in unemployment among families reflects the effect of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the labor market. Of the nation's 83.1 million families, 78.2 percent had at least one employed member in 2020.

These data on employment, unemployment, and family relationships are collected as part of the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of about 60,000 households. Data in this news release are annual averages. Families are classified either as married-couple families or as families maintained by women or men without spouses present. Unless otherwise noted, families include those with and without children under age 18. For further information, see the Technical Note in this news release.

### Families and Unemployment

The number of families with at least one member unemployed increased by 4.0 million to 8.1 million in 2020. The proportion of families with an unemployed person, at 9.8 percent, doubled from the previous year, when it was 4.9 percent. In 2020, the proportion of families with an unemployed person increased for White (9.0 percent of families), Black (13.4 percent), Asian (10.9 percent), and Hispanic (14.3 percent) families. White families were the least likely to have an unemployed member, and Hispanic families were the most likely. In 2019, by contrast, Asian families were the least likely to have an unemployed person, and Black families were the most likely. (See table 1.)

In 2020, among families with an unemployed member, 67.6 percent also had at least one family member employed, down from 71.3 percent in the prior year. The proportion of families with an unemployed member that had at least one family member working full time fell by 2.5 percentage points to 59.9 percent in 2020. Among families with an unemployed member, Black families remained less likely to also have at least one family member who was working (57.1 percent) than White (69.9 percent), Asian (71.6 percent), and Hispanic (67.7 percent) families.

(See table 1.)

In 2020, 8.6 percent of married-couple families had an unemployed member, less than the corresponding percentages of families maintained by women or families maintained by men (12.7 percent and 13.6 percent, respectively). Among families with an unemployed member, those maintained by women remained less likely to also have an employed family member (49.9 percent) than families maintained by men and married-couple families (55.0 percent and 76.2 percent, respectively). (See tables 2 and 3.)

### **Families and Employment**

In 2020, 78.2 percent of families had at least one employed family member, down from 81.2 percent in the prior year. From 2019 to 2020, the likelihood of having an employed family member decreased for White (78.0 percent of families), Black (75.7 percent), Asian (84.7 percent), and Hispanic (84.1 percent) families. (See table 1.)

Families maintained by women remained less likely to have an employed member (74.8 percent) in 2020 than families maintained by men (81.1 percent) or married-couple families (78.7 percent). Among married-couple families, both spouses were employed in 45.5 percent of families, down from 49.7 percent in the prior year. In 2020, only one spouse was employed in 26.7 percent of married-couple families, up from 25.2 percent in 2019. (See table 2.)

### **Families with Children**

In 2020, 33.0 million families, or two-fifths of all families, included children under age 18. (Children are sons, daughters, step-children, or adopted children living in the household who are under age 18. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, other related and unrelated children, and children not living in the household.) At least one parent was employed in 88.5 percent of families with children, down from 91.4 percent in the previous year. Among married-couple families with children, 95.3 percent had at least one employed parent in 2020, and 59.8 percent had both parents employed. Among families maintained by fathers, 79.6 percent of fathers were employed, a greater share than the 71.0 percent of mothers who were employed in families maintained by mothers. (See tables 1 and 4.)

### **Parents**

The labor force participation rate—the percent of the population working or looking for work—for all women with children under age 18 was 71.2 percent in 2020, down from 72.3 percent in the prior year. The participation rate for fathers with children under age 18, at 92.3 percent in 2020, also declined from the previous year (93.3 percent). This decline in labor force participation among parents, especially mothers, likely reflects not only pandemic-related job losses, but also the shift of many schools to distance learning and the temporary closure of many childcare facilities during the pandemic. (See table 5.)

Participation rates declined from the prior year for married mothers and fathers, and for mothers and fathers with other marital statuses. Married mothers remained less likely to participate in the

labor force in 2020, at 69.2 percent, than mothers with other marital statuses (75.9 percent). In contrast, married fathers remained more likely to participate in the labor force (93.3 percent) than fathers with other marital statuses (86.3 percent). (Other marital status includes persons who are never married; widowed; divorced; separated; and married, spouse absent.) (See table 5.)

In 2020, mothers of older children remained more likely to participate in the labor force than mothers with younger children. The participation rate for mothers with children under age 6, at 65.8 percent, was lower than that of mothers whose youngest child was age 6 to 17, at 75.4 percent. By comparison, fathers with children under age 6 were more likely to participate in the labor force than those whose youngest child was age 6 to 17 (93.4 percent versus 91.4 percent). (See table 5.)

In 2020, the unemployment rate for mothers increased by 4.0 percentage points from the prior year to 7.5 percent, and the rate for fathers increased by 3.4 percentage points to 5.6 percent. The unemployment rate for married mothers remained considerably lower than for mothers with other marital statuses—6.1 percent, compared with 10.4 percent. Married fathers also continued to have a lower unemployment rate, at 4.8 percent, than fathers with other marital statuses, at 10.6 percent. Among mothers who had children under age 3, the unemployment rate of mothers who were married was less than half that of those with other marital statuses (6.1 percent versus 12.8 percent). (See tables 5 and 6.)

Employed fathers remained more likely to work full time in 2020 than employed mothers; 95.6 percent of employed fathers worked full time, compared with 79.7 percent of employed mothers. The likelihood of working full time declined by 0.5 percentage point from the previous year for employed fathers, while it increased by 1.2 percentage points over the year for employed mothers. The increase in the percentage of working mothers who were employed full time from 2019 to 2020 reflects the nature of pandemic-related job losses in 2020, which were disproportionately large among mothers who worked part time.

Among employed mothers, those with older children remained more likely to work full time than those with younger children. In 2020, 81.2 percent of employed mothers with children ages 6 to 17 worked full time, compared with 77.5 percent of mothers with children under age 6. Employed fathers with older and younger children were about equally likely to work full time, at 95.7 percent and 95.4 percent, respectively. (See table 5.)

### **Change in classification by marital status and family type**

Estimates in this news release reflect a change in the classification of persons in same-sex marriages. In this news release, estimates of the number of married persons refer to those in opposite-sex and same-sex marriages. In prior news releases, estimates of the number of married persons referred to those in opposite-sex marriages only. The definition of families incorporates this change by expanding the definition of married-couple families to include same-sex married couples.

This new classification results in a larger estimate of the number of persons who are married with a spouse present. It also results in a larger estimate of the number of married-couple families and the total number of families. Estimates of same-sex married-couple families are not displayed in this news release. BLS continues to evaluate these data.

Family estimates and estimates by marital status for 2020 and 2019 in this news release incorporate this change. Therefore, 2019 estimates presented in these tables do not match those published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families—2019" news release and in the BLS online database.

## 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 eligible households that provides information on the labor force status, demographics, and other characteristics of the nation's civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over.

Estimates in this news release reflect a change in the classification of persons in same-sex marriages. In this news release, estimates of the number of married persons refer to those in opposite-sex and same-sex marriages. In prior news releases, estimates of the number of married persons referred to those in opposite-sex marriages only. The definition of families incorporates this change by expanding the definition of married-couple families to include same-sex married couples. This new classification results in a larger estimate of the number of persons who are married with a spouse present. It also results in a larger estimate of the number of married-couple families and the total number of families. The 2019 estimates presented in this news release do not match those published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families--2019" news release and in the BLS online database. Additional information about the classification change is available from the Census Bureau at

[www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/working-papers/2019/demo/SEHSD-WP-2018-30.pdf](http://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/working-papers/2019/demo/SEHSD-WP-2018-30.pdf).

In addition, the data presented in this release are not strictly comparable with data for earlier years due to the introduction of updated population estimates, or controls, used in the CPS. The population controls are updated each year in January to reflect the latest information about population change. Additional information is available from the BLS website at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#pop](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#pop)

Upon request, the information in this release will be made available to individuals who are sensory impaired: 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 on 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.

Information about the reliability of data from the CPS and guidance on estimating standard errors are available at [www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability](http://www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm#reliability)

### Definitions

Definitions of the principal terms used in this release are described briefly below.

*Householder.* The householder is the family reference person. This is the person (or one of the persons) in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented. The relationship of other individuals in the household is defined in terms of their relationship to the householder. The race and Hispanic ethnicity of the family is determined by that of the householder.

*Family.* A family is a group of two or more persons residing together who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption; all such individuals are considered members of one family. The count of families is for "primary" families only. A primary family consists of a householder and all other persons related to and residing with the householder. Sub-families are excluded from the

count of families. A sub-family is a family that does not maintain their own household, such as a married couple living in the home of a friend and their family. In this example, the report would include only one family (the householder's or primary family), not two.

Families include those with and without children under age 18. Families are further categorized as follows:

- *Married-couple families* refer to opposite-sex and same-sex married couples residing together and any of their family members residing in the household.
- *Families maintained by women or men* are made up of householders residing with one or more family members but no spouse of either sex present. Unmarried domestic partners of either sex may or may not be present in the household.

This release presents data for two marital status categories, defined below. Marital status is based on a person's status at the time of the survey.

*Total married, spouse present.* Married, spouse present, includes persons in either opposite-sex or same-sex marriages living together in the same household, even though one may be temporarily absent on business, on vacation, on a visit, in a hospital, or for other reasons.

*Other marital status.* Other marital status includes persons who are never married; widowed; divorced; separated; and married, spouse absent. Separated includes persons with legal separations, those living apart with intentions of obtaining a divorce, and other persons permanently or temporarily separated because of marital discord. Married, spouse absent, includes married persons living apart because either a husband or wife was employed and living at a considerable distance from home, was serving away from home in the Armed Forces, had moved to another area, or had a different place of residence for any other reason except separation as defined above.

*Children.* Data on children refer to own children under age 18 that live in the household. Included are sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children of the husband, wife, or person maintaining the family. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, other related children, and all unrelated children living in the household.

*Employed.* Employed persons are all those who, during the survey reference week, (a) did any work at all as paid employees; (b) worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm; or (c) worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of the family. Persons who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, vacation, labor disputes, or another reason also are counted as employed.

*Full-time workers.* Full-time workers are those who usually work 35 hours or more per week at all jobs.

*Part-time workers.* Part-time workers are those who usually work fewer than 35 hours per week at all jobs.

*Unemployed.* The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work at that time, 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.

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

*Employment-population ratio.* The employment-population ratio is the employed as a percent of the population.

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

**Table 1. Employment and unemployment in families by race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2019-2020 annual averages**

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2019	2020
<b>EMPLOYMENT IN FAMILIES</b>		
Total families.....	83,107	83,144
With at least one family member employed.....	67,503	64,995
As a percent of total families.....	81.2	78.2
With at least one family member employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	62,015	59,683
With no family member employed.....	15,604	18,148
As a percent of total families.....	18.8	21.8
<b>White</b>		
Total families.....	65,489	65,324
With at least one family member employed.....	52,850	50,925
As a percent of total families.....	80.7	78.0
With at least one family member employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	48,530	46,762
With no family member employed.....	12,640	14,399
As a percent of total families.....	19.3	22.0
<b>Black or African American</b>		
Total families.....	9,995	10,183
With at least one family member employed.....	8,020	7,713
As a percent of total families.....	80.2	75.7
With at least one family member employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	7,274	6,975
With no family member employed.....	1,975	2,470
As a percent of total families.....	19.8	24.3
<b>Asian</b>		
Total families.....	5,109	5,153
With at least one family member employed.....	4,517	4,365
As a percent of total families.....	88.4	84.7
With at least one family member employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	4,279	4,131
With no family member employed.....	592	788
As a percent of total families.....	11.6	15.3
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>		
Total families.....	13,343	13,369
With at least one family member employed.....	11,793	11,245
As a percent of total families.....	88.4	84.1
With at least one family member employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	10,946	10,367
With no family member employed.....	1,550	2,124
As a percent of total families.....	11.6	15.9
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT IN FAMILIES</b>		
Total families.....	83,107	83,144
With at least one family member unemployed.....	4,111	8,124
As a percent of total families.....	4.9	9.8
Some family member(s) employed.....	2,930	5,492
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	71.3	67.6
Some family member(s) employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	2,565	4,869
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	62.4	59.9
<b>White</b>		
Total families.....	65,489	65,324
With at least one family member unemployed.....	2,925	5,858
As a percent of total families.....	4.5	9.0
Some family member(s) employed.....	2,157	4,097
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	73.7	69.9
Some family member(s) employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	1,886	3,644
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	64.5	62.2
<b>Black or African American</b>		
Total families.....	9,995	10,183
With at least one family member unemployed.....	801	1,360
As a percent of total families.....	8.0	13.4

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Employment and unemployment in families by race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2019-2020 annual averages — Continued**

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2019	2020
Some family member(s) employed.....	484	776
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	60.4	57.1
Some family member employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	422	676
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	52.8	49.7
<b>Asian</b>		
Total families.....	5,109	5,153
With at least one family member unemployed.....	207	560
As a percent of total families.....	4.0	10.9
Some family member(s) employed.....	171	401
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	82.6	71.6
Some family member(s) employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	155	358
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	74.8	63.9
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>		
Total families.....	13,343	13,369
With at least one family member unemployed.....	883	1,906
As a percent of total families.....	6.6	14.3
Some family member(s) employed.....	654	1,290
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	74.0	67.7
Some family member(s) employed full time <sup>1</sup> .....	571	1,150
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	64.6	60.3

<sup>1</sup> Usually work 35 hours or more per week at all jobs.

NOTE: The race or ethnicity of the family is determined by that of the householder, the family reference person in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented. 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. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Family estimates reflect a change in the classification of marital status. Data for 2019 and 2020 incorporate this change into the definition of families, which expands the definition of married-couple families to include same-sex married couples. As a result, data under the new definition are not strictly comparable with data for previous years. Data for 2019 in this news release incorporate the new definition; therefore, 2019 estimates shown here do not match those published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families--2019" news release and in the BLS online database.



**Table 2. Families by presence and relationship of employed members and family type, 2019-2020 annual averages**

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Number		Percent distribution	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
<b>TOTAL MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES<sup>1</sup></b>				
Total.....	60,975	61,375	100.0	100.0
With at least one family member employed.....	49,625	48,279	81.4	78.7
With only one spouse employed.....	15,349	16,408	25.2	26.7
With both spouses employed.....	30,333	27,921	49.7	45.5
Other employment combinations.....	3,943	3,950	6.5	6.4
With no family member employed.....	11,350	13,096	18.6	21.3
<b>Opposite-sex married-couple families</b>				
Total.....	60,449	60,804	100.0	100.0
With at least one family member employed.....	49,162	47,785	81.3	78.6
Husband only.....	11,108	11,644	18.4	19.1
Wife only.....	4,123	4,614	6.8	7.6
Husband and wife.....	30,003	27,591	49.6	45.4
Other employment combinations.....	3,929	3,937	6.5	6.5
With no family member employed.....	11,287	13,018	18.7	21.4
<b>FAMILIES MAINTAINED BY WOMEN<sup>2</sup></b>				
Total.....	15,188	14,826	100.0	100.0
With at least one family member employed.....	11,938	11,089	78.6	74.8
Householder only.....	6,138	5,879	40.4	39.7
Householder and other member(s).....	3,520	3,108	23.2	21.0
Other member(s), not householder.....	2,280	2,102	15.0	14.2
With no family member employed.....	3,250	3,737	21.4	25.2
<b>FAMILIES MAINTAINED BY MEN<sup>2</sup></b>				
Total.....	6,944	6,943	100.0	100.0
With at least one family member employed.....	5,940	5,627	85.5	81.1
Householder only.....	2,709	2,706	39.0	39.0
Householder and other member(s).....	2,244	1,959	32.3	28.2
Other member(s), not householder.....	987	963	14.2	13.9
With no family member employed.....	1,004	1,315	14.5	18.9

<sup>1</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes both opposite-sex and same-sex married-couple families. Prior to 2019, included opposite-sex married-couple families only.

<sup>2</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes families with no spouse of either sex present. Prior to 2019, included only families with no opposite-sex spouse present.

NOTE: In families maintained by women or men with no spouse present, householder refers to the woman or man maintaining the family. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Family estimates reflect a change in the classification of marital status. Data for 2019 and 2020 incorporate this change into the definition of families, which expands the definition of married-couple families to include same-sex married couples. As a result, data under the new definition are not strictly comparable with data for previous years. Data for 2019 in this news release incorporate the new definition; therefore, 2019 estimates shown here do not match those published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families--2019" news release and in the BLS online database.

**Table 3. Unemployment in families by presence and relationship of employed members and family type, 2019-2020 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Number		Percent distribution	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
<b>TOTAL MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES<sup>1</sup></b>				
With at least one family member unemployed, total.....	2,400	5,292	100.0	100.0
<b>Employment of family members</b>				
Some family member(s) employed.....	1,973	4,031	82.2	76.2
No family member employed.....	427	1,261	17.8	23.8
<b>Unemployment of family members</b>				
At least one spouse unemployed <sup>2</sup> .....	1,525	3,920	63.6	74.1
One spouse employed.....	1,137	2,632	47.4	49.7
Other family member(s) unemployed.....	875	1,371	36.4	25.9
<b>Opposite-sex married-couple families</b>				
With at least one family member unemployed, total.....	2,380	5,237	100.0	100.0
<b>Employment of family members</b>				
Some family member(s) employed.....	1,956	3,990	82.2	76.2
No family member employed.....	425	1,247	17.8	23.8
<b>Unemployment of family members</b>				
Husband unemployed <sup>3</sup> .....	788	2,041	33.1	39.0
Wife employed.....	510	1,096	21.4	20.9
Wife unemployed, husband employed or not in labor force.....	721	1,835	30.3	35.0
Husband employed.....	613	1,506	25.7	28.8
Other family member(s) unemployed.....	872	1,361	36.6	26.0
<b>FAMILIES MAINTAINED BY WOMEN<sup>4</sup></b>				
With at least one family member unemployed, total.....	1,168	1,890	100.0	100.0
<b>Employment of family members</b>				
Some family member(s) employed.....	625	943	53.5	49.9
No family member employed.....	543	947	46.5	50.1
<b>Unemployment of family members</b>				
Householder unemployed.....	516	942	44.1	49.8
Other member(s) employed.....	152	266	13.0	14.1
Other family member(s) unemployed.....	653	948	55.9	50.2
<b>FAMILIES MAINTAINED BY MEN<sup>4</sup></b>				
With at least one family member unemployed, total.....	543	942	100.0	100.0
<b>Employment of family members</b>				
Some family member(s) employed.....	331	518	61.1	55.0
No family member employed.....	211	424	38.9	45.0
<b>Unemployment of family members</b>				
Householder unemployed.....	287	559	52.9	59.4
Other member(s) employed.....	138	218	25.4	23.2
Other family member(s) unemployed.....	255	383	47.1	40.6

<sup>1</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes both opposite-sex and same-sex married-couple families. Prior to 2019, included opposite-sex married-couple families only.

<sup>2</sup> Includes families with both spouses unemployed.

<sup>3</sup> Total opposite-sex married couple families with unemployed husbands, including those with unemployed wives.

<sup>4</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes families with no spouse of either sex present. Prior to 2019, included only families with no opposite-sex spouse present.

NOTE: In families maintained by women or men with no spouse present, householder refers to the woman or man maintaining the family. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Family estimates reflect a change in the classification of marital status. Data for 2019 and 2020 incorporate this change into the definition of families, which expands the definition of married-couple families to include same-sex married couples. As a result, data under the new definition are not strictly comparable with data for previous years. Data for 2019 in this news release incorporate the new definition; therefore, 2019 estimates shown here do not match those published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families--2019" news release and in the BLS online database.

**Table 4. Families with own children: Employment status of parents by age of youngest child and family type, 2019-2020 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Number		Percent distribution	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
<b>WITH OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS</b>				
Total families.....	33,460	33,047	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	30,584	29,259	91.4	88.5
No parent employed.....	2,876	3,788	8.6	11.5
<b>    Total married-couple families<sup>1</sup></b>				
Total.....	23,005	22,921	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	22,421	21,846	97.5	95.3
Both parents employed.....	14,810	13,705	64.4	59.8
Only one parent employed.....	7,611	8,141	33.1	35.5
Neither parent employed.....	583	1,075	2.5	4.7
<b>    Opposite-sex married couple families</b>				
Total.....	22,923	22,826	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	22,342	21,755	97.5	95.3
Mother employed.....	15,841	15,044	69.1	65.9
Both parents employed.....	14,754	13,642	64.4	59.8
Mother employed, not father.....	1,088	1,402	4.7	6.1
Father employed, not mother.....	6,501	6,711	28.4	29.4
Neither parent employed.....	581	1,071	2.5	4.7
<b>    Families maintained by mother<sup>2</sup></b>				
Total.....	7,850	7,526	100.0	100.0
Mother employed.....	5,934	5,344	75.6	71.0
Mother not employed.....	1,916	2,181	24.4	29.0
<b>    Families maintained by father<sup>2</sup></b>				
Total.....	2,605	2,601	100.0	100.0
Father employed.....	2,228	2,069	85.5	79.6
Father not employed.....	377	531	14.5	20.4
<b>WITH OWN CHILDREN 6 TO 17 YEARS, NONE YOUNGER</b>				
Total families.....	19,351	19,246	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	17,700	17,109	91.5	88.9
No parent employed.....	1,651	2,137	8.5	11.1
<b>    Total married-couple families<sup>1</sup></b>				
Total.....	12,943	12,939	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	12,555	12,315	97.0	95.2
Both parents employed.....	8,766	8,090	67.7	62.5
Only one parent employed.....	3,790	4,224	29.3	32.6
Neither parent employed.....	388	624	3.0	4.8
<b>    Opposite-sex married couple families</b>				
Total.....	12,898	12,887	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	12,512	12,266	97.0	95.2
Mother employed.....	9,469	8,944	73.4	69.4
Both parents employed.....	8,736	8,058	67.7	62.5
Mother employed, not father.....	733	886	5.7	6.9
Father employed, not mother.....	3,043	3,322	23.6	25.8
Neither parent employed.....	387	621	3.0	4.8
<b>    Families maintained by mother<sup>2</sup></b>				
Total.....	4,842	4,731	100.0	100.0
Mother employed.....	3,835	3,538	79.2	74.8
Mother not employed.....	1,007	1,193	20.8	25.2
<b>    Families maintained by father<sup>2</sup></b>				
Total.....	1,566	1,576	100.0	100.0
Father employed.....	1,311	1,256	83.7	79.7
Father not employed.....	255	320	16.3	20.3
<b>WITH OWN CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS</b>				
Total families.....	14,109	13,801	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	12,884	12,150	91.3	88.0

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 4. Families with own children: Employment status of parents by age of youngest child and family type, 2019-2020 annual averages — Continued**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Number		Percent distribution	
	2019	2020	2019	2020
No parent employed.....	1,225	1,651	8.7	12.0
<b>Total married-couple families<sup>1</sup></b>				
Total.....	10,061	9,983	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	9,866	9,531	98.1	95.5
Both parents employed.....	6,045	5,614	60.1	56.2
Only one parent employed.....	3,821	3,917	38.0	39.2
Neither parent employed.....	195	451	1.9	4.5
<b>Opposite-sex married couple families</b>				
Total.....	10,025	9,939	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	9,830	9,490	98.1	95.5
Mother employed.....	6,372	6,100	63.6	61.4
Both parents employed.....	6,017	5,584	60.0	56.2
Mother employed, not father.....	355	516	3.5	5.2
Father employed, not mother.....	3,458	3,390	34.5	34.1
Neither parent employed.....	194	450	1.9	4.5
<b>Families maintained by mother<sup>2</sup></b>				
Total.....	3,008	2,795	100.0	100.0
Mother employed.....	2,099	1,807	69.8	64.6
Mother not employed.....	909	988	30.2	35.4
<b>Families maintained by father<sup>2</sup></b>				
Total.....	1,040	1,024	100.0	100.0
Father employed.....	918	813	88.3	79.4
Father not employed.....	122	211	11.7	20.6

<sup>1</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes both opposite-sex and same-sex married-couple families. Prior to 2019, included opposite-sex married-couple families only.

<sup>2</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes families with no spouse of either sex present. Prior to 2019, included only families with no opposite-sex spouse present.

NOTE: Own children include sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Family estimates reflect a change in the classification of marital status. Data for 2019 and 2020 incorporate this change into the definition of families, which expands the definition of married-couple families to include same-sex married couples. As a result, data under the new definition are not strictly comparable with data for previous years. Data for 2019 in this news release incorporate the new definition; therefore, 2019 estimates shown here do not match those published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families--2019" news release and in the BLS online database.

**Table 5. Employment status of the population by sex, marital status, and presence and age of own children under 18, 2019-2020 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2019			2020		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<b>WITH OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	63,971	28,773	35,199	63,242	28,569	34,673
Civilian labor force.....	52,291	26,848	25,443	51,063	26,361	24,702
Participation rate.....	81.7	93.3	72.3	80.7	92.3	71.2
Employed.....	50,802	26,253	24,550	47,742	24,892	22,850
Full-time workers <sup>1</sup> .....	44,521	25,239	19,282	42,008	23,796	18,212
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	6,282	1,014	5,268	5,734	1,097	4,638
Employment-population ratio.....	79.4	91.2	69.7	75.5	87.1	65.9
Unemployed.....	1,489	596	893	3,321	1,469	1,852
Unemployment rate.....	2.8	2.2	3.5	6.5	5.6	7.5
<b>    Total married, spouse present<sup>3</sup></b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	49,057	24,712	24,345	48,799	24,511	24,287
Civilian labor force.....	40,289	23,252	17,037	39,673	22,858	16,816
Participation rate.....	82.1	94.1	70.0	81.3	93.3	69.2
Employed.....	39,486	22,847	16,639	37,542	21,760	15,782
Full-time workers <sup>1</sup> .....	34,921	22,059	12,862	33,329	20,878	12,451
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	4,565	788	3,777	4,213	882	3,331
Employment-population ratio.....	80.5	92.5	68.3	76.9	88.8	65.0
Unemployed.....	803	405	398	2,131	1,097	1,034
Unemployment rate.....	2.0	1.7	2.3	5.4	4.8	6.1
<b>    Other marital status<sup>4</sup></b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	14,915	4,061	10,854	14,443	4,057	10,385
Civilian labor force.....	12,002	3,596	8,405	11,389	3,504	7,886
Participation rate.....	80.5	88.6	77.4	78.9	86.3	75.9
Employed.....	11,316	3,405	7,910	10,200	3,132	7,068
Full-time workers <sup>1</sup> .....	9,600	3,180	6,419	8,679	2,918	5,762
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	1,716	225	1,491	1,521	215	1,306
Employment-population ratio.....	75.9	83.9	72.9	70.6	77.2	68.1
Unemployed.....	686	191	495	1,189	371	818
Unemployment rate.....	5.7	5.3	5.9	10.4	10.6	10.4
<b>WITH OWN CHILDREN 6 TO 17 YEARS, NONE YOUNGER</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	35,897	16,046	19,851	35,666	15,967	19,699
Civilian labor force.....	30,010	14,760	15,250	29,437	14,588	14,848
Participation rate.....	83.6	92.0	76.8	82.5	91.4	75.4
Employed.....	29,196	14,429	14,767	27,621	13,825	13,797
Full-time workers <sup>1</sup> .....	25,735	13,880	11,855	24,433	13,233	11,200
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	3,461	549	2,912	3,189	592	2,597
Employment-population ratio.....	81.3	89.9	74.4	77.4	86.6	70.0
Unemployed.....	814	331	483	1,815	764	1,052
Unemployment rate.....	2.7	2.2	3.2	6.2	5.2	7.1
<b>WITH OWN CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	28,075	12,727	15,348	27,575	12,602	14,973
Civilian labor force.....	22,281	12,088	10,193	21,626	11,773	9,853
Participation rate.....	79.4	95.0	66.4	78.4	93.4	65.8
Employed.....	21,606	11,823	9,783	20,121	11,068	9,053
Full-time workers <sup>1</sup> .....	18,786	11,359	7,427	17,575	10,563	7,012
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	2,820	464	2,356	2,546	505	2,041
Employment-population ratio.....	77.0	92.9	63.7	73.0	87.8	60.5
Unemployed.....	675	265	410	1,505	705	800
Unemployment rate.....	3.0	2.2	4.0	7.0	6.0	8.1
<b>WITH NO OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	195,204	96,581	98,623	197,087	97,353	99,734
Civilian labor force.....	111,277	59,859	51,418	109,680	58,843	50,837
Participation rate.....	57.0	62.0	52.1	55.7	60.4	51.0
Employed.....	106,771	57,232	49,540	100,053	53,668	46,385

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 5. Employment status of the population by sex, marital status, and presence and age of own children under 18, 2019-2020 annual averages — Continued**

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2019			2020		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Full-time workers <sup>1</sup> .....	86,126	48,614	37,512	81,180	45,666	35,515
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	20,645	8,618	12,027	18,872	8,002	10,870
Employment-population ratio.....	54.7	59.3	50.2	50.8	55.1	46.5
Unemployed.....	4,506	2,628	1,878	9,627	5,175	4,452
Unemployment rate.....	4.0	4.4	3.7	8.8	8.8	8.8

<sup>1</sup> Usually work 35 hours or more per week at all jobs.

<sup>2</sup> Usually work less than 35 hours per week at all jobs.

<sup>3</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes persons in both opposite-sex and same-sex marriages. Prior to 2019, included only persons in opposite-sex marriages.

<sup>4</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes persons who are never married; widowed; divorced; separated; and married, spouse absent. Prior to 2019, included persons in same-sex marriages as well.

NOTE: Own children include sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Estimates for 2019 and 2020 introduce a change in the classification of marital status; estimates of married persons refer to those in opposite-sex and same-sex marriages. As a result, data by marital status are not strictly comparable with data for previous years. Data for 2019 in this news release incorporate the new classification; therefore, 2019 estimates shown here do not match those published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families--2019" news release and in the BLS online database.

**Table 6. Employment status of mothers with own children under 3 years old by single year of age of youngest child and marital status, 2019-2020 annual averages**

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2019				2020			
	With own children under 3 years old				With own children under 3 years old			
	Total	2 years	1 year	Under 1 year	Total	2 years	1 year	Under 1 year
<b>TOTAL MOTHERS</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	8,732	2,690	3,182	2,859	8,480	2,698	3,071	2,711
Civilian labor force.....	5,545	1,789	2,042	1,714	5,371	1,797	1,940	1,634
Participation rate.....	63.5	66.5	64.2	60.0	63.3	66.6	63.2	60.3
Employed.....	5,316	1,718	1,956	1,642	4,943	1,653	1,783	1,507
Full-time workers <sup>1</sup> .....	3,968	1,282	1,469	1,217	3,785	1,298	1,320	1,167
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	1,348	436	487	425	1,158	355	463	340
Employment-population ratio.....	60.9	63.9	61.5	57.4	58.3	61.3	58.1	55.6
Unemployed.....	229	71	86	72	428	144	157	127
Unemployment rate.....	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	7.8
<b>Total married, spouse present<sup>3</sup></b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	6,243	1,916	2,294	2,033	6,181	1,971	2,239	1,971
Civilian labor force.....	3,900	1,211	1,452	1,237	3,887	1,281	1,412	1,194
Participation rate.....	62.5	63.2	63.3	60.8	62.9	65.0	63.1	60.6
Employed.....	3,808	1,184	1,416	1,208	3,650	1,201	1,323	1,126
Full-time workers <sup>1</sup> .....	2,866	886	1,073	907	2,827	956	985	886
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	942	298	342	302	823	245	338	240
Employment-population ratio.....	61.0	61.8	61.7	59.4	59.0	60.9	59.1	57.1
Unemployed.....	92	27	36	28	238	80	89	69
Unemployment rate.....	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.3	6.1	6.3	6.3	5.8
<b>Other marital status<sup>4</sup></b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	2,489	774	888	826	2,299	727	831	740
Civilian labor force.....	1,645	578	590	477	1,484	516	528	440
Participation rate.....	66.1	74.6	66.4	57.8	64.6	70.9	63.5	59.5
Employed.....	1,508	534	540	434	1,294	452	460	382
Full-time workers <sup>1</sup> .....	1,102	396	396	310	959	342	336	281
Part-time workers <sup>2</sup> .....	406	138	145	124	335	110	125	100
Employment-population ratio.....	60.6	69.0	60.8	52.5	56.3	62.1	55.3	51.6
Unemployed.....	137	43	50	44	190	64	68	58
Unemployment rate.....	8.3	7.5	8.4	9.1	12.8	12.4	12.9	13.3

<sup>1</sup> Usually work 35 hours or more per week at all jobs.

<sup>2</sup> Usually work less than 35 hours per week at all jobs.

<sup>3</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes persons in both opposite-sex and same-sex marriages. Prior to 2019, included only persons in opposite-sex marriages.

<sup>4</sup> Beginning with data for 2019, includes persons who are never married; widowed; divorced; separated; and married, spouse absent. Prior to 2019, included persons in same-sex marriages as well.

NOTE: Own children include sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children. Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Estimates for 2019 and 2020 introduce a change in the classification of marital status; estimates of married persons refer to those in opposite-sex and same-sex marriages. As a result, data by marital status are not strictly comparable with data for previous years. Data for 2019 in this news release incorporate the new classification; therefore, 2019 estimates shown here do not match those published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families--2019" news release and in the BLS online database.