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EXPANSION OF THE CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY SAMPLE: 1956

The Bureau of the Census recently completed an expansion of the sample for its Current Population Survey, the source of the monthly statistics on total employment and unemployment and of periodic data on income, migration, education, family status, and many other social and economic characteristics of the population. The over-all sample size was increased by approximately two-thirds, from the previous monthly average of 21,000 interviewed households to an average of 35,000 interviewed households.¹ The former sample was located in 230 areas, comprising 453 counties and independent cities in the United States. The expanded sample is spread over 330 areas, comprising 638 counties and independent cities, with some coverage in every State and the District of Columbia. All of the 230 areas in the previous sample and all but about 1,500 of the current panel of households in that sample continued as part of the expanded sample.

The first official results from the expanded 330-area sample--those for the month of May 1956--were announced on June 8 in the Bureau's "Monthly Report on the Labor Force" (Current Population Reports, Series P-57, No. 167). Comparable estimates for May from the 230-area sample were also presented for a few major items. Differences between the estimates from the two samples were small and within the range to be expected as a result of sampling variability alone. Thus, for all practical purposes,

¹ Approximately 35,000 households are interviewed in a typical month in the expanded sample. Another 1,500 occupied households, on the average, are visited without obtaining interviews, because the occupants are not found at home after repeated calls or are unavailable for some other reason. There are also 5,500 sample units in an average month which are visited but found to be vacant or otherwise not to be enumerated.

the data from the expanded sample starting in May 1956 can be used as a continuous series with the statistics from the 230-area sample for previous periods.

Detailed comparisons of the results from the two samples are presented later in this report, following a discussion of the objectives of the expansion and the methods used in achieving it.

Objectives of sample expansion.--The main objective of the sample expansion was to increase the precision of the survey results and, thereby, the usefulness of the data as economic indicators and as a source of information on the characteristics of the population. Preliminary computations indicate that the sampling variability is about one-fifth less than in the previous 230-area design. More precise measures of sampling variability will be published as soon as they are available.

The increased reliability resulting from the expansion should make it possible to publish greater detail on the characteristics of the employed and the unemployed and of persons not in the current labor force. For example, age detail which in many cases has been limited to 10-year class intervals may now be published in 5-year intervals. Occupational data formerly confined to a dozen major groups may be expanded to include a number of significant subgroups. More cross-classification will be possible of the many variables regularly derived from the survey--age, color, marital status, and other population characteristics; hours worked; duration of unemployment; and occupational and industrial attachment. Many of the cross-classifications tabulated from the previous sample could be shown only in the form of annual averages or percentage distributions.

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The expansion also may permit publication of a significant amount of information for geographic areas other than the Nation as a whole. The 230-area sample provided limited statistics for the four major regions of the country as defined by the Bureau of the Census--Northeast, North Central, South, and West. A substantial increase is now planned in the amount of information available for these regions. In addition, certain types of summary statistics--such as labor force participation rates and unemployment rates--may be provided for most of the nine census geographic divisions (New England, Middle Atlantic States, etc.) and for other large geographic groupings.

The exact scope of the tabulation and publication program, both for national estimates and for geographic areas, will be determined in a few months when computations of the reliability of the proposed detailed results can be obtained from the new sample.

Description of sample and method of expansion.--
The 330-area sample is a multipurpose probability sample based on the same principles as those used in the 230-area design.² The previous sample was established by allocating all "primary sampling units"³ in the United States to 230 strata (groups of similar areas) and selecting one area (primary sampling unit) from each stratum for inclusion in the sample. Sixty of these strata contained one area only and that area was automatically selected for the sample. These are called "self-representing areas" since they represent only themselves in the national sample.⁴ The remaining 170 areas were selected from their respective strata using a method whereby the probability of selection of any one area was proportionate to its 1950 population. These 170 areas are called "nonself-representing" since they represent not only themselves but also all of the other primary sampling units in their strata.

In expanding the sample, it was determined that the optimum allocation of available resources was to increase the over-all sample size by two-thirds and the number of sample areas by 100, while retaining all of the previous areas in the new design. This procedure was accomplished in the following way:

1. Of the 230 strata established for the previous design, 134 were retained intact for the expansion. These included the 60 strata consisting of only one area (self-representing) and the 74 smallest of the remaining strata. For purposes

of the expansion, the sample size was increased by two-thirds in each of the sample areas which had represented these 134 strata in the previous design.

2. The remaining 96 strata in the previous design (the largest of the strata containing more than one primary sampling unit) were split into 196 strata for the expansion.⁵ The sample areas which had been selected from these 96 strata for the 230-area design continued in the expanded sample, but now represent only those parts of the split strata in which they happened to be located. In addition, 100 new sample areas were chosen (with the probability of selection proportionate to their 1950 populations) to represent the 100 new strata in the expanded design.

Example: Assume that a given stratum had originally consisted of areas A, B, C, D, and E, and that B had been selected for the 230-area sample. Assume also that the stratum had been split into two parts--A and B and C, D, and E--for the expansion. Area B remains in the sample but represents only A and B in the expansion. A new area (E for example) is selected to represent the new stratum (C, D, and E).

3. Because of the revision in sampling ratios to conform to the split strata mentioned above, the sample size was reduced slightly in 94 of the 96 areas which continued from the previous design; a total of about 1,500 sample households were dropped in these areas. At the same time, a sample of households was selected in each of the 100 new sample areas, consistent with the size of the new stratum which each such area represented. Altogether, the current sample in the 196 sample areas representing these 196 revised strata is about two-thirds larger than the total previous sample in the original 96 areas from these strata.

The distribution of the expanded 330-area sample by type of area and geographic region is shown in the following table:

Geographic area	Total number of sample areas	Self-representing areas ¹	Nonself-representing areas		
			Total	Standard metropolitan areas	Others
United States.....	330	92	238	30	208
Northeast.....	54	23	31	8	23
North Central.....	96	24	72	10	62
South.....	136	29	107	11	96
West.....	44	16	28	1	27

¹ All are standard metropolitan areas except for two in the Northeast and one each in the North Central Region and the West. The number of self-representing areas increased from 60 to 92 with the expansion.

⁵ Most of these strata were split into two parts, a few into three parts. The split was accomplished by means of objective data previously used in stratification, without regard to the particular area which had represented the stratum in the 230-area sample.

² See U. S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, No. 2, July 30, 1954, for a description of the method of selection of this type of sample.

³ A "primary sampling unit" consists of a standard metropolitan area, a single county, or a group of two or more contiguous counties. The 3,100 counties in the United States were divided into about 1,900 primary sampling units for purposes of constructing the sample.

⁴ In the main, these areas were the largest standard metropolitan areas in the country.

The selection of sample households within sample areas was accomplished by means of the same area sampling methods used in the previous design. Each new sample area was subdivided into segments (small land areas with well-defined boundaries and with an expected size of about six households) and a sample of these was selected systematically for enumeration. In continuing sample areas in which the sample size was being increased, additional segments were selected so as to be systematically interspersed among the existing segments.

Organization of expansion activities.--Preparatory activities for the sample expansion were started in the fall of 1955 and continued through April 1956. These activities included selection of the new sample areas and segments, recruitment and training of the new interviewers needed for the expansion, various practice enumerations of parts of the new design, and finally a full-scale test run in April.

About 250 new interviewers had to be recruited and trained for the expanded sample. These were in addition to the 350 interviewers who were employed in the 230-area operation. Training of a given group of new interviewers was generally accomplished over a 3-month period. The training course included initial classroom lectures and demonstrations, on-the-job observation and training using practice assignments of increasing size, and home study and test exercises of increasing complexity. Somewhat over half of the new interviewers started their training in December 1955, another large group in February 1956, and a final small group in March 1956. A number of replacements also had to be recruited intermittently during this period because of turnover in the staff.

Training and practice enumerations were spread over a period of months and were scheduled in the week or two preceding the standard Current Population Survey enumeration week each month, in order to avoid interfering with the normal supervisory attention required for the continuing 230-area operation. At the same time, the Bureau's large-scale systematic programs for "refresher" training and for checking the work of experienced interviewers were continued without interruption in the 230-area design while the expansion was being achieved.

In a sense, not only the new interviewers but also the survey respondents were being "trained" during this preparatory period. Various studies have shown that labor force information obtained from households being interviewed for the first time differs slightly, on the average, from that obtained from previously interviewed households. The households used in the practice enumerations were those that would later be part of the official expanded sample. The pattern of interviewing was so arranged that there would be the appropriate proportions of new and previously enumerated households in the expanded part of the operation by the time that sample was to be used for publication purposes.

While in a training and practice status, the new interviewers enumerated only households in the expanded parts of the operation and were not permitted to undertake any of the workload which was part of the 230-area sample. This procedure was maintained as an additional safeguard for the 230-area estimates during the transition period, even though it temporarily led to less efficient enumeration workloads in areas containing 230-area and "expansion" segments. As a group of new interviewers completed their training course, steps were taken to integrate them gradually into the regular organization. Over the 4-month period following the completion of training, the workload in an area containing both "expansion" and 230-area sample segments was allocated among the new and old interviewers so as to achieve the most efficient travel and enumeration pattern.

The practice enumerations, although mostly on a small scale, provided the first evidence that the new interviewers were satisfactorily and rapidly acquiring the knowledge and experience needed to collect accurate labor force information. It was not until April, however, that it was possible to organize a full-scale test in which the entire expanded sample was enumerated in the same week as the 230-area sample. The close agreement of the results from the 230-area and 330-area samples in this test run was the principal basis for confirming the decision to use the expanded sample as the official basis for publication starting in May.

Comparison of results from expanded and previous samples.--Any two samples, no matter how carefully drawn and accurately enumerated, can produce somewhat different results because of chance variations alone. Early in 1956, the Bureau in consultation with advisory groups⁶ had decided to evaluate the readiness of the new sample for official use on the basis of the magnitude of the differences between the estimates from the 230-area and 330-area samples in a full-scale field test.

If the differences between the estimates from the two samples for four major statistics--total employment, nonagricultural employment, agricultural employment, and unemployment--were all within a maximum allowance for sampling variability, the assumption would be made that there were no significant differences in the quality of enumeration and that the expanded sample was ready for use. If the differences exceeded the maximum allowance for sampling variability for any major item, on the other hand, this might indicate serious enumeration biases in one or the other operation and require an intensive investigation to locate and eliminate the source of the difficulty. For this purpose, the maximum allowance for sampling variability for each major item was set at three standard errors of the difference between the estimates.

⁶ These were the Interagency Policy Committee for the Current Population Survey, sponsored by the Bureau of the Budget, and the Panel of Mathematical and Statistical Consultants of the Bureau of the Census.

The actual differences found in the April test run--not only for major totals but also for all important details--satisfactorily met the statistical test described above. In fact, most of the differences were within or just slightly above one standard error. This close similarity of results persisted in May, when a second full-scale comparison was made of the estimates from the two samples. Thus, not only was the readiness of the new operation firmly established but any problems of continuity between the results from the expanded sample

starting in May and those from the 230-area sample for previous periods were minimized.

The following table presents a comparison of the results from the two samples for April and May for the four key items, together with the approximate standard errors of the differences. It should be noted that the magnitude of the differences for these key items as well as for the detailed statistics presented later are not identical in the two months, supporting the judgment that the differences are due to chance variations.

Month and item	330-area sample	230-area sample	Actual difference, 330-area sample - 230-area sample	Standard error of differences
MAY 1956				
Total civilian employment.....	65,238,000	65,159,000	+79,000	110,000
Nonagricultural employment.....	58,092,000	57,999,000	+93,000	125,000
Agricultural employment.....	7,146,000	7,160,000	-14,000	100,000
Unemployment.....	2,608,000	2,580,000	+28,000	40,000
APRIL 1956				
Total civilian employment.....	64,105,000	63,990,000	+115,000	110,000
Nonagricultural employment.....	57,783,000	57,603,000	+180,000	125,000
Agricultural employment.....	6,322,000	6,387,000	-65,000	100,000
Unemployment.....	2,541,000	2,564,000	-23,000	40,000

The estimates for the 330-area sample for April and May were obtained by means of the standard composite estimation procedure used in the Current Population Survey. This procedure involves an arithmetic average of two intermediate estimates for each item: (1) an estimate based on the sample data for the current month only, and (2) an estimate derived by adding to the final estimates for the previous month a measure of net month-to-month change based on those parts of the sample which continue from the previous month (normally, about 75 percent of the sample). The data from the expanded parts of the

sample were used in only the first of these two intermediate estimates in April and May. Starting in June, the expanded sample data are included in both of the intermediate estimates.

A number of tables showing detailed comparisons between the results from the two samples for April and May are presented in the remainder of this report.⁷

⁷ For definitions of the various labor force concepts and categories, see any issue of "The Monthly Report on the Labor Force," Current Population Reports, Series P-57.

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Table 1.—EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF THE NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES, BY SEX:
330-AREA AND 230-AREA SAMPLES, APRIL AND MAY 1956

(Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over)

Employment status and sex	May 6-12, 1956		April 8-14, 1956	
	330-area sample	230-area sample	330-area sample	230-area sample
Total noninstitutional population.....	118,537	118,537	118,367	118,367
Total labor force including Armed Forces.....	70,711	70,604	69,525	69,434
Civilian labor force.....	67,846	67,739	66,646	66,555
Employed.....	65,238	65,159	64,105	63,990
Agriculture.....	7,146	7,160	6,322	6,387
Male.....	5,562	5,564	5,299	5,348
Female.....	1,584	1,596	1,023	1,039
Nonagricultural industries.....	58,092	57,999	57,783	57,603
Male.....	38,671	38,659	38,487	38,370
Female.....	19,422	19,340	19,296	19,233
Unemployed.....	2,608	2,580	2,541	2,564
Male.....	1,599	1,598	1,599	1,643
Female.....	1,009	981	941	921
Not in labor force.....	47,826	47,933	48,842	48,933
Seasonally adjusted unemployment index (1947-1949 = 100).....	112	111	102	103

Table 2.—CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, BY AGE AND SEX: 330-AREA AND 230-AREA SAMPLES, APRIL AND MAY 1956

(Number in thousands)

Age and sex	May 6-12, 1956				April 8-14, 1956			
	330-area sample		230-area sample		330-area sample		230-area sample	
	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population
Both sexes.....	67,846	58.7	67,739	58.6	66,646	57.7	66,555	57.6
Male.....	45,832	83.1	45,822	83.1	45,384	82.4	45,361	82.4
14 and 15 years.....	706	28.6	704	28.6	619	25.2	621	25.3
16 and 17 years.....	1,150	51.6	1,148	51.5	1,012	45.3	1,009	45.2
18 and 19 years.....	1,257	71.1	1,234	69.8	1,194	67.4	1,162	65.6
20 to 24 years.....	3,476	87.1	3,495	87.6	3,382	85.8	3,393	86.0
25 to 34 years.....	10,639	96.9	10,633	96.8	10,702	97.3	10,704	97.4
35 to 44 years.....	10,646	98.0	10,645	98.0	10,646	98.0	10,648	98.0
45 to 54 years.....	9,006	96.9	9,008	96.9	8,983	96.8	8,981	96.8
55 to 59 years.....	3,520	92.8	3,529	93.0	3,496	92.3	3,502	92.5
60 to 64 years.....	2,726	84.6	2,730	84.7	2,688	83.5	2,675	83.2
65 to 69 years.....	1,494	58.2	1,473	57.4	1,494	58.3	1,471	57.5
70 years and over.....	1,211	30.7	1,223	31.0	1,167	29.7	1,195	30.4
Female.....	22,014	36.4	21,917	36.2	21,260	35.2	21,194	35.1
14 and 15 years.....	293	12.2	295	12.3	224	9.4	223	9.4
16 and 17 years.....	701	31.3	705	31.5	616	27.6	611	27.3
18 and 19 years.....	1,007	46.6	997	46.1	1,004	46.5	993	46.0
20 to 24 years.....	2,435	45.9	2,422	45.7	2,355	44.4	2,363	44.6
25 to 34 years.....	4,367	36.1	4,337	35.8	4,189	34.6	4,192	34.6
35 to 44 years.....	5,159	44.2	5,164	44.3	4,961	42.6	4,955	42.5
45 to 54 years.....	4,442	46.0	4,414	45.7	4,348	45.1	4,301	44.6
55 to 59 years.....	1,605	40.0	1,604	40.0	1,583	39.5	1,577	39.4
60 to 64 years.....	1,145	33.2	1,131	32.8	1,132	32.8	1,144	33.2
65 to 69 years.....	531	19.1	532	19.2	534	19.3	543	19.6
70 years and over.....	328	6.9	316	6.6	314	6.6	292	6.1

Table 3.--UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, BY AGE AND SEX: 330-AREA AND 230-AREA SAMPLES, APRIL AND MAY 1956
(Number in thousands)

Age and sex	May 6-12, 1956				April 8-14, 1956			
	330-area sample		230-area sample		330-area sample		230-area sample	
	Number	Percent of labor force	Number	Percent of labor force	Number	Percent of labor force	Number	Percent of labor force
Both sexes.....	2,608	3.8	2,580	3.8	2,541	3.8	2,564	3.9
Male.....	1,599	3.5	1,598	3.5	1,599	3.5	1,643	3.6
14 and 15 years.....	44	6.2	42	6.0	25	4.0	25	4.0
16 and 17 years.....	139	12.1	136	11.8	109	10.8	101	10.0
18 and 19 years.....	110	8.8	113	9.2	111	9.3	116	10.0
20 to 24 years.....	223	6.4	232	6.6	239	7.1	255	7.5
25 to 34 years.....	307	2.9	326	3.1	299	2.8	307	2.9
35 to 44 years.....	239	2.2	247	2.3	271	2.5	274	2.6
45 to 54 years.....	233	2.6	209	2.3	253	2.8	257	2.9
55 to 59 years.....	127	3.6	124	3.5	139	4.0	151	4.3
60 to 64 years.....	83	3.0	84	3.1	72	2.7	78	2.9
65 to 69 years.....	57	3.8	49	3.3	53	3.5	53	3.6
70 years and over.....	36	3.0	36	2.9	28	2.4	26	2.2
Female.....	1,009	4.6	981	4.5	941	4.4	921	4.3
14 and 15 years.....	49	16.7	48	16.3	16	7.1	14	6.3
16 and 17 years.....	113	16.1	125	17.7	76	12.3	71	11.6
18 and 19 years.....	92	9.1	83	8.3	90	9.0	86	8.7
20 to 24 years.....	128	5.3	137	5.7	115	4.9	121	5.1
25 to 34 years.....	185	4.2	164	3.8	188	4.5	171	4.1
35 to 44 years.....	177	3.4	172	3.3	171	3.4	167	3.4
45 to 54 years.....	150	3.4	140	3.2	152	3.5	155	3.6
55 to 59 years.....	63	3.9	63	3.9	76	4.8	80	5.1
60 to 64 years.....	41	3.6	41	3.6	40	3.5	37	3.2
65 to 69 years.....	7	1.3	6	1.1	12	2.2	12	2.2
70 years and over.....	4	1.2	2	0.6	4	1.3	5	1.7

Table 4.--PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE AND IN NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES, BY NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED AND REASONS FOR PART-TIME WORK DURING THE SURVEY WEEK: 330-AREA AND 230-AREA SAMPLES, APRIL AND MAY 1956

(Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over)

Hours worked during survey week	May 6-12, 1956		April 8-14, 1956	
	330-area sample	230-area sample	330-area sample	230-area sample
Employed in agriculture.....	7,146	7,160	6,322	6,387
With a job but not at work.....	126	118	158	149
At work.....	7,020	7,042	6,164	6,238
1 to 34 hours.....	1,835	1,833	1,902	1,956
35 hours or more.....	5,185	5,209	4,262	4,282
Employed in nonagricultural industries.....	58,092	57,999	57,783	57,603
With a job but not at work.....	1,969	2,013	1,938	1,941
At work.....	56,124	55,986	55,843	55,663
1 to 34 hours.....	9,537	9,498	9,099	9,046
Usually work full time.....	3,042	3,083	2,958	2,991
Worked part time for economic reasons.....	1,197	1,221	1,047	1,057
Worked part time for other reasons.....	1,844	1,862	1,911	1,934
Usually work part time.....	6,495	6,413	6,141	6,056
Worked part time for economic reasons.....	816	825	829	816
Worked part time for other reasons.....	5,679	5,588	5,312	5,240
35 hours or more.....	46,587	46,489	46,744	46,615
Average hours for those at work in ¹ --				
Agriculture.....	49.6	49.5	46.2	45.9
Nonagricultural industries.....	40.7	40.6	40.8	40.7

¹ The average is an arithmetic mean computed from a distribution of single hours of work.

Table 5.—PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE AND IN NONAGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES, BY CLASS OF WORKER:
330-AREA AND 230-AREA SAMPLES, APRIL AND MAY 1956
(Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over)

Class of worker	May 6-12, 1956		April 8-14, 1956	
	330-area sample	230-area sample	330-area sample	230-area sample
Employed in agriculture.....	7,146	7,160	6,322	6,387
Wage and salary workers.....	1,607	1,580	1,323	1,324
Self-employed workers.....	3,819	3,835	3,760	3,806
Unpaid family workers.....	1,720	1,745	1,239	1,257
Employed in nonagricultural industries.....	58,092	57,999	57,783	57,603
Wage and salary workers.....	51,475	51,483	51,159	51,037
In private households.....	2,442	2,405	2,363	2,298
Government workers.....	6,986	6,928	6,942	6,919
Other wage and salary workers.....	42,048	42,150	41,854	41,820
Self-employed workers.....	6,035	5,942	6,080	6,005
Unpaid family workers.....	582	574	543	562

Table 6.—UNEMPLOYED PERSONS BY DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT: 330-AREA AND 230-AREA SAMPLES,
APRIL AND MAY 1956
(Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over)

Duration of unemployment	May 6-12, 1956		April 8-14, 1956	
	330-area sample	230-area sample	330-area sample	230-area sample
Total unemployed.....	2,608	2,580	2,541	2,564
1 week or less.....	287	264	240	234
2 weeks.....	329	319	355	360
3 weeks.....	276	265	229	226
4 weeks.....	289	288	238	243
5 and 6 weeks.....	233	241	236	241
7 to 10 weeks.....	382	389	389	398
11 to 14 weeks.....	210	210	219	214
15 to 26 weeks.....	380	377	404	417
Over 26 weeks.....	222	225	231	231
Average duration of unemployment ¹	11.3	11.6	12.3	12.4

¹ The average is an arithmetic mean computed from a distribution of single weeks of unemployment.

Table 7.—PERSONS WITH A JOB BUT NOT AT WORK, BY REASON NOT WORKING DURING SURVEY WEEK:
330-AREA AND 230-AREA SAMPLES, APRIL AND MAY 1956
(Thousands of persons 14 years of age and over)

Reason not working	May 6-12, 1956		April 8-14, 1956	
	330-area sample	230-area sample	330-area sample	230-area sample
Total with a job but not at work...	2,091	2,131	2,093	2,090
Temporary layoff ¹	110	112	106	97
New job or business ²	178	193	96	94
Bad weather.....	43	43	120	114
Industrial dispute.....	68	75	20	22
Vacation.....	535	542	391	399
Illness.....	859	868	923	913
All other.....	300	298	437	451

¹ Includes persons who had been temporarily laid off from their jobs with definite instructions to return to work within 30 days of layoff.

² Includes persons who had a new job or business to which they were scheduled to report within the following 30 days.

Table 8.—LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, FOR SELECTED GROUPS:
330-AREA AND 230-AREA SAMPLES, APRIL AND MAY 1956

Item	Labor force participation rates ¹				Unemployment rates ²			
	May 6-12, 1956		April 8-14, 1956		May 6-12, 1956		April 8-14, 1956	
	330- area sample	230- area sample	330- area sample	230- area sample	330- area sample	230- area sample	330- area sample	230- area sample
MARITAL STATUS AND SEX								
Male.....	83.1	83.1	82.4	82.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6
Married, wife present.....	91.2	91.1	(³)	91.1	2.3	2.3	(³)	2.4
Married, wife absent.....	83.9	82.8	(³)	84.9	7.6	7.0	(³)	9.2
Widowed or divorced.....	57.0	57.9	(³)	56.3	6.7	6.5	(³)	6.4
Single.....	64.9	64.8	(³)	61.9	7.4	7.3	(³)	7.7
Female.....	36.4	36.2	35.2	35.1	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.3
Married, husband present.....	30.7	30.6	(³)	29.2	3.6	3.3	(³)	4.0
Married, husband absent.....	55.0	54.2	(³)	55.5	7.1	6.9	(³)	4.4
Widowed or divorced.....	38.5	38.0	(³)	38.4	3.9	4.0	(³)	4.8
Single.....	50.6	50.5	(³)	48.6	6.5	6.7	(³)	4.8
COLOR AND SEX								
White.....	58.1	58.0	57.3	57.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
Male.....	83.2	83.2	82.5	82.5	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.3
Female.....	35.1	35.0	34.2	34.2	4.1	4.1	3.8	3.8
Nonwhite.....	63.7	63.5	61.3	60.8	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.4
Male.....	82.5	82.4	81.6	81.3	7.1	7.2	6.6	6.8
Female.....	47.3	46.9	43.5	42.7	7.7	7.2	8.5	8.4
REGION								
Northeast.....	58.3	58.4	58.0	58.0	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.1
North Central.....	59.8	59.6	59.1	59.1	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5
South.....	57.9	57.6	56.1	55.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0
West.....	58.4	58.8	57.6	57.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9

¹ Civilian labor force as a percent of civilian noninstitutional population.

² Unemployment as a percent of civilian labor force.

³ Not tabulated in April.