

U.S. Employers Add 196,000 Jobs in March

Latino Unemployment Rate Increases to 4.7%



HEALTH CARE LEADS JOB GROWTH, ADDING 49,000 JOBS

In March, the health care sector added 49,000 jobs, with ambulatory health care services adding 27,000 jobs. Latinos, however, are underrepresented in the health care sector, making up only 13% of workers.

INDICATORS	National	Latinos
Employed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working people over the age of 16, including those temporarily absent from their jobs 	156.8 million	27.5 million
Unemployed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those who are available to work, trying to find a job, or expect to be called back from a layoff but are not working 	6.2 million	1.4 million
Civilian Labor Force <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sum of employed and unemployed people 	163.0 million	28.9 million
Not in the Labor Force <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People over the age of 16 classified as neither employed nor unemployed 	95.6 million	14.3 million
Unemployment Rate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share of the labor force that is unemployed 	3.8%	4.9%
Labor Force Participation Rate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share of the population over the age of 16 that is in the labor force 	63.0%	66.9%
Employment-Population Ratio <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share of the population over the age of 16 that is working 	60.6%	63.6%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment Status of the Hispanic or Latino Population by Sex and Age," *Current Population Survey*, <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empst.pdf> (accessed April 5, 2019), Table A and A-3.

Employment of Latinos in March 2019

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) reported that employers added 196,000 jobs in March, a significant increase from the 20,000 jobs added in February. Yet in March, the national unemployment rate remained at 3.8%. This may be because the number of employed persons remained at 157 million for the second consecutive month.

The Latino unemployment rate increased to 4.9% in March, up from a historic low of 4.3% in February. At 4.9%, the Latino unemployment rate remains significantly higher than the national rate of 3.8%. In March, Latinos saw an increase in those employed (+209,000), but also an increase in the number of unemployed (+60,000).

Despite high labor force participation and historically low unemployment, many Latino families continue to struggle to cover basic necessities. One contributing factor is insufficient wage growth, an important indicator of job quality and a key factor in economic security. Over the past year, average hourly earnings only rose by 2.7%, compared to the 3.5%–4% economists recommend for a healthy economy.

The following takes a closer look at Latino employment by gender and age:

- **Men (ages 20 years and older):** The Latino male unemployment rate increased from 4.3% in February to 4.6% in March. The number of employed Hispanic men increased by approximately 161,000 between February and March.
- **Women (ages 20 years and older):** The unemployment rate for Latinas increased from 4% in February to 4.4% in March. The number of employed Hispanic women decreased by approximately 10,000 over the last month.
- **Young Hispanic workers (ages 16–19 years old):** The unemployment rate for Latino youth decreased between February and March, from 17.4% to 14.3%. This may be due to young workers entering the labor force.