



The Employment Situation of Immigrants and Natives in May 2020

Employment improved somewhat more for the native-born, but remains dismal for both groups

By Steven A. Camarota, Jason Richwine, and Karen Zeigler

An analysis by the Center for Immigration Studies of data released last Friday, June 5, by the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that while there was some improvement in the number and share of native-born Americans and immigrants (legal and illegal) out of work, unemployment remains extraordinarily high. Though still dismal for both groups, the situation improved more for the native-born than for immigrants between April and May. The unemployment rate for natives fell 1.6 percentage points to 12.4 percent in May, while it fell only 0.7 percentage points for immigrants to 15.8 percent. As a result, the gap between immigrants and natives widened somewhat between April and May. With roughly 21 million natives and immigrants unemployed, it is extremely difficult to justify the continued entry of new immigrants on the grounds of any “labor shortage”.

While workers of every education level have experienced significant job losses during the Covid-19 shutdown, the situation for workers without a college education is especially bleak. The situation is also particularly bad for newly arrived immigrants who are one of the few groups whose already high unemployment actually worsened between April and May. **An Excel file of the tables can be downloaded [here](#).**

Among the findings:

- The unemployment rate for native-born Americans was 12.4 percent in May; while lower than the 14 percent in April, it is still three times what it was before Covid-19 hit. Among immigrants, the rate was 15.8 percent in May, compared to 16.4 percent in April. The immigrant rate is still four times what it was before Covid-19. (Figure 1, Table 1)
- The number of natives unemployed declined by about 10 percent between April and May, compared to only a 3 percent decline for immigrants. Still, the number of natives and immigrants unemployed stood at 20.5 million, three times what it was in February.
- In addition to the unemployed, there were 48 million working-age (16-64) native-born and 9.9 million working-age immigrants entirely out of the labor force — neither working nor looking for work; an increase of four million for the native-born and a 1.2 million increase for immigrants since February. (Table 2)
- We estimate the unemployment rate for legal immigrants in May was 15.6 percent, unchanged from April. In contrast, the rate for illegal immigrants was 16.4 percent, a 2.9 percentage-point improvement over April. All of the employment gains among immigrants between April to May seem to have gone to illegal immigrants. However, our estimates by legal status are approximations only. (Table 5)
- Further evidence that it was illegal immigrants who made employment gains between April and May, not legal immigrants, is that the unemployment rate of only less-educated immigrants improved. Illegal immigrants are concentrated among those without a college education. (Table 5)

Steven A. Camarota is the director of research and Karen Zeigler is a demographer at the Center. Jason Richwine, PhD, is a public policy analyst based in Washington, D.C., and a contributing writer at National Review.

Among the less-educated:

- The unemployment rate for the native-born (ages 25-plus) without a bachelor's degree was 13.5 percent in May, compared to 6.5 percent for those with at least a bachelor's. Among immigrants (ages 25-plus), 18.3 percent without a bachelor's degree were unemployed, compared to 10.3 percent with a bachelor's. (Table 1)
- The unemployment rate (immigrant and native) in many jobs typically performed by the less-educated remains high. (Table 4)
 - o 36.4 percent for food preparers and servers
 - o 18.9 percent for janitors
 - o 9.4 percent for landscapers, trimmers, and groundskeepers
 - o 17.8 percent for construction laborers
 - o 8.3 percent for health care aides and nursing assistants
 - o 11.3 percent for butchers and food processing workers
- New immigrants (legal and illegal) are one of the few groups whose unemployment rate went up April to May. Among immigrants without a bachelor's degree who have lived in the United States for less than three years, the unemployment rate increased from 22.9 percent to 25.2 percent. It also increased for recent arrivals with a bachelor's degree. (Table 5)
- The Covid-19 shutdown has exacerbated the long-term decline in the labor force participation rate (share working or looking for work) of the less-educated. In May 2020, only 65 percent of working-age (16-64) natives without a bachelor's degree were in the labor force, down from 71 percent in 2007 and 74 percent in 2000. (Figure 5)

Data and Methods

This report uses the Current Population Survey (CPS) to examine the employment situation in the United States as of May 2020, with particular attention paid to differences between immigrants and natives. Based on a monthly survey of 60,000 households, the CPS is the nation's primary source for the unemployment rate and other labor force statistics. The sample is weighted to reflect the actual size and demographic makeup of the civilian non-institutionalized population. The raw data used in this analysis comes directly from the Census Bureau, which collects the data for the Bureau of Labor Statistics.¹

Key Concepts and Terms. The labor force includes all workers, plus non-workers who have actively looked for work in the four weeks prior to the survey. The standard unemployment rate, referred to by the BLS as the U-3 rate, is calculated by dividing the number actively looking for work by the number in the labor force. The labor force participation rate is simply the share of people in the labor force.

Definition of Immigrant. The foreign-born in the CPS are all persons who were not U.S. citizens at birth. They include naturalized citizens, permanent residents (green card holders), temporary visitors, guestworkers, and illegal aliens. We use the term "immigrant" to encompass all of these foreign-born individuals. In Tables 1 and 2 we report figures separately for non-citizens and naturalized citizens. Tables 5 and 6 report figures for legal immigrants and illegal immigrants separately.

Identifying Illegal Immigrants. Prior research indicates that most illegal immigrants are included in Census data. To determine which respondents are most likely to be illegal aliens, CIS first excludes immigrant respondents who are almost certainly not illegal aliens — for example, spouses of native-born citizens; veterans; people who have government jobs; Cubans (because of special rules for that country); immigrants who arrived before 1980 (because the 1986 amnesty should have already covered them); people in certain occupations requiring licensing, screening, or a government background check (e.g., doctors, pharmacists, and law enforcement); and people likely to be on student visas.

The remaining candidates are weighted to replicate known characteristics of the illegal population (population size, age, gender, region or country of origin, state of residence, and length of residence in the United States). CIS has previously used the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as the source of those known characteristics; however, DHS data were last published in 2015. For more recent data, we turn to 2018 estimates from the Center for Migration Studies (CMS), including their estimates of educational attainment.² The resulting illegal population, which consists of a weighted set of CPS respondents,

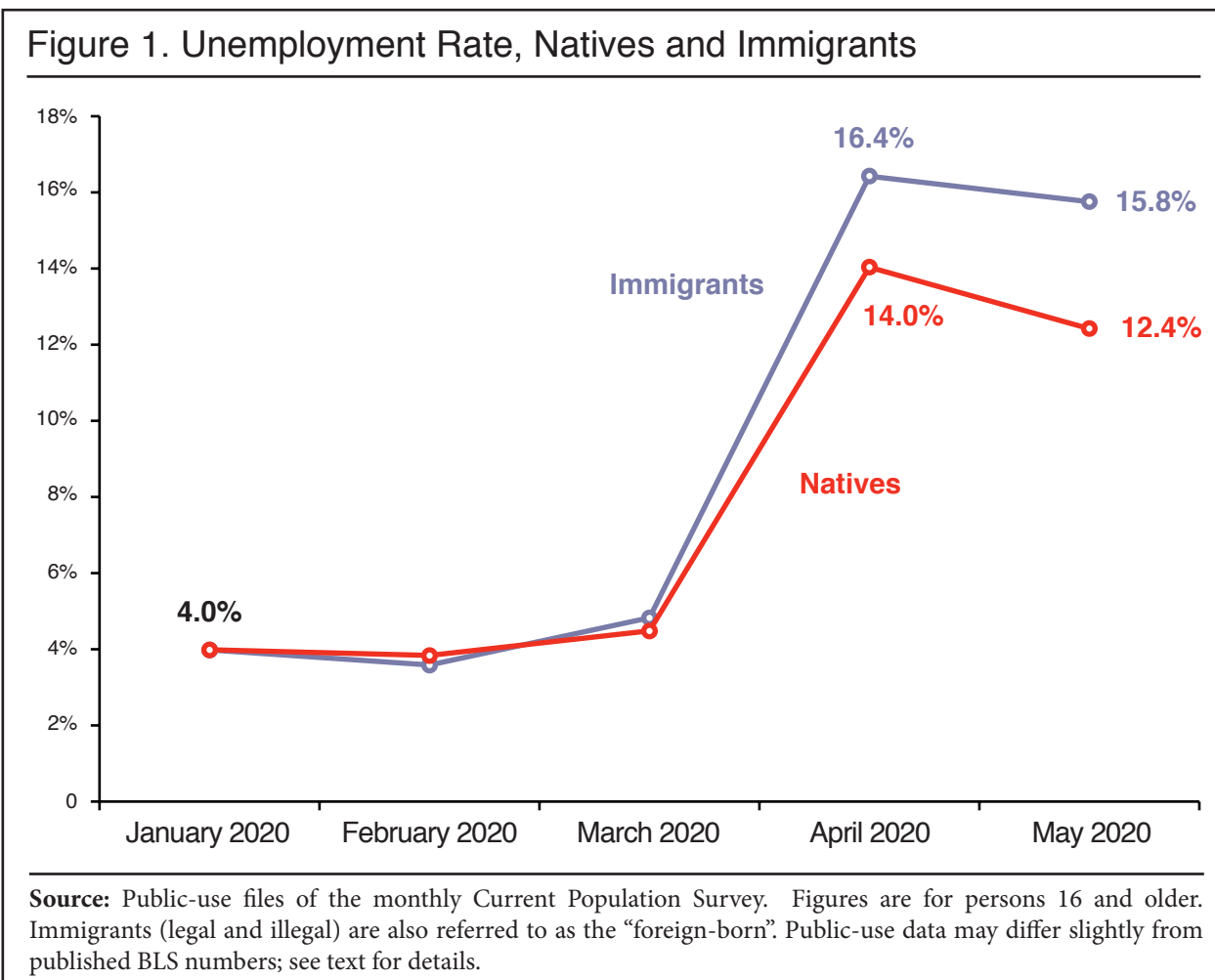
is designed to match CMS on the characteristics listed above. However, we do not adjust the number of illegal immigrants for undercount in the CPS.³ Estimates for legal immigrants are calculated simply by subtracting estimated counts of illegal immigrants from the total immigrant population.

All of our findings that separate immigrants by legal status should be considered rough approximations only. Because we do not have information about the illegal immigrant population in 2020, we are forced to take the known characteristics of illegal aliens from 2018 and apply them to the new labor market data in 2020. The primary weakness of this approach is that it assumes the illegal immigrant population still has the same demographic profile (population size, age, gender, etc.) as it did in 2018.

Matching Published BLS Tables. In this report, all statistics covering the entire population, such as the headline unemployment rate, match those published by the BLS. However, the counts and percentages for sub-populations will in some cases be slightly different. The reason is that the Census Bureau adds “perturbations” to the public-use microdata to protect respondent confidentiality. Fortunately, the Census Bureau states that any differences between published figures and those calculated from the public-use data will be so small that they “fall well within the sampling variability associated with CPS estimates.”⁴ In other words, there should be no meaningful difference between statistics calculated from the public-use data and those published by the BLS.

Finally, the figures in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Unadjusted figures are conceptually simpler and easier for other researchers to replicate.⁵ Also, the limited number of statistics on the foreign-born published in the BLS monthly “Employment Situation” reports are also not seasonally adjusted.

Potential Problems with the Data. The BLS reports a potential problem with the CPS.⁶ First, the response rate to the March, April, and May surveys were significantly lower than prior months. This increased the sampling error of the surveys for these months. Second, interviewers who administered the survey miscoded some respondents as employed when they were on



furlough. Though these individuals expect to return to their jobs and are not looking for work, they should have been considered temporarily laid-off and coded as unemployed. This problem seems particularly pronounced in April and May. The number unemployed and the unemployment rate would be higher if these individuals were counted as unemployed. Neither the Census Bureau, which collects the data, nor the BLS has altered the data in response to these issues. Our analysis takes the raw CPS data as provided; and, our results match published figures, with the caveats about perturbations in public-use data discussed above.

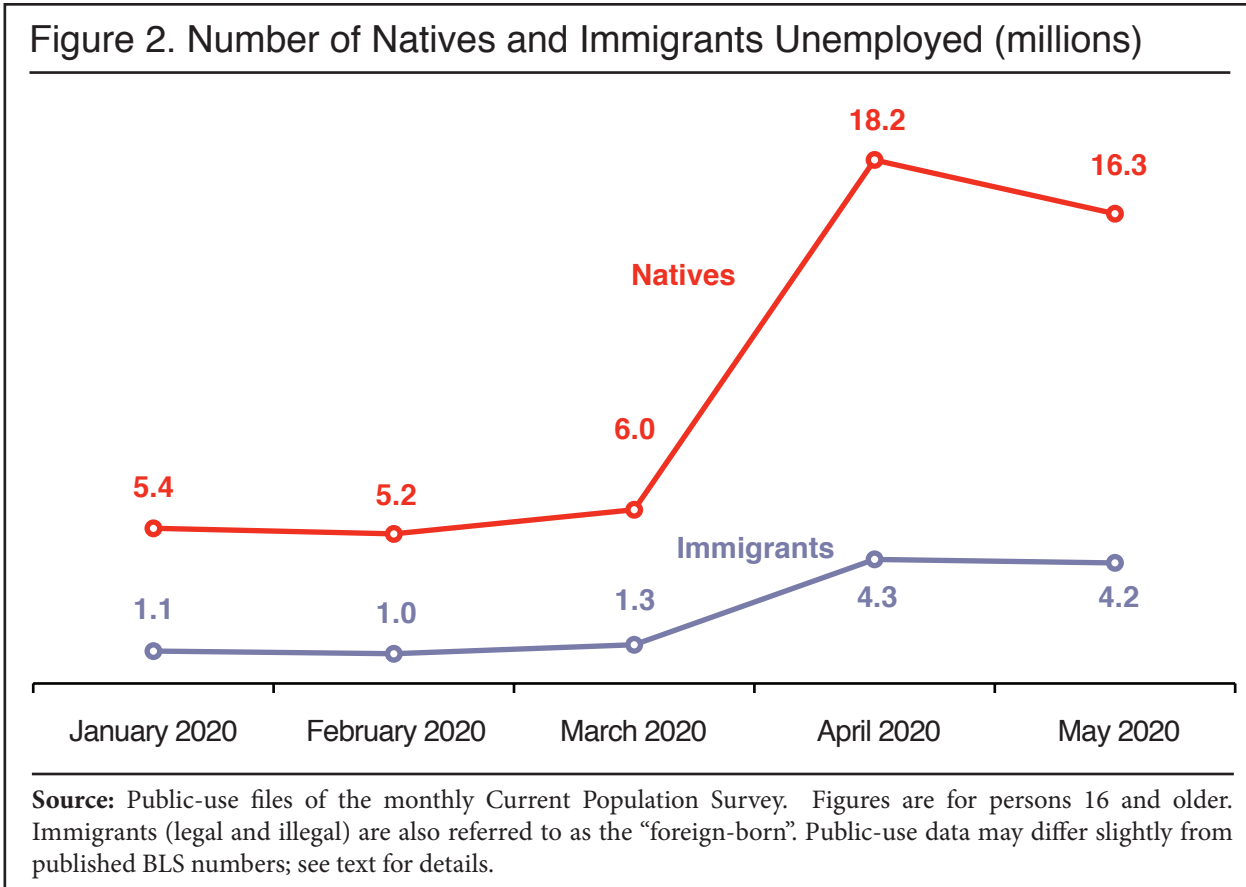
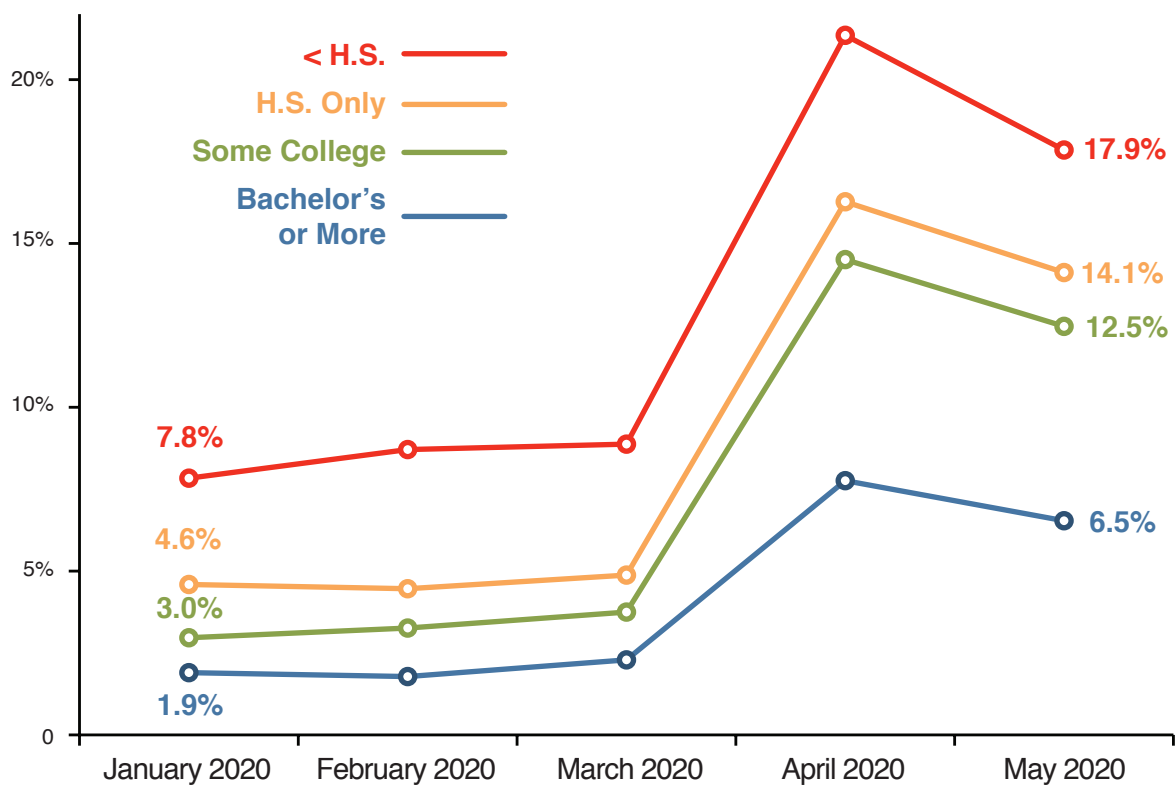
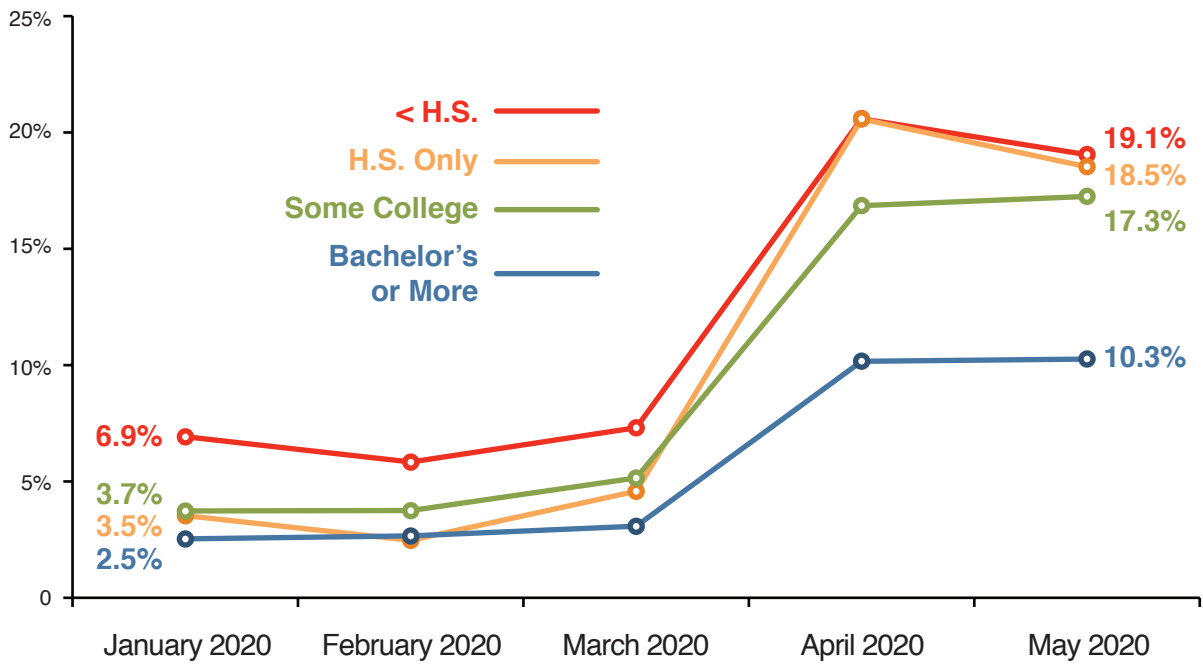


Figure 3. Unemployment Rate, Native-Born Only, by Education



Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey. Figures are for persons 25 and older. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details.

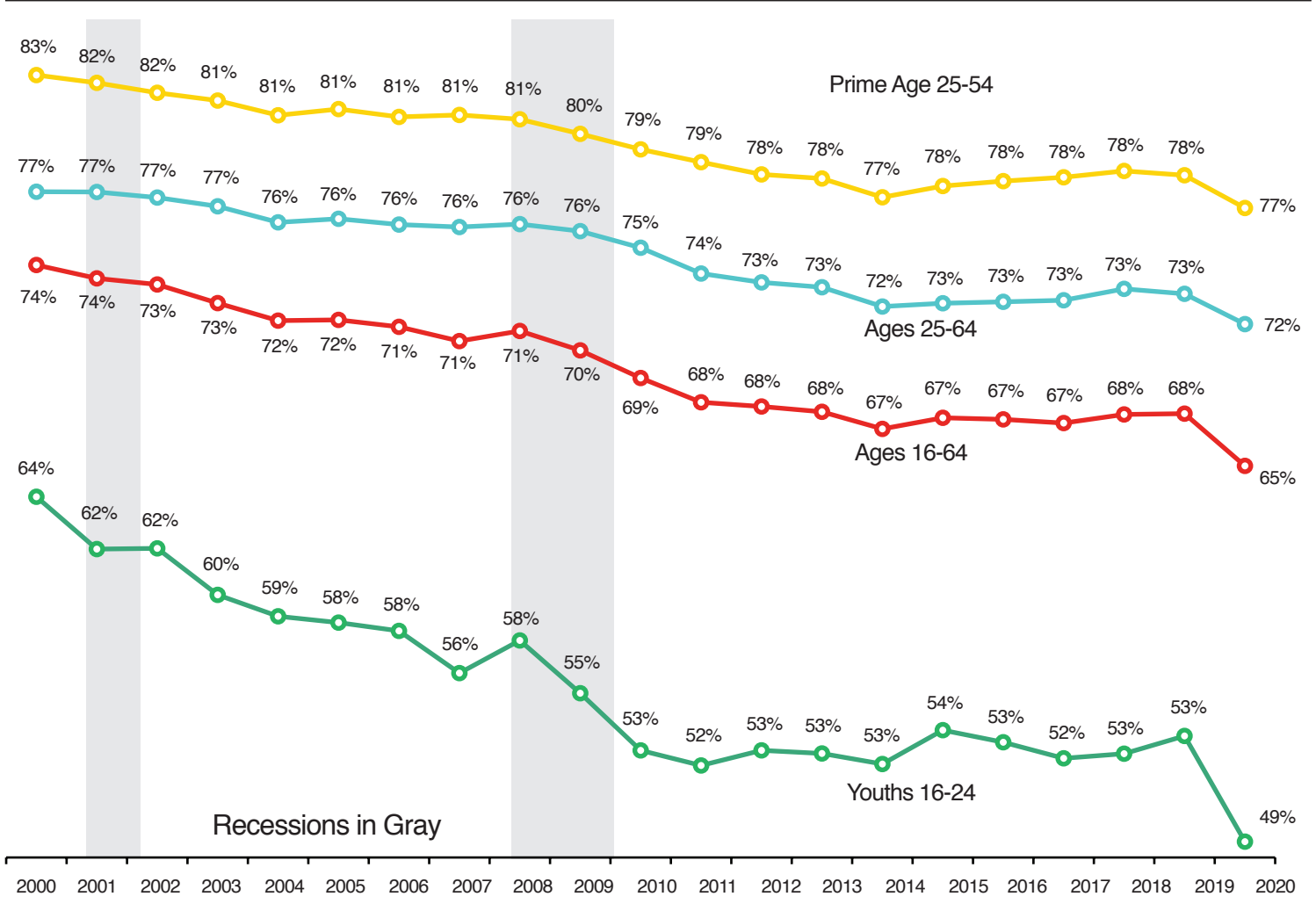
Figure 4. Unemployment Rate, Immigrants Only, by Education



Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey. Figures are for persons 25 and older. Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the “foreign-born”. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details.

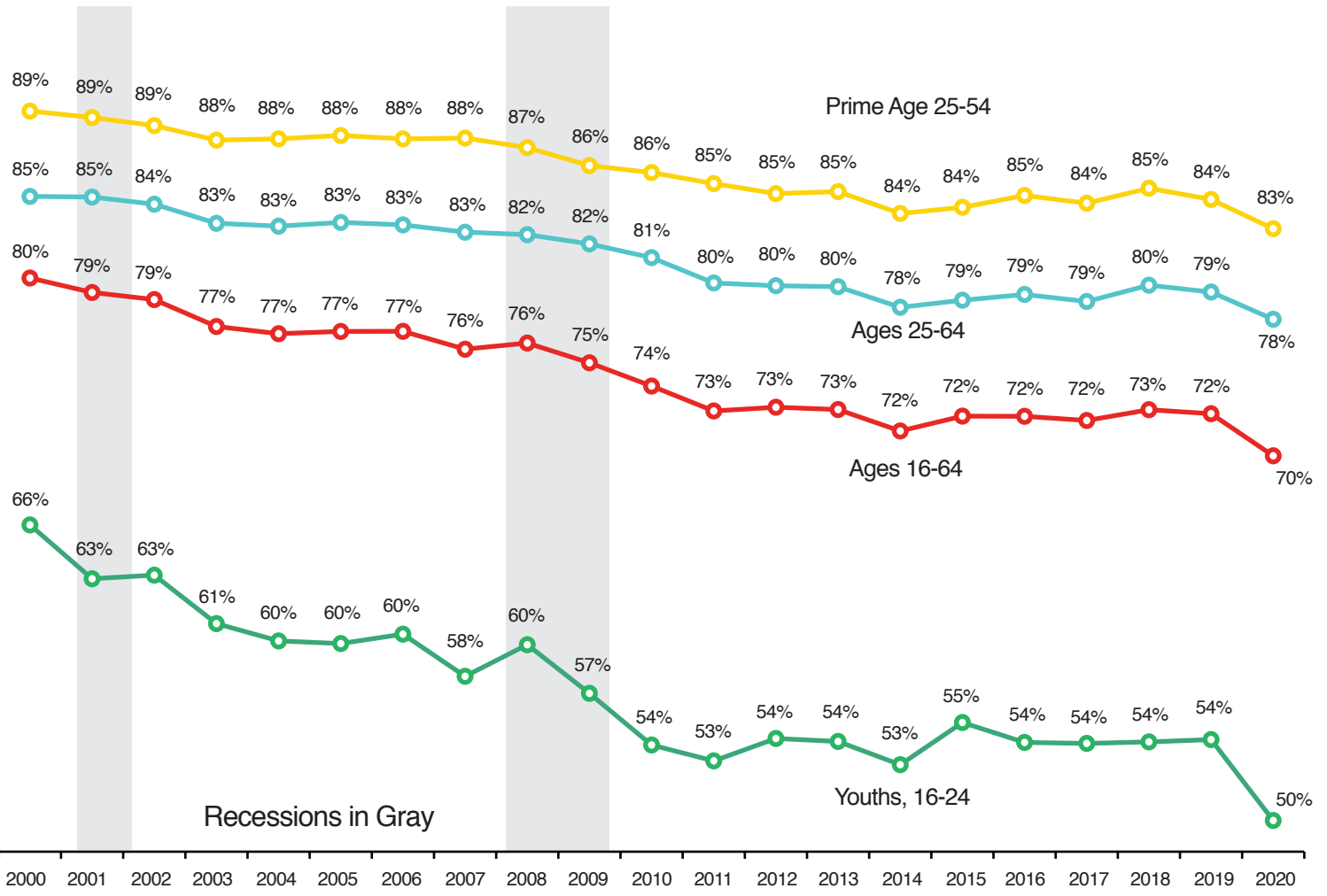
Figure 5. Labor Force Participation for Less-Educated Natives, May, 2000 to 2020

There has been a long-term decline in labor force participation for natives without a bachelor’s degree that the Covid-19 shutdown has exacerbated.



Source: May public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey 2000 to 2020. Figures are only for the native-born. Public-use data may differ slight from published BLS numbers; see text for details.
 The labor force participation rate is the share of persons by age group working or looking for work.

Figure 6. Labor Force Participation for Less-Educated Native-Born Men, May 2000 to 2020
 There has been a long-term decline in labor force participation for native-born men without a bachelor's degree that the Covid-19 shutdown has exacerbated.



Source: May public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey 2000 to 2020. Figures are only for the native-born. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details.

The labor force participation rate is the share of persons by age group working or looking for work.

Table 1. Natives and Immigrants Employed and Unemployed (thousands)

	Number Working					Number Unemployed					Unemployment Rate				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
All U.S. Residents 16+	158,017	155,167	133,326	137,461	157,152	6,218	7,370	22,504	20,514	5,503	3.8%	4.5%	14.4%	13.0%	3.4%
Youths (16-24)	19,082	18,060	13,112	14,352	19,177	1,655	2,007	4,817	4,870	1,792	8.0%	10.0%	26.9%	25.3%	8.5%
All Residents 25+	138,936	137,107	120,214	123,109	137,975	4,563	5,363	17,687	15,644	3,711	3.2%	3.8%	12.8%	11.3%	2.6%
Without Bachelor's	79,535	77,682	65,005	67,161	80,983	3,391	3,884	12,775	11,312	2,568	4.1%	4.8%	16.4%	14.4%	3.1%
<High School	8,653	8,420	6,856	6,878	9,688	667	732	1,815	1,561	448	7.2%	8.0%	20.9%	18.5%	4.4%
H.S. Only	34,757	33,465	27,497	28,684	34,669	1,484	1,697	5,645	5,031	1,172	4.1%	4.8%	17.0%	14.9%	3.3%
Some College	36,125	35,797	30,652	31,598	36,626	1,240	1,455	5,314	4,720	949	3.3%	3.9%	14.8%	13.0%	2.5%
Bachelor's or More	59,401	59,425	55,208	55,948	56,992	1,172	1,479	4,912	4,332	1,143	1.9%	2.4%	8.2%	7.2%	2.0%
Natives 16+	130,360	128,725	111,389	115,057	129,498	5,191	6,031	18,191	16,323	4,711	3.8%	4.5%	14.0%	12.4%	3.5%
Youths (16-24)	17,300	16,527	12,199	13,378	17,717	1,533	1,861	4,422	4,457	1,678	8.1%	10.1%	26.6%	25.0%	8.6%
Natives 25+	113,060	112,198	99,190	101,679	111,781	3,658	4,169	13,770	11,866	3,034	3.1%	3.6%	12.2%	10.5%	2.6%
Without Bachelor's	64,111	63,214	53,176	55,138	64,431	2,771	3,021	9,899	8,610	2,130	4.1%	4.6%	15.7%	13.5%	3.2%
<High School	3,915	3,724	3,062	3,186	4,143	374	363	831	692	262	8.7%	8.9%	21.4%	17.9%	5.9%
H.S. Only	28,295	27,692	22,850	23,658	28,091	1,321	1,420	4,441	3,887	1,018	4.5%	4.9%	16.3%	14.1%	3.5%
Some College	31,901	31,799	27,264	28,294	32,198	1,076	1,239	4,627	4,031	850	3.3%	3.7%	14.5%	12.5%	2.6%
Bachelor's or More	48,949	48,984	46,014	46,541	47,349	888	1,148	3,871	3,255	904	1.8%	2.3%	7.8%	6.5%	1.9%
All Immigrants 16+	27,657	26,442	21,937	22,404	27,654	1,026	1,339	4,313	4,191	791	3.6%	4.8%	16.4%	15.8%	2.8%
Youths (16-24)	1,781	1,533	913	973	1,459	122	145	396	413	114	6.4%	8.7%	30.2%	29.8%	7.2%
All Immigrants 25+	25,876	24,909	21,024	21,431	26,195	905	1,194	3,917	3,778	677	3.4%	4.6%	15.7%	15.0%	2.5%
Without Bachelor's	15,424	14,468	11,830	12,023	16,552	620	863	2,876	2,702	438	3.9%	5.6%	19.6%	18.3%	2.6%
<High School	4,738	4,696	3,794	3,692	5,546	293	370	984	869	186	5.8%	7.3%	20.6%	19.1%	3.2%
H.S. Only	6,462	5,774	4,647	5,026	6,579	163	277	1,205	1,143	154	2.5%	4.6%	20.6%	18.5%	2.3%
Some College	4,224	3,999	3,388	3,305	4,428	164	217	687	689	98	3.7%	5.1%	16.9%	17.3%	2.2%
Bachelor's or More	10,452	10,441	9,194	9,408	9,643	285	331	1,041	1,077	239	2.7%	3.1%	10.2%	10.3%	2.4%
Naturalized Citizens 16+	14,128	13,461	11,661	11,920	13,837	414	595	2,063	2,068	342	2.8%	4.2%	15.0%	14.8%	2.4%
Youths (16-24)	553	398	239	316	434	51	40	138	131	44	8.5%	9.2%	36.5%	29.3%	9.3%
Naturalized Citizens 25+	13,575	13,063	11,421	11,604	13,403	363	555	1,926	1,937	297	2.6%	4.1%	14.4%	14.3%	2.2%
Without Bachelor's	7,255	6,817	5,779	5,835	7,735	226	336	1,282	1,306	192	3.0%	4.7%	18.2%	18.3%	2.4%
<High School	1,438	1,441	1,180	1,158	1,711	60	86	322	262	31	4.0%	5.7%	21.5%	18.5%	1.8%
H.S. Only	3,148	2,885	2,427	2,549	3,154	74	129	536	602	94	2.3%	4.3%	18.1%	19.1%	2.9%
Some College	2,669	2,491	2,172	2,128	2,870	92	121	423	442	66	3.3%	4.6%	16.3%	17.2%	2.3%
Bachelor's or More	6,320	6,246	5,643	5,769	5,668	137	219	644	632	105	2.1%	3.4%	10.2%	9.9%	1.8%
Non-Citizens 16+	13,529	12,981	10,276	10,484	13,817	612	744	2,249	2,122	449	4.3%	5.4%	18.0%	16.8%	3.2%
Youths (16-24)	1,228	1,135	674	657	1,025	71	105	258	282	69	5.4%	8.5%	27.7%	30.0%	6.3%
Non-Citizens 25+	12,301	11,846	9,602	9,826	12,792	542	639	1,991	1,841	380	4.2%	5.1%	17.2%	15.8%	2.9%
Without Bachelor's	8,169	7,651	6,051	6,188	8,817	394	527	1,594	1,396	246	4.6%	6.4%	20.9%	18.4%	2.7%
<High School	3,300	3,255	2,615	2,534	3,834	233	283	662	607	155	6.6%	8.0%	20.2%	19.3%	3.9%
H.S. Only	3,314	2,888	2,220	2,477	3,425	89	148	669	542	60	2.6%	4.9%	23.1%	17.9%	1.7%
Some College	1,555	1,508	1,216	1,177	1,558	72	96	264	248	32	4.4%	6.0%	17.8%	17.4%	2.0%
Bachelor's or More	4,132	4,195	3,552	3,638	3,974	148	112	397	445	134	3.5%	2.6%	10.1%	10.9%	3.3%

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details. Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the "foreign-born." Figures for all immigrants and non-citizens include illegal immigrants.

Table 2. Natives and Immigrants In and Out of the Labor Force (thousands)

	Number in Labor Force					Number Not in Labor Force					Labor Force Participation Rate				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
All U.S. Residents 16-64	153,022	151,851	145,526	147,868	152,120	52,660	53,832	60,162	57,854	54,130	74%	74%	71%	72%	74%
Youths (16-24)	20,736	20,067	17,929	19,222	20,968	16,775	17,437	19,568	18,266	16,781	55%	54%	48%	51%	56%
All Residents 25-64	132,286	131,785	127,597	128,647	131,151	35,885	36,395	40,593	39,587	37,349	79%	78%	76%	76%	78%
Without Bachelor's	76,514	75,448	71,898	72,605	77,449	27,229	27,452	29,976	29,205	28,292	74%	73%	71%	71%	73%
<High School	8,606	8,442	8,082	7,869	9,414	5,465	5,554	6,090	5,818	6,280	61%	60%	57%	57%	60%
H.S. Only	33,451	32,481	30,579	31,146	33,179	12,303	12,290	13,554	13,241	12,394	73%	73%	69%	70%	73%
Some College	34,457	34,524	33,237	33,590	34,856	9,462	9,608	10,333	10,146	9,617	78%	78%	76%	77%	78%
Bachelor's or More	55,772	56,337	55,698	56,042	53,702	8,655	8,943	10,617	10,382	9,057	87%	86%	84%	84%	86%
Natives 16-64	125,992	125,580	120,571	122,521	125,061	44,044	44,934	49,775	47,995	44,774	74%	74%	71%	72%	74%
Youths (16-24)	18,833	18,388	16,621	17,836	19,395	15,179	15,839	17,827	16,632	15,238	55%	54%	48%	52%	56%
Natives 25-64	107,159	107,192	103,951	104,686	105,666	28,865	29,095	31,948	31,363	29,535	79%	79%	76%	77%	78%
Without Bachelor's	61,421	60,908	57,915	58,607	61,358	22,215	22,215	23,759	23,268	22,785	73%	73%	71%	72%	73%
<High School	3,892	3,697	3,551	3,549	4,011	3,362	3,463	3,595	3,540	3,847	54%	52%	50%	50%	51%
H.S. Only	27,177	26,705	24,978	25,256	26,769	10,503	10,263	11,157	10,894	10,468	72%	72%	69%	70%	72%
Some College	30,351	30,506	29,386	29,802	30,578	8,351	8,489	9,007	8,834	8,469	78%	78%	77%	77%	78%
Bachelor's or More	45,738	46,284	46,036	46,079	44,309	6,650	6,880	8,189	8,096	6,750	87%	87%	85%	85%	87%
All Immigrants 16-64	27,030	26,271	24,955	25,347	27,058	8,616	8,898	10,387	9,858	9,356	76%	75%	71%	72%	74%
Youths (16-24)	1,903	1,678	1,309	1,386	1,573	1,596	1,599	1,741	1,634	1,543	54%	51%	43%	46%	50%
All Immigrants 25-64	25,127	24,593	23,646	23,961	25,485	7,020	7,300	8,646	8,224	7,813	78%	77%	73%	74%	77%
Without Bachelor's	15,093	14,540	13,984	13,998	16,092	5,014	5,237	6,218	5,937	5,506	75%	74%	69%	70%	75%
<High School	4,714	4,746	4,532	4,320	5,404	2,103	2,092	2,495	2,278	2,433	69%	69%	64%	65%	69%
H.S. Only	6,273	5,776	5,601	5,890	6,410	1,800	2,027	2,396	2,347	1,926	78%	74%	70%	72%	77%
Some College	4,106	4,019	3,851	3,787	4,278	1,111	1,119	1,327	1,313	1,148	79%	78%	74%	74%	79%
Bachelor's or More	10,033	10,052	9,663	9,963	9,393	2,006	2,062	2,428	2,287	2,307	83%	83%	80%	81%	80%
Naturalized Cit. 16-64	13,348	12,892	12,685	13,029	13,136	3,541	3,525	4,325	4,199	3,631	79%	79%	75%	76%	78%
Youths (16-24)	604	438	377	447	478	472	455	531	497	346	56%	49%	42%	47%	58%
Naturalized Cit. 25-64	12,744	12,453	12,308	12,582	12,658	3,068	3,070	3,794	3,703	3,285	81%	80%	76%	77%	79%
Without Bachelor's	6,845	6,596	6,536	6,641	7,296	2,107	2,136	2,628	2,594	2,303	76%	76%	71%	72%	76%
<High School	1,330	1,336	1,350	1,278	1,536	607	600	708	702	773	69%	69%	66%	65%	67%
H.S. Only	2,976	2,815	2,778	2,957	3,025	865	874	1,125	1,094	858	77%	76%	71%	73%	78%
Some College	2,539	2,445	2,408	2,406	2,735	635	662	795	798	672	80%	79%	75%	75%	80%
Bachelor's or More	5,899	5,857	5,772	5,941	5,362	961	933	1,166	1,109	982	86%	86%	83%	84%	85%
Non-Citizens 16-64	13,681	13,380	12,270	12,318	13,922	5,075	5,373	6,062	5,659	5,726	73%	71%	67%	69%	71%
Youths (16-24)	1,299	1,240	932	939	1,095	1,124	1,143	1,210	1,137	1,197	54%	52%	43%	45%	48%
Non-Citizens 25-64	12,383	12,140	11,338	11,379	12,827	3,951	4,230	4,852	4,521	4,528	76%	74%	70%	72%	74%
Without Bachelor's	8,249	7,944	7,447	7,357	8,796	2,907	3,101	3,590	3,344	3,204	74%	72%	67%	69%	73%
<High School	3,384	3,410	3,182	3,042	3,868	1,496	1,492	1,786	1,576	1,660	69%	70%	64%	66%	70%
H.S. Only	3,297	2,960	2,822	2,933	3,385	935	1,153	1,271	1,253	1,068	78%	72%	69%	70%	76%
Some College	1,567	1,574	1,443	1,381	1,543	476	456	532	515	476	77%	78%	73%	73%	76%
Bachelor's or More	4,134	4,195	3,891	4,022	4,032	1,044	1,129	1,262	1,178	1,325	80%	79%	76%	77%	75%

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details. Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the "foreign-born". Figures for all immigrants and non-citizens include illegal immigrants. Those in the labor force are either working or looking for work.

Table 3. Native and Immigrant Unemployment by Occupation, 2020 (thousands)

Occupation (Occupation Codes)	Number Working					Number Unemployed										
	Natives					Immigrants										
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June						
Management (0010-0440)	16,269	16,458	15,623	15,815	2,485	2,415	2,293	2,354	283	363	1,000	839	32	68	198	156
Food service managers (0310)	969	918	826	720	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	24	35	144	180	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Business & financial operations (0500-0960)	7,925	7,791	7,351	7,143	1,163	1,254	1,143	1,257	163	172	470	360	29	29	70	78
Computer & mathematical (1005-1240)	4,162	4,105	4,279	4,267	1,503	1,542	1,472	1,494	109	110	195	194	31	25	63	32
Computer fields (1005-1021)	2,014	2,056	2,123	2,202	948	1,045	988	1,013	57	39	77	75	13	5	18	9
Architecture & engineering (1305-1560)	2,626	2,633	2,526	2,590	664	617	530	576	28	54	154	116	20	35	26	42
Engineers (1320-1530)	1,790	1,845	1,776	1,795	549	487	451	458	7	15	86	66	8	26	17	25
Life, physical, & social science (1600-1980)	1,229	1,265	1,196	1,314	349	303	330	312	34	54	74	66	13	13	14	14
Community & social service (2001-2060)	2,545	2,481	2,424	2,469	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	16	40	118	109	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Legal occupations (2100-2180)	1,727	1,715	1,588	1,721	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	11	33	62	92	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Education instruction & library (2205-2555)	8,700	8,607	7,447	7,635	1,016	954	834	810	155	264	1,226	973	17	43	109	147
Arts, design, ent., sports, media (2600-2920)	2,899	2,947	2,397	2,470	470	522	324	347	98	148	507	490	28	22	114	123
Healthcare practitioner & technical (3000-3550)	8,336	8,370	7,610	7,866	1,574	1,392	1,396	1,473	102	108	568	506	34	54	85	70
Registered nurses (3255)	2,688	2,676	2,596	2,699	493	425	479	530	13	28	128	109	16	7	10	9
Medical technologists, techs, LPNs (3300-3500)	2,581	2,781	2,313	2,368	436	362	397	404	77	77	221	180	13	28	25	27
Healthcare support (3601-3655)	4,023	4,029	3,379	3,389	1,121	1,064	945	883	116	103	470	466	29	15	151	163
Health care aids, nurse assists. (3601-3603)	2,649	2,616	2,263	2,180	835	854	783	765	85	74	171	196	24	15	101	70
Protective service (3700-3960)	2,919	2,758	2,606	2,606	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	75	56	267	250	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Food preparation & serving related (4000-4150)	6,609	6,246	3,412	3,874	1,878	1,647	934	953	433	622	2,475	2,174	78	146	641	583
Chefs, head cooks, & cooks (4020, 4000)	1,787	1,705	1,209	1,209	839	762	423	412	120	129	573	468	34	38	253	182
Food prep. & fast food/counter (4030, 4055)	1,415	1,309	898	988	307	263	184	229	114	145	385	293	6	28	94	73
Waiters & waitresses (4110)	1,692	1,670	578	739	361	300	149	117	127	181	721	626	24	52	122	173
Build. & grounds cleaning, maint. (4200-4255)	3,346	3,397	2,790	2,982	1,973	1,940	1,523	1,614	311	326	756	521	83	125	453	378
Janitors & building cleaners (4220)	1,468	1,536	1,232	1,242	664	762	633	614	124	128	337	274	10	44	137	158
Maids & housekeeping cleaners (4230)	654	567	396	417	813	725	413	455	71	66	218	116	40	56	253	186
Landscapers, trimmers, grounds(4251-4255)	683	745	676	862	345	329	312	324	102	122	160	95	19	17	51	29
Personal care & service (4330-4655)	3,244	3,233	1,875	2,187	909	847	446	411	93	255	1,224	1,012	35	38	286	289
Hair, cosmetologists, barbers (4510, 4500)	718	743	315	515	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	21	19	321	276	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Childcare workers (4600)	918	978	646	615	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	28	94	299	237	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sales & related (4700-4965)	13,206	12,834	10,592	11,006	1,862	1,762	1,630	1,437	585	607	2,184	2,046	75	57	329	376
First-line super. retail sales workers (4700)	2,707	2,568	2,429	2,434	405	439	393	391	75	34	325	228	5	1	36	74
Cashiers (4720)	2,409	2,273	1,713	1,801	437	387	347	265	197	211	467	492	21	9	63	101
Retail salespersons (4760)	2,555	2,573	1,695	2,024	335	329	231	195	157	252	902	786	18	27	159	131
Office & administrative support (5000-5940)	14,437	14,455	12,792	12,864	1,863	1,832	1,537	1,633	489	535	1,839	1,645	62	69	244	293
Customer service representatives (5240)	2,235	2,179	1,942	1,831	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	118	123	358	348	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Receptionists & information clerks (5400)	1,137	1,147	829	899	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	63	47	219	200	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Farming, fishing, & forestry (6005-6130)	667	659	675	724	477	446	403	395	81	67	86	78	101	63	65	26
Agricultural workers (6050)	467	490	485	547	421	381	349	352	65	59	48	49	96	52	47	19
Construction & extraction (6200-6950)	5,677	5,586	4,730	5,075	2,465	2,442	1,819	1,799	475	545	1,136	868	125	176	392	366
Construction only (6200-6765)	5,526	5,453	4,616	4,959	2,446	2,423	1,804	1,792	459	536	1,096	847	125	176	387	361
Carpenters (6230)	716	814	667	741	405	364	304	283	47	54	154	142	10	41	54	73
Construction laborers (6260)	1,251	1,223	1,006	1,020	787	762	612	606	192	233	318	230	55	84	112	122
Installation, maint., & repair (7000-7640)	4,165	4,039	3,575	3,596	755	746	617	771	114	130	500	470	8	2	121	72
Production (7700-8990)	6,373	6,207	5,025	5,404	1,990	1,771	1,346	1,464	357	306	1,085	936	89	148	365	287
Butchers, meat & other food proc. (7810-7855)	369	371	325	294	212	214	207	181	24	20	32	35	1	3	21	25
Transpo. & material moving (9005-9760)	9,274	8,910	7,498	8,060	2,497	2,311	1,904	1,834	640	693	1,532	1,632	46	152	516	575
Driver/sales workers & truck drivers (9130)	2,658	2,803	2,534	2,807	765	721	695	697	170	191	339	223	6	25	100	107
Laborers, freight, stock & material mov. (9620)	1,951	1,679	1,287	1,362	426	431	303	255	196	168	257	307	12	16	54	60
Stockers & order fillers (9645)	1,297	1,300	1,183	1,317	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	85	101	205	279	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	130,360	128,725	111,389	115,057	27,657	26,442	21,937	22,404	5,191	6,031	18,191	16,323	1,026	1,339	4,313	4,191

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey. Figures are for persons 16 and older. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details. Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the "foreign-born." Data not available (n/a) due to small sample size. The new occupational codes for 2020 can be found [here](#).

Table 4. Native and Immigrant Unemployment Rate by Occupation, 2020 (thousands)

Occupation (Occupation Codes)	Natives					Immigrants					Both					Sample Size May
	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	May	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	May	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May		
	Management (0010-0440)	1.7%	2.2%	6.0%	5.0%	6.2%	1.3%	2.7%	7.9%	7.9%	6.2%	1.7%	2.2%	6.3%	5.2%	
Food service managers (0310)	2.5%	3.6%	14.9%	20.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.2%	4.1%	15.3%	18.0%	317	
Business & financial operations (0500-0960)	2.0%	2.2%	6.0%	4.8%	5.8%	2.5%	2.3%	5.8%	5.8%	5.8%	2.1%	2.2%	6.0%	5.0%	2,577	
Computer & mathematical (1005-1240)	2.5%	2.6%	4.4%	4.4%	2.1%	2.0%	1.6%	4.1%	4.1%	2.1%	2.4%	2.3%	4.3%	3.8%	1,664	
Computer fields (1005-1021)	2.7%	1.8%	3.5%	3.3%	0.9%	1.3%	0.5%	1.8%	1.8%	0.9%	2.3%	1.4%	3.0%	2.6%	890	
Architecture & engineering (1305-1560)	1.0%	2.0%	5.7%	4.3%	6.7%	2.9%	5.3%	4.6%	4.6%	6.7%	1.4%	2.7%	5.5%	4.7%	986	
Engineers (1320-1530)	0.4%	0.8%	4.6%	3.5%	5.1%	1.5%	5.0%	3.6%	3.6%	5.1%	0.6%	1.7%	4.4%	3.9%	695	
Life, physical, & social science (1600-1980)	2.7%	4.1%	5.9%	4.8%	4.2%	3.5%	4.2%	4.0%	4.0%	4.2%	2.9%	1.9%	5.5%	4.7%	535	
Community & social service (2001-2060)	0.6%	1.6%	4.6%	4.2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.6%	1.9%	4.7%	4.1%	859	
Legal occupations (2100-2180)	0.6%	1.9%	3.8%	5.1%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.0%	2.2%	3.7%	5.5%	625	
Education instruction & library (2205-2555)	1.7%	3.0%	14.1%	11.3%	15.4%	1.6%	4.3%	11.5%	11.5%	15.4%	1.7%	3.1%	13.9%	11.7%	2,989	
Arts, design, ent., sports, media (2600-2920)	3.3%	4.8%	17.5%	16.6%	26.2%	5.5%	4.0%	26.0%	26.0%	26.2%	3.6%	4.7%	18.6%	17.9%	971	
Healthcare practitioner & technical (3000-3550)	1.2%	1.3%	6.9%	6.0%	4.6%	2.1%	3.7%	5.7%	5.7%	4.6%	1.4%	1.6%	6.8%	5.8%	3,003	
Registered nurses (3255)	0.5%	1.0%	4.7%	3.9%	1.7%	3.2%	1.6%	2.1%	2.1%	1.7%	0.9%	1.1%	4.3%	3.5%	1,014	
Medical technologists, techs, LPNs (3300-3500)	2.9%	2.7%	8.7%	7.1%	6.3%	2.8%	7.1%	6.0%	6.0%	6.3%	2.9%	3.2%	8.3%	7.0%	898	
Healthcare support (3601-3655)	2.8%	2.5%	12.2%	12.1%	15.6%	2.5%	1.3%	13.8%	13.8%	15.6%	2.7%	2.3%	12.6%	12.8%	1,429	
Health care aids, nurse assistants. (3601-3603)	3.1%	2.7%	7.0%	8.3%	8.3%	2.8%	1.7%	11.4%	11.4%	8.3%	3.0%	2.5%	8.2%	8.3%	949	
Protective service (3700-3960)	2.5%	2.0%	9.3%	8.8%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.8%	2.0%	9.3%	9.5%	885	
Food preparation & serving related (4000-4150)	6.2%	9.1%	42.0%	36.0%	40.7%	4.0%	8.1%	40.7%	40.7%	38.0%	5.7%	8.9%	41.8%	36.4%	2,113	
Chefs, head cooks, & cooks (4020, 4000)	6.3%	7.0%	33.8%	27.9%	30.7%	3.9%	4.7%	37.4%	37.4%	30.7%	6.5%	6.3%	34.9%	28.6%	643	
Food prep. & fast food/counter (4030, 4055)	7.5%	10.0%	30.0%	22.9%	34.2%	1.9%	9.7%	33.7%	33.7%	34.2%	6.5%	9.9%	30.7%	23.1%	437	
Waiters & waitresses (4110)	7.0%	9.8%	55.5%	45.9%	59.6%	6.2%	14.7%	45.1%	45.1%	59.6%	6.8%	10.6%	53.7%	48.3%	450	
Build. & grounds cleaning, maint. (4200-4255)	8.5%	8.8%	21.3%	14.9%	19.0%	4.0%	6.1%	22.9%	22.9%	19.0%	6.9%	7.8%	21.9%	16.4%	1,586	
Janitors & building cleaners (4220)	7.8%	7.7%	21.5%	18.0%	20.5%	1.5%	5.5%	17.8%	17.8%	20.5%	5.9%	7.0%	20.3%	18.9%	692	
Maid & housekeeping cleaners (4230)	9.8%	10.4%	35.4%	21.7%	29.0%	4.7%	7.2%	38.0%	38.0%	29.0%	7.1%	8.6%	36.8%	25.7%	335	
Landscapers, trimmers, grounds (4251-4255)	13.0%	14.1%	19.1%	9.9%	8.1%	5.2%	4.8%	14.0%	14.0%	8.1%	10.5%	11.5%	17.5%	9.4%	357	
Personal care & service (4330-4655)	2.8%	7.3%	39.5%	31.6%	41.3%	3.7%	4.3%	39.1%	39.1%	41.3%	3.0%	6.7%	39.4%	33.4%	1,151	
Hair, cosmetologists, barbers (4510, 4500)	2.8%	2.5%	50.5%	34.9%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.2%	3.2%	50.3%	36.2%	268	
Childcare workers (4600)	3.0%	8.8%	31.6%	27.8%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4.4%	8.4%	31.2%	27.4%	315	
Sales & related (4700-4965)	4.2%	4.5%	17.1%	15.7%	20.7%	3.9%	3.2%	16.8%	16.8%	20.7%	4.2%	4.4%	17.1%	16.3%	4,319	
First-line super. retail sales workers (4700)	2.7%	1.3%	11.8%	8.6%	16.0%	1.2%	0.2%	8.4%	8.4%	16.0%	2.5%	1.1%	11.4%	9.7%	945	
Cashiers (4720)	7.6%	8.5%	21.4%	21.5%	27.5%	4.6%	2.3%	15.3%	15.3%	27.5%	7.1%	7.6%	20.5%	22.3%	737	
Retail salespersons (4760)	5.8%	8.9%	34.7%	28.0%	40.2%	5.2%	7.5%	40.7%	40.7%	40.2%	5.7%	8.8%	35.5%	29.3%	901	
Office & administrative support (5000-5940)	3.3%	3.6%	12.6%	11.3%	15.2%	3.2%	3.6%	13.7%	13.7%	15.2%	3.3%	3.6%	12.7%	11.8%	4,932	
Customer service representatives (5240)	5.0%	5.3%	15.6%	16.0%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.4%	5.3%	15.1%	16.4%	675	
Receptionists & information clerks (5400)	5.3%	3.9%	20.9%	18.2%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.1%	4.7%	21.7%	19.8%	360	
Farming, fishing, & forestry (6005-6130)	10.9%	9.2%	11.3%	9.7%	6.1%	17.4%	12.4%	13.9%	13.9%	6.1%	13.7%	10.5%	12.3%	8.5%	397	
Agricultural workers (6050)	12.2%	10.7%	9.0%	8.2%	5.2%	18.5%	12.0%	11.8%	11.8%	5.2%	15.3%	11.3%	10.2%	7.1%	297	
Construction & extraction (6200-6950)	7.7%	8.9%	19.4%	14.6%	16.9%	4.8%	6.7%	17.7%	17.7%	16.9%	6.9%	8.2%	18.9%	15.2%	2,400	
Construction only (6200-6765)	7.7%	8.9%	19.2%	14.6%	16.8%	4.9%	6.8%	17.7%	17.7%	16.8%	6.8%	8.3%	18.8%	15.2%	2,325	
Carpenters (6230)	6.1%	6.2%	18.8%	16.1%	20.4%	2.4%	10.2%	15.1%	15.1%	20.4%	4.8%	7.5%	17.7%	17.3%	377	
Construction laborers (6260)	13.3%	16.0%	24.0%	18.4%	16.7%	6.5%	9.9%	15.5%	15.5%	16.7%	10.8%	13.8%	21.0%	17.8%	535	
Installation, maint., & repair (7000-7640)	2.7%	3.1%	12.3%	11.6%	8.5%	1.1%	0.3%	16.4%	16.4%	8.5%	2.4%	2.7%	12.9%	11.0%	1,482	
Production (7700-8990)	5.3%	4.7%	17.8%	14.8%	16.4%	4.3%	7.7%	21.3%	21.3%	16.4%	5.1%	5.4%	18.5%	15.1%	2,372	
Butchers, meat & other food proc. (7810-7855)	6.1%	5.2%	8.0%	10.7%	12.3%	0.6%	1.3%	9.4%	9.4%	12.3%	4.2%	3.8%	9.1%	11.3%	160	
Transport & material moving (9005-9760)	6.5%	7.2%	17.0%	16.8%	23.9%	1.8%	6.2%	12.5%	12.5%	23.9%	5.5%	7.0%	17.9%	18.2%	3,370	
Driver/sales workers & truck drivers (9130)	6.0%	6.4%	11.8%	7.3%	13.3%	0.8%	3.3%	12.5%	12.5%	13.3%	4.9%	5.8%	12.0%	8.6%	1,111	
Laborers, freight, stock & material mov. (9620)	9.1%	9.1%	16.7%	18.4%	19.2%	2.7%	3.6%	15.2%	15.2%	19.2%	8.0%	8.0%	16.4%	18.5%	561	
Stockers & order fillers (9645)	6.2%	7.2%	14.8%	17.5%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5.6%	6.9%	15.9%	18.4%	484	
Total	3.8%	4.5%	14.0%	12.4%	15.8%	3.6%	4.8%	16.4%	16.4%	15.8%	3.8%	4.5%	14.4%	13.0%	47,153	

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey. Figures are for persons 16 and older. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details. Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the "foreign-born". Data not available (n/a) due to small sample size. The new occupational codes for 2020 can be found [here](#).

Table 5. No. of Natives & Immigrants by Legal Status Working & Unemployed (thousands)

	Number Working					Number Unemployed					Unemployment Rate				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
All U.S. Residents 16+	158,017	155,167	133,326	137,461	157,152	6,218	7,370	22,504	20,514	5,503	3.8%	4.5%	14.4%	13.0%	3.4%
Black	18,151	17,717	15,202	15,382	17,992	1,206	1,342	2,934	3,056	1,138	6.2%	7.0%	16.2%	16.6%	5.9%
White	97,535	96,269	83,960	87,125	97,703	3,032	3,475	12,310	10,466	2,829	3.0%	3.5%	12.8%	10.7%	2.8%
Hispanic	28,311	27,531	22,625	23,321	27,608	1,438	1,841	5,126	4,852	1,072	4.8%	6.3%	18.5%	17.2%	3.7%
No Bachelors 25+	79,535	77,682	65,005	67,161	80,983	3,391	3,884	12,775	11,312	2,568	4.1%	4.8%	16.4%	14.4%	3.1%
Black	10,139	9,986	8,403	8,695	10,650	697	818	1,829	1,888	591	6.4%	7.6%	17.9%	17.8%	5.3%
White	45,982	45,185	38,437	39,920	46,857	1,612	1,698	6,579	5,493	1,237	3.4%	3.6%	14.6%	12.1%	2.6%
Hispanic	18,412	17,708	14,540	14,994	18,340	904	1,072	3,315	2,878	587	4.7%	5.7%	18.6%	16.1%	3.1%
Bach. or More 25+	59,401	59,425	55,208	55,948	56,992	1,172	1,479	4,912	4,332	1,143	1.9%	2.4%	8.2%	7.2%	2.0%
Black	5,773	5,683	5,210	5,077	5,111	130	107	478	432	150	2.2%	1.9%	8.4%	7.8%	2.9%
White	40,802	40,751	37,979	38,713	39,857	746	962	3,218	2,705	698	1.8%	2.3%	7.8%	6.5%	1.7%
Hispanic	5,489	5,656	5,102	5,161	5,021	115	173	606	642	126	2.0%	3.0%	10.6%	11.1%	2.5%
Natives 16+	130,360	128,725	111,389	115,057	129,498	5,191	6,031	18,191	16,323	4,711	3.8%	4.5%	14.0%	12.4%	3.5%
Black	15,320	15,015	12,700	13,124	15,270	1,088	1,234	2,520	2,591	1,008	6.6%	7.6%	16.6%	16.5%	6.2%
White	92,977	91,936	80,504	83,397	93,198	2,909	3,284	11,685	9,864	2,740	3.0%	3.4%	12.7%	10.6%	2.9%
Hispanic	15,289	15,306	12,555	12,789	14,374	844	1,089	2,827	2,746	676	5.2%	6.6%	18.4%	17.7%	4.5%
No Bachelors 25+	64,111	63,214	53,176	55,138	64,431	2,771	3,021	9,899	8,610	2,130	4.1%	4.6%	15.7%	13.5%	3.2%
Black	8,699	8,612	7,102	7,444	9,085	624	743	1,583	1,604	520	6.7%	7.9%	18.2%	17.7%	5.4%
White	44,150	43,511	37,158	38,609	44,945	1,579	1,615	6,265	5,206	1,205	3.5%	3.6%	14.4%	11.9%	2.6%
Hispanic	8,524	8,420	6,822	6,998	7,851	442	478	1,521	1,301	300	4.9%	5.4%	18.2%	15.7%	3.7%
Bach. or More 25+	48,949	48,984	46,014	46,541	47,349	888	1,148	3,871	3,255	904	1.8%	2.3%	7.8%	6.5%	1.9%
Black	4,539	4,513	4,149	4,164	4,127	102	87	358	320	110	2.2%	1.9%	7.9%	7.1%	2.6%
White	38,343	38,331	35,893	36,435	37,480	667	867	2,966	2,448	653	1.7%	2.2%	7.6%	6.3%	1.7%
Hispanic	3,308	3,505	3,242	3,181	3,019	47	119	297	289	74	1.4%	3.3%	8.4%	8.3%	2.4%
Immigrants 16+	27,657	26,442	21,937	22,404	27,654	1,026	1,339	4,313	4,191	791	3.6%	4.8%	16.4%	15.8%	2.8%
Hispanic	13,023	12,225	10,070	10,532	13,234	595	752	2,299	2,105	396	4.4%	5.8%	18.6%	16.7%	2.9%
No Bachelors 25+	15,424	14,468	11,830	12,023	16,552	620	863	2,876	2,702	438	3.9%	5.6%	19.6%	18.3%	2.6%
Hispanic	9,889	9,288	7,718	7,996	10,489	463	594	1,794	1,576	287	4.5%	6.0%	18.9%	16.5%	2.7%
Bach. or More 25+	10,452	10,441	9,194	9,408	9,643	285	331	1,041	1,077	239	2.7%	3.1%	10.2%	10.3%	2.4%
Hispanic	2,181	2,150	1,860	1,981	2,003	67	54	309	352	52	3.0%	2.4%	14.2%	15.1%	2.5%
New Arrivals 16+¹	987	1,029	745	732	n/a	80	84	165	182	n/a	7.5%	7.6%	18.1%	19.9%	n/a
No Bachelors 25+	308	361	215	185	n/a	18	15	64	63	n/a	5.5%	4.0%	22.9%	25.2%	n/a
Bachelor's or More 25+	460	497	424	415	n/a	42	39	51	81	n/a	8.4%	7.2%	10.8%	16.4%	n/a
Est. Legal Imms. 16+	21,464	20,489	17,133	17,356	21,464	735	967	3,163	3,204	619	3.3%	4.5%	15.6%	15.6%	2.8%
No Bachelors 25+	11,069	10,299	8,517	8,493	12,050	414	608	2,006	2,001	338	3.6%	5.6%	19.1%	19.1%	2.7%
Bachelor's or More 25+	9,243	9,235	8,117	8,304	8,506	244	295	927	940	207	2.6%	3.1%	10.2%	10.2%	2.4%
Est. Illegal Imms. 16+²	6,193	5,953	4,804	5,048	6,190	291	372	1,149	987	173	4.5%	5.9%	19.3%	16.4%	2.7%
No Bachelors 25+	4,355	4,169	3,313	3,531	4,502	207	255	869	701	100	4.5%	5.8%	20.8%	16.6%	2.2%
Bachelor's or More 25+	1,209	1,206	1,077	1,104	1,137	40	35	115	137	33	3.2%	2.9%	9.6%	11.0%	2.8%

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey.

Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the "foreign-born".

¹ Immigrants who arrived in the United States between 2018 and 2020, including both legal and illegal immigrants.

² Estimates for illegal immigrants are based on their demographic characteristics in 2018 applied to current labor market data, and should therefore be considered rough approximations of their employment situation. The figures are only for those illegal immigrants in the CPS and are not adjusted for under-count. See methods section for more detail.

Table 6. No. of Natives & Immigrants by Legal Status In & Out of the Labor Force (thousands)

	Number in Labor Force					Number Not in Labor Force					Labor Force Participation Rate				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
All U.S. Residents 16-64	153,022	151,851	145,526	147,868	152,120	52,660	53,832	60,162	57,854	54,130	74%	74%	71%	72%	74%
Black	18,375	18,120	17,268	17,551	18,304	7,676	8,001	8,920	8,586	7,721	71%	69%	66%	67%	70%
White	92,102	91,708	88,393	89,839	92,375	29,160	29,383	32,729	31,171	29,619	76%	76%	73%	74%	76%
Hispanic	28,765	28,403	26,848	27,355	27,781	10,310	10,741	12,338	11,898	11,048	74%	73%	69%	70%	72%
No Bachelors 25-64	76,514	75,448	71,898	72,605	77,449	27,229	27,452	29,976	29,205	28,292	74%	73%	71%	71%	73%
Black	10,154	10,159	9,649	9,993	10,670	4,340	4,533	4,919	4,961	4,520	70%	69%	66%	67%	70%
White	42,934	42,436	40,699	41,102	43,598	15,210	14,971	16,221	15,579	15,460	74%	74%	72%	73%	74%
Hispanic	18,601	18,087	17,212	17,255	18,221	5,670	5,965	6,657	6,499	6,118	77%	75%	72%	73%	75%
Bach. or More 25-64	55,772	56,337	55,698	56,042	53,702	8,655	8,943	10,617	10,382	9,057	87%	86%	84%	84%	86%
Black	5,603	5,497	5,402	5,213	5,005	853	883	1,110	953	746	87%	86%	83%	85%	87%
White	37,742	38,125	37,636	37,977	36,895	5,582	5,721	6,714	6,529	5,997	87%	87%	85%	85%	86%
Hispanic	5,335	5,552	5,448	5,601	4,954	709	771	1,090	1,107	804	88%	88%	83%	83%	86%
Natives 16-64	125,992	125,580	120,571	122,521	125,061	44,044	44,934	49,775	47,995	44,774	74%	74%	71%	72%	74%
Black	15,637	15,494	14,518	14,964	15,601	7,034	7,266	7,925	7,637	7,003	69%	68%	65%	66%	69%
White	87,820	87,548	84,653	85,877	88,156	27,830	28,050	31,074	29,675	28,079	76%	76%	73%	74%	76%
Hispanic	15,699	15,951	14,928	15,137	14,677	6,276	6,522	7,374	7,165	6,580	71%	71%	67%	68%	69%
No Bachelors 25-64	61,421	60,908	57,915	58,607	61,358	22,215	22,215	23,759	23,268	22,785	73%	73%	71%	72%	73%
Black	8,778	8,818	8,206	8,544	9,153	3,991	4,124	4,386	4,484	4,159	69%	68%	65%	66%	69%
White	41,255	40,814	39,233	39,658	41,836	14,561	14,376	15,416	14,840	14,719	74%	74%	72%	73%	74%
Hispanic	8,662	8,589	8,043	8,020	7,894	2,598	2,650	2,890	2,835	2,734	77%	76%	74%	74%	74%
Bach. or More 25-64	45,738	46,284	46,036	46,079	44,309	6,650	6,880	8,189	8,096	6,750	87%	87%	85%	85%	87%
Black	4,415	4,381	4,285	4,236	4,011	718	755	957	789	607	86%	85%	82%	84%	87%
White	35,417	35,837	35,513	35,656	34,666	5,178	5,273	6,168	6,055	5,417	87%	87%	85%	85%	86%
Hispanic	3,226	3,490	3,385	3,351	2,977	364	429	580	613	351	90%	89%	85%	85%	89%
Immigrants 16-64	27,030	26,271	24,955	25,347	27,058	8,616	8,898	10,387	9,858	9,356	76%	75%	71%	72%	74%
Hispanic	13,066	12,452	11,920	12,218	13,104	4,035	4,219	4,965	4,733	4,468	76%	75%	71%	72%	75%
No Bachelor's 25-64	15,093	14,540	13,984	13,998	16,092	5,014	5,237	6,218	5,937	5,506	75%	74%	69%	70%	75%
Hispanic	9,939	9,498	9,169	9,236	10,328	3,072	3,315	3,767	3,664	3,384	76%	74%	71%	72%	75%
Bach. or More 25-64	10,033	10,052	9,663	9,963	9,393	2,006	2,062	2,428	2,287	2,307	83%	83%	80%	81%	80%
Hispanic	2,109	2,062	2,063	2,250	1,977	346	342	510	495	453	86%	86%	80%	82%	81%
New Arrivals 16-64¹	1,042	1,097	898	899	n/a	747	765	774	724	n/a	58%	59%	54%	55%	n/a
No Bachelors 25-64	309	367	272	233	n/a	228	236	251	238	n/a	58%	61%	52%	49%	n/a
Bach. or More 25-64	493	529	469	495	n/a	265	279	249	243	n/a	65%	65%	65%	67%	n/a
Est. Legal Imms. 16-64	20,564	19,965	19,015	19,325	20,713	6,186	6,301	7,415	6,972	6,816	77%	76%	72%	73%	75%
No Bachelors 25-64	10,547	10,131	9,812	9,778	11,506	3,440	3,540	4,275	4,060	3,989	75%	74%	70%	71%	74%
Bach. or More 25-64	8,787	8,815	8,474	8,724	8,226	1,692	1,726	2,051	1,942	1,898	84%	84%	81%	82%	81%
Est. Illegal Imms. 16-64²	6,466	6,306	5,940	6,021	6,345	2,430	2,597	2,972	2,886	2,540	73%	71%	67%	68%	71%
No Bachelors 25-64	4,547	4,410	4,172	4,219	4,586	1,574	1,697	1,942	1,877	1,517	74%	72%	68%	69%	75%
Bachelor's or More 25-64	1,246	1,237	1,189	1,239	1,168	314	336	377	344	409	80%	79%	76%	78%	74%

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey.

Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the "foreign-born".

¹ Immigrants who arrived in the United States between 2018 and 2020, including both legal and illegal immigrants.

² Estimates for Illegal immigrants are based on their demographic characteristics in 2018 applied to current labor market data, and should therefore be considered rough approximations of their employment situation. The figures are only for those illegal immigrants in the CPS and are not adjusted for undercount. See methods section for more detail.

Table 7. Unemployment for Natives and Immigrants, by Selected States

Number Unemployed (thousands)										
State	Natives					All Immigrants				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
Ariz.	120	148	403	297	159	32	39	81	43	16
Calif.	623	725	2,124	2,007	479	267	360	937	896	188
Fla.	258	341	887	923	201	91	115	427	501	104
Ga.	180	177	483	411	167	27	49	135	62	29
Hawaii	15	5	102	90	10	1	2	35	39	3
Ill.	175	223	862	743	163	54	54	168	174	31
Md.	94	108	195	229	71	25	23	82	58	28
Mass.	112	98	389	400	128	19	39	195	190	21
Nev.	63	87	314	287	73	6	17	127	98	7
N.J.	130	101	477	426	99	51	70	241	250	16
N.M.	48	46	83	83	43	5	10	13	10	4
N.Y.	247	291	954	845	303	107	124	462	520	88
N.C.	145	183	561	576	209	3	14	57	65	14
Texas	399	538	1,202	1,214	308	116	128	448	418	66
Va.	84	107	368	303	97	11	24	93	94	36
Wash.	143	179	525	442	114	18	32	116	116	19
Total	5,191	6,031	18,191	16,323	4,711	1,026	1,339	4,313	4,191	791

Unemployment Rate										
State	Natives					All Immigrants				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
Ariz.	4.0%	5.0%	14.4%	10.0%	5.5%	4.9%	6.3%	11.2%	7.6%	2.4%
Calif.	4.7%	5.4%	16.5%	15.5%	3.6%	4.4%	6.2%	16.9%	16.6%	3.1%
Fla.	3.4%	4.5%	13.1%	13.4%	2.8%	3.3%	4.3%	15.6%	17.4%	3.4%
Ga.	4.1%	4.1%	11.6%	9.7%	3.9%	3.3%	5.5%	18.2%	8.6%	3.6%
Hawaii	2.8%	1.0%	20.1%	17.8%	1.9%	1.0%	1.8%	30.6%	30.5%	2.2%
Ill.	3.4%	4.3%	17.6%	14.5%	3.1%	4.2%	4.4%	14.0%	15.6%	2.5%
Md.	3.9%	4.4%	8.5%	9.2%	2.6%	3.1%	2.9%	11.0%	8.8%	4.8%
Mass.	3.8%	3.4%	14.2%	14.1%	4.2%	2.3%	4.5%	27.9%	25.2%	2.4%
Nev.	4.8%	6.9%	26.9%	23.6%	5.7%	2.1%	5.4%	40.3%	39.1%	2.2%
N.J.	4.2%	3.2%	15.1%	14.0%	3.1%	3.5%	4.9%	19.7%	18.1%	1.2%
N.M.	5.8%	5.6%	10.5%	10.2%	5.2%	4.2%	8.2%	10.9%	8.8%	3.1%
N.Y.	3.6%	4.2%	14.6%	12.9%	4.4%	3.8%	4.7%	20.1%	22.3%	3.3%
N.C.	3.2%	4.2%	13.2%	13.1%	4.6%	0.4%	2.1%	10.0%	12.1%	2.2%
Texas	3.7%	4.9%	11.6%	11.6%	2.9%	3.4%	4.0%	14.6%	12.8%	2.2%
Va.	2.3%	2.9%	10.1%	8.4%	2.7%	1.3%	3.1%	13.9%	13.2%	4.7%
Wash.	4.3%	5.4%	15.7%	13.6%	3.6%	2.8%	5.4%	19.8%	16.1%	2.5%
Total	3.8%	4.5%	14.0%	12.4%	3.5%	3.6%	4.8%	16.4%	15.8%	2.8%

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey for persons 16 and older. Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the “foreign-born”.

Table 8. Labor Force Participation for Natives and Immigrants by Selected States

Number Not in the Labor Force (thousands)										
State	Natives					All Immigrants				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
Ariz.	964	924	952	931	987	177	187	284	208	219
Calif.	4,859	4,924	5,457	5,558	4,861	2,110	2,168	2,350	2,429	2,286
Fla.	2,808	2,873	3,229	3,037	2,652	700	752	1,102	937	847
Ga.	1,613	1,648	1,870	1,822	1,618	208	227	200	244	240
Hawaii	199	186	211	206	197	36	34	37	42	37
Ill.	1,670	1,734	1,896	1,804	1,735	413	348	396	299	354
Md.	717	657	848	784	702	163	170	259	165	113
Mass.	729	832	1,037	950	823	228	247	318	266	262
Nev.	387	417	467	467	361	76	86	91	113	101
N.J.	966	874	1,157	1,080	1,058	326	377	311	405	360
N.M.	344	335	370	358	343	42	52	54	52	49
N.Y.	2,313	2,489	2,838	2,738	2,713	961	953	1,203	1,165	953
N.C.	1,480	1,632	1,802	1,741	1,510	206	222	215	159	197
Texas	4,030	4,089	4,477	4,325	4,047	976	1,096	1,241	1,166	1,168
Va.	1,050	1,088	1,105	1,062	948	145	102	224	206	255
Wash.	979	1,093	1,071	1,011	1,020	225	211	212	211	229
Total	44,044	44,934	49,775	47,995	44,774	8,616	8,898	10,387	9,858	9,356

Labor Force Participation Rate										
State	Natives					All Immigrants				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
Ariz.	74%	75%	74%	74%	73%	78%	76%	71%	73%	74%
Calif.	72%	72%	69%	69%	72%	73%	72%	69%	68%	72%
Fla.	72%	71%	66%	66%	71%	78%	77%	70%	74%	77%
Ga.	72%	71%	68%	68%	71%	79%	79%	78%	74%	76%
Hawaii	71%	72%	69%	69%	70%	78%	78%	74%	72%	77%
Ill.	74%	73%	71%	71%	74%	74%	77%	74%	78%	77%
Md.	76%	78%	72%	72%	78%	82%	82%	73%	79%	83%
Mass.	79%	76%	71%	71%	77%	77%	77%	67%	73%	75%
Nev.	76%	74%	70%	70%	77%	77%	77%	77%	68%	74%
N.J.	75%	77%	72%	72%	73%	81%	78%	79%	77%	78%
N.M.	69%	69%	66%	66%	69%	73%	69%	68%	69%	69%
N.Y.	73%	72%	68%	68%	70%	73%	72%	64%	65%	72%
N.C.	74%	71%	69%	69%	74%	77%	74%	72%	77%	75%
Texas	72%	71%	68%	68%	71%	77%	73%	70%	73%	72%
Va.	76%	76%	75%	75%	78%	85%	88%	74%	77%	74%
Wash.	76%	74%	74%	74%	74%	73%	72%	73%	77%	76%
Total	74%	74%	71%	72%	74%	76%	75%	71%	72%	74%

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey for persons 16 to 64. Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the “foreign-born”. Those not in the labor force are neither working nor looking for work. The labor force participation rate is the share of people in the labor force. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details.

Table 9. Unemployment for Natives and Immigrants Without a Bachelor’s Degree by Selected States

Number Unemployed (thousands)										
State	Natives					All Immigrants				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
Ariz.	94	118	307	221	128	26	28	73	39	16
Calif.	468	542	1,421	1,418	320	215	307	723	666	142
Fla.	192	247	604	605	136	55	73	294	334	90
Ga.	127	115	356	304	132	12	17	111	49	18
Hawaii	12	4	73	62	8	1	1	27	30	3
Ill.	144	159	624	546	122	39	44	127	146	21
Md.	60	84	119	146	45	13	11	47	39	4
Mass.	78	73	254	248	73	11	24	160	144	12
Nev.	49	58	267	250	61	6	12	98	79	4
N.J.	105	93	330	331	71	32	49	193	195	16
N.M.	44	41	75	73	40	5	10	12	9	4
N.Y.	174	216	635	639	221	62	95	294	354	51
N.C.	129	156	479	504	172	3	14	53	51	10
Texas	345	439	976	1,072	225	101	105	332	288	47
Va.	53	81	270	204	83	4	11	71	57	11
Wash.	116	150	405	354	91	14	21	81	94	13
Total	4,154	4,770	13,854	12,662	3,649	726	992	3,215	3,059	539

Unemployment Rate										
State	Natives					All Immigrants				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
Ariz.	4.9%	6.0%	17.1%	11.3%	6.7%	5.5%	6.5%	13.5%	9.5%	3.2%
Calif.	5.9%	6.9%	19.7%	19.6%	4.1%	5.5%	8.0%	20.1%	19.9%	3.6%
Fla.	4.0%	5.3%	14.9%	14.5%	3.0%	3.2%	4.3%	17.3%	18.1%	4.5%
Ga.	4.6%	4.4%	14.1%	11.5%	4.8%	2.5%	3.3%	26.0%	10.5%	3.2%
Hawaii	3.7%	1.1%	23.4%	20.5%	2.6%	1.5%	1.0%	36.5%	38.6%	3.2%
Ill.	5.3%	5.7%	24.6%	20.1%	4.1%	5.4%	6.1%	18.2%	20.7%	2.7%
Md.	4.8%	6.8%	10.0%	12.3%	3.2%	3.3%	3.0%	13.0%	12.8%	1.3%
Mass.	5.6%	5.5%	20.6%	19.7%	5.1%	2.6%	5.5%	42.7%	34.2%	2.5%
Nev.	5.2%	6.6%	30.8%	28.0%	6.6%	2.9%	5.5%	44.6%	42.5%	1.6%
N.J.	6.6%	5.8%	21.6%	21.7%	4.2%	4.3%	8.7%	33.6%	26.7%	2.2%
N.M.	7.8%	7.4%	13.9%	14.3%	6.6%	5.5%	10.5%	12.2%	9.8%	3.6%
N.Y.	5.0%	6.4%	20.2%	18.5%	6.2%	3.8%	6.5%	24.6%	29.8%	3.2%
N.C.	4.7%	5.9%	19.3%	19.3%	5.9%	0.7%	3.3%	16.1%	23.2%	2.5%
Texas	4.9%	6.1%	14.8%	15.9%	3.2%	4.4%	4.9%	16.5%	14.3%	2.1%
Va.	2.9%	4.5%	15.8%	12.0%	4.5%	1.1%	2.7%	20.6%	18.0%	3.1%
Wash.	5.7%	7.8%	21.1%	19.5%	5.1%	3.5%	5.8%	22.9%	21.9%	2.8%
Total	5.0%	5.8%	18.0%	16.1%	4.4%	4.1%	5.9%	20.4%	19.3%	2.9%

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey for persons 16 and older. Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the “foreign-born”. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details..

Table 10. Labor Force Participation for Natives and Immigrants Without a Bachelor’s by Selected States

Number Not in the Labor Force (thousands)										
State	Natives					All Immigrants				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
Ariz.	813	795	811	810	812	142	149	241	171	182
Calif.	4,017	3,971	4,466	4,392	4,016	1,651	1,723	1,781	1,886	1,754
Fla.	2,325	2,365	2,496	2,379	2,243	516	560	834	746	643
Ga.	1,337	1,430	1,508	1,490	1,303	139	167	133	181	170
Hawaii	159	147	165	172	167	27	23	26	33	34
Ill.	1,381	1,464	1,517	1,436	1,444	317	245	290	222	225
Md.	592	527	687	611	578	123	99	165	96	65
Mass.	616	707	808	750	622	138	136	201	149	149
Nev.	324	324	363	388	303	53	57	68	90	80
N.J.	716	660	840	810	884	233	278	224	261	248
N.M.	294	287	319	316	302	39	49	54	51	45
N.Y.	1,916	1,908	2,200	2,081	2,117	702	688	893	838	656
N.C.	1,260	1,391	1,517	1,398	1,228	158	186	183	134	142
Texas	3,435	3,507	3,725	3,537	3,419	772	888	948	923	904
Va.	865	888	918	850	790	110	79	182	154	173
Wash.	737	874	887	824	809	166	152	159	147	176
Total	36,862	37,393	40,865	39,109	37,372	6,467	6,691	7,773	7,410	6,893

Labor Force Participation Rate										
State	Natives					All Immigrants				
	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19	Feb. 20	Mar. 20	Apr. 20	May 20	May 19
Ariz.	69%	71%	68%	70%	69%	76%	74%	69%	70%	72%
Calif.	65%	65%	60%	61%	65%	69%	68%	66%	63%	68%
Fla.	66%	65%	60%	62%	66%	76%	74%	65%	70%	75%
Ga.	66%	63%	61%	62%	66%	76%	75%	75%	71%	76%
Hawaii	65%	66%	63%	62%	64%	76%	77%	72%	67%	73%
Ill.	65%	64%	61%	64%	66%	68%	74%	69%	74%	76%
Md.	66%	69%	62%	64%	69%	75%	79%	68%	76%	82%
Mass.	67%	63%	58%	61%	68%	75%	75%	64%	73%	75%
Nev.	73%	72%	69%	68%	74%	78%	78%	76%	66%	73%
N.J.	66%	68%	62%	63%	63%	75%	65%	70%	72%	74%
N.M.	64%	64%	61%	60%	65%	68%	65%	64%	64%	68%
N.Y.	62%	62%	57%	61%	61%	68%	67%	56%	57%	69%
N.C.	67%	64%	60%	63%	69%	74%	70%	64%	62%	72%
Texas	66%	66%	62%	64%	66%	74%	70%	67%	68%	70%
Va.	66%	65%	64%	65%	69%	78%	82%	64%	66%	64%
Wash.	72%	67%	67%	67%	68%	70%	70%	68%	74%	72%
Total	68%	67%	64%	65%	68%	72%	70%	66%	67%	72%

Source: Public-use files of the monthly Current Population Survey for persons 16 to 64. Immigrants (legal and illegal) are also referred to as the “foreign-born”. Those not in the labor force are neither working nor looking for work. The labor force participation rate is the share of working age people not in the labor force. Public-use data may differ slightly from published BLS numbers; see text for details.

End Notes

¹ [“Basic Monthly CPS”](#), U.S. Census Bureau, undated.

² [“State-Level Unauthorized Population and Eligible-to-Naturalize Estimates”](#), Center for Migration Studies, undated.

³ In 2018, CMS estimated a total illegal immigrant population of 10.6 million, which includes an undercount adjustment for those missed in Census Bureau data. Our analysis of the CPS totals to 9.8 million illegal immigrants, reflecting a 7.5 percent undercount.

⁴ [“Monthly Current Population Survey Public Use Microdata Files”](#), U.S. Census Bureau, undated.

⁵ [“Table A-7. Employment status of the civilian population by nativity and sex, not seasonally adjusted”](#), U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, June 12, 2020.

⁶ The BLS has a long detailed discussion of potential problems with the data arising from the Covid-19 pandemic, which can be found [here](#). Information is also provided in the commissioner’s statement which can be found [here](#).