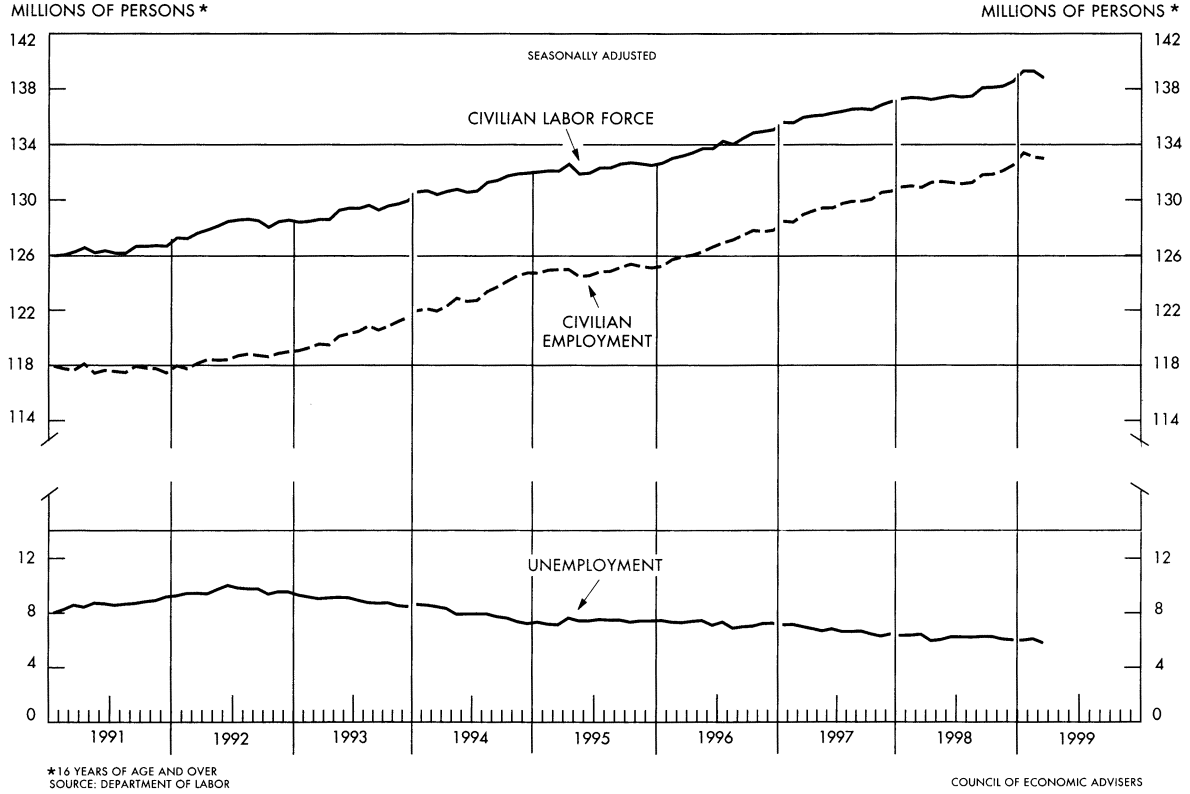
EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND WAGES

STATUS OF THE LABOR FORCE

In March, employment fell by 111,000, and unemployment fell by 344,000.



[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	Agricultural	Nonagricultural		Total	15 weeks and over		Labor force participation rate	Employment/population ratio	Unemployment rate
					Total	Part time for economic reasons [1]						
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
1997 [3]	203,133	136,297	129,558	3,399	126,159	3,879	6,739	2,062	66,837	67.1	63.8	4.9
1998 [3]	205,220	137,673	131,463	3,378	128,025	3,501	6,210	1,637	67,547	67.1	64.1	4.5
1998: Mar	204,547	137,340	130,908	3,173	127,735	3,698	6,432	1,728	67,207	67.1	64.0	4.7
Apr	204,731	137,232	131,280	3,381	127,899	3,606	5,952	1,461	67,499	67.0	64.1	4.3
May	204,899	137,369	131,330	3,351	127,979	3,608	6,039	1,509	67,530	67.0	64.1	4.4
June	205,085	137,498	131,253	3,363	127,890	3,618	6,245	1,641	67,587	67.0	64.0	4.5
July	205,270	137,407	131,176	3,423	127,753	3,606	6,231	1,606	67,863	66.9	63.9	4.5
Aug	205,479	137,481	131,264	3,492	127,772	3,339	6,217	1,644	67,998	66.9	63.9	4.5
Sept	205,699	138,081	131,818	3,470	128,348	3,191	6,263	1,636	67,618	67.1	64.1	4.5
Oct	205,919	138,116	131,858	3,558	128,300	3,253	6,258	1,598	67,803	67.1	64.0	4.5
Nov	206,104	138,193	132,113	3,348	128,765	3,191	6,080	1,611	67,911	67.1	64.1	4.4
Dec	206,270	138,547	132,526	3,222	129,304	3,257	6,021	1,578	67,723	67.2	64.2	4.3
1999: Jan [3]	206,719	139,347	133,396	3,299	130,097	3,413	5,950	1,469	67,372	67.4	64.5	4.3
Feb	206,873	139,271	133,144	3,328	129,817	3,298	6,127	1,550	67,602	67.3	64.4	4.4
Mar	207,036	138,816	133,033	3,281	129,752	3,374	5,783	1,434	68,220	67.0	64.3	4.2

[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 1998 reflect new composite estimate procedures. Data beginning January 1998 and January 1999 reflect revised population controls. For details, see February issues, *Employment and Earnings*.

Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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