BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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## Work Experience of the Population - 2009

A total of 153.9 million persons worked at some point during 2009, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The proportion of workers who worked full time, year round in 2009 was 64.0 percent, down from 65.6 percent in 2008. The number of persons who experienced some unemployment during 2009 increased by 4.9 million to 26.1 million. The sharp increase reflects the continuing weak labor market conditions experienced throughout 2009.

These data are based on information collected in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The ASEC collects information on employment and unemployment experienced during the prior calendar year. Additional information about the CPS and the ASEC, including concepts and definitions, is provided in the Technical Note. Highlights from the 2009 data include:

- The proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over who worked at some time during 2009 was 64.9 percent, down from 67.0 percent in 2008. (See table 1.)
- The "work-experience unemployment rate"-defined as the number of persons unemployed at some time during the year as a proportion of the number of persons who worked or looked for work during the year-was 16.4 percent in 2009, up from 13.2 percent in 2008. (See table 3.)
- The number of individuals who looked for a job but did not work at all during 2009 increased by 2.7 million over the year to 5.8 million. (See table 3.)


## Persons with Employment

The percent of men who worked during 2009 was 70.6 percent, down from 73.1 percent in 2008. The proportion of women who worked at some point during 2009 was 59.6 percent, down from 61.3 percent in the prior year. (See table 1.)

The proportions of whites ( 65.8 percent), blacks ( 58.8 percent), Asians ( 65.2 percent), and Hispanics (65.0 percent) who worked at some time during the year fell in 2009. (See table 2.)

Among those with work experience during 2009, 75.3 percent were employed year round (working 50 to 52 weeks, either full or part time), down from 76.1 percent in 2008. The percentage of women working year round rose by 0.8 percentage point to 75.1 percent in 2009, and the percentage of men employed year round fell by 2.2 percentage points to 75.5 percent. (See table 1.)

Of those employed at some time during 2009, 78.3 percent usually worked full time, down from 79.5 percent in 2008. Men were more likely to work full time during the year ( 84.4 percent) than were women ( 71.5 percent). In 2009, the proportions of employed men and women working full time declined by 1.6 and 0.7 percentage points, respectively.

## Persons with Unemployment

About 159.8 million persons worked or looked for work at some time in 2009. Of those, 26.1 million experienced some unemployment during the year, up from 21.2 million in 2008. Men accounted for the majority of the over-the-year increase in unemployment. (See table 3.)

At 16.4 percent in 2009, the "work-experience unemployment rate" (those looking for work during the year as a percent of those who worked or looked for work during the year) was 3.2 percentage points higher than in 2008. The 2009 rate was the highest since 1985. The rates for whites ( 15.5 percent), blacks (22.4 percent), Hispanics (20.9 percent), and Asians (12.6 percent) rose in 2009. (See tables 3 and 4.)

Overall, men continued to have higher "work-experience unemployment rates" in 2009 than women, 18.8 versus 13.6 percent. Among whites, the rate for men (18.1 percent) was higher than that for women (12.6 percent). This also was the case for men and women among blacks ( 26.1 and 19.1 percent, respectively) and Hispanics (23.7 and 16.9 percent, respectively.) The rates for Asian men (12.4 percent) and Asian women (12.8 percent) were little different.

Among those who experienced unemployment in 2009, the median number of weeks spent looking for work was 19.7, up from 15.2 in 2008. The number of individuals who looked for a job but did not work at all increased by 2.7 million to about 5.8 million individuals in 2009 . Of the 20.3 million persons who worked during 2009 and also experienced unemployment, 20.5 percent had 2 or more spells of joblessness, down from 22.1 percent in 2008.

## Technical Note

The data presented in this release were collected in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly sample survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data from the CPS are used to obtain the monthly estimates of the nation's employment and unemployment levels. The supplement, conducted in the months of February through April, includes questions about work activity during the prior calendar year. For instance, data collected in 2010 refer to the 2009 calendar year. Because the reference period is a full year, the number of persons with some employment or unemployment greatly exceeds the average levels for any given month, which are based on a 1-week reference period, and the corresponding annual average of the monthly estimates. As shown below, for example, the number experiencing any unemployment during 2009 was over twice the number unemployed in an average month during the year.

| 2009 estimates (in thousands) | Employed | Unemployed |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Annual average of |  |  |
| monthly estimates | 139,877 | 14,265 |
| Annual supplement data | 153,929 | 26,135 |

In addition, estimates from the supplement differ from those obtained in the basic CPS because the questions used to classify workers as either employed or unemployed are different. More important, perhaps, is that fewer questions by which to categorize respondents are asked in the supplement. In regard to unemployment in particular, the supplement has no questions on the type of job search activity or on the respondent's availability to work Also, individuals can be counted as both employed and unemployed in the work experience data, whereas, for a specific reference week, each person is only counted in one category and employment activity takes precedence over job search activity.

Work experience data for 2009, which were collected in the 2010 Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the CPS, are not strictly comparable with data for 2008 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 work experience estimates is unknown. However, the effect of the new January 2010 controls on the monthly CPS estimates was to decrease the December 2009 employment level by 243,000 and the unemployment level by 5,000. Additional information is available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm\#pop.

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 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.

For a full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS and information on estimating standard errors, see "Reliability of estimates from the CPS," available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cps/documentation.htm\#reliability.

## Concepts and definitions

Persons who worked. In the 2010 supplement, persons are considered to have worked if they responded "yes" to either the question "Did you work at a job or business at any time during 2009?" or "Did you do any temporary, part-time, or seasonal work even for a few days during 2009?"

Unemployed persons. Persons who worked during the year but not in every week are counted as unemployed if they also reported looking for work or being on layoff from a job during the year. Those who reported no work activity during the year are considered unemployed if they responded "yes" to the question "Even though you did not work in 2009, did you spend any time trying to find a job or on layoff?"

Labor force participants. Persons who either worked or were unemployed during the year.

Usual full- and part-time employment. These data refer to the number of hours a worker typically works during most weeks of the year. Workers are classified as full time if they usually worked 35 hours or more in a week; part-time employment refers to workers whose typical workweek was between 1 and 34 hours.

Year-round and part-year employment. Workers are classified as year round if they worked 50 to 52 weeks. Partyear employment refers to workers who worked fewer than 50 weeks.

Table 1. Work experience of the population during the year by sex and extent of employment, 2008-09

| Extent of employment | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
|  | Numbers (in thousands) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population | 235,086 | 237,158 | 113,758 | 114,820 | 121,328 | 122,339 |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 160,658 | 159,776 | 84,781 | 84,396 | 75,878 | 75,380 |
| Percent of the population | 68.3 | 67.4 | 74.5 | 73.5 | 62.5 | 61.6 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 157,472 | 153,929 | 83,109 | 81,073 | 74,363 | 72,855 |
| Percent of the population .................................................................... | 67.0 | 64.9 | 73.1 | 70.6 | 61.3 | 59.6 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$ | 125,116 | 120,538 | 71,443 | 68,436 | 53,673 | 52,101 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 103,265 | 98,519 | 59,163 | 55,341 | 44,101 | 43,178 |
| 48 to 49 weeks | 2,221 | 1,903 | 1,353 | 1,172 | 868 | 731 |
| 40 to 47 weeks | 6,177 | 5,428 | 3,403 | 3,153 | 2,774 | 2,275 |
| 27 to 39 weeks | 4,981 | 5,006 | 2,854 | 3,002 | 2,127 | 2,004 |
| 14 to 26 weeks | 5,071 | 5,717 | 2,792 | 3,378 | 2,279 | 2,339 |
| 1 to 13 weeks | 3,402 | 3,964 | 1,878 | 2,389 | 1,524 | 1,574 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 32,356 | 33,391 | 11,665 | 12,637 | 20,690 | 20,754 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 16,553 | 17,405 | 5,419 | 5,904 | 11,134 | 11,502 |
| 48 to 49 weeks | 875 | 811 | 301 | 253 | 575 | 558 |
| 40 to 47 weeks | 2,791 | 2,706 | 939 | 1,023 | 1,852 | 1,682 |
| 27 to 39 weeks | 2,954 | 3,153 | 1,209 | 1,246 | 1,744 | 1,907 |
| 14 to 26 weeks | 4,519 | 4,627 | 1,900 | 2,042 | 2,620 | 2,585 |
| 1 to 13 weeks | 4,662 | 4,689 | 1,897 | 2,169 | 2,765 | 2,520 |
|  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$ | 79.5 | 78.3 | 86.0 | 84.4 | 72.2 | 71.5 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 65.6 | 64.0 | 71.2 | 68.3 | 59.3 | 59.3 |
| 48 to 49 weeks | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.0 |
| 40 to 47 weeks | 3.9 | 3.5 | 4.1 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 3.1 |
| 27 to 39 weeks | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.7 | 2.9 | 2.8 |
| 14 to 26 weeks | 3.2 | 3.7 | 3.4 | 4.2 | 3.1 | 3.2 |
| 1 to 13 weeks | 2.2 | 2.6 | 2.3 | 2.9 | 2.0 | 2.2 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 20.5 | 21.7 | 14.0 | 15.6 | 27.8 | 28.5 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 10.5 | 11.3 | 6.5 | 7.3 | 15.0 | 15.8 |
| 48 to 49 weeks | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| 40 to 47 weeks | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 2.5 | 2.3 |
| 27 to 39 weeks | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 2.6 |
| 14 to 26 weeks ................................................................................ | 2.9 | 3.0 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| 1 to 13 weeks | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.3 | 2.7 | 3.7 | 3.5 |

[^0]and earlier years because of the introduction of updated population controls, which are introduced annually with the release of January data. For additional information, see the technical note and "Adjustments to Household Survey Population Estimates in January 2010" available on the Internet at http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps10adj.pdf.

Table 2. Work experience of the population during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2008-09
(Numbers in thousands)

| Extent of employment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
| WHITE |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population ........................................................... | 190,503 | 191,727 | 93,246 | 93,927 | 97,257 | 97,800 |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 131,102 | 130,189 | 70,346 | 70,042 | 60,756 | 60,147 |
| Percent of the population | 68.8 | 67.9 | 75.4 | 74.6 | 62.5 | 61.5 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 128,882 | 126,236 | 69,192 | 67,731 | 59,690 | 58,504 |
| Percent of the population ................................................................. | 67.7 | 65.8 | 74.2 | 72.1 | 61.4 | 59.8 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$................................... | 79.1 | 77.8 | 86.1 | 84.4 | 70.8 | 70.3 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 65.3 | 63.7 | 71.5 | 68.3 | 58.1 | 58.4 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 8.6 | 8.1 | 9.3 | 9.2 | 7.7 | 6.8 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 5.2 | 6.1 | 5.3 | 7.0 | 5.0 | 5.1 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 20.9 | 22.2 | 13.9 | 15.6 | 29.2 | 29.7 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 10.8 | 11.6 | 6.5 | 7.3 | 15.8 | 16.5 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 4.3 | 4.5 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 5.9 | 6.0 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 5.8 | 6.1 | 4.4 | 5.1 | 7.4 | 7.2 |
| BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population | 28,117 | 28,590 | 12,644 | 12,879 | 15,474 | 15,711 |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 18,296 | 18,250 | 8,489 | 8,421 | 9,807 | 9,829 |
| Percent of the population ..... | 65.1 | 63.8 | 67.1 | 65.4 | 63.4 | 62.6 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 17,577 | 16,804 | 8,096 | 7,641 | 9,481 | 9,163 |
| Percent of the population ................................................................ | 62.5 | 58.8 | 64.0 | 59.3 | 61.3 | 58.3 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$ | 81.5 | 80.5 | 84.2 | 83.4 | 79.1 | 78.0 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 66.2 | 65.1 | 67.5 | 66.3 | 65.0 | 64.1 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 8.5 | 7.9 | 8.5 | 8.7 | 8.4 | 7.3 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 6.8 | 7.5 | 8.1 | 8.4 | 5.7 | 6.7 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 18.5 | 19.5 | 15.8 | 16.6 | 20.9 | 22.0 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 9.1 | 9.9 | 6.9 | 7.4 | 10.9 | 12.0 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 3.3 | 3.4 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.9 | 3.8 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 6.2 | 6.2 | 6.3 | 6.3 | 6.0 | 6.1 |
| ASIAN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population | 10,589 | 11,033 | 4,976 | 5,192 | 5,613 | 5,841 |
| Total who worked or looked for work ..................................................... | 7,270 | 7,430 | 3,840 | 3,935 | 3,430 | 3,495 |
| Percent of the population ................................................................ | 68.7 | 67.3 | 77.2 | 75.8 | 61.1 | 59.8 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$...................................................... | 7,138 | 7,194 | 3,783 | 3,822 | 3,356 | 3,372 |
| Percent of the population ................................................................. | 67.4 | 65.2 | 76.0 | 73.6 | 59.8 | 57.7 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$ | 83.0 | 82.7 | 88.7 | 87.7 | 76.6 | 77.1 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 72.0 | 70.8 | 77.6 | 75.8 | 65.7 | 65.0 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 6.2 | 6.0 | 6.2 | 5.9 | 6.1 | 6.2 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 4.8 | 5.9 | 4.8 | 6.0 | 4.8 | 5.9 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$. | 17.0 | 17.3 | 11.3 | 12.3 | 23.4 | 22.9 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 8.6 | 9.8 | 5.9 | 7.0 | 11.7 | 13.0 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 3.8 | 3.2 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 5.9 | 4.8 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 4.6 | 4.2 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 5.7 | 5.2 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Work experience of the population during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2008-09 Continued
(Numbers in thousands)

| Extent of employment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
| HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population | 32,585 | 33,413 | 16,736 | 17,200 | 15,849 | 16,213 |
| Total who worked or looked for work ................................................ | 22,546 | 22,668 | 13,189 | 13,268 | 9,358 | 9,400 |
| Percent of the population ........................................................... | 69.2 | 67.8 | 78.8 | 77.1 | 59.0 | 58.0 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 22,049 | 21,723 | 12,929 | 12,724 | 9,120 | 9,000 |
| Percent of the population ............................................................... | 67.7 | 65.0 | 77.3 | 74.0 | 57.5 | 55.5 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$... | 81.5 | 78.5 | 87.4 | 83.5 | 73.2 | 71.5 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 64.8 | 61.2 | 70.0 | 63.8 | 57.3 | 57.6 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 10.4 | 9.6 | 11.5 | 11.2 | 8.9 | 7.3 |
| 1 to 26 weeks ............................................................................ | 6.4 | 7.6 | 5.9 | 8.4 | 7.1 | 6.5 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 18.5 | 21.5 | 12.6 | 16.5 | 26.8 | 28.5 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 9.6 | 11.7 | 6.2 | 8.3 | 14.6 | 16.5 |
| 27 to 49 weeks .......................................................................... | 3.9 | 4.3 | 3.0 | 3.7 | 5.2 | 5.1 |
| 1 to 26 weeks ............................................................................ | 4.9 | 5.6 | 3.4 | 4.6 | 7.0 | 7.0 |

${ }^{1}$ Time worked includes paid vacation and sick leave.
2 Usually worked 35 hours or more per week.
${ }^{3}$ Usually worked 1 to 34 hours per week.
NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African

American, and Asian) do not sum to totals shown in table 1 because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Also, see Note, table 1.

Table 3. Extent of unemployment during the year by sex, 2008-09

| Extent of unemployment | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
|  | Numbers (in thousands) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 160,658 | 159,776 | 84,781 | 84,396 | 75,878 | 75,380 |
| Percent with unemployment .................................................................. | 13.2 | 16.4 | 14.5 | 18.8 | 11.7 | 13.6 |
| Total with unemployment | 21,205 | 26,135 | 12,306 | 15,864 | 8,899 | 10,271 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 3,187 | 5,847 | 1,672 | 3,323 | 1,514 | 2,525 |
| 1 to 14 weeks ............................................................................. | 1,124 | 1,231 | 479 | 572 | 645 | 658 |
| 15 weeks or more ........................................................................ | 2,062 | 4,617 | 1,193 | 2,750 | 869 | 1,866 |
| Worked during the year ...................................................................... | 18,018 | 20,288 | 10,633 | 12,542 | 7,385 | 7,746 |
| Year-round workers ${ }^{1}$ with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment ................... | 763 | 693 | 484 | 458 | 279 | 235 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{2}$ with unemployment ............................................. | 17,255 | 19,595 | 10,149 | 12,083 | 7,106 | 7,512 |
| 1 to 4 weeks | 2,786 | 2,526 | 1,516 | 1,466 | 1,270 | 1,060 |
| 5 to 10 weeks ....................................................................... | 2,941 | 2,560 | 1,698 | 1,592 | 1,243 | 968 |
| 11 to 14 weeks ...................................................................... | 2,435 | 2,414 | 1,464 | 1,557 | 971 | 857 |
| 15 to 26 weeks | 4,855 | 5,693 | 3,032 | 3,559 | 1,823 | 2,134 |
| 27 weeks or more | 4,238 | 6,402 | 2,439 | 3,908 | 1,799 | 2,494 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers .................................. | 15.2 | 19.7 | 15.7 | 19.7 | 14.7 | 19.5 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment | 3,989 | 4,149 | 2,621 | 2,862 | 1,368 | 1,287 |
| 2 spells .......... | 1,985 | 1,915 | 1,232 | 1,297 | 753 | 619 |
| 3 spells or more | 2,004 | 2,234 | 1,389 | 1,565 | 616 | 668 |
|  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |
| Did not work but looked for work ................................................................. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 1 to 14 weeks ....................................................................................... | 35.3 | 21.0 | 28.7 | 17.2 | 42.6 | 26.1 |
| 15 weeks or more | 64.7 | 79.0 | 71.3 | 82.8 | 57.4 | 73.9 |
| Worked during the year .................................................. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Year-round workers ${ }^{1}$ with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment ........................... | 4.2 | 3.4 | 4.6 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.0 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{2}$ with unemployment ...................... | 95.8 | 96.6 | 95.4 | 96.3 | 96.2 | 97.0 |
| 1 to 4 weeks | 15.5 | 12.5 | 14.3 | 11.7 | 17.2 | 13.7 |
| 5 to 10 weeks | 16.3 | 12.6 | 16.0 | 12.7 | 16.8 | 12.5 |
| 11 to 14 weeks | 13.5 | 11.9 | 13.8 | 12.4 | 13.1 | 11.1 |
| 15 to 26 weeks | 26.9 | 28.1 | 28.5 | 28.4 | 24.7 | 27.5 |
| 27 weeks or more | 23.5 | 31.6 | 22.9 | 31.2 | 24.4 | 32.2 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment | 22.1 | 20.5 | 24.7 | 22.8 | 18.5 | 16.6 |
| 2 spells | 11.0 | 9.4 | 11.6 | 10.3 | 10.2 | 8.0 |
| 3 spells or more .................................................................... | 11.1 | 11.0 | 13.1 | 12.5 | 8.3 | 8.6 |

[^1]Table 4. Extent of unemployment during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2008-09
(Numbers in thousands)

| Extent of unemployment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
| WHITE |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 131,102 | 130,189 | 70,346 | 70,042 | 60,756 | 60,147 |
| Percent with unemployment | 12.6 | 15.5 | 13.9 | 18.1 | 11.1 | 12.6 |
| Total with unemployment | 16,512 | 20,231 | 9,759 | 12,669 | 6,753 | 7,562 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 2,220 | 3,954 | 1,154 | 2,311 | 1,066 | 1,643 |
| Worked during the year | 14,291 | 16,277 | 8,605 | 10,358 | 5,687 | 5,920 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers .... | 14.7 | 19.1 | 14.8 | 19.2 | 14.3 | 19.0 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Year-round workers ${ }^{2}$ with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment | 4.6 | 3.4 | 4.9 | 3.6 | 4.1 | 3.0 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{3}$ with unemployment. | 95.4 | 96.6 | 95.1 | 96.4 | 95.9 | 97.0 |
| 1 to 4 weeks ......................................... | 15.7 | 12.8 | 14.7 | 11.8 | 17.3 | 14.5 |
| 5 to 14 weeks | 31.0 | 25.3 | 31.0 | 26.0 | 30.8 | 24.0 |
| 15 weeks or more | 48.8 | 58.6 | 49.5 | 58.6 | 47.8 | 58.5 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment | 22.7 | 21.5 | 25.3 | 23.9 | 18.7 | 17.3 |
| BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 18,296 | 18,250 | 8,489 | 8,421 | 9,807 | 9,829 |
| Percent with unemployment | 17.7 | 22.4 | 20.5 | 26.1 | 15.3 | 19.1 |
| Total with unemployment | 3,243 | 4,082 | 1,739 | 2,201 | 1,503 | 1,881 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 719 | 1,446 | 393 | 780 | 326 | 666 |
| Worked during the year ......... | 2,524 | 2,636 | 1,346 | 1,421 | 1,177 | 1,215 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers | 19.8 | 22.8 | 21.6 | 23.6 | 18.0 | 22.1 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$................................. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Year-round workers ${ }^{2}$ with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment .. | 2.7 | 3.3 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 2.7 | 2.7 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{3}$ with unemployment ................... | 97.3 | 96.7 | 97.3 | 96.2 | 97.3 | 97.3 |
| 1 to 4 weeks | 13.8 | 9.9 | 12.6 | 11.1 | 15.2 | 8.5 |
| 5 to 14 weeks | 24.1 | 19.9 | 22.6 | 18.8 | 25.9 | 21.2 |
| 15 weeks or more | 59.3 | 66.9 | 62.1 | 66.3 | 56.1 | 67.6 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment | 20.4 | 14.7 | 22.0 | 16.8 | 18.6 | 12.1 |
| ASIAN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 7,270 | 7,430 | 3,840 | 3,935 | 3,430 | 3,495 |
| Percent with unemployment | 10.0 | 12.6 | 9.5 | 12.4 | 10.5 | 12.8 |
| Total with unemployment.. | 725 | 937 | 364 | 489 | 361 | 448 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 132 | 236 | 57 | 114 | 74 | 123 |
| Worked during the year ............... | 593 | 701 | 307 | 376 | 287 | 325 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers. | 16.2 | 19.9 | 17.3 | 21.3 | 14.3 | 18.9 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$....................................... | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Year-round workers ${ }^{2}$ with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment .... | 3.6 | 7.0 | 4.8 | 8.0 | 2.3 | 5.8 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{3}$ with unemployment ............................. | 96.4 | 93.0 | 95.2 | 92.0 | 97.7 | 94.2 |
| 1 to 4 weeks ............................... | 17.6 | 13.6 | 12.9 | 10.9 | 22.6 | 16.7 |
| 5 to 14 weeks | 26.4 | 22.8 | 26.5 | 24.6 | 26.3 | 20.7 |
| 15 weeks or more ............................................... | 52.4 | 56.6 | 55.8 | 56.5 | 48.8 | 56.8 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment ...................... | 15.3 | 15.3 | 15.9 | 15.3 | 14.7 | 15.2 |

[^2]Table 4. Extent of unemployment during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2008-09 — Continued
(Numbers in thousands)

| Extent of unemployment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
| HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 22,546 | 22,668 | 13,189 | 13,268 | 9,358 | 9,400 |
| Percent with unemployment ............................................................... | 17.5 | 20.9 | 18.7 | 23.7 | 15.8 | 16.9 |
| Total with unemployment | 3,938 | 4,729 | 2,460 | 3,140 | 1,478 | 1,589 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 497 | 944 | 260 | 544 | 238 | 400 |
| Worked during the year ................................................................. | 3,441 | 3,784 | 2,200 | 2,595 | 1,240 | 1,189 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers ................................ | 16.6 | 20.0 | 16.6 | 19.4 | 16.6 | 21.6 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$.............................................. | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Year-round workers ${ }^{2}$ with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment ................ | 3.6 | 1.5 | 3.8 | 1.4 | 3.2 | 1.7 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{3}$ with unemployment ......................................... | 96.4 | 98.5 | 96.2 | 98.6 | 96.8 | 98.3 |
| 1 to 4 weeks | 13.3 | 12.4 | 12.2 | 12.3 | 15.2 | 12.6 |
| 5 to 14 weeks | 29.1 | 25.5 | 29.6 | 26.8 | 28.2 | 22.6 |
| 15 weeks or more | 54.0 | 60.6 | 54.4 | 59.5 | 53.3 | 63.1 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment ................................... | 26.1 | 24.1 | 30.2 | 27.7 | 18.7 | 16.2 |

[^3]American, and Asian) do not sum to totals shown in table 3 because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Also, see Note, table 1.


[^0]:    1 Time worked includes paid vacation and sick leave.
    ${ }^{2}$ Usually worked 35 hours or more per week.
    ${ }^{3}$ Usually worked 1 to 34 hours per week.
    NOTE: Data refer to persons 16 years and over. Data for 2009, which were collected in the 2010 Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey, are not strictly comparable with data for 2008

[^1]:    1 Worked 50 or 51 weeks.
    2 Worked less than 50 weeks.
    NOTE: See Note, table 1.

[^2]:    See footnotes at end of table.

[^3]:    1 Time worked includes paid vacation and sick leave.
    ${ }^{2}$ Worked 50 or 51 weeks.
    ${ }^{3}$ Worked less than 50 weeks.
    NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African

