

A-38. Persons not in the labor force by desire and availability for work, age, and sex

(In thousands)

| Category | Total | | Age | | | | | | Sex | | | |
|---|------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | Sept. 2007 | Sept. 2008 | 16 to 24 years | | 25 to 54 years | | 55 years and over | | Men | | Women | |
| | | | Sept. 2007 | Sept. 2008 | Sept. 2007 | Sept. 2008 | Sept. 2007 | Sept. 2008 | Sept. 2007 | Sept. 2008 | Sept. 2007 | Sept. 2008 |
| Total not in the labor force | 79,061 | 79,851 | 15,551 | 15,825 | 21,326 | 21,109 | 42,184 | 42,917 | 30,439 | 30,760 | 48,622 | 49,091 |
| Do not want a job now ¹ | 74,558 | 74,955 | 14,000 | 14,192 | 19,327 | 18,984 | 41,230 | 41,779 | 28,484 | 28,627 | 46,074 | 46,328 |
| Want a job ¹ | 4,503 | 4,895 | 1,551 | 1,633 | 1,999 | 2,125 | 954 | 1,138 | 1,956 | 2,133 | 2,548 | 2,763 |
| Did not search for work in previous year | 2,734 | 2,855 | 893 | 892 | 1,163 | 1,150 | 677 | 813 | 1,106 | 1,172 | 1,627 | 1,683 |
| Searched for work in previous year ² | 1,770 | 2,040 | 658 | 741 | 836 | 975 | 276 | 325 | 849 | 961 | 920 | 1,079 |
| Not available to work now | 501 | 436 | 206 | 167 | 237 | 217 | 58 | 52 | 192 | 168 | 309 | 268 |
| Available to work now | 1,268 | 1,604 | 451 | 574 | 599 | 757 | 218 | 273 | 657 | 793 | 611 | 811 |
| Reason not currently looking: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Discouragement over job prospects | 276 | 467 | 88 | 145 | 131 | 236 | 57 | 86 | 168 | 265 | 108 | 203 |
| Reasons other than discouragement ³ | 992 | 1,137 | 363 | 429 | 468 | 521 | 161 | 187 | 489 | 529 | 503 | 608 |
| Family responsibilities | 168 | 189 | 32 | 60 | 120 | 116 | 16 | 13 | 32 | 54 | 136 | 136 |
| In school or training | 198 | 207 | 184 | 167 | 14 | 39 | — | — | 106 | 106 | 92 | 101 |
| Ill health or disability | 114 | 123 | 10 | 14 | 56 | 84 | 47 | 25 | 65 | 69 | 49 | 55 |
| Other ¹ | 513 | 617 | 137 | 187 | 278 | 282 | 98 | 148 | 286 | 300 | 226 | 317 |

¹ Includes some persons who are not asked if they want a job.

² Persons who had a job in the prior 12 months must have searched since the end of that job.

³ Includes believes no work available, could not find work, lacks necessary schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of

discrimination.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Dash indicates no data or data that do not meet publication criteria.