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## FOREIGN-BORN WORKERS: LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS — 2011

The unemployment rate for the foreign born was 9.1 percent in 2011, down from 9.8 percent in 2010, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The jobless rate of the native born was 8.9 percent in 2011, compared with 9.6 percent in the prior year. The foreign born made up 15.9 percent of the labor force.

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.

### Highlights from the 2011 data:

- In 2011, there were 24.4 million foreign-born persons in the U.S. labor force, comprising 15.9 percent of the total. (See table 1.)
- Hispanics accounted for 49.0 percent of the foreign-born labor force in 2011. Asians accounted for 22.3 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; production, transportation, and material moving occupations; and natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations. (See table 4.)
- The median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers were \$609 in 2011, compared with \$780 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 characteristics of the foreign-born labor force differ from those of the native-born labor force. In 2011, men accounted for 59.0 percent of the foreign-born labor force, compared with 52.3 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 (75.4 percent) was higher than for their native-born counterparts (64.5 percent). Labor force participation is typically highest among persons in that age bracket. (See table 1.)

In 2011, nearly half (49.0 percent) of the foreign-born labor force was Hispanic, and 22.3 percent was Asian, compared with 8.5 and 1.4 percent, respectively, of the native-born labor force. About 19 percent of the foreign-born labor force was white and 8.8 percent was black, compared with 76.4 and 11.6 percent, respectively, of the native-born labor force.

In 2011, 25.5 percent of the foreign-born labor force 25 years old and over had not completed high school, compared with 5.3 percent of the native-born labor force. The foreign born were less likely than the native born to have some college or an associate degree—17.5 versus 29.9 percent. Similar proportions of foreign-born and native-born persons in the labor force had a bachelor's degree or higher (31.7 and 36.1 percent, respectively).

## Labor Force

The share of the U.S. civilian labor force that was foreign born was 15.9 percent in 2011, little different from 15.8 percent in 2010. (See table 1.)

In 2011, the labor force participation rate of the foreign born was 67.0 percent. The labor force participation rate of the native born was 63.6 percent. The labor force participation rate of foreign-born men was 79.5 percent in 2011, compared with 68.8 percent for native-born men. Among women, 54.6 percent of the foreign born were labor force participants, compared with 58.7 percent of the native born.

Among the foreign born, the labor force participation rate for blacks was 71.2 percent in 2011, little different from the participation rate for Hispanics (69.8 percent). The participation rate for whites was 60.2 percent, while that for Asians was 65.6 percent. Among the native born, the labor force participation rate for whites was 64.3 percent, followed by Hispanics (63.2 percent), Asians (61.5 percent), and blacks (60.1 percent).

In 2011, foreign-born mothers with children under 18 years old were less likely to be labor force participants than were native-born mothers—59.8 versus 73.2 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 50.5 percent in 2011, much lower than that for native-born mothers with children under age 6, at 67.3 percent. Among women with children under age 3, the participation rate for the foreign born (45.2 percent) was nearly 20 percentage points below that for native-born mothers (64.3 percent). The labor force participation rates of foreign- and native-born fathers with children under age 18 were similar, at 93.8 and 93.1 percent, respectively. (See table 2.)

By region, the foreign born made up a larger share of the labor force in the West (24.0 percent) and in the Northeast (18.5 percent) than for the nation as a whole (15.9 percent) in 2011. In contrast, the foreign born made up a smaller share of the labor force than for the nation as a whole in the South (14.2 percent) and Midwest (8.0 percent). (See table 6.)

## **Unemployment**

From 2010 to 2011, the unemployment rates of the foreign born and the native born each declined by 0.7 percentage point, to 9.1 percent and 8.9 percent, respectively. Overall, the unemployment rates of the foreign born in younger age groups (ages 16 to 34) tend to be lower than the jobless rates for the native born, while for older workers (ages 35 and up), unemployment rates of the foreign born tend to be higher than for the native born. (See table 1.)

In 2011, the unemployment rate for foreign-born men was 8.8 percent, compared with 9.5 percent for native-born men. Among women, however, the jobless rate for the foreign born was higher than for the native born, 9.5 versus 8.3 percent.

Among the major race and ethnicity groups, blacks had the highest unemployment rate in 2011, regardless of whether they were foreign born or native born. Among the foreign born, blacks had an unemployment rate of 12.5 percent in 2011, compared with 6.7 percent for Asians, 7.6 percent for whites, and 10.1 percent for Hispanics. Among the native born, the jobless rate of blacks (16.3 percent) was higher than the rate for whites (7.2 percent), Asians (8.2 percent), and Hispanics (13.0 percent).

## **Occupation**

In 2011, foreign-born workers were more likely than native-born workers to be employed in service occupations (24.6 versus 16.4 percent). Within service occupations, about two-thirds of the foreign born were employed in food preparation and serving related occupations and in building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations (combined), whereas about one-half of the native-born service workers were employed in the same occupations. Foreign-born workers also were more likely than native-born workers to be employed in production, transportation, and material moving occupations (15.8 versus 11.0 percent) and in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations (13.5 versus 8.5 percent). (See table 4.)

Native-born workers were more likely than foreign-born workers to be employed in management, professional, and related occupations (39.3 versus 28.6 percent) and in sales and office occupations (24.8 versus 17.5 percent).

Employed foreign-born men were more likely than their native-born counterparts to work in natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations; service occupations; and production, transportation, and material moving occupations. Compared with native-born women workers, employed foreign-born women were more likely to be in service occupations and in production, transportation, and material moving occupations. The disparity was especially great in service occupations. In 2011, 32.2 percent of foreign-born women workers were in service occupations, compared with 19.4 percent of native-born women workers. Employed native-born women were more likely than employed foreign-born women to be in sales and office occupations, 32.6 versus 24.5 percent.

## **Earnings**

In 2011, the median usual weekly earnings of foreign-born, full-time wage and salary workers (\$609) were 78.0 percent of the earnings of their native-born counterparts (\$780). Among men, median earnings for the foreign born were \$624 per week, while the native born earned \$879 per week. The median usual weekly earnings for foreign-born women were \$585, compared with \$701 for native-born

women. 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.)

Hispanic foreign-born full-time wage and salary workers earned 77.0 percent as much as their native-born counterparts in 2011. For white, black, and Asian workers, earnings were similar for the foreign born and the native born.

The earnings of both foreign-born and native-born workers increase with education. In 2011, foreign-born workers age 25 and over with less than a high school education earned \$417 per week, while those with a bachelor's degree and higher earned about 2.8 times as much—\$1,148 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 education—\$1,151 versus \$497 per week.

Native-born workers earn more than the foreign born at most educational attainment levels. The gap between the earnings of foreign-born and native-born workers narrows with higher levels of education. For example, among those with less than a high school diploma in 2011, full-time workers who were foreign born earned 83.9 percent as much as their native-born counterparts. Among those with a bachelor's degree and higher, foreign-born workers earned essentially as much (99.8 percent) as native-born workers.

# Technical Note

The estimates in this news 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 for 2011 are not strictly comparable with data for 2010 and earlier years because of the introduction in January 2011 of revised population controls used in the CPS. The effect of the revised population controls on the foreign- and native-born estimates is unknown. However, the effect of the new controls on the monthly CPS estimates was to decrease the December 2010 employment level by 472,000 and the unemployment level by 32,000. The updated controls had little or no effect on unemployment rates and limited effects on other ratios. 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 news 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 upon 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.

A full discussion of the reliability of data from the CPS

and information on 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 news 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 the 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 (a) all those who, during the survey reference week, did any work at all as paid employees, worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or who worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family-operated enterprise; and (b) all those who did not work but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, vacation, childcare problems, labor disputes, or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off and whether or not they were seeking other jobs.

*Unemployed.* The unemployed are persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work at that time, except for temporary illness, 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, commissions, tips, payment in kind, or piece rates. 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 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, 2010-2011 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2010						2011					
	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.....	237,830	153,889	64.7	139,064	14,825	9.6	239,618	153,617	64.1	139,869	13,747	8.9
Men.....	115,174	81,985	71.2	73,359	8,626	10.5	116,317	81,975	70.5	74,290	7,684	9.4
Women.....	122,656	71,904	58.6	65,705	6,199	8.6	123,300	71,642	58.1	65,579	6,063	8.5
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>												
Total, 16 years and over.....	35,869	24,356	67.9	21,969	2,387	9.8	36,420	24,391	67.0	22,183	2,208	9.1
Men.....	17,936	14,375	80.1	12,946	1,429	9.9	18,090	14,379	79.5	13,120	1,260	8.8
Women.....	17,934	9,981	55.7	9,023	958	9.6	18,331	10,012	54.6	9,063	949	9.5
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years.....	3,533	1,975	55.9	1,661	314	15.9	3,631	1,971	54.3	1,695	276	14.0
25 to 34 years.....	7,714	5,936	77.0	5,387	550	9.3	7,562	5,758	76.1	5,255	503	8.7
35 to 44 years.....	8,470	6,884	81.3	6,265	619	9.0	8,492	6,843	80.6	6,301	542	7.9
45 to 54 years.....	6,949	5,719	82.3	5,172	547	9.6	7,089	5,799	81.8	5,274	525	9.1
55 to 64 years.....	4,528	3,011	66.5	2,727	284	9.4	4,737	3,161	66.7	2,870	290	9.2
65 years and over.....	4,674	831	17.8	757	74	8.9	4,909	860	17.5	788	72	8.3
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity<sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino.....	7,363	4,470	60.7	4,138	332	7.4	7,617	4,583	60.2	4,237	346	7.6
Black non-Hispanic or Latino.....	2,898	2,162	74.6	1,893	269	12.4	3,002	2,137	71.2	1,870	267	12.5
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino.....	8,073	5,315	65.8	4,928	386	7.3	8,306	5,449	65.6	5,086	363	6.7
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	17,162	12,152	70.8	10,776	1,376	11.3	17,132	11,963	69.8	10,751	1,212	10.1
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over.....	32,336	22,381	69.2	20,308	2,073	9.3	32,790	22,420	68.4	20,488	1,932	8.6
Less than a high school diploma.....	9,620	5,930	61.6	5,219	712	12.0	9,532	5,721	60.0	5,086	634	11.1
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> .....	8,284	5,663	68.4	5,087	576	10.2	8,488	5,674	66.8	5,145	529	9.3
Some college or associate degree.....	5,200	3,818	73.4	3,463	355	9.3	5,389	3,927	72.9	3,584	343	8.7
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	9,232	6,970	75.5	6,539	431	6.2	9,381	7,098	75.7	6,673	425	6.0
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Total, 16 years and over.....	201,960	129,533	64.1	117,095	12,438	9.6	203,197	129,226	63.6	117,686	11,539	8.9
Men.....	97,238	67,610	69.5	60,414	7,196	10.6	98,228	67,595	68.8	61,170	6,425	9.5
Women.....	104,722	61,923	59.1	56,682	5,242	8.5	104,970	61,630	58.7	56,516	5,115	8.3
<b>Age</b>												
16 to 24 years.....	34,415	18,960	55.1	15,417	3,543	18.7	34,567	19,026	55.0	15,668	3,358	17.7
25 to 34 years.....	33,189	27,678	83.4	24,842	2,836	10.2	33,801	27,967	82.7	25,282	2,685	9.6
35 to 44 years.....	31,620	26,482	83.8	24,398	2,084	7.9	31,006	25,817	83.3	23,970	1,847	7.2
45 to 54 years.....	37,348	30,242	81.0	28,019	2,223	7.4	36,753	29,560	80.4	27,593	1,967	6.7
55 to 64 years.....	31,357	20,286	64.7	18,909	1,377	6.8	32,250	20,604	63.9	19,315	1,289	6.3
65 years and over.....	34,032	5,886	17.3	5,511	375	6.4	34,819	6,252	18.0	5,858	393	6.3
<b>Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity<sup>1</sup></b>												
White non-Hispanic or Latino.....	153,448	99,478	64.8	91,483	7,994	8.0	153,541	98,751	64.3	91,609	7,142	7.2
Black non-Hispanic or Latino.....	24,691	14,996	60.7	12,529	2,467	16.5	24,911	14,973	60.1	12,526	2,447	16.3
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino.....	2,900	1,782	61.5	1,641	141	7.9	2,917	1,793	61.5	1,647	147	8.2
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	16,551	10,596	64.0	9,130	1,467	13.8	17,306	10,934	63.2	9,518	1,417	13.0
<b>Educational attainment</b>												
Total, 25 years and over.....	167,546	110,573	66.0	101,679	8,895	8.0	168,630	110,200	65.4	102,019	8,181	7.4
Less than a high school diploma.....	16,046	5,949	37.1	4,896	1,053	17.7	15,590	5,878	37.7	4,881	998	17.0
High school graduates, no college <sup>2</sup> .....	53,753	32,573	60.6	29,206	3,367	10.3	53,444	31,670	59.3	28,679	2,992	9.4
Some college or associate degree.....	47,022	33,022	70.2	30,284	2,738	8.3	47,700	32,904	69.0	30,310	2,594	7.9
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>3</sup> .....	50,724	39,029	76.9	37,293	1,736	4.4	51,896	39,747	76.6	38,149	1,598	4.0

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

2 Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

3 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, 2010-2011 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2010			2011		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<b>FOREIGN BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	14,385	6,896	7,490	14,472	6,965	7,508
Civilian labor force.....	11,032	6,480	4,552	11,024	6,533	4,490
Participation rate.....	76.7	94.0	60.8	76.2	93.8	59.8
Employed.....	10,008	5,913	4,095	10,062	6,032	4,030
Employment-population ratio.....	69.6	85.7	54.7	69.5	86.6	53.7
Unemployed.....	1,025	568	457	961	501	460
Unemployment rate.....	9.3	8.8	10.0	8.7	7.7	10.2
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	7,338	3,423	3,915	7,484	3,474	4,010
Civilian labor force.....	5,908	3,184	2,725	5,941	3,215	2,725
Participation rate.....	80.5	93.0	69.6	79.4	92.6	68.0
Employed.....	5,373	2,903	2,470	5,437	2,969	2,468
Employment-population ratio.....	73.2	84.8	63.1	72.6	85.5	61.5
Unemployed.....	536	281	255	504	247	257
Unemployment rate.....	9.1	8.8	9.4	8.5	7.7	9.4
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	7,047	3,473	3,574	6,989	3,491	3,497
Civilian labor force.....	5,124	3,296	1,827	5,083	3,318	1,765
Participation rate.....	72.7	94.9	51.1	72.7	95.0	50.5
Employed.....	4,635	3,010	1,625	4,625	3,063	1,562
Employment-population ratio.....	65.8	86.7	45.5	66.2	87.7	44.7
Unemployed.....	489	287	202	457	255	203
Unemployment rate.....	9.5	8.7	11.1	9.0	7.7	11.5
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	4,074	2,022	2,053	3,961	2,019	1,942
Civilian labor force.....	2,871	1,916	955	2,802	1,925	877
Participation rate.....	70.5	94.8	46.5	70.8	95.4	45.2
Employed.....	2,585	1,748	837	2,547	1,784	762
Employment-population ratio.....	63.4	86.4	40.8	64.3	88.4	39.3
Unemployed.....	286	168	118	256	141	115
Unemployment rate.....	10.0	8.8	12.3	9.1	7.3	13.1
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	21,484	11,040	10,444	21,948	11,125	10,823
Civilian labor force.....	13,323	7,895	5,429	13,368	7,846	5,521
Participation rate.....	62.0	71.5	52.0	60.9	70.5	51.0
Employed.....	11,961	7,033	4,928	12,121	7,088	5,033
Employment-population ratio.....	55.7	63.7	47.2	55.2	63.7	46.5
Unemployed.....	1,362	862	501	1,247	758	489
Unemployment rate.....	10.2	10.9	9.2	9.3	9.7	8.9
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>						
<b>With own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	51,801	22,530	29,270	51,190	22,218	28,972
Civilian labor force.....	42,459	21,018	21,441	41,879	20,675	21,204
Participation rate.....	82.0	93.3	73.2	81.8	93.1	73.2
Employed.....	38,981	19,430	19,551	38,703	19,357	19,346
Employment-population ratio.....	75.3	86.2	66.8	75.6	87.1	66.8
Unemployed.....	3,478	1,588	1,890	3,176	1,318	1,858
Unemployment rate.....	8.2	7.6	8.8	7.6	6.4	8.8
<b>With own children 6 to 17, none younger</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	28,468	12,426	16,042	27,961	12,194	15,767
Civilian labor force.....	24,033	11,503	12,530	23,584	11,271	12,314
Participation rate.....	84.4	92.6	78.1	84.3	92.4	78.1
Employed.....	22,337	10,735	11,601	22,037	10,627	11,410
Employment-population ratio.....	78.5	86.4	72.3	78.8	87.1	72.4



**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, 2010-2011 annual averages — Continued**

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2010			2011		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Unemployed.....	1,697	768	929	1,548	644	903
Unemployment rate.....	7.1	6.7	7.4	6.6	5.7	7.3
<b>With own children under 6</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	23,333	10,104	13,229	23,229	10,024	13,205
Civilian labor force.....	18,426	9,515	8,911	18,295	9,404	8,891
Participation rate.....	79.0	94.2	67.4	78.8	93.8	67.3
Employed.....	16,644	8,695	7,949	16,666	8,730	7,936
Employment-population ratio.....	71.3	86.1	60.1	71.7	87.1	60.1
Unemployed.....	1,781	820	961	1,629	674	955
Unemployment rate.....	9.7	8.6	10.8	8.9	7.2	10.7
<b>With own children under 3</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	13,859	6,006	7,853	13,655	5,932	7,723
Civilian labor force.....	10,725	5,658	5,067	10,536	5,567	4,969
Participation rate.....	77.4	94.2	64.5	77.2	93.8	64.3
Employed.....	9,638	5,146	4,492	9,577	5,160	4,418
Employment-population ratio.....	69.5	85.7	57.2	70.1	87.0	57.2
Unemployed.....	1,087	511	575	958	407	551
Unemployment rate.....	10.1	9.0	11.4	9.1	7.3	11.1
<b>With no own children under 18</b>						
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	150,159	74,708	75,452	152,007	76,010	75,998
Civilian labor force.....	87,074	46,591	40,483	87,346	46,920	40,426
Participation rate.....	58.0	62.4	53.7	57.5	61.7	53.2
Employed.....	78,115	40,983	37,131	78,983	41,814	37,170
Employment-population ratio.....	52.0	54.9	49.2	52.0	55.0	48.9
Unemployed.....	8,960	5,608	3,352	8,363	5,107	3,256
Unemployment rate.....	10.3	12.0	8.3	9.6	10.9	8.1

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, 2010-2011 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2010				2011			
	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.....	870	1,773	1,364	2,832	815	1,884	1,407	2,935
Civilian labor force.....	307	937	883	2,053	274	978	899	2,144
Participation rate.....	35.3	52.8	64.8	72.5	33.6	51.9	63.9	73.0
Employed.....	282	851	818	1,935	243	897	832	2,019
Employment-population ratio.....	32.4	48.0	60.0	68.3	29.9	47.6	59.1	68.8
Unemployed.....	25	85	66	118	30	81	67	125
Unemployment rate.....	8.0	9.1	7.4	5.7	11.1	8.3	7.4	5.8
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	420	739	685	740	391	810	709	752
Civilian labor force.....	246	556	568	623	204	594	578	614
Participation rate.....	58.5	75.3	82.9	84.2	52.1	73.3	81.5	81.6
Employed.....	203	481	508	570	163	516	512	556
Employment-population ratio.....	48.3	65.1	74.2	77.1	41.7	63.7	72.2	74.0
Unemployed.....	43	75	60	53	41	78	66	57
Unemployment rate.....	17.4	13.6	10.6	8.5	19.9	13.2	11.4	9.3
<b>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	931	1,536	1,088	3,877	955	1,628	1,149	3,892
Civilian labor force.....	414	977	767	2,889	404	1,014	807	2,936
Participation rate.....	44.5	63.6	70.6	74.5	42.3	62.3	70.3	75.4
Employed.....	368	901	703	2,724	366	935	749	2,785
Employment-population ratio.....	39.5	58.6	64.7	70.3	38.3	57.4	65.2	71.6
Unemployed.....	46	76	64	165	39	79	58	150
Unemployment rate.....	11.2	7.8	8.3	5.7	9.6	7.8	7.2	5.1
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	7,351	4,146	1,989	1,667	7,331	4,072	2,052	1,687
Civilian labor force.....	4,937	3,134	1,542	1,316	4,815	3,032	1,586	1,309
Participation rate.....	67.2	75.6	77.5	78.9	65.7	74.4	77.3	77.6
Employed.....	4,341	2,802	1,383	1,225	4,294	2,746	1,437	1,221
Employment-population ratio.....	59.1	67.6	69.5	73.5	58.6	67.4	70.0	72.4
Unemployed.....	595	332	159	91	521	286	149	88
Unemployment rate.....	12.1	10.6	10.3	6.9	10.8	9.4	9.4	6.7
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>								
<b>White non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	10,172	41,667	36,307	43,147	9,841	41,003	36,755	44,100
Civilian labor force.....	3,654	24,684	25,135	32,916	3,609	23,710	24,997	33,543
Participation rate.....	35.9	59.2	69.2	76.3	36.7	57.8	68.0	76.1
Employed.....	3,086	22,458	23,275	31,582	3,103	21,813	23,315	32,316
Employment-population ratio.....	30.3	53.9	64.1	73.2	31.5	53.2	63.4	73.3
Unemployed.....	568	2,225	1,860	1,334	506	1,897	1,682	1,226
Unemployment rate.....	15.5	9.0	7.4	4.1	14.0	8.0	6.7	3.7
<b>Black non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	3,036	6,895	5,826	3,798	2,924	7,075	5,924	3,866
Civilian labor force.....	1,057	4,304	4,214	2,986	1,015	4,297	4,188	3,013
Participation rate.....	34.8	62.4	72.3	78.6	34.7	60.7	70.7	77.9
Employed.....	798	3,605	3,682	2,752	745	3,613	3,635	2,810
Employment-population ratio.....	26.3	52.3	63.2	72.5	25.5	51.1	61.4	72.7
Unemployed.....	259	698	532	235	270	684	553	203
Unemployment rate.....	24.5	16.2	12.6	7.9	26.6	15.9	13.2	6.7
<b>Asian non-Hispanic or Latino</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	133	387	471	1,008	119	397	451	1,090

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, 2010-2011 annual averages — Continued**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2010				2011			
	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.....	54	228	329	817	46	221	317	862
Participation rate.....	40.5	58.9	69.9	81.0	39.0	55.8	70.3	79.1
Employed.....	49	212	304	777	41	207	292	814
Employment-population ratio.....	37.1	54.7	64.6	77.1	34.9	52.1	64.8	74.7
Unemployed.....	4	16	25	40	5	15	25	48
Unemployment rate.....	8.3	7.1	7.5	4.9	10.4	6.7	7.8	5.6
<b>Hispanic or Latino ethnicity</b>								
Civilian noninstitutional population.....	2,295	3,769	3,314	2,059	2,281	3,927	3,414	2,074
Civilian labor force.....	1,033	2,714	2,583	1,728	1,043	2,781	2,628	1,722
Participation rate.....	45.0	72.0	77.9	83.9	45.7	70.8	77.0	83.0
Employed.....	842	2,373	2,343	1,637	862	2,470	2,393	1,636
Employment-population ratio.....	36.7	63.0	70.7	79.5	37.8	62.9	70.1	78.9
Unemployed.....	191	342	240	91	181	311	235	86
Unemployment rate.....	18.5	12.6	9.3	5.3	17.4	11.2	8.9	5.0

1 Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

2 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, 2011 annual averages**  
 [Percent distribution]

Occupation	Foreign born			Native born		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total employed (in thousands).....	22,183	13,120	9,063	117,686	61,170	56,516
<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.....	28.6	26.5	31.6	39.3	36.1	42.7
Management, business, and financial operations occupations.....	11.0	11.2	10.7	16.3	17.7	14.8
Management occupations.....	7.6	8.5	6.3	11.5	13.6	9.3
Business and financial operations occupations.....	3.4	2.6	4.5	4.7	4.1	5.5
Professional and related occupations.....	17.6	15.4	20.9	23.0	18.4	27.9
Computer and mathematical occupations.....	3.5	4.5	2.0	2.4	3.4	1.3
Architecture and engineering occupations.....	2.0	2.8	0.7	2.0	3.3	0.6
Life, physical, and social science occupations.....	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.9
Community and social service occupations.....	0.9	0.7	1.2	1.8	1.2	2.5
Legal occupations.....	0.4	0.2	0.7	1.4	1.4	1.4
Education, training, and library occupations.....	3.7	2.1	5.9	6.6	3.3	10.3
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, and media occupations.....	1.4	1.4	1.3	2.1	2.1	2.1
Healthcare practitioner and technical occupations.....	4.8	2.6	7.9	5.7	2.7	8.9
Service occupations.....	24.6	19.3	32.2	16.4	13.7	19.4
Healthcare support occupations.....	2.6	0.7	5.4	2.4	0.5	4.3
Protective service occupations.....	0.9	1.3	0.4	2.5	3.9	1.1
Food preparation and serving related occupations.....	7.9	7.8	7.9	5.1	4.1	6.2
Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations.....	8.8	8.0	10.0	3.0	3.8	2.2
Personal care and service occupations.....	4.3	1.5	8.4	3.4	1.4	5.6
Sales and office occupations.....	17.5	12.6	24.5	24.8	17.6	32.6
Sales and related occupations.....	8.7	7.4	10.7	11.4	11.1	11.7
Office and administrative support occupations.....	8.7	5.2	13.8	13.4	6.6	20.8
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations.....	13.5	21.8	1.5	8.5	15.7	0.7
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations.....	1.9	2.4	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.2
Construction and extraction occupations.....	8.5	14.1	0.3	4.5	8.3	0.2
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations.....	3.2	5.2	0.2	3.6	6.6	0.3
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations...	15.8	19.8	10.1	11.0	16.9	4.7
Production occupations.....	8.7	9.3	7.7	5.3	7.5	2.9
Transportation and material moving occupations.....	7.2	10.5	2.4	5.7	9.3	1.8

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data. Effective with January 2011 data, occupations reflect the introduction of the 2010 Census occupational classification system into the Current Population Survey, or household survey. This classification system is derived from the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification (SOC). No historical data have been revised. Data for 2011 are not strictly comparable with earlier years.

**Table 5. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers for the foreign born and native born by selected characteristics, 2010-2011 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	2010					2011				
	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born <sup>1</sup>	Foreign born		Native born		Earnings of foreign born as percent of native born <sup>1</sup>
	Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings		Number	Median weekly earnings	Number	Median weekly earnings	
Total, 16 years and over.....	16,253	\$ 598	83,278	\$ 771	77.5	16,441	\$ 609	84,015	\$ 780	78.0
Men.....	10,056	610	45,003	873	69.9	10,177	624	45,794	879	71.0
Women.....	6,197	577	38,275	686	84.1	6,264	585	38,222	701	83.5
<b>AGE</b>										
16 to 24 years.....	1,037	392	7,515	443	88.5	1,081	405	7,643	448	90.3
25 to 34 years.....	4,288	551	19,813	709	77.7	4,120	569	20,177	718	79.3
35 to 44 years.....	4,784	649	19,038	864	75.2	4,812	671	18,970	875	76.7
45 to 54 years.....	3,810	643	21,396	878	73.2	3,962	680	21,172	899	75.6
55 to 64 years.....	1,911	651	13,230	887	73.4	2,039	662	13,602	910	72.8
65 years and over.....	422	584	2,287	708	82.4	429	621	2,452	760	81.8
<b>RACE AND HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY<sup>2</sup></b>										
White non-Hispanic or Latino.....	2,809	850	64,060	824	103.2	2,876	883	64,359	837	105.5
Black non-Hispanic or Latino.....	1,490	614	9,696	613	100.1	1,467	614	9,638	617	99.5
Asian non-Hispanic or Latino.....	3,665	871	1,179	841	103.5	3,876	868	1,226	878	98.8
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	8,092	480	6,745	629	76.4	8,044	489	7,103	636	77.0
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>										
Total, 25 years and over.....	15,216	615	75,764	818	75.2	15,361	628	76,373	831	75.6
Less than a high school diploma. ....	3,895	416	3,258	486	85.5	3,822	417	3,197	497	83.9
High school graduates, no college <sup>3</sup> ..	3,687	521	21,512	648	80.4	3,828	530	21,328	661	80.2
Some college or associate degree. ...	2,560	656	22,335	741	88.4	2,580	665	22,625	746	89.2
Bachelor's degree and higher <sup>4</sup> .....	5,073	1,119	28,658	1,147	97.6	5,131	1,148	29,222	1,151	99.8

1 These figures are computed using unrounded medians and may differ slightly from percents computed using the rounded medians displayed in this table.

2 Data for race/ethnicity groups do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races.

3 Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.

4 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, 2010-2011 annual averages**  
 [Numbers in thousands]

Census region and division	2010						2011					
	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.....	7,740	5,221	67.5	4,782	439	8.4	7,997	5,218	65.3	4,816	402	7.7
New England.....	1,465	1,013	69.2	923	90	8.9	1,525	1,025	67.2	946	78	7.7
Middle Atlantic.....	6,275	4,208	67.1	3,859	349	8.3	6,471	4,194	64.8	3,870	323	7.7
South.....	11,241	7,760	69.0	7,063	697	9.0	11,490	7,886	68.6	7,216	669	8.5
South Atlantic.....	6,556	4,534	69.2	4,075	459	10.1	6,722	4,622	68.8	4,202	420	9.1
East South Central.....	604	437	72.4	405	31	7.2	575	423	73.5	380	43	10.1
West South Central.....	4,082	2,789	68.3	2,583	206	7.4	4,193	2,841	67.8	2,634	207	7.3
Midwest.....	3,951	2,691	68.1	2,428	263	9.8	4,039	2,732	67.6	2,509	223	8.2
East North Central.....	3,018	2,029	67.2	1,827	203	10.0	3,077	2,045	66.5	1,878	167	8.2
West North Central.....	933	662	70.9	601	61	9.2	962	687	71.4	631	56	8.1
West.....	12,937	8,684	67.1	7,696	988	11.4	12,895	8,555	66.3	7,641	914	10.7
Mountain.....	2,216	1,463	66.0	1,300	163	11.1	2,257	1,517	67.2	1,368	149	9.8
Pacific.....	10,721	7,221	67.3	6,395	825	11.4	10,638	7,038	66.2	6,273	765	10.9
<b>NATIVE BORN</b>												
Northeast.....	36,130	23,093	63.9	21,081	2,011	8.7	36,032	22,936	63.7	21,042	1,894	8.3
New England.....	10,071	6,744	67.0	6,174	570	8.4	10,080	6,716	66.6	6,193	522	7.8
Middle Atlantic.....	26,059	16,349	62.7	14,907	1,441	8.8	25,952	16,220	62.5	14,848	1,372	8.5
South.....	75,818	47,446	62.6	42,984	4,462	9.4	76,459	47,613	62.3	43,387	4,226	8.9
South Atlantic.....	39,475	24,735	62.7	22,286	2,449	9.9	39,759	24,741	62.2	22,449	2,292	9.3
East South Central.....	13,529	8,176	60.4	7,337	839	10.3	13,645	8,284	60.7	7,489	796	9.6
West South Central.....	22,814	14,535	63.7	13,361	1,174	8.1	23,055	14,588	63.3	13,449	1,139	7.8
Midwest.....	47,955	31,840	66.4	28,843	2,996	9.4	48,066	31,586	65.7	28,939	2,647	8.4
East North Central.....	33,128	21,572	65.1	19,313	2,259	10.5	33,149	21,261	64.1	19,285	1,976	9.3
West North Central.....	14,827	10,268	69.2	9,530	737	7.2	14,917	10,325	69.2	9,653	672	6.5
West.....	42,058	27,154	64.6	24,187	2,968	10.9	42,640	27,090	63.5	24,319	2,771	10.2
Mountain.....	14,628	9,614	65.7	8,699	914	9.5	14,783	9,533	64.5	8,694	839	8.8
Pacific.....	27,429	17,541	63.9	15,487	2,053	11.7	27,856	17,557	63.0	15,625	1,932	11.0

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.