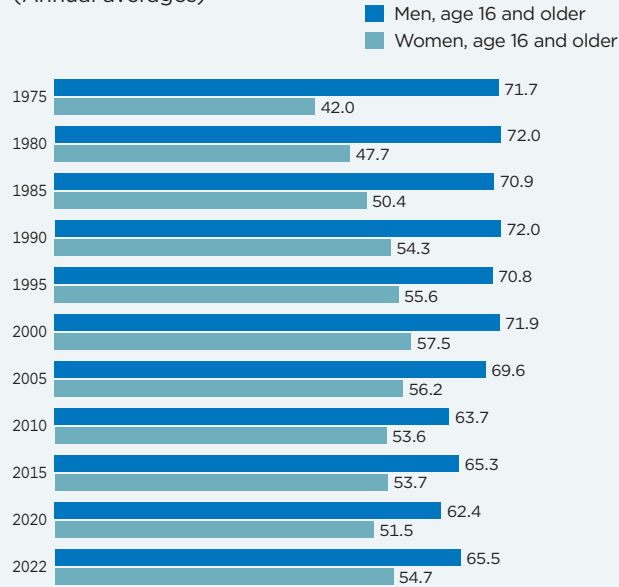


## Percentage of People Employed

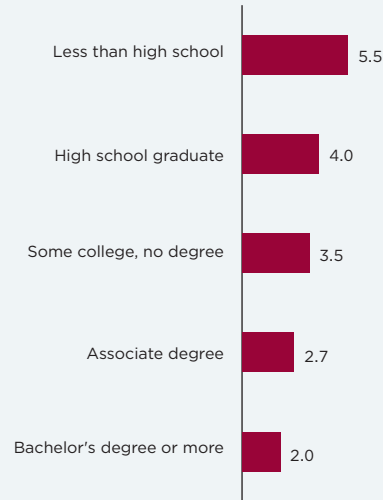
(Annual averages)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Unemployment Rate for People 25 Years and Older by Education: 2022

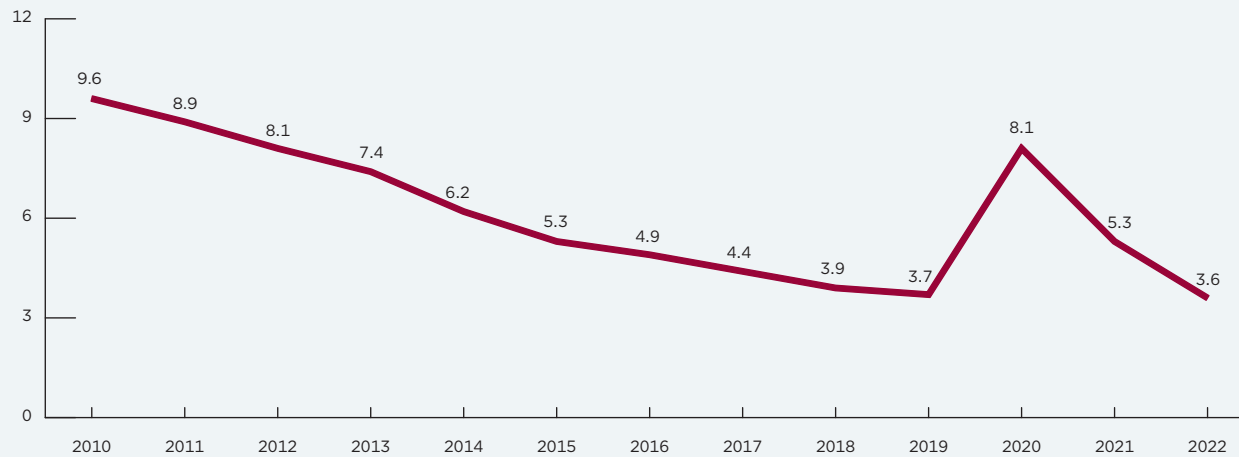
(Annual averages)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Unemployment Rate: 2010 to 2022

(Annual averages in percent)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

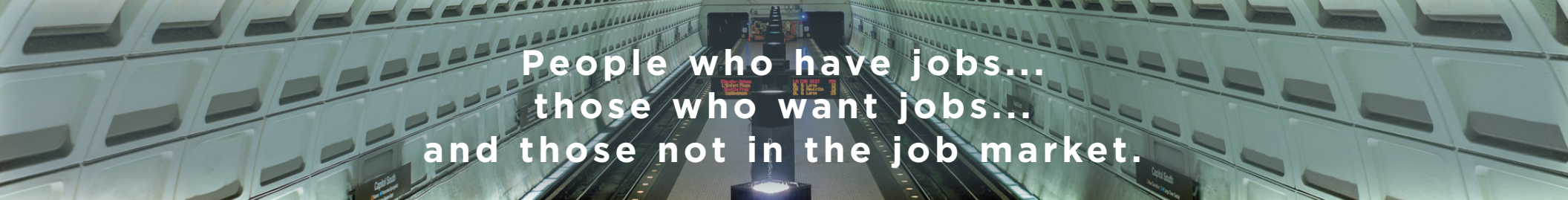
## Fact Sheet for the Current Population Survey



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 BC-1433

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**People who have jobs...  
those who want jobs...  
and those not in the job market.**

## **What this survey is about?**

The main purpose of the Current Population Survey (CPS) is to collect up-to-date figures on people who have jobs, those who want jobs, and those who are not in the market for jobs. The U.S. Census Bureau collects the information and the U.S. Department of Labor publishes the results. The survey results include a number of high-profile economic statistics, including the nation's monthly unemployment rate that you read or hear about in the news.

## **Why we need the Current Population Survey**

In a nation as large as ours and one that is changing so rapidly, we need up-to-date facts in order to plan effective programs for the future. In addition to a complete census (taken every 10 years) and the annual American Community Survey, it is essential that we obtain some items of information more frequently. On a monthly basis, we collect information on the number of people working, the kind of work they do, and the number of people looking for work (the unemployed) and report those data in the CPS.

## **Legal authorization**

Congress authorized the collection of most of the information requested in this survey under Title 13, U.S. Code, Sections 8b, 141, and 182; and Title 29, U.S. Code, Section 2. In some months, the survey

may contain questions authorized under laws other than those cited. You can obtain further information concerning the authority for any particular portion of the survey from the field representative who visits your household.

## **Why your answers are important**

People in government and private organizations need the statistics that we obtain from this survey to develop and evaluate economic policies that are consistent with the current needs of the nation. For this reason, it is extremely important that these statistics be as reliable as possible. The only way we can achieve this needed reliability is through the cooperation of sample households such as yours in providing complete and accurate information. Your answers represent your household and approximately 2,000 other households similar to yours. In all, we select about 59,000 households to be interviewed each month.

## **Additional questions**

In addition to questions about jobs, from time to time we ask questions about other important areas concerning the economic and social health of our nation. We may ask how much schooling people in your household have had, how many of them are attending school now, what kinds of work different members have done, whether or not you have moved in the past year, and other questions of a similar nature.

## **Number of times we will visit you**

We will contact this address each month for 4 months this year and again for 4 months 1 year from now.

## **How you are chosen**

We chose this address, not you as a person or a family. If you should move during the period, we will interview the new family that moves to this address.

## **The Census Bureau never reveals information about you**

All information given by you to the Census Bureau for this survey is confidential by law (Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 9). Every Census Bureau employee takes an oath to this effect and is subject to a penalty of a fine and jail if they disclose any census information given to them. We use computers to collect the survey data, but the information is encrypted to ensure its confidentiality. We present published information only in the form of statistical summaries, and we never release any information that could identify individuals. The Census Bureau has established rigid procedures and guidelines to ensure data confidentiality and is proud of the excellent reputation it has earned in this regard.

**Thank you for your participation in the  
Current Population Survey!**