Bureau of Labor Statistics
(202) 691-6378
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## WORK EXPERIENCE OF THE POPULATION IN 2003

A total of 150.7 million persons worked at some point during 2003, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. The proportion of workers who worked full time, year round was unchanged from the previous 2 years. The number of persons who experienced some unemployment during the year fell by 358,000 from 2002 , to 16.4 million.

These data are based on information collected in the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS). The CPS is a monthly survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Additional information about the CPS and the annual supplement, including concepts and definitions, is provided in the Technical Note. Highlights from the 2003 data include:

- The proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population age 16 years old and over that worked at some time during the year was 67.7 percent in 2003, down from 68.4 percent in 2002.
- The proportion of workers who worked full time, year round in 2003 ( 66.3 percent) was unchanged from the previous 2 years. Although this proportion is lower than it had been in 2000, when it peaked at 66.7 percent, it is still high by historical standards.
- The "work-experience unemployment rate"-defined as the number unemployed at some time during the year as a proportion of the number who worked or looked for work during the year-edged down by 0.3 percentage point over the year to 10.7 percent in 2003.


## Persons with Employment

In 2003, the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years old and over that worked at some point during the year was 67.7 percent- 0.7 percentage point lower than the 2002 level. (See table 1.) This proportion had remained above 68.0 percent from 1984 through 2002, peaking at 70.6 percent in 1999. The proportion of men who worked at some time during the year was 74.2 percent in 2003, down from 75.1 percent in 2002. The proportion of women who worked some time during the year, 61.7 percent, was down from its peak of 64.5 percent in 1999.

Among those with work experience during 2003, 76.5 percent were employed year round (either full or part time), up by 0.5 percentage point from 2002. Continuing a long-term growth trend, full-year employment among women edged up to 73.3 percent from 73.0 percent in 2002. The percentage of men employed year round also was up over the year, increasing to 79.3 percent from 78.7 percent in 2002.

About 4 out of 5 of those who were employed at some time during 2003 worked full time, about the same as in 2002. This proportion has been in the narrow range of 77.0 to 81.5 percent since the series
began in 1966. Among both men and women, the proportion who worked full time was little changed between 2002 and 2003. (See table 1.)

## Persons with Unemployment

Overall, 153.4 million persons worked or looked for work at some time in 2003. Of these, 16.4 million experienced some unemployment during the year, down from 16.8 million in 2002. Men accounted for about 80 percent of the over-the-year decrease.

At 10.7 percent in 2003, the "work-experience unemployment rate" was down by 0.3 percentage point from 2002. The rate is still low by historical standards, but is above the series low of 8.6 percent reached in 2000. The rate for blacks in 2003, 14.7 percent, was higher than the rates for Hispanics or Latinos (12.9 percent), Asians ( 10.2 percent), and whites ( 10.1 percent). (See tables 3 and 4.)

The "work-experience unemployment rate" for black men (16.3 percent) was somewhat higher than that for black women (13.3 percent). Similarly, the rate for white men (10.8 percent) was higher than that for white women ( 9.1 percent). In contrast, among Hispanics or Latinos and Asians, there was little difference in the rates for men and women in 2003. (See table 4.)

Among those who experienced unemployment in 2003, the median number of weeks spent looking for work was 16.6 weeks, up from 15.5 weeks the year before. About 2.8 million individuals had looked for a job but did not work at all in 2003, about the same as a year earlier. Of the 13.7 million persons who worked during the year and also experienced unemployment, 22.6 percent had two or more spells of joblessness, about the same proportion as in 2002.

## 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 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 2004 refer to the 2003 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 2003 was about twice the number unemployed in an average month during the year.

| 2003 estimates (in thousands) | Employed | Unemployed |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Annual average of |  |  |
| monthly estimates | 137,736 | 8,774 |
| Annual supplement data | 150,689 | 16,444 |

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 2003, which were collected in the 2004 Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the CPS, are not strictly comparable with data for 2002 and earlier years because of the introduction in January 2004 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 controls on the monthly CPS estimates was to decrease the January 2004 employment level by 409,000 and the unemployment level by 27,000 relative to the December 2003 level. For additional information, see "Adjustments to Household Survey Population Estimates in January 2004" in the February 2004 issue of Employment and Earnings, available on the Internet at http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps04adj.pdf.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

## 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 the "Explanatory Notes and Estimates of Error" section of Employment and Earnings.

## Concepts and definitions

Persons who worked. In the 2004 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 2003?" or "Did you do any temporary, part-time, or seasonal work even for a few days during 2003?"

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 2003, 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. Part-year 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, 2002-03

| Extent of employment | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
|  | Numbers (in thousands) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population | 220,285 | 222,509 | 105,973 | 107,241 | 114,312 | 115,269 |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 153,411 | 153,448 | 80,933 | 81,023 | 72,478 | 72,425 |
| Percent of the population | 69.6 | 69.0 | 76.4 | 75.6 | 63.4 | 62.8 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 150,755 | 150,689 | 79,564 | 79,539 | 71,191 | 71,150 |
| Percent of the population ................................................................... | 68.4 | 67.7 | 75.1 | 74.2 | 62.3 | 61.7 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$ | 120,970 | 120,325 | 69,445 | 69,019 | 51,525 | 51,306 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 99,946 | 99,904 | 58,115 | 58,064 | 41,831 | 41,841 |
| 48 to 49 weeks | 2,113 | 1,917 | 1,261 | 1,128 | 852 | 789 |
| 40 to 47 weeks | 5,604 | 5,269 | 3,002 | 2,762 | 2,602 | 2,508 |
| 27 to 39 weeks | 4,803 | 4,763 | 2,522 | 2,571 | 2,281 | 2,192 |
| 14 to 26 weeks | 4,898 | 4,909 | 2,636 | 2,614 | 2,262 | 2,295 |
| 1 to 13 weeks | 3,605 | 3,562 | 1,908 | 1,880 | 1,697 | 1,682 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 29,785 | 30,364 | 10,120 | 10,520 | 19,666 | 19,844 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 14,615 | 15,325 | 4,499 | 5,034 | 10,116 | 10,291 |
| 48 to 49 weeks | 820 | 782 | 294 | 236 | 526 | 546 |
| 40 to 47 weeks | 2,547 | 2,611 | 811 | 813 | 1,737 | 1,798 |
| 27 to 39 weeks | 2,807 | 2,632 | 929 | 821 | 1,878 | 1,810 |
| 14 to 26 weeks | 4,488 | 4,386 | 1,769 | 1,684 | 2,719 | 2,702 |
| 1 to 13 weeks | 4,508 | 4,628 | 1,818 | 1,932 | 2,690 | 2,696 |
|  | Percent distribution |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$ | 80.2 | 79.8 | 87.3 | 86.8 | 72.4 | 72.1 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 66.3 | 66.3 | 73.0 | 73.0 | 58.8 | 58.8 |
| 48 to 49 weeks | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.1 |
| 40 to 47 weeks | 3.7 | 3.5 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.5 |
| 27 to 39 weeks | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.1 |
| 14 to 26 weeks | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 3.2 |
| 1 to 13 weeks | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.4 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 19.8 | 20.2 | 12.7 | 13.2 | 27.6 | 27.9 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 9.7 | 10.2 | 5.7 | 6.3 | 14.2 | 14.5 |
| 48 to 49 weeks | . 5 | . 5 | . 4 | . 3 | . 7 | . 8 |
| 40 to 47 weeks | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.4 | 2.5 |
| 27 to 39 weeks | 1.9 | 1.7 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 2.6 | 2.5 |
| 14 to 26 weeks | 3.0 | 2.9 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 3.8 | 3.8 |
| 1 to 13 weeks ....... | 3.0 | 3.1 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 3.8 | 3.8 |

[^0]and earlier years because of the introduction in January 2004 of revised population controls used in the survey. For additional information, see the Technical Note and "Adjustments to Household Survey Population Estimates in January 2004" in the February 2004 issue of Employment and Earnings, available on the Internet at http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps04adj.pdf.

Table 2. Work experience of the population during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2002-03
(Numbers in thousands)

| Extent of employment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
| WHITE |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population | 180,648 | 181,964 | 87,873 | 88,600 | 92,776 | 93,364 |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 126,416 | 126,232 | 67,836 | 67,807 | 58,580 | 58,425 |
| Percent of the population. | 70.0 | 69.4 | 77.2 | 76.5 | 63.1 | 62.6 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 124,727 | 124,362 | 66,966 | 66,803 | 57,761 | 57,560 |
| Percent of the population | 69.0 | 68.3 | 76.2 | 75.4 | 62.3 | 61.7 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$................................... | 79.9 | 79.3 | 87.5 | 86.9 | 71.0 | 70.6 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 66.1 | 66.1 | 73.5 | 73.4 | 57.6 | 57.6 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 8.3 | 7.9 | 8.5 | 8.1 | 8.1 | 7.7 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 5.4 | 5.3 | 5.5 | 5.4 | 5.3 | 5.3 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 20.1 | 20.7 | 12.5 | 13.1 | 29.0 | 29.4 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 10.0 | 10.6 | 5.6 | 6.3 | 15.2 | 15.5 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 4.2 | 4.2 | 2.5 | 2.4 | 6.2 | 6.2 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 5.9 | 5.9 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 7.7 | 7.7 |
| BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population | 25,547 | 25,931 | 11,385 | 11,589 | 14,162 | 14,343 |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 17,176 | 17,161 | 7,862 | 7,829 | 9,314 | 9,331 |
| Percent of the population ....... | 67.2 | 66.2 | 69.1 | 67.6 | 65.8 | 65.1 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 16,471 | 16,520 | 7,494 | 7,488 | 8,976 | 9,032 |
| Percent of the population ... | 64.5 | 63.7 | 65.8 | 64.6 | 63.4 | 63.0 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$ | 83.0 | 82.8 | 85.9 | 86.1 | 80.6 | 80.1 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 67.9 | 67.9 | 70.0 | 70.7 | 66.0 | 65.6 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 8.1 | 7.8 | 8.4 | 8.0 | 7.9 | 7.7 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 7.0 | 7.1 | 7.5 | 7.4 | 6.7 | 6.8 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 17.0 | 17.2 | 14.1 | 13.9 | 19.4 | 19.9 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 7.7 | 7.9 | 6.0 | 6.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 3.1 | 3.1 | 2.5 | 2.1 | 3.7 | 3.9 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 6.2 | 6.1 | 5.6 | 5.3 | 6.7 | 6.9 |
| ASIAN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population | 9,141 | 9,429 | 4,317 | 4,516 | 4,824 | 4,913 |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 6,294 | 6,411 | 3,357 | 3,457 | 2,937 | 2,954 |
| Percent of the population ........... | 68.9 | 68.0 | 77.8 | 76.6 | 60.9 | 60.1 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 6,139 | 6,273 | 3,282 | 3,378 | 2,857 | 2,895 |
| Percent of the population ...................................................... | 67.2 | 66.5 | 76.0 | 74.8 | 59.2 | 58.9 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$ | 82.8 | 83.0 | 87.8 | 87.4 | 77.1 | 77.8 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 70.2 | 70.5 | 76.0 | 75.3 | 63.5 | 65.0 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 7.4 | 6.5 | 7.6 | 6.7 | 7.3 | 6.2 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 5.2 | 5.9 | 4.2 | 5.4 | 6.3 | 6.5 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 17.2 | 17.0 | 12.2 | 12.6 | 22.9 | 22.2 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 8.5 | 8.4 | 5.6 | 5.6 | 11.8 | 11.8 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 3.2 | 2.9 | 2.4 | 1.8 | 4.1 | 4.1 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 5.5 | 5.7 | 4.2 | 5.2 | 7.0 | 6.3 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Work experience of the population during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2002-03 Continued
(Numbers in thousands)

| Extent of employment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
| HISPANIC OR LATINO |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civilian noninstitutional population | 27,184 | 27,783 | 13,903 | 14,240 | 13,281 | 13,543 |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 18,990 | 19,357 | 11,194 | 11,445 | 7,795 | 7,912 |
| Percent of the population ........ | 69.9 | 69.7 | 80.5 | 80.4 | 58.7 | 58.4 |
| Total who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 18,606 | 18,969 | 11,030 | 11,246 | 7,576 | 7,723 |
| Percent of the population | 68.4 | 68.3 | 79.3 | 79.0 | 57.0 | 57.0 |
| Percent who worked during the year ${ }^{1}$ | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Full time ${ }^{2}$ | 84.2 | 83.7 | 89.3 | 89.4 | 76.6 | 75.4 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 68.2 | 67.7 | 73.5 | 73.5 | 60.4 | 59.3 |
| 27 to 49 weeks | 9.4 | 9.2 | 10.0 | 9.6 | 8.6 | 8.7 |
| 1 to 26 weeks | 6.5 | 6.7 | 5.8 | 6.3 | 7.6 | 7.4 |
| Part time ${ }^{3}$ | 15.8 | 16.3 | 10.7 | 10.6 | 23.4 | 24.6 |
| 50 to 52 weeks | 8.1 | 8.3 | 5.6 | 5.4 | 11.9 | 12.7 |
| 27 to 49 weeks .......................................................................... | 3.0 | 2.8 | 2.0 | 1.7 | 4.4 | 4.3 |
| 1 to 26 weeks .......................................................................... | 4.7 | 5.2 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 7.1 | 7.6 |

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. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Data refer to persons 16 years and over. Also, see Note, table 1.

Table 3. Extent of unemployment during the year by sex, 2002-03

| Extent of unemployment | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
|  | Numbers (in thousands) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 153,411 | 153,448 | 80,933 | 81,023 | 72,478 | 72,425 |
| Percent with unemployment .................................................................. | 11.0 | 10.7 | 11.9 | 11.5 | 9.9 | 9.8 |
| Total with unemployment | 16,802 | 16,444 | 9,603 | 9,321 | 7,199 | 7,122 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 2,656 | 2,759 | 1,369 | 1,484 | 1,287 | 1,275 |
| 1 to 14 weeks ..... | 931 | 1,014 | 373 | 463 | 558 | 550 |
| 15 weeks or more ................................................................ | 1,725 | 1,745 | 996 | 1,021 | 729 | 725 |
| Worked during the year | 14,146 | 13,684 | 8,234 | 7,837 | 5,912 | 5,847 |
| Year-round workers ${ }^{1}$ with 1 or 2 weeks of unemployment | 581 | 530 | 361 | 354 | 220 | 176 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{2}$ with unemployment .............................................. | 13,565 | 13,154 | 7,873 | 7,483 | 5,692 | 5,671 |
| 1 to 4 weeks | 1,997 | 1,836 | 1,071 | 954 | 927 | 882 |
| 5 to 10 weeks | 2,371 | 2,263 | 1,340 | 1,313 | 1,031 | 950 |
| 11 to 14 weeks | 1,966 | 1,748 | 1,182 | 1,038 | 784 | 710 |
| 15 to 26 weeks | 3,847 | 3,777 | 2,282 | 2,177 | 1,566 | 1,600 |
| 27 weeks or more | 3,383 | 3,530 | 1,998 | 2,001 | 1,385 | 1,530 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers .................................. | 15.5 | 16.6 | 15.9 | 16.5 | 15.0 | 16.6 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment | 3,222 | 3,088 | 1,916 | 1,877 | 1,306 | 1,211 |
| 2 spells ........... | 1,553 | 1,584 | 911 | 945 | 642 | 639 |
| 3 spells or more | 1,669 | 1,504 | 1,006 | 932 | 664 | 572 |
|  | 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 ....................................................................................... | 35.1 | 36.7 | 27.2 | 31.2 | 43.4 | 43.2 |
| 15 weeks or more | 64.9 | 63.3 | 72.8 | 68.8 | 56.6 | 56.8 |
| 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 ............................ | 4.1 | 3.9 | 4.4 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 3.0 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{2}$ with unemployment ..................................................... | 95.9 | 96.1 | 95.6 | 95.5 | 96.3 | 97.0 |
| 1 to 4 weeks | 14.1 | 13.4 | 13.0 | 12.2 | 15.7 | 15.1 |
| 5 to 10 weeks | 16.8 | 16.5 | 16.3 | 16.8 | 17.4 | 16.3 |
| 11 to 14 weeks | 13.9 | 12.8 | 14.4 | 13.2 | 13.3 | 12.1 |
| 15 to 26 weeks | 27.2 | 27.6 | 27.7 | 27.8 | 26.5 | 27.4 |
| 27 weeks or more | 23.9 | 25.8 | 24.3 | 25.5 | 23.4 | 26.2 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment | 22.8 | 22.6 | 23.3 | 24.0 | 22.1 | 20.7 |
| 2 spells | 11.0 | 11.6 | 11.1 | 12.1 | 10.9 | 10.9 |
| 3 spells or more .................................................................... | 11.8 | 11.0 | 12.2 | 11.9 | 11.2 | 9.8 |

[^1]Table 4. Extent of unemployment during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2002-03
(Numbers in thousands)

| Extent of unemployment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
| WHITE |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 126,416 | 126,232 | 67,836 | 67,807 | 58,580 | 58,425 |
| Percent with unemployment | 10.3 | 10.1 | 11.2 | 10.8 | 9.1 | 9.1 |
| Total with unemployment | 12,962 | 12,691 | 7,624 | 7,348 | 5,339 | 5,342 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 1,689 | 1,870 | 870 | 1,004 | 819 | 866 |
| Worked during the year ................................................................. | 11,273 | 10,821 | 6,753 | 6,344 | 4,520 | 4,477 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers ............................... | 14.7 | 15.7 | 15.3 | 15.9 | 14.0 | 15.5 |
| 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 ................. | 4.5 | 4.3 | 4.7 | 4.9 | 4.2 | 3.3 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{3}$ with unemployment .......................................... | 95.5 | 95.7 | 95.3 | 95.1 | 95.8 | 96.7 |
| 1 to 4 weeks | 14.0 | 13.9 | 13.0 | 12.3 | 15.6 | 16.2 |
| 5 to 14 weeks | 32.5 | 30.3 | 31.7 | 30.9 | 33.7 | 29.4 |
| 15 weeks or more | 49.0 | 51.5 | 50.6 | 51.8 | 46.5 | 51.1 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment ................................... | 22.3 | 22.6 | 22.9 | 24.3 | 21.3 | 20.2 |
| BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 17,176 | 17,161 | 7,862 | 7,829 | 9,314 | 9,331 |
| Percent with unemployment ...... | 14.9 | 14.7 | 16.3 | 16.3 | 13.7 | 13.3 |
| Total with unemployment | 2,557 | 2,520 | 1,282 | 1,279 | 1,274 | 1,240 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 706 | 641 | 368 | 341 | 338 | 299 |
| Worked during the year ........ | 1,851 | 1,879 | 915 | 938 | 936 | 941 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers ............................... | 20.4 | 21.2 | 19.7 | 21.2 | 21.1 | 21.1 |
| 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 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 1.7 | 1.9 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{3}$ with unemployment .......................................... | 97.7 | 97.5 | 97.1 | 96.8 | 98.3 | 98.1 |
| 1 to 4 weeks .......................................................................... | 12.4 | 10.1 | 10.6 | 10.4 | 14.1 | 9.7 |
| 5 to 14 weeks | 22.9 | 24.2 | 25.9 | 23.2 | 19.9 | 25.2 |
| 15 weeks or more | 62.4 | 63.2 | 60.6 | 63.2 | 64.2 | 63.2 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment ................................... | 25.2 | 22.8 | 25.8 | 23.7 | 24.6 | 22.0 |
| ASIAN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work ......................................................... | 6,294 | 6,411 | 3,357 | 3,457 | 2,937 | 2,954 |
| Percent with unemployment ............................................................... | 10.8 | 10.2 | 10.4 | 10.8 | 11.3 | 9.7 |
| Total with unemployment. | 681 | 657 | 350 | 372 | 331 | 285 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 155 | 138 | 75 | 79 | 80 | 59 |
| Worked during the year ................................................................. | 527 | 519 | 276 | 293 | 251 | 226 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers ............................... | 17.3 | 17.0 | 17.4 | 15.3 | 17.2 | 18.4 |
| 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 ................. | 2.5 | 2.4 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 3.9 | 3.4 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{3}$ with unemployment .......................................... | 97.5 | 97.6 | 98.7 | 98.5 | 96.1 | 96.6 |
| 1 to 4 weeks.. | 19.6 | 14.6 | 19.1 | 16.7 | 20.1 | 11.9 |
| 5 to 14 weeks | 22.3 | 28.4 | 23.2 | 31.3 | 21.4 | 24.6 |
| 15 weeks or more .................................................................. | 55.6 | 54.6 | 56.4 | 50.5 | 54.6 | 60.0 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment .................................. | 19.7 | 15.9 | 17.8 | 14.3 | 21.7 | 18.0 |

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Extent of unemployment during the year by race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, 2002-03 — Continued
(Numbers in thousands)

| Extent of unemployment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity | Total |  | Men |  | Women |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
| HISPANIC OR LATINO |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total who worked or looked for work | 18,990 | 19,357 | 11,194 | 11,445 | 7,795 | 7,912 |
| Percent with unemployment | 12.8 | 12.9 | 12.8 | 13.1 | 12.9 | 12.5 |
| Total with unemployment . | 2,436 | 2,494 | 1,430 | 1,502 | 1,006 | 991 |
| Did not work but looked for work | 384 | 388 | 164 | 199 | 220 | 189 |
| Worked during the year ................................................................. | 2,053 | 2,106 | 1,266 | 1,303 | 786 | 803 |
| Median weeks of unemployment for all workers ................................ | 16.7 | 17.6 | 15.7 | 16.9 | 18.5 | 18.5 |
| 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 ................. | 4.2 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 2.9 |
| Part-year workers ${ }^{3}$ with unemployment .......................................... | 95.8 | 96.3 | 95.9 | 95.8 | 95.8 | 97.1 |
| 1 to 4 weeks .......................................................................... | 14.1 | 13.0 | 13.8 | 12.2 | 14.6 | 14.4 |
| 5 to 14 weeks ........................................................................ | 28.1 | 27.4 | 30.6 | 29.6 | 24.2 | 24.0 |
| 15 weeks or more .................................................................. | 53.6 | 55.9 | 51.5 | 54.1 | 57.0 | 58.7 |
| With 2 spells or more of unemployment ................................... | 22.7 | 23.9 | 24.5 | 25.3 | 19.9 | 21.8 |

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 American, and Asian) do not sum to totals shown in table 3 because data
are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race. Data refer to persons 16 years and over. 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 2003, which were collected in the 2004 Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey, are not strictly comparable with data for 2002

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Worked 50 or 51 weeks.
    2 Worked less than 50 weeks.

