

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

(In thousands)

Category	Total		Age						Sex			
	2008	2009	16 to 24 years		25 to 54 years		55 years and over		Men		Women	
			2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
Total not in the labor force .....	79,501	81,659	15,452	16,207	21,255	21,823	42,794	43,629	30,593	32,013	48,908	49,646
Do not want a job now <sup>1</sup> .....	74,519	75,765	13,719	14,263	19,087	19,199	41,712	42,303	28,365	29,234	46,154	46,531
Want a job <sup>1</sup> .....	4,983	5,894	1,733	1,944	2,168	2,624	1,082	1,325	2,228	2,779	2,755	3,115
Did not search for work in previous year .....	2,826	3,075	913	960	1,145	1,241	768	874	1,187	1,344	1,639	1,731
Searched for work in previous year <sup>2</sup> .....	2,157	2,818	819	983	1,023	1,383	314	452	1,041	1,435	1,115	1,384
Not available to work now .....	543	592	252	275	244	256	48	61	214	251	329	341
Available to work now .....	1,614	2,226	568	708	780	1,127	266	391	827	1,184	787	1,043
Reason not currently looking:												
Discouragement over job prospects <sup>3</sup> .....	462	778	145	200	226	427	90	151	282	485	180	293
Reasons other than discouragement .....	1,152	1,449	422	509	554	699	176	240	545	699	607	749
Family responsibilities .....	171	209	35	38	111	131	25	41	45	50	126	159
In school or training .....	218	306	173	234	42	65	3	7	108	163	109	144
Ill health or disability .....	124	136	16	19	68	68	40	49	55	70	69	66
Other <sup>4</sup> .....	640	798	199	219	332	435	108	144	337	417	303	381

<sup>1</sup> Includes some persons who are not asked if they want a job.

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

<sup>3</sup> Includes believes no work available, could not find work, lacks necessary schooling or training, employer thinks too young or old, and other types of discrimination.

<sup>4</sup> 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.