

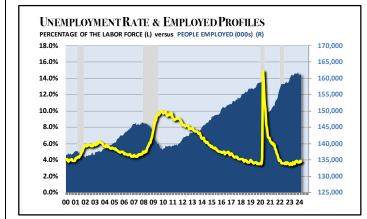
MERIDIAN ECONOMICS Trusted Insight, Effective Solutions

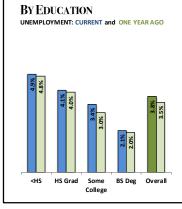
Business & Industry Consulting

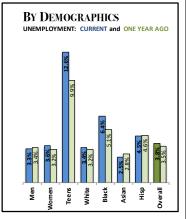
Strategic Solutions

Financial Investments Risk Managemen

EMPLOYMENT SECTOR







	Year-end		Past Six Months						Periodic Changes			
(numbers in thousands)	2021	2022	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	MoM	YoY	Feb-Apr20	Since Apr'20
Non-farm Payrolls SA	149,162	154,556	156,843	157,014	157,304	157,533	157,830	158,133	303	2,927	-21,442	27,088
Private Sector Employment	127,041	132,241	133,929	134,014	134,292	134,609	134,631	134,863	232	2,263	-20,432	25,555
Civilian Population	262,136	264,844	267,642	267,822	267,991	267,540	267,711	267,884	173	1,612	268	7,988
Civilian Labor Force	162,294	164,966	167,728	168,260	167,451	167,276	167,426	167,895	469	1,205	-8,065	11,414
Employed	155,975	159,244	161,222	161,969	161,183	161,152	160,968	161,466	498	642	-25,356	28,063
Unemployed	6,319	5,722	6,506	6,291	6,268	6,124	6,458	6,429	-29	563	17,291	-16,649
Average Hourly Earnings	\$31.40	\$32.82	\$33.93	\$34.10	\$34.27	\$34.55	\$34.57	\$34.69	\$0.12	\$1.38	-\$3.39	\$9.57
Long-term Unemployed	2,008	1,069	1,282	1,150	1,245	1,277	1,203	1,246	43	196	-163	307
Not in Labor Force	99,842	99,878	99,914	99,562	100,540	100,265	100,285	99,989	-296	407	8,333	-3,426
Underemployed	11,847	10,723	12,076	11,778	11,889	12,044	12,222	12,256	34	921	24,159	-23,421
Participation Rate	61.9%	62.3%	62.7%	62.8%	62.5%	62.5%	62.5%	62.7%	0.1%	0.1%	-3.2%	2.5%
Employed-Population	59.5%	60.1%	60.2%	60.5%	60.1%	60.2%	60.1%	60.3%	0.1%	-0.1%	-9.8%	8.9%
Unemployment Rate	3.9%	3.5%	3.9%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	3.9%	3.8%	0.0%	0.3%	11.2%	-10.9%
LT Unemp-Total Unemp	31.8%	18.7%	19.7%	18.3%	19.9%	20.9%	18.6%	19.4%	0.8%	1.5%	-15.0%	15.3%
Underemployment Rate	7.3%	6.5%	7.2%	7.0%	7.1%	7.2%	7.3%	7.3%	0.0%	0.5%	15.8%	-15.5%
Not in LF-Total Population	38%	38%	37%	37%	38%	37%	37%	37%	0%	-0.1%	3.2%	-2.5%

(April 2024)...... The Labor Department reports non-farm payrolls increased by 303 thousand in March while, in a separate survey, the nation's unemployment rate dropped slightly to 3.8%. Private payrolls increased by 232 thousand. Approximately 469 thousand rejoined the labor force while the civilian population increased by 173 thousand. The number of employed decreased by 498 thousand while the number of long-term unemployed (>27 weeks) increased by 43 thousand to 1.2 million people, or 19.4% of the unemployed (from last month's 18.6%).

Approximately 62.7 percent of the civilian population made up the labor force and about 60.3% of the population was employed.

The nation's underemployment rate (jobless, part-time desiring full-time and those deferring search over past 60 days) was unchanged at 7.3%, representing about 12.3 million people.

Over the past year, private payrolls have increased 2.2 million people while average hourly earnings has increased by \$1.38, or 4.1% - this compares with an average consumer inflation rate of 3.2% - thereby, a slightly improvement in consumers' purchasing power relative to inflation.

Strategically... The data shows that after losing over 20.4 million private sector jobs during the initial pandemic, approximately 27.1 million jobs have returned - a net increase from post-COVID April 2020 of about 25.3 million jobs - a net increase of 5.6 million jobs. However, over

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EMPLOYMENT REPORT

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