

A Need for More Immigrant Workers? Unemployment and Underemployment In the First Quarter of 2011

By Steven A. Camarota

Unlike the figures published by the Department of Labor, this report provides a detailed breakdown of employment for U.S.-born and foreign-born workers by age and education. The employment situation for U.S.-born workers and citizens (foreign- and U.S.-born) remained bleak in the first quarter of 2011, particularly for the young and the less-educated, who are the most likely to compete with illegal immigrants. The findings stand in stark contrast to President Obama's recent proposal to allow illegal immigrants to remain permanently in their jobs and to increase the number of legal immigrants allowed into the country each year. The president seems to believe that jobs are plentiful. (All figures are seasonally unadjusted.)

Among the findings:

- In the first quarter of 2011, the standard unemployment rate (referred to as U-3) for U.S.-born adults who have not completed high school was 22 percent.
- Using the broader measure of unemployment, (referred to as U-6, which includes those who want to work but have not looked recently, and those forced to work part-time), the unemployment rate for those who have not completed high school was 34.6 percent.
- The U-3 unemployment rate for young U.S.-born workers (18-29) who have only a high school education was 20.3 percent in the first quarter of 2011. Using the U-6 measure, it was 34.4 percent.
- The U-3 rate for U.S.-born, young (18 to 29) adults who have completed some college, but do not have a bachelor's degree was 11.3 percent. Using the U-6 measure, it was 20.2 percent.
- Those with a bachelor's degree have generally been more insulated from recessions than other workers, and to some extent this is still true. But for young (21 to 29) college graduates, the U-6 measure was 12.2 percent in the first quarter of 2011.
- In most cases, unemployment for young, U.S.-born workers is double or nearly double what it was in the first quarter of 2007, before the recession began.
- The number of U.S.-born working-age adults (18 to 65) not working was 51.7 million in the first quarter of 2011. This is up 10.1 million compared to the first quarter of 2007, before the recession began.
- If we consider all American citizens (U.S.-born and naturalized), the number of working-age adults not holding a job was 55.4 million.
- More than half (28.7 million) of working-age citizens not holding a job have no education beyond high school. This is a huge pool of potential lower-skilled workers.

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Introduction

In his May 10th speech in El Paso, President Obama outlined his vision for reforming the nation's immigration system. He argued that because the border is more secure, it is now time to legalize illegal immigrants and to increase the number of legal immigrants allowed into the country in the future. Like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other advocates for such policies, the president argues that illegal immigrants need to stay in their jobs and more immigrant workers need to be admitted each year. Unlike the Chamber, which explicitly argues that more workers are needed, the president emphasized that amnesty and more legal immigration are needed for humanitarian reasons. He argued that enforcing immigration laws and limiting legal immigration separates families and is unfair. While they each emphasized different justifications, the president's position and that of the Chamber would result in the same outcome — illegal workers would stay and more foreign workers would be allowed into the country.

The president's speech seems to assume that jobs are plentiful. But all the available evidence indicates this is not the case, particularly for the young and less-educated, who are the most likely to compete with illegal immigrants. Prior research indicates that illegal immigrant workers are overwhelming those with relatively little education.¹ While it would be a mistake to think that every job taken by an immigrant is a job lost by a native, it would also be a mistake to imagine that allowing illegal immigrants to stay permanently in their jobs and increasing immigration further has no impact on labor market outcomes for U.S.-born workers.

The findings in this analysis make clear that Americans with relatively little education have been very hard hit by the current downturn. Moreover, the president argued that anyone who completes college in the United States should be allowed to stay permanently. But again, this position ignores the difficult employment situation for young college graduates.

Unemployment (U-3 & U-6). The left side of Table 1 (pp. 6-7) shows the unemployment rate for all workers using the standard U-3 measure. To be unemployed using the standard U-3 measure, one has to have looked for a job in the last four weeks. Table 1 shows that unemployment varies significantly by group. Unemployment is very high for teenagers, those without a high school diploma, and young high school graduates. One of the most important findings in Table 1 is that those who are young (18 to 29) with a high school education have an unemployment rate similar to those who have not completed high school (all ages) — 22 vs. 20.3 percent.

Another important finding is that unemployment is much higher for young and less-educated U.S.-born minorities than for the population as a whole. For example, U-3 unemployment is 32.9 percent for U.S.-born blacks (all ages) who have not completed high school, much higher than for all natives without a high school education. For young blacks (18 to 29) who have completed high school, unemployment is also much higher than for all young U.S.-born workers with the same education. Unemployment for U.S.-born Hispanics also is somewhat higher than for all U.S.-born workers with the same education.

The right side of Table 1 shows unemployment using the broader measure, (referred to as U-6) that includes those who want to work, but have not looked recently, and those forced to work part-time. (The methodology section at the end of this report summarizes how U-3 and U-6 are calculated.) The broader measure of unemployment shows things are very bleak for American workers. For those without a high school education (all ages), U-6 unemployment is 45.2 percent, compared to 22 percent for U-3 unemployment. For young high school graduates, the U-6 measure is 34.4 percent compared to 20.3 percent using the U-3 measure. The U-6 measure shows things are very bad for U.S.-born minorities. For U.S.-born Hispanics without a high school education and young high school graduates the U-6 unemployment rate is more than 35 percent for both groups. For U.S.-born blacks the situation is even worse. These young and less-educated workers are the ones most likely to compete with illegal immigrants for jobs. And they are the ones most likely to benefit from having fewer illegal immigrants in the country.

Not Working. The U-3 and U-6 measures both deal with those who express some interest in working. Some of those included in the U-6 measure are considered to be outside of the labor force because they have not looked for a job in the last four weeks. Thus if someone has not looked recently for a job and has given up entirely looking for work,

then he or she would not be part of the U-3 or even the U-6 measure of unemployment. The right side of Table 2 (pp. 8-9) reports the share of working-age adults (18 to 65) not in the labor force. It also shows the number holding a job. Table 2 shows that in first quarter of 2011, nearly 40.4 million U.S.-born adults were not in the labor force — not working or looking for work. If we include the 11.3 million U.S.-born adults (18 to 65) who are unemployed, the total number not working would be 51.7 million, an increase of 10.1 million since the first quarter of 2007.

We can see the increase in the number not working by comparing Table 2 to Table 4 (pp. 12-13). Table 4 shows the same information as Table 2 except that it is for the first quarter of 2007, before the recession began. (Table 3 (pp. 10-11) shows the same information as Table 1 for the first quarter of 2007.) There would seem to be a huge pool of legal workers available in the United States. Table 4 shows that in the first quarter of 2007, 73.6 percent of U.S.-born working-age adults were employed. In 2011 it was 68.1 percent. If we returned to the 2007 employment rate, roughly 10 million more U.S.-born adults would be working.

Conclusion

It is difficult to overstate the size of the pool of potential workers that now exists in the United States. If through enforcement a large fraction of illegal immigrants returned to their home countries, there would seem to be an ample supply of idle workers to replace them, particularly workers who have relatively little education. Of course, employers might have to pay more, and offer better benefits and working conditions in order to attract American citizens. But improving the living standards and bargaining power of the least-educated and poorest American workers can be seen as a desirable social outcome. The contention that there is a general labor shortage that has to be satisfied by increasing the number of immigrants allowed into the country seems entirely inconsistent with the available evidence.

Methodology

The data for all of the tables in this study come from the public-use files of the January, February, and March 2011 and 2007 Current Population Surveys (CPS), which are collected monthly by the Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Each CPS includes about 131,000 respondents, roughly half of whom are in the labor force. The tables presented here are reported by quarter. Quarterly data are more statistically robust, especially for smaller populations like immigrants and minorities, due to the inclusion of three months of data. Persons in institutions like prisons or nursing homes are not included in the CPS. The CPS is the nation's primary source for unemployment and other labor force statistics. Like all government surveys, the data are weighted to reflect the actual size and demographic makeup of the U.S. population.

The government publishes employment statistics that are both seasonally adjusted and unadjusted from the survey. The figures in this analysis are seasonally unadjusted. Unadjusted figures are computationally simpler and easier for other researchers to replicate. In general, BLS does not provide separate estimates for the foreign-born (immigrants) and the native-born broken down by characteristics like education, race, and age. However, all CPS respondents are asked these questions. The Census Bureau defines the foreign-born as persons who are not U.S. citizens at birth, which includes naturalized citizens, legal immigrants who are not citizens (green card holders), temporary visitors and workers, and illegal immigrants. All figures for the total U.S. population (age 16+) at the top of Tables 1 and 2 match those from the BLS.

Defining Unemployment. The standard measure of unemployment, referred to as U-3, takes the number of people who report that they are not working and have looked for a job in the last four weeks and divides it by the number actually working plus those looking. Those not actively looking for a job are not included in either the numerator or denominator when calculating the unemployment rate for U-3.

The broader measure of unemployment referred to as U-6 is calculated differently. It divides the sum of the unemployed population, involuntary part-time workers, and marginally attached people (discouraged and other) by the civilian labor force (employed and unemployed) plus marginally attached workers. The column headings in

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Tables 1 and 3 show this calculation. An unemployed worker is someone who does not currently hold a job, but is available to work and has looked for a job in the previous four weeks. Marginally attached workers indicate that they want and are available for jobs, and they have looked for work in the past 12 months.² However, they are not considered unemployed because they have not searched for a job in the previous four weeks. Involuntary part-time workers are those individuals who report that they are working part-time for economic reasons. They want and are available for full-time work, but must instead settle for part-time hours.³ Because the total U-6 measure includes the unemployed, those working involuntarily part-time, and those marginally attached to the labor market (discouraged and other), it provides a broad measure of problems in the U.S. work force.

End Notes

¹ The Pew Hispanic Center has estimated that 74 percent of illegal immigrants 25 to 64 have no more than a high school education and 46 percent of legal immigrants in the same age group also have no education beyond high school. See Figure 16 in “A Portrait of Unauthorized Immigrants in the United States,” at <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/107.pdf>.

² Marginally attached workers indicate that they looked for work in the last 12 months, but not in the prior four weeks. The marginally attached are comprised of two groups, both of which are included in U-6. One group is considered “discouraged.” (The variable in the CPS used to determine this population is pemlr). Discouraged workers provide a reason related to the market conditions for why they are not currently looking for a job. The second group of marginally attached workers indicate that they are conditionally interested in finding work and are referred to as “other marginally attached workers.” (The variable in the CPS used to determine this population is prdisc). These individuals provide reasons such as family responsibilities, school attendance, illness, and transportation problems for why they have not searched for work in the previous four weeks.

³ Involuntary part-time workers respond that they are working part-time (one to 34 hours a week) for economic reasons, and this includes those who usually work full-time and those who usually work part-time. They share a desire to work full-time.

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Table 1. U-6 Measure for U.S.-Born and Immigrants, First Quarter 2011 (thousands)

Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Employed	Unemployed ¹	Percent Unemployed	Marginally Attached: Discouraged ²	Marginally Attached: Other ³	Part-Time: Economic Reasons ⁴	U-6 Population (2+4+5+6)	U-6 Measure 7/(1+2+4+5)
All Persons (16+)	138,218	14,513	9.5 %	975	1,673	8,897	26,058	16.8 %
Teens (16-17)	1,160	454	28.1 %	27	131	28	640	36.1 %
<HS (18+)	11,322	2,536	18.3 %	211	294	1,673	4,714	32.8 %
<HS (18-29)	3,006	1,021	25.4 %	76	155	534	1,786	41.9 %
HS Only (18+)	38,451	5,363	12.2 %	390	605	3,262	9,620	21.5 %
HS Only (18-29)	8,539	2,083	19.6 %	137	244	1,266	3,730	33.9 %
Some College (18+)	40,575	3,901	8.8 %	215	411	2,469	6,996	15.5 %
Some College (18-29)	11,357	1,441	11.3 %	76	166	940	2,623	20.1 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	46,709	2,259	4.6 %	132	231	1,465	4,087	8.3 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	6,421	448	6.5 %	8	51	334	841	12.1 %
All U.S.-Born (16+)	116,479	12,101	9.4 %	800	1,461	6,747	21,109	16.1 %
Teens (16-17)	1,095	433	28.3 %	27	127	26	613	36.4 %
<HS (18+)	6,010	1,694	22.0 %	154	228	725	2,801	34.6 %
<HS (18-29)	1,951	841	30.1 %	66	139	308	1,354	45.2 %
HS Only (18+)	32,826	4,633	12.4 %	329	551	2,664	8,177	21.3 %
HS Only (18-29)	7,372	1,875	20.3 %	122	227	1,080	3,304	34.4 %
Some College (18+)	36,519	3,526	8.8 %	190	365	2,116	6,197	15.3 %
Some College (18-29)	10,405	1,332	11.3 %	73	148	859	2,412	20.2 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	40,029	1,815	4.3 %	100	189	1,216	3,320	7.9 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	5,871	412	6.6 %	6	47	307	772	12.2 %
Black U.S.-Born (16+)⁵	12,380	2,424	16.4 %	204	304	895	3,827	25.0 %
Teens (16-17)	67	62	48.1 %	6	22	1	91	58.0 %
<HS (18+)	870	426	32.9 %	59	61	132	678	47.9 %
<HS (18-29)	252	206	45.0 %	32	40	63	341	64.3 %
HS Only (18+)	4,133	977	19.1 %	86	127	392	1,582	29.7 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,003	434	30.2 %	32	55	166	687	45.1 %
Some College (18+)	4,340	725	14.3 %	45	78	277	1,125	21.7 %
Some College (18-29)	1,315	304	18.8 %	19	31	134	488	29.2 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	2,970	234	7.3 %	10	16	92	352	10.9 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	420	65	13.4 %	-	6	27	98	20.0 %
Hispanic U.S.-Born (16+)⁶	9,345	1,425	13.2 %	98	164	732	2,419	21.9 %
Teens (16-17)	104	72	40.9 %	4	23	5	104	51.2 %
<HS (18+)	1,096	340	23.7 %	24	58	137	559	36.8 %
<HS (18-29)	434	198	31.3 %	11	38	75	322	47.3 %
HS Only (18+)	3,195	556	14.8 %	51	57	324	988	25.6 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,149	317	21.6 %	24	28	167	536	35.3 %
Some College (18+)	3,177	368	10.4 %	14	22	205	609	17.0 %
Some College (18-29)	1,340	211	13.6 %	8	13	124	356	22.6 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	1,773	90	4.8 %	6	5	61	162	8.6 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	382	30	7.3 %	-	1	30	61	14.8 %

Source: Center for Immigration Studies analysis of public-use January, February, and March 2011 Current Population Surveys. All figures are seasonally unadjusted and are for non-institutionalized civilians, which does not include those in institutions such as prisons and nursing homes.

¹ Unemployed means they are not working but have looked for work in previous four weeks.

² Discouraged workers are not in the labor force; they neither have jobs nor have looked for one in the previous four weeks because they do not think there are any suitable for them. However, they are available for work and have looked for a job in the last 12 months.

³ These people are not in the labor force; they neither have jobs nor are looking for one, though they would work under the right circumstances. They do not fall into the official definition of discouraged workers, but like discouraged workers these individuals have looked for work in the last 12 months.

⁴ These individuals work part-time because of the economy. They include those who normally work full-time but are now part-time for economic reasons.

⁵ Non-Hispanic persons who chose only black or African American.

⁶ Hispanics can be of any race.

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Table 1 (cont.). U-6 Measure for U.S.-Born and Immigrants, First Quarter 2011 (thousands)

Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Employed	Unemployed ¹	Percent Unemployed	Marginally Attached: Discouraged ²	Marginally Attached: Other ³	Part-Time: Economic Reasons ⁴	U-6 Population (2+4+5+6)	U-6 Measure 7/(1+2+4+5)
All Immigrants (16+)⁷	21,739	2,412	10.0 %	175	212	2,150	4,949	20.2 %
Teens (16-17)	65	21	24.4 %	-	5	3	29	31.9 %
<HS (18+)	5,312	843	13.7 %	57	67	947	1,914	30.5 %
<HS (18-29)	1,055	180	14.6 %	10	16	226	432	34.3 %
HS Only (18+)	5,625	730	11.5 %	61	54	599	1,444	22.3 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,167	209	15.2 %	15	17	186	427	30.3 %
Some College (18+)	4,056	374	8.4 %	25	45	352	796	17.7 %
Some College (18-29)	952	108	10.2 %	3	17	82	210	19.4 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	6,680	444	6.2 %	32	42	249	767	10.7 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	550	36	6.1 %	2	4	28	70	11.8 %
Hisp. Immigrants (16+)^{6,7}	10,384	1,403	11.9 %	96	103	1,443	3,045	25.4 %
Teens (16-17)	34	10	22.7 %	-	1	2	13	28.9 %
<HS (18+)	4,395	711	13.9 %	42	51	823	1,627	31.3 %
<HS (18-29)	899	156	14.8 %	9	10	202	377	35.1 %
HS Only (18+)	3,096	440	12.4 %	35	31	378	884	24.5 %
HS Only (18-29)	855	144	14.4 %	13	13	142	312	30.4 %
Some College (18+)	1,703	153	8.2 %	10	14	184	361	19.2 %
Some College (18-29)	456	39	7.9 %	3	6	36	84	16.7 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	1,155	90	7.2 %	8	7	57	162	12.9 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	130	11	7.8 %	-	1	16	28	19.7 %
All Citizens (16+)⁸	126,451	13,021	9.3 %	864	1,561	7,388	22,834	16.1 %
Teens (16-17)	1,109	436	28.2 %	27	128	26	617	36.3 %
<HS (18+)	7,221	1,869	20.6 %	167	247	869	3,152	33.2 %
<HS (18-29)	2,049	861	29.6 %	67	142	317	1,387	44.5 %
HS Only (18+)	35,247	4,913	12.2 %	355	581	2,852	8,701	21.2 %
HS Only (18-29)	7,609	1,930	20.2 %	130	233	1,109	3,402	34.4 %
Some College (18+)	38,797	3,748	8.8 %	199	390	2,290	6,627	15.4 %
Some College (18-29)	10,770	1,389	11.4 %	74	154	887	2,504	20.2 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	44,078	2,056	4.5 %	116	215	1,352	3,739	8.0 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	6,148	430	6.5 %	6	51	320	807	12.2 %
Hispanic Citizens (16+)^{6,8}	12,799	1,821	12.5 %	129	200	1,029	3,179	21.3 %
Teens (16-17)	109	74	40.4 %	4	23	5	106	50.5 %
<HS (18+)	1,971	456	18.8 %	33	70	250	809	32.0 %
<HS (18-29)	500	212	29.8 %	12	40	81	345	45.2 %
HS Only (18+)	4,233	699	14.2 %	67	72	413	1,251	24.7 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,291	349	21.3 %	31	34	187	601	35.2 %
Some College (18+)	4,035	453	10.1 %	16	28	279	776	17.1 %
Some College (18-29)	1,485	228	13.3 %	9	13	134	384	22.1 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	2,450	139	5.4 %	8	8	82	237	9.1 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	450	34	7.0 %	-	2	34	70	14.4 %

⁷ Immigrant matches the Census definition of the foreign-born. These are individuals who are not U.S. citizens at birth.

⁸ Includes U.S.-born and naturalized American citizens.

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Table 2. Employment and Unemployment for Natives and Immigrants, First Quarter 2011 (thousands)

	Percent			Not in Labor			Employment	
	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployed	Force (18-65) ¹	Employed	Total ²	Rate ³	
All Persons (16+)	138,218	14,513	9.5 %	All Persons (16+)	48,044	131,435	193,160	68.0 %
Teens (16-17)	1,160	454	28.1 %	Teens (16-17)	7,185	1,160	8,800	13.2 %
<HS (18+)	11,322	2,536	18.3 %	<HS (18+)	9,951	10,761	23,202	46.4 %
<HS (18-29)	3,006	1,021	25.4 %	<HS (18-29)	3,642	3,006	7,669	39.2 %
HS Only (18+)	38,451	5,363	12.2 %	HS Only (18+)	15,298	36,721	57,264	64.1 %
HS Only (18-29)	8,539	2,083	19.6 %	HS Only (18-29)	3,798	8,539	14,420	59.2 %
Some College (18+)	40,575	3,901	8.8 %	Some College (18+)	14,229	39,328	57,350	68.6 %
Some College (18-29)	11,357	1,441	11.3 %	Some College (18-29)	5,792	11,357	18,590	61.1 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	46,709	2,259	4.6 %	Bachelor's or More (18+)	8,566	44,623	55,342	80.6 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	6,421	448	6.5 %	Bachelor's Only (21-29)	1,178	6,421	8,047	79.8 %
All U.S.-Born (16+)	116,479	12,101	9.4 %	All U.S.-Born (16+)	40,369	110,433	162,147	68.1 %
Teens (16-17)	1,095	433	28.3 %	Teens (16-17)	6,684	1,095	8,212	13.3 %
<HS (18+)	6,010	1,694	22.0 %	<HS (18+)	7,266	5,581	14,513	38.5 %
<HS (18-29)	1,951	841	30.1 %	<HS (18-29)	3,006	1,951	5,798	33.6 %
HS Only (18+)	32,826	4,633	12.4 %	HS Only (18+)	13,412	31,251	49,191	63.5 %
HS Only (18-29)	7,372	1,875	20.3 %	HS Only (18-29)	3,364	7,372	12,611	58.5 %
Some College (18+)	36,519	3,526	8.8 %	Some College (18+)	12,731	35,396	51,557	68.7 %
Some College (18-29)	10,405	1,332	11.3 %	Some College (18-29)	5,137	10,405	16,874	61.7 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	40,029	1,815	4.3 %	Bachelor's or More (18+)	6,960	38,205	46,885	81.5 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	5,871	412	6.6 %	Bachelor's Only (21-29)	949	5,871	7,232	81.2 %
Black U.S.-Born (16+)⁴	12,380	2,424	16.4 %	Black U.S.-Born (16+)⁴	6,486	11,930	20,746	57.5 %
Teens (16-17)	67	62	48.1 %	Teens (16-17)	1,044	67	1,173	5.7 %
<HS (18+)	870	426	32.9 %	<HS (18+)	1,626	793	2,837	28.0 %
<HS (18-29)	252	206	45.0 %	<HS (18-29)	678	252	1,136	22.2 %
HS Only (18+)	4,133	977	19.1 %	HS Only (18+)	2,423	4,013	7,405	54.2 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,003	434	30.2 %	HS Only (18-29)	676	1,003	2,113	47.5 %
Some College (18+)	4,340	725	14.3 %	Some College (18+)	1,885	4,259	6,856	62.1 %
Some College (18-29)	1,315	304	18.8 %	Some College (18-29)	798	1,315	2,417	54.4 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	2,970	234	7.3 %	Bachelor's or More (18+)	552	2,866	3,648	78.6 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	420	65	13.4 %	Bachelor's Only (21-29)	84	420	569	73.8 %
Hispanic U.S.-Born (16+)⁵	9,345	1,425	13.2 %	Hispanic U.S.-Born (16+)⁵	3,986	9,064	14,393	63.0 %
Teens (16-17)	104	72	40.9 %	Teens (16-17)	1,332	104	1,507	6.9 %
<HS (18+)	1,096	340	23.7 %	<HS (18+)	1,262	1,059	2,661	39.8 %
<HS (18-29)	434	198	31.3 %	<HS (18-29)	625	434	1,257	34.5 %
HS Only (18+)	3,195	556	14.8 %	HS Only (18+)	1,249	3,128	4,928	63.5 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,149	317	21.6 %	HS Only (18-29)	538	1,149	2,004	57.3 %
Some College (18+)	3,177	368	10.4 %	Some College (18+)	1,190	3,142	4,698	66.9 %
Some College (18-29)	1,340	211	13.6 %	Some College (18-29)	734	1,340	2,285	58.6 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	1,773	90	4.8 %	Bachelor's or More (18+)	286	1,736	2,107	82.4 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	382	30	7.3 %	Bachelor's Only (21-29)	79	382	491	77.8 %

Source: Center for Immigration Studies analysis of public-use January, February, March 2011 Current Population Surveys All figures are seasonally unadjusted and are for non-institutionalized civilians, which does not include those in institutions such as prisons and nursing homes.

¹ Persons who are not working nor looking for work.

² Total number of people in age group.

³ The share of people in the specific age group who are currently holding a job.

⁴ Non-Hispanic persons who chose only black or African American.

⁵ Hispanics can be of any race.

Center for Immigration Studies

Table 2 (cont.). Employment and Unemployment for Natives and Immigrants, First Quarter 2011 (thousands)

	Employed	Unemployed	Percent Unemployed	Not in Labor Force (18-65) ¹	Employed	Total ²	Employment Rate ³
All Immigrants (16+)⁶	21,739	2,412	10.0 %	7,675	21,001	31,013	67.7 %
Teens (16-17)	65	21	24.4 %	501	65	587	11.1 %
<HS (18+)	5,312	843	13.7 %	2,685	5,180	8,688	59.6 %
<HS (18-29)	1,055	180	14.6 %	636	1,055	1,871	56.4 %
HS Only (18+)	5,625	730	11.5 %	1,886	5,470	8,073	67.8 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,167	209	15.2 %	433	1,167	1,809	64.5 %
Some College (18+)	4,056	374	8.4 %	1,498	3,932	5,793	67.9 %
Some College (18-29)	952	108	10.2 %	655	952	1,715	55.5 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	6,680	444	6.2 %	1,606	6,419	8,458	75.9 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	550	36	6.1 %	228	550	814	67.6 %
Hisp. Immigrants (16+)	10,384	1,403	11.9 %	3,746	10,112	15,225	66.4 %
Teens (16-17)	34	10	22.7 %	252	34	296	11.5 %
<HS (18+)	4,395	711	13.9 %	2,023	4,308	7,029	61.3 %
<HS (18-29)	899	156	14.8 %	451	899	1,506	59.7 %
HS Only (18+)	3,096	440	12.4 %	914	3,043	4,393	69.3 %
HS Only (18-29)	855	144	14.4 %	272	855	1,271	67.3 %
Some College (18+)	1,703	153	8.2 %	520	1,649	2,315	71.2 %
Some College (18-29)	456	39	7.9 %	201	456	696	65.5 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	1,155	90	7.2 %	289	1,112	1,489	74.7 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	130	11	7.8 %	27	130	168	77.4 %
All Citizens (16+)⁷	126,451	13,021	9.3 %	43,205	119,883	175,313	68.4 %
Teens (16-17)	1,109	436	28.2 %	6,802	1,109	8,347	13.3 %
<HS (18+)	7,221	1,869	20.6 %	7,917	6,724	16,473	40.8 %
<HS (18-29)	2,049	861	29.6 %	3,088	2,049	5,998	34.2 %
HS Only (18+)	35,247	4,913	12.2 %	14,183	33,563	52,543	63.9 %
HS Only (18-29)	7,609	1,930	20.2 %	3,454	7,609	12,993	58.6 %
Some College (18+)	38,797	3,748	8.8 %	13,418	37,566	54,627	68.8 %
Some College (18-29)	10,770	1,389	11.4 %	5,354	10,770	17,513	61.5 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	44,078	2,056	4.5 %	7,687	42,030	51,670	81.3 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	6,148	430	6.5 %	1,018	6,148	7,596	80.9 %
Hispanic Citizens (16+)^{5,7}	12,799	1,821	12.5 %	4,963	12,356	19,037	64.9 %
Teens (16-17)	109	74	40.4 %	1,370	109	1,553	7.0 %
<HS (18+)	1,971	456	18.8 %	1,622	1,890	3,961	47.7 %
<HS (18-29)	500	212	29.8 %	647	500	1,359	36.8 %
HS Only (18+)	4,233	699	14.2 %	1,541	4,132	6,363	64.9 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,291	349	21.3 %	584	1,291	2,224	58.0 %
Some College (18+)	4,035	453	10.1 %	1,391	3,953	5,791	68.3 %
Some College (18-29)	1,485	228	13.3 %	785	1,485	2,498	59.4 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	2,450	139	5.4 %	409	2,381	2,921	81.5 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	450	34	7.0 %	86	450	570	78.9 %

⁶ Immigrant matches Census definition of foreign-born. These are individuals who are not U.S. citizens at birth.

⁷ Includes U.S.-born and naturalized American citizens.

Center for Immigration Studies

Table 3. U-6 Measure for U.S.-Born and Immigrants, First Quarter 2007 (thousands)

Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Employed	Unemployed ¹	Percent Unemployed	Marginally Attached: Discouraged ²	Marginally Attached: Other ³	Part-Time: Economic Reasons ⁴	U-6 Population (2+4+5+6)	U-6 Measure 7/(1+2+4+5)
All Persons (16+)	144,692	7,320	4.8 %	399	1,072	4,509	13,300	8.7 %
Teens (16-17)	2,103	416	16.5 %	25	107	51	599	22.6 %
<HS (18+)	14,507	1,625	10.1 %	111	206	1,033	2,975	18.1 %
<HS (18-29)	4,380	785	15.2 %	50	102	405	1,342	25.2 %
HS Only (18+)	42,572	2,541	5.6 %	151	347	1,714	4,753	10.4 %
HS Only (18-29)	10,159	1,056	9.4 %	69	129	684	1,938	17.0 %
Some College (18+)	40,711	1,809	4.3 %	66	274	1,066	3,215	7.5 %
Some College (18-29)	11,451	715	5.9 %	22	115	386	1,238	10.1 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	44,801	930	2.0 %	47	138	645	1,760	3.8 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	5,973	178	2.9 %	10	21	129	338	5.5 %
All U.S.-Born (16+)	122,119	6,238	4.9 %	325	967	3,482	11,012	8.5 %
Teens (16-17)	2,009	400	16.6 %	25	100	42	567	22.4 %
<HS (18+)	8,188	1,163	12.4 %	78	173	537	1,951	20.3 %
<HS (18-29)	2,727	645	19.1 %	41	98	239	1,023	29.1 %
HS Only (18+)	36,909	2,315	5.9 %	129	315	1,431	4,190	10.6 %
HS Only (18-29)	8,803	983	10.0 %	61	118	570	1,732	17.4 %
Some College (18+)	36,833	1,600	4.2 %	59	256	934	2,849	7.4 %
Some College (18-29)	10,402	645	5.8 %	20	105	341	1,111	9.9 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	38,179	761	2.0 %	34	122	537	1,454	3.7 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	5,335	154	2.8 %	9	18	119	300	5.4 %
Black U.S.-Born (16+)⁵	13,474	1,260	8.6 %	114	216	545	2,135	14.2 %
Teens (16-17)	160	66	29.2 %	5	19	5	95	38.0 %
<HS (18+)	1,300	269	17.1 %	20	47	110	446	27.3 %
<HS (18-29)	366	153	29.5 %	6	30	52	241	43.4 %
HS Only (18+)	4,968	553	10.0 %	57	79	250	939	16.6 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,375	268	16.3 %	36	29	110	443	25.9 %
Some College (18+)	4,215	288	6.4 %	21	55	128	492	10.7 %
Some College (18-29)	1,248	106	7.8 %	11	25	39	181	13.0 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	2,831	84	2.9 %	11	16	51	162	5.5 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	447	22	4.7 %	3	5	17	47	9.9 %
Hispanic U.S.-Born (16+)⁶	9,005	625	6.5 %	30	87	320	1,062	10.9 %
Teens (16-17)	195	63	24.4 %	3	20	8	94	33.5 %
<HS (18+)	1,293	188	12.7 %	12	22	88	310	20.5 %
<HS (18-29)	516	125	19.5 %	7	14	45	191	28.9 %
HS Only (18+)	3,006	193	6.0 %	10	24	123	350	10.8 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,163	111	8.7 %	6	13	59	189	14.6 %
Some College (18+)	2,901	149	4.9 %	2	18	74	243	7.9 %
Some College (18-29)	1,108	83	7.0 %	-	8	33	124	10.3 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	1,610	33	2.0 %	2	2	27	64	3.9 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	337	11	3.2 %	1	-	9	21	6.0 %

Source: Center for Immigration Studies analysis of public-use January, February, and March 2007 Current Population Surveys. All figures are seasonally unadjusted and are for non-institutionalized civilians, which does not include those in institutions such as prisons and nursing homes.

¹ Unemployed means they are not working but have looked for work in previous four weeks.

² Discouraged workers are not in the labor force; they neither have jobs nor have looked for one in the previous four weeks because they do not think there are any suitable for them. However, they are available for work and have looked for a job in the last 12 months.

³ These people are not in the labor force; they neither have jobs nor are looking for one, though they would work under the right circumstances. They do not fall into the official definition of discouraged workers, but like discouraged workers these individuals have looked for work in the last 12 months.

⁴ These individuals work part-time because of the economy. They include those who normally work full-time but are now part-time for economic reasons.

⁵ Non-Hispanic persons who chose only black or African American.

⁶ Hispanics can be of any race.

Center for Immigration Studies

Table 3 (cont.). U-6 Measure for U.S.-Born and Immigrants, First Quarter 2007 (thousands)

Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Employed	Unemployed ¹	Percent Unemployed	Marginally Attached: Discouraged ²	Marginally Attached: Other ³	Part-Time: Economic Reasons ⁴	U-6 Population (2+4+5+6)	U-6 Measure 7/(1+2+4+5)
All Immigrants (16+)⁷	22,573	1,082	4.6 %	74	106	1,028	2,290	9.6 %
Teens (16-17)	93	16	14.7 %	-	7	9	32	27.6 %
<HS (18+)	6,318	462	6.8 %	33	33	497	1,025	15.0 %
<HS (18-29)	1,653	141	7.9 %	9	3	165	318	17.6 %
HS Only (18+)	5,662	225	3.8 %	21	32	283	561	9.4 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,357	73	5.1 %	8	11	114	206	14.2 %
Some College (18+)	3,877	209	5.1 %	8	18	131	366	8.9 %
Some College (18-29)	1,049	71	6.3 %	2	11	45	129	11.4 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	6,622	170	2.5 %	13	16	108	307	4.5 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	637	24	3.6 %	1	3	10	38	5.7 %
Hisp. Immigrants (16+)^{6,7}	11,003	621	5.3 %	36	48	755	1,460	12.5 %
Teens (16-17)	52	9	14.8 %	-	2	9	20	31.7 %
<HS (18+)	5,248	395	7.0 %	23	25	438	881	15.5 %
<HS (18-29)	1,504	123	7.6 %	8	3	153	287	17.5 %
HS Only (18+)	3,113	119	3.7 %	8	11	205	343	10.6 %
HS Only (18-29)	954	49	4.9 %	4	8	90	151	14.9 %
Some College (18+)	1,506	68	4.3 %	2	7	71	148	9.3 %
Some College (18-29)	460	23	4.8 %	-	4	27	54	11.1 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	1,084	29	2.6 %	4	3	31	67	6.0 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	133	4	2.9 %	1	-	3	8	5.8 %
All Citizens (16+)⁸	131,326	6,553	4.8 %	346	1,000	3,729	11,628	8.4 %
Teens (16-17)	2,031	404	16.6 %	25	101	42	572	22.3 %
<HS (18+)	9,573	1,230	11.4 %	86	180	617	2,113	19.1 %
<HS (18-29)	2,856	652	18.6 %	41	98	252	1,043	28.6 %
HS Only (18+)	39,156	2,391	5.8 %	134	329	1,509	4,363	10.4 %
HS Only (18-29)	9,038	995	9.9 %	61	122	584	1,762	17.2 %
Some College (18+)	38,847	1,686	4.2 %	60	261	981	2,988	7.3 %
Some College (18-29)	10,784	670	5.8 %	20	106	348	1,144	9.9 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	41,720	842	2.0 %	41	128	579	1,590	3.7 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	5,603	166	2.9 %	10	18	122	316	5.5 %
Hispanic Citizens (16+)^{6,8}	12,011	736	5.8 %	37	97	446	1,316	10.2 %
Teens (16-17)	201	65	24.4 %	3	21	8	97	33.4 %
<HS (18+)	2,211	239	9.8 %	14	26	146	425	17.1 %
<HS (18-29)	611	129	17.4 %	7	14	53	203	26.7 %
HS Only (18+)	3,926	221	5.3 %	10	27	168	426	10.2 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,265	115	8.3 %	6	15	68	204	14.6 %
Some College (18+)	3,550	168	4.5 %	4	20	91	283	7.6 %
Some College (18-29)	1,222	88	6.7 %	-	8	36	132	10.0 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	2,123	43	2.0 %	6	4	33	86	4.0 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	378	13	3.3 %	2	-	10	25	6.4 %

⁷ Immigrant matches the Census definition of the foreign-born. These are individuals who are not U.S. citizens at birth.

⁸ Includes U.S.-born and naturalized American citizens.

Center for Immigration Studies

Table 4. Employment and Unemployment for Natives and Immigrants, First Quarter 2007 (thousands)

	Percent			Not in Labor			Employment	
	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployed	Force (18-65) ¹	Employed	Total ²	Rate ³	
All Persons (16+)	144,692	7,320	4.8 %	All Persons (16+)	43,315	138,034	188,105	73.4 %
Teens (16-17)	2,103	416	16.5 %	Teens (16-17)	6,672	2,103	9,190	22.9 %
<HS (18+)	14,507	1,625	10.1 %	<HS (18+)	9,912	13,898	25,304	54.9 %
<HS (18-29)	4,380	785	15.2 %	<HS (18-29)	3,441	4,380	8,606	50.9 %
HS Only (18+)	42,572	2,541	5.6 %	HS Only (18+)	14,020	40,944	57,446	71.3 %
HS Only (18-29)	10,159	1,056	9.4 %	HS Only (18-29)	3,283	10,159	14,498	70.1 %
Some College (18+)	40,711	1,809	4.3 %	Some College (18+)	11,962	39,752	53,492	74.3 %
Some College (18-29)	11,451	715	5.9 %	Some College (18-29)	4,721	11,451	16,887	67.8 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	44,801	930	2.0 %	Bachelor's or More (18+)	7,521	42,440	51,864	81.8 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	5,973	178	2.9 %	Bachelor's Only (21-29)	883	5,973	7,034	84.9 %
All U.S.-Born (16+)	122,119	6,238	4.9 %	All U.S.-Born (16+)	35,935	116,107	157,744	73.6 %
Teens (16-17)	2,009	400	16.6 %	Teens (16-17)	6,164	2,009	8,573	23.4 %
<HS (18+)	8,188	1,163	12.4 %	<HS (18+)	7,025	7,728	15,890	48.6 %
<HS (18-29)	2,727	645	19.1 %	<HS (18-29)	2,689	2,727	6,061	45.0 %
HS Only (18+)	36,909	2,315	5.9 %	HS Only (18+)	12,166	35,414	49,838	71.1 %
HS Only (18-29)	8,803	983	10.0 %	HS Only (18-29)	2,739	8,803	12,525	70.3 %
Some College (18+)	36,833	1,600	4.2 %	Some College (18+)	10,672	35,981	48,229	74.6 %
Some College (18-29)	10,402	645	5.8 %	Some College (18-29)	4,139	10,402	15,186	68.5 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	38,179	761	2.0 %	Bachelor's or More (18+)	6,062	36,984	43,787	84.5 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	5,335	154	2.8 %	Bachelor's Only (21-29)	671	5,335	6,160	86.6 %
Black U.S.-Born (16+)⁴	13,474	1,260	8.6 %	Black U.S.-Born (16+)⁴	5,531	13,060	19,771	66.1 %
Teens (16-17)	160	66	29.2 %	Teens (16-17)	1,103	160	1,329	12.0 %
<HS (18+)	1,300	269	17.1 %	<HS (18+)	1,581	1,237	3,084	40.1 %
<HS (18-29)	366	153	29.5 %	<HS (18-29)	627	366	1,146	31.9 %
HS Only (18+)	4,968	553	10.0 %	HS Only (18+)	2,120	4,859	7,525	64.6 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,375	268	16.3 %	HS Only (18-29)	590	1,375	2,233	61.6 %
Some College (18+)	4,215	288	6.4 %	Some College (18+)	1,429	4,176	5,890	70.9 %
Some College (18-29)	1,248	106	7.8 %	Some College (18-29)	598	1,248	1,952	63.9 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	2,831	84	2.9 %	Bachelor's or More (18+)	400	2,789	3,272	85.2 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	447	22	4.7 %	Bachelor's Only (21-29)	70	447	539	82.9 %
Hispanic U.S.-Born (16+)⁵	9,005	625	6.5 %	Hispanic U.S.-Born (16+)⁵	2,924	8,663	12,146	71.3 %
Teens (16-17)	195	63	24.4 %	Teens (16-17)	971	195	1,229	15.9 %
<HS (18+)	1,293	188	12.7 %	<HS (18+)	1,084	1,249	2,519	49.6 %
<HS (18-29)	516	125	19.5 %	<HS (18-29)	474	516	1,115	46.3 %
HS Only (18+)	3,006	193	6.0 %	HS Only (18+)	894	2,958	4,043	73.2 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,163	111	8.7 %	HS Only (18-29)	375	1,163	1,649	70.5 %
Some College (18+)	2,901	149	4.9 %	Some College (18+)	737	2,880	3,766	76.5 %
Some College (18-29)	1,108	83	7.0 %	Some College (18-29)	392	1,108	1,583	70.0 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	1,610	33	2.0 %	Bachelor's or More (18+)	208	1,576	1,817	86.7 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	337	11	3.2 %	Bachelor's Only (21-29)	48	337	396	85.1 %

Source: Center for Immigration Studies analysis of public-use January, February, March 2007 Current Population Surveys All figures are seasonally unadjusted and are for non-institutionalized civilians, which does not include those in institutions such as prisons and nursing homes.

¹ Persons who are not working nor looking for work.

² Total number of people in age group.

³ The share of people in the specific age group who are currently holding a job.

⁴ Non-Hispanic persons who chose only black or African American.

⁵ Hispanics can be of any race.

Center for Immigration Studies

Table 4 (cont.). Employment and Unemployment for Natives and Immigrants, First Quarter 2007 (thousands)

	Employed	Unemployed	Percent Unemployed	Not in Labor Force (18-65) ¹	Employed	Total ²	Employment Rate ³
All Immigrants (16+)⁶	22,573	1,082	4.6 %	7,390	21,927	30,361	72.2 %
Teens (16-17)	93	16	14.7 %	508	93	617	15.1 %
<HS (18+)	6,318	462	6.8 %	2,788	6,170	9,414	65.5 %
<HS (18-29)	1,653	141	7.9 %	752	1,653	2,546	64.9 %
HS Only (18+)	5,662	225	3.8 %	1,853	5,530	7,607	72.7 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,357	73	5.1 %	544	1,357	1,974	68.7 %
Some College (18+)	3,877	209	5.1 %	1,290	3,771	5,263	71.7 %
Some College (18-29)	1,049	71	6.3 %	583	1,049	1,703	61.6 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	6,622	170	2.5 %	1,459	6,456	8,077	79.9 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	637	24	3.6 %	212	637	873	73.0 %
Hisp. Immigrants (16+)	11,003	621	5.3 %	3,682	10,761	15,050	71.5 %
Teens (16-17)	52	9	14.8 %	236	52	296	17.6 %
<HS (18+)	5,248	395	7.0 %	2,166	5,164	7,721	66.9 %
<HS (18-29)	1,504	123	7.6 %	588	1,504	2,215	67.9 %
HS Only (18+)	3,113	119	3.7 %	885	3,063	4,066	75.3 %
HS Only (18-29)	954	49	4.9 %	319	954	1,322	72.2 %
Some College (18+)	1,506	68	4.3 %	396	1,485	1,949	76.2 %
Some College (18-29)	460	23	4.8 %	134	460	617	74.6 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	1,084	29	2.6 %	235	1,049	1,313	79.9 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	133	4	2.9 %	29	133	166	80.1 %
All Citizens (16+)⁷	131,326	6,553	4.8 %	38,412	124,912	169,333	73.8 %
Teens (16-17)	2,031	404	16.6 %	6,278	2,031	8,713	23.3 %
<HS (18+)	9,573	1,230	11.4 %	7,636	9,036	17,872	50.6 %
<HS (18-29)	2,856	652	18.6 %	2,754	2,856	6,262	45.6 %
HS Only (18+)	39,156	2,391	5.8 %	12,862	37,564	52,759	71.2 %
HS Only (18-29)	9,038	995	9.9 %	2,840	9,038	12,873	70.2 %
Some College (18+)	38,847	1,686	4.2 %	11,259	37,921	50,841	74.6 %
Some College (18-29)	10,784	670	5.8 %	4,346	10,784	15,800	68.3 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	41,720	842	2.0 %	6,655	40,392	47,862	84.4 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	5,603	166	2.9 %	730	5,603	6,499	86.2 %
Hispanic Citizens (16+)^{5,7}	12,011	736	5.8 %	3,763	11,555	15,982	72.3 %
Teens (16-17)	201	65	24.4 %	1,000	201	1,267	15.9 %
<HS (18+)	2,211	239	9.8 %	1,457	2,134	3,825	55.8 %
<HS (18-29)	611	129	17.4 %	508	611	1,248	49.0 %
HS Only (18+)	3,926	221	5.3 %	1,131	3,845	5,195	74.0 %
HS Only (18-29)	1,265	115	8.3 %	419	1,265	1,799	70.3 %
Some College (18+)	3,550	168	4.5 %	889	3,515	4,572	76.9 %
Some College (18-29)	1,222	88	6.7 %	426	1,222	1,736	70.4 %
Bachelor's or More (18+)	2,123	43	2.0 %	285	2,062	2,390	86.3 %
Bachelor's Only (21-29)	378	13	3.3 %	53	378	444	85.1 %

⁶ Immigrant matches Census definition of foreign-born. These are individuals who are not U.S. citizens at birth.

⁷ Includes U.S.-born and naturalized American citizens.