

Adjustments to Household Survey Population Estimates in January 2009

Household survey data beginning in January 2009 reflect updated population controls. As part of its annual review of intercensal population estimates, the U.S. Census Bureau determined that a downward adjustment should be made to the household survey population controls. This adjustment stems from revised estimates of net international migration and updated vital statistics information. In addition, this year the Census Bureau introduced some methodological changes in the population estimation process. Documentation on the Census Bureau's population estimation methodology is available on their website at <http://www.census.gov/popest/topics/methodology/2008-nat-meth.html>. Questions about population estimation should be directed to the Census Bureau's Population Division at 1-866-758-1060 or by email at pop@census.gov.

The updated controls resulted in a decrease of 483,000 in the estimated size of the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years and over for December 2008. Official population and labor force estimates for December 2008 and earlier months will not be revised.

A comparison of December 2008 data based on the old and new controls shows that the population adjustments caused decreases in the labor force (-449,000), employment (-407,000), unemployment (-42,000), and the labor force participation rate (-0.1). The total unemployment rate, however, was not affected. (See table below.)

Employment status of the population for selected labor force groups, not seasonally adjusted, December 2008 (2009 population adjustment effect)

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, age, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	As published	Based on updated population controls	Difference ¹
TOTAL			
Civilian noninstitutional population	235,035	234,552	-483
Civilian labor force	154,349	153,900	-449
Participation rate	65.7	65.6	-.1
Employed	143,350	142,943	-407
Employment-population ratio	61.0	60.9	.0
Unemployed	10,999	10,957	-42
Unemployment rate	7.1	7.1	.0
Not in labor force	80,686	80,652	-34

See notes at end of table.

**Employment status of the population for selected labor force groups, not seasonally adjusted,
December 2008 (2009 population adjustment effect)—Continued**

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, age, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	As published	Based on updated population controls	Difference ¹
Men, 20 years and over			
Civilian noninstitutional population	105,083	104,806	-277
Civilian labor force	79,071	78,790	-281
Participation rate	75.2	75.2	-.1
Employed	73,088	72,833	-255
Employment-population ratio	69.6	69.5	-.1
Unemployed	5,984	5,957	-27
Unemployment rate	7.6	7.6	.0
Not in labor force	26,012	26,016	4
Women, 20 years and over			
Civilian noninstitutional population	112,825	112,654	-172
Civilian labor force	69,042	68,888	-154
Participation rate	61.2	61.2	.0
Employed	65,204	65,062	-142
Employment-population ratio	57.8	57.8	.0
Unemployed	3,838	3,825	-12
Unemployment rate	5.6	5.6	.0
Not in labor force	43,784	43,766	-18
Both sexes, 16 to 19 years			
Civilian noninstitutional population	17,126	17,092	-34
Civilian labor force	6,235	6,222	-13
Participation rate	36.4	36.4	.0
Employed	5,058	5,048	-10
Employment-population ratio	29.5	29.5	.0
Unemployed	1,177	1,174	-3
Unemployment rate	18.9	18.9	.0
Not in labor force	10,891	10,870	-21
WHITE			
Civilian noninstitutional population	190,351	190,109	-242
Civilian labor force	125,588	125,321	-267
Participation rate	66.0	65.9	-.1
Employed	117,409	117,170	-239
Employment-population ratio	61.7	61.6	.0
Unemployed	8,179	8,150	-28
Unemployment rate	6.5	6.5	.0
Not in labor force	64,763	64,789	25
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN			
Civilian noninstitutional population	28,059	28,016	-43
Civilian labor force	17,720	17,682	-38
Participation rate	63.2	63.1	.0
Employed	15,649	15,616	-33
Employment-population ratio	55.8	55.7	.0
Unemployed	2,071	2,066	-5
Unemployment rate	11.7	11.7	.0
Not in labor force	10,339	10,334	-4

See notes at end of table.

**Employment status of the population for selected labor force groups, not seasonally adjusted,
December 2008 (2009 population adjustment effect)—Continued**

(Numbers in thousands)

Employment status, sex, age, race, and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity	As published	Based on updated population controls	Difference ¹
ASIAN			
Civilian noninstitutional population	10,873	10,703	-170
Civilian labor force	7,223	7,101	-121
Participation rate	66.4	66.3	-.1
Employed	6,857	6,742	-116
Employment-population ratio	63.1	63.0	-.1
Unemployed	365	360	-6
Unemployment rate	5.1	5.1	.0
Not in labor force	3,651	3,602	-49
HISPANIC OR LATINO ETHNICITY			
Civilian noninstitutional population	32,649	32,330	-319
Civilian labor force	22,221	21,957	-264
Participation rate	68.1	67.9	-.1
Employed	20,129	19,891	-238
Employment-population ratio	61.7	61.5	-.1
Unemployed	2,093	2,066	-27
Unemployment rate	9.4	9.4	.0
Not in labor force	10,428	10,373	-55

¹ Differences are calculated from unrounded estimates.

NOTE: Estimates for the above race groups (white, black or African American, and Asian) do not sum to totals because data are not presented for all races. Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race.