

**HOUSEHOLD DATA
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

A-38. Persons not in the labor force by desire and availability for work, age, and sex

[In thousands]

| Category | Total | | Age | | | | | | Sex | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Dec. 2017 | Dec. 2018 | 16 to 24 years | | 25 to 54 years | | 55 years and over | | Men | | Women | |
| | | | Dec. 2017 | Dec. 2018 | Dec. 2017 | Dec. 2018 | Dec. 2017 | Dec. 2018 | Dec. 2017 | Dec. 2018 | Dec. 2017 | Dec. 2018 |
| Total not in the labor force..... | 96,230 | 96,378 | 17,787 | 17,539 | 22,850 | 22,377 | 55,593 | 56,463 | 38,955 | 39,370 | 57,275 | 57,008 |
| Do not want a job now ¹ | 91,158 | 91,257 | 16,308 | 16,176 | 20,732 | 20,132 | 54,118 | 54,950 | 36,625 | 36,856 | 54,533 | 54,401 |
| Want a job ¹ | 5,071 | 5,121 | 1,479 | 1,363 | 2,117 | 2,245 | 1,475 | 1,513 | 2,330 | 2,514 | 2,742 | 2,607 |
| Did not search for work in previous year..... | 2,951 | 3,095 | 773 | 818 | 1,200 | 1,211 | 978 | 1,065 | 1,334 | 1,421 | 1,617 | 1,674 |
| Searched for work in previous year, but not in past 4 weeks ² | 2,121 | 2,026 | 706 | 545 | 917 | 1,034 | 497 | 448 | 996 | 1,093 | 1,125 | 933 |
| Not available to work now..... | 498 | 470 | 213 | 170 | 209 | 210 | 76 | 90 | 185 | 215 | 313 | 255 |
| Marginally attached (available to work now) ³ | 1,623 | 1,556 | 493 | 375 | 708 | 824 | 422 | 357 | 811 | 878 | 812 | 678 |
| Discouraged over job prospects ⁴ | 474 | 375 | 127 | 64 | 189 | 222 | 158 | 88 | 316 | 232 | 158 | 143 |
| Reasons other than discouragement..... | 1,149 | 1,181 | 366 | 310 | 519 | 602 | 263 | 269 | 495 | 646 | 654 | 535 |
| Family responsibilities..... | 187 | 196 | 28 | 13 | 114 | 156 | 44 | 28 | 29 | 99 | 157 | 97 |
| In school or training..... | 189 | 247 | 154 | 168 | 25 | 70 | 10 | 9 | 86 | 139 | 103 | 109 |
| Ill health or disability..... | 134 | 184 | 15 | 13 | 65 | 82 | 55 | 89 | 58 | 123 | 76 | 62 |
| Other ⁵ | 639 | 554 | 169 | 117 | 315 | 294 | 154 | 143 | 321 | 286 | 317 | 268 |

¹ Includes some persons who are not asked if they want a job.

² Persons who had a job in the prior 12 months must have searched since the end of that job.

³ Persons "marginally attached to the labor force" are those who want a job, have searched for work during the prior 12 months, and were available to take a job during the reference week, but had not looked for work in the past 4 weeks.

⁴ Discouraged workers are persons marginally attached to the labor force who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for reasons such as thinks no work available, could not find work, lacks schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination.

⁵ Includes those who did not actively look for work in the prior 4 weeks for such reasons as child-care and transportation problems, as well as a small number for which reason for nonparticipation was not ascertained.

NOTE: Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data.