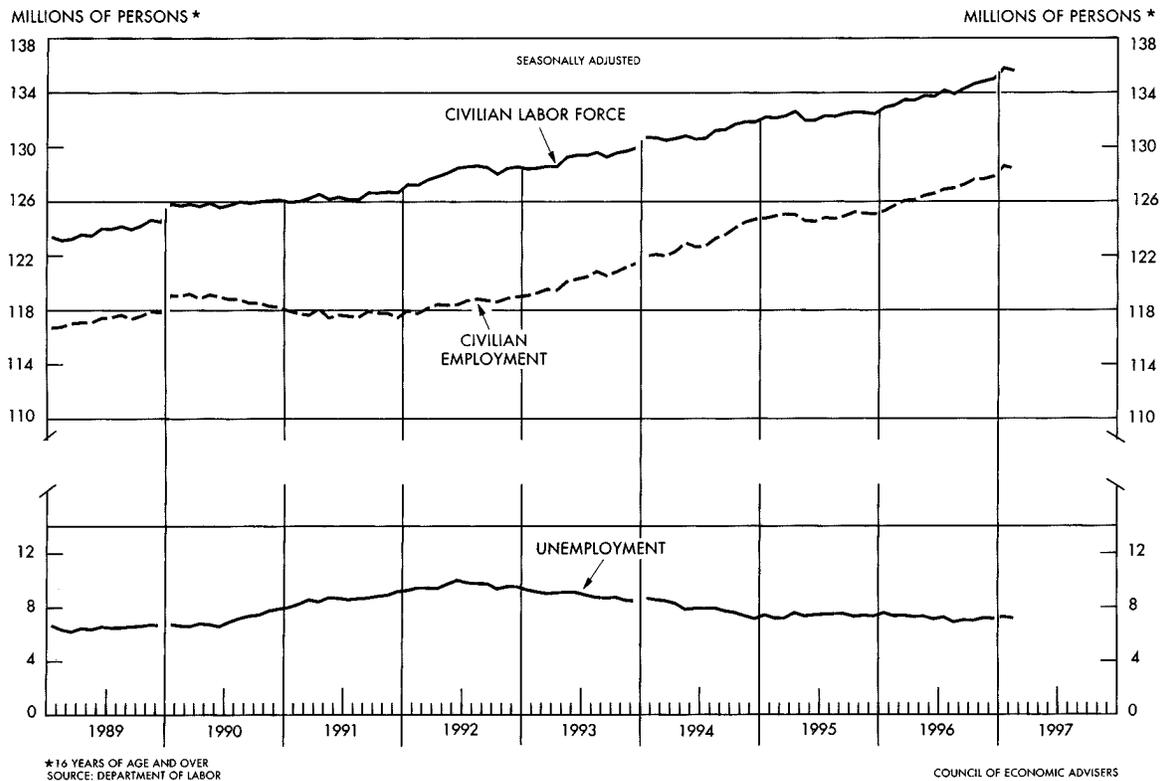


EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND WAGES

STATUS OF THE LABOR FORCE

In February, employment fell by 150,000 and unemployment fell by 63,000.



[Thousands of persons 16 years of age and over, except as noted; monthly data seasonally adjusted except as noted by NSA]

Period	Civilian noninstitutional population NSA	Civilian labor force	Civilian employment				Unemployment		Not in labor force	Percent ²		
			Total	Agricul-tural	Nonagricultural		Total	15 weeks and over		Labor force partici-pation rate	Employ-ment/ popu-lation ratio	Unem-ployment rate
					Total	Part time for economic reasons ¹						
1987	182,753	119,865	112,440	3,208	109,232	5,122	7,425	1,983	62,888	65.6	61.5	6.2
1988	184,613	121,669	114,968	3,169	111,800	4,965	6,701	1,610	62,944	65.9	62.3	5.5
1989	186,393	123,869	117,342	3,199	114,142	4,657	6,528	1,375	62,523	66.5	63.0	5.3
1990 ³	189,164	125,840	118,793	3,223	115,570	4,950	7,047	1,525	63,324	66.5	62.8	5.6
1991	190,925	126,346	117,718	3,269	114,449	5,874	8,628	2,357	64,578	66.2	61.7	6.8
1992	192,805	128,105	118,492	3,247	115,245	6,240	9,613	3,408	64,700	66.4	61.5	7.5
1993	194,838	129,200	120,259	3,115	117,144	6,230	8,940	3,094	65,638	66.3	61.7	6.9
1994 ⁴	196,814	131,056	123,060	3,409	119,651	4,414	7,996	2,860	65,758	66.6	62.5	6.1
1995	198,584	132,304	124,900	3,440	121,460	4,279	7,404	2,363	66,280	66.6	62.9	5.6
1996	200,591	133,943	126,708	3,443	123,264	4,123	7,236	2,316	66,647	66.8	63.2	5.4
1996: Feb	199,772	133,070	125,706	3,499	122,207	4,224	7,364	2,322	66,703	66.6	62.9	5.5
Mar	199,921	133,464	126,062	3,470	122,592	4,224	7,402	2,406	66,457	66.8	63.1	5.5
Apr	200,101	133,427	126,125	3,412	122,713	4,251	7,302	2,387	66,674	66.7	63.0	5.5
May	200,278	133,759	126,428	3,474	122,954	4,109	7,331	2,354	66,519	66.8	63.1	5.5
June	200,459	133,709	126,590	3,408	123,182	4,161	7,119	2,353	66,750	66.7	63.2	5.3
July	200,641	134,165	126,889	3,470	123,419	4,150	7,276	2,326	66,476	66.9	63.2	5.4
Aug	200,847	133,898	126,988	3,418	123,570	4,182	6,910	2,273	66,949	66.7	63.2	5.2
Sept	201,060	134,291	127,248	3,480	123,768	4,130	7,043	2,277	66,770	66.8	63.3	5.2
Oct	201,273	134,636	127,617	3,450	124,167	4,118	7,019	2,294	66,637	66.9	63.4	5.2
Nov	201,463	134,831	127,644	3,354	124,290	3,815	7,187	2,184	66,632	66.9	63.4	5.3
Dec	201,636	135,022	127,855	3,426	124,429	4,162	7,167	2,179	66,614	67.0	63.4	5.3
1997: Jan ³	202,285	135,848	128,580	3,468	125,112	4,163	7,268	2,155	66,437	67.2	63.6	5.4
Feb	202,388	135,634	128,430	3,292	125,138	4,098	7,205	2,163	66,754	67.0	63.5	5.3

¹ Persons at work. Economic reasons include slack work, material shortages, inability to find fulltime work, etc.

² Civilian labor force (or employment) as percent of civilian noninstitutional population; and unemployment as percent of civilian labor force.

³ Not strictly comparable with earlier data.

⁴ Data beginning January 1994 are not directly comparable with data for earlier periods because of a major redesign of the household survey questionnaire.

NOTE.—Data beginning January 1997 reflect revised population controls. See *Employment and Earnings*, February 1997, for details.

Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.