

# After the Great Recession: Foreign Born Gain Jobs; Native Born Lose Jobs

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with

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## About this Report

This report analyzes labor market outcomes in recent years by nativity, and for racial and ethnic groups, including Hispanics, whites, blacks and Asians. The primary focus is on the period from the second quarter of 2008 to the second quarter of 2009, when most of the job losses during the Great Recession occurred, and the period from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010, the first year of recovery from the recession. The data for this report are derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of about 55,000 households conducted jointly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Census Bureau.

## A Note on Terminology

The terms “Latino” and “Hispanic” are used interchangeably in this report, as are the terms “foreign born” and “immigrant.”

All references to whites, blacks, Asians and others are to the non-Hispanic components of those populations.

“Foreign born” refers to persons born outside of the United States, Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories to parents neither of whom was a U.S. citizen.

“Native born” refers to persons who are U.S. citizens at birth, including those born in the United States, Puerto Rico or other U.S. territories and those born abroad to parents at least one of whom was a U.S. citizen.

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### Recommended Citation

Kochhar, Rakesh, C. Soledad Espinoza and Rebecca Hinze-Pifer. “After the Great Recession: Foreign Born Gain Jobs; Native Born Lose Jobs,” Pew Hispanic Center, Washington, D.C. (October 29, 2010).

### Acknowledgments

The authors thank Paul Taylor for his editorial and intellectual guidance. Jeffrey Passel revised the sample weights in the source data to account for technical revisions introduced by the Census Bureau. Daniel Dockterman and Gabriel Velasco provided support for the production of the report. Marcia Kramer served as copy editor.

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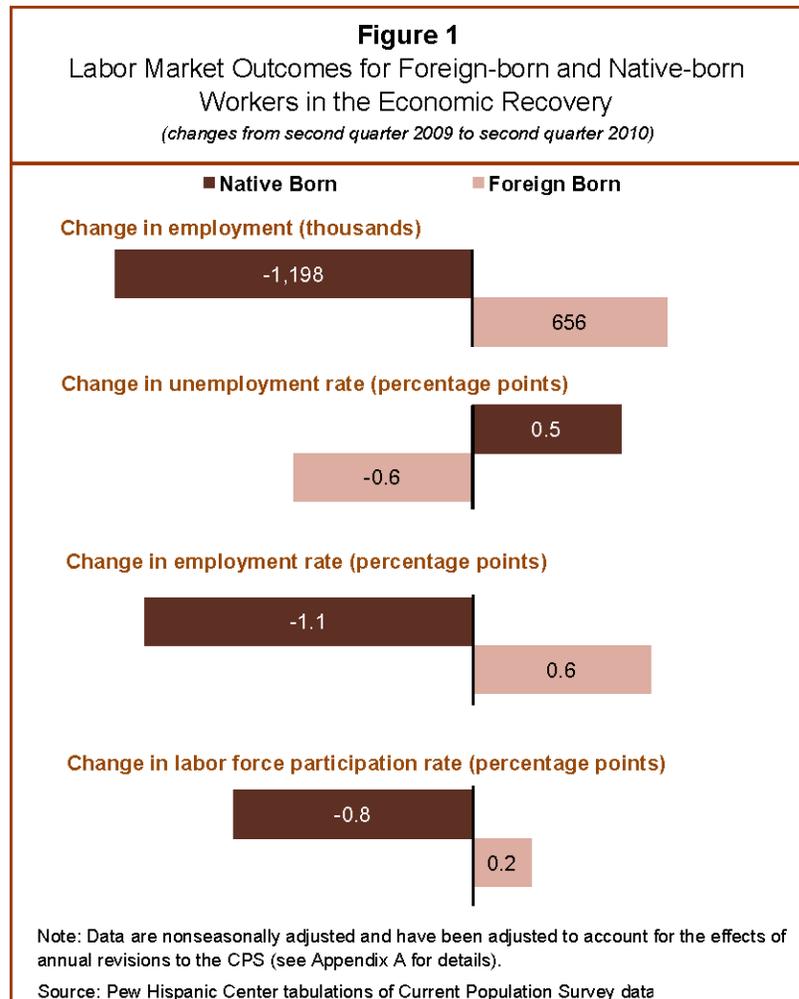
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## 1. Introduction

In the year following the official end of the Great Recession in June 2009,<sup>1</sup> foreign-born workers gained 656,000 jobs while native-born workers lost 1.2 million, according to a new analysis of U.S. Census Bureau and Department of Labor data by the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center.<sup>2</sup>

As a result, the unemployment rate for immigrant workers fell 0.6 percentage points during this period (from 9.3% to 8.7%), while for native-born workers it rose 0.5 percentage points (from 9.2% to 9.7%).<sup>3</sup>

The 2009-2010 recovery for immigrants, who make up 15.7% of the labor force, is also reflected in two other key labor market indicators. A greater share of their working-age population (ages 16 and older) is active in the labor market, evidenced by an increase in the labor force participation rate from 68.0% in the second quarter of 2009 to



<sup>1</sup> In a [statement](#) issued Sept. 20, 2010, the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), the nation's arbiter of business cycle dates, declared the recession ended in June 2009.

<sup>2</sup> These estimates reflect changes from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010. Unless otherwise mentioned, estimates in this report are nonseasonally adjusted. Thus, all comparisons across time are made with reference to the same calendar quarter. Also, the estimates in this report are derived from a survey of households, namely, the Current Population Survey, and will differ from payroll estimates reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from a survey of employers.

<sup>3</sup> The terms "foreign born" and "immigrant" are used interchangeably in this report.

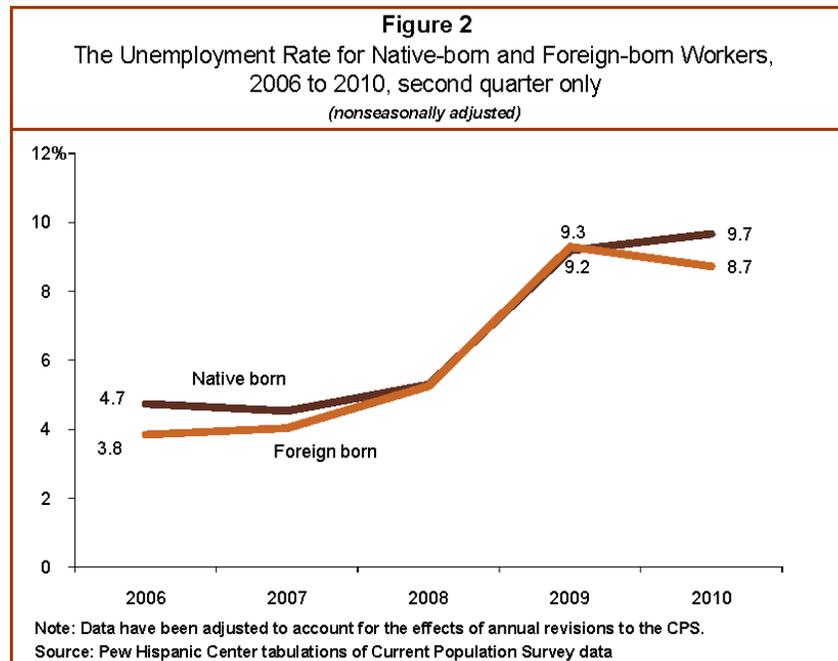
68.2% in the second quarter of 2010. Likewise, a greater share is employed, with the employment rate up from 61.7% to 62.3%.

These gains occurred at a time when native-born workers sustained ongoing losses. The native born engaged less in the labor market (labor force participation rate fell from 65.3% in the second quarter of 2009 to 64.5% in the second quarter of 2010), and a smaller share was employed (58.3% versus 59.3%).

But the jobs recovery for immigrants is far from complete. The 656,000 jobs immigrants gained in the first year of the recovery are not nearly sufficient to make up for the 1.1 million jobs they lost from the second quarter of 2008 to the second quarter of 2009. Over the two-year period from 2008 to 2010, second quarter to second quarter, foreign-born workers have lost 400,000 jobs and native-born workers have lost 5.7 million jobs.<sup>4</sup> The unemployment rate for immigrants is still more than double the rate prior to the recession, when it stood at 4.0% in the second quarter of 2007.

Also, even as immigrants have managed to gain jobs in the recovery, they have experienced a sharp decline in earnings. From 2009 to 2010, the median weekly earnings of foreign-born workers decreased 4.5%, compared with a loss of less than one percent for native-born workers.

Latino immigrants experienced the largest drop in wages of all.<sup>5</sup> It might be that in the search for jobs in the recovery, immigrants were more accepting of lower wages and reduced hours because many, especially unauthorized immigrants, are not eligible for unemployment benefits.<sup>6</sup>



<sup>4</sup> A recent report from the Migration Policy Institute ([Papademetriou, Sumption, Terrazas, Burkert, Loyal and Ferrero-Turrión, 2010](#)) examines the experiences of migrant workers in several countries, including the U.S., during the Great Recession.

<sup>5</sup> The terms “Latino” and “Hispanic” are used interchangeably in this report.

<sup>6</sup> Economic research demonstrates that unemployment insurance can affect the intensity of job search, although the magnitude of the effect is a subject of debate (for a recent example, see [Krueger and Mueller, 2008](#)).

The reasons that only foreign-born workers have gained jobs in the recovery are not entirely clear. One factor might be greater flexibility on the part of immigrants. Research suggests that immigrants are more mobile than native-born workers, moving more fluidly across regions, industries and occupations ([Orrenius and Zavodny, 2009](#), [Borjas, 2001](#)). But the flip side of flexibility can be instability. Unpublished research by the Pew Hispanic Center finds that immigrants are more likely to exit from and enter into employment on a month-to-month basis.

Another reason that immigrants are displaying greater success at the start of the recovery might simply be that their employment patterns are more volatile over the business cycle. This means that immigrants register sharper losses in the early stages of recessions but rebound quicker in the recovery. That pattern played out in the 2001 recession and recovery,<sup>7</sup> and it may be repeating now—there is evidence that immigrants took a harder hit than native-born workers during the Great Recession.<sup>8</sup> Whether or not the initial lead in jobs recovery taken by immigrants sustains itself remains to be seen, given the tenuous nature of the overall rebound from the Great Recession.

Demographic changes, both short term and long term, might also be a factor in determining employment trends in the recovery. The ebb and flow of immigration is sensitive to the business cycle, with economic expansions tending to boost inflows. A September 2010 report from the Pew Hispanic Center ([Passel and Cohn, 2010](#)) estimated that, coincidental with the economic downturn, the number of unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. labor force fell from 8.4 million in March 2007 to 7.8 million in March 2009.<sup>9</sup> It appears that the economic recovery, young as it is, is attracting immigrant workers back into the U.S.

Longer-term demographic trends might also be reasserting themselves during the recovery. The immigrant share of the U.S. labor force has been on the rise for several decades, especially since 1990. Some 15.7% of the labor force today is foreign born, up from 9.7% in 1995.<sup>10</sup> Because the foreign-born labor force has been growing faster than the native-born labor force, immigrant employment has tended to rise faster than native-born employment. The pattern during the current recovery is consistent with the long-run demographic trend—from the second

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<sup>7</sup> See [Orrenius and Zavodny \(2009\)](#). Immigrant employment is more volatile because of their relative youth, lack of education and concentration in industries and occupations that are cyclically sensitive.

<sup>8</sup> The labor market experience of immigrants and minorities in the early stages of the Great Recession was the focus of an earlier report by the Center ([Kochhar, 2009](#)).

<sup>9</sup> Unauthorized workers accounted for 5.1% of the labor force in March 2009, compared with 5.5% in March 2007.

<sup>10</sup> The estimate of the current share is for the second quarter of 2010. The share for 1995 is an annual estimate. The nativity of workers was recorded on a regular basis in the Current Population Survey, the source data, starting in 1995.

quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010, the number of immigrants in the labor force increased by 566,000, while the native-born labor force decreased by 633,000.

This report analyzes labor market outcomes in recent years not just by nativity, but also for racial and ethnic groups, including Hispanics, whites, blacks and Asians.<sup>11</sup> The primary focus is on the period from the second quarter of 2008 to the second quarter of 2009, when most of the job losses during the Great Recession occurred, and the period from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010, the first year of recovery from the recession. Previous reports by the Center have analyzed outcomes for Latinos and immigrants at the beginning of the Great Recession and the period leading up to the recession ([Kochhar, June 2008](#), [December 2008](#), [2009](#)).

Labor markets trends from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010 are partly affected by the hiring of Census 2010 temporary workers. Employment of those workers peaked in May 2010 and decreased sharply thereafter. Because the U.S. government hires only U.S. citizens, the hiring of Census workers would have tilted to the native born—only 43% of immigrants in the labor force in the second quarter of 2010 were U.S. citizens. Absent Census 2010 hiring, the difference between the jobs gained by immigrants and the jobs lost by the native born would most likely have been greater.

The data for this report are derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly survey of about 55,000 households conducted jointly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Census Bureau. Data from three monthly surveys were combined to create larger sample sizes and to conduct the analysis on a quarterly basis. The universe for the analysis is the civilian, non-institutional population ages 16 and older.

Estimates in this report are adjusted for annual, technical revisions to the CPS and will not match estimates published by the BLS (see Appendix A for details). Employment estimates in this report, from the survey of households, will also not match the payroll estimates of employment published by the BLS from its surveys of employers. Payroll data cannot be used in this report because, except for gender, they do not record the demographic characteristics of workers.

Because immigration status is not recorded in the source data, this report is not able to identify immigrants in the labor force by whether or not they are unauthorized. However, other reports from the Pew Hispanic Center have reported on the labor force status of unauthorized immigrants. As of March 2009, there were 7.8 million unauthorized immigrants in the labor force, accounting for

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<sup>11</sup> All references to whites, blacks and Asians are to their non-Hispanic components.

about one-third of the foreign-born labor force ([Passel and Cohn, 2010](#)). Also, the report does not address the question of whether native-born workers would fare differently in the job market absent the growth in the foreign-born labor force. This issue is the subject of research by many economists, including [Ottaviano and Peri \(2008\)](#), [Card \(2005\)](#) and [Borjas \(2003\)](#).

Labor market outcomes are tracked using a variety of indicators. Economic trends are reflected in levels of employment and unemployment, and in the rates

**Working-Age Population, or the Workforce:** The population of persons ages 16 and older.

**Labor Force:** Persons ages 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

**Employment Rate:** Percentage of the working-age population that is employed.

**Labor Force Participation Rate:** Percentage of the working-age population that is employed or actively looking for work.

**Unemployment Rate:** Percentage of the labor force that is without work and is actively looking for work.

of employment and unemployment. The extent to which persons ages 16 and older participate in the labor force, either working or seeking work, is also influenced by economic conditions—people are drawn into the labor market during expansions, and they withdraw during recessions. Changes in these indicators are the key to understanding the impact of the business cycle on different racial and ethnic groups.

Other main findings of this report include:

#### Foreign born and native born

- The foreign-born working-age population (ages 16 and older) in the U.S. increased by 709,000 from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010. That marks a reversal from the preceding year, when the foreign-born working-age population shrank by 95,000.

#### Hispanics

- Employment among Hispanics increased by 392,000 from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010. All of the gains accrued to foreign-born Hispanics—their employment increased by 435,000.
- The unemployment rate for foreign-born Hispanics decreased from 11.0% in the second quarter of 2009 to 10.1% in the second quarter of 2010. At the same time, the unemployment rate for native-born Hispanics increased from 12.9% to 14.0%.
- Among non-Hispanics, foreign-born workers gained 220,000 jobs but native-born workers lost 1.2 million jobs from the second quarter of 2009

to the second quarter of 2010. The unemployment rate for foreign-born non-Hispanics fell from 7.6% to 7.4%; for native-born non-Hispanics, it increased from 8.9% to 9.3%.

### Whites

- Non-Hispanic whites lost 986,000 jobs from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010, and their unemployment rate increased from 7.7% to 8.0%. The losses were experienced only by native-born whites; immigrants gained 214,000 jobs and reduced their unemployment rate from 7.0% to 6.3%.

### Blacks

- Employment for native-born blacks decreased by 142,000 in the first year of the recovery and increased by 81,000 for foreign-born blacks. The unemployment rate for native-born blacks increased from 15.4% to 16.3%; for immigrant blacks, it decreased from 11.4% to 10.7%.

### Asians

- Asians had a different experience—employment of the native born increased by 208,000 from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010, and employment of immigrants decreased by 102,000. The unemployment rate for native-born Asians fell from 9.9% to 8.7%; for foreign-born Asians, it increased from 6.7% to 7.0%.

### Industries

- The construction sector was a leading source of job losses in the recession, and it remains a leading source of unemployment for native-born workers during the recovery. Of the 1.2 million jobs lost by native-born workers from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010, 645,000 jobs were lost in construction alone.
- Foreign-born Hispanics began to reverse their job losses in construction. After losing 335,000 jobs from the second quarter of 2008 to the second quarter of 2009, immigrant Hispanics gained 98,000 construction jobs from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010.
- The eating, drinking and lodging services sector lost 501,000 jobs in the first year of the recovery, almost as many as construction. Job gains were strongest in hospitals and other health services and public administration.

### Wages

- Median weekly earnings of both native-born and foreign-born workers inched up 1.0% from 2008 to 2009—from \$651 to \$657 for the native born and from \$544 to \$550 for immigrants, in 2010 prices.
- In the recovery from 2009 to 2010, median weekly wages of foreign-born workers fell to \$525, a loss of 4.5%. The wages of native-born workers were virtually unchanged, standing at \$653 in the second quarter of 2010.
- Hispanic immigrants have experienced the greatest loss in wages. Their median weekly wage decreased 1.3% from 2008 to 2009 and then an additional 5.8% from 2009 to 2010.

The next section of this report describes employment and unemployment trends during the last year of the Great Recession, from the second quarter of 2008 to the second quarter of 2009, and the first year of the economic recovery, from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010. Trends in employment are discussed in the aggregate, by nativity, by racial and ethnic group, and by industry. The subsequent section analyzes recent trends in the working-age population and labor force, principal demographic forces that determine labor supply. The concluding section reports on changes in the earnings of workers in the recession and the recovery. Methodological details and supplementary data tables are presented in the appendices.

## 2. Employment and Unemployment in the Recession and Recovery

The Great Recession, lasting from December 2007 to June 2009, is aptly named for a number of reasons. The longest economic downturn in the U.S. since World War II put millions of people out of work, sent the unemployment rate soaring to 30-year highs and pushed long-term unemployment to unprecedented levels.<sup>12</sup>

Job losses in the economic downturn were concentrated in the final 12 months of the Great Recession. Losses were severe for all groups—native born and foreign born, Hispanic and non-Hispanic, white, black and Asian. However, the recovery has proceeded in different directions for different workers. Most notably, immigrants have gained jobs while the native born have continued to experience job losses. There is only one exception to this general trend—immigrant Asians lost jobs in the recovery, but their native-born counterparts gained jobs in the recovery.

### Foreign-born and Native-born Employment and Unemployment

The U.S. economy shed 5.6 million jobs from the second quarter of 2008 to the second quarter of 2009: 4.5 million jobs for native-born workers and 1.1 million jobs for foreign-born workers (Table 1). The immigrant share of jobs lost—18.8%—was slightly higher than the share of immigrants in the labor force—15.5% in the second quarter of 2008.<sup>13</sup>

The plunge in employment meant that a smaller share of the nation's working-age population was being put to work. Overall, the employment rate dropped from 62.7% in the second quarter of 2008 to 59.7% in the second quarter of 2009. Prior to 2009, the last time the employment rate was less than 60% was in the first quarter of 1986.<sup>14</sup> Both the native born and the foreign born experienced similar decreases in their employment rates—from 62.4% to 59.3% for the native born, and from 64.5% to 61.7% for the foreign born.

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<sup>12</sup> The full range of the economic impacts of the Great Recession is documented in "[A Balance Sheet at 30 Months: How the Great Recession Has Changed Life in America](#)," Pew Research Center, Social & Demographic Trends Project, June 30, 2010.

<sup>13</sup> The immigrant share of job losses was higher in the earlier stages of the recession. For example, immigrants accounted for 22.8% of the decrease in employment from the fourth quarter of 2007 to the fourth quarter of 2008.

<sup>14</sup> On a seasonally adjusted basis, the employment rate was last less than 60% in 1984.

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Workers</b>					
Employment	145,932	140,333	139,790	-5,598	-543
Employment Rate (%)	62.7	59.7	58.9	-3.0	-0.8
Unemployment	8,144	14,221	14,698	6,077	477
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.3	9.2	9.5	3.9	0.3
<b>Native Born</b>					
Employment	123,371	118,828	117,629	-4,543	-1,198
Employment Rate (%)	62.4	59.3	58.3	-3.0	-1.1
Unemployment	6,894	12,018	12,581	5,124	563
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.3	9.2	9.7	3.9	0.5
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Employment	22,561	21,506	22,161	-1,055	656
Employment Rate (%)	64.5	61.7	62.3	-2.8	0.6
Unemployment	1,250	2,203	2,117	953	-86
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.2	9.3	8.7	4.0	-0.6

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

Not surprisingly, unemployment rates rose quickly from 2008 to 2009. The national unemployment rate increased from 5.3% to 9.2%, second quarter to second quarter. The changes for the native born and the foreign born were virtually identical, from 5.3% to 9.2% for the native born and from 5.2% to 9.3% for the foreign born.

Although labor market outcome for native- and foreign-born workers in the final year of the recession were similar, their experiences in the first year of the recovery have been very different. The native born have continued to lose jobs, but immigrants have started to reverse the tide. Immigrants, therefore, have a head start on restoring their labor market status to pre-recession levels.

With respect to employment, the economy shed 543,000 jobs overall in the first year of the recovery. Those losses fell entirely upon native-born workers, who lost 1.2 million more jobs from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010. As a result, the employment rate for the native born continued on a downward spiral, down to 58.3% from 59.3%, and the unemployment rate continued to climb, up to 9.7% from 9.2%.

In sharp contrast, foreign-born workers gained 656,000 jobs from 2009 to 2010. The increase in employment was strong enough to boost their employment rate—from 61.7% to 62.3%—and lower their unemployment rate—from 9.3% to 8.7%. However, job growth for immigrants from 2009 to 2010 was not sufficient to make up for the 1.1 million jobs they lost from 2008 to 2009.

## Hispanics

Hispanics experienced more significant setbacks in the recession than other groups. For native-born Hispanics, the recovery continued to generate losses that were greater than average. However, immigrant Hispanics, who account for half of the foreign-born workforce, made notable gains in employment from 2009 to 2010.

From 2008 to 2009, both native-born and foreign-born Latinos experienced large drops in employment relative to the size of their workforces. Native-born Latinos lost 151,000 jobs, and their employment rate dropped steeply, from 61.5% to 57.1%, or by 4.4 percentage points (Table 2). Immigrant Hispanics lost 643,000 jobs from 2008 to 2009, and their employment rate also fell 4.4 percentage points, from 67.1% to 62.7%.

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Hispanics</b>					
Employment	20,312	19,518	19,910	-794	392
Employment Rate (%)	64.4	60.0	59.3	-4.5	-0.6
Unemployment	1,499	2,642	2,697	1,143	54
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.9	11.9	11.9	5.1	0.0
<b>Native Born</b>					
Employment	9,247	9,096	9,053	-151	-43
Employment Rate (%)	61.5	57.1	54.7	-4.4	-2.3
Unemployment	801	1,350	1,478	549	128
Unemployment Rate (%)	8.0	12.9	14.0	5.0	1.1
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Employment	11,065	10,422	10,857	-643	435
Employment Rate (%)	67.1	62.7	63.7	-4.4	1.0
Unemployment	698	1,292	1,218	594	-74
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.9	11.0	10.1	5.1	-0.9

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.  
Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

The unemployment rate for native- and foreign-born Hispanics crashed the double-digits barrier in 2009. For both, the unemployment rate increased by about 5 percentage points—from 8.0% to 12.9% for native-born Latinos, and from 5.9% to 11.0% for immigrant Latinos.

Employment among native-born Latinos continued to decrease through the recovery from 2009 to 2010. They lost an additional 43,000 jobs, and their employment rate registered another steep drop, from 57.1% to 54.7%. The

unemployment rate for native-born Hispanics reached 14.0% in the second quarter of 2010.

The opposite proved true for immigrant Hispanics. They gained 435,000 jobs from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010. That was the majority of the total of 656,000 jobs gained by immigrants overall.<sup>15</sup> As a result, the employment rate for foreign-born Latinos increased from 62.7% to 63.7%, and their unemployment rate decreased from 11.0% to 10.1%.

As in the past, the construction sector led the way in providing employment for foreign-born Hispanics—they gained 98,000 construction sector jobs from 2009 to 2010 (Table 3). Immigrant Hispanics also found job opportunities in several other industries. That included 84,000 new jobs in

	<u>CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT</u>
<b>Native-born Hispanics</b>	
Publishing, Broadcasting, Communications and Information Services	58
Public Administration	49
Eating, Drinking and Lodging Services	37
Wholesale and Retail Trade	-40
Transportation and Warehousing	-52
Construction	-133
<b>Foreign-born Hispanics</b>	
Construction	98
Hospitals and Other Health Services	84
Wholesale and Retail Trade	70
Publishing, Broadcasting, Communications and Information Services	-10
Arts and Entertainment	-18
Repair and Maintenance Services	-42

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

hospital and other health services, a sector that generally fared well in the recession, and 70,000 jobs in wholesale and retail trade.

For native-born Hispanics, the construction sector was the leading source of job losses in the recovery. Their employment in the sector decreased by 133,000 from 2009 to 2010. Other leading sources of lost jobs were transportation and warehousing and wholesale and retail trade. Those two sectors collectively let go of 92,000 native-born Hispanics.

<sup>15</sup> Hispanics currently account for nearly 50% of the foreign-born workforce.

## Non-Hispanics

As with Latinos, foreign-born non-Hispanics have fared better in the labor market during the recession and recovery. In the final 12 months of the Great Recession, native-born non-Hispanics lost 4.4 million jobs, their employment rate fell from 62.4% to 59.5% and their unemployment rate increased from 5.1% to 8.9% (Table 4).

The losses for foreign-born non-Hispanics in the recession were somewhat milder than for the native born. Foreign-born Hispanics also lost jobs, a total of 412,000 from the second quarter of 2008 to the second quarter of 2009. However, the drop in their employment rate, from 62.2% to 60.7%, was more modest, and their unemployment rate increased by less, from 4.6% to 7.6%.

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Non-Hispanics</b>					
Employment	125,619	120,815	119,880	-4,804	-935
Employment Rate (%)	62.4	59.6	58.8	-2.8	-0.8
Unemployment	6,644	11,579	12,001	4,934	423
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.0	8.7	9.1	3.7	0.4
<b>Native Born</b>					
Employment	114,124	109,731	108,576	-4,393	-1,156
Employment Rate (%)	62.4	59.5	58.6	-2.9	-0.9
Unemployment	6,093	10,668	11,103	4,575	435
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.1	8.9	9.3	3.8	0.4
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Employment	11,496	11,084	11,304	-412	220
Employment Rate (%)	62.2	60.7	60.9	-1.5	0.2
Unemployment	551	911	898	359	-12
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.6	7.6	7.4	3.0	-0.2

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

The recovery has been a positive experience only for immigrant non-Hispanics. Their employment increased by 220,000, their employment rate rose from 60.7% to 60.9%, and their unemployment rate fell from 7.6% in 2009 to 7.4% in 2010.

The recovery for native-born non-Hispanics has meant only that they lost fewer jobs than during the recession. From the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010, native-born non-Hispanics lost 1.2 million jobs and their employment rate fell again, from 59.5% to 58.6%. The unemployment rate for native-born non-Hispanics increased from 8.9% to 9.3%.

During the recovery, job losses for native-born non-Hispanics were concentrated in eating, drinking and lodging services (529,000 fewer jobs), construction (511,000) and manufacturing (208,000) (Table 5). These losses more than overcame modest job gains in social services (149,000 more jobs), hospital and other health services (145,000) and public administration (142,000).

Hospital and other health services were also the leading source of job gains for foreign-born non-Hispanics in the recovery. They added 89,000 jobs in that sector from 2009 to 2010, and they also gained 58,000 jobs in transportation and warehousing and 52,000 jobs in professional and other business services.

	<u>CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT</u>
<b>Native-born Non-Hispanics</b>	
Social Services	149
Hospitals and Other Health Services	145
Public Administration	142
Manufacturing	-208
Construction	-511
Eating, Drinking and Lodging Services	-529
<b>Foreign-born Non-Hispanics</b>	
Hospitals and Other Health Services	89
Transportation and Warehousing	58
Professional and Other Business Services	52
Arts and Entertainment	-5
Manufacturing	-22
Public Administration	-24

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

### Non-Hispanic Whites, Blacks and Asians

Labor market outcomes for blacks historically have lagged behind those for other groups. This recession and recovery have been no exception. Blacks accounted for 987,000 of the 4.8 million jobs lost by non-Hispanics from 2008 to 2009 (Table 6). Their unemployment rate increased from 9.2% in the second quarter of 2008 to 14.9% in the second quarter of 2009, and their employment rate decreased from 58.4% to 53.8%.

The experience of blacks in the recovery has also correlated with their nativity. Native-born blacks lost an additional 142,000 jobs from 2009 to 2010. Even after a year of economic recovery, barely half of the working-age population of native-born blacks—51.4%—was employed in the second quarter of 2010. The unemployment rate for native-born blacks rose from 15.4% to 16.3%. In contrast, foreign-born blacks gained 81,000 jobs from 2009 to 2010 and experienced a rise in the employment rate (from 62.8% to 66.6%) and a drop in the unemployment rate (from 11.4% to 10.7%).

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Non-Hispanic Blacks</b>					
Employment	15,630	14,644	14,582	-987	-61
Employment Rate (%)	58.4	53.8	52.9	-4.5	-0.9
Unemployment	1,585	2,565	2,698	980	133
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.2	14.9	15.6	5.7	0.7
<b>Native Born</b>					
Employment	13,778	12,914	12,772	-863	-142
Employment Rate (%)	57.3	52.8	51.4	-4.5	-1.4
Unemployment	1,449	2,343	2,480	894	138
Unemployment Rate (%)	9.5	15.4	16.3	5.8	0.9
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Employment	1,852	1,729	1,810	-123	81
Employment Rate (%)	67.5	62.8	66.6	-4.7	3.9
Unemployment	136	222	218	86	-5
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.8	11.4	10.7	4.5	-0.7

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

Non-Hispanic whites are the largest group in the workforce, and they accounted for the majority of jobs that were lost from 2008 to 2009—3.6 million of the total of 5.6 million (Table 7). However, in other respects, the recession was less severe for them. The drop in their employment rate, from 63.1% to 60.6%, was less than for other groups, and their unemployment rate, increasing from 4.3% to 7.7%, did not rise as sharply.

Foreign-born whites, like black and Latino immigrants, gained jobs in the recovery. In fact, the number of jobs they gained in the recovery—214,000—more than made up for their loss of 158,000 jobs from 2008 to 2009. The employment rate for foreign-born whites also increased in the recovery, from 56.3% to 58.0%, and their unemployment rate fell from 7.0% to 6.3%.

Like most other native-born groups, native-born whites also lost a significant number of jobs in the recovery. The 1.2 million jobs they lost from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010 caused their employment rate to fall from 60.8% to 59.9%. Also, the unemployment rate for native-born whites rose from 7.7% in 2009 to 8.1% in 2010.

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Non-Hispanic Whites</b>					
Employment	100,745	97,117	96,130	-3,628	-986
Employment Rate (%)	63.1	60.6	59.8	-2.5	-0.8
Unemployment	4,510	8,091	8,380	3,580	289
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.3	7.7	8.0	3.4	0.3
<b>Native Born</b>					
Employment	96,514	93,044	91,843	-3,470	-1,201
Employment Rate (%)	63.5	60.8	59.9	-2.6	-0.9
Unemployment	4,315	7,785	8,091	3,470	306
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.3	7.7	8.1	3.4	0.4
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Employment	4,230	4,073	4,287	-158	214
Employment Rate (%)	56.0	56.3	58.0	0.3	1.7
Unemployment	196	306	289	110	-17
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.4	7.0	6.3	2.6	-0.7

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Non-Hispanic Asians</b>					
Employment	6,991	6,864	6,970	-127	106
Employment Rate (%)	64.6	61.6	60.8	-3.0	-0.8
Unemployment	291	556	561	265	5
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.0	7.5	7.5	3.5	0.0
<b>Native Born</b>					
Employment	1,650	1,656	1,864	5	208
Employment Rate (%)	60.0	55.2	58.6	-4.8	3.4
Unemployment	79	182	177	103	-5
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.6	9.9	8.7	5.3	-1.2
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Employment	5,341	5,208	5,106	-133	-102
Employment Rate (%)	66.1	63.9	61.6	-2.2	-2.3
Unemployment	212	374	384	162	11
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.8	6.7	7.0	2.9	0.3

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

The labor market experience of Asians has differed from that of others during the recession and recovery. Although native-born Asians fared worse in the recession than foreign-born Asians, they are recovering faster. From the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010, native-born Asians gained 208,000 jobs, their employment rate increased from 55.2% to 58.6% and their unemployment rate fell from 9.9% to 8.7% (Table 8).

However, in the first year of the recovery, foreign-born Asians lost 102,000 jobs, experienced another drop in their employment rate, from 63.9% to 61.6%, and saw their unemployment rate climb further, from 6.7% to 7.0%.

### 3. The Working-Age Population and the Labor Force: Are Immigrants Returning?

Recent changes in the working-age population and labor force highlight the sensitivity of immigration to the business cycle. The first signs of weakness in the construction sector appeared in 2006, a year before the official start of the Great Recession. As the downturn deepened, the annual flow of immigrants to the U.S. decreased. A September 2010 report from the Pew Hispanic Center ([Passel and Cohn, 2010](#)) estimated that the number of unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. labor force fell from 8.4 million in March 2007 to 7.8 million in March 2009.<sup>16</sup> It appears that the economic recovery may be attracting immigrant workers back into the U.S.

Consistent with the economic downturn, the foreign-born workforce (immigrants 16 and older) decreased by 95,000 from the second quarter of 2008 to the second quarter of 2009 (Table 9). That was the culmination of a flattening and eventual decline of the unauthorized immigrant population in the U.S. starting in 2005 ([Passel and Cohn, 2010](#)).

As the economy has shown signs of recovery, so has the foreign-born workforce. From the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010, the immigrant workforce increased by 709,000: 412,000 Hispanics and 297,000 non-Hispanics.<sup>17</sup> However, there is no way to conclude from the data whether this turnabout will last. Among other things, it is likely to depend on the durability and strength of the economic recovery.

The growth in the foreign-born population is driven by new arrivals. The population of immigrants already in the U.S. can only decrease, either through emigration or death. One way to estimate the impact of new arrivals is to look at the change in the population of recently arrived immigrants, those who have been in the U.S. since 2000. As shown in Appendix Tables B6 and B7, recently arrived immigrants, Hispanic and non-Hispanic, added 1.5 million to the working-age population from the second quarter of 2009 to the second quarter of 2010. That compared with an increase of 623,000 in the preceding year.

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<sup>16</sup> Unauthorized workers accounted for 5.1% of the labor force in March 2009, compared with 5.5% in March 2007.

<sup>17</sup> Details on the working-age populations and labor forces for Hispanics, non-Hispanics, whites, blacks and Asians are presented in Appendix Tables B1 to B5.

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Workers</b>					
Population	232,772	235,179	237,470	2,408	2,291
Labor Force	154,084	154,556	154,488	472	-67
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	66.2	65.7	65.1	-0.5	-0.7
<b>Native Born</b>					
Population	197,797	200,299	201,880	2,503	1,581
Labor Force	130,267	130,844	130,210	577	-633
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	65.9	65.3	64.5	-0.5	-0.8
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Population	34,975	34,880	35,590	-95	709
Labor Force	23,817	23,712	24,278	-105	566
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	68.1	68.0	68.2	-0.1	0.2

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

The increase in the immigrant population was matched by heightened interest in labor market activity. Their labor force participation rate increased from 68.0% in the second quarter of 2009 to 68.2% in the second quarter of 2010. The result was an increase of 566,000 in the foreign-born labor force.

In contrast, the growth in the native-born working-age population slowed from 2009 to 2010. After adding 2.5 million to the workforce from 2008 to 2009, the native born added only 1.6 million to the workforce from 2009 to 2010. Moreover, the native born displayed reduced interest in labor market activity. Their labor force participation rate fell from 65.3% in 2009 to 64.5% in 2010.<sup>18</sup> The result was a shrinking of the native-born labor force by 633,000 during the economic recovery.

<sup>18</sup> The drop in the labor force participation rate for the native born could be a consequence of long-term unemployment causing workers to become discouraged from seeking work. Trends in long-term employment are described in "[A Balance Sheet at 30 Months: How the Great Recession Has Changed Life in America](#)," Pew Research Center, Social & Demographic Trends Project, June 30, 2010.

## 4. Earnings of Native-born and Foreign-born Workers

The weekly earnings of workers during the recession and the initial stage of the recovery were generally stagnant.<sup>19</sup> However, foreign-born workers experienced a sharp decline in earnings during the recovery even as they managed to boost their employment. Hispanics also did not fare well—their earnings fell for two years in a row—and, among Hispanics, immigrants sustained the biggest cut in wages.

The median weekly earnings of all workers, full time and part time, were \$624 in the second quarter of 2008 (earnings expressed in second-quarter 2010 dollars).<sup>20</sup> By the end of the recession, in the second quarter of 2009, weekly earnings stood at \$623. Earnings nudged upward slightly during the recovery, to \$630 in the second quarter of 2010.

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE (%)	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Workers</b>	\$624	\$623	\$630	-0.1	1.1
<b>Native Born</b>	\$651	\$657	\$653	1.0	-0.7
<b>Foreign Born</b>	\$544	\$550	\$525	1.0	-4.5
<b>All Hispanics</b>	\$504	\$489	\$480	-2.9	-1.9
Native Born	\$564	\$560	\$543	-0.8	-3.0
Foreign Born	\$454	\$448	\$422	-1.3	-5.8
<b>All Non-Hispanics</b>	\$668	\$682	\$673	2.1	-1.3
Native Born	\$659	\$669	\$673	1.5	0.7
Foreign Born	\$705	\$733	\$720	3.9	-1.7

Note: Those without pay and unincorporated self-employed are excluded. Numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes have been computed. The median wage divides workers into two equal groups, with half earning more than the median wage and the other half earning less.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

<sup>19</sup> Data on weekly earnings are available only for employed persons. Household income is better able to capture the effects of unemployment on the economic well-being of households. The latest estimate from the Census Bureau shows that median household income was unchanged from 2008 to 2009. The largest decline in income occurred for black households, a group with the highest rate of unemployment, and foreign-born non-citizen households, the group that includes unauthorized immigrants (DeNavas-Walt, Proctor and Smith, 2010).

<sup>20</sup> The median wage divides workers into two equal groups, with half earning more than the median wage and the other half earning less than the median.

In the midst of overall wage stagnation, the earnings of foreign-born workers fell sharply during the recovery. Wages for immigrants did not change much in the recession, moving from \$544 in 2008 to \$550 in 2009. However, in the recovery from 2009 to 2010, median earnings of foreign-born workers dropped to \$525, a loss of 4.5%. The earnings of native-born workers have remained flat during the recession and recovery, starting at \$651 in the second quarter of 2008 and ending at \$653 in the second quarter of 2010.

Hispanics are the only group of workers whose median earnings decreased during both the recession and the recovery. Starting at \$504 in the second quarter of 2008, the median weekly earnings of Latinos fell to \$489 in the second quarter of 2009 and then to \$480 in the second quarter of 2010.

The downward momentum in earnings for Latinos was led by immigrants. For immigrant Latinos, median weekly earnings dropped from \$454 in 2008 to \$448 in 2009, and then to \$422 in 2010. Over the two-year period, the earnings of immigrant Latinos decreased by 7.0%.

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## Appendix A: Revisions of the Current Population Survey

Each January, the U.S. Census Bureau makes adjustments to the population controls in the Current Population Survey. That means the sample weights are revised so that estimates from the CPS agree with pre-specified national population totals by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin and with state level totals by age, sex and race. The effect of the latest revision, in January 2010, was to reduce the estimate of the working-age population by 258,000, the labor force by 249,000 and the number of employed workers by 243,000 (“[Adjustments to Household Survey Population Estimates in January 2010](#),” Bureau of Labor Statistics, February 2010). Rates—for employment, labor force participation and unemployment—are not affected by the January CPS revisions.

The adjustments to CPS weights are typically based on revised estimates of net international migration and updated vital statistics. Methodological changes also play a role. In the 2007 and 2008 population estimates, introduced into the CPS in January 2008 and January 2009, respectively, the Census Bureau made significant changes in the methodology used to measure international migration from 2000 onward. The impacts of those changes are concentrated in groups where a high percentage of the population is foreign born, notably working-age Hispanics and Asians. As such, the new population controls have the potential for affecting the measured size of the foreign-born population and labor force.

Labor market statistics published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics are not revised historically to account for the effect of annual revisions to CPS weights. However, for each new “vintage” of population estimates, the Census Bureau releases the entire time series of monthly population estimates from April 2000 through the year when the latest estimates are used for CPS weights. These revised population estimates can be used to produce a consistent series of CPS data from 2000 onward by reweighting the CPS.

The estimates in this report are adjusted in two ways to account for the revisions of the CPS. First, the estimates for 2006 to 2008 are produced using reweighted data that incorporate the Vintage 2008 population estimates for the civilian non-institutional population (Vintage 2008 population controls were introduced into the CPS in January 2009). The new weights are derived using procedures that follow the weighting procedures of the [U.S. Census Bureau \(2006\)](#) to the extent possible with public-use data applied to Vintage 2008 population estimates—both published and unpublished data supplied by the U.S. Census Bureau to the Pew Hispanic Center (see [Passel and Cohn, 2010](#), for additional details). With this consistent series of CPS data, it is possible to more accurately measure changes

over time in working-age population, labor force and employment of various racial, ethnic and nativity groups.

Second, estimates for 2006 to 2009 are revised to account for the effects of the January 2010 CPS revision using a BLS-published methodology (see “[Creating Comparability in CPS Employment Series](#),” by Marisa L. Di Natale). This methodology first produces revised estimates for the overall Hispanic and non-Hispanic populations. The overall changes from the January 2010 revision are then further allocated to subpopulations of Hispanics and non-Hispanics by gender, race, nativity, year of arrival, place of birth, and industry. The allocations are based on 2008 fourth-quarter data tabulated two ways—once with the original (Vintage 2007) population controls and again with the revised (Vintage 2008) population controls. Comparing the two sets of tabulations yields the effects of the CPS revision on the various subpopulations of interest.

## Appendix B: Data Tables

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Hispanics</b>					
Population	31,532	32,556	33,572	1,023	1,017
Labor Force	21,818	22,162	22,607	344	445
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	69.2	68.1	67.3	-1.1	-0.7
<b>Native Born</b>					
Population	15,045	15,936	16,541	891	604
Labor Force	10,050	10,447	10,532	396	85
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	66.8	65.6	63.7	-1.3	-1.9
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Population	16,487	16,619	17,032	132	412
Labor Force	11,767	11,715	12,075	-52	360
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	71.4	70.5	70.9	-0.9	0.4

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Non-Hispanics</b>					
Population	201,239	202,623	203,897	1,384	1,274
Labor Force	132,266	132,394	131,881	128	-512
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	65.7	65.3	64.7	-0.4	-0.7
<b>Native Born</b>					
Population	182,751	184,363	185,339	1,611	977
Labor Force	120,216	120,397	119,679	181	-719
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	65.8	65.3	64.6	-0.5	-0.7
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Population	18,488	18,261	18,558	-227	297
Labor Force	12,050	11,997	12,203	-53	206
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	65.2	65.7	65.8	0.5	0.1

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Non-Hispanic Blacks</b>					
Population	26,785	27,201	27,546	416	346
Labor Force	17,214	17,207	17,280	-7	74
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	64.3	63.3	62.7	-1.0	-0.5
<b>Native Born</b>					
Population	24,039	24,447	24,830	407	384
Labor Force	15,225	15,255	15,252	30	-3
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	63.3	62.4	61.4	-0.9	-1.0
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Population	2,745	2,754	2,716	9	-38
Labor Force	1,989	1,951	2,028	-37	76
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	72.4	70.9	74.7	-1.6	3.8

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Non-Hispanic Whites</b>					
Population	159,669	160,230	160,704	561	474
Labor Force	105,254	105,206	104,510	-48	-696
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	65.9	65.7	65.0	-0.3	-0.6
<b>Native Born</b>					
Population	152,109	152,995	153,317	886	322
Labor Force	100,828	100,828	99,934	-1	-894
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	66.3	65.9	65.2	-0.4	-0.7
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Population	7,561	7,235	7,387	-325	152
Labor Force	4,426	4,378	4,576	-47	198
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	58.5	60.5	61.9	2.0	1.4

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Non-Hispanic Asians</b>					
Population	10,830	11,147	11,471	317	324
Labor Force	7,286	7,423	7,531	137	108
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	67.3	66.6	65.6	-0.7	-0.9
<b>Native Born</b>					
Population	2,751	3,000	3,182	248	182
Labor Force	1,730	1,838	2,040	108	202
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	62.9	61.3	64.1	-1.6	2.8
<b>Foreign Born</b>					
Population	8,079	8,148	8,289	69	142
Labor Force	5,556	5,585	5,491	29	-94
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	68.8	68.5	66.2	-0.2	-2.3

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Foreign-born Hispanics</b>					
Population	16,487	16,619	17,032	132	412
Labor Force	11,767	11,715	12,075	-52	360
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	71.4	70.5	70.9	-0.9	0.4
Employment	11,065	10,422	10,857	-643	435
Employment Rate (%)	67.1	62.7	63.7	-4.4	1.0
Unemployment	698	1,292	1,218	594	-74
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.9	11.0	10.1	5.1	-0.9
<b>Before 1980</b>					
Population	3,118	2,994	2,737	-124	-257
Labor Force	1,814	1,763	1,566	-52	-197
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	58.2	58.9	57.2	0.7	-1.7
Employment	1,728	1,605	1,430	-122	-176
Employment Rate (%)	55.4	53.6	52.2	-1.8	-1.4
Unemployment	86	157	136	71	-21
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.8	8.9	8.7	4.2	-0.2
<b>1980 to 1989</b>					
Population	3,680	3,599	3,523	-81	-76
Labor Force	2,801	2,709	2,649	-92	-59
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	76.1	75.3	75.2	-0.9	-0.1
Employment	2,647	2,419	2,386	-228	-33
Employment Rate (%)	71.9	67.2	67.7	-4.7	0.5
Unemployment	153	289	263	136	-26
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.5	10.7	9.9	5.2	-0.7
<b>1990 to 1999</b>					
Population	5,180	5,301	5,262	121	-38
Labor Force	3,813	3,832	3,787	19	-45
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	73.6	72.3	72.0	-1.3	-0.3
Employment	3,566	3,393	3,353	-173	-40
Employment Rate (%)	68.8	64.0	63.7	-4.8	-0.3
Unemployment	246	439	434	193	-6
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.5	11.5	11.5	5.0	0.0
<b>2000 or later</b>					
Population	4,505	4,726	5,508	221	782
Labor Force	3,338	3,412	4,073	74	661
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	74.1	72.2	74.0	-1.9	1.8
Employment	3,124	3,004	3,688	-119	684
Employment Rate (%)	69.3	63.6	67.0	-5.8	3.4
Unemployment	212	407	385	194	-22
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.4	11.9	9.5	5.6	-2.5

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

**Table B7**  
 Labor Market Status of Foreign-born Non-Hispanics, by Period of Arrival,  
 Second Quarter 2008 to Second Quarter 2010  
*(nonseasonally adjusted; ages 16 and older; numbers in thousands)*

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Foreign-born Non-Hispanics</b>					
Population	18,488	18,261	18,558	-227	297
Labor Force	12,050	11,997	12,203	-53	206
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	65.2	65.7	65.8	0.5	0.1
Employment	11,496	11,084	11,304	-412	220
Employment Rate (%)	62.2	60.7	60.9	-1.5	0.2
Unemployment	551	911	898	359	-12
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.6	7.6	7.4	3.0	-0.2
<b>Before 1980</b>					
Population	4,828	4,681	4,488	-147	-193
Labor Force	2,447	2,361	2,288	-86	-73
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	50.7	50.4	51.0	-0.2	0.5
Employment	2,367	2,204	2,159	-163	-45
Employment Rate (%)	49.0	47.1	48.1	-1.9	1.0
Unemployment	80	157	129	77	-27
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.3	6.6	5.6	3.4	-1.0
<b>1980 to 1989</b>					
Population	3,876	3,828	3,637	-49	-191
Labor Force	2,922	2,893	2,769	-30	-123
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	75.4	75.6	76.1	0.2	0.6
Employment	2,820	2,668	2,549	-152	-119
Employment Rate (%)	72.8	69.7	70.1	-3.1	0.4
Unemployment	101	224	221	123	-4
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.5	7.7	8.0	4.3	0.2
<b>1990 to 1999</b>					
Population	5,154	4,714	4,651	-439	-63
Labor Force	3,683	3,421	3,370	-262	-51
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	71.5	72.6	72.5	1.1	-0.1
Employment	3,498	3,169	3,123	-329	-46
Employment Rate (%)	67.9	67.2	67.1	-0.7	-0.1
Unemployment	184	252	248	67	-4
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.0	7.4	7.4	2.3	0.0
<b>2000 or later</b>					
Population	4,630	5,031	5,779	402	748
Labor Force	2,997	3,319	3,775	321	457
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	64.7	66.0	65.3	1.2	-0.6
Employment	2,811	3,040	3,474	229	434
Employment Rate (%)	60.7	60.4	60.1	-0.3	-0.3
Unemployment	186	279	301	92	23
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.2	8.4	8.0	2.2	-0.4

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Foreign-born Hispanics</b>					
Population	16,487	16,619	17,032	132	412
Labor Force	11,767	11,715	12,075	-52	360
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	71.4	70.5	70.9	-0.9	0.4
Employment	11,065	10,422	10,857	-643	435
Employment Rate (%)	67.1	62.7	63.7	-4.4	1.0
Unemployment	698	1,292	1,218	594	-74
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.9	11.0	10.1	5.1	-0.9
<b>Mexico</b>					
Population	10,718	10,769	10,745	51	-24
Labor Force	7,566	7,573	7,589	7	16
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	70.6	70.3	70.6	-0.3	0.3
Employment	7,095	6,727	6,824	-368	97
Employment Rate (%)	66.2	62.5	63.5	-3.7	1.0
Unemployment	469	845	765	376	-80
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.2	11.2	10.1	5.0	-1.1
<b>Caribbean</b>					
Population	1,733	1,774	1,824	41	50
Labor Force	1,073	1,072	1,140	-1	69
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	61.9	60.4	62.5	-1.5	2.1
Employment	1,005	943	992	-63	49
Employment Rate (%)	58.0	53.1	54.4	-4.9	1.2
Unemployment	68	129	148	61	19
Unemployment Rate (%)	6.3	12.0	13.0	5.7	1.0
<b>Central America</b>					
Population	2,207	2,269	2,571	61	302
Labor Force	1,792	1,718	1,942	-73	224
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	81.2	75.7	75.6	-5.4	-0.2
Employment	1,704	1,521	1,747	-183	226
Employment Rate (%)	77.2	67.0	68.0	-10.2	0.9
Unemployment	87	198	195	111	-2
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.9	11.5	10.0	6.6	-1.4
<b>South America</b>					
Population	1,666	1,698	1,766	32	68
Labor Force	1,232	1,276	1,321	44	45
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	73.9	75.1	74.8	1.2	-0.3
Employment	1,161	1,165	1,213	4	48
Employment Rate (%)	69.7	68.6	68.7	-1.1	0.1
Unemployment	71	111	108	40	-2
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.8	8.7	8.2	2.9	-0.5

Note: Data by place of birth will not total because of the omission of Europe, Asia, etc. All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

**Table B9**  
Labor Market Status of Foreign-born Non-Hispanics, by Place of Birth,  
Second Quarter 2008 to Second Quarter 2010

(nonseasonally adjusted; ages 16 and older; numbers in thousands)

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>All Foreign-born Non-Hispanics</b>					
Population	18,488	18,261	18,558	-227	297
Labor Force	12,050	11,997	12,203	-53	206
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	65.2	65.7	65.8	0.5	0.1
Employment	11,496	11,084	11,304	-412	220
Employment Rate (%)	62.2	60.7	60.9	-1.5	0.2
Unemployment	551	911	898	359	-12
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.6	7.6	7.4	3.0	-0.2
<b>Asia</b>					
Population	9,249	9,242	9,456	-8	214
Labor Force	6,255	6,251	6,192	-4	-59
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	67.6	67.6	65.5	0.0	-2.2
Employment	5,993	5,801	5,754	-192	-48
Employment Rate (%)	64.8	62.8	60.9	-2.0	-1.9
Unemployment	259	448	438	189	-9
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.1	7.2	7.1	3.0	-0.1
<b>Europe, Canada, Australia, etc.</b>					
Population	5,368	5,183	5,156	-185	-26
Labor Force	2,978	3,029	3,082	51	52
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	55.5	58.4	59.8	3.0	1.3
Employment	2,862	2,849	2,900	-13	50
Employment Rate (%)	53.3	55.0	56.2	1.7	1.3
Unemployment	117	180	182	64	2
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.9	5.9	5.9	2.0	0.0
<b>Africa and other</b>					
Population	1,596	1,589	1,509	-7	-79
Labor Force	1,151	1,143	1,127	-8	-16
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	72.2	71.9	74.7	-0.2	2.7
Employment	1,071	1,021	1,014	-50	-7
Employment Rate (%)	67.1	64.3	67.2	-2.9	2.9
Unemployment	80	122	113	42	-9
Unemployment Rate (%)	7.0	10.7	10.0	3.7	-0.6
<b>Caribbean and Latin America</b>					
Population	2,275	2,247	2,437	-27	189
Labor Force	1,665	1,573	1,802	-92	229
Labor Force Participation Rate (%)	73.2	70.0	73.9	-3.2	3.9
Employment	1,569	1,412	1,637	-157	225
Employment Rate (%)	69.0	62.8	67.2	-6.1	4.3
Unemployment	96	161	165	65	4
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.8	10.2	9.2	4.5	-1.1

Note: Data for Caribbean and Latin America are computed as a residual. All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

**Table B10**

Employment of Native-born Hispanics, by Industry, Second Quarter 2008 to Second Quarter 2010

*(nonseasonally adjusted; ages 16 and older; numbers in thousands)*

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Total</b>	9,247	9,096	9,053	-151	-43
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Mining	116	109	122	-7	12
Construction	713	692	559	-21	-133
Manufacturing - Durable Goods	489	432	422	-57	-10
Manufacturing - Nondurable Goods	355	280	287	-75	7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1,543	1,493	1,454	-49	-40
Transportation and Warehousing	532	443	391	-90	-52
Utilities	111	111	94	-1	-17
Publishing, Broadcasting, Communications and Information Services	199	186	243	-13	58
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	651	636	618	-14	-18
Professional and Other Business Services	932	896	908	-35	12
Educational Services	748	855	883	107	28
Hospitals and Other Health Services	894	970	963	76	-7
Social Services	257	227	252	-30	26
Arts and Entertainment	185	206	206	21	0
Eating, Drinking and Lodging Services	681	708	745	27	37
Repair and Maintenance Services	147	130	126	-18	-4
Personal and Laundry Services and Private Household Services	197	165	175	-32	10
Public Administration	498	558	607	60	49

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

**Table B11**

Employment of Foreign-born Hispanics, by Industry, Second Quarter 2008 to Second Quarter 2010

*(nonseasonally adjusted; ages 16 and older; numbers in thousands)*

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Total</b>	11,065	10,422	10,857	-643	435
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Mining	424	441	477	17	35
Construction	1,993	1,658	1,755	-335	98
Manufacturing - Durable Goods	742	669	678	-73	8
Manufacturing - Nondurable Goods	685	673	685	-12	12
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1,320	1,257	1,327	-63	70
Transportation and Warehousing	561	479	510	-81	31
Utilities	33	20	46	-13	25
Publishing, Broadcasting, Communications and Information Services	102	107	97	5	-10
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	418	305	331	-112	26
Professional and Other Business Services	1,420	1,358	1,409	-62	51
Educational Services	388	402	411	14	10
Hospitals and Other Health Services	500	492	576	-8	84
Social Services	185	208	205	24	-4
Arts and Entertainment	131	149	131	18	-18
Eating, Drinking and Lodging Services	1,295	1,403	1,395	108	-8
Repair and Maintenance Services	289	284	242	-5	-42
Personal and Laundry Services and Private Household Services	455	397	432	-58	35
Public Administration	126	119	151	-8	32

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

Table B12

Employment of Native-born Non-Hispanics, by Industry, Second Quarter 2008 to Second Quarter 2010  
(nonseasonally adjusted; ages 16 and older; numbers in thousands)

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Total</b>	114,124	109,731	108,576	-4,393	-1,156
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Mining	2,362	2,261	2,335	-102	74
Construction	7,614	6,907	6,396	-707	-511
Manufacturing - Durable Goods	8,152	6,995	6,913	-1,157	-82
Manufacturing - Nondurable Goods	4,129	3,963	3,837	-166	-126
Wholesale and Retail Trade	16,159	15,449	15,507	-710	58
Transportation and Warehousing	5,146	4,619	4,486	-527	-133
Utilities	1,049	1,123	1,151	74	28
Publishing, Broadcasting, Communications and Information Services	2,888	2,620	2,655	-269	35
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	8,090	7,517	7,405	-573	-112
Professional and Other Business Services	14,203	13,500	13,588	-704	88
Educational Services	11,272	11,365	11,211	93	-154
Hospitals and Other Health Services	11,836	12,184	12,329	349	145
Social Services	2,419	2,407	2,556	-11	149
Arts and Entertainment	2,536	2,515	2,474	-21	-41
Eating, Drinking and Lodging Services	6,951	6,915	6,386	-36	-529
Repair and Maintenance Services	1,532	1,471	1,395	-61	-75
Personal and Laundry Services and Private Household Services	1,987	2,040	1,927	53	-113
Public Administration	5,800	5,883	6,025	83	142

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data

Table B13

Employment of Foreign-born Non-Hispanics, by Industry, Second Quarter 2008 to Second Quarter 2010  
(nonseasonally adjusted; ages 16 and older; numbers in thousands)

	YEAR AND QUARTER			CHANGE	
	2008:2	2009:2	2010:2	2008:2 to 2009:2	2009:2 to 2010:2
<b>Total</b>	11,496	11,084	11,304	-412	220
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Mining	78	56	53	-22	-3
Construction	553	476	473	-76	-3
Manufacturing - Durable Goods	975	785	771	-190	-14
Manufacturing - Nondurable Goods	506	506	499	0	-7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1,431	1,451	1,476	19	25
Transportation and Warehousing	525	535	593	10	58
Utilities	35	32	33	-3	1
Publishing, Broadcasting, Communications and Information Services	287	266	278	-21	13
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	707	712	713	5	1
Professional and Other Business Services	1,547	1,456	1,509	-91	52
Educational Services	854	831	847	-23	16
Hospitals and Other Health Services	1,685	1,628	1,716	-58	89
Social Services	243	291	287	48	-4
Arts and Entertainment	203	258	254	55	-5
Eating, Drinking and Lodging Services	880	873	872	-7	-1
Repair and Maintenance Services	125	139	165	14	26
Personal and Laundry Services and Private Household Services	521	431	433	-90	2
Public Administration	342	358	333	16	-24

Note: All numbers and percentages are rounded after year-to-year changes or shares have been computed. Data are adjusted to account for the effects of annual revisions to the CPS.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data