

**HOUSEHOLD DATA  
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

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

[In thousands]

Category	Total		Age						Sex			
	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017	16 to 24 years		25 to 54 years		55 years and over		Men		Women	
			Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Dec. 2017
Total not in the labor force.....	95,774	96,230	17,659	17,787	23,477	22,850	54,638	55,593	38,636	38,955	57,138	57,275
Do not want a job now <sup>1</sup> .....	90,325	91,158	16,092	16,308	21,095	20,732	53,138	54,118	36,005	36,625	54,320	54,533
Want a job <sup>1</sup> .....	5,449	5,071	1,567	1,479	2,382	2,117	1,500	1,475	2,631	2,330	2,819	2,742
Did not search for work in previous year.....	3,206	2,951	910	773	1,295	1,200	1,001	978	1,486	1,334	1,720	1,617
Searched for work in previous year, but not in past 4 weeks <sup>2</sup> .....	2,243	2,121	657	706	1,087	917	499	497	1,145	996	1,098	1,125
Not available to work now.....	559	498	194	213	288	209	77	76	181	185	378	313
Marginally attached (available to work now) <sup>3</sup> .....	1,684	1,623	464	493	799	708	422	422	963	811	721	812
Discouraged over job prospects <sup>4</sup> ....	426	474	68	127	217	189	142	158	295	316	131	158
Reasons other than												
discouragement.....	1,258	1,149	395	366	582	519	280	263	668	495	590	654
Family responsibilities.....	235	187	14	28	153	114	67	44	105	29	130	157
In school or training.....	247	189	181	154	57	25	9	10	125	86	122	103
Ill health or disability.....	148	134	22	15	79	65	47	55	85	58	63	76
Other <sup>5</sup> .....	627	639	177	169	293	315	157	154	352	321	275	317

<sup>1</sup> Includes some persons who are not asked if they want a job.

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

<sup>3</sup> Persons "marginally attached to the labor force" are those who want a job, have searched for work during the prior 12 months, and were available to take a job during the reference week, but had not looked for work in the past 4 weeks.

<sup>4</sup> Discouraged workers are persons marginally attached to the labor force who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for reasons such as thinks no work available, could not find work, lacks schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination.

<sup>5</sup> Includes those who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for such reasons as child-care and transportation problems, as well as a small number for which reason for nonparticipation was not ascertained.

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