

**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			
	Feb. 2023	Feb. 2024	16 to 24 years		25 to 54 years		55 years and over		Men		Women	
			Feb. 2023	Feb. 2024	Feb. 2023	Feb. 2024	Feb. 2023	Feb. 2024	Feb. 2023	Feb. 2024	Feb. 2023	Feb. 2024
Total not in the labor force.....	99,934	100,426	17,518	17,762	21,467	21,018	60,949	61,646	41,689	42,221	58,245	58,205
Do not want a job now <sup>1</sup> .....	94,947	94,880	16,174	16,070	19,206	18,750	59,567	60,060	39,175	39,600	55,772	55,280
Want a job <sup>1</sup> .....	4,987	5,546	1,344	1,691	2,260	2,269	1,382	1,586	2,514	2,621	2,472	2,925
Did not search for work in previous year.....	3,104	3,308	802	887	1,322	1,301	980	1,120	1,557	1,545	1,547	1,763
Searched for work in previous year, but not in past 4 weeks <sup>2</sup> .....	1,883	2,238	542	805	939	967	402	466	957	1,076	925	1,162
Not available to work now.....	463	679	203	250	208	319	53	110	187	284	276	395
Marginally attached (available to work now) <sup>3</sup> .....	1,420	1,559	339	554	731	649	350	357	771	792	649	767
Discouraged over job prospects <sup>4</sup> ...	361	425	59	144	199	172	103	108	202	245	159	180
Reasons other than discouragement.....	1,059	1,135	280	410	532	477	247	248	569	548	490	587
Family responsibilities.....	143	129	8	15	104	84	31	29	76	65	68	64
In school or training.....	112	190	94	152	18	37	0	0	68	72	44	118
Ill health or disability.....	138	156	8	19	61	66	69	72	81	79	58	77
Other <sup>5</sup> .....	665	661	170	224	348	290	147	147	345	332	320	328

<sup>1</sup> Includes some persons who are not asked if they want a job, such as passive jobseekers.

<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.