

News

United States
Department
of Labor



Bureau of Labor Statistics

Washington, D.C. 20212

Contact: J. Bregger (202) 523-1944
523-1371
K. Hoyle (202) 523-1913
523-1208
home: 333-1384

USDL 78-16
TRANSMISSION OF MATERIAL IN THIS RELEASE IS
EMBARGOED UNTIL 9:00 A. M. (EST), WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 11, 1978

THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: DECEMBER 1977

Employment rose and unemployment dropped sharply in December, it was reported today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor. The December unemployment rate was 6.4 percent, down considerably from November and 1.4 points below December 1976.

Total employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--continued to expand with a substantial increase for the second straight month. The proportion of the population with jobs reached a record 58.0 percent, up from 56.3 in December a year ago. The number of employed persons increased by 4.1 million over this period to 92.6 million.

Nonfarm payroll employment--as measured by the monthly survey of establishments--rose by 215,000 over the month to 83.4 million. This employment count excludes striking workers, whose ranks increased by 110,000 in December as a result of the mine workers' strike. (The household survey, on the other hand, classifies striking workers as employed.) Over the past year, payroll jobs have risen by 3.1 million.

Unemployment

The level of unemployment fell by 480,000 to 6.3 million, seasonally adjusted, in December. Most of the improvement took place among persons who had lost their last jobs. The unemployment rate also declined sharply in December, to 6.4 percent. Over the year, the number of unemployed dropped by more than 1.1 million and the rate registered a decline of 1.4 percentage points. (See table A-1.) Both the number and the rate were the lowest since late 1974. (See addendum on seasonal adjustment on page 6 of this release.)

The November-December unemployment declines affected nearly all major demographic, occupational, and industry groups. Substantial declines among adult men, women, and

teenagers brought their rates to 4.7 percent, 6.7 percent, and 15.4 percent, respectively. Black unemployment showed a substantial reduction, as the rate fell from 13.8 to 12.5 percent. The rate for whites also declined, from 6.0 to 5.6 percent. Over the year, jobless rates dropped markedly for white men, women, and teenagers and black adult men, while no downtrend was evident among black women and teenagers. (See table A-2.)

Although the unemployment rate for blue-collar workers continued to exceed that for white-collar workers, the difference narrowed in 1977. A strong November-December improvement brought the blue-collar rate to 7.3 percent, down from 9.6 percent a year earlier. The white-collar rate of 3.9 percent showed a drop of six-tenths of a point

Table A. Major indicators of labor market activity, seasonally adjusted

Selected categories	Quarterly averages					Monthly data		
	1976	1977				1977		
	IV	I	II	III	IV	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
HOUSEHOLD DATA								
Thousands of persons								
Civilian labor force	95,711	96,067	97,186	97,623	98,675	98,102	98,998	98,926
Total employment	88,133	88,998	90,370	90,809	92,000	91,230	92,180	92,589
Unemployment	7,578	7,068	6,816	6,814	6,676	6,872	6,818	6,337
Not in labor force	59,132	59,379	58,908	59,140	58,724	59,099	58,391	58,682
Discouraged workers	992	929	1,061	1,104	968	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Percent of labor force								
Unemployment rates:								
All workers	7.9	7.4	7.0	7.0	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.4
Adult men	6.2	5.6	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.3	4.9	4.7
Adult women	7.6	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.8	7.1	6.7
Teenagers	19.1	18.6	18.1	17.7	16.6	17.3	17.1	15.4
White	7.2	6.7	6.3	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.0	5.6
Black and other	13.4	12.8	12.8	13.6	13.4	13.9	13.8	12.5
Full-time workers	7.5	6.8	6.5	6.6	6.3	6.6	6.4	5.9
ESTABLISHMENT DATA								
Thousands of jobs								
Nonfarm payroll employment ...	80,111	80,925	81,871	82,548	83,188p	82,902	83,222p	83,439p
Goods-producing industries ...	23,456	23,788	24,265	24,359	24,505p	24,436	24,526p	24,553p
Service-producing industries ...	56,655	57,137	57,606	58,189	58,683p	58,466	58,696p	58,886p
Hours of work								
Average weekly hours:								
Total private nonfarm	36.2	36.1	36.2	36.0	36.1p	36.2	36.1p	36.0p
Manufacturing	40.0	40.1	40.4	40.3	40.4p	40.4	40.5p	40.3p
Manufacturing overtime	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.5p	3.5	3.5p	3.4p

p=preliminary.

N.A.=not available.

over the year. The rate for service workers fell a full percentage point in that time frame to 8.0 percent, and the farm workers rate was down two points to 4.1 percent. Among the major industries, there was a particularly strong decline for factory workers in December, and their rate was nearly two and a half points lower than its year-ago level.

The average (mean) duration of unemployment was little changed in December, at 14.1 weeks, but was down 1½ weeks over the past year. (See table A-4.)

Total Employment and the Labor Force

An increase in employment almost matched the decline in unemployment, as the size of the labor force was little changed over the month. Total employment rose 410,000 in December to 92.6 million, with adult men the major job gainers. (See table A-1.) The November-December growth in employment was concentrated among full-time workers.

Over the year, employment grew by 4.1 million, or 4.7 percent, marking the largest 12-month gain ever recorded in the post-World War II period. The number of employed adult men was up 1.8 million, adult women advanced by 1.7 million, and teenagers increased their employment by close to 650,000. Employment in blue-collar and service work grew relatively more than other occupations. (See tables A-1 and A-3.)

The civilian labor force remained at 98.9 million in December, after an unusually large increase of 900,000 in the prior month. The 12-month rise was nearly 3 million. The labor force participation rate--the proportion of the civilian noninstitutional population either working or seeking work-- edged back to 62.8 percent, just below the alltime high of 62.9 percent recorded in November.

Discouraged Workers

Discouraged workers are persons who report that they want work but are not looking for jobs because they believe they cannot find any. Because they do not meet the labor market test--that is, they are not engaged in active job search--they are classified as not in the labor force rather than as unemployed. These data are published on a quarterly basis.

Consistent with the decline in unemployment during the fourth quarter, the number of discouraged workers also fell. The fourth quarter average was about 970,000, down from 1.1 million in the second and third quarters and slightly below its year-ago level. About 70 percent of the discouraged total cite job-market factors as their reason for not seeking work. (See table A-8.)

Industry Payroll Employment

Nonfarm payroll employment increased by 215,000 in December to 83.4 million, seasonally adjusted. All but one of the major industry groups posted employment gains, as 78 percent of the 172 industries that comprise the BLS diffusion index of private nonagricultural payroll employment showed increases in December. Although the over-the-month increase in payroll employment was substantial, it would have been greater save for the effect of a net increase of 110,000 workers on strike. Nonfarm payroll jobs have expanded by 3.1 million over the past year. (See tables B-1 and B-6.)

The largest over-the-month employment gain took place in manufacturing--160,000. Most of this increase occurred in the durable goods industries, where gains were pervasive. However, the 40,000 increase in the transportation equipment industry resulted mainly from a return of striking aircraft workers to their jobs.

Employment in contract construction continued to improve. An over-the-month increase of nearly 20,000 brought the level of employment 355,000 above its level in December 1976. Employment increases also occurred in the services industry, State and local government, transportation and public utilities, and trade.

Employees on mining payrolls declined by 150,000 over the month, due entirely to the effects of a major strike by the United Mine Workers.

Hours

The average workweek for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls edged down by a tenth of an hour in December to 36.0 hours, seasonally adjusted. The December workweek stood 0.2 hour below its year-ago level. In manufacturing, the workweek dropped 0.2 hour in December, but, at 40.3 hours, was still 0.3 hour above its year-ago level. Manufacturing overtime, at 3.4 hours, declined 0.1 hour from November but was still above the year-ago point. (See table B-2.)

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls edged down to 117.0 (1967=100) in December, 0.1 percent below the November level. However, the overall index has increased by 3.3 percent since December 1976. (See table B-5.)

Hourly and Weekly Earnings

Average hourly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonfarm payrolls increased by 0.4 percent, seasonally adjusted, in December. Average weekly earnings advanced by only 0.1 percent, however, due to the slight decline in the average workweek. Compared with their year-ago levels, average hourly and weekly earnings were up 7.8 and 7.2 percent, respectively.

Before adjustment for seasonality, average hourly earnings were unchanged from November's \$5.41 but were 39 cents above December 1976. Average weekly earnings increased by \$1.08 over the month, reaching \$195.84 in December. Over the year, average weekly earnings grew by \$13.11. (See table B-3.)

The Hourly Earnings Index

The Hourly Earnings Index--earnings adjusted for overtime in manufacturing, seasonality, and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries--was 204.8 (1967=100) in December, 0.4 percent higher than in November. The index was 7.4 percent above December a year ago. During the 12-month period ended in November, the Hourly Earnings Index in dollars of constant purchasing power rose 0.7 percent. (See table B-4. Data in table B-4 reflect revised seasonal adjustment factors.)

ADDENDUM ON SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

At the beginning of each calendar year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics routinely revises the seasonally-adjusted labor force series derived from the Current Population Survey to take into account data from the previous year. These revisions are published in the February release of January data and are used through the end of the year. Because of the particular timing of this release and a speed-up in seasonal-adjustment processing, it is possible this year to release at this time the revisions in the overall unemployment rate that result from the use of new seasonal-adjustment factors for 1978.

The table below contains the overall monthly seasonally-adjusted unemployment rates for the past 13 months as originally published and as they are to be revised. It is to be noted that the seasonally-adjusted rate for December is the same using the old and the new factors. However, the pattern for the year is somewhat different using the revised factors, in that there is a more steady decline in the unemployment rate during the year rather than a sharp drop in December. The revisions, of course, have no effect on the 1977 annual average rate, which was 7.0 percent.

As soon as they can be prepared for publication, revised 1977 data for many series presented in this release will be issued in a special press release, probably on or about January 23. As usual, the release of January 1978 seasonally-adjusted data on February 3 will be based on the revised seasonal factors. Historical data will be available after January 23 upon request and will also be published in the February 1978 issue of Employment and Earnings.

Table B. Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the past 13 months

Month	As currently published	As revised
1976: December.....	7.8	7.8
1977: January.....	7.3	7.4
February.....	7.5	7.6
March.....	7.3	7.4
April.....	7.0	7.1
May.....	6.9	7.1
June.....	7.1	7.1
July.....	6.9	6.9
August.....	7.1	7.0
September.....	6.9	6.8
October.....	7.0	6.8
November.....	6.9	6.7
December.....	6.4	6.4

Explanatory Note

This release presents and analyzes statistics from two major surveys. Data on labor force, total employment, and unemployment (A tables) are derived from the Current Population Survey, a sample survey of households conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The sample consists of about 47,000 households selected to represent the U.S. civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over.

Statistics on nonagricultural payroll employment, hours, and earnings (B tables) are collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with State agencies, from payroll records of a sample of approximately 165,000 establishments. Unless otherwise indicated, data for both series relate to the week containing the 12th day of the specified month.

Comparability of household and payroll employment statistics

Employment data from the household and payroll surveys differ in several basic respects. The household survey provides information on the labor force activity of the entire population 16 years of age and over, without duplication, since each person is classified as employed, unemployed, or not in the labor force.

The payroll survey relates only to paid wage and salary employees (regardless of age) on the payrolls of nonagricultural establishments. The household survey counts employed persons in both agriculture and in nonagricultural industries and, in addition to wage and salary workers (including private household workers), includes the self-employed, unpaid family workers, and persons "with a job but not at work" and not paid for the period absent. Persons who worked at more than one job during the survey week or otherwise appear on more than one payroll are counted more than once in the establishment survey. Such persons are counted only once in the household survey and are classified in the job at which they worked the greatest number of hours.

Unemployment

To be classified in the household survey as unemployed an individual must: (1) have been without a job during the survey week, (2) have made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the prior 4 weeks, and (3) be presently available for work. In addition, persons on lay-off and those waiting to begin a new job (within 30 days) are also classified as unemployed. The unemployed total

includes all persons who satisfactorily meet the above criteria, regardless of their eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits or any kind of public assistance. The unemployment rate represents the unemployed as a proportion of the civilian labor force (the employed and unemployed combined).

To meet the extensive needs of data users, the Bureau regularly publishes data on a wide variety of labor market indicators—see, for example, the demographic, occupational, and industry detail in tables A-2 and A-3. A special grouping of seven unemployment measures is set forth in table A-7. Identified by the symbols U-1 through U-7, these measures represent a range of possible definitions of unemployment and of the labor force, extending from the most restrictive (U-1) to the most comprehensive (U-7). The official rate of unemployment appears as U-5.

Seasonal adjustment

Nearly all economic phenomena are affected to some degree by seasonal variations. These are recurring, predictable events which are repeated more or less regularly each year—changes in weather, school vacations, major holidays, industry production schedules, etc. The cumulative effects of these events are often large. For example, on average over the year, they explain about 90 percent of the month-to-month variance in the unemployment figures. Since seasonal variations tend to be large relative to the underlying cyclical trends, it is necessary to use seasonally-adjusted data to interpret short-term economic developments. At the beginning of each year, current seasonal adjustment factors for unemployment and other labor force series are calculated taking into account the prior year's experience, and revised data are introduced in the release containing January data.

All seasonally-adjusted civilian labor force and unemployment rate statistics, as well as the major employment and unemployment estimates, are computed by aggregating independently adjusted series. The official unemployment rate for all civilian workers is derived by dividing the estimate for total unemployment (the sum of four seasonally-adjusted age-sex components) by the civilian labor force (the sum of 12 seasonally-adjusted age-sex components). Several alternative methods for seasonally adjusting the overall unemployment rate are also used on a regular basis in order to illustrate the degree of uncertainty that arises because of the seasonal adjustment procedure. Among these alternative methods are five different age-sex adjustments,

including a concurrent adjustment and one based on stable factors and four based on other unemployment aggregations. Alternative rates for 1976 are shown in the table at the end of this note. (Current alternative rates and an explanation of the methods may be obtained from BLS upon request.)

For establishment data, the seasonally-adjusted series for all employees, production workers, average weekly hours, and average hourly earnings are adjusted by aggregating the seasonally-adjusted data from the respective component series. These data are revised annually, usually in conjunction with the annual benchmark adjustments (comprehensive counts of employment).

Sampling variability

Both the household and establishment survey statistics are subject to sampling error, which should be taken into account in evaluating the levels of a series as well as changes over time. Because the household survey is based upon a probability sample, the results may differ from the figures that would be obtained if it were possible to take a complete census using the same questionnaire and procedures. The standard error is the measure of sampling variability, that is, the variations that might occur by chance because only a

sample of the population is surveyed. Tables A-E in the "Explanatory Notes" of *Employment and Earnings* provide standard errors for unemployment and other labor force categories.

Although the relatively large size of the monthly establishment survey assures a high degree of accuracy, the estimates derived from it also may differ from the figures obtained if a complete census using the same schedules and procedures were possible. Moreover, since the estimating procedures employ the previous month's level as the base in computing the current month's level of employment (link-relative technique), sampling and response errors may accumulate over several months. To remove this accumulated error, the employment estimates are adjusted to new benchmarks, usually annually. In addition to taking account of sampling and response errors, the benchmark revision adjusts the estimates for changes in the industrial classification of individual establishments. Employment estimates are currently projected from March 1974 benchmark levels. Measures of reliability for employment estimates are provided in the "Explanatory Notes" of *Employment and Earnings*, as are the actual amounts of revisions due to benchmark adjustments (tables G-L).

Unemployment rate by alternative seasonal adjustment methods

Month	Unad-justed rate	Official Ad-justed Rate	Alternative age-sex procedures					Other aggregations (all multiplicative)				Direct adjust-ment	Compo-site	Range (cols. 2-13)
			All multipli-cative	All addi-tive	Year-ahead	Con-current	Stable 1967-73	Dura-tion	Rea-sons	Total	Resid-ual			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
1976														
January	8.8	7.8	7.8	8.0	7.8	7.8	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.8	8.2	7.9	7.9	0.4
February	8.7	7.6	7.6	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	.3
March	8.1	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	.4
April	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.5	.2
May	6.7	7.3	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.5	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.2	7.5	7.3	.3
June	8.0	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.5	.3
July	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	.2
August	7.6	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.7	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.8	8.0	7.9	.3
September	7.4	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.6	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	.4
October	7.2	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.7	8.0	7.9	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.9	.3
November	7.4	8.0	8.0	7.8	8.1	8.0	7.8	8.1	8.0	8.0	7.8	8.0	8.0	.3
December	7.4	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.9	7.8	.1

HOUSEHOLD DATA

HOUSEHOLD DATA

Table A-1. Employment status of the noninstitutional population

[Numbers in thousands]

Employment status	Not seasonally adjusted			Seasonally adjusted					
	Dec. 1976	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977	Dec. 1976	Aug. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977
TOTAL									
Total noninstitutional population ¹	157,176	159,522	159,736	157,176	158,899	159,114	159,334	159,522	159,736
Armed Forces ¹	2,146	2,132	2,129	2,146	2,137	2,131	2,134	2,132	2,129
Civilian noninstitutional population ¹	155,031	157,389	157,608	155,031	156,761	156,982	157,201	157,389	157,608
Civilian labor force	95,517	98,819	98,503	95,960	97,697	97,868	98,102	98,998	98,926
Participation rate	61.6	62.8	62.5	61.9	62.3	62.3	62.4	62.9	62.8
Employed	88,494	92,473	92,623	88,441	90,771	91,095	91,230	92,180	92,589
Employment-population ratio ²	56.3	58.0	58.0	56.3	57.1	57.3	57.3	57.8	58.0
Agriculture	2,850	3,181	2,914	3,257	3,252	3,215	3,272	3,362	3,331
Nonagricultural industries	85,645	89,292	89,710	85,184	87,519	87,880	87,958	88,818	89,258
Unemployed	7,022	6,346	5,880	7,519	6,926	6,773	6,872	6,818	6,337
Unemployment rate	7.4	6.4	6.0	7.8	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.4
Not in labor force	59,514	58,570	59,105	59,071	59,064	59,114	59,099	58,391	58,682
Men, 20 years and over									
Total noninstitutional population ¹	66,835	67,948	68,052	66,835	67,642	67,745	67,852	67,948	68,052
Civilian noninstitutional population ¹	65,140	66,257	66,364	65,140	65,947	66,056	66,161	66,257	66,364
Civilian labor force	51,855	52,890	52,921	52,078	52,588	52,457	52,844	53,033	53,142
Participation rate	79.6	79.8	79.7	79.9	79.7	79.4	79.9	80.0	80.1
Employed	48,727	50,578	50,514	48,859	49,854	49,884	50,043	50,421	50,666
Employment-population ratio ²	72.9	74.4	74.2	73.1	73.7	73.6	73.8	74.2	74.5
Agriculture	2,125	2,283	2,192	2,273	2,355	2,343	2,338	2,318	2,344
Nonagricultural industries	46,603	48,295	48,322	46,586	47,499	47,541	47,705	48,103	48,322
Unemployed	3,128	2,312	2,407	3,219	2,734	2,573	2,801	2,612	2,476
Unemployment rate	6.0	4.4	4.5	6.2	5.2	4.9	5.3	4.9	4.7
Not in labor force	13,285	13,367	13,443	13,062	13,359	13,599	13,317	13,224	13,222
Women, 20 years and over									
Total noninstitutional population ¹	73,535	74,768	74,883	73,535	74,429	74,543	74,660	74,768	74,883
Civilian noninstitutional population ¹	73,445	74,669	74,783	73,445	74,332	74,444	74,561	74,669	74,783
Civilian labor force	35,168	36,896	36,708	34,938	35,723	36,201	35,931	36,505	36,435
Participation rate	47.9	49.4	49.1	47.6	48.1	48.6	48.2	48.9	48.7
Employed	32,831	34,405	34,530	32,340	33,172	33,672	33,474	33,921	34,011
Employment-population ratio ²	44.6	46.0	46.1	44.0	44.6	45.2	44.8	45.4	45.4
Agriculture	452	548	436	573	515	492	541	597	553
Nonagricultural industries	32,379	33,857	34,094	31,767	32,657	33,180	32,933	33,324	33,458
Unemployed	2,337	2,491	2,179	2,598	2,551	2,529	2,457	2,584	2,424
Unemployment rate	6.6	6.8	5.9	7.4	7.1	7.0	6.8	7.1	6.7
Not in labor force	38,276	37,772	38,075	38,507	38,609	38,242	38,630	38,164	38,348
Both sexes, 16-19 years									
Total noninstitutional population ¹	16,806	16,806	16,802	16,806	16,828	16,825	16,822	16,806	16,802
Civilian noninstitutional population ¹	16,446	16,463	16,460	16,446	16,483	16,483	16,480	16,463	16,460
Civilian labor force	8,493	9,033	8,873	8,944	9,386	9,210	9,327	9,460	9,349
Participation rate	51.6	54.9	53.9	54.4	56.9	55.9	56.6	57.5	56.8
Employed	6,935	7,490	7,580	7,242	7,745	7,539	7,713	7,838	7,912
Employment-population ratio ²	41.3	44.6	45.1	43.1	46.0	44.8	45.9	46.6	47.1
Agriculture	273	350	286	411	382	380	393	447	434
Nonagricultural industries	6,663	7,140	7,293	6,831	7,363	7,159	7,320	7,391	7,478
Unemployed	1,558	1,543	1,294	1,702	1,641	1,671	1,614	1,622	1,437
Unemployment rate	18.3	17.1	14.6	19.0	17.5	18.1	17.3	17.1	15.4
Not in labor force	7,953	7,431	7,587	7,502	7,097	7,273	7,153	7,003	7,111
WHITE									
Total noninstitutional population ¹	138,253	140,095	140,264	138,253	139,620	139,789	139,962	140,095	140,264
Civilian noninstitutional population ¹	136,475	138,351	138,523	136,475	137,865	138,046	138,218	138,351	138,523
Civilian labor force	84,521	87,287	86,879	84,854	86,285	86,471	86,861	87,442	87,214
Participation rate	61.9	63.1	62.7	62.2	62.6	62.6	62.8	63.2	63.0
Employed	78,889	82,451	82,375	78,828	81,010	81,214	81,540	82,216	82,353
Employment-population ratio ²	57.1	58.9	58.7	57.0	58.0	58.1	58.3	58.7	58.7
Unemployed	5,632	4,836	4,505	6,026	5,275	5,257	5,321	5,226	4,861
Unemployment rate	6.7	5.5	5.2	7.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.6
Not in labor force	51,955	51,064	51,644	51,621	51,580	51,575	51,357	50,909	51,309
BLACK AND OTHER									
Total noninstitutional population ¹	18,923	19,427	19,473	18,923	19,279	19,325	19,372	19,427	19,473
Civilian noninstitutional population ¹	18,555	19,038	19,084	18,555	18,826	18,936	18,983	19,038	19,084
Civilian labor force	10,996	11,532	11,624	11,109	11,402	11,359	11,375	11,575	11,741
Participation rate	59.3	60.6	60.9	59.9	60.3	60.0	59.9	60.8	61.5
Employed	9,605	10,022	10,249	9,623	9,744	9,868	9,799	9,976	10,269
Employment-population ratio ²	50.8	51.6	52.6	50.9	50.5	51.1	50.6	51.4	52.7
Unemployed	1,390	1,510	1,375	1,486	1,658	1,491	1,576	1,599	1,472
Unemployment rate	12.6	13.1	11.8	13.4	14.5	13.1	13.9	13.8	12.5
Not in labor force	7,559	7,506	7,460	7,446	7,494	7,577	7,608	7,463	7,343

¹ The population and Armed Forces figures are not adjusted for seasonal variations; therefore, identical numbers appear in the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted columns. ² Civilian employment as a percent of the total noninstitutional population (including Armed Forces).

NOTE: Household data for December 1977 relate to the week of Dec. 4-10 (week of the 5th) rather than the usual week containing the 12th day.

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Table A-2. Major unemployment indicators, seasonally adjusted

Selected categories	Number of unemployed persons (In thousands)		Unemployment rates					
	Dec. 1976	Dec. 1977	Dec. 1976	Aug. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977
CHARACTERISTICS								
Total, 16 years and over	7,519	6,337	7.8	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.4
Men, 20 years and over	3,219	2,476	6.2	5.2	4.9	5.3	4.9	4.7
Women, 20 years and over	2,598	2,424	7.4	7.1	7.0	6.8	7.1	6.7
Both sexes, 16-19 years	1,702	1,437	19.0	17.5	18.1	17.3	17.1	15.4
White, total	6,026	4,861	7.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.6
Men, 20 years and over	2,580	1,952	5.5	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.1
Women, 20 years and over	2,068	1,863	6.8	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	5.9
Both sexes, 16-19 years	1,378	1,046	17.2	14.7	15.9	14.8	14.5	12.6
Black and other, total	1,486	1,472	13.4	14.5	13.1	13.9	13.8	12.5
Men, 20 years and over	619	510	11.3	11.7	10.4	11.7	10.3	9.1
Women, 20 years and over	541	567	11.5	12.2	11.3	11.4	12.5	11.2
Both sexes, 16-19 years	326	395	34.8	40.4	37.4	37.9	39.0	37.3
Married men, spouse present	1,719	1,305	4.3	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.3
Married women, spouse present	1,547	1,405	7.0	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.6	6.2
Women who head families	449	374	10.2	10.5	10.4	9.6	9.3	8.0
Full-time workers	6,125	4,995	7.5	6.8	6.5	6.6	6.4	5.9
Part-time workers	1,366	1,313	9.8	8.9	9.5	9.7	9.6	8.9
Unemployed 15 weeks and over ¹	2,514	1,838	2.6	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9
Labor force time lost ²	—	—	8.4	7.7	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.1
OCCUPATION³								
White-collar workers	2,083	1,883	4.5	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.3	3.9
Professional and technical	459	396	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.7
Managers and administrators, except farm	303	253	3.1	2.5	2.5	2.6	3.0	2.5
Sales workers	307	282	5.0	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.6
Clerical workers	1,014	952	6.1	5.8	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.4
Blue-collar workers	3,110	2,420	9.6	8.4	7.9	8.3	7.9	7.3
Craft and kindred workers	854	680	7.0	5.5	5.2	5.5	5.3	5.3
Operatives, except transport	1,269	964	11.0	10.0	10.2	10.2	9.7	8.5
Transport equipment operatives	288	220	8.1	7.6	5.7	6.5	5.4	5.9
Nonfarm laborers	699	556	13.9	12.6	11.1	12.2	12.3	10.6
Service workers	1,181	1,088	9.0	8.4	7.8	8.3	7.8	8.0
Farm workers	181	120	6.1	3.7	4.7	4.3	4.1	4.1
INDUSTRY³								
Nonagricultural private wage and salary workers ⁴	5,519	4,522	7.9	7.0	6.9	7.1	6.9	6.3
Construction	638	485	14.1	11.5	10.4	12.2	11.3	10.5
Manufacturing	1,757	1,265	8.2	7.0	7.2	7.0	6.8	5.8
Durable goods	1,013	726	8.0	6.5	6.6	6.3	6.3	5.7
Nondurable goods	744	539	8.6	7.7	8.2	8.1	7.5	6.0
Transportation and public utilities	253	250	5.2	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.7	5.0
Wholesale and retail trade	1,456	1,324	8.2	8.3	7.6	8.1	7.5	7.2
Finance and service industries	1,371	1,167	6.8	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.1	5.5
Government workers	687	702	4.4	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.4	4.4
Agricultural wage and salary workers	224	156	14.0	9.3	10.4	10.4	9.1	10.2
VETERAN STATUS								
Male Vietnam-era veterans: ⁵								
20 to 34 years	538	363	8.3	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.2	5.7
20 to 24 years	161	89	16.8	17.4	20.1	16.0	14.7	11.9
25 to 29 years	261	161	8.7	6.3	6.1	6.9	6.8	6.5
30 to 34 years	116	113	4.7	6.0	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.7
Male nonveterans:								
20 to 34 years	1,421	1,184	9.1	7.9	7.0	7.5	7.0	7.2
20 to 24 years	865	718	12.4	10.5	9.1	9.4	9.6	9.2
25 to 29 years	353	280	7.2	6.6	5.9	6.8	5.6	5.1
30 to 34 years	203	186	5.4	4.9	4.8	5.2	4.4	4.9

¹ Unemployment rate calculated as a percent of civilian labor force.² Aggregate hours lost by the unemployed and persons on part time for economic reasons as a percent of potentially available labor force hours.³ Unemployment by occupation includes all experienced unemployed persons, whereas that

by industry covers only unemployed wage and salary workers.

⁴ Includes mining, not shown separately.⁵ Vietnam-era veterans are those who served between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975.

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Table A-3. Selected employment indicators

[In thousands]

Selected categories	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Dec. 1976	Dec. 1977	Dec. 1976	Aug. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977
CHARACTERISTICS								
Total employed, 16 years and over	88,494	92,623	88,441	90,771	91,095	91,230	92,180	92,589
Men	52,369	54,524	52,799	53,958	53,966	54,266	54,715	54,996
Women	36,125	38,099	35,642	36,813	37,129	36,964	37,465	37,593
Married men, spouse present	38,055	38,655	37,998	38,316	38,358	38,386	38,485	38,616
Married women, spouse present	20,996	21,892	20,498	20,814	21,232	21,097	21,265	21,379
OCCUPATION								
White-collar workers	45,212	46,981	44,648	45,114	45,437	46,147	46,232	46,386
Professional and technical	13,705	14,179	13,544	13,720	13,777	14,054	13,918	14,011
Managers and administrators, except farm	9,580	9,982	9,564	9,688	9,777	9,951	9,916	9,962
Sales workers	5,956	6,039	5,815	5,722	5,748	5,687	5,780	5,897
Clerical workers	15,970	16,780	15,725	15,984	16,135	16,455	16,618	16,516
Blue-collar workers	28,933	30,600	29,150	30,231	30,282	30,084	30,370	30,842
Craft and kindred workers	11,291	12,208	11,302	11,931	11,974	11,827	12,040	12,220
Operatives, except transport	10,245	10,441	10,231	10,242	10,211	10,204	10,352	10,431
Transport equipment operatives	3,309	3,539	3,283	3,462	3,541	3,430	3,493	3,511
Nonfarm laborers	4,088	4,413	4,334	4,596	4,556	4,623	4,485	4,680
Service workers	11,935	12,616	11,880	12,591	12,604	12,420	12,592	12,558
Farm workers	2,415	2,426	2,791	2,778	2,676	2,783	2,795	2,798
MAJOR INDUSTRY AND CLASS OF WORKER								
Agriculture:								
Wage and salary workers	1,150	1,147	1,380	1,331	1,350	1,402	1,401	1,377
Self-employed workers	1,456	1,516	1,530	1,604	1,566	1,584	1,607	1,592
Unpaid family workers	244	250	340	315	275	303	361	348
Nonagricultural industries:								
Wage and salary workers	79,420	83,109	78,957	80,951	81,341	81,651	82,269	82,642
Government	15,131	15,592	14,967	15,282	15,296	15,494	15,422	15,422
Private industries	64,289	67,517	63,990	65,669	66,045	66,157	66,847	67,220
Private households	1,383	1,454	1,384	1,401	1,409	1,352	1,415	1,455
Other industries	62,906	66,063	62,606	64,268	64,636	64,805	65,432	65,765
Self-employed workers	5,779	6,178	5,798	6,151	6,072	6,039	6,074	6,197
Unpaid family workers	446	424	460	469	504	448	471	438
PERSONS AT WORK ¹								
Nonagricultural industries	82,583	86,112	80,369	82,613	82,799	82,626	83,378	83,753
Full-time schedules	67,297	70,212	65,846	67,755	67,706	67,646	68,212	68,701
Part time for economic reasons	3,164	3,008	3,454	3,199	3,315	3,298	3,366	3,278
Usually work full time	1,210	1,214	1,234	1,196	1,246	1,251	1,266	1,239
Usually work part time	1,954	1,794	2,220	2,003	2,069	2,047	2,100	2,039
Part time for noneconomic reasons	12,122	12,892	11,069	11,659	11,778	11,682	11,800	11,774

¹ Excludes persons "with a job but not at work" during the survey period for such reasons as vacation, illness, or industrial disputes.

Table A-4. Duration of unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Weeks of unemployment	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Dec. 1976	Dec. 1977	Dec. 1976	Aug. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977
DURATION								
Less than 5 weeks	2,563	2,361	2,765	2,870	2,789	2,890	2,844	2,547
5 to 14 weeks	3,314	1,951	2,319	2,338	2,236	2,208	2,115	1,955
15 weeks and over	2,145	1,568	2,514	1,808	1,866	1,862	1,933	1,838
15 to 26 weeks	935	791	1,130	966	940	916	1,003	950
27 weeks and over	1,210	777	1,384	842	926	946	930	888
Average (mean) duration, in weeks	15.6	14.1	15.6	13.5	14.2	13.8	13.8	14.1
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Less than 5 weeks	36.5	40.2	36.4	40.9	40.5	41.5	41.3	40.2
5 to 14 weeks	33.0	33.2	30.5	33.3	32.4	31.7	30.7	30.8
15 weeks and over	30.5	26.7	33.1	25.8	27.1	26.8	28.0	29.0
15 to 26 weeks	13.3	13.5	14.9	13.8	13.6	13.2	14.6	15.0
27 weeks and over	17.2	13.2	18.2	12.0	13.4	13.6	13.5	14.0

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Table A-5. Reasons for unemployment

[Numbers in thousands]

Reasons	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	Dec. 1976	Dec. 1977	Dec. 1976	Aug. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977
NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED								
Lost last job	3,730	2,749	3,736	3,289	3,144	3,139	3,088	2,755
On layoff	1,114	737	1,057	1,018	928	947	812	699
Other job losers	2,616	2,012	2,679	2,271	2,216	2,192	2,276	2,056
Left last job	789	809	831	910	873	886	872	852
Reentered labor force	1,691	1,642	1,957	1,857	1,856	1,915	1,937	1,900
Seeking first job	812	679	942	1,000	935	840	907	809
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION								
Total unemployed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Job losers	53.2	46.7	50.0	46.6	46.2	46.3	45.4	43.6
On layoff	15.9	12.5	14.2	14.4	13.6	14.0	11.9	11.1
Other job losers	37.3	34.2	35.9	32.2	32.5	32.3	33.5	32.6
Job leavers	11.2	13.8	11.1	12.9	12.8	13.1	12.8	13.5
Reentrants	24.1	27.9	26.2	26.3	27.3	28.2	28.5	30.1
New entrants	11.6	11.5	12.6	14.2	13.7	12.4	13.3	12.8
UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENT OF THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE								
Job losers	3.9	2.7	3.9	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.1	2.8
Job leavers8	.8	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9
Reentrants	1.8	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9
New entrants9	.7	1.0	1.0	1.0	.9	.9	.8

Table A-5. Unemployment by sex and age, seasonally adjusted

Sex and age	Number of unemployed persons (In thousands)		Unemployment rates					
	Dec. 1976	Dec. 1977	Dec. 1976	Aug. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov. 1977	Dec. 1977
Total, 16 years and over	7,519	6,337	7.8	7.1	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.4
16 to 19 years	1,702	1,437	19.0	17.5	18.1	17.3	17.1	15.4
16 to 17 years	760	685	20.7	20.7	19.8	18.8	18.9	17.4
18 to 19 years	930	742	17.7	15.6	16.9	16.3	16.0	13.7
20 to 24 years	1,779	1,537	12.5	11.1	10.7	10.6	10.8	10.5
25 years and over	4,027	3,356	5.5	5.0	4.8	5.0	4.8	4.5
25 to 54 years	3,449	2,800	5.9	5.3	4.9	5.2	4.9	4.6
55 years and over	608	585	4.2	3.9	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.0
Men, 16 years and over	4,152	3,246	7.3	6.3	6.0	6.3	5.9	5.6
16 to 19 years	933	770	19.1	17.6	17.5	16.7	16.5	15.1
16 to 17 years	432	358	21.0	21.7	19.2	18.8	18.2	16.2
18 to 19 years	487	400	17.4	14.8	16.0	15.1	15.3	13.9
20 to 24 years	1,022	801	12.9	11.3	10.5	10.2	10.1	10.1
25 years and over	2,194	1,675	5.0	4.2	3.9	4.4	4.0	3.7
25 to 54 years	1,853	1,343	5.2	4.4	3.8	4.5	4.0	3.7
55 years and over	349	338	3.9	3.5	3.9	4.1	3.7	3.7
Women, 16 years and over	3,367	3,091	8.6	8.3	8.2	8.0	8.2	7.6
16 to 19 years	769	667	18.9	17.4	18.9	18.0	17.9	15.7
16 to 17 years	328	327	20.2	19.4	20.5	18.7	19.7	18.9
18 to 19 years	443	342	18.0	16.4	17.9	17.6	16.8	13.5
20 to 24 years	757	736	11.9	10.8	10.9	11.2	11.7	11.0
25 years and over	1,833	1,681	6.4	6.2	6.1	5.9	6.1	5.7
25 to 54 years	1,596	1,457	6.9	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.0
55 years and over	259	247	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.4	5.0	4.4

Table A-7. Range of unemployment measures based on varying definitions of unemployment and the labor force, seasonally adjusted

[Percent]

Measures	Quarterly averages					Monthly data		
	1976	1977				1977		
	IV	I	II	III	IV	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
U-1—Persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer as a percent of the civilian labor force	2.6	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.9
U-2—Job losers as a percent of the civilian labor force	3.9	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.2	3.1	2.8
U-3—Unemployed household heads as a percent of the household head labor force	5.3	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.6	4.3	4.0
U-4—Unemployed full-time jobseekers as a percent of the full-time labor force	7.5	6.8	6.5	6.6	6.3	6.6	6.4	5.9
U-5—Total unemployed as a percent of the civilian labor force (official measure)	7.9	7.4	7.0	7.0	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.4
U-6—Total full-time jobseekers plus ½ part-time jobseekers plus ½ total on part time for economic reasons as a percent of the civilian labor force less ½ of the part-time labor force	9.7	9.0	8.6	8.6	8.4	8.7	8.5	8.0
U-7—Total full-time jobseekers plus ½ part-time jobseekers plus ½ total on part time for economic reasons plus discouraged workers as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers less ½ of the part-time labor force	10.7	9.9	9.7	9.7	9.3	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

N.A. = Not available.

Table A-8. Persons not in the labor force by selected characteristics, quarterly averages

[In thousands]

Characteristics	Not seasonally adjusted		Seasonally adjusted					
	IV	IV	1976		1977			
	1976	1977	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Total not in labor force	59,264	58,808	58,963	59,132	59,379	58,908	59,141	58,724
Do not want a job now	54,058	53,493	54,715	53,991	53,792	53,190	53,429	53,374
Want a job now	5,206	5,314	4,339	5,436	5,663	5,762	5,909	5,565
Discouraged workers	962	934	827	992	929	1,061	1,104	968
Job-market factors ¹	700	605	568	762	644	726	746	665
Personal factors ²	263	329	259	230	285	335	358	303
Men	314	279	281	341	283	316	381	307
Women	648	655	546	651	647	745	723	661
White	713	686	601	755	665	741	746	733
Black and other	249	249	226	250	280	287	356	250

¹ Job market factors include "could not find job" and "thinks no job available."

² Personal factors include "employers think too young or old," "lacks education or training," and "other personal handicap."

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

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Table B-1. Employees on nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

[In thousands]

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	DEC. 1976	OCT. 1977	NOV. 1977 ^p	DEC. 1977 ^p	DEC. 1976	AUG. 1977	SEPT. 1977	OCT. 1977	NOV. 1977 ^p	DEC. 1977 ^p
TOTAL	81,099	83,672	84,070	84,186	80,370	82,474	82,763	82,902	83,222	83,439
GOODS-PRODUCING	23,480	24,907	24,839	24,500	23,528	24,305	24,360	24,436	24,520	24,553
MINING	805	863	865	709	809	818	856	859	863	713
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	3,547	4,161	4,092	3,901	3,605	3,893	3,892	3,911	3,946	3,964
MANUFACTURING	19,128	19,883	19,882	19,890	19,114	19,594	19,612	19,666	19,717	19,876
<i>Production workers</i>	13,730	14,343	14,345	14,329	13,719	14,078	14,091	14,132	14,190	14,314
DURABLE GOODS	11,189	11,693	11,721	11,769	11,165	11,527	11,545	11,604	11,627	11,746
<i>Production workers</i>	7,989	8,400	8,432	8,462	7,967	8,252	8,266	8,313	8,339	8,436
Ordnance and accessories	157.1	149.9	151.2	153.3	156	156	155	150	152	153
Lumber and wood products	614.2	662.2	659.0	651.7	625	642	646	653	663	663
Furniture and fixtures	495.9	524.8	527.8	530.6	494	508	510	517	521	529
Stone, clay, and glass products	623.7	669.3	672.1	662.4	630	656	658	657	667	669
Primary metal industries	1,182.3	1,206.8	1,200.9	1,209.3	1,185	1,202	1,211	1,208	1,207	1,212
Fabricated metal products	1,409.4	1,490.7	1,495.0	1,499.0	1,405	1,460	1,456	1,473	1,480	1,495
Machinery, except electrical	2,122.1	2,225.1	2,245.1	2,267.7	2,107	2,210	2,217	2,243	2,236	2,252
Electrical equipment	1,876.2	1,981.0	1,996.5	2,006.8	1,863	1,951	1,944	1,961	1,975	1,993
Transportation equipment	1,778.6	1,820.6	1,812.6	1,835.1	1,765	1,802	1,809	1,801	1,781	1,821
Instruments and related products	518.7	532.2	534.7	536.6	517	526	528	530	532	535
Miscellaneous manufacturing	410.6	430.1	426.4	416.2	418	414	409	411	413	424
NONDURABLE GOODS	7,939	8,190	8,161	8,121	7,949	8,067	8,067	8,062	8,090	8,130
<i>Production workers</i>	5,741	5,943	5,913	5,867	5,752	5,826	5,825	5,819	5,851	5,878
Food and kindred products	1,694.3	1,763.4	1,720.8	1,690.6	1,711	1,710	1,711	1,696	1,700	1,708
Tobacco manufacturers	79.4	75.0	72.9	71.4	75	68	67	67	67	67
Textile mill products	962.8	991.2	996.0	995.3	961	982	985	937	993	993
Apparel and other textile products	1,266.9	1,305.5	1,308.0	1,289.4	1,273	1,286	1,285	1,285	1,292	1,296
Paper and allied products	683.9	706.3	708.0	711.4	682	704	702	702	702	709
Printing and publishing	1,097.3	1,120.0	1,123.6	1,133.7	1,089	1,114	1,116	1,117	1,119	1,125
Chemicals and allied products	1,038.5	1,061.9	1,062.4	1,061.6	1,042	1,061	1,058	1,058	1,060	1,065
Petroleum and coal products	202.5	213.2	212.5	211.8	204	210	210	211	212	213
Rubber and plastics products, nec	650.0	688.2	690.4	692.4	648	671	671	673	680	690
Leather and leather products	263.3	265.6	266.2	263.6	264	261	262	266	265	264
SERVICE-PRODUCING	57,619	58,765	59,231	59,686	56,842	58,169	58,403	58,466	58,696	58,886
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	4,553	4,638	4,653	4,665	4,549	4,581	4,616	4,610	4,630	4,660
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	18,559	18,533	18,770	19,165	17,925	18,377	18,431	18,414	18,466	18,511
WHOLESALE TRADE	4,326	4,450	4,470	4,478	4,305	4,398	4,410	4,415	4,439	4,456
RETAIL TRADE	14,233	14,083	14,300	14,687	13,620	13,979	14,021	13,999	14,047	14,055
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	4,385	4,567	4,586	4,604	4,398	4,524	4,545	4,572	4,600	4,618
SERVICES	14,861	15,580	15,601	15,598	14,936	15,448	15,482	15,533	15,601	15,676
GOVERNMENT	15,261	15,447	15,621	15,654	5,034	15,239	15,329	15,337	15,379	15,421
FEDERAL	2,725	2,714	2,716	2,726	2,720	2,732	2,728	2,730	2,727	2,722
STATE AND LOCAL	12,536	12,733	12,905	12,928	12,314	12,507	12,601	12,607	12,652	12,699

^ppreliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-2. Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers, on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Not seasonally adjusted				Seasonally adjusted					
	DEC. 1976	OCT. 1977	NOV. 1977 ^p	DEC. 1977 ^p	DEC. 1976	AUG. 1977	SEPT. 1977	OCT. 1977	NOV. 1977 ^p	DEC. 1977 ^p
TOTAL PRIVATE	36.4	36.2	36.0	36.2	36.2	36.0	36.0	36.2	36.1	36.0
MINING	43.7	45.1	44.9	43.3	43.6	44.2	44.3	44.6	44.6	43.2
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	36.8	37.6	36.4	36.1	37.2	36.5	36.4	36.8	36.9	36.5
MANUFACTURING	40.6	40.5	40.6	40.9	40.0	40.3	40.3	40.4	40.5	40.3
<i>Overtime hours</i>	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.4
DURABLE GOODS	41.3	41.2	41.3	41.7	40.5	40.9	41.0	41.2	41.1	40.9
<i>Overtime hours</i>	3.5	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.6
Ordnance and accessories	41.6	40.7	40.4	41.5	40.9	40.2	40.6	40.8	40.2	40.8
Lumber and wood products	40.4	40.4	40.1	40.0	40.3	39.6	40.0	40.1	40.5	39.9
Furniture and fixtures	39.3	39.9	39.7	40.3	38.5	39.0	39.2	39.5	39.5	39.5
Stone, clay, and glass products	41.3	41.6	41.8	41.5	41.2	41.4	41.0	41.1	41.7	41.4
Primary metal industries	40.5	41.1	41.2	41.6	40.2	41.0	40.9	41.3	41.3	41.3
Fabricated metal products	41.2	41.2	41.3	41.7	40.5	40.9	40.9	41.1	41.1	41.0
Machinery, except electrical	42.3	42.0	42.2	42.9	41.2	41.8	41.8	42.0	41.9	41.8
Electrical equipment	40.9	40.4	40.6	41.2	40.2	40.3	40.3	40.3	40.2	40.5
Transportation equipment	42.6	42.7	42.5	42.9	41.2	42.3	42.6	42.7	42.5	41.5
Instruments and related products	41.4	40.6	40.8	40.8	40.6	40.3	40.3	40.6	40.4	40.0
Miscellaneous manufacturing	39.3	39.3	39.6	39.6	38.9	38.8	39.0	39.1	39.2	39.2
NONDURABLE GOODS	39.7	39.5	39.7	39.8	39.3	39.3	39.3	39.4	39.5	39.4
<i>Overtime hours</i>	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2
Food and kindred products	40.5	39.6	39.9	39.9	40.1	39.7	39.5	39.5	39.8	39.5
Tobacco manufacturers	38.3	39.5	40.0	38.4	37.5	37.8	38.6	38.2	38.7	37.6
Textile mill products	40.4	40.5	40.8	41.0	40.1	40.2	40.3	40.5	40.6	40.7
Apparel and other textile products	35.3	35.9	36.0	35.9	35.2	35.5	35.3	35.6	35.7	35.8
Paper and allied products	43.1	42.9	42.9	43.7	42.5	42.4	42.7	42.8	42.7	43.1
Printing and publishing	38.3	38.0	38.1	38.4	37.7	37.7	38.0	37.9	37.9	37.8
Chemicals and allied products	42.1	41.6	41.8	41.8	41.7	41.8	41.7	41.6	41.7	41.4
Petroleum and coal products	42.4	43.6	43.6	43.6	42.4	43.0	42.8	43.2	43.3	43.6
Rubber and plastics products, nec	41.9	41.0	41.1	41.3	41.4	40.8	40.7	40.9	40.9	40.8
Leather and leather products	36.8	37.6	37.8	37.6	36.4	37.3	37.6	37.7	37.7	37.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	40.5	39.9	39.9	40.1	40.4	40.0	39.9	39.7	39.9	40.0
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	33.9	33.3	33.0	33.5	33.6	33.2	33.2	33.5	33.3	33.2
WHOLESALE TRADE	39.0	39.1	39.0	39.2	38.6	38.8	38.8	39.1	39.0	38.8
RETAIL TRADE	32.5	31.6	31.3	31.9	32.2	31.6	31.6	31.9	31.6	31.6
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	36.7	36.7	36.6	36.5	36.7	36.7	36.6	36.7	36.7	36.5
SERVICES	33.4	33.4	33.2	33.2	33.5	33.2	33.2	33.5	33.3	33.3

¹ Data relate to production workers in mining and manufacturing; to construction workers in contract construction; and to nonsupervisory workers in transportation and public utilities; wholesale and retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and services. These groups account for approximately four-fifths of the total employment on private nonagricultural payrolls.
p=preliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-3. Average hourly and weekly earnings of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry

Industry	Average hourly earnings				Average weekly earnings			
	DEC. 1976	OCT. 1977	NOV. 1977 ^p	DEC. 1977 ^p	DEC. 1976	OCT. 1977	NOV. 1977 ^p	DEC. 1977 ^p
TOTAL PRIVATE	\$5.02	\$5.40	\$5.41	\$5.41	\$182.73	\$195.48	\$194.76	\$195.84
<i>Seasonally adjusted</i>	5.02	5.38	5.39	5.41	181.72	194.76	194.58	194.70
MINING	6.71	7.08	7.11	6.61	293.23	319.31	319.24	286.21
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	7.98	8.25	8.22	8.23	289.98	310.20	299.21	297.10
MANUFACTURING	5.42	5.78	5.81	5.87	220.05	234.09	235.89	240.08
DURABLE GOODS	5.78	6.19	6.21	6.27	238.71	255.03	256.47	261.46
Ordnance and accessories	6.05	6.36	6.44	6.46	251.68	258.85	260.18	268.09
Lumber and wood products	4.88	5.23	5.22	5.20	197.15	211.29	209.32	208.00
Furniture and fixtures	4.13	4.39	4.43	4.49	162.31	175.16	175.87	180.95
Stone, clay, and glass products	5.47	5.91	5.93	5.93	225.91	245.86	247.87	246.10
Primary metal industries	7.00	7.72	7.77	7.79	283.50	317.29	320.12	324.06
Fabricated metal products	5.62	6.00	6.03	6.02	231.54	247.20	249.04	251.03
Machinery, except electrical	5.99	6.39	6.41	6.52	253.38	268.38	270.50	279.71
Electrical equipment	5.15	5.47	5.51	5.58	210.64	220.99	223.71	229.90
Transportation equipment	6.94	7.43	7.46	7.54	295.64	317.26	317.05	323.47
Instruments and related products	5.09	5.28	5.33	5.41	210.73	214.37	217.46	220.73
Miscellaneous manufacturing	4.18	4.39	4.43	4.48	164.27	172.53	175.43	177.41
NONDURABLE GOODS	4.90	5.17	5.21	5.25	194.53	204.22	206.84	208.95
Food and kindred products	5.16	5.42	5.50	5.54	208.98	214.63	219.45	221.05
Tobacco manufacturers	5.04	5.31	5.58	5.76	193.03	209.75	223.20	221.18
Textile mill products	3.83	4.08	4.10	4.10	154.73	165.24	167.28	168.10
Apparel and other textile products	3.52	3.69	3.71	3.74	124.26	132.47	133.56	134.27
Paper and allied products	5.66	6.10	6.13	6.19	243.95	261.69	262.98	270.50
Printing and publishing	5.86	6.23	6.25	6.27	224.44	236.74	238.13	240.77
Chemicals and allied products	6.14	6.56	6.59	6.65	258.49	272.90	275.46	277.97
Petroleum and coal products	7.29	7.81	7.81	7.84	309.10	340.52	340.52	341.82
Rubber and plastics products, nec	5.01	5.19	5.21	5.25	209.92	212.79	214.13	216.83
Leather and leather products	3.53	3.68	3.70	3.71	129.90	138.37	139.86	139.50
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.65	7.17	7.20	7.23	269.33	286.08	287.28	289.92
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	4.07	4.38	4.38	4.38	137.97	145.85	144.54	146.73
WHOLESALE TRADE	5.34	5.69	5.69	5.75	208.26	222.48	221.91	225.40
RETAIL TRADE	3.65	3.90	3.91	3.92	118.63	123.24	122.38	125.05
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	4.43	4.72	4.71	4.75	162.58	173.22	172.39	173.38
SERVICES	4.52	4.85	4.86	4.89	150.97	161.99	161.35	162.35

¹ See footnote 1, table B-2.
p=preliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

Table B-4. Hourly earnings index for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry division, seasonally adjusted

[1967=100]

Industry	DEC. 1976	JULY 1977	AUG. 1977	SEPT. 1977	OCT. 1977	NOV. P 1977	DEC. P 1977	Percent change from	
								DEC. 1976-DEC. 1977	NOV. 1977-DEC. 1977
TOTAL PRIVATE NONFARM:									
Current dollars	190.7	199.4	199.9	201.2	203.3	204.0	204.8	7.4	0.4
Current (1967) dollars	109.4	109.2	109.1	109.5	110.3	110.1	N.A.	(2)	(3)
MINING	207.0	217.1	217.4	218.8	221.7	221.1	216.1	4.4	-2.3
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	189.8	195.1	195.8	196.2	197.8	198.1	198.4	4.5	.2
MANUFACTURING	191.0	200.3	201.2	202.7	204.2	205.4	205.7	7.7	1.0
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	203.5	214.3	212.3	215.0	217.8	218.9	221.2	8.7	1.0
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	184.7	193.1	193.3	194.4	196.2	196.8	198.5	7.4	.8
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	173.1	180.3	180.6	181.8	185.2	185.4	185.8	7.3	.2
SERVICES	194.4	203.5	204.8	205.4	208.6	208.5	209.3	7.7	.4

¹ See footnote 1, table B-2.

² PERCENT CHANGE WAS .7 FROM NOVEMBER 1976 TO NOVEMBER 1977, THE LATEST MONTH AVAILABLE.

³ PERCENT CHANGE WAS -.1 FROM OCTOBER 1977 TO NOVEMBER 1977, THE LATEST MONTH AVAILABLE.

N.A. = not available.

p=preliminary.

NOTE: All series are in current dollars except where indicated. The index excludes effects of two types of changes that are unrelated to underlying wage-rate developments: Fluctuations in overtime premiums in manufacturing (the only sector for which overtime data are available) and the effects of changes in the proportion of workers in high-wage and low-wage industries.

Table B-5. Indexes of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers, on private nonagricultural payrolls, by industry, seasonally adjusted

[1967=100]

Industry division and group	1976	1977											
	DEC.	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV. P	DEC. P
TOTAL PRIVATE	113.3	112.3	114.2	115.0	115.4	115.9	115.8	115.8	115.6	115.9	116.8	117.1	117.0
GOODS-PRODUCING	97.0	95.2	98.6	100.1	100.8	101.4	101.8	101.4	100.6	100.9	101.7	102.4	101.8
MINING	133.7	131.3	134.3	140.6	141.6	140.6	142.3	139.9	134.7	142.5	143.9	144.8	112.2
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	104.0	95.9	105.8	108.7	111.7	112.4	111.8	112.8	110.8	110.4	112.3	113.9	113.2
MANUFACTURING	94.5	93.9	96.1	97.2	97.5	98.1	98.7	98.0	97.6	97.8	98.4	98.9	99.4
DURABLE GOODS	93.7	93.2	95.2	96.8	96.9	97.8	98.7	98.3	98.1	98.4	99.3	99.6	100.3
Ordnance and accessories	39.4	39.1	39.3	39.2	40.1	40.7	41.0	40.5	39.3	39.1	38.2	36.2	38.7
Lumber and wood products	101.9	101.4	103.0	103.6	103.5	104.1	104.0	105.3	104.0	106.0	106.8	110.2	108.4
Furniture and fixtures	103.3	98.7	103.2	105.3	106.1	107.1	107.9	108.4	107.2	108.3	110.6	112.0	113.5
Stone, clay, and glass products	99.3	96.6	97.4	101.7	103.9	104.2	105.4	104.9	104.1	103.3	103.2	106.3	106.1
Primary metal industries	85.4	85.2	85.9	88.6	89.7	90.7	90.9	89.0	88.2	89.0	89.7	89.6	90.3
Fabricated metal products	98.3	97.3	100.3	101.7	101.3	102.8	104.2	103.7	103.3	103.1	105.0	105.8	106.6
Machinery, except electrical	96.0	95.2	97.9	98.7	98.8	100.2	101.6	103.2	103.5	103.6	105.5	104.9	105.3
Electrical equipment and supplies	93.3	91.9	95.6	96.1	96.3	97.2	97.9	98.3	98.3	97.8	98.8	99.5	101.3
Transportation equipment	90.8	93.4	92.9	96.4	94.7	95.3	96.5	94.8	95.4	96.5	96.2	94.5	94.8
Instruments and related products	110.4	108.7	112.7	111.6	111.7	112.3	113.2	111.7	111.3	112.4	113.2	113.0	112.6
Miscellaneous manufacturing industry	93.0	92.5	96.5	95.5	95.0	94.7	94.6	91.4	91.3	90.3	91.1	92.3	95.2
NONDURABLE GOODS	95.7	94.9	97.3	97.7	98.5	98.5	98.7	97.7	96.9	96.9	97.1	97.8	98.1
Food and kindred products	95.8	94.9	97.5	97.8	98.5	97.3	97.3	95.9	94.5	94.1	92.8	94.1	93.7
Tobacco manufacturers	81.6	76.1	82.4	75.1	80.5	78.2	80.2	77.2	71.7	73.2	72.4	72.0	70.0
Textile mill products	96.6	96.7	98.1	99.4	99.6	100.2	99.7	99.9	98.9	99.4	100.2	101.3	101.4
Apparel and other textile products	86.3	84.1	87.9	88.1	87.7	88.6	89.8	87.6	87.8	87.2	87.8	88.8	89.4
Paper and allied products	97.2	96.2	98.2	98.6	100.8	100.4	101.1	100.3	99.4	99.7	100.2	99.9	101.8
Printing and publishing	93.7	93.4	94.6	94.5	95.2	95.1	95.3	95.6	95.1	95.7	95.7	95.9	96.0
Chemicals and allied products	100.1	100.7	101.6	102.2	102.9	103.3	103.8	103.7	103.4	103.0	102.6	103.2	102.8
Petroleum and coal products	114.4	115.0	114.4	118.4	119.6	119.3	121.6	119.9	120.4	120.8	122.8	123.9	125.7
Rubber and plastics products, nec	127.8	128.0	131.8	132.9	134.8	135.3	133.9	132.5	129.7	129.3	130.5	132.2	134.4
Leather and leather products	70.7	69.1	72.1	71.8	73.4	73.3	72.9	69.9	71.8	72.7	73.8	73.5	72.2
SERVICE-PRODUCING	124.7	124.1	125.0	125.3	125.5	125.9	125.6	125.8	126.1	126.4	127.2	127.3	127.6
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	104.9	102.7	104.4	104.1	103.8	104.6	104.1	103.1	103.5	103.9	102.9	104.1	105.4
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	120.3	119.4	120.3	120.7	121.0	121.4	121.2	121.6	121.6	121.8	122.7	122.3	122.2
WHOLESALE TRADE	114.8	115.4	117.1	116.9	117.3	117.3	117.3	117.5	117.5	117.8	118.7	119.1	118.8
RETAIL TRADE	122.3	120.8	121.6	122.1	122.4	123.0	122.7	123.1	123.1	123.3	124.2	123.4	123.4
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	129.6	130.1	130.2	131.0	131.0	131.6	131.7	132.3	132.7	133.2	134.2	135.2	134.9
SERVICES	138.3	138.8	139.3	139.8	140.1	140.3	139.6	140.1	140.6	140.9	142.7	142.6	143.1

¹ See footnote 1, table B-2.

p=preliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

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Table B-6 Indexes of diffusion: Percent of industries in which employment¹ increased

Year and month	Over 1-month span	Over 3-month span	Over 6 month span	Over 12 month span
1975				
January	15.1	12.8	12.8	16.6
February	15.7	12.8	11.9	17.4
March	25.6	18.6	17.7	17.7
April	39.0	32.3	28.2	20.6
May	51.2	43.9	41.6	27.0
June	40.7	52.3	56.7	40.7
July	58.1	57.0	67.2	50.6
August	73.0	76.2	70.1	63.1
September	80.8	81.7	75.3	72.4
October	66.9	74.1	82.3	77.3
November	62.2	72.4	83.4	80.2
December	74.1	74.7	81.7	82.6
1976				
January	78.5	82.0	83.1	86.0
February	77.9	84.3	81.7	84.6
March	74.1	85.2	79.9	81.1
April	79.4	77.9	79.4	74.4
May	66.6	71.5	70.9	79.7
June	54.1	61.0	68.6	79.1
July	57.3	52.9	57.0	74.1
August	47.1	62.5	57.3	74.7
September	69.8	56.7	63.7	78.5
October	42.4	62.8	69.8	76.5
November	69.5	58.7	73.5	75.0
December	73.0	79.9	78.5	74.7
1977				
January	75.0	79.7	89.0	75.9
February	73.5	86.0	86.6	75.6
March	82.3	85.8	83.1	78.2
April	77.6	84.0	80.5	78.2
May	68.6	73.3	71.5	80.4p
June	63.7	70.1	68.0	78.9p
July	65.7	56.1	68.3	
August	50.0	62.5	70.2p	
September	61.3	57.0	74.3p	
October	59.9	71.9p		
November	73.7p	76.0p		
December	77.8p			
1978				
January				
February				
March				
April				
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
October				
November				
December				

¹ Number of employees, seasonally adjusted, on payrolls of 172 private nonagricultural industries.
 p = preliminary.