



For release 10:00 a.m. (EDT) Thursday, May 17, 2018

USDL-18-0786

Technical information: (202) 691-6378 • cpsinfo@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/cps  
Media contact: (202) 691-5902 • PressOffice@bls.gov

## **FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS: LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS — 2017**

The unemployment rate for foreign-born persons in the United States was 4.1 percent in 2017, down from 4.3 percent in 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The jobless rate of native-born persons was 4.4 percent in 2017, down from 5.0 percent in 2016.

Data on nativity are collected as part of the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly sample survey of approximately 60,000 households. The foreign born are persons who reside in the United States but who were born outside the country or one of its outlying areas to parents who were not U.S. citizens. The foreign born include legally-admitted immigrants, refugees, temporary residents such as students and temporary workers, and undocumented immigrants. The survey data, however, do not separately identify the numbers of persons in these categories. For further information about the survey, see the Technical Note in this news release.

### **Highlights from the 2017 data:**

- In 2017, there were 27.4 million foreign-born persons in the U.S. labor force, comprising 17.1 percent of the total. (See table 1.)
- Hispanics accounted for 47.9 percent of the foreign-born labor force in 2017, and Asians accounted for 25.2 percent. (See table 1.) (Data in this news release for persons who are White, Black, or Asian do not include those of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. Data on persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are presented separately.)
- Foreign-born workers were more likely than native-born workers to be employed in service occupations and less likely to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations. (See table 4.)
- The median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers were \$730 in 2017, compared with \$885 for their native-born counterparts. (See table 5.) (Differences in earnings reflect a variety of factors, including variations in the distributions of foreign-born and native-born workers by educational attainment, occupation, industry, and geographic region.)

### **Demographic Characteristics**

The demographic composition of the foreign-born labor force differs from that of the native-born labor force. In 2017, men accounted for 57.5 percent of the foreign-born labor force, compared with 52.2 percent of the native-born labor force. By age, the proportion of the foreign-born labor force made up of

25- to 54-year-olds (73.1 percent) was higher than for the native-born labor force (62.2 percent). Labor force participation is typically highest among persons in that age bracket. (See table 1.)

In 2017, nearly half (47.9 percent) of the foreign-born labor force was Hispanic, and one-quarter (25.2 percent) was Asian. Hispanics and Asians made up much lower percentages of the native-born labor force, at 10.7 percent and 2.0 percent, respectively. About 16.5 percent of the foreign-born labor force was White and 9.4 percent was Black, compared with 72.3 percent and 12.2 percent, respectively, of the native-born labor force.

In terms of educational attainment, the proportion of the foreign-born labor force age 25 and over that had not completed high school was 21.8 percent in 2017, much higher than the figure for the native-born labor force, at 4.2 percent. The foreign born were less likely than the native born to have some college or an associate degree—16.8 percent versus 29.4 percent. The proportions for foreign-born and native-born high school graduates (25.2 percent versus 25.9 percent) and those with a bachelor's degree or higher (36.2 percent versus 40.5 percent) were more similar.

## **Labor Force**

In 2017, the share of the U.S. civilian labor force that was foreign born increased to 17.1 percent from 16.9 percent in 2016. (See table 1.) The share of the U.S. civilian labor force that was foreign born was 13.3 percent in 2000.

In 2017, the labor force participation rate of the foreign born was 66.0 percent, up from 65.2 percent in the prior year. The participation rate for the native born was 62.2 percent, little changed from 2016. Foreign-born men were considerably more likely to be labor force participants (78.1 percent) in 2017 than their native-born counterparts (67.3 percent). In contrast, 54.5 percent of foreign-born women were labor force participants, somewhat lower than the rate of 57.5 percent for native-born women.

Among the major race and ethnicity groups, labor force participation rates increased for foreign-born Blacks (71.5 percent) and Asians (64.3 percent) in 2017, while the rates for Whites (59.9 percent) and Hispanics (68.3 percent) were little different from the prior year. Among the native born, the participation rate for Blacks rose to 60.7 percent and the rate for Whites declined to 62.2 percent. The participation rates for Asians (62.0 percent) and Hispanics (64.2 percent) showed little change from 2016 to 2017.

In 2017, foreign-born mothers with children under 18 years old were less likely to be labor force participants than were native-born mothers—60.1 percent versus 74.4 percent. Labor force participation differences between foreign-born and native-born mothers were greater among those with younger children than among those with older children. The labor force participation rate of foreign-born mothers with children under age 6 was 49.8 percent in 2017, much lower than that for native-born mothers with children under age 6, at 69.4 percent. Among women with children under age 3, the participation rate for foreign-born mothers (44.4 percent) was 22.5 percentage points below that for native-born mothers (66.9 percent). The labor force participation rates of foreign-born and native-born fathers with children under age 18 were more similar, at 93.1 percent and 92.7 percent, respectively. (See table 2.)

By region, the foreign born made up a larger share of the labor force in the West (24.1 percent) and in the Northeast (19.6 percent) in 2017 than for the nation as a whole (17.1 percent). In contrast, the

foreign born made up a smaller share of the labor force than for the nation as a whole in the South (16.2 percent) and Midwest (8.8 percent). (See table 6.)

## **Unemployment**

The unemployment rate of the foreign born declined from 4.3 percent to 4.1 percent from 2016 to 2017, and the jobless rate for the native born fell from 5.0 percent to 4.4 percent. The unemployment rate for foreign-born women declined from 5.1 percent to 4.8 percent, and the rate for foreign-born men was little changed at 3.6 percent. The over-the-year decrease in the unemployment rate of the native born reflected decreases in the rates for both men and women. The rate for men fell from 5.2 percent to 4.6 percent, while the rate for women declined from 4.7 percent to 4.2 percent. (See table 1.)

For both the foreign born and the native born, jobless rates vary considerably by race and ethnicity. Among the foreign born, Blacks had the highest unemployment rate (5.6 percent) in 2017. The unemployment rates were 4.3 percent for Hispanics, 4.0 percent for Whites, and 3.2 percent for Asians. Among the native born, Blacks also had the highest jobless rate (7.8 percent), followed by Hispanics (5.9 percent), Asians (3.8 percent), and Whites (3.5 percent).

## **Occupation**

In 2017, foreign-born workers were more likely than native-born workers to be employed in service occupations (23.9 percent versus 16.1 percent); in production, transportation, and material moving occupations (14.9 percent versus 11.0 percent); and in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations (13.9 percent versus 8.3 percent). (See table 4.)

Native-born workers were more likely than foreign-born workers to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations (41.3 percent versus 32.3 percent) and in sales and office occupations (23.3 percent versus 15.0 percent).

In 2017, employed foreign-born men and women were more likely than their native-born counterparts to work in service occupations; natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations; and production, transportation, and material moving occupations. Among men, the employment disparity was especially great in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations—22.6 percent of foreign-born men versus 15.2 percent of native-born men. The disparity for women was most pronounced in service occupations—33.1 percent of foreign-born women worked in that occupation group, compared with 18.8 percent of native-born women. By contrast, employed foreign-born men and women were less likely than their native-born counterparts to work in management, professional, and related occupations and in sales and office occupations.

## **Earnings**

In 2017, the median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born, full-time wage and salary workers (\$730) were 82.5 percent of the earnings of their native-born counterparts (\$885). Among men, median weekly earnings for the foreign-born (\$776) were 79.3 percent of the earnings of their native-born counterparts (\$978). Median earnings for foreign-born women (\$660) were 83.8 percent of the earnings of their native-born counterparts (\$788). Differences in earnings reflect a variety of factors, including variations in the distributions of foreign-born and native-born workers by educational attainment, occupation, industry, and geographic region. (See table 5.)

Among the major race and ethnicity groups, Hispanic foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers earned 82.3 percent as much as their native-born counterparts in 2017. For Black workers, earnings for the foreign born and the native born were almost the same. White and Asian foreign-born workers earned more than their native-born counterparts.

The earnings of both foreign-born and native-born workers increase with education. In 2017, foreign-born workers age 25 and over with less than a high school diploma earned \$506 per week, while those with a bachelor's degree and higher earned about 2.6 times as much—\$1,340 per week. Among the native born, those with a bachelor's degree and higher earned about 2.3 times as much as those with less than a high school diploma—\$1,271 versus \$560 per week.

Native-born workers earn more than the foreign born at most educational attainment levels. However, there is a relatively small gap between the earnings of foreign-born and native-born workers for those with a bachelor's degree and higher. For example, among high school graduates (no college), full-time workers who were foreign born earned 84.3 percent as much as their native-born counterparts in 2017. Among those with a bachelor's degree and higher, the earnings of foreign-born workers (\$1,340) were not much different from the earnings of native-born workers (\$1,271).

# 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. In response to the increased demand for statistical information about the foreign born, questions on nativity, citizenship, year of entry into the United States, and the parental nativity of respondents were added to the CPS beginning in January 1994. Prior to 1994, the primary sources of data on the foreign born were the decennial census, two CPS supplements (conducted in April 1983 and November 1989), and, to some extent, information collected by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (formerly known as the Immigration and Naturalization Service).

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

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 component of this difference that occurs because samples differ by chance is known as *sampling error*, and its 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.

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

## Definitions

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

*Foreign born.* The foreign born are persons residing in the United States who were not U.S. citizens at birth. That is, they were born outside the United States or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam, to parents neither of whom was a U.S. citizen. The foreign-born population includes legally-admitted immigrants, refugees, temporary residents such as students and temporary workers, and undocumented immigrants. The survey data, however, do not separately identify the number of persons in these categories.

*Native born.* The native born are persons born in the United States or one of its outlying areas such as Puerto Rico or Guam or who were born abroad of at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen.

*Race and ethnicity groups.* In this release, the data are presented for non-Hispanic whites, blacks, and Asians and for persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity. These four groups are mutually exclusive but not exhaustive. Other race groups (including persons who selected more than one race category) are included in the overall totals but are not shown separately because the number of survey respondents is too small to develop statistically reliable estimates. The presentation of data on race and ethnicity in this release differs from that which appears in most analyses of CPS labor force data because persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are separated from the race groups. Because persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity can be of any race, they are usually included in the race groups as well as shown separately in the Hispanic or Latino ethnicity group. The reason for the difference in the data presentation in this release is because about half of the foreign born are of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity and they have somewhat different labor force characteristics than the non-Hispanic foreign born.

*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 a family member's business. Persons who were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor dispute, or another reason also are counted as employed.

*Unemployed.* The unemployed are those 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.

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

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

*Usual weekly earnings.* Data represent earnings before taxes and other deductions and include any overtime pay, commissions, or tips usually received (at the main job in the case of multiple jobholders). Earnings reported on a basis other than weekly are converted to a weekly equivalent.

*Full-time wage and salary workers.* These are workers who usually work 35 hours or more per week at their sole or principal job and receive wages, salaries, and other types of compensation. The group includes employees in both the private and public sectors but, for purposes of the earnings series, excludes all self-employed persons, regardless of whether or not their businesses are incorporated.

*Median earnings.* The median earnings is the amount which divides a given earnings distribution into two equal groups, one having earnings above the median and the other having earnings below the median.

**Table 1. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations by selected characteristics, 2016-2017 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2016						2017					
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force				Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force					
		Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed		Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed		
				Number	Unemployment rate				Number	Unemployment rate		
<b>TOTAL</b>												
Total, 16 years and over.....	253,538	159,187	62.8	151,436	7,751	4.9	255,079	160,320	62.9	153,337	6,982	4.4
Men.....	122,497	84,755	69.2	80,568	4,187	4.9	123,275	85,145	69.1	81,402	3,743	4.4
Women.....	131,040	74,432	56.8	70,868	3,564	4.8	131,804	75,175	57.0	71,936	3,239	4.3
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>												
Total, 16 years and over.....	41,321	26,951	65.2	25,779	1,172	4.3	41,500	27,373	66.0	26,254	1,119	4.1
Men.....	20,057	15,595	77.8	15,007	588	3.8	20,135	15,735	78.1	15,171	564	3.6
Women.....	21,264	11,356	53.4	10,772	584	5.1	21,365	11,638	54.5	11,083	555	4.8
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years.....	3,702	1,886	50.9	1,726	160	8.5	3,547	1,886	53.2	1,727	159	8.4
25 to 34 years.....	7,785	5,836	75.0	5,589	247	4.2	7,820	5,898	75.4	5,656	242	4.1
35 to 44 years.....	9,218	7,259	78.8	6,990	269	3.7	9,189	7,299	79.4	7,043	256	3.5
45 to 54 years.....	8,369	6,690	79.9	6,430	259	3.9	8,481	6,826	80.5	6,592	234	3.4
55 to 64 years.....	6,019	4,044	67.2	3,863	180	4.5	6,146	4,209	68.5	4,040	169	4.0
65 years and over.....	6,228	1,235	19.8	1,180	55	4.5	6,317	1,256	19.9	1,196	60	4.8
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity<sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino.....	7,415	4,375	59.0	4,213	162	3.7	7,524	4,503	59.9	4,324	179	4.0
Black non-Hispanic or Latino.....	3,576	2,508	70.1	2,356	152	6.1	3,599	2,575	71.5	2,430	145	5.6
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino.....	10,697	6,747	63.1	6,516	231	3.4	10,738	6,903	64.3	6,684	220	3.2
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	19,175	13,014	67.9	12,404	610	4.7	19,174	13,098	68.3	12,540	558	4.3
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over.....	37,619	25,064	66.6	24,053	1,011	4.0	37,953	25,488	67.2	24,527	961	3.8
Less than a high school diploma.....	9,696	5,625	58.0	5,333	291	5.2	9,510	5,566	58.5	5,309	257	4.6
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> .....	9,509	6,187	65.1	5,911	276	4.5	9,697	6,412	66.1	6,160	252	3.9
Some college or associate degree.....	6,109	4,259	69.7	4,090	169	4.0	6,070	4,273	70.4	4,116	156	3.7
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	12,305	8,994	73.1	8,718	275	3.1	12,677	9,237	72.9	8,942	294	3.2
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Total, 16 years and over.....	212,217	132,236	62.3	125,657	6,580	5.0	213,579	132,946	62.2	127,083	5,863	4.4
Men.....	102,441	69,160	67.5	65,561	3,599	5.2	103,140	69,410	67.3	66,231	3,179	4.6
Women.....	109,776	63,076	57.5	60,096	2,981	4.7	110,439	63,536	57.5	60,852	2,684	4.2
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years.....	34,733	19,316	55.6	17,266	2,050	10.6	34,603	19,275	55.7	17,479	1,796	9.3
25 to 34 years.....	35,762	29,683	83.0	28,133	1,550	5.2	36,138	30,187	83.5	28,782	1,405	4.7
35 to 44 years.....	30,599	25,560	83.5	24,572	988	3.9	30,763	25,735	83.7	24,849	886	3.4
45 to 54 years.....	34,028	27,219	80.0	26,289	929	3.4	33,306	26,737	80.3	25,911	827	3.1
55 to 64 years.....	35,289	22,422	63.5	21,661	761	3.4	35,544	22,690	63.8	22,024	666	2.9
65 years and over.....	41,807	8,036	19.2	7,736	300	3.7	43,225	8,321	19.3	8,038	283	3.4
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity<sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino.....	154,543	96,503	62.4	92,671	3,832	4.0	154,598	96,148	62.2	92,779	3,369	3.5
Black non-Hispanic or Latino.....	26,538	15,947	60.1	14,536	1,411	8.8	26,764	16,239	60.7	14,965	1,274	7.8
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino.....	4,004	2,508	62.6	2,401	107	4.2	4,219	2,614	62.0	2,515	99	3.8
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	21,522	13,783	64.0	12,845	938	6.8	22,197	14,242	64.2	13,398	843	5.9
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over.....	177,484	112,920	63.6	108,391	4,529	4.0	178,976	113,672	63.5	109,604	4,067	3.6
Less than a high school diploma.....	13,672	5,054	37.0	4,551	504	10.0	13,128	4,776	36.4	4,359	417	8.7
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> .....	52,513	29,461	56.1	27,890	1,571	5.3	52,496	29,462	56.1	28,050	1,412	4.8
Some college or associate degree.....	51,075	33,675	65.9	32,295	1,380	4.1	51,191	33,424	65.3	32,166	1,257	3.8
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	60,224	44,729	74.3	43,655	1,074	2.4	62,161	46,009	74.0	45,029	981	2.1

<sup>1</sup> Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races.

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>3</sup> Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 2. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by presence and age of youngest child and sex, 2016-2017 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2016			2017		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	15,485	7,231	8,254	15,292	7,162	8,130
Civilian labor force.....	11,622	6,759	4,863	11,557	6,669	4,888
Participation rate.....	75.1	93.5	58.9	75.6	93.1	60.1
Employed.....	11,147	6,546	4,601	11,141	6,481	4,660
Employment-population ratio.....	72.0	90.5	55.7	72.9	90.5	57.3
Unemployed.....	475	213	262	416	187	228
Unemployment rate.....	4.1	3.1	5.4	3.6	2.8	4.7
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	8,709	3,978	4,732	8,682	3,966	4,716
Civilian labor force.....	6,801	3,681	3,120	6,848	3,660	3,188
Participation rate.....	78.1	92.5	65.9	78.9	92.3	67.6
Employed.....	6,522	3,563	2,960	6,606	3,562	3,044
Employment-population ratio.....	74.9	89.6	62.5	76.1	89.8	64.5
Unemployed.....	278	118	160	243	99	144
Unemployment rate.....	4.1	3.2	5.1	3.5	2.7	4.5
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	6,776	3,254	3,522	6,609	3,196	3,414
Civilian labor force.....	4,821	3,078	1,743	4,709	3,008	1,700
Participation rate.....	71.2	94.6	49.5	71.2	94.1	49.8
Employed.....	4,624	2,983	1,641	4,536	2,920	1,616
Employment-population ratio.....	68.3	91.7	46.6	68.6	91.4	47.3
Unemployed.....	197	95	102	173	88	85
Unemployment rate.....	4.1	3.1	5.8	3.7	2.9	5.0
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	3,684	1,796	1,888	3,600	1,764	1,836
Civilian labor force.....	2,527	1,691	836	2,478	1,662	816
Participation rate.....	68.6	94.1	44.3	68.8	94.2	44.4
Employed.....	2,434	1,643	791	2,383	1,609	774
Employment-population ratio.....	66.1	91.5	41.9	66.2	91.2	42.2
Unemployed.....	94	48	46	95	53	42
Unemployment rate.....	3.7	2.8	5.5	3.8	3.2	5.1
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	25,836	12,825	13,010	26,209	12,974	13,235
Civilian labor force.....	15,329	8,835	6,493	15,816	9,066	6,750
Participation rate.....	59.3	68.9	49.9	60.3	69.9	51.0
Employed.....	14,632	8,461	6,171	15,113	8,690	6,423
Employment-population ratio.....	56.6	66.0	47.4	57.7	67.0	48.5
Unemployed.....	697	375	322	704	377	327
Unemployment rate.....	4.5	4.2	5.0	4.4	4.2	4.8
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	49,570	21,761	27,809	48,896	21,578	27,318
Civilian labor force.....	40,699	20,143	20,556	40,318	19,993	20,325
Participation rate.....	82.1	92.6	73.9	82.5	92.7	74.4
Employed.....	39,093	19,493	19,600	38,895	19,438	19,457
Employment-population ratio.....	78.9	89.6	70.5	79.5	90.1	71.2
Unemployed.....	1,607	651	956	1,423	555	868
Unemployment rate.....	3.9	3.2	4.6	3.5	2.8	4.3
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	27,781	12,175	15,607	27,604	12,187	15,416
Civilian labor force.....	23,287	11,155	12,132	23,212	11,152	12,060
Participation rate.....	83.8	91.6	77.7	84.1	91.5	78.2
Employed.....	22,475	10,830	11,645	22,458	10,866	11,591
Employment-population ratio.....	80.9	89.0	74.6	81.4	89.2	75.2



**Table 2. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by presence and age of youngest child and sex, 2016-2017 annual averages — Continued**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2016			2017		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Unemployed.....	812	325	486	754	286	468
Unemployment rate.....	3.5	2.9	4.0	3.2	2.6	3.9
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	21,789	9,586	12,202	21,292	9,391	11,901
Civilian labor force.....	17,412	8,988	8,424	17,106	8,841	8,265
Participation rate.....	79.9	93.8	69.0	80.3	94.1	69.4
Employed.....	16,617	8,663	7,954	16,437	8,572	7,866
Employment-population ratio.....	76.3	90.4	65.2	77.2	91.3	66.1
Unemployed.....	795	325	470	669	269	399
Unemployment rate.....	4.6	3.6	5.6	3.9	3.0	4.8
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	13,072	5,803	7,270	12,690	5,649	7,041
Civilian labor force.....	10,296	5,471	4,826	10,060	5,348	4,712
Participation rate.....	78.8	94.3	66.4	79.3	94.7	66.9
Employed.....	9,822	5,270	4,552	9,661	5,185	4,476
Employment-population ratio.....	75.1	90.8	62.6	76.1	91.8	63.6
Unemployed.....	475	201	274	399	163	236
Unemployment rate.....	4.6	3.7	5.7	4.0	3.1	5.0
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	162,647	80,679	81,967	164,683	81,562	83,121
Civilian labor force.....	91,537	49,017	42,521	92,629	49,417	43,211
Participation rate.....	56.3	60.8	51.9	56.2	60.6	52.0
Employed.....	86,564	46,068	40,496	88,188	46,793	41,395
Employment-population ratio.....	53.2	57.1	49.4	53.6	57.4	49.8
Unemployed.....	4,973	2,948	2,025	4,441	2,625	1,816
Unemployment rate.....	5.4	6.0	4.8	4.8	5.3	4.2

NOTE: Own children include sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children. Not included are nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and other related and unrelated children. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 3. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 25 years and over by educational attainment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2016-2017 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2016				2017			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>								
<b>White non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	599	1,610	1,347	3,343	574	1,653	1,364	3,445
Civilian labor force.....	203	805	786	2,337	206	841	812	2,409
Participation rate.....	34.0	50.0	58.3	69.9	35.9	50.9	59.6	69.9
Employed.....	192	772	755	2,271	193	803	779	2,341
Employment-population ratio.....	32.1	48.0	56.1	67.9	33.7	48.6	57.1	68.0
Unemployed.....	11	33	31	66	13	39	33	68
Unemployment rate.....	5.6	4.1	3.9	2.8	6.3	4.6	4.1	2.8
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	403	878	814	1,060	388	895	798	1,113
Civilian labor force.....	220	591	633	871	210	628	612	911
Participation rate.....	54.6	67.3	77.7	82.2	54.3	70.1	76.7	81.9
Employed.....	201	550	600	833	197	593	585	866
Employment-population ratio.....	49.9	62.7	73.7	78.6	50.7	66.3	73.2	77.8
Unemployed.....	19	41	32	37	14	35	27	45
Unemployment rate.....	8.6	6.9	5.1	4.3	6.5	5.5	4.5	5.0
<b>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	1,074	1,895	1,345	5,466	1,052	1,932	1,381	5,515
Civilian labor force.....	422	1,129	903	3,932	421	1,185	940	3,983
Participation rate.....	39.3	59.6	67.1	71.9	40.0	61.3	68.1	72.2
Employed.....	407	1,083	872	3,822	404	1,154	909	3,864
Employment-population ratio.....	37.9	57.2	64.8	69.9	38.4	59.7	65.8	70.1
Unemployed.....	15	46	31	110	17	31	31	120
Unemployment rate.....	3.6	4.1	3.4	2.8	4.0	2.6	3.3	3.0
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	7,574	5,034	2,492	2,291	7,438	5,108	2,433	2,458
Civilian labor force.....	4,757	3,604	1,858	1,744	4,698	3,694	1,850	1,824
Participation rate.....	62.8	71.6	74.5	76.1	63.2	72.3	76.0	74.2
Employed.....	4,514	3,451	1,787	1,687	4,488	3,551	1,789	1,766
Employment-population ratio.....	59.6	68.6	71.7	73.6	60.3	69.5	73.5	71.8
Unemployed.....	243	153	71	56	210	143	61	58
Unemployment rate.....	5.1	4.2	3.8	3.2	4.5	3.9	3.3	3.2
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>								
<b>White non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	8,248	38,586	37,803	49,550	7,804	38,295	37,581	50,848
Civilian labor force.....	2,916	21,014	24,331	36,292	2,713	20,767	23,817	37,050
Participation rate.....	35.4	54.5	64.4	73.2	34.8	54.2	63.4	72.9
Employed.....	2,683	20,091	23,477	35,488	2,524	19,959	23,057	36,326
Employment-population ratio.....	32.5	52.1	62.1	71.6	32.3	52.1	61.4	71.4
Unemployed.....	233	923	854	803	189	808	760	724
Unemployment rate.....	8.0	4.4	3.5	2.2	7.0	3.9	3.2	2.0
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	2,579	7,463	6,640	4,820	2,486	7,507	6,754	5,065
Civilian labor force.....	861	4,299	4,508	3,679	785	4,355	4,632	3,888
Participation rate.....	33.4	57.6	67.9	76.3	31.6	58.0	68.6	76.8
Employed.....	721	3,917	4,224	3,549	663	3,998	4,352	3,766
Employment-population ratio.....	28.0	52.5	63.6	73.6	26.7	53.3	64.4	74.4
Unemployed.....	140	382	284	130	123	357	280	122
Unemployment rate.....	16.3	8.9	6.3	3.5	15.6	8.2	6.0	3.1
<b>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	152	461	640	1,569	141	476	610	1,714

See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 3. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 25 years and over by educational attainment, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, 2016-2017 annual averages — Continued**

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2016				2017			
	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>	Less than a high school diploma	High school graduates, no college <sup>1</sup>	Some college or associate degree	Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>2</sup>
Civilian labor force.....	61	271	449	1,252	54	279	420	1,355
Participation rate.....	40.0	58.9	70.2	79.8	38.4	58.6	68.9	79.1
Employed.....	56	262	427	1,218	52	269	407	1,329
Employment-population ratio.....	36.8	56.8	66.6	77.6	36.8	56.6	66.8	77.5
Unemployed.....	5	9	23	34	2	10	13	26
Unemployment rate.....	7.9	3.5	5.1	2.7	4.3	3.5	3.1	1.9
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	2,282	4,757	4,560	3,218	2,291	4,904	4,787	3,422
Civilian labor force.....	1,058	3,139	3,420	2,654	1,057	3,273	3,556	2,837
Participation rate.....	46.4	66.0	75.0	82.5	46.1	66.7	74.3	82.9
Employed.....	958	2,946	3,266	2,576	974	3,091	3,407	2,759
Employment-population ratio.....	42.0	61.9	71.6	80.0	42.5	63.0	71.2	80.6
Unemployed.....	100	193	154	78	83	182	149	78
Unemployment rate.....	9.5	6.2	4.5	3.0	7.8	5.6	4.2	2.7

<sup>1</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 4. Employed foreign-born and native-born persons 16 years and over by occupation and sex, 2017 annual averages**  
 [Percent distribution]

Occupation	Foreign born			Native born		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total employed (in thousands).....	26,254	15,171	11,083	127,083	66,231	60,852
<b>Occupation as a percent of total employed</b>						
Total employed.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Management, professional, and related occupations.....	32.3	30.7	34.3	41.3	37.5	45.4
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	12.3	12.6	11.9	17.4	18.6	16.2
Management occupations.....	8.6	9.6	7.4	12.2	14.0	10.3
Business and financial operations occupations.....	3.7	3.0	4.6	5.2	4.6	5.9
Professional and related occupations.....	20.0	18.2	22.4	23.8	18.9	29.2
Computer and mathematical occupations.....	4.8	6.4	2.5	2.8	3.9	1.6
Architecture and engineering occupations.....	2.3	3.2	1.0	2.1	3.3	0.7
Life, physical, and social science occupations.....	1.3	1.2	1.4	0.9	0.9	0.9
Community and social service occupations.....	0.9	0.6	1.2	1.9	1.2	2.6
Legal occupations.....	0.5	0.4	0.8	1.3	1.2	1.4
Education, training, and library occupations.....	3.7	2.2	5.7	6.5	3.3	10.0
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations.....	1.4	1.3	1.5	2.3	2.3	2.2
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations.....	5.2	2.9	8.4	6.1	2.8	9.7
Service occupations.....	23.9	17.2	33.1	16.1	13.6	18.8
Healthcare support occupations.....	2.8	0.6	5.8	2.2	0.5	4.0
Protective service occupations.....	0.8	1.1	0.4	2.3	3.4	1.1
Food preparation and serving related occupations.....	7.1	6.6	7.8	5.1	4.3	5.9
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	8.4	7.0	10.3	2.9	3.7	2.1
Personal care and service occupations.....	4.8	1.8	8.8	3.7	1.7	5.8
Sales and office occupations.....	15.0	11.1	20.4	23.3	17.0	30.1
Sales and related occupations.....	7.5	6.7	8.7	10.9	10.6	11.2
Office and administrative support occupations.....	7.5	4.4	11.8	12.4	6.4	18.9
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	13.9	22.6	2.0	8.3	15.2	0.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	1.7	2.1	1.2	0.6	0.9	0.2
Construction and extraction occupations.....	9.3	15.6	0.5	4.4	8.2	0.3
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	2.9	4.8	0.2	3.3	6.1	0.3
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations.....	14.9	18.4	10.1	11.0	16.7	4.9
Production occupations.....	7.5	7.9	7.0	5.1	7.3	2.7
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	7.4	10.5	3.1	5.9	9.4	2.1

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers for the foreign born and native born by selected characteristics, 2016-2017 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2016					2017				
	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born
	Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings		Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings	
Total, 16 years and over.....	19,463	\$715	91,628	\$860	83.1	19,914	\$730	93,358	\$885	82.5
Men.....	12,008	751	49,922	951	79.0	12,123	776	50,857	978	79.3
Women.....	7,455	655	41,706	762	86.0	7,791	660	42,501	788	83.8
<b>AGE</b>										
16 to 24 years.....	1,081	497	8,995	502	99.0	1,065	506	9,216	521	97.1
25 to 34 years.....	4,532	667	22,924	767	87.0	4,610	701	23,586	786	89.2
35 to 44 years.....	5,432	756	19,851	972	77.8	5,560	790	20,102	1,003	78.8
45 to 54 years.....	4,929	765	20,723	995	76.9	5,009	760	20,642	1,019	74.6
55 to 64 years.....	2,774	796	15,722	977	81.5	2,958	765	16,199	1,007	76.0
65 years and over.....	715	735	3,412	897	81.9	712	721	3,615	937	76.9
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY<sup>1</sup></b>										
White non-Hispanic or Latino.....	2,967	1,025	66,686	927	110.6	3,040	1,080	67,242	955	113.1
Black non-Hispanic or Latino.....	1,849	693	11,287	677	102.4	1,885	682	11,669	683	99.9
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino.....	4,993	1,061	1,818	975	108.8	5,189	1,076	1,943	1,007	106.9
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	9,417	582	9,533	697	83.5	9,579	596	10,036	724	82.3
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>										
Total, 25 years and over.....	18,383	735	82,633	914	80.4	18,848	751	84,142	937	80.1
Less than a high school diploma.....	4,051	489	3,057	525	93.1	4,113	506	2,925	560	90.4
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> ...	4,379	608	21,096	709	85.8	4,539	619	21,472	734	84.3
Some college or associate degree... ..	2,987	710	24,321	789	90.0	3,003	727	24,384	808	90.0
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	6,966	1,311	34,159	1,253	104.6	7,193	1,340	35,362	1,271	105.4

<sup>1</sup> Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races.

<sup>2</sup> Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

<sup>3</sup> Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.

**Table 6. Employment status of the foreign-born and native-born populations 16 years and over by census region and division, 2016-2017 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Census region and division	2016						2017					
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force					Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force				
		Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed			Total	Participation rate	Employed	Unemployed	
				Number	Unemployment rate				Number	Unemployment rate		
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>												
Northeast.....	8,688	5,552	63.9	5,288	263	4.7	8,623	5,586	64.8	5,326	260	4.7
New England.....	1,882	1,241	65.9	1,184	57	4.6	1,939	1,311	67.6	1,247	64	4.9
Middle Atlantic.....	6,806	4,310	63.3	4,104	207	4.8	6,684	4,275	64.0	4,079	196	4.6
South.....	14,023	9,359	66.7	8,997	362	3.9	14,232	9,554	67.1	9,214	340	3.6
South Atlantic.....	8,213	5,487	66.8	5,268	219	4.0	8,400	5,669	67.5	5,452	217	3.8
East South Central.....	695	466	67.0	452	13	2.9	716	494	68.9	476	17	3.5
West South Central....	5,115	3,406	66.6	3,277	129	3.8	5,116	3,391	66.3	3,285	106	3.1
Midwest.....	4,465	2,997	67.1	2,875	122	4.1	4,451	3,051	68.5	2,929	122	4.0
East North Central....	3,287	2,178	66.3	2,095	84	3.8	3,239	2,180	67.3	2,102	78	3.6
West North Central....	1,178	818	69.5	780	38	4.6	1,212	871	71.9	827	44	5.0
West.....	14,144	9,044	63.9	8,619	424	4.7	14,194	9,183	64.7	8,785	397	4.3
Mountain.....	2,654	1,743	65.7	1,663	80	4.6	2,688	1,793	66.7	1,710	83	4.6
Pacific.....	11,491	7,300	63.5	6,956	344	4.7	11,506	7,390	64.2	7,075	315	4.3
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Northeast.....	36,630	22,978	62.7	21,870	1,108	4.8	36,630	22,924	62.6	21,905	1,019	4.4
New England.....	10,106	6,604	65.3	6,340	264	4.0	10,074	6,614	65.7	6,364	250	3.8
Middle Atlantic.....	26,523	16,374	61.7	15,530	844	5.2	26,557	16,310	61.4	15,541	769	4.7
South.....	81,021	48,854	60.3	46,381	2,473	5.1	81,780	49,496	60.5	47,274	2,222	4.5
South Atlantic.....	42,178	25,458	60.4	24,180	1,278	5.0	42,584	25,865	60.7	24,727	1,138	4.4
East South Central....	14,100	8,138	57.7	7,700	438	5.4	14,160	8,217	58.0	7,848	369	4.5
West South Central....	24,742	15,257	61.7	14,500	757	5.0	25,036	15,414	61.6	14,698	716	4.6
Midwest.....	48,896	31,875	65.2	30,364	1,511	4.7	48,973	31,679	64.7	30,369	1,310	4.1
East North Central....	33,596	21,467	63.9	20,364	1,103	5.1	33,663	21,403	63.6	20,431	972	4.5
West North Central....	15,300	10,407	68.0	10,000	408	3.9	15,310	10,277	67.1	9,938	339	3.3
West.....	45,671	28,530	62.5	27,042	1,488	5.2	46,196	28,847	62.4	27,536	1,311	4.5
Mountain.....	15,678	9,889	63.1	9,435	454	4.6	15,968	10,121	63.4	9,718	404	4.0
Pacific.....	29,993	18,641	62.2	17,607	1,034	5.5	30,229	18,726	61.9	17,818	908	4.8

NOTE: The states (plus the District of Columbia) that comprise the census divisions are: New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont); Middle Atlantic (New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania); South Atlantic (Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia); East South Central (Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee); West South Central (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas); East North Central (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin); West North Central (Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota); Mountain (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming); Pacific (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington). Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.