Related BLS programs | Related articles

## ABSTRACT

March 2009, Vol. 132, No. 3

## U.S. labor market in 2008: economy in recession

James Marschall Borbely

Economist, Division of Labor Force Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

E-mail: borbely.james@bls.gov

CPS data show that the labor market weakness that began during the second half of 2007 worsened during 2008 as the U.S. economy entered a recession; unemployment rose sharply, both employment and the employment-population ratio declined, and median weekly earnings grew at about the same rate as inflation in 2008.

Read excerpt → Download full article in PDF (305K)

Related BLS programs

Labor Force Statistics from the Current Population Survey

## Related Monthly Labor Review articles

Household survey indicators weaken in 2007.—Mar. 2008. Trends in labor force participation in the United States. —Oct. 2006. Lower unemployment in 2005.—Mar. 2006. Household survey indicators show some improvement in 2004.—Mar. 2005. The U.S. labor market in 2003: signs of improvement by year's end— Mar. 2004. U.S. labor market in 2002: continued weakness—Feb. 2003. U.S. labor market in 2001: economy enters a recession—Feb. 2002. The job market in 2000: slowing down as the year ended.—Feb. 2001.

The job market remains strong in 1999.—Feb. 2000.

Job growth slows during crises overseas. — Feb. 1999.

Strong job growth continues, unemployment declines in 1997.—Feb. 1998.

Employment in 1996: jobs up, unemployment down.—Feb. 1997.

Slower economic growth affects the 1995 Labor market.—Mar. 1996.

Strong employment gains continue in 1994.—Feb. 1995.

BLS introduces new range of alternative unemployment measures.—Oct. 1995.

Welcome | Current Issue | Index | Subscribe | Archives

Exit Monthly Labor Review Online:

BLS Home | Publications & Research Papers