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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JANUARY 2006

HEARING

BEFORE THE

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

ONE HUNDRED NINTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

FEBRUARY 3, 2006

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THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JANUARY 2006

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2006

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE,
Washington, DC

The Committee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:30 a.m., in room 2212, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Jim Saxton, Chairman of the Committee, presiding.

Present: Representative Saxton; Senator Sessions.

Staff Present: Chris Frenze, Colleen Healy, Brian Higginbotham, John Kachtik, Jeff Schlagenhauf, Nan Gibson, Matthew Salomon, Chad Stone and Rachel Thomson.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. JIM SAXTON, CHAIRMAN, A U.S. REPRESENTATIVE FROM NEW JERSEY

Representative Saxton. Good morning. It is a pleasure to welcome Commissioner Utgoff and her colleagues before the Committee this morning to discuss the latest employment data.

The January employment data are good news for American workers. According to the payroll survey, employment has increased by 193,000 jobs in January. Since May 2003, more than 4.7 million jobs have been created. According to the household survey, employment also advanced, while the unemployment rate fell to 4.7 percent. Over the last year, most of the net increase in employment has been in occupations that pay in the middle range or higher.

The employment data are consistent with other data showing that the economy continues to grow. In 2005, the real GDP increased 3.5 percent. Although economic growth slowed to only 1.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2005, this advance figure is incomplete and may be revived upward. Most forecasters project a rebound in economic growth in the first quarter of 2006.

As an important Federal Reserve policy statement recently noted, the expansion in economic activity appears solid. According to the Federal Reserve, the Congressional Budget Office and private economists, economic growth this year will be comparable to the healthy pace set in 2005.

The economy seems to have weathered the recent rise in oil prices quite well, although oil prices have probably had some negative impact on growth. Inflation appears to be contained over the long run, as the Fed recently stated. In conclusion, U.S. economic growth has been healthy in recent years and significantly higher than most other advanced economies.

The U.S. unemployment rate also remains below comparable rates in many other economies. Most recent forecasters expect good economic and employment growth to continue.

Commissioner Utgoff, we are pleased that you are here this morning, and we look forward to hearing your statement.

[The prepared statement of Representative Jim Saxton appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 9.]

STATEMENT OF HON. KATHLEEN P. UTGOFF, COMMISSIONER, BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS; ACCOMPANIED BY JOHN S. GREENLEES AND JOHN M. GALVIN

Commissioner Utgoff. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate this opportunity to comment on the labor market data we released this morning.

Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 193,000 in January, and the unemployment rate fell to 4.7 percent. Payroll employment was up by 140,000 in December and by 354,000 in November. Over the year, payroll employment increased by 2.1 million. In January, employment growth occurred in construction, mining, and in several service-producing industries.

Employment in construction rose by 46,000 over the month and by 345,000 over the year. Above-average temperatures in most of the country may have contributed to fewer seasonal layoffs than usual in January.

Manufacturing employment was little changed in January. A few manufacturing industries have some small job gains in recent months, including wood products, fabricated metals, and electrical equipment.

Mining added 6,000 jobs in January. Since its most recent low in April 2003, mining employment has increased by 91,000.

In the service-providing sector, employment growth continued in health care over the month. Jobs were added in doctors' offices, hospitals and nursing and residential care facilities.

In January, employment in food services and drinking places grew by 31,000. Over the year, this industry has added 214,000 jobs.

Employment in professional and business services was up by 24,000 in January, following 2 months of unusually large gains that totaled 138,000. In January, accounting services lost jobs, while employment trended up in computer systems design and in management and consulting services.

In January, financial activities added 21,000 jobs. Wholesale trade employment was up by 15,000, while retail employment was little changed.

Average hourly earnings for production or nonsupervisory workers on private payrolls rose by 7 cents in January to $16.41. Over the year average hourly earnings grew by 3.3 percent.

The establishment survey data released today reflect the incorporation of annual benchmark revisions and updated seasonal adjustment factors. Each year we anchor our sample-based survey estimate to full universe counts of employment derived principally from administrative records of the unemployment insurance tax system.

The benchmark revision increased the level of nonfarm payroll employment in March 2005 by 158,000, or about 1/10th of 1 percent. Over the past decade, benchmark revisions have averaged plus or minus 2/10th of 1 percent. The seasonally adjusted establishment survey data from January 2001 forward have been revised to incorporate updated seasonal adjustment factors.

Turning now to measures from our household survey, the unemployment rate declined to 4.7 percent in January, and the number of unemployed persons fell to 7 million. The number of long-term unemployed persons, those unemployed for 27 weeks or more, declined to 1.2 million in January. They constituted 16.3 percent of all unemployed persons down from 21 percent a year earlier. The number of discouraged workers fell over the year to 396,000. Discouraged workers are those persons outside the labor force who had stopped looking for work because they believed their job search efforts would be unsuccessful.

With today's release, we again report on the labor force status of survey respondents who evacuated from their homes due to Hurricane Katrina. The data are derived from a special set of questions that have been included in the household survey since October to identify and gather information from evacuees. The estimates do not account for all persons who evacuated from their homes due to Hurricane Katrina. We do not gather information on those evacuees who remain outside the scope of the survey, such as those currently living in hotels or shelters.

The January data indicate that there were about 1.2 million persons age 16 and over who have evacuated from their August residence due to Hurricane Katrina. By January, about one-half of the evacuees had returned to the homes they vacated in August. Among Katrina evacuees in January, 56.8 percent were in the labor force, and their unemployment rate was 14.7 percent. Unemployment rates were much lower for those evacuees who had returned home than for those evacuees who had not. The January unemployment rate for those who had returned was 2.9 percent. It was 26.3 percent for those who had not yet returned to their residences.

To summarize, the labor market data for January payroll employment rose by 193,000, and the unemployment rate declined to 4.7 percent.

My colleagues and I would be happy to answer any of your questions.

[The prepared statement of Commissioner Utgoff appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 11.]

Representative Saxton. Commissioner, thank you again for being with us again this month.

As I noted in my opening statement, the economy's growth in the fourth quarter of last year fell to 1.1 percent, and, in spite of that, we continued to see significant job growth through most of that quarter.

Can you review with us the number of jobs created during the fourth quarter of last year?

Commissioner Utgoff. Five hundred thirty-one thousand.

Representative Saxton. Five hundred thirty-one thousand jobs were created during the fourth quarter, and yet GDP sunk to—I think it was 1.1 percent.

Do you expect that there will be some revisions in the GDP number for the fourth quarter of last year?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Representative Saxton. Can you shed any light on that at this point, or is it too early for us to?

Commissioner Utgoff. It is too early.

Representative Saxton. What are the factors that would account for the revision of GDP growth in the fourth quarter of last year?

Commissioner Utgoff. New information on wages and salaries, new information on exports and imports, new information on all the components of GDP.

Representative Saxton. Can you give us any idea what those adjustments might look like as they begin to come in?

Commissioner Utgoff. I can't predict whether those adjustments will be upward or downward.

Representative Saxton. Right. But we expect, as a normal course of events that there will be some adjustments in the GDP figure from the fourth quarter.

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes. This is called a preliminary GDP number, and for good reason.

Representative Saxton. And do you have any idea as to when we may see those adjustments take place?

Commissioner Utgoff. Approximately 3 weeks.

Representative Saxton. Is the increase in January payroll employment a solid number, or is it significantly inflated by special factors?

Commissioner Utgoff. It is a solid number, and with the upward revisions that we had for the previous 2 months from late reporters, it is a very solid report.

Representative Saxton. And once again, what was the number of jobs created in January?

Commissioner Utgoff. One hundred ninety-three thousand.

Representative Saxton. One hundred ninety-three thousand. And is that a significant number?

How much did the revisions in November and December of 2005 payroll employment figures add to total employment for those months?

Commissioner Utgoff. Eighty-one thousand.

Representative Saxton. Eighty-one thousand.

And so once again when we talk about preliminary numbers and adjusted numbers, we may see this number revise upward?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Representative Saxton. In January the diffusion index rose to 60.6 percent. What does this figure say about the breadth of job gains in January?

Commissioner Utgoff. It says that they were widespread.

Representative Saxton. So we are not seeing job growth confined to a specific sector, but it is widespread throughout the economy?

Commissioner Utgoff. That is correct.

Representative Saxton. Is the decline in unemployment to 4.7 percent statistically significant?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Representative Saxton. And when we talk about the 4.7 percent unemployment rate, can you give us an idea as to how that compares with the unemployment rate over the last, let's say, 3 years?

Commissioner Utgoff. It is the lowest rate since January—July 2001.

Representative Saxton. July of 2001.

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Representative Saxton. So that obviously is also good news.

What is the unemployment rate for men 20 and over?

Commissioner Utgoff. 4.0.

Representative Saxton. So we continue to have good news there.

What is the unemployment rate for women aged 20 and over?

Commissioner Utgoff. 4.3 percent.

Representative Saxton. 4.3 percent.

We used to say that when we got to these low levels—we used to talk about that being full employment. Are we reaching what you would consider full employment?

Commissioner Utgoff. These are the lowest unemployment rates for men and women since summer 2001.

Representative Saxton. Historically low unemployment rates. Very good.

At this point how would you interpret the apparent effects of the hurricanes on payroll employment over the last 5 months?

Commissioner Utgoff. There were 2 months, September and October, where the unemployment rate was clearly held down by the effects of Hurricane Katrina. In the subsequent months, the economy appears to have recovered, and job growth has been—job growth has been substantial.

Representative Saxton. Could you spend a few moments explaining the benchmark revisions to the payroll employment survey?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes. Let me see if I can do this simply is we have—when I testify before you each month, we have an estimate of payroll employment that comes from a sample of 400,000 establishments. That is large, but that is not all the establishments.

Once a year we take a census of all establishments largely taken from unemployment insurance records, and we tie the census to the sample so that in this year and March they are the same, and then adjust the other numbers to meet that census number.

Representative Saxton. Thank you.

Mr. Sessions.

Senator Sessions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and, Commissioner, I am pleased to welcome you here and to see continued good news.

I guess, Mr. Chairman, good news doesn't attract as many Members as bad news.

Representative Saxton. Airplanes attract Members on Fridays.

Senator Sessions. Maybe you are right, airplanes attract Members.

Commissioner, we are having a little excitement in Alabama. Everybody is trying to claim credit for the unemployment rate. Our unemployment rate, Mr. Chairman, is 3.5 percent, the lowest ever recorded in the State. Job training program is first rate and been ranked, I think, No. 1 one in the country, but now is the challenge to get people trained for the good jobs that are out there.

Have you had occasion, Commissioner, to be able to consider whether if we could get people trained quicker, turn them around more readily with skills that are needed in the workplace, we could not only find more jobs, but we could move people up into higher-paying jobs and better benefits?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Senator Sessions. What could you tell us about your observation there? I think the reason I raise that is I don't think it is a coincidence that Alabama's low unemployment rate coincides with the fact that the job training program for the State was rated No. 1 in the country. Do you have any thoughts about that?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes. Job training programs are incredibly important in getting people into their first jobs, which is important, and then moving them up into higher-paying jobs. And the one-stop centers have been doing an excellent job in taking in people and moving them through the entire process of getting them into good jobs.

Senator Sessions. There has been a good bit of interest on behalf of Governors in consolidating Federal workforce programs. And we are trying to do that, although our Senate bill is not as good as I would like; frankly, I think it is far short of what the Governor has requested, but I remain hopeful.

Do you have any information and received any feedback from the fact that a lot of these stovepipe programs are contradictory and duplicative and would be much more efficient if they were merged together?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes. There are duplicative programs for the same groups of people, and moving them together will allow better service for these people. I have to say that I, from the BLS, am well aware of the work that the Employment and Training Administration is doing to improve the training, and particularly tie training to the local workforce needs. But I think the Assistant Secretary for Employment Training would be a better witness for all of the things that are going on in that area.

Senator Sessions. Well, I think we can do better. Our commissioner, Dr. Roy Johnson, the chancellor of the system, made this statement to me as we were going to a meeting, and he said, an individual 28 years old with 2 kids can't go—he is chairman of the community college system in the State, where you have 2-year programs for the most part traditionally, when you think in terms of the 2-year program—they don't have 2 years. What we need to do, he says, and he is doing, is create specific programs that prepare people in 6 months or less for a high-paying job, and he believes it can be done and is doing that.

Would you agree that that has an important role in our system—as well as our classical interest in degrees in 4 years and 2-year

degrees—but this kind of more specific focus on training persons for a job that exists in that community, can we do better than that?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes. We can do better than that.

Senator Sessions. And would you share with us some thoughts on that subject?

Commissioner Utgoff. Well, I would note that in the military people are taken in for specific jobs and trained in far less than 2 years for specific jobs and come out with skills that are often good for the private sector, and that we can't afford to have someone in for 4 years of service spending 2 years in a job training program. So that 6 months is certainly a much better target period than for 2 years, especially for someone who is 28 years old and has 2 children.

Senator Sessions. I think that was a very insightful comment. I hadn't thought about the military. They absolutely don't have—they can't spend 2 years preparing somebody, and they train them for highly technical jobs in very short order, and then when they get out, businesses line up to hire them. They are very pleased to have them because of the way they have been trained.

Mr. Chairman, I was just looking at the February 2 *New York Times* article by David Brooks that made this point. And I think in our country, we get a little too down on ourselves, and when things are good, people start thinking, well, next week it is going to be bad; you know, it can't stay good. But look at this. David Brooks points out, has the American economy shrunk as a part of the world economy? In 1971, the United States economy accounted for 30.52 percent of the world's GDP. 30.52.

Now, we have seen China surge; Japan really over the last 30 years has been a tremendous force; India, the Asian tigers; production in Europe and all; and today, he notes, our percentage of GDP is 30.74, a larger percentage of the world's GDP in the United States today than it was 30 years ago. And if you listen to a lot of our commentators out there, you would think the United States is in a period of decline.

That is a phenomenal achievement in light of the productivity growth in other areas of the world. It is not as if they shrank. They have been surging, and we still are doing that, and our job numbers are going down. And we only have a couple of things to fear, I think, and that is making sure our children are properly trained and educated and really motivated to take advantage of this economy, and to be positive and to see that if they work hard, they can actually sustain a good lifestyle for themselves and their children in the future.

Thank you for your leadership, Mr. Chairman, and I was pleased to be here today. And, Commissioner, you should take a bow on the job growth, too. Everybody else is. I am trying to. If it were going up, they would blame me, so I might as well claim some credit.

[The New York Times article entitled, "The Nation of the Future," appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 46.]

Representative Saxton. Thank you very much, Senator. I have said in jest a couple of times that people were running for airplanes. Actually, the Democrat Minority party has their retreat today, and so that is the reason that they are not here. And so I just wanted to make that part of the record.

Let me just ask one final short question. Manufacturing employment has been a concern to the Members of the Committee, and I am sure to you, also, Commissioner, over the last several years. But manufacturing employment showed some small increases in January, and I am curious to know in what sectors of manufacturing did job gains actually take place. Can you talk about that a little bit?

Commissioner Utgoff. Wood products, electrical equipment, and there was one other, fabricated metals.

Representative Saxton. And what percentage of the manufacturing sector would that involve? Can you give us an estimate?

Commissioner Utgoff. I can't give you that estimate now, but I will—we will provide that to you in a letter.

[The response from Commissioner Utgoff to Chairman Saxton appears in the Submissions for the Record on page 43.]

Representative Saxton. We would certainly appreciate that.

But in general, the manufacturing sector showed some job gains in January; is that right?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes. Yes.

Representative Saxton. And was it statistically significant?

Commissioner Utgoff. No.

Representative Saxton. But it was an indicator that there is life in terms of growth in the manufacturing sector?

Commissioner Utgoff. Yes.

Representative Saxton. Thank you. I have no other questions at this point, and we want to thank you for being with us here today. It is always a pleasure to see you, and it is even more of a pleasure when you have good news like the news you brought us today. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Utgoff. I hope it will continue.

Representative Saxton. We do, too. Thank you.

[Whereupon, at 9:56 a.m., the Committee was adjourned.]

Submissions for the Record

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN JIM SAXTON

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
February 3, 2006

STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN JIM SAXTON

Press Release #109-57
Contact: Christopher Frenze
Executive Director
(202) 225-3923

JANUARY EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. – It is a pleasure to welcome Commissioner Utgoff and her colleagues before the Committee this morning to discuss the latest employment data.

The January employment data are good news for American workers. According to the payroll survey, employment increased by 193,000 jobs in January. Since May of 2003, more than 4.7 million jobs have been created.

According to the household survey, employment also advanced, while the unemployment rate fell to 4.7 percent. Over the last year, most of the net increase in employment has been in occupations that pay in the middle range and higher.

The employment data are consistent with other data showing that the economy continues to grow. In 2005, real GDP increased 3.5 percent. Although economic growth slowed to only 1.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2005, this advance figure is incomplete and may be revised upward. Most forecasters project a rebound of economic growth in the first quarter of 2006.

As an important Federal Reserve policy statement recently noted, "the expansion in economic activity appears solid." According to the Federal Reserve, the Congressional Budget Office and private economists, economic growth this year will be comparable to the healthy pace set in 2005.

The economy seems to have weathered the recent rise in oil prices quite well, although oil prices have probably had some negative impact on growth. Inflation appears to be contained over the long term, as the Fed recently stated.

In conclusion, U.S. economic growth has been healthy in recent years, and significantly higher than in most other advanced economies. The U.S. unemployment rate also remains below comparable rates in many other major economies. Most economic forecasters expect good economic and employment growth to continue through 2006.

SEN. JACK REED (RI)
RANKING DEMOCRAT

SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY (MA)
SEN. PAUL S. SARBANES (MD)
SEN. JEFF BINGAMAN (NM)
REP. CAROLYN B. MALONEY (NY)
REP. MAURICE HINCHEY (NY)
REP. LORETTA SANCHEZ (CA)
REP. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS (MD)

Congress of the United States
Joint Economic Committee
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109TH
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CHAD STONE
STAFF DIRECTOR

Opening Statement
Senator Jack Reed
Joint Economic Committee Hearing
February 3, 2006

Thank you, Chairman Saxton. I want to welcome Commissioner Utgoff and thank her for testifying here today.

Today's report that 193,000 payrolls were created in January is welcome news. However, there is still a lot of catching up to do in a labor market that went through the most protracted jobs slump in decades. At this point in the last recovery, the economy had created nearly five million more jobs than we have seen in this recovery. Moreover, workers haven't seen any recovery in their paychecks.

Overall growth in payroll employment has been modest by the standards of most economic recoveries. The 4.8 million jobs created since job losses peaked in August 2003 works out to only about 164,000 per month—not much more than what is necessary just to keep up with normal growth in the labor force.

While the jobless rate has come down, unemployment remains higher than it was when President Bush took office, long-term unemployment persists, and evidence of hidden unemployment is reflected in the continued depressed levels of the labor force participation rate and the fraction of the population with a job.

Corporate profits and worker productivity have been growing, but wages are not keeping pace with inflation. Average hourly earnings were stagnant during 2003 and have fallen during each of the past two years, after adjusting for inflation. Paychecks are being stretched thinner as families face higher prices for gasoline, home heating, health care, and education.

The President's assertion in his State of the Union address that the economy is strong simply belies the experience of many working families, who are still waiting to benefit from the Bush economic policies. Clearly, America can do better.

I look forward to Commissioner Utgoff's statement and to a further discussion of the January employment situation.

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Statement of

Kathleen P. Utgoff
Commissioner
Bureau of Labor Statistics

before the

Joint Economic Committee

UNITED STATES CONGRESS

Friday, February 3, 2006

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I appreciate this opportunity to comment on the labor market data we released this morning.

Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 193,000 in January, and the unemployment rate fell to 4.7 percent. Payroll employment was up by 140,000 in December and by 354,000 in November (as revised). Over the year, payroll employment increased by 2.1 million. In January, employment growth occurred in construction, mining, and in several service-providing industries.

Employment in construction rose by 46,000 over the month and by 345,000 over the year. Above-average

temperatures in most of the country may have contributed to fewer seasonal layoffs than usual in January.

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The establishment survey data released today reflect the incorporation of annual benchmark revisions and updated seasonal adjustment factors. Each year, we anchor our sample-based survey estimates to full universe counts of employment, derived principally from administrative records of the unemployment insurance tax system.

The benchmark revision decreased the level of nonfarm payroll employment in March 2005 by 158,000 (not seasonally adjusted), or about one-tenth of one percent. Over the past decade, benchmark revisions have averaged plus or minus two-tenths of one percent. The seasonally adjusted establishment survey data from January 2001 forward have been revised to incorporate updated seasonal adjustment factors.

Turning now to the measures from our household survey, the unemployment rate declined to 4.7 percent in January, and the number of unemployed persons fell to 7.0 million. The number of long-term unemployed persons--those unemployed for 27 weeks or more--declined to 1.2 million in January. They constituted 16.3 percent of all unemployed

persons, down from 21.0 percent a year earlier. The number of discouraged workers fell over the year to 396,000 (not seasonally adjusted). Discouraged workers are those persons outside the labor force who had stopped looking for work because they believed their job search efforts would be unsuccessful.

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The January data indicate that there were about 1.2 million persons age 16 and over who evacuated from their August residence due to Hurricane Katrina. By January, about one-half of evacuees had returned to the homes they vacated in August. Among Katrina evacuees in January, 56.8 percent were in the labor force, and their unemployment rate was 14.7 percent. Unemployment rates were much lower for those evacuees who had returned home than for those

evacuees who had not. The January unemployment rate for those who had returned was 2.9 percent; it was 26.3 percent for those who had not yet returned to their residences.

To summarize the labor market data for January, payroll employment rose by 193,000, and the unemployment rate declined to 4.7 percent.

My colleagues and I now would be glad to address your questions.

News United States Department of Labor

Bureau of Labor Statistics **Washington, D.C. 20212**

Technical information:
Household data: (202) 691-6378
http://www.bls.gov/cps/

Establishment data: 691-6555
http://www.bls.gov/ces/
Media contact: 691-5902

USDL 06-160

Transmission of material in this release is embargoed until 8:30 A.M. (EST), Friday, February 3, 2006.

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: JANUARY 2006

Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 193,000 in January, and the unemployment rate fell to 4.7 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported today. Job gains occurred in several industries, including construction, mining, food services and drinking places, health care, and financial activities.

Chart 1. Unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, February 2003 – January 2006

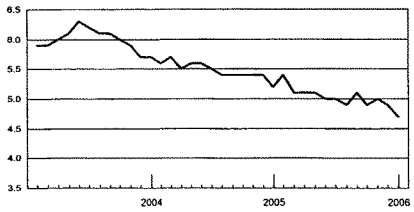
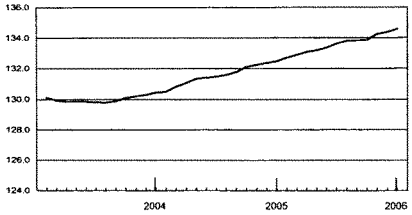


Chart 2. Nonfarm payroll employment, seasonally adjusted, February 2003 – January 2006



Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons fell to 7.0 million in January, and the unemployment rate decreased to 4.7 percent, seasonally adjusted. The unemployment rate had ranged from 4.9 to 5.1 percent during most of 2005. The jobless rate for adult men declined to 4.0 percent in January. For other major worker groups—adult women (4.3 percent), teenagers (15.3 percent), whites (4.1 percent), blacks (8.9 percent),

Establishment and Household Data Changes

The establishment survey data in this release have been revised as a result of the annual benchmarking process and the updating of seasonal adjustment factors. See the note beginning on page 6 for more information on the revisions.

In addition, household survey data for January 2006 reflect updated population controls. See the note on page 7 for more information. Also, new seasonally adjusted employment data for multiple jobholders have been added to table A-6 of this release.

and Hispanics (5.8 percent)—unemployment rates were essentially unchanged. The rate for black teens, which had an unusually large decline in December, rose to 31.4 percent in January. The unemployment rate for Asians was 3.2 percent, not seasonally adjusted. (See tables A-1, A-2, and A-3.)

In January, 16.3 percent of the unemployed had been without a job for 27 weeks or longer, down from 18.2 percent in the prior month. In January 2005, the proportion was 21.0 percent. (See table A-9.)

Total Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Total employment continued to trend upward in January. The labor force participation rate and the employment-population ratio showed little or no change over the month, at 66.0 and 62.9 percent, respectively. (See table A-1.)

Persons Not in the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

About 1.6 million persons (not seasonally adjusted) were marginally attached to the labor force in January, down from 1.8 million a year earlier. These were people who wanted and were available for work and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months but were not counted as unemployed because they had not searched for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey. The number of discouraged workers—a subset of the marginally attached who were not currently looking for work specifically because they believed no jobs were available for them—was 396,000 in January, a decrease of 119,000 from a year earlier. (See table A-13.)

Employment Status of Hurricane Katrina Evacuees (Household Survey Data)

Beginning in October, questions were added to the household survey to identify persons who evacuated from their homes, even temporarily, due to Hurricane Katrina. Data collected through these questions do not account for all evacuees; persons living outside of the scope of the survey—such as those living in hotels or shelters—are not included. The questions were asked of persons in the household survey sample throughout the country, since some evacuees relocated far from the storm-affected areas. An additional question determined whether evacuees had returned to their homes by the time of the survey.

These additional questions provided information to analyze the employment status of this subgroup of evacuees. The total number of evacuees estimated from the household survey may change from month to month as people move in and out of the scope of the survey.

Information gathered in January showed that about 1.2 million persons age 16 and over had evacuated from where they were living in August due to Hurricane Katrina. These evacuees either had returned to their homes or were living in other residential units covered in the survey in January. About 600,000 of the evacuees had returned to their August 2005 residences. Of all evacuees identified, 56.8 percent were in the labor force in January. The employment-population ratio for these evacuees was 48.4 percent. The unemployment rate for persons identified as evacuees was 14.7 percent; it was much higher for evacuees who had not returned home (26.3 percent) than for those who had returned (2.9 percent). (See table B.)

Table A. Major indicators of labor market activity, seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Quarterly averages		Monthly data			Dec.-Jan. change
	2005		2005		2006	
	III	IV	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	
HOUSEHOLD DATA	Labor force status					
Civilian labor force	149,827	150,126	150,183	150,153	150,114	([1])
Employment	142,324	142,671	142,611	142,779	143,074	([1])
Unemployment	7,503	7,455	7,572	7,375	7,040	([1])
Not in labor force	76,595	77,070	77,021	77,271	77,439	([1])
	Unemployment rates					
All workers	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.7	-0.2
Adult men	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.0	-.3
Adult women	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.3	-.2
Teenagers	16.1	16.1	17.1	15.2	15.3	.1
White	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.1	-.2
Black or African American	9.5	9.7	10.6	9.3	8.9	-.4
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.0	5.8	-.2
ESTABLISHMENT DATA[2]	Employment					
Nonfarm employment	133,750	p134,160	134,231	p134,371	p134,564	p193
Goods-producing[3]	22,140	p22,239	22,264	p22,273	p22,331	p58
Construction	7,305	p7,390	7,409	p7,414	p7,460	p46
Manufacturing	14,208	p14,208	14,214	p14,213	p14,220	p7
Service-providing[3]	111,610	p111,921	111,967	p112,098	p112,233	p135
Retail trade[4]	15,297	p15,285	15,293	p15,302	p15,301	p-2
Professional and business services	16,942	p17,060	17,061	p17,129	p17,153	p24
Education and health services	17,411	p17,475	17,481	p17,503	p17,542	p39
Leisure and hospitality	12,840	p12,872	12,881	p12,896	p12,922	p26
Government	21,843	p21,869	21,880	p21,875	p21,874	p-1
	Hours of work[5]					
Total private	33.8	p33.8	33.8	p33.8	p33.8	p0.0
Manufacturing	40.6	p40.9	40.8	p40.8	p40.8	p.0
Overtime	4.5	p4.6	4.6	p4.5	p4.5	p.0
	Indexes of aggregate weekly hours (2002=100)[5]					
Total private	102.9	p103.4	103.5	p103.7	p103.9	p0.2
	Earnings[5]					
Average hourly earnings, total private	$16.16	p$16.30	$16.28	p$16.34	p$16.41	p$0.07
Average weekly earnings, total private	545.78	p550.94	550.26	p552.29	p554.66	p2.37

[1] Changes in household data levels are not shown due to the introduction of updated population controls. See the note on page 7 for more information.

[2] Establishment data have been revised to reflect March 2005 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors. See the note on page 6 for more information.

[3] Includes other industries, not shown separately.

[4] Quarterly averages and the over-the-month change are calculated using unrounded data.

[5] Data relate to private production or nonsupervisory workers.

p = preliminary.

Table B. Employment status in January 2006 of persons 16 years and over who evacuated from their August residence, even temporarily, due to Hurricane Katrina [1]

(Numbers in thousands, not seasonally adjusted)

Employment status in January 2006	Total	Residence in January	
		Same as in August	Different than in August
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,245	575	670
Civilian labor force	707	351	355
Participation rate	56.8	61.1	53.1
Employed	603	341	262
Employment-population ratio	48.4	59.3	39.1
Unemployed	104	10	94
Unemployment rate	14.7	2.9	26.3
Not in labor force	538	224	314

[1] Represents persons in the civilian noninstitutional population age 16 and over who resided in households that were eligible to be selected for the Current Population Survey (CPS). These data are not representative of the total evacuee population because they do not include children or people residing in shelters, hotels, places of worship, or other units outside the scope of the CPS. The total number of evacuees estimated from the CPS may change from month to month as people move in and out of the scope of the survey and because of sampling variability.

NOTE: These data use population controls that have been adjusted to account for interstate moves by evacuees.

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 193,000 in January to 134.6 million, seasonally adjusted. This followed job gains of 354,000 in November and 140,000 in December (as revised). Since January 2005, job gains have averaged 174,000 per month. (See table B-1.)

In January, construction employment increased by 46,000; over the year, construction employment has risen by 345,000. Specialty trade contractors added 28,000 jobs over the month, while residential building and heavy and civil engineering construction added 8,000 each. Mining continued its upward trend in January, adding 6,000 jobs. Support activities for mining, particularly those related to oil and gas, accounted for two-thirds of the over-the-month gain.

Elsewhere in the goods-producing sector, manufacturing employment was little changed for the second month in a row. Within durable goods, employment gains in nonmetallic mineral products (6,000) and primary metals (3,000) were partially offset by a decline in computer and electronic products (-6,000).

In the service-providing sector, employment in health care and social assistance rose by 38,000 in January. Ambulatory health care services (which includes doctors' offices and home health care) added 15,000 jobs. Job growth also occurred in hospitals (7,000) and in nursing and residential care facilities (7,000). Health care employment has increased by 287,000 over the year. Employment in social assistance continued to trend up in January and has grown by 77,000 over the year.

Over the month, financial activities employment was up by 21,000, following little change in December. Credit intermediation added 11,000 jobs in January, and real estate employment rose by 10,000.

Employment in food services and drinking places grew by 31,000 in January; over the year, this industry has added 214,000 jobs. In January, wholesale trade employment increased by 15,000. Employment in retail trade was flat over the month and has shown no net growth since July 2005.

Employment in professional and business services continued to trend up over the month (24,000); the number of jobs in the industry has increased by 515,000 over the year. In January, computer systems design services gained 7,000 jobs. Temporary help services employment was little changed over the month but has increased by 187,000 over the year. Following a strong employment increase in December, accounting and bookkeeping services lost 18,000 jobs in January.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

The average workweek for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 33.8 hours in January, seasonally adjusted. The manufacturing workweek and factory overtime also were unchanged at 40.8 hours and 4.5 hours, respectively. (See table B-2.)

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 0.2 percent in January to 103.9 (2002=100). The manufacturing index also increased by 0.2 percent over the month to 94.9. (See table B-5.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 7 cents in January to $16.41, seasonally adjusted. Average weekly earnings increased by 0.4 percent over the month to $554.66. Over the year, average hourly earnings increased by 3.3 percent and average weekly earnings increased by 3.6 percent. (See table B-3.)

The Employment Situation for February 2006 is scheduled to be released on Friday, March 10, at 8:30 A.M. (EST).

Revisions to Establishment Survey Data

In accordance with annual practice, the establishment survey data have been revised to reflect comprehensive universe counts of payroll jobs, or benchmarks. These counts are derived principally from unemployment insurance tax records for March 2005. As a result of the benchmark process, all not seasonally adjusted data series were subject to revision from April 2004 forward, the time period since the last benchmark was established. In addition, with this release, the seasonally adjusted establishment survey data from January 2001 forward were subject to revision due to the introduction of updated seasonal adjustment factors.

Table C presents revised total nonfarm employment data on a seasonally adjusted basis for January through December 2005. The revised data for April 2005 forward incorporate the effect of applying the rate of change measured by the sample to the new benchmark level, as well as updated net business birth/death model adjustments and new seasonal adjustment factors. The November and December 2005 revisions also reflect the routine incorporation of additional sample receipts into the November final and December second preliminary estimates. The total nonfarm employment level for March 2005 was revised downward by 158,000 (119,000 on a seasonally adjusted basis). The previously published level for December 2005 was revised downward by 144,000 (97,000 on a seasonally adjusted basis).

The February 2006 issue of *Employment and Earnings* will contain an article that discusses the benchmark and post-benchmark revisions. This issue also will provide revised estimates for all regularly published tables containing national establishment survey data on employment, hours, and earnings.

LABSTAT, the BLS public database on the Internet, contains all revised historical Current Employment Statistics (CES) data. The data can be accessed through the CES homepage at http://www.bls.gov/ces/.

Further information on the revisions released today may be obtained by calling 202-691-6555 or via the Internet on the CES homepage.

Table C. Revisions in total nonfarm employment, seasonally adjusted, January-December 2005

(In thousands)

Year and month	Levels		Over-the-month changes		
	As previously published	As revised	As previously published	As revised	Difference
2005					
January	132,573	132,471	124	76	-48
February	132,873	132,736	300	265	-35
March	132,995	132,876	122	140	18
April	133,287	133,104	292	228	-64
May	133,413	133,210	126	106	-20
June	133,588	133,376	175	166	-9
July	133,865	133,617	277	241	-36
August	134,013	133,792	148	175	27
September	134,030	133,840	17	48	31
October	134,055	133,877	25	37	12
November	134,360	134,231	305	354	49
December[p]	134,468	134,371	108	140	32

p = preliminary.

Adjustments to Population Estimates for the Household Survey

Effective with the data for January 2006, updated population controls have been used in the household survey. Population controls for the household survey are developed by the U.S. Census Bureau. Each year, the Census Bureau updates the controls to reflect new information and assumptions about the growth of the population. The change in population reflected in the new controls results from adjustments to the estimates of net international migration and updated vital statistics information.

Official population and labor force estimates for December 2005 and earlier months will not be revised. To assess the impact of the updated population controls on trend growth, however, December 2005 estimates for selected data series (not seasonally adjusted) were recalculated using the new controls, and the differences from estimates based on the old controls are shown in table D. The adjustments decreased the estimated size of the civilian noninstitutional population by 67,000, of the civilian labor force by 130,000, and of employment by 123,000; the new population controls had a negligible impact on unemployment rates and other percentage estimates. More detailed information on the population adjustments and their effect on national labor force estimates are available at http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps06adj.pdf on the Internet and also will be published in the February 2006 issue of *Employment and Earnings*.

Table D. Effect of the revised population controls on December 2005 estimates by sex, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Total	Men	Women	White	Black or African American	Asian	Hispanic or Latino ethnicity
Civilian noninstitutional population	-67	-31	-36	-12	7	-70	-108
Civilian labor force	-130	-67	-64	-89	3	-49	-87
Employed	-123	-61	-62	-82	2	-47	-81
Unemployed	-8	-6	-2	-7	1	-2	-6
Unemployment rate	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0

NOTE: Detail for men and women may not sum to totals because of rounding. Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. In addition, persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race and, therefore, are classified by ethnicity as well as by race.

Explanatory Note

This news release presents statistics from two major surveys, the Current Population Survey (household survey) and the Current Employment Statistics survey (establishment survey). The household survey provides the information on the labor force, employment, and unemployment that appears in the A tables, marked HOUSEHOLD DATA. It is a sample survey of about 60,000 households conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The establishment survey provides the information on the employment, hours, and earnings of workers on nonfarm payrolls that appears in the B tables, marked ESTABLISHMENT DATA. This information is collected from payroll records by BLS in cooperation with state agencies. The sample includes about 160,000 businesses and government agencies covering approximately 400,000 individual worksites. The active sample includes about one-third of all nonfarm payroll workers. The sample is drawn from a sampling frame of unemployment insurance tax accounts.

For both surveys, the data for a given month relate to a particular week or pay period. In the household survey, the reference week is generally the calendar week that contains the 12th day of the month. In the establishment survey, the reference period is the pay period including the 12th, which may or may not correspond directly to the calendar week.

Coverage, definitions, and differences between surveys

Household survey. The sample is selected to reflect the entire civilian noninstitutional population. Based on responses to a series of questions on work and job search activities, each person 16 years and over in a sample household is classified as employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force.

People are classified as *employed* if they did any work at all as paid employees during the reference week; worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm; or worked without pay at least 15 hours in a family business or farm. People are also counted as employed if they were temporarily absent from their jobs because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor-management disputes, or personal reasons.

People are classified as *unemployed* if they meet all of the following criteria: They had no employment during the reference week; they were available for work at that time; and they made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons laid off from a job and expecting recall need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed. The unemployment data derived from the household survey in no way depend upon the eligibility for or receipt of unemployment insurance benefits.

The *civilian labor force* is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. Those not classified as employed or unemployed are *not in the labor force*. The *unemployment rate* is the number unemployed as a percent of the labor force. The *labor force participation rate* is the labor force as a percent of the population, and the *employment-population ratio* is the employed as a percent of the population.

Establishment survey. The sample establishments are drawn from private nonfarm businesses such as factories, offices, and stores, as well as federal, state, and local government entities. *Employees on nonfarm payrolls* are those who received pay for any part of the reference pay period, including persons on paid leave. Persons are counted in each job they hold. *Hours and earnings* data are for private businesses and relate only to production workers in the goods-producing sector and nonsupervisory workers in the service-providing sector. Industries are classified on the basis of their principal activity in accordance with the 2002 version of the North American Industry Classification System.

Differences in employment estimates. The numerous conceptual and methodological differences between the household and establishment surveys result in important distinctions in the employment estimates derived from the surveys. Among these are:

- The household survey includes agricultural workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers among the employed. These groups are excluded from the establishment survey.
- The household survey includes people on unpaid leave among the employed. The establishment survey does not.
- The household survey is limited to workers 16 years of age and older. The establishment survey is not limited by age.
- The household survey has no duplication of individuals, because individuals are counted only once, even if they hold more than one job. In the establishment survey, employees working at more than one job and thus appearing on more than one payroll would be counted separately for each appearance.

Seasonal adjustment

Over the course of a year, the size of the nation's labor force and the levels of employment and unemployment undergo sharp fluctuations due to such seasonal events as changes in weather, reduced or expanded production, harvests, major holidays, and the opening and closing of schools. The effect of such seasonal variation can be very large; seasonal fluctuations may account for as much as 95 percent of the month-to-month changes in unemployment.

Because these seasonal events follow a more or less regular pattern each year, their influence on statistical trends can be eliminated by adjusting the statistics from month to month. These adjustments make nonseasonal developments, such as declines in economic activity or increases in the participation of women in the labor force, easier to spot. For example, the large number of youth entering the labor force each June is likely to obscure any other changes that have taken place relative to May, making it difficult to determine if the level of economic activity has risen or declined. However, because the effect of students finishing school in previous years is known, the statistics for the current year can be adjusted to allow for a comparable change. Insofar as the seasonal adjustment is made correctly, the adjusted figure provides a more useful tool with which to analyze changes in economic activity.

Most seasonally adjusted series are independently adjusted in both the household and establishment surveys. However, the ad-

justed series for many major estimates, such as total payroll employment, employment in most supersectors, total employment, and unemployment are computed by aggregating independently adjusted component series. For example, total unemployment is derived by summing the adjusted series for four major age-sex components; this differs from the unemployment estimate that would be obtained by directly adjusting the total or by combining the duration, reasons, or more detailed age categories.

For both the household and establishment surveys, a concurrent seasonal adjustment methodology is used in which new seasonal factors are calculated each month, using all relevant data, up to and including the data for the current month. In the household survey, new seasonal factors are used to adjust only the current month's data. In the establishment survey, however, new seasonal factors are used each month to adjust the three most recent monthly estimates. In both surveys, revisions to historical data are made once a year.

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the household and establishment surveys 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 on 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.

For example, the confidence interval for the monthly change in total employment from the household survey is on the order of plus or minus 430,000. Suppose the estimate of total employment increases by 100,000 from one month to the next. The 90-percent confidence interval on the monthly change would range from -330,000 to 530,000 (100,000 +/- 430,000). These figures do not mean that the sample results are off by these magnitudes, but rather that there is about a 90-percent chance that the "true" over-the-month change lies within this interval. Since this range includes values of less than zero, we could not say with confidence that employment had, in fact, increased. If, however, the reported employment rise was half a million, then all of the values within the 90-percent confidence interval would be greater than zero. In this case, it is likely (at least a 90-percent chance) that an employment rise had, in fact, occurred. At an unemployment rate of around 5.5 percent, the 90-percent confidence interval for the monthly change in unemployment is about +/- 280,000, and for the monthly change in the unemployment rate it is about +/- .19 percentage point.

In general, estimates involving many individuals or establishments have lower standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) than estimates which are based on a small number of observations. The precision of estimates is also improved when the data are cumulated over time such as for quarterly and annual averages. The seasonal adjustment process can also improve the stability of the monthly estimates.

The household and establishment surveys are also affected by *nonsampling error*. Nonsampling errors 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 on a timely basis, mistakes made by respondents, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data.

For example, in the establishment survey, estimates for the most recent 2 months are based on incomplete returns; for this reason, these estimates are labeled preliminary in the tables. It is only after two successive revisions to a monthly estimate, when nearly all sample reports have been received, that the estimate is considered final.

Another major source of nonsampling error in the establishment survey is the inability to capture, on a timely basis, employment generated by new firms. To correct for this systematic underestimation of employment growth, an estimation procedure with two components is used to account for business births. The first component uses business deaths to impute employment for business births. This is incorporated into the sample-based link relative estimate procedure by simply not reflecting sample units going out of business, but imputing to them the same trend as the other firms in the sample. The second component is an ARIMA time series model designed to estimate the residual net birth/death employment not accounted for by the imputation. The historical time series used to create and test the ARIMA model was derived from the unemployment insurance universe micro-level database, and reflects the actual residual net of births and deaths over the past five years.

The sample-based estimates from the establishment survey are adjusted once a year (on a lagged basis) to universe counts of payroll employment obtained from administrative records of the unemployment insurance program. The difference between the March sample-based employment estimates and the March universe counts is known as a benchmark revision, and serves as a rough proxy for total survey error. The new benchmarks also incorporate changes in the classification of industries. Over the past decade, the benchmark revision for total nonfarm employment has averaged 0.2 percent, ranging from less than 0.05 percent to 0.4 percent.

Additional statistics and other information

More comprehensive statistics are contained in *Employment and Earnings*, published each month by BLS. It is available for $27.00 per issue or $53.00 per year from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. All orders must be prepaid by sending a check or money order payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or by charging to Mastercard or Visa.

Employment and Earnings also provides measures of sampling error for the household and establishment survey data published in this release. For unemployment and other labor force categories, these measures appear in tables 1-B through 1-D of its "Explanatory Notes." For the establishment survey data, the sampling error measures and the actual size of revisions due to benchmark adjustments appear in tables 2-B through 2-F of *Employment and Earnings*.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone: 1-800-877-8339.

Table A-1. Employment status of the civilian population by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
TOTAL									
Civilian noninstitutional population	224,837	227,425	227,553	224,837	226,693	226,959	227,204	227,425	227,553
Civilian labor force	147,125	149,874	149,090	147,956	150,083	150,043	150,183	150,153	150,114
Participation rate	65.4	65.9	65.5	65.8	66.2	66.1	66.1	66.0	66.0
Employed	138,682	142,918	141,481	140,234	142,435	142,625	142,611	142,779	143,074
Employment-population ratio	61.7	62.8	62.2	62.4	62.8	62.8	62.8	62.8	62.9
Unemployed	8,444	6,956	7,608	7,723	7,648	7,418	7,572	7,375	7,040
Unemployment rate	5.7	4.6	5.1	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.7
Not in labor force	77,712	77,550	78,463	76,881	76,610	76,916	77,021	77,271	77,439
Persons who currently want a job	5,136	4,808	5,095	4,974	4,945	4,994	4,887	5,167	4,962
Men, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	108,489	109,863	109,936	108,489	109,475	109,616	109,745	109,863	109,936
Civilian labor force	78,574	80,140	79,814	79,177	80,333	80,249	80,394	80,431	80,525
Participation rate	72.4	72.9	72.6	73.0	73.4	73.2	73.3	73.2	73.2
Employed	73,728	76,287	75,605	74,980	76,257	76,396	76,410	76,529	76,857
Employment-population ratio	68.0	69.4	68.8	69.1	69.7	69.7	69.6	69.7	69.9
Unemployed	4,846	3,854	4,209	4,197	4,076	3,853	3,984	3,902	3,668
Unemployment rate	6.2	4.8	5.3	5.3	5.1	4.8	5.0	4.9	4.6
Not in labor force	29,914	29,722	30,122	29,311	29,142	29,367	29,351	29,432	29,411
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	100,219	101,489	101,560	100,219	101,136	101,265	101,383	101,489	101,560
Civilian labor force	75,322	76,670	76,513	75,650	76,792	76,780	76,722	76,786	76,928
Participation rate	75.2	75.5	75.3	75.5	75.9	75.8	75.7	75.7	75.7
Employed	71,104	73,315	72,864	72,092	73,331	73,500	73,441	73,468	73,844
Employment-population ratio	70.9	72.2	71.7	71.9	72.5	72.6	72.4	72.4	72.7
Unemployed	4,218	3,355	3,648	3,558	3,461	3,281	3,282	3,318	3,084
Unemployment rate	5.6	4.4	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.0
Not in labor force	24,897	24,819	25,047	24,569	24,344	24,485	24,660	24,703	24,631
Women, 16 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	116,348	117,562	117,617	116,348	117,218	117,343	117,459	117,562	117,617
Civilian labor force	68,551	69,734	69,276	68,779	69,750	69,794	69,789	69,722	69,589
Participation rate	58.9	59.3	58.9	59.1	59.5	59.5	59.4	59.3	59.2
Employed	64,953	66,631	65,876	65,254	66,178	66,229	66,200	66,250	66,217
Employment-population ratio	55.8	56.7	56.0	56.1	56.5	56.4	56.4	56.4	56.3
Unemployed	3,598	3,102	3,399	3,525	3,572	3,565	3,588	3,473	3,372
Unemployment rate	5.2	4.4	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.8
Not in labor force	47,798	47,828	48,341	47,569	47,468	47,549	47,670	47,840	48,028
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian noninstitutional population	108,316	109,425	109,478	108,316	109,114	109,228	109,332	109,425	109,478
Civilian labor force	65,253	66,376	65,929	65,260	66,129	66,175	66,223	66,215	66,022
Participation rate	60.2	60.7	60.2	60.2	60.6	60.6	60.6	60.5	60.3
Employed	62,117	63,669	62,997	62,236	63,074	63,162	63,170	63,249	63,163
Employment-population ratio	57.3	58.2	57.5	57.5	57.8	57.8	57.8	57.8	57.7
Unemployed	3,136	2,707	2,933	3,024	3,055	3,013	3,053	2,966	2,859
Unemployment rate	4.8	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.3
Not in labor force	43,063	43,048	43,548	43,056	42,985	43,053	43,109	43,209	43,456
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian noninstitutional population	16,302	16,511	16,515	16,302	16,443	16,465	16,489	16,511	16,515
Civilian labor force	6,550	6,828	6,648	7,046	7,163	7,088	7,238	7,152	7,164
Participation rate	40.2	41.4	40.3	43.2	43.6	43.0	43.9	43.3	43.4
Employed	5,460	5,934	5,620	5,906	6,030	5,964	6,000	6,061	6,067
Employment-population ratio	33.5	35.9	34.0	36.2	36.7	36.2	36.4	36.7	36.7
Unemployed	1,090	894	1,028	1,140	1,133	1,124	1,238	1,091	1,097
Unemployment rate	16.6	13.1	15.5	16.2	15.8	15.9	17.1	15.2	15.3
Not in labor force	9,752	9,683	9,867	9,256	9,281	9,377	9,251	9,359	9,352

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.
NOTE: Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-2. Employment status of the civilian population by race, sex, and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, race, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
WHITE									
Civilian noninstitutional population	183,640	185,327	185,436	183,640	184,851	185,028	185,187	185,327	185,436
Civilian labor force	120,778	122,752	122,351	121,490	122,843	122,810	122,813	122,994	123,168
Participation rate	65.8	66.2	66.0	66.2	66.5	66.4	66.3	66.4	66.4
Employed	114,756	117,803	116,745	116,072	117,354	117,396	117,598	117,729	118,071
Employment-population ratio	62.5	63.6	63.0	63.2	63.5	63.4	63.5	63.5	63.7
Unemployed	6,023	4,949	5,605	5,419	5,489	5,415	5,215	5,264	5,097
Unemployment rate	5.0	4.0	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.1
Not in labor force	62,862	62,575	63,085	62,150	62,008	62,218	62,374	62,333	62,268
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	62,929	63,925	63,890	63,264	63,849	63,901	63,827	64,028	64,250
Participation rate	75.7	76.1	76.0	76.1	76.2	76.2	76.0	76.2	76.4
Employed	59,849	61,455	61,100	60,713	61,280	61,465	61,498	61,586	61,924
Employment-population ratio	72.0	73.2	72.7	73.0	73.2	73.3	73.3	73.3	73.7
Unemployed	3,080	2,470	2,790	2,551	2,568	2,436	2,328	2,441	2,326
Unemployment rate	4.9	3.9	4.4	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.6
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	52,399	53,175	52,900	52,335	52,971	52,998	53,037	53,067	52,913
Participation rate	59.6	60.0	59.7	59.6	59.9	59.9	59.9	59.9	59.7
Employed	50,272	51,365	50,847	50,301	50,851	50,856	50,976	51,034	50,938
Employment-population ratio	57.2	58.0	57.4	57.2	57.5	57.5	57.6	57.6	57.5
Unemployed	2,128	1,810	2,052	2,034	2,120	2,141	2,061	2,034	1,974
Unemployment rate	4.1	3.4	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.7
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	5,450	5,651	5,561	5,892	6,023	5,912	5,949	5,899	6,005
Participation rate	43.1	44.3	43.6	46.6	47.4	46.5	46.7	46.3	47.1
Employed	4,636	4,983	4,798	5,058	5,222	5,074	5,123	5,110	5,209
Employment-population ratio	36.7	39.1	37.6	40.0	41.1	39.9	40.2	40.1	40.8
Unemployed	815	669	763	834	801	838	826	789	797
Unemployment rate	14.9	11.8	13.7	14.2	13.3	14.2	13.9	13.4	13.3
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN									
Civilian noninstitutional population	26,306	26,744	26,788	26,306	26,618	26,663	26,705	26,744	26,788
Civilian labor force	16,538	17,001	16,764	16,723	17,068	17,150	17,118	16,979	16,982
Participation rate	62.9	63.6	62.6	63.6	64.1	64.3	64.1	63.5	63.4
Employed	14,720	15,487	15,231	14,965	15,455	15,591	15,299	15,397	15,476
Employment-population ratio	56.0	57.9	56.9	56.9	58.1	58.5	57.3	57.6	57.8
Unemployed	1,818	1,514	1,532	1,758	1,613	1,559	1,819	1,582	1,506
Unemployment rate	11.0	8.9	9.1	10.5	9.5	9.1	10.6	9.3	8.9
Not in labor force	9,768	9,743	10,024	9,584	9,549	9,513	9,587	9,766	9,806
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	7,383	7,560	7,473	7,402	7,672	7,659	7,556	7,553	7,520
Participation rate	69.9	70.3	69.4	70.0	71.7	71.4	70.4	70.2	69.8
Employed	6,526	6,897	6,840	6,641	7,006	7,006	6,849	6,903	6,959
Employment-population ratio	61.7	64.1	63.5	62.8	65.5	65.3	63.8	64.2	64.6
Unemployed	858	663	633	761	666	653	707	651	561
Unemployment rate	11.6	8.8	8.5	10.3	8.7	8.5	9.4	8.6	7.5
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	8,439	8,667	8,587	8,532	8,664	8,726	8,714	8,633	8,681
Participation rate	63.5	64.3	63.7	64.2	64.6	64.9	64.8	64.1	64.4
Employed	7,683	7,965	7,892	7,777	7,959	8,069	7,927	7,896	7,981
Employment-population ratio	57.8	59.1	58.5	58.5	59.3	60.0	58.9	58.6	59.2
Unemployed	756	702	695	755	705	658	787	738	700
Unemployment rate	9.0	8.1	8.1	8.8	8.1	7.5	9.0	8.5	8.1
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	716	774	703	788	733	765	848	792	781
Participation rate	29.2	30.7	27.9	32.2	29.4	30.6	33.8	31.5	30.9
Employed	512	624	499	546	490	517	523	598	536
Employment-population ratio	20.9	24.8	19.8	22.3	19.7	20.7	20.8	23.8	21.2
Unemployed	204	150	204	242	242	248	326	194	245
Unemployment rate	28.6	19.3	29.0	30.7	33.1	32.4	38.4	24.4	31.4
ASIAN									
Civilian noninstutional population	9,661	10,036	9,990	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Civilian labor force	6,386	6,652	6,565	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	66.1	66.3	65.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	6,115	6,400	6,357	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	63.3	63.8	63.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	271	252	208	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	4.2	3.8	3.2	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Not in labor force	3,274	3,384	3,425	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.
[2] Data not available.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups will not sum to totals shown in table A-1 because data are not presented for all races. Beginning in January 2005, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-3. Employment status of the Hispanic or Latino population by sex and age

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, and age	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted [1]					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY									
Civilian noninstitutional population	28,642	29,645	29,622	28,642	29,361	29,456	29,552	29,645	29,622
Civilian labor force	19,170	20,316	20,272	19,402	19,944	20,047	20,214	20,292	20,528
Participation rate	66.9	68.5	68.4	67.7	67.9	68.1	68.4	68.4	69.3
Employed	17,839	19,084	18,969	18,208	18,647	18,871	18,991	19,066	19,344
Employment-population ratio	62.3	64.4	64.0	63.6	63.5	64.1	64.3	64.3	65.3
Unemployed	1,331	1,232	1,303	1,194	1,297	1,176	1,223	1,226	1,184
Unemployment rate	6.9	6.1	6.4	6.2	6.5	5.9	6.1	6.0	5.8
Not in labor force	9,472	9,329	9,349	9,239	9,417	9,409	9,338	9,353	9,094
Men, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	11,089	11,664	11,647	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	83.1	84.3	84.3	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	10,404	11,071	11,002	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	78.0	80.0	79.6	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	685	593	645	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	6.2	5.1	5.5	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Women, 20 years and over									
Civilian labor force	7,188	7,590	7,605	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	56.8	58.1	58.2	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	6,717	7,135	7,142	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	53.1	54.6	54.7	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	471	455	464	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	6.5	6.0	6.1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years									
Civilian labor force	893	1,061	1,020	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Participation rate	33.7	38.7	37.3	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employed	718	878	825	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Employment-population ratio	27.1	32.0	30.2	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployed	175	184	195	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Unemployment rate	19.6	17.3	19.1	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)

[1] The population figures are not adjusted for seasonal variation; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns.
[2] Data not available.

NOTE: Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-4. Employment status of the civilian population 25 years and over by educational attainment

(Numbers in thousands)

Educational attainment	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
Less than a high school diploma									
Civilian labor force	12,562	12,490	12,621	12,597	12,729	12,502	12,529	12,388	12,628
Participation rate	44.7	45.6	45.9	44.8	45.2	45.4	45.4	45.3	46.0
Employed	11,417	11,499	11,580	11,638	11,690	11,611	11,602	11,465	11,742
Employment-population ratio	40.6	42.0	42.1	41.4	41.5	42.1	42.1	41.9	42.7
Unemployed	1,144	991	1,041	959	1,039	891	927	923	886
Unemployment rate	9.1	7.9	8.2	7.6	8.2	7.1	7.4	7.5	7.0
High school graduates, no college [1]									
Civilian labor force	38,002	38,167	38,018	37,870	38,324	38,467	38,372	38,173	38,001
Participation rate	62.6	63.1	62.5	62.4	63.9	63.6	63.4	63.1	62.5
Employed	35,907	36,445	36,075	36,086	36,404	36,627	36,547	36,417	36,324
Employment-population ratio	59.2	60.3	59.3	59.5	60.7	60.8	60.4	60.2	59.7
Unemployed	2,096	1,722	1,943	1,784	1,921	1,840	1,825	1,756	1,678
Unemployment rate	5.5	4.5	5.1	4.7	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.4
Some college or associate degree									
Civilian labor force	34,254	35,329	35,265	34,523	35,148	35,310	35,411	35,498	35,535
Participation rate	72.4	72.0	71.9	73.0	72.4	72.3	72.3	72.4	72.5
Employed	32,740	33,978	33,917	33,125	33,866	33,967	34,059	34,115	34,290
Employment-population ratio	69.2	69.3	69.2	70.0	69.8	69.6	69.5	69.6	69.9
Unemployed	1,514	1,350	1,348	1,398	1,282	1,343	1,352	1,383	1,245
Unemployment rate	4.4	3.8	3.8	4.1	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.5
Bachelor's degree and higher [2]									
Civilian labor force	40,789	42,100	41,818	40,764	41,558	41,616	41,600	42,097	41,837
Participation rate	78.2	78.4	78.2	78.1	78.1	77.7	78.1	78.4	78.3
Employed	39,760	41,262	40,907	39,777	40,588	40,670	40,665	41,187	40,955
Employment-population ratio	76.2	76.8	76.5	76.2	76.3	75.9	76.3	76.7	76.6
Unemployed	1,029	838	911	987	970	946	936	910	882
Unemployment rate	2.5	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1

[1] Includes persons with a high school diploma or equivalent.
[2] Includes persons with bachelor's, master's, professional, and doctoral degrees.

NOTE: Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-5. Employed persons by class of worker and part-time status

(In thousands)

Category	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
CLASS OF WORKER									
Agriculture and related industries	1,920	1,942	1,970	2,138	2,140	2,126	2,154	2,130	2,198
Wage and salary workers	1,042	1,058	1,118	1,197	1,118	1,161	1,187	1,187	1,266
Self-employed workers	865	868	834	915	978	936	928	921	897
Unpaid family workers	13	15	17	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])
Nonagricultural industries	136,761	140,976	139,512	138,076	140,421	140,577	140,427	140,638	140,862
Wage and salary workers	127,208	131,616	129,918	128,438	130,937	131,123	131,001	131,170	131,185
Government	20,363	20,252	19,970	20,312	20,255	20,330	20,224	20,192	19,952
Private industries	106,846	111,364	109,948	108,173	110,688	110,799	110,787	111,021	111,266
Private households	800	782	839	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])
Other industries	106,045	110,582	109,109	107,372	109,858	109,986	110,039	110,261	110,440
Self-employed workers	9,449	9,294	9,534	9,545	9,359	9,356	9,274	9,370	9,550
Unpaid family workers	104	66	59	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])
PERSONS AT WORK PART TIME [2]									
All industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,903	4,183	4,597	4,395	4,565	4,240	4,175	4,138	4,133
Slack work or business conditions	3,214	2,654	3,108	2,759	2,893	2,643	2,595	2,541	2,649
Could only find part-time work	1,314	1,132	1,182	1,332	1,331	1,299	1,246	1,246	1,226
Part time for noneconomic reasons	19,207	20,420	19,908	19,088	19,581	19,696	19,612	19,582	19,708
Nonagricultural industries:									
Part time for economic reasons	4,793	4,069	4,513	4,303	4,500	4,161	4,105	4,051	4,064
Slack work or business conditions	3,145	2,591	3,063	2,686	2,846	2,592	2,567	2,508	2,606
Could only find part-time work	1,304	1,129	1,170	1,318	1,335	1,284	1,230	1,230	1,198
Part time for noneconomic reasons	18,866	20,040	19,545	18,738	19,207	19,255	19,235	19,214	19,368

[1] Data not available.

[2] Persons at work excludes employed persons who were absent from their jobs during the entire reference week for reasons such as vacation, illness, or industrial dispute. Part time for noneconomic reasons excludes persons who usually work full time but worked only 1 to 34 hours during the reference week for reasons such as holidays, illness, and bad weather.

NOTE: Detail for the seasonally adjusted data shown in this table will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series. Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-6. Selected employment indicators

(In thousands)

Characteristic	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	138,682	142,918	141,481	140,234	142,435	142,625	142,611	142,779	143,074
16 to 19 years	5,460	5,934	5,620	5,906	6,030	5,964	6,000	6,061	6,067
16 to 17 years	2,089	2,270	2,099	2,269	2,290	2,290	2,285	2,334	2,280
18 to 19 years	3,371	3,664	3,522	3,636	3,739	3,673	3,694	3,713	3,788
20 years and over	133,221	136,984	135,861	134,328	136,405	136,661	136,610	136,717	137,007
20 to 24 years	13,398	13,799	13,382	13,706	13,841	13,945	13,931	13,840	13,713
25 years and over	119,824	123,185	122,479	120,691	122,601	122,719	122,731	122,906	123,302
25 to 54 years	97,330	99,104	98,514	98,061	98,852	98,834	98,849	98,934	99,216
25 to 34 years	30,345	30,876	30,541	30,667	30,714	30,864	30,920	30,866	30,860
35 to 44 years	34,353	34,681	34,388	34,599	34,821	34,601	34,513	34,581	34,632
45 to 54 years	32,632	33,547	33,585	32,795	33,317	33,369	33,416	33,486	33,724
55 years and over	22,493	24,081	23,965	22,629	23,748	23,885	23,883	23,972	24,086
Men, 16 years and over	73,728	76,287	75,605	74,980	76,257	76,396	76,410	76,529	76,857
16 to 19 years	2,624	2,972	2,741	2,888	2,926	2,896	2,970	3,061	3,013
16 to 17 years	942	1,041	942	1,067	1,053	1,043	1,062	1,090	1,064
18 to 19 years	1,682	1,931	1,799	1,816	1,865	1,848	1,890	1,951	1,943
20 years and over	71,104	73,315	72,864	72,092	73,331	73,500	73,441	73,468	73,844
20 to 24 years	6,966	7,280	7,057	7,188	7,247	7,310	7,330	7,356	7,297
25 years and over	64,139	66,034	65,807	64,930	66,035	66,192	66,142	66,157	66,534
25 to 54 years	52,184	53,239	52,985	52,861	53,324	53,429	53,419	53,375	53,621
25 to 34 years	16,646	17,032	16,855	16,905	17,033	17,107	17,103	17,080	17,106
35 to 44 years	18,556	18,710	18,616	18,773	18,808	18,800	18,745	18,739	18,818
45 to 54 years	16,982	17,497	17,514	17,183	17,483	17,522	17,571	17,556	17,697
55 years and over	11,954	12,795	12,822	12,069	12,711	12,763	12,723	12,782	12,913
Women, 16 years and over	64,953	66,631	65,876	65,254	66,178	66,229	66,200	66,250	66,217
16 to 19 years	2,836	2,962	2,879	3,018	3,104	3,068	3,031	3,000	3,054
16 to 17 years	1,146	1,229	1,157	1,202	1,237	1,247	1,223	1,245	1,216
18 to 19 years	1,689	1,733	1,723	1,820	1,874	1,825	1,804	1,762	1,845
20 years and over	62,117	63,669	62,997	62,236	63,074	63,162	63,170	63,249	63,163
20 to 24 years	6,432	6,519	6,325	6,519	6,594	6,635	6,601	6,484	6,415
25 years and over	55,685	57,150	56,672	55,761	56,566	56,527	56,589	56,749	56,769
25 to 54 years	45,146	45,865	45,529	45,200	45,528	45,405	45,430	45,559	45,596
25 to 34 years	13,699	13,844	13,685	13,762	13,680	13,757	13,817	13,786	13,754
35 to 44 years	15,797	15,971	15,772	15,826	16,013	15,801	15,768	15,843	15,814
45 to 54 years	15,650	16,050	16,071	15,612	15,835	15,847	15,845	15,930	16,027
55 years and over	10,539	11,285	11,143	10,561	11,037	11,122	11,159	11,190	11,173
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	44,853	45,708	45,530	45,195	45,457	45,634	45,480	45,469	45,790
Married women, spouse present	34,880	35,438	35,388	34,696	34,943	34,868	34,910	34,948	35,167
Women who maintain families	8,854	9,028	8,711	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers [2]	114,181	117,791	116,395	115,939	117,469	117,783	117,860	118,135	118,166
Part-time workers [3]	24,501	25,127	25,086	24,254	25,009	24,898	24,814	24,743	24,931
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS									
Total multiple jobholders	7,225	7,665	7,428	7,446	7,616	7,564	7,545	7,473	7,603
Percent of total employed	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.3

[1] Data not available.
[2] Employed full-time workers are persons who usually work 35 hours or more per week.
[3] Employed part-time workers are persons who usually work less than 35 hours per week.

NOTE: Detail for the seasonally adjusted data shown in this table will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series. Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-7. Selected unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)			Unemployment rates [1]					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
AGE AND SEX									
Total, 16 years and over	7,723	7,375	7,040	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.7
16 to 19 years	1,140	1,091	1,097	16.2	15.8	15.9	17.1	15.2	15.3
16 to 17 years	542	507	451	19.3	18.8	18.7	21.4	17.8	16.5
18 to 19 years	611	580	635	14.4	13.9	14.2	14.2	13.5	14.4
20 years and over	6,582	6,284	5,943	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.2
20 to 24 years	1,433	1,283	1,224	9.5	8.7	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.2
25 years and over	5,155	5,010	4,737	4.1	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.7
25 to 54 years	4,323	4,227	3,924	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.8
25 to 34 years	1,639	1,625	1,482	5.1	5.4	4.8	5.0	5.0	4.6
35 to 44 years	1,477	1,381	1,317	4.1	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.7
45 to 54 years	1,207	1,221	1,125	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.2
55 years and over	826	808	791	3.5	3.6	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.2
Men, 16 years and over	4,197	3,902	3,668	5.3	5.1	4.8	5.0	4.9	4.6
16 to 19 years	639	584	584	18.1	17.4	16.5	19.1	16.0	16.2
16 to 17 years	305	269	218	22.2	21.3	18.1	23.6	19.8	17.0
18 to 19 years	345	312	355	15.9	15.1	15.5	15.6	13.8	15.4
20 years and over	3,558	3,318	3,084	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.0
20 to 24 years	818	743	711	10.2	9.8	9.4	9.1	9.2	8.9
25 years and over	2,731	2,583	2,386	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.5
25 to 54 years	2,246	2,154	1,960	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.5
25 to 34 years	840	785	748	4.7	5.0	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.2
35 to 44 years	749	725	625	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.2
45 to 54 years	658	643	588	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.2
55 years and over	485	430	426	3.9	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.2
Women, 16 years and over	3,525	3,473	3,372	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.8
16 to 19 years	501	507	513	14.2	14.3	15.2	15.0	14.4	14.4
16 to 17 years	237	238	233	16.5	16.6	19.1	19.5	16.1	16.1
18 to 19 years	267	268	281	12.8	12.6	12.8	12.7	13.2	13.2
20 years and over	3,024	2,966	2,859	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.3
20 to 24 years	615	540	514	8.6	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.4
25 years and over	2,424	2,427	2,351	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.0
25 to 54 years	2,076	2,073	1,963	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.1
25 to 34 years	799	840	734	5.5	5.8	5.3	5.7	5.7	5.1
35 to 44 years	728	656	692	4.4	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.2
45 to 54 years	549	577	537	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.2
55 years and over [2]	360	340	381	3.3	3.9	3.1	3.1	2.9	3.3
MARITAL STATUS									
Married men, spouse present	1,405	1,219	1,136	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.4
Married women, spouse present	1,160	1,151	1,102	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.0
Women who maintain families [2]	788	671	778	8.2	7.6	7.3	7.2	6.9	8.2
FULL- OR PART-TIME STATUS									
Full-time workers [3]	6,397	5,920	5,782	5.2	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.7
Part-time workers [4]	1,336	1,454	1,261	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.7	5.5	4.8

[1] Unemployment as a percent of the civilian labor force.
[2] Not seasonally adjusted.
[3] Full-time workers are unemployed persons who have expressed a desire to work full time (35 hours or more per week) or are on layoff from full-time jobs.
[4] Part-time workers are unemployed persons who have expressed a desire to work part time (less than 35 hours per week) or are on layoff from part-time jobs.

NOTE: Detail shown in this table will not necessarily add to totals because of the independent seasonal adjustment of the various series. Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-8. Unemployed persons by reason for unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Reason	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	4,771	3,622	3,990	3,982	3,697	3,508	3,455	3,486	3,336
On temporary layoff	1,473	1,013	1,319	962	970	944	899	935	873
Not on temporary layoff	3,299	2,609	2,671	3,020	2,726	2,564	2,556	2,552	2,462
Permanent job losers	2,360	1,866	1,861	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])
Persons who completed temporary jobs	938	743	810	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])	([1])
Job leavers	820	752	831	815	874	899	900	841	839
Reentrants	2,310	2,083	2,252	2,336	2,423	2,349	2,538	2,430	2,314
New entrants	542	499	535	621	626	654	679	644	622
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	56.5	52.1	52.4	51.4	48.5	47.4	45.6	47.1	46.9
On temporary layoff	17.4	14.6	17.3	12.4	12.7	12.8	11.9	12.6	12.3
Not on temporary layoff	39.1	37.5	35.1	39.0	35.8	34.7	33.8	34.5	34.6
Job leavers	9.7	10.8	10.9	10.5	11.5	12.0	11.9	11.4	11.8
Reentrants	27.4	30.0	29.6	30.1	31.8	31.7	33.5	32.8	32.5
New entrants	6.4	7.2	7.0	8.0	8.2	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.7
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE									
Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs	3.2	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2
Job leavers	.6	.5	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6	.6
Reentrants	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5
New entrants	.4	.3	.4	.4	.4	.4	.5	.4	.4

[1] Data not available.

NOTE: Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-9. Unemployed persons by duration of unemployment

(Numbers in thousands)

Duration	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED									
Less than 5 weeks	2,948	2,443	2,833	2,597	2,751	2,708	2,779	2,764	2,556
5 to 14 weeks	2,527	2,189	2,433	2,348	2,253	2,263	2,268	2,240	2,263
15 weeks and over	2,969	2,324	2,343	2,821	2,584	2,477	2,492	2,417	2,241
15 to 26 weeks	1,269	1,014	1,143	1,191	1,120	1,045	1,108	1,068	1,090
27 weeks and over	1,700	1,310	1,200	1,630	1,464	1,432	1,383	1,350	1,151
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	18.5	17.5	16.0	19.2	18.2	18.0	17.6	17.3	16.8
Median duration, in weeks	9.2	8.6	8.3	9.3	8.5	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.4
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION									
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	34.9	35.1	37.2	33.4	36.3	36.4	36.9	37.2	36.2
5 to 14 weeks	29.9	31.5	32.0	30.2	29.7	30.4	30.1	30.2	32.1
15 weeks and over	35.2	33.4	30.8	36.3	34.1	33.3	33.0	32.6	31.7
15 to 26 weeks	15.0	14.6	15.0	15.3	14.8	14.0	14.7	14.4	15.4
27 weeks and over	20.1	18.8	15.8	21.0	19.3	19.2	18.3	18.2	16.3

NOTE: Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-10. Employed and unemployed persons by occupation, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Occupation	Employed		Unemployed		Unemployment rates	
	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2006
Total, 16 years and over [1]	138,682	141,481	8,444	7,608	5.7	5.1
Management, professional, and related occupations	48,878	50,131	1,215	1,078	2.4	2.1
Management, business, and financial operations occupations	20,063	21,074	482	424	2.3	2.0
Professional and related occupations	28,815	29,056	733	654	2.5	2.2
Service occupations	22,276	22,550	1,763	1,549	7.3	6.4
Sales and office occupations	35,284	35,799	1,982	1,761	5.3	4.7
Sales and related occupations	15,936	16,315	950	949	5.6	5.5
Office and administrative support occupations	19,348	19,484	1,031	812	5.1	4.0
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	14,327	15,088	1,487	1,275	9.4	7.8
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	798	851	166	161	17.2	15.9
Construction and extraction occupations	8,376	9,102	1,082	915	11.4	9.1
Installation, maintenance, and repair occupations	5,154	5,135	240	199	4.4	3.7
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	17,916	17,914	1,414	1,365	7.3	7.1
Production occupations	9,372	9,450	721	665	7.1	6.6
Transportation and material moving occupations	8,544	8,464	693	700	7.5	7.6

[1] Persons with no previous work experience and persons whose last job was in the Armed Forces are included in the unemployed total.
NOTE: Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-11. Unemployed persons by industry and class of worker, not seasonally adjusted

Industry and class of worker	Number of unemployed persons (in thousands)		Unemployment rates	
	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2006
Total, 16 years and over [1]	8,444	7,608	5.7	5.1
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers	6,849	6,135	6.0	5.3
Mining	29	26	4.9	3.9
Construction	1,079	868	11.8	9.0
Manufacturing	889	778	5.3	4.6
Durable goods	547	450	5.1	4.1
Nondurable goods	341	328	5.7	5.4
Wholesale and retail trade	1,302	1,203	6.3	5.7
Transportation and utilities	276	287	5.0	5.0
Information	168	105	5.4	3.3
Financial activities	252	233	2.7	2.4
Professional and business services	958	825	7.6	6.5
Education and health services	613	593	3.4	3.2
Leisure and hospitality	993	910	8.7	8.1
Other services	290	308	4.7	4.9
Agriculture and related private wage and salary workers	153	140	13.2	11.5
Government workers	555	457	2.6	2.2
Self employed and unpaid family workers	346	341	3.2	3.2

[1] Persons with no previous work experience are included in the unemployed total.
NOTE: Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-12. Alternative measures of labor underutilization

(Percent)

Measure	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Jan. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005	Jan. 2006
U-1 Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5
U-2 Job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force	3.2	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2
U-3 Total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force (official unemployment rate)	5.7	4.6	5.1	5.2	5.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.7
U-4 Total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers	6.1	4.9	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.2	4.9
U-5 Total unemployed, plus discouraged workers, plus all other marginally attached workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers	6.9	5.6	6.1	6.4	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.7
U-6 Total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers	10.2	8.4	9.2	9.3	9.0	8.6	8.7	8.6	8.4

NOTE: Marginally attached workers are persons who currently are neither working nor looking for work but indicate that they want and are available for a job and have looked for work sometime in the recent past. Discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached, have given a job-market related reason for not currently looking for a job. Persons employed part time for economic reasons are those who want and are available for full-time work but have had to settle for a part-time schedule. For further information, see "BLS introduces new range of alternative unemployment measures," in the October 1995 issue of the *Monthly Labor Review*. Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table A-13. Persons not in the labor force and multiple jobholders by sex, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Total		Men		Women	
	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2006
NOT IN THE LABOR FORCE						
Total not in the labor force	77,712	78,463	29,914	30,122	47,798	48,341
Persons who currently want a job	5,136	5,095	2,433	2,293	2,703	2,802
Searched for work and available to work now [1]	1,804	1,644	981	828	823	815
Reason not currently looking:						
Discouragement over job prospects [2]	515	396	338	216	177	180
Reasons other than discouragement [3]	1,289	1,248	643	613	645	636
MULTIPLE JOBHOLDERS						
Total multiple jobholders [4]	7,225	7,428	3,674	3,803	3,551	3,626
Percent of total employed	5.2	5.3	5.0	5.0	5.5	5.5
Primary job full time, secondary job part time	3,782	3,953	2,117	2,211	1,665	1,743
Primary and secondary jobs both part time	1,612	1,682	548	574	1,064	1,108
Primary and secondary jobs both full time	284	289	179	191	104	99
Hours vary on primary or secondary job	1,497	1,468	809	806	688	662

[1] Data refer to persons who have searched for work during the prior 12 months and were available to take a job during the reference week.

[2] Includes thinks no work available, could not find work, lacks schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination.

[3] Includes those who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for such reasons as school or family responsibilities, ill health, and transportation problems, as well as a small number for which reason for nonparticipation was not determined.

[4] Includes persons who work part time on their primary job and full time on their secondary job(s), not shown separately.

NOTE: Beginning in January 2006, data reflect revised population controls used in the household survey.

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Jan. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Change from: Dec. 2005-Jan. 2006p
Total nonfarm	130,368	135,316	135,044	132,419	132,471	133,840	133,877	134,231	134,371	134,564	193
Total private	108,741	112,985	112,825	110,644	110,756	111,985	112,025	112,351	112,496	112,690	194
Goods-producing	21,414	22,402	22,157	21,758	21,988	22,143	22,179	22,264	22,273	22,331	58
Natural resources and mining	591	645	644	637	605	631	636	641	646	651	5
Logging	65.3	64.2	62.8	60.9	66.9	62.7	62.1	62.1	62.2	62.3	.1
Mining	525.4	581.1	581.1	576.4	537.7	567.9	573.8	579.3	583.3	589.0	5.7
Oil and gas extraction	123.0	128.5	128.2	127.5	124.0	126.5	127.4	128.9	128.3	128.6	.3
Mining, except oil and gas[1]	199.0	216.8	212.3	207.1	207.8	212.7	214.5	215.0	215.3	216.3	1.0
Coal mining	72.1	75.2	75.8	76.0	72.3	74.5	75.1	75.1	75.5	76.2	.7
Support activities for mining	203.4	235.8	240.6	241.8	205.9	228.7	231.9	235.4	239.7	244.1	4.4
Construction	6,682	7,524	7,286	7,016	7,115	7,325	7,347	7,409	7,414	7,460	46
Construction of buildings	1,615.2	1,738.8	1,722.1	1,681.5	1,675.6	1,697.6	1,702.4	1,722.4	1,728.4	1,738.6	10.2
Residential building	900.4	969.1	965.3	945.2	934.1	952.5	952.8	963.6	969.8	977.4	7.6
Nonresidential building	714.8	769.7	756.8	736.3	741.5	745.1	749.6	758.8	758.6	761.2	2.6
Heavy and civil engineering construction	809.9	1,005.3	932.2	869.2	922.3	963.9	965.3	977.1	973.9	982.1	8.2
Specialty trade contractors	4,256.5	4,779.7	4,631.3	4,464.9	4,517.5	4,663.3	4,679.2	4,709.4	4,711.9	4,739.5	27.6
Residential specialty trade contractors	2,069.0	2,370.9	2,316.8	2,232.3	2,192.8	2,308.8	2,326.0	2,339.4	2,348.6	2,369.1	20.5
Nonresidential specialty trade contractors	2,187.5	2,408.8	2,314.5	2,232.6	2,324.7	2,354.5	2,353.2	2,370.0	2,363.3	2,370.4	7.1
Manufacturing	14,141	14,233	14,227	14,105	14,268	14,187	14,196	14,214	14,213	14,220	7
Production workers	9,946	10,131	10,131	10,042	10,054	10,048	10,069	10,103	10,117	10,138	21
Durable goods	8,882	8,970	8,984	8,918	8,943	8,933	8,952	8,960	8,966	8,973	7
Production workers	6,116	6,287	6,317	6,269	6,169	6,218	6,249	6,274	6,298	6,315	17
Wood products	546.0	556.6	556.6	552.2	556.8	552.2	550.7	556.7	559.5	562.3	2.8
Nonmetallic mineral products	486.6	505.6	497.3	490.2	505.5	501.1	500.8	502.0	501.8	508.0	6.2
Primary metals	467.0	470.7	471.6	472.8	467.4	469.7	470.5	471.5	470.0	473.3	3.3
Fabricated metal products	1,505.9	1,525.7	1,527.8	1,522.9	1,512.3	1,521.7	1,520.8	1,524.1	1,526.7	1,529.4	2.7
Machinery	1,149.4	1,163.6	1,169.9	1,159.8	1,150.1	1,163.4	1,174.5	1,164.4	1,163.9	1,160.0	-3.9
Computer and electronic products[1]	1,315.2	1,322.2	1,323.7	1,312.8	1,317.5	1,322.8	1,323.5	1,322.0	1,320.5	1,314.8	-5.7
Computer and peripheral equipment	205.4	206.0	206.1	203.1	204.6	207.4	207.9	206.3	205.5	202.6	-2.9
Communications equipment	149.8	148.4	148.9	146.9	149.2	147.9	148.2	148.0	148.5	146.1	-2.4
Semiconductors and electronic components	448.6	450.2	450.9	447.6	450.9	451.8	450.7	450.6	450.3	449.6	-.7
Electronic instruments	434.3	442.3	442.8	440.9	435.4	440.6	441.6	442.0	441.5	441.9	.4
Electrical equipment and appliances	440.3	434.3	435.6	436.4	440.7	431.8	431.1	434.3	434.9	436.1	1.2
Transportation equipment[1]	1,754.7	1,776.3	1,785.9	1,764.8	1,766.6	1,753.7	1,765.5	1,771.8	1,775.9	1,775.6	-.3
Motor vehicles and parts[2]	1,094.8	1,095.7	1,099.6	1,085.6	1,103.7	1,098.4	1,088.4	1,092.4	1,091.6	1,093.4	1.8
Furniture and related products	568.0	557.8	559.0	553.7	571.7	561.3	560.5	558.4	558.2	557.1	-1.1
Miscellaneous manufacturing	649.3	656.7	656.8	651.9	654.2	655.0	653.6	654.7	654.9	656.6	1.7
Nondurable goods	5,259	5,263	5,243	5,187	5,325	5,254	5,244	5,254	5,247	5,247	0
Production workers	3,830	3,844	3,814	3,773	3,885	3,830	3,820	3,829	3,819	3,823	4
Food manufacturing	1,459.8	1,474.1	1,471.1	1,442.8	1,484.7	1,461.4	1,458.5	1,465.0	1,466.5	1,465.3	-1.2
Beverages and tobacco products	188.1	193.2	192.0	190.3	193.0	191.0	192.4	193.4	192.5	194.6	2.1
Textile mills	224.0	210.0	206.9	206.3	227.4	214.7	213.2	210.9	209.0	209.5	.5
Textile product mills	169.9	172.9	172.2	174.9	172.8	173.0	173.8	174.5	174.5	177.1	2.6
Apparel	263.9	253.7	249.8	245.9	271.6	255.1	251.8	253.7	252.6	252.4	-.2
Leather and allied products	39.3	39.5	39.9	38.7	40.1	39.5	39.6	39.5	39.8	39.4	-.4
Paper and paper products	488.7	479.4	477.5	475.2	490.2	480.5	478.5	478.5	477.2	476.7	-.5
Printing and related support activities	648.1	647.4	644.6	635.3	653.0	646.4	645.1	644.8	641.9	640.3	-1.6
Petroleum and coal products	108.3	112.3	109.4	107.2	111.8	113.0	113.1	112.3	111.9	111.0	-.9
Chemicals	872.9	879.7	881.9	878.4	878.0	880.3	879.3	881.5	882.6	882.7	.1
Plastics and rubber products	796.4	801.1	797.9	791.5	802.0	799.5	799.1	799.4	798.8	797.5	-1.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail—Continued

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Jan. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Change from: Dec. 2005-Jan. 2006p
Service-providing	108,954	112,914	112,887	110,661	110,483	111,697	111,698	111,967	112,098	112,233	135
Private service-providing	87,327	90,583	90,668	88,886	88,768	89,842	89,846	90,087	90,223	90,359	136
Trade, transportation, and utilities	25,534	26,445	26,629	25,835	25,724	25,944	25,945	26,006	26,018	26,037	19
Wholesale trade	5,655.4	5,790.7	5,796.2	5,754.5	5,701.7	5,762.3	5,767.8	5,782.7	5,786.6	5,801.7	15.1
Durable goods	2,954.0	3,011.7	3,024.2	3,008.3	2,969.7	2,997.8	3,002.3	3,010.5	3,017.9	3,024.5	6.6
Nondurable goods	1,986.8	2,035.6	2,026.7	2,000.6	2,012.1	2,022.1	2,021.7	2,028.9	2,024.6	2,026.2	1.6
Electronic markets and agents and brokers	714.6	743.4	745.3	745.6	719.9	742.4	743.8	743.3	744.1	751.0	6.9
Retail trade	15,046.7	15,684.5	15,871.7	15,183.7	15,156.7	15,267.0	15,259.6	15,292.9	15,302.3	15,300.8	-1.5
Motor vehicle and parts dealers[1]	1,884.1	1,914.4	1,903.7	1,883.5	1,910.4	1,929.4	1,921.5	1,914.3	1,914.0	1,912.3	-1.7
Automobile dealers	1,245.5	1,254.5	1,249.1	1,238.0	1,256.2	1,268.9	1,260.5	1,254.5	1,253.2	1,250.9	-2.3
Furniture and home furnishings stores	573.9	600.0	604.8	591.4	570.9	580.9	581.5	583.3	582.2	587.7	5.5
Electronics and appliance stores	528.6	564.5	570.4	548.0	521.4	539.9	540.5	541.2	541.5	540.7	-.8
Building material and garden supply stores	1,190.9	1,267.2	1,261.7	1,232.0	1,251.9	1,272.3	1,273.1	1,281.6	1,288.4	1,293.5	5.1
Food and beverage stores	2,800.6	2,832.0	2,843.9	2,791.6	2,813.8	2,803.0	2,809.5	2,806.6	2,807.6	2,806.2	-1.4
Health and personal care stores	943.5	972.5	983.4	969.7	943.7	953.8	959.3	964.7	969.7	969.4	-.3
Gasoline stations	859.5	868.2	865.2	852.3	868.8	873.9	874.6	869.1	867.5	862.9	-4.6
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	1,386.6	1,500.3	1,574.9	1,437.4	1,383.5	1,414.2	1,413.5	1,434.5	1,448.0	1,434.6	-13.4
Sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores	651.9	675.1	704.5	651.5	645.5	631.3	638.7	641.5	641.3	643.4	2.1
General merchandise stores[1]	2,906.0	3,111.5	3,160.2	2,905.1	2,909.4	2,927.4	2,910.6	2,920.4	2,905.4	2,913.0	7.6
Department stores	1,615.0	1,743.0	1,788.7	1,591.5	1,602.4	1,610.9	1,590.6	1,595.2	1,591.8	1,582.8	-9.0
Miscellaneous store retailers	890.3	912.2	925.6	882.3	906.2	902.2	899.1	897.3	897.5	897.8	.3
Nonstore retailers	430.8	466.6	473.4	438.9	431.2	438.7	437.7	438.4	439.2	439.3	.1
Transportation and warehousing	4,276.5	4,410.5	4,403.7	4,339.2	4,308.5	4,355.4	4,358.4	4,370.2	4,368.8	4,375.1	6.3
Air transportation	505.2	488.7	487.3	483.3	509.8	495.1	493.7	488.9	487.6	488.6	1.0
Rail transportation	225.9	228.6	227.7	225.1	228.0	228.2	228.1	227.8	227.4	227.4	.0
Water transportation	55.5	62.1	62.8	61.4	57.8	61.8	62.6	63.6	64.0	63.9	-.1
Truck transportation	1,348.1	1,412.3	1,403.4	1,377.8	1,375.3	1,397.4	1,402.0	1,403.7	1,404.2	1,405.8	1.6
Transit and ground passenger transportation	400.7	411.5	409.3	402.9	389.8	388.0	388.5	394.9	391.2	391.3	.1
Pipeline transportation	38.1	37.1	37.0	37.4	38.0	37.6	37.2	37.2	37.0	37.3	.3
Scenic and sightseeing transportation	19.6	26.7	26.5	23.8	24.3	31.8	31.5	31.4	32.3	32.6	.3
Support activities for transportation	543.3	554.2	557.8	554.2	547.2	551.9	549.8	553.9	554.6	557.4	2.8
Couriers and messengers	567.0	586.2	590.0	576.9	563.2	573.8	576.3	576.8	576.4	573.3	-3.1
Warehousing and storage	573.1	603.1	601.9	596.4	575.1	589.8	588.7	592.0	594.1	597.5	3.4
Utilities	555.7	559.0	557.5	557.8	557.2	558.9	559.4	560.1	559.8	559.6	-.2
Information	3,052	3,071	3,079	3,048	3,068	3,071	3,058	3,064	3,066	3,064	-2
Publishing industries, except Internet	899.4	906.3	907.6	898.6	902.0	904.4	903.7	902.8	902.9	901.6	-1.3
Motion picture and sound recording industries	359.8	385.9	392.9	379.2	370.1	390.6	379.3	383.5	387.5	388.3	.8
Broadcasting, except Internet	326.9	327.2	327.0	321.5	326.8	326.7	327.6	325.7	324.2	322.5	-1.7
Internet publishing and broadcasting	30.8	30.3	30.2	29.3	30.9	30.4	30.1	30.1	30.3	29.4	-.9
Telecommunications	1,007.1	993.9	993.1	992.2	1,009.7	993.4	991.2	995.1	993.3	994.6	1.3
ISPs, search portals, and data processing	376.9	377.7	379.3	376.5	377.7	376.1	376.9	376.7	378.3	377.4	-.9
Other information services	50.7	49.4	49.3	50.4	50.9	49.7	49.4	49.9	49.7	50.5	.8
Financial activities	8,035	8,208	8,219	8,191	8,091	8,172	8,201	8,217	8,224	8,245	21
Finance and insurance	5,967.6	6,063.6	6,074.8	6,071.1	5,984.4	6,029.1	6,053.3	6,066.7	6,071.0	6,086.7	15.7
Monetary authorities - central bank	20.9	20.9	21.0	21.2	20.8	20.7	20.7	20.9	21.1	21.2	.1
Credit intermediation and related activities[1]	2,832.4	2,891.2	2,894.6	2,900.8	2,841.0	2,880.9	2,892.9	2,895.8	2,898.7	2,909.7	11.0
Depository credit intermediation[1]	1,757.6	1,788.6	1,793.7	1,800.0	1,757.9	1,783.5	1,790.8	1,793.3	1,796.9	1,800.0	3.1
Commercial banking	1,288.3	1,305.2	1,307.2	1,310.3	1,288.1	1,302.8	1,306.9	1,309.0	1,309.6	1,310.1	.5
Securities, commodity contracts, investments	777.9	790.9	791.7	791.3	779.6	786.2	790.5	790.7	790.9	793.2	2.3
Insurance carriers and related activities	2,248.5	2,273.5	2,279.8	2,270.6	2,254.7	2,255.1	2,262.1	2,271.8	2,272.7	2,275.2	2.5
Funds, trusts, and other financial vehicles	87.9	87.1	87.7	87.2	88.3	86.2	87.1	87.5	87.6	87.4	-.2
Real estate and rental and leasing	2,067.8	2,144.2	2,144.6	2,119.6	2,106.9	2,143.3	2,147.5	2,150.2	2,153.4	2,158.7	5.3
Real estate	1,407.4	1,475.3	1,477.2	1,467.0	1,433.8	1,469.0	1,474.7	1,478.4	1,482.9	1,492.8	9.9
Rental and leasing services	634.9	641.0	639.5	625.2	647.1	646.8	645.1	643.9	642.5	637.9	-4.6
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets	25.5	27.9	27.9	27.4	26.0	27.5	27.7	27.9	28.0	28.0	.0

See footnotes at end of table.

Table B-1. Employees on nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail—Continued

(In thousands)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Jan. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Change from: Dec. 2005-Jan. 2006p
Professional and business services	16,249	17,194	17,131	16,752	16,638	16,997	16,991	17,061	17,129	17,153	24
Professional and technical services[1]	6,931.2	7,068.8	7,124.8	7,141.8	6,911.1	7,062.2	7,074.8	7,087.2	7,119.1	7,123.5	4.4
Legal services	1,155.1	1,160.6	1,164.6	1,155.6	1,164.3	1,159.5	1,159.2	1,160.0	1,161.6	1,164.4	2.8
Accounting and bookkeeping services	920.9	791.9	840.3	935.1	828.9	848.9	851.0	847.5	860.1	842.5	-17.6
Architectural and engineering services	1,256.7	1,342.7	1,339.0	1,319.2	1,277.5	1,324.3	1,326.1	1,335.3	1,338.5	1,341.7	3.2
Computer systems design and related services	1,170.8	1,212.3	1,216.7	1,211.0	1,174.8	1,195.9	1,204.4	1,204.9	1,208.7	1,215.3	6.6
Management and technical consulting services	808.3	863.4	871.3	861.1	818.7	852.9	855.5	861.4	865.7	871.1	5.4
Management of companies and enterprises	1,733.4	1,750.9	1,759.9	1,743.3	1,747.3	1,754.2	1,749.9	1,743.2	1,756.5	1,758.4	1.9
Administrative and waste services	7,584.6	8,373.8	8,246.7	7,866.6	7,979.5	8,180.5	8,165.8	8,230.5	8,253.1	8,270.7	17.6
Administrative and support services[1]	7,257.5	8,042.8	7,914.9	7,538.1	7,644.4	7,846.5	7,835.6	7,897.8	7,919.0	7,934.8	15.8
Employment services[1]	3,273.7	3,791.3	3,752.5	3,483.3	3,482.6	3,628.2	3,617.2	3,663.7	3,682.9	3,698.4	15.5
Temporary help services	2,297.4	2,715.0	2,684.9	2,479.9	2,462.6	2,573.7	2,576.2	2,616.2	2,635.2	2,649.5	14.3
Business support services	753.7	759.5	761.0	749.0	762.7	757.2	752.7	754.7	752.8	757.6	4.8
Services to buildings and dwellings	1,548.7	1,772.4	1,667.7	1,581.0	1,700.0	1,735.4	1,741.1	1,755.4	1,745.6	1,739.1	-6.5
Waste management and remediation services	327.1	331.0	331.8	328.5	335.1	334.0	330.2	332.7	334.1	335.9	1.8
Education and health services	17,063	17,709	17,668	17,425	17,176	17,451	17,440	17,481	17,503	17,542	39
Educational services	2,746.8	3,016.0	2,962.1	2,747.2	2,817.3	2,844.9	2,815.9	2,820.2	2,818.8	2,819.8	1.0
Health care and social assistance	14,316.1	14,692.5	14,706.1	14,677.9	14,358.7	14,605.8	14,624.5	14,661.2	14,684.3	14,721.8	37.5
Health care[3]	12,146.9	12,446.3	12,457.6	12,433.0	12,182.9	12,382.9	12,392.7	12,423.8	12,440.3	12,469.5	29.2
Ambulatory health care services[1]	5,018.9	5,186.1	5,193.2	5,174.3	5,040.8	5,145.1	5,152.9	5,172.7	5,181.6	5,196.2	14.6
Offices of physicians	2,065.4	2,134.4	2,146.7	2,137.5	2,070.0	2,115.3	2,119.8	2,128.4	2,135.8	2,141.0	5.2
Outpatient care centers	461.6	484.0	484.0	481.5	462.7	479.3	480.6	482.4	483.4	482.9	-.5
Home health care services	798.3	828.0	826.5	822.0	804.1	820.5	820.8	824.3	823.5	827.3	3.8
Hospitals	4,300.7	4,383.1	4,386.0	4,387.2	4,305.7	4,366.8	4,371.7	4,379.2	4,385.2	4,392.5	7.3
Nursing and residential care facilities[1]	2,827.3	2,877.1	2,878.4	2,871.5	2,836.4	2,871.0	2,868.1	2,871.9	2,873.5	2,880.8	7.3
Nursing care facilities	1,569.8	1,587.7	1,588.2	1,577.9	1,575.7	1,582.2	1,578.9	1,582.5	1,584.0	1,583.7	-.3
Social assistance[1]	2,169.2	2,246.2	2,248.5	2,244.9	2,175.8	2,222.9	2,231.8	2,237.4	2,244.0	2,252.3	8.3
Child day care services	776.1	803.6	801.1	800.4	773.9	787.8	793.2	792.9	793.6	798.4	4.8
Leisure and hospitality	12,064	12,601	12,575	12,304	12,673	12,826	12,840	12,881	12,896	12,922	26
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	1,640.5	1,764.2	1,742.7	1,677.8	1,859.6	1,895.1	1,897.8	1,907.5	1,904.5	1,905.3	.8
Performing arts and spectator sports	331.2	354.0	347.6	318.9	365.2	372.2	365.0	362.8	359.5	354.9	-4.6
Museums, historical sites, zoos, and parks	108.3	118.1	114.9	110.0	118.4	123.2	121.6	121.0	121.0	121.1	.1
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	1,201.0	1,292.1	1,280.2	1,248.9	1,376.0	1,399.7	1,411.2	1,423.7	1,424.0	1,429.3	5.3
Accommodations and food services	10,423.4	10,836.8	10,832.5	10,625.9	10,813.3	10,931.2	10,942.4	10,973.9	10,991.9	11,016.3	24.4
Accommodations	1,719.2	1,755.5	1,737.7	1,707.1	1,808.8	1,814.5	1,812.9	1,811.1	1,804.3	1,797.7	-6.6
Food services and drinking places	8,704.2	9,081.3	9,094.8	8,918.8	9,004.5	9,116.7	9,129.5	9,162.8	9,187.6	9,218.6	31.0
Other services	5,330	5,355	5,367	5,331	5,398	5,381	5,371	5,377	5,387	5,396	9
Repair and maintenance	1,221.8	1,225.9	1,234.0	1,229.1	1,235.5	1,230.8	1,227.1	1,232.0	1,241.1	1,241.5	.4
Personal and laundry services	1,257.9	1,265.9	1,266.5	1,258.4	1,276.6	1,271.3	1,270.3	1,271.1	1,270.6	1,275.9	5.3
Membership associations and organizations	2,850.5	2,862.9	2,866.5	2,843.3	2,885.8	2,879.2	2,873.2	2,873.6	2,874.8	2,878.3	3.5
Government	21,627	22,331	22,219	21,775	21,715	21,855	21,852	21,880	21,875	21,874	-1
Federal	2,706	2,721	2,714	2,689	2,721	2,725	2,724	2,728	2,713	2,708	-5
Federal, except U.S. Postal Service	1,932.1	1,945.2	1,929.0	1,922.3	1,946.0	1,949.9	1,949.5	1,953.1	1,941.1	1,939.1	-2.0
U.S. Postal Service	773.7	776.2	784.7	767.1	775.0	774.7	774.1	774.9	772.2	768.9	-3.3
State government	4,926	5,185	5,136	4,956	5,013	5,026	5,022	5,032	5,039	5,041	2
State government education	2,179.8	2,422.2	2,375.7	2,196.0	2,247.6	2,255.1	2,248.1	2,256.6	2,261.6	2,262.3	.7
State government, excluding education	2,746.6	2,762.7	2,760.5	2,759.9	2,765.5	2,771.1	2,773.5	2,775.8	2,777.6	2,778.5	.9
Local government	13,995	14,425	14,369	14,130	13,981	14,104	14,106	14,120	14,123	14,125	2
Local government education	7,934.7	8,253.2	8,218.6	8,015.0	7,816.3	7,891.9	7,894.9	7,899.3	7,903.0	7,902.6	-.4
Local government, excluding education	6,060.5	6,172.1	6,149.9	6,114.5	6,164.4	6,212.1	6,211.5	6,220.6	6,219.7	6,221.9	2.2

[1] Includes other industries, not shown separately.
[2] Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, and motor vehicle parts.
[3] Includes ambulatory health care services, hospitals, and nursing and residential care facilities.
p = preliminary.
NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2005 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Jan. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Change from: Dec. 2005-Jan. 2006p
Total private	33.6	33.8	33.7	33.8	33.7	33.8	33.8	33.8	33.8	33.8	0.0
Goods-producing	39.5	40.6	40.4	40.1	39.8	40.0	40.3	40.4	40.2	40.4	.2
Natural resources and mining	45.1	45.2	45.5	45.7	45.8	45.9	46.0	45.0	45.8	46.2	.4
Construction	36.8	39.2	38.1	38.3	37.8	38.2	38.5	39.2	38.7	39.2	.5
Manufacturing	40.6	41.2	41.4	40.8	40.7	40.7	41.0	40.8	40.8	40.8	.0
Overtime hours	4.4	4.8	4.9	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	.0
Durable goods	41.0	41.7	41.9	41.1	41.1	41.2	41.6	41.3	41.2	41.2	.0
Overtime hours	4.5	4.9	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.5	.0
Wood products	40.2	40.9	40.4	39.7	40.8	39.6	40.8	40.5	40.1	40.2	.1
Nonmetallic mineral products	40.9	44.2	42.6	42.0	42.0	41.9	42.6	43.5	42.7	42.9	.2
Primary metals	43.3	43.7	44.0	43.9	43.0	43.4	43.5	43.5	43.4	43.5	.1
Fabricated metal products	41.0	41.5	41.8	41.4	40.9	40.8	41.6	41.2	41.1	41.3	.2
Machinery	42.2	42.3	42.8	41.7	42.0	42.1	42.2	42.0	41.9	41.6	-.3
Computer and electronic products	39.7	40.9	40.9	39.9	39.9	40.2	40.5	40.3	40.3	40.1	-.2
Electrical equipment and appliances	40.2	41.6	41.5	41.2	40.2	41.3	41.4	41.0	41.0	41.1	.1
Transportation equipment	42.3	42.9	43.6	42.5	42.3	42.7	43.0	42.7	42.6	42.6	.0
Motor vehicles and parts[2]	42.3	42.6	43.3	42.0	42.2	42.7	42.9	42.4	42.2	42.0	-.2
Furniture and related products	39.4	38.7	39.2	37.8	39.5	39.3	39.2	38.5	38.2	38.0	-.2
Miscellaneous manufacturing	38.6	38.8	38.9	38.6	38.6	38.8	39.0	38.6	38.6	38.6	.0
Nondurable goods	39.9	40.4	40.7	40.2	40.0	39.9	40.1	40.0	40.1	40.2	.1
Overtime hours	4.2	4.6	4.8	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.5	-.1
Food manufacturing	38.7	39.5	39.9	39.5	38.9	38.8	38.9	39.0	39.3	39.6	.3
Beverages and tobacco products	39.9	40.4	39.7	38.8	40.4	39.5	40.8	40.1	40.0	39.7	-.3
Textile mills	40.4	41.0	41.4	40.5	40.3	39.9	40.2	40.6	41.0	40.4	-.6
Textile product mills	39.4	39.9	40.6	40.2	39.5	38.7	38.8	39.6	39.9	40.1	.2
Apparel	35.7	36.1	36.4	35.7	35.9	35.8	36.1	35.9	35.9	35.9	.0
Leather and allied products	37.0	39.8	39.8	39.0	37.2	38.5	38.7	39.5	39.4	39.2	-.2
Paper and paper products	42.7	42.9	43.4	42.6	42.5	42.8	42.9	42.5	42.5	42.4	-.1
Printing and related support activities	38.5	38.7	38.8	38.5	38.6	38.6	38.5	38.3	38.3	38.5	.2
Petroleum and coal products	44.3	46.6	44.5	44.6	44.6	47.4	47.3	45.8	44.6	45.2	.6
Chemicals	42.8	42.6	43.0	43.1	42.8	42.0	42.9	42.3	42.5	42.8	.3
Plastics and rubber products	40.0	40.4	41.1	40.2	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.1	40.4	40.2	-.2
Private service-providing	32.4	32.3	32.3	32.4	32.4	32.4	32.4	32.4	32.4	32.4	.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	33.2	33.2	33.4	33.0	33.5	33.3	33.3	33.4	33.4	33.3	-.1
Wholesale trade	37.8	37.8	37.8	38.0	37.7	37.7	37.8	37.8	37.9	37.9	.0
Retail trade	30.2	30.3	30.7	30.0	30.7	30.5	30.4	30.6	30.5	30.5	.0
Transportation and warehousing	37.4	37.0	37.0	36.1	37.5	36.6	36.7	36.8	36.7	36.4	-.3
Utilities	40.8	41.7	41.3	40.8	41.0	41.2	41.3	41.2	41.4	41.0	-.4
Information	36.6	36.6	36.6	36.8	36.4	36.6	36.7	36.5	36.7	36.6	-.1
Financial activities	36.4	35.7	35.7	36.5	35.9	36.0	36.1	35.9	35.9	36.0	.1
Professional and business services	34.1	34.3	34.2	34.5	34.2	34.3	34.3	34.3	34.3	34.5	.2
Education and health services	32.9	32.5	32.5	32.9	32.6	32.7	32.7	32.5	32.6	32.6	.0
Leisure and hospitality	25.3	25.4	25.2	25.3	25.7	25.8	25.7	25.7	25.6	25.7	.1
Other services	30.9	30.8	30.8	31.0	30.9	30.9	30.9	30.9	30.9	31.0	.1

[1] Data relate to production workers in natural resources and mining and manufacturing, construction workers in construction, and nonsupervisory workers in the service-providing industries. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonfarm payrolls.

[2] Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, and motor vehicle parts.

p = preliminary.

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2005 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	Jan. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005[p]	Jan. 2006[p]	Jan. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005[p]	Jan. 2006[p]
Total private	$15.99	$16.30	$16.36	$16.52	$537.26	$550.94	$551.33	$558.38
Seasonally adjusted	15.88	16.28	16.34	16.41	535.16	550.26	552.29	554.66
Goods-producing	17.31	17.76	17.81	17.73	683.75	721.06	719.52	710.97
Natural resources and mining	18.52	18.90	18.90	19.24	835.25	854.28	859.95	879.27
Construction	19.10	19.61	19.67	19.51	702.88	768.71	749.43	747.23
Manufacturing	16.42	16.70	16.81	16.77	666.65	688.04	695.93	684.22
Durable goods	17.14	17.54	17.67	17.58	702.74	731.42	740.37	722.54
Wood products	13.14	13.32	13.20	13.17	528.23	544.79	533.28	522.85
Nonmetallic mineral products	16.29	16.55	16.51	16.44	666.26	731.51	703.33	690.48
Primary metals	18.84	19.21	19.17	19.36	815.77	839.48	843.48	849.90
Fabricated metal products	15.55	16.01	16.18	16.08	637.55	664.42	676.32	665.71
Machinery	17.03	17.01	17.12	17.23	718.67	719.52	732.74	718.49
Computer and electronic products	18.01	18.60	18.76	18.80	715.00	760.74	767.28	750.12
Electrical equipment and appliances	15.08	15.42	15.52	15.42	606.22	641.47	644.08	635.30
Transportation equipment	21.88	22.55	22.73	22.39	925.52	967.40	991.03	951.58
Furniture and related products	13.40	13.45	13.52	13.47	527.96	520.52	529.98	509.17
Miscellaneous manufacturing	14.06	14.12	14.19	14.07	542.72	547.86	551.99	543.10
Nondurable goods	15.24	15.28	15.35	15.40	608.08	617.31	624.75	619.08
Food manufacturing	13.06	13.06	13.11	13.14	505.42	515.87	523.09	519.03
Beverages and tobacco products	18.48	18.76	18.50	18.47	737.35	757.90	734.45	716.64
Textile mills	12.33	12.48	12.46	12.61	498.13	511.68	515.84	510.71
Textile product mills	11.32	11.78	11.89	11.90	446.01	470.02	482.73	478.38
Apparel	10.16	10.41	10.43	10.56	362.71	375.80	379.65	376.99
Leather and allied products	11.61	11.57	11.36	11.61	429.57	460.49	452.13	452.79
Paper and paper products	18.03	17.87	17.95	17.88	769.88	766.62	779.03	761.69
Printing and related support activities	15.75	15.73	15.98	16.02	606.38	608.75	620.02	616.77
Petroleum and coal products	24.77	24.64	24.62	24.85	1,097.31	1,148.22	1,095.59	1,108.31
Chemicals	19.53	19.68	19.83	19.85	835.88	838.37	852.69	855.54
Plastics and rubber products	14.81	14.78	14.84	14.95	592.40	597.11	609.92	600.99
Private service-providing	15.65	15.90	15.97	16.20	507.06	513.57	515.83	524.88
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.85	15.00	14.96	15.19	493.02	498.00	499.66	501.27
Wholesale trade	18.00	18.46	18.60	18.67	680.40	697.79	703.08	709.46
Retail trade	12.34	12.28	12.25	12.46	372.67	372.08	376.08	373.80
Transportation and warehousing	16.57	16.88	16.87	16.91	619.72	624.56	624.19	610.45
Utilities	26.13	27.37	27.32	27.08	1,066.10	1,141.33	1,128.32	1,104.86
Information	21.77	22.45	22.68	23.09	796.78	821.67	830.09	849.71
Financial activities	17.81	18.17	18.21	18.42	648.28	648.67	650.10	672.33
Professional and business services	18.11	18.25	18.43	18.88	617.55	625.98	630.31	651.36
Education and health services	16.46	16.94	17.03	17.09	541.53	550.55	553.48	562.26
Leisure and hospitality	9.12	9.29	9.38	9.34	230.74	235.97	236.38	236.30
Other services	14.22	14.46	14.52	14.57	439.40	445.37	447.22	451.67

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
[p] = preliminary.

NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2005 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

Table B-4. Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail, seasonally adjusted

Industry	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005[p]	Jan. 2006[p]	Percent change from: Dec. 2005-Jan. 2006[p]
Total private:							
Current dollars	$15.88	$16.19	$16.28	$16.28	$16.34	$16.41	0.4
Constant (1982) dollars[2]	8.23	8.06	8.10	8.16	8.19	N.A.	([3])
Goods-producing	17.37	17.66	17.74	17.74	17.77	17.81	.2
Natural resources and mining	18.43	19.03	19.04	18.95	18.88	19.12	1.3
Construction	19.23	19.54	19.58	19.59	19.64	19.65	.1
Manufacturing	16.38	16.60	16.71	16.68	16.71	16.74	.2
Excluding overtime[4]	15.52	15.73	15.82	15.79	15.84	15.87	.2
Durable goods	17.11	17.38	17.51	17.50	17.53	17.56	.2
Nondurable goods	15.19	15.30	15.35	15.29	15.32	15.36	.3
Private service-providing	15.49	15.80	15.89	15.89	15.96	16.03	.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.78	14.98	15.05	15.04	15.10	15.11	.1
Wholesale trade	17.88	18.26	18.32	18.45	18.58	18.56	-.1
Retail trade	12.31	12.35	12.43	12.35	12.39	12.42	.2
Transportation and warehousing	16.55	16.82	16.82	16.85	16.85	16.90	.3
Utilities	26.13	26.95	27.17	27.15	27.21	27.18	-.1
Information	21.73	22.32	22.65	22.40	22.65	22.99	1.5
Financial activities	17.69	18.01	18.09	18.20	18.24	18.29	.3
Professional and business services	17.81	18.15	18.30	18.29	18.40	18.55	.8
Education and health services	16.41	16.84	16.90	16.95	16.99	17.05	.4
Leisure and hospitality	9.04	9.22	9.22	9.24	9.26	9.26	.0
Other services	14.17	14.40	14.46	14.46	14.49	14.52	.2

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
[2] The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) is used to deflate this series.
[3] Change was 0.4 percent from Nov. 2005 to Dec. 2005, the latest month available.
[4] Derived by assuming that overtime hours are paid at the rate of time and one-half.
N.A. = not available.
[p] = preliminary.
NOTE: Data have been revised to reflect March 2005 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

Table B-5. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Jan. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005p	Jan. 2006p	Percent change from: Dec. 2005-Jan. 2006p
Total private	98.9	104.2	103.8	101.8	101.3	103.1	103.1	103.5	103.7	103.9	0.2
Goods-producing	93.0	101.9	100.0	97.2	96.9	98.6	99.6	100.5	100.0	101.0	1.0
Natural resources and mining	105.7	117.5	117.8	116.3	110.3	116.3	117.6	116.0	118.8	120.3	1.3
Construction	92.6	113.9	106.3	102.4	102.6	107.2	108.5	111.7	110.0	112.4	2.2
Manufacturing	92.7	95.8	96.3	94.0	93.9	93.9	94.7	94.6	94.7	94.9	.2
Durable goods	94.2	98.5	99.4	96.8	95.3	96.3	97.7	97.4	97.5	97.8	.3
Wood products	98.9	103.4	102.3	99.6	102.6	99.5	102.4	102.4	102.1	102.9	.8
Nonmetallic mineral products	90.9	102.1	96.4	93.4	97.5	95.7	97.2	99.5	97.7	99.5	1.8
Primary metals	93.7	95.5	96.8	96.5	93.2	94.5	95.0	95.2	95.0	95.7	.7
Fabricated metal products	98.0	101.1	102.1	100.8	98.5	98.8	100.5	100.3	100.4	101.3	.9
Machinery	97.3	99.7	101.5	98.5	96.8	99.1	100.3	99.0	99.0	98.2	-.8
Computer and electronic products	89.7	102.3	103.1	99.4	90.2	97.9	99.8	100.3	100.8	99.7	-1.1
Electrical equipment and appliances	87.0	89.0	89.6	89.4	87.0	87.8	88.1	87.7	88.1	89.0	1.0
Transportation equipment	95.2	99.5	102.4	98.6	96.1	96.7	98.8	98.8	99.3	99.5	.2
Motor vehicles and parts[2]	94.8	96.2	98.6	94.2	95.6	96.7	96.4	95.4	95.1	94.8	-.3
Furniture and related products	92.7	89.7	91.1	87.2	93.5	91.3	91.0	89.2	88.6	88.2	-.5
Miscellaneous manufacturing	90.5	91.7	92.0	90.5	91.3	91.0	91.5	90.7	90.7	91.2	.6
Nondurable goods	90.0	91.5	91.4	89.3	91.5	90.0	90.2	90.2	90.2	90.5	.3
Food manufacturing	93.7	97.4	97.6	94.9	96.0	94.5	94.5	95.2	95.9	96.8	.9
Beverages and tobacco products	88.1	99.5	97.0	93.9	91.9	94.9	100.3	98.9	98.2	98.8	.6
Textile mills	74.2	69.6	68.8	67.9	75.1	69.4	69.3	69.2	69.1	68.8	-.4
Textile product mills	88.9	93.8	94.4	96.6	90.4	91.2	92.2	94.2	94.3	97.7	3.6
Apparel	67.5	65.1	64.0	62.2	70.3	64.8	64.0	64.5	64.1	64.6	.8
Leather and allied products	75.8	82.1	82.6	77.8	77.7	79.6	79.6	81.0	81.5	79.8	-2.1
Paper and paper products	89.0	88.1	88.8	86.4	88.8	88.1	87.9	87.1	86.8	86.3	-.6
Printing and related support activities	91.6	92.0	91.8	89.0	92.6	91.2	90.8	90.5	90.0	89.7	-.3
Petroleum and coal products	98.5	102.7	94.3	92.2	103.2	105.3	105.3	100.6	97.2	97.4	.2
Chemicals	97.6	97.5	98.6	98.1	98.2	96.4	97.9	96.9	97.4	98.0	.6
Plastics and rubber products	91.9	93.1	94.0	91.3	92.7	91.9	91.9	92.1	92.6	92.1	-.5
Private service-providing	100.8	104.8	104.9	102.9	102.6	104.1	104.1	104.5	104.6	104.8	.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	99.0	103.4	104.9	100.1	100.8	101.3	101.3	102.0	102.1	101.9	-.2
Wholesale trade	99.4	102.9	103.1	102.8	100.1	102.0	102.3	102.8	103.2	103.5	.3
Retail trade	97.9	103.0	105.9	98.4	100.3	100.4	100.0	101.1	100.8	100.9	.1
Transportation and warehousing	103.8	106.8	106.5	102.2	105.2	103.9	104.3	105.0	104.6	104.1	-.5
Utilities	92.2	96.0	94.8	93.2	93.1	94.5	94.9	95.1	95.3	94.1	-1.3
Information	98.6	100.6	101.1	100.6	98.6	100.5	100.5	100.3	100.8	100.6	-.2
Financial activities	104.5	104.8	105.2	107.1	103.8	105.1	105.8	105.6	105.8	106.4	.6
Professional and business services	100.7	108.5	107.8	106.0	103.8	106.9	106.9	107.6	108.0	108.9	.8
Education and health services	105.6	108.0	107.7	107.6	105.2	107.2	107.0	106.6	107.0	107.3	.3
Leisure and hospitality	97.8	103.0	102.0	100.0	104.9	106.6	106.2	106.7	106.5	107.2	.7
Other services	94.9	95.1	95.3	95.2	96.2	96.0	95.8	95.8	95.9	96.4	.5

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
[2] Includes motor vehicles, motor vehicle bodies and trailers, and motor vehicle parts.
p = preliminary.
NOTE: The indexes of aggregate weekly hours are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate hours by the corresponding 2002 annual average levels. Aggregate hours estimates are the product of estimates of average weekly hours and production or nonsupervisory worker employment. Data have been revised to reflect March 2005 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

Table B-6. Indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls of production or nonsupervisory workers[1] on private nonfarm payrolls by industry sector and selected industry detail

(2002=100)

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted						
	Jan. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005[p]	Jan. 2006[p]	Jan. 2005	Sept. 2005	Oct. 2005	Nov. 2005	Dec. 2005[p]	Jan. 2006[p]	Percent change from: Dec. 2005-Jan. 2006[p]
Total private	105.9	113.7	113.6	112.6	107.7	111.6	112.3	112.8	113.3	114.1	0.7
Goods-producing	98.6	110.8	109.0	105.5	103.0	106.6	108.2	109.2	108.8	110.1	1.2
Natural resources and mining	113.8	129.1	129.4	130.2	118.2	128.8	130.2	127.8	130.4	133.8	2.6
Construction	95.5	120.6	112.9	107.8	106.6	113.1	114.7	118.1	116.6	119.2	2.2
Manufacturing	99.5	104.6	105.8	103.1	100.6	101.9	103.5	103.2	103.5	103.9	.4
Durable goods	100.8	107.9	109.7	106.2	101.8	104.4	106.8	106.4	106.7	107.2	.5
Nondurable goods	96.9	98.8	99.2	97.2	98.2	97.3	97.9	97.5	97.6	98.2	.6
Private service-providing	108.3	114.4	115.1	114.6	109.2	113.0	113.6	114.0	114.7	115.5	.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	104.9	110.6	111.9	108.5	106.3	108.3	108.8	109.4	109.9	109.8	-.1
Wholesale trade	105.4	111.9	113.0	113.0	105.4	109.7	110.4	111.7	112.9	113.1	.2
Retail trade	103.5	108.4	111.1	105.1	105.8	106.3	106.6	107.0	107.1	107.4	.3
Transportation and warehousing	109.1	114.4	114.0	109.6	110.5	110.9	111.3	112.3	111.9	111.6	-.3
Utilities	100.6	109.7	108.1	105.4	101.5	106.3	107.6	107.7	108.2	106.7	-1.4
Information	106.3	111.8	113.5	115.0	106.1	111.0	112.7	111.2	113.1	114.5	1.2
Financial activities	115.1	117.8	118.4	122.0	113.5	117.0	118.4	118.9	119.3	120.3	.8
Professional and business services	108.5	117.8	118.2	119.0	110.0	115.4	116.4	117.1	118.2	120.2	1.7
Education and health services	114.2	120.3	120.6	120.9	113.5	118.6	118.8	118.8	119.5	120.2	.6
Leisure and hospitality	104.0	111.5	111.6	108.9	110.5	114.6	114.2	114.9	114.9	115.7	.7
Other services	98.3	100.2	100.8	101.0	99.3	100.7	100.9	100.9	101.3	102.0	.7

[1] See footnote 1, table B-2.
[p] = preliminary.
NOTE: The indexes of aggregate weekly payrolls are calculated by dividing the current month's estimates of aggregate payrolls by the corresponding 2002 annual average levels. Aggregate payroll estimates are the product of estimates of average hourly earnings, average weekly hours, and production or nonsupervisory worker employment. Data have been revised to reflect March 2005 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

Table B-7. Diffusion indexes of employment change

(Percent)

Time span	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Private nonfarm payrolls, 278 industries [1]											
Over 1-month span:												
2002	40.8	36.5	38.3	38.7	40.1	46.0	43.7	43.3	41.7	41.9	41.5	36.0
2003	44.1	37.9	34.9	38.3	42.8	38.8	37.6	39.7	50.7	49.8	52.0	51.3
2004	51.6	49.5	62.4	65.5	62.4	57.7	52.7	52.0	57.0	54.3	55.0	54.1
2005	50.7	57.7	56.7	54.7	54.5	56.7	59.2	54.1	51.4	53.4	61.7	p 57.6
2006	p 60.6											
Over 3-month span:												
2002	34.5	36.2	35.6	35.8	34.9	38.8	38.5	44.8	37.6	39.7	37.2	39.6
2003	40.6	34.2	34.7	32.7	35.3	41.7	38.5	33.8	42.6	47.8	49.8	50.5
2004	54.3	53.4	57.6	63.1	69.4	68.3	58.8	55.6	57.4	56.5	59.9	55.2
2005	52.9	56.7	59.2	60.4	56.8	60.8	60.4	59.7	57.9	52.2	57.0	p 63.3
2006	p 67.6											
Over 6-month span:												
2002	30.2	30.6	31.5	30.9	32.0	36.3	35.8	37.6	34.5	36.0	36.7	35.3
2003	34.4	31.8	31.8	34.0	32.7	36.2	33.3	32.4	40.5	45.3	46.4	47.7
2004	49.8	52.3	54.7	60.8	63.3	63.8	63.1	63.5	59.0	61.3	55.9	55.6
2005	55.4	57.7	57.4	58.8	55.2	58.6	60.8	59.5	60.6	57.7	58.5	p 57.0
2006	p 57.9											
Over 12-month span:												
2002	33.6	31.7	30.2	30.4	30.2	29.1	32.0	31.3	30.0	29.5	32.9	34.7
2003	34.5	31.5	32.9	33.5	34.2	35.1	32.7	33.1	37.1	36.7	37.2	39.2
2004	40.3	42.1	44.8	48.4	50.7	57.7	57.0	55.2	56.7	58.3	60.1	60.3
2005	60.1	61.0	59.5	58.6	58.6	59.4	60.8	61.0	60.8	58.3	58.8	p 59.9
2006	p 61.7											
	Manufacturing payrolls, 84 industries [1]											
Over 1-month span:												
2002	19.6	21.4	18.5	29.2	25.0	30.4	36.9	25.6	28.6	17.9	17.9	19.6
2003	32.7	19.6	19.6	10.7	23.2	19.0	19.6	29.2	28.6	36.3	42.3	40.5
2004	44.0	47.6	44.6	64.9	53.6	45.8	56.5	52.4	41.7	42.3	39.9	39.3
2005	39.3	38.7	38.7	42.3	44.6	34.5	47.6	35.7	45.2	43.5	50.0	p 47.6
2006	p 52.4											
Over 3-month span:												
2002	9.5	9.5	11.3	17.9	14.9	17.9	22.6	25.6	22.6	17.3	9.5	11.9
2003	18.5	11.3	12.5	8.3	7.7	11.3	14.9	15.5	16.7	27.4	32.1	35.7
2004	43.5	42.3	43.5	53.6	57.7	58.9	53.6	48.8	48.2	40.5	38.1	31.0
2005	35.7	39.9	42.9	39.9	37.5	41.1	39.3	35.7	39.9	36.3	36.9	p 46.4
2006	p 56.5											
Over 6-month span:												
2002	7.1	8.3	7.7	8.3	8.3	11.9	12.5	11.9	13.7	8.9	7.1	7.7
2003	11.3	11.3	8.3	9.5	10.7	9.5	6.0	8.9	13.7	18.5	24.4	23.8
2004	28.6	33.3	33.3	45.8	47.6	51.2	56.0	51.8	48.2	49.4	39.3	35.7
2005	36.9	36.9	35.1	33.3	33.3	32.7	36.9	36.9	41.1	41.7	39.3	p 41.1
2006	p 35.7											
Over 12-month span:												
2002	7.1	6.0	6.0	6.5	7.1	3.6	4.8	6.0	4.8	7.1	4.8	8.3
2003	10.7	6.0	6.5	6.0	8.3	7.1	7.1	8.3	10.7	10.7	9.5	10.7
2004	13.1	14.3	13.1	20.2	23.2	35.7	36.9	38.1	36.3	44.0	44.6	44.6
2005	44.6	44.6	41.7	40.5	39.9	33.3	32.7	31.0	32.1	39.3	35.7	p 38.1
2006	p 40.5											

[1] Based on seasonally adjusted data for 1-, 3-, and 6-month spans and unadjusted data for the 12-month span.

p = preliminary.

NOTE: Figures are the percent of industries with employment increasing plus one-half of the industries with unchanged employment, where 50 percent indicates an equal balance between industries with increasing and decreasing employment. Data have been revised to reflect March 2005 benchmark levels and updated seasonal adjustment factors.

JUL 21 2006

The Honorable Jim Saxton
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Saxton:

Please accept my apologies for not responding promptly to the question you raised during the Joint Economic Committee hearing on February 3, 2006, regarding the employment situation for January 2006. The net employment gain in manufacturing was 7,000 with strength concentrated primarily in the durable goods industries.

You specifically asked about the distribution of manufacturing employment held by industries that added jobs over the month. Industries that added at least 1,000 positions--wood products (4.0 percent), nonmetallic mineral products (3.6 percent), primary metals (3.3 percent), fabricated metal products (10.8 percent), electrical equipment (3.1 percent), miscellaneous manufacturing (4.6 percent), and textile product mills (1.2 percent)--represented 30.6 percent of all jobs in the sector. The enclosed table shows more details on the distribution of employment in the manufacturing sector, along with each industry's employment change for January (as released on February 3, 2006).

Current data for the first half of 2006 show manufacturing employment up by 29,000. A 62,000 gain in the durable goods industry is offset by 33,000 jobs lost in the nondurable goods industries. The durable goods gains are widespread, and four industries stand out with increases over 10,000 year to date: fabricated metals, machinery, electrical equipment, and transportation equipment. Textile mills accounted for about one-third of the job loss in nondurable goods.

If you have any further comments or questions, please contact John M. Galvin, Associate Commissioner for the Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics, on 202-691-6400. Thank you for the opportunity to add this information for the record.

Sincerely yours,

KATHLEEN P. UTGOFF
Commissioner

Enclosure

DOL/BLS/OEUS/DCES
Getz/ch: 7/20/06
Cc: Utgoff, Galvin, Kerr, Nardone, Getz, Clinton, RF, DF, SF

Employees on nonfarm payrolls for manufacturing, seasonally adjusted

(In thousands) Industry	Jan. 2006p Level	Percent of Manufacturing Employment		Over-the-month Change	Statistically Significant*
Manufacturing.....	**14,220**	**100.0**		**7**	
Durable goods.....	**8,973**	**63.1**		**7**	
Wood products.....	562.3	4.0		2.8	
Nonmetallic mineral products.....	508.0	3.6		6.2	Yes
Primary metals.....	473.3	3.3		3.3	Yes
Fabricated metal products.....	1529.4	10.8		2.7	
Machinery.....	1160.0	8.2		-3.9	
Computer and electronic products(1).....	1314.8	9.2		-5.7	Yes
Electrical equipment and appliances.....	436.1	3.1		1.2	
Transportation equipment(1).....	1775.6	12.5		-0.3	
Furniture and related products.....	557.1	3.9		-1.1	
Miscellaneous manufacturing.....	656.6	4.6		1.7	
Nondurable goods.....	**5,247**	**36.9**		**0**	
Food manufacturing.....	1465.3	10.3		-1.2	
Beverages and tobacco products.....	194.6	1.4		2.1	Yes
Textile mills.....	209.5	1.5		0.5	
Textile product mills.....	177.1	1.2		2.6	Yes
Apparel.....	252.4	1.8		-0.2	
Leather and allied products.....	39.4	0.3		-0.4	
Paper and paper products.....	476.7	3.4		-0.5	
Printing and related support activities...	640.3	4.5		-1.6	
Petroleum and coal products.....	111.0	0.8		-0.9	
Chemicals.....	882.7	6.2		0.1	
Plastics and rubber products.....	797.5	5.6		-1.3	

*NOTE: Significant over-the-month changes are calculated at a 90 percent confidence level. The standard error is used for a 1-month change.

The New York Times

February 2, 2006

The Nation of the Future

By DAVID BROOKS (NYT); Editorial Desk
Late Edition - Final, Section A, Page 23, Column 5, 768 words

Everywhere I go people tell me China and India are going to blow by us in the coming decades. They've got the hunger. They've got the people. They've got the future. We're a tired old power, destined to fade back to the second tier of nations, like Britain did in the 20th century.

This sentiment is everywhere -- except in the evidence. The facts and figures tell a different story.

Has the United States lost its vitality? No. Americans remain the hardest working people on the face of the earth and the most productive. As William W. Lewis, the founding director of the McKinsey Global Institute, wrote, "The United States is the productivity leader in virtually every industry." And productivity rates are surging faster now than they did even in the 1990's.

Has the United States stopped investing in the future? No. The U.S. accounts for roughly 40 percent of the world's R. & D. spending. More money was invested in research and development in this country than in the other G-7 nations combined.

Is the United States becoming a less important player in the world economy? Not yet. In 1971, the U.S. economy accounted for 30.52 percent of the world's G.D.P. Since then, we've seen the rise of Japan, China, India and the Asian tigers. The U.S. now accounts for 30.74 percent of world G.D.P., a slightly higher figure.

What about the shortage of scientists and engineers? Vastly overblown. According to Duke School of Engineering researchers, the U.S. produces more engineers per capita than China or India. According to The Wall Street Journal, firms with engineering openings find themselves flooded with resumes. Unemployment rates for scientists and engineers are no lower than for other professions, and in some specialties, such as electrical engineering, they are notably higher.

Michael Teitelbaum of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation told The Wall Street Journal last November, "No one I know who has looked at the data with an open mind has been able to find any sign of a current shortage." The G.A.O., the RAND Corporation and many other researchers have picked apart the quickie studies that warn of a science and engineering gap. "We did not find evidence that such shortages have existed at least since 1990, nor that they are on the horizon," the RAND report concluded.

What about America's lamentable education system? Well, it's true we do a mediocre job of educating people from age 0 to 18, even though we spend by far more per pupil than any other nation on earth. But we do an outstanding job of training people from ages 18 to 65.

At least 22 out of the top 30 universities in the world are American. More foreign students come to American universities now than before 9/11.

More important, the American workplace is so competitive, companies are compelled to promote lifelong learning. A U.N. report this year ranked the U.S. third in the world in ease of doing business, after New Zealand and Singapore. The U.S. has the second most competitive economy on earth, after Finland, according the latest Global Competitiveness Report. As Michael Porter of Harvard told The National Journal, "The U.S. is second to none in terms of innovation and an innovative environment."

What about partisan gridlock and our dysfunctional political system? Well, entitlement debt remains the biggest threat to the country's well-being, but in one area vital to the country's future posterity, we have reached a beneficent consensus. American liberals have given up on industrial policy, and American conservatives now embrace an aggressive federal role for basic research.

Ford and G.M. totter and almost nobody suggests using public money to prop them up. On the other hand, President Bush, reputed to be hostile to science, has increased the federal scientific research budget by 50 percent since taking office, to $137 billion annually. Senators Lamar Alexander and Jeff Bingaman have proposed excellent legislation that would double the R. & D. tax credit and create a Darpa-style lab in the Department of Energy, devoting $9 billion for scientific research and education. That bill has 60 co-sponsors, 30 Democrats and 30 Republicans.

Recent polling suggests that people in Afghanistan and Iraq are more optimistic about their nations' futures than people in the United States. That's just crazy, even given our problems with health care, growing inequality and such. America's problem over the next 50 years will not be wrestling with decline. It will be helping the frustrated individuals and nations left so far behind.

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