



For release 10:00 a.m. (ET) Wednesday, April 20, 2022

USDL-22-0673

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EMPLOYMENT CHARACTERISTICS OF FAMILIES — 2021

In 2021, 6.7 percent of families included an unemployed person, down from 9.8 percent in 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Of the nation's 83.2 million families, 78.5 percent had at least one employed member in 2021.

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 fell by 2.5 million to 5.6 million in 2021. The proportion of families with an unemployed person, at 6.7 percent, fell by 3.1 percentage points from the prior year but remained above its 2019 value of 4.9 percent. In 2021, the proportion of families with an unemployed person declined for White (to 6.0 percent of families), Black (10.3 percent), Asian (7.7 percent), and Hispanic (10.1 percent) families. Black and Hispanic families remained more likely to have an unemployed member than White or Asian families. (See table 1.)

In 2021, among families with an unemployed member, 67.4 percent also had at least one family member employed, little changed from the prior year. The proportion of families with an unemployed member that had at least one family member working full time fell by 1.4 percentage points to 58.5 percent in 2021. In 2019, prior to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, 62.4 percent of families with an unemployed member had at least one family member working full time. Among families with an unemployed member, Black families remained less likely to also have at least one family member who was working in 2021 (56.7 percent of families) than White (69.9 percent), Asian (75.6 percent), and Hispanic (68.4 percent) families. (See table 1.)

In 2021, 5.5 percent of married-couple families had an unemployed member, which was less than the shares for families maintained by women (9.8 percent) and for families maintained by men (10.5 percent). Among families with an unemployed member, those maintained by women remained less likely to also have an employed family member (48.7 percent) than families maintained by men and married-couple families (56.4 percent and 78.5 percent, respectively). (See tables 2 and 3.)

Families and Employment

In 2021, 78.5 percent of families had at least one employed family member, up from 78.2 percent in 2020 but below the 2019 share of 81.2 percent. From 2020 to 2021, the likelihood of having an employed family member increased for Black (to 76.6 percent of families), Asian (86.2 percent), and Hispanic (85.0 percent) families, but changed little for White families (78.1 percent). Black families were the least likely to have an employed family member in 2021. (See table 1.)

Families maintained by women remained less likely to have an employed member (75.7 percent) in 2021 than families maintained by men (82.4 percent) or married-couple families (78.7 percent). Among married-couple families, both spouses were employed in 46.8 percent of families, up from 45.5 percent in the prior year. In 2021, only one spouse was employed in 25.3 percent of married-couple families, down from 26.7 percent in 2020. (See table 2.)

Families with Children

In 2021, 32.8 million families, or two-fifths of all families, included children under age 18. (Children are biological, step-, 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 89.1 percent of families with children, up from 88.5 percent in 2020 but below its 2019 value of 91.4 percent. Among married-couple families with children, 96.5 percent had at least one employed parent in 2021, and in 62.3 percent of these families both parents were employed. Among families maintained by fathers, 81.7 percent of fathers were employed, a greater share than the 71.2 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 mothers with children under age 18 was 71.2 percent in 2021, unchanged from the prior year but down from 72.3 percent in 2019. The participation rate for fathers with children under age 18, at 92.5 percent in 2021, was little changed from 2020 (92.3 percent) but down from 2019 (93.3 percent). (See table 5.)

The participation rate for married fathers increased by 0.2 percentage point from the prior year to 93.5 percent in 2021, while the rates for married mothers (69.3 percent) and for mothers and fathers with other marital statuses (75.3 percent and 87.0 percent, respectively) showed little change. Married mothers remained less likely to participate in the labor force in 2021 than mothers with other marital statuses. By contrast, married fathers remained more likely to participate in the labor force than fathers with other marital statuses. (Other marital status includes persons who are never married; widowed; divorced; separated; and married, spouse absent.) (See table 5.)

Mothers of younger children remained less likely to participate in the labor force than mothers with older children. In 2021, 65.6 percent of mothers with children under age 6 participated in the labor force compared with 75.5 percent of mothers whose youngest child was age 6 to 17. By contrast, 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 (93.9 percent versus 91.5 percent). (See table 5.)

In 2021, the unemployment rate for mothers decreased by 2.5 percentage points from the prior year to 5.0 percent, and the rate for fathers decreased by 1.8 percentage points to 3.8 percent. The unemployment rate for married mothers remained considerably lower than the rate for mothers with other marital statuses—3.3 percent compared with 8.5 percent in 2021. Married fathers also continued to have a lower unemployment rate, at 3.1 percent, than fathers with other marital statuses, at 8.0 percent. Among mothers who had children under age 3, the unemployment rate for those who were married was about one-third the rate for mothers with other marital statuses (3.6 percent versus 11.2 percent). (See tables 5 and 6.)

Employed fathers remained more likely to work full time than employed mothers in 2021—95.5 percent compared with 79.6 percent. Among employed mothers, those with older children remained more likely to work full time than those with younger children. In 2021, 81.2 percent of employed mothers with children ages 6 to 17 worked full time compared with 77.2 percent of mothers with children under age 6. Among employed fathers, 95.7 percent of those with older children and 95.3 percent of those with younger children worked full time. (See table 5.)

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.

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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 biological, step-, 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. Children not living in the household are also not included.

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 number of persons in the labor force as a percent of the population.

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

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

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.

Comparability of the estimates

Effective with data for 2020, estimates of the number of married persons refer to those in opposite-sex and same-sex marriages. Prior to 2020, estimates of the number of married persons referred to those in opposite-sex marriages only. The definition of families incorporated this change by expanding the definition of married-couple families to include same-sex married couples. This new classification resulted in a larger estimate of the number of persons who are married with a spouse present. It also resulted in a larger estimate of the number of married-couple families and the total number of families. The 2019 estimates mentioned in this news release are revised data that incorporate the new classification of married persons. These revised 2019 estimates, as published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families—2020" news release, do not match those originally published in the "Employment Characteristics of Families—2019" news release or 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.

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.

Table 1. Employment and unemployment in families by race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2020-2021 annual averages

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2020	2021
EMPLOYMENT IN FAMILIES		
Total families.....	83,144	83,179
With at least one family member employed.....	64,995	65,286
As a percent of total families.....	78.2	78.5
With at least one family member employed full time ¹	59,683	59,839
With no family member employed.....	18,148	17,894
As a percent of total families.....	21.8	21.5
White		
Total families.....	65,324	65,279
With at least one family member employed.....	50,925	50,967
As a percent of total families.....	78.0	78.1
With at least one family member employed full time ¹	46,762	46,757
With no family member employed.....	14,399	14,312
As a percent of total families.....	22.0	21.9
Black or African American		
Total families.....	10,183	10,248
With at least one family member employed.....	7,713	7,851
As a percent of total families.....	75.7	76.6
With at least one family member employed full time ¹	6,975	7,063
With no family member employed.....	2,470	2,397
As a percent of total families.....	24.3	23.4
Asian		
Total families.....	5,153	5,141
With at least one family member employed.....	4,365	4,432
As a percent of total families.....	84.7	86.2
With at least one family member employed full time ¹	4,131	4,149
With no family member employed.....	788	709
As a percent of total families.....	15.3	13.8
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity		
Total families.....	13,369	13,734
With at least one family member employed.....	11,245	11,671
As a percent of total families.....	84.1	85.0
With at least one family member employed full time ¹	10,367	10,744
With no family member employed.....	2,124	2,063
As a percent of total families.....	15.9	15.0
UNEMPLOYMENT IN FAMILIES		
Total families.....	83,144	83,179
With at least one family member unemployed.....	8,124	5,594
As a percent of total families.....	9.8	6.7
Some family member(s) employed.....	5,492	3,771
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	67.6	67.4
Some family member(s) employed full time ¹	4,869	3,272
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	59.9	58.5
White		
Total families.....	65,324	65,279
With at least one family member unemployed.....	5,858	3,894
As a percent of total families.....	9.0	6.0
Some family member(s) employed.....	4,097	2,723
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	69.9	69.9
Some family member(s) employed full time ¹	3,644	2,368
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	62.2	60.8
Black or African American		
Total families.....	10,183	10,248
With at least one family member unemployed.....	1,360	1,050
As a percent of total families.....	13.4	10.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Employment and unemployment in families by race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2020-2021 annual averages — Continued

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2020	2021
Some family member(s) employed.....	776	595
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	57.1	56.7
Some family member employed full time ¹	676	513
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	49.7	48.8
Asian		
Total families.....	5,153	5,141
With at least one family member unemployed.....	560	395
As a percent of total families.....	10.9	7.7
Some family member(s) employed.....	401	299
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	71.6	75.6
Some family member(s) employed full time ¹	358	258
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	63.9	65.2
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity		
Total families.....	13,369	13,734
With at least one family member unemployed.....	1,906	1,391
As a percent of total families.....	14.3	10.1
Some family member(s) employed.....	1,290	951
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	67.7	68.4
Some family member(s) employed full time ¹	1,150	821
As a percent of families with at least one family member unemployed.....	60.3	59.0

¹ 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. Beginning in 2020, family estimates reflect a change in the classification of marital status. This change expanded 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 prior to 2020.

Table 2. Families by presence and relationship of employed members and family type, 2020-2021 annual averages

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Number		Percent distribution	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
TOTAL MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES¹				
Total.....	61,375	60,471	100.0	100.0
With at least one family member employed.....	48,279	47,612	78.7	78.7
With only one spouse employed.....	16,408	15,300	26.7	25.3
With both spouses employed.....	27,921	28,275	45.5	46.8
Other employment combinations.....	3,950	4,037	6.4	6.7
With no family member employed.....	13,096	12,859	21.3	21.3
Opposite-sex married-couple families				
Total.....	60,804	59,843	100.0	100.0
With at least one family member employed.....	47,785	47,067	78.6	78.7
Husband only.....	11,644	10,897	19.1	18.2
Wife only.....	4,614	4,250	7.6	7.1
Husband and wife.....	27,591	27,900	45.4	46.6
Other employment combinations.....	3,937	4,019	6.5	6.7
With no family member employed.....	13,018	12,776	21.4	21.3
FAMILIES MAINTAINED BY WOMEN²				
Total.....	14,826	15,515	100.0	100.0
With at least one family member employed.....	11,089	11,748	74.8	75.7
Householder only.....	5,879	6,065	39.7	39.1
Householder and other member(s).....	3,108	3,520	21.0	22.7
Other member(s), not householder.....	2,102	2,163	14.2	13.9
With no family member employed.....	3,737	3,767	25.2	24.3
FAMILIES MAINTAINED BY MEN²				
Total.....	6,943	7,194	100.0	100.0
With at least one family member employed.....	5,627	5,926	81.1	82.4
Householder only.....	2,706	2,784	39.0	38.7
Householder and other member(s).....	1,959	2,161	28.2	30.0
Other member(s), not householder.....	963	982	13.9	13.6
With no family member employed.....	1,315	1,268	18.9	17.6

¹ Includes both opposite-sex and same-sex married-couple families.

² Includes families with no spouse of either sex 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. Beginning in 2020, family estimates reflect a change in the classification of marital status. This change expanded 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 prior to 2020.

Table 3. Unemployment in families by presence and relationship of employed members and family type, 2020-2021 annual averages
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Number		Percent distribution	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
TOTAL MARRIED-COUPLE FAMILIES¹				
With at least one family member unemployed, total.....	5,292	3,313	100.0	100.0
Employment of family members				
Some family member(s) employed.....	4,031	2,602	76.2	78.5
No family member employed.....	1,261	711	23.8	21.5
Unemployment of family members				
At least one spouse unemployed ²	3,920	2,340	74.1	70.6
One spouse employed.....	2,632	1,633	49.7	49.3
Other family member(s) unemployed.....	1,371	972	25.9	29.4
Opposite-sex married-couple families				
With at least one family member unemployed, total.....	5,237	3,279	100.0	100.0
Employment of family members				
Some family member(s) employed.....	3,990	2,574	76.2	78.5
No family member employed.....	1,247	705	23.8	21.5
Unemployment of family members				
Husband unemployed ³	2,041	1,314	39.0	40.1
Wife employed.....	1,096	784	20.9	23.9
Wife unemployed, husband employed or not in labor force.....	1,835	994	35.0	30.3
Husband employed.....	1,506	824	28.8	25.1
Other family member(s) unemployed.....	1,361	971	26.0	29.6
FAMILIES MAINTAINED BY WOMEN⁴				
With at least one family member unemployed, total.....	1,890	1,528	100.0	100.0
Employment of family members				
Some family member(s) employed.....	943	745	49.9	48.7
No family member employed.....	947	783	50.1	51.3
Unemployment of family members				
Householder unemployed.....	942	749	49.8	49.0
Other member(s) employed.....	266	185	14.1	12.1
Other family member(s) unemployed.....	948	780	50.2	51.0
FAMILIES MAINTAINED BY MEN⁴				
With at least one family member unemployed, total.....	942	753	100.0	100.0
Employment of family members				
Some family member(s) employed.....	518	425	55.0	56.4
No family member employed.....	424	328	45.0	43.6
Unemployment of family members				
Householder unemployed.....	559	456	59.4	60.6
Other member(s) employed.....	218	187	23.2	24.8
Other family member(s) unemployed.....	383	296	40.6	39.4

¹ Includes both opposite-sex and same-sex married-couple families.

² Includes families with both spouses unemployed.

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

⁴ Includes families with no spouse of either sex 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. Beginning in 2020, family estimates reflect a change in the classification of marital status. This change expanded 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 prior to 2020.

Table 4. Families with own children: Employment status of parents by age of youngest child and family type, 2020-2021 annual averages
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Number		Percent distribution	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
WITH OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS				
Total families.....	33,047	32,756	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	29,259	29,198	88.5	89.1
No parent employed.....	3,788	3,558	11.5	10.9
 Total married-couple families¹				
Total.....	22,921	22,156	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	21,846	21,372	95.3	96.5
Both parents employed.....	13,705	13,794	59.8	62.3
Only one parent employed.....	8,141	7,577	35.5	34.2
Neither parent employed.....	1,075	784	4.7	3.5
 Opposite-sex married couple families				
Total.....	22,826	22,050	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	21,755	21,269	95.3	96.5
Mother employed.....	15,044	14,955	65.9	67.8
Both parents employed.....	13,642	13,720	59.8	62.2
Mother employed, not father.....	1,402	1,234	6.1	5.6
Father employed, not mother.....	6,711	6,315	29.4	28.6
Neither parent employed.....	1,071	780	4.7	3.5
 Families maintained by mother²				
Total.....	7,526	7,904	100.0	100.0
Mother employed.....	5,344	5,624	71.0	71.2
Mother not employed.....	2,181	2,280	29.0	28.8
 Families maintained by father²				
Total.....	2,601	2,696	100.0	100.0
Father employed.....	2,069	2,202	79.6	81.7
Father not employed.....	531	494	20.4	18.3
WITH OWN CHILDREN 6 TO 17 YEARS, NONE YOUNGER				
Total families.....	19,246	19,029	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	17,109	17,058	88.9	89.6
No parent employed.....	2,137	1,971	11.1	10.4
 Total married-couple families¹				
Total.....	12,939	12,553	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	12,315	12,085	95.2	96.3
Both parents employed.....	8,090	8,140	62.5	64.9
Only one parent employed.....	4,224	3,945	32.6	31.4
Neither parent employed.....	624	467	4.8	3.7
 Opposite-sex married couple families				
Total.....	12,887	12,491	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	12,266	12,026	95.2	96.3
Mother employed.....	8,944	8,908	69.4	71.3
Both parents employed.....	8,058	8,098	62.5	64.8
Mother employed, not father.....	886	810	6.9	6.5
Father employed, not mother.....	3,322	3,118	25.8	25.0
Neither parent employed.....	621	464	4.8	3.7
 Families maintained by mother²				
Total.....	4,731	4,881	100.0	100.0
Mother employed.....	3,538	3,687	74.8	75.5
Mother not employed.....	1,193	1,194	25.2	24.5
 Families maintained by father²				
Total.....	1,576	1,595	100.0	100.0
Father employed.....	1,256	1,286	79.7	80.6
Father not employed.....	320	309	20.3	19.4
WITH OWN CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS				
Total families.....	13,801	13,727	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	12,150	12,140	88.0	88.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Families with own children: Employment status of parents by age of youngest child and family type, 2020-2021 annual averages — Continued

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Number		Percent distribution	
	2020	2021	2020	2021
No parent employed.....	1,651	1,587	12.0	11.6
Total married-couple families¹				
Total.....	9,983	9,603	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	9,531	9,286	95.5	96.7
Both parents employed.....	5,614	5,654	56.2	58.9
Only one parent employed.....	3,917	3,632	39.2	37.8
Neither parent employed.....	451	317	4.5	3.3
Opposite-sex married couple families				
Total.....	9,939	9,559	100.0	100.0
Parent(s) employed.....	9,490	9,243	95.5	96.7
Mother employed.....	6,100	6,046	61.4	63.3
Both parents employed.....	5,584	5,622	56.2	58.8
Mother employed, not father.....	516	424	5.2	4.4
Father employed, not mother.....	3,390	3,197	34.1	33.4
Neither parent employed.....	450	316	4.5	3.3
Families maintained by mother²				
Total.....	2,795	3,023	100.0	100.0
Mother employed.....	1,807	1,937	64.6	64.1
Mother not employed.....	988	1,086	35.4	35.9
Families maintained by father²				
Total.....	1,024	1,101	100.0	100.0
Father employed.....	813	916	79.4	83.2
Father not employed.....	211	185	20.6	16.8

¹ Includes both opposite-sex and same-sex married-couple families.

² Includes families with no spouse of either sex present.

NOTE: Own children include biological, step-, and adopted children of the husband, wife, or person maintaining the family. 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. Beginning in 2020, family estimates reflect a change in the classification of marital status. This change expanded 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 prior to 2020.

Table 5. Employment status of the population by sex, marital status, and presence and age of own children under 18, 2020-2021 annual averages
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2020			2021		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
WITH OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	63,242	28,569	34,673	62,258	27,990	34,269
Civilian labor force.....	51,063	26,361	24,702	50,308	25,902	24,406
Participation rate.....	80.7	92.3	71.2	80.8	92.5	71.2
Employed.....	47,742	24,892	22,850	48,091	24,912	23,179
Full-time workers ¹	42,008	23,796	18,212	42,253	23,802	18,451
Part-time workers ²	5,734	1,097	4,638	5,838	1,110	4,728
Employment-population ratio.....	75.5	87.1	65.9	77.2	89.0	67.6
Unemployed.....	3,321	1,469	1,852	2,217	989	1,228
Unemployment rate.....	6.5	5.6	7.5	4.4	3.8	5.0
 Total married, spouse present³						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	48,799	24,511	24,287	47,140	23,645	23,495
Civilian labor force.....	39,673	22,858	16,816	38,413	22,120	16,293
Participation rate.....	81.3	93.3	69.2	81.5	93.5	69.3
Employed.....	37,542	21,760	15,782	37,188	21,432	15,756
Full-time workers ¹	33,329	20,878	12,451	33,073	20,561	12,512
Part-time workers ²	4,213	882	3,331	4,115	871	3,244
Employment-population ratio.....	76.9	88.8	65.0	78.9	90.6	67.1
Unemployed.....	2,131	1,097	1,034	1,225	688	537
Unemployment rate.....	5.4	4.8	6.1	3.2	3.1	3.3
 Other marital status⁴						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	14,443	4,057	10,385	15,118	4,344	10,774
Civilian labor force.....	11,389	3,504	7,886	11,895	3,782	8,113
Participation rate.....	78.9	86.3	75.9	78.7	87.0	75.3
Employed.....	10,200	3,132	7,068	10,903	3,480	7,423
Full-time workers ¹	8,679	2,918	5,762	9,180	3,241	5,939
Part-time workers ²	1,521	215	1,306	1,723	240	1,484
Employment-population ratio.....	70.6	77.2	68.1	72.1	80.1	68.9
Unemployed.....	1,189	371	818	992	301	690
Unemployment rate.....	10.4	10.6	10.4	8.3	8.0	8.5
WITH OWN CHILDREN 6 TO 17 YEARS, NONE YOUNGER						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	35,666	15,967	19,699	35,127	15,644	19,483
Civilian labor force.....	29,437	14,588	14,848	29,019	14,310	14,710
Participation rate.....	82.5	91.4	75.4	82.6	91.5	75.5
Employed.....	27,621	13,825	13,797	27,823	13,791	14,032
Full-time workers ¹	24,433	13,233	11,200	24,588	13,199	11,390
Part-time workers ²	3,189	592	2,597	3,234	592	2,642
Employment-population ratio.....	77.4	86.6	70.0	79.2	88.2	72.0
Unemployed.....	1,815	764	1,052	1,197	519	678
Unemployment rate.....	6.2	5.2	7.1	4.1	3.6	4.6
WITH OWN CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	27,575	12,602	14,973	27,131	12,345	14,786
Civilian labor force.....	21,626	11,773	9,853	21,289	11,592	9,697
Participation rate.....	78.4	93.4	65.8	78.5	93.9	65.6
Employed.....	20,121	11,068	9,053	20,268	11,121	9,147
Full-time workers ¹	17,575	10,563	7,012	17,665	10,603	7,061
Part-time workers ²	2,546	505	2,041	2,604	518	2,085
Employment-population ratio.....	73.0	87.8	60.5	74.7	90.1	61.9
Unemployed.....	1,505	705	800	1,020	471	550
Unemployment rate.....	7.0	6.0	8.1	4.8	4.1	5.7
WITH NO OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	197,087	97,353	99,734	199,187	98,498	100,689
Civilian labor force.....	109,680	58,843	50,837	110,896	59,603	51,293
Participation rate.....	55.7	60.4	51.0	55.7	60.5	50.9
Employed.....	100,053	53,668	46,385	104,490	55,917	48,573

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, 2020-2021 annual averages — Continued

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2020			2021		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Full-time workers ¹	81,180	45,666	35,515	84,907	47,709	37,197
Part-time workers ²	18,872	8,002	10,870	19,583	8,207	11,376
Employment-population ratio.....	50.8	55.1	46.5	52.5	56.8	48.2
Unemployed.....	9,627	5,175	4,452	6,406	3,686	2,720
Unemployment rate.....	8.8	8.8	8.8	5.8	6.2	5.3

¹ Usually work 35 hours or more per week at all jobs.

² Usually work less than 35 hours per week at all jobs.

³ Includes persons in both opposite-sex and same-sex marriages.

⁴ Includes persons who are never married; widowed; divorced; separated; and married, spouse absent.

NOTE: Own children include biological, step-, and adopted children of the husband, wife, or person maintaining the family. 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 2020 introduced 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 prior to 2020.

Table 6. Employment status of mothers with own children under 3 years old by single year of age of youngest child and marital status, 2020-2021 annual averages

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2020				2021			
	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
TOTAL MOTHERS								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	8,480	2,698	3,071	2,711	8,224	2,657	2,957	2,609
Civilian labor force.....	5,371	1,797	1,940	1,634	5,187	1,714	1,878	1,594
Participation rate.....	63.3	66.6	63.2	60.3	63.1	64.5	63.5	61.1
Employed.....	4,943	1,653	1,783	1,507	4,883	1,616	1,767	1,500
Full-time workers ¹	3,785	1,298	1,320	1,167	3,700	1,224	1,340	1,136
Part-time workers ²	1,158	355	463	340	1,183	393	427	364
Employment-population ratio.....	58.3	61.3	58.1	55.6	59.4	60.8	59.7	57.5
Unemployed.....	428	144	157	127	304	98	111	94
Unemployment rate.....	8.0	8.0	8.1	7.8	5.9	5.7	5.9	5.9
Total married, spouse present³								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	6,181	1,971	2,239	1,971	5,794	1,873	2,075	1,847
Civilian labor force.....	3,887	1,281	1,412	1,194	3,628	1,183	1,295	1,149
Participation rate.....	62.9	65.0	63.1	60.6	62.6	63.2	62.4	62.2
Employed.....	3,650	1,201	1,323	1,126	3,499	1,140	1,248	1,110
Full-time workers ¹	2,827	956	985	886	2,673	863	953	857
Part-time workers ²	823	245	338	240	825	277	295	253
Employment-population ratio.....	59.0	60.9	59.1	57.1	60.4	60.9	60.2	60.1
Unemployed.....	238	80	89	69	129	43	47	39
Unemployment rate.....	6.1	6.3	6.3	5.8	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.4
Other marital status⁴								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	2,299	727	831	740	2,430	785	883	762
Civilian labor force.....	1,484	516	528	440	1,559	531	583	445
Participation rate.....	64.6	70.9	63.5	59.5	64.2	67.7	66.0	58.4
Employed.....	1,294	452	460	382	1,385	476	519	390
Full-time workers ¹	959	342	336	281	1,027	360	387	280
Part-time workers ²	335	110	125	100	358	116	132	110
Employment-population ratio.....	56.3	62.1	55.3	51.6	57.0	60.7	58.8	51.2
Unemployed.....	190	64	68	58	174	55	64	55
Unemployment rate.....	12.8	12.4	12.9	13.3	11.2	10.4	11.0	12.4

¹ Usually work 35 hours or more per week at all jobs.

² Usually work less than 35 hours per week at all jobs.

³ Includes persons in both opposite-sex and same-sex marriages.

⁴ Includes persons who are never married; widowed; divorced; separated; and married, spouse absent.

NOTE: Own children include biological, step-, and adopted children of the husband, wife, or person maintaining the family. 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 2020 introduced 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 prior to 2020.