

LATINOS CONTINUE TO SEE IMPROVEMENT

Employers Add 242,000 Jobs in February



HEALTH CARE LEADS JOB GROWTH

The health care industry led job growth in February adding 57,000 new jobs. Health care and social services represent the industry with the **highest projected** job growth between 2014 and 2024. Latinos are underrepresented in higher-paying hospital occupations, accounting for only 10% of hospital employees while comprising 16% of the total workforce.

The Employment Situation for Latino Workers in February 2016

The U.S. Department of Labor reported today that U.S. employers added 242,000 jobs in February 2016. This represents improved job growth, compared to the 151,000 jobs added in January. Still, the national unemployment rate held steady at 4.9% for the second month in a row. The Latino unemployment rate, at 5.4%, continued a steady four-month decline in February as more Latinos gained employment. The Latino unemployment rate has declined from 6.7% one year ago. Though still higher than the national rate, the gap between the Latino unemployment rate and the national rate is narrowing and shows signs of continued progress. Both the number of employed Latinos and the overall Latino labor force participation rate increased in February.

Indicators	Latinos, February 2015
Employed • Working people over the age of 16, including those temporarily absent from their jobs	25.2 million
Unemployed • Those who are available to work, make an effort to find a job, or expect to be called back from a layoff but are not working	1.4 million
Civilian Labor Force • The sum of employed and unemployed people	26.6 million
Not in the Labor Force • People over the age of 16 classified as neither employed nor unemployed	13.7 million
Unemployment Rate • Share of the labor force that is unemployed	5.4%
Labor Force Participation Rate • Share of the population over the age of 16 that is in the labor force	66.1%
Employment-Population Ratio • Share of the population over the age of 16 that is working	62.5%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment Status of the Hispanic or Latino Population by Sex and Age," *Current Population Survey*, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t03.htm> (accessed March 4, 2016), Table A-3.