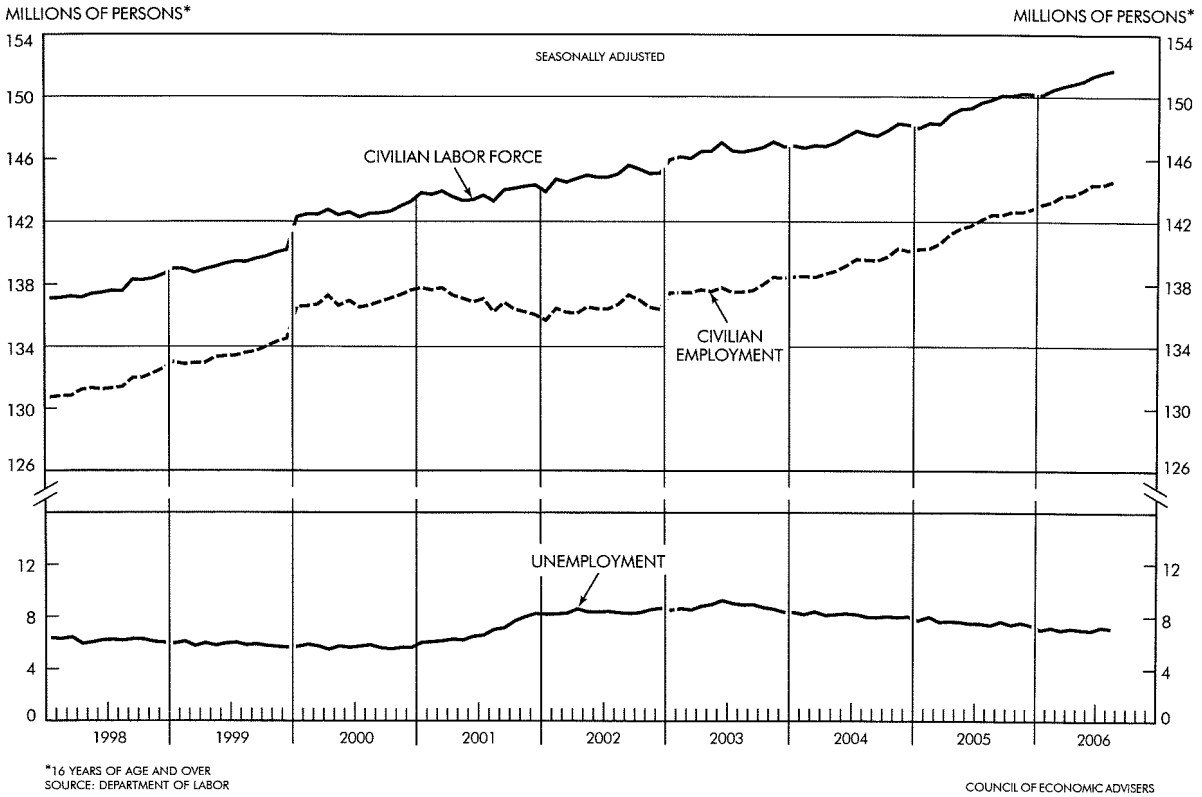
EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND WAGES

STATUS OF THE LABOR FORCE

In August, employment rose by 250,000 and unemployment fell by 86,000.



[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 [1]		
			Total	Men 20 years and over	Women 20 years and over	Both sexes 16–19 years	Total	Men 20 years and over	Women 20 years and over	Both sexes 16–19 years		Labor force participation rate	Employment/population ratio	Unemployment rate
1996	200,591	133,943	126,708	64,897	55,311	6,500	7,236	3,146	2,783	1,306	66,647	66.8	63.2	5.4
1997 [2]	203,133	136,297	129,558	66,284	56,613	6,661	6,739	2,882	2,585	1,271	66,837	67.1	63.8	4.9
1998 [2]	205,220	137,673	131,463	67,135	57,278	7,051	6,210	2,580	2,424	1,205	67,547	67.1	64.1	4.5
1999 [2]	207,753	139,368	133,488	67,761	58,555	7,172	5,880	2,433	2,285	1,162	68,385	67.1	64.3	4.2
2000 [2]	212,577	142,583	136,891	69,634	60,067	7,189	5,692	2,376	2,235	1,081	69,994	67.1	64.4	4.0
2001	215,092	143,734	136,933	69,776	60,417	6,740	6,801	3,040	2,599	1,162	71,359	66.8	63.7	4.7
2002	217,570	144,863	136,485	69,734	60,420	6,332	8,378	3,896	3,228	1,253	72,707	66.6	62.7	5.8
2003 [2]	221,168	146,510	137,736	70,415	61,402	5,919	8,774	4,209	3,314	1,251	74,658	66.2	62.3	6.0
2004 [2]	223,357	147,401	139,252	71,572	61,773	5,907	8,149	3,791	3,150	1,208	75,956	66.0	62.3	5.5
2005 [2]	226,082	149,320	141,730	73,050	62,702	5,978	7,591	3,392	3,013	1,186	76,762	66.0	62.7	5.1
2005: Aug	226,421	149,792	142,425	73,479	62,901	6,045	7,367	3,307	2,877	1,183	76,629	66.2	62.9	4.9
Sept	226,693	150,083	142,435	73,331	63,074	6,030	7,648	3,461	3,055	1,133	76,610	66.2	62.8	5.1
Oct	226,959	150,043	142,625	73,500	63,162	5,964	7,418	3,281	3,013	1,124	76,916	66.1	62.8	4.9
Nov	227,204	150,183	142,611	73,441	63,170	6,000	7,572	3,282	3,053	1,238	77,021	66.1	62.8	5.0
Dec	227,425	150,153	142,779	73,468	63,249	6,061	7,375	3,318	2,966	1,091	77,271	66.0	62.8	4.9
2006: Jan [2]	227,553	150,114	143,074	73,844	63,163	6,067	7,040	3,084	2,859	1,097	77,439	66.0	62.9	4.7
Feb	227,763	150,449	143,257	73,857	63,262	6,138	7,193	3,258	2,819	1,115	77,314	66.1	62.9	4.8
Mar	227,975	150,652	143,641	74,197	63,305	6,139	7,011	3,137	2,733	1,140	77,323	66.1	63.0	4.7
Apr	228,199	150,811	143,688	74,169	63,362	6,157	7,123	3,246	2,825	1,053	77,388	66.1	63.0	4.7
May	228,428	150,991	143,976	74,202	63,555	6,220	7,015	3,275	2,725	1,015	77,437	66.1	63.0	4.6
June	228,671	151,321	144,363	74,215	63,878	6,270	6,957	3,082	2,730	1,145	77,350	66.2	63.1	4.6
July	228,912	151,534	144,329	74,082	64,035	6,211	7,205	3,226	2,837	1,142	77,379	66.2	63.0	4.8
Aug	229,167	151,698	144,579	74,358	64,131	6,089	7,119	3,192	2,747	1,180	77,469	66.2	63.1	4.7

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

[2] Not strictly comparable with earlier data.

NOTE.—Beginning January 2006 data reflect revised population controls and are not strictly comparable with earlier data.

See *Employment and Earnings* for details on breaks in series.

Source: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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