

**POP – Civilian Noninstitutional Population, 16+**

1. Thousands. Not seasonally adjusted.
2. First Monthly Vintage: 1998:M11
3. First Observation: 1948:M1
4. High-Frequency Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, *The Employment Situation*.  
Note: All data were collected electronically in real time.
5. Deep-History Source: *Employment and Earnings*, Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
Note: All data were collected electronically in real time.
6. Monthly Vintage Names: POPyyMmm, where yy is the year of the vintage (two digits), M represents the word month, and mm is the month of the vintage, collected on the date that the BLS releases its report entitled, “The Employment Situation,” ( $mm = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 12$ ).
7. Vintage Dates: Monthly vintages reflect the data available on the date that the BLS releases *The Employment Situation*. This is usually the first Friday of each month. When the first Friday falls very early in the month, the BLS sometimes releases its report on the second Friday of the month.

**Special notes.**

These monthly data on the civilian noninstitutional population (vintages 1998:M11 to present) were collected electronically in real time by the Research Department of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia.

1. **Historical Comparability.** The Bureau of Labor Statistics warns that the levels of such variables from the Current Population Survey (CPS) as the civilian noninstitutional population 16 years of age and over, the civilian labor force, and civilian employment may not be comparable over time due to changes in concepts and methods and the effects of population controls. The population controls often have minor effects on unemployment levels, unemployment rates, and labor force participation rates. For a complete description of these issues, see the appendix of any monthly edition of *Employment and Earnings*. (The section entitled “Historical Comparability” contains a comprehensive discussion of these issues.)

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