



United States
Selected Economic Characteristics: 2004
 Data Set: 2004 American Community Survey

NOTE. Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

An * indicates that the estimate is significantly different (at a 90% confidence level) than the estimate from the most current year. A 'c' indicates the estimates for that year and the current year are both controlled; a statistical test is not appropriate.

Selected Economic Characteristics	2004 Percent Distribution	2003 Percent Distribution		2002 Percent Distribution		2001 Percent Distribution		2000 Percent Distribution	
EMPLOYMENT STATUS									
Population 16 years and over	220,794,313	218,256,211	*	216,041,422	*	212,724,547	*	209,625,756	*
In labor force	65.9%	66.0%		66.2%	*	66.1%	*	66.2%	*
Civilian labor force	65.5%	65.7%	*	65.8%	*	65.7%	*	65.8%	*
Employed	60.8%	60.7%		60.9%		61.7%	*	62.3%	*
Unemployed	4.7%	5.0%	*	4.9%	*	4.0%	*	3.5%	*
Armed Forces	0.3%	0.3%		0.3%		0.4%		0.4%	
Not in labor force	34.1%	34.0%		33.8%	*	33.9%	*	33.8%	*
Civilian labor force	144,720,309	143,374,440	*	142,223,883	*	139,794,999	*	137,971,417	*
Unemployed	7.2	7.6	*	7.4	*	6.2	*	5.3	*
Females 16 years and over	114,171,503	112,903,779	*	111,948,318	*	110,430,213	*	108,852,670	*
In labor force	58.9%	59.0%		59.2%	*	58.9%		59.1%	
Civilian labor force	58.8%	58.9%		59.1%	*	58.8%		59.0%	
Employed	54.5%	54.4%		54.7%		55.2%	*	55.7%	*
Own children under 6 years	22,863,721	22,498,477	*	22,311,074	*	22,052,230	*	21,863,252	*
All parents in family in labor force	59.5%	59.8%		60.3%	*	60.3%	*	60.7%	*
Own children 6 to 17 years	45,787,059	45,943,969	*	45,719,872		45,495,591	*	45,330,968	*
All parents in family in labor force	68.2%	68.6%		69.4%	*	69.6%	*	69.5%	*
Population 16 to 19 years	14,932,330	14,768,985	*	14,744,207	*	14,679,426	*	14,628,067	*
Not enrolled in school and not a H.S. graduate	7.6%	7.7%		8.7%	*	9.7%	*	10.6%	*
Unemployed or not in the labor force	4.6%	4.7%		4.9%	*	5.6%	*	5.6%	*
COMMUTING TO WORK									
Workers 16 years and over	130,831,187	129,141,982	*	128,617,952	*	128,244,898	*	127,731,766	*
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	77.7%	77.8%		77.4%	*	76.8%	*	76.3%	*
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	10.1%	10.4%	*	10.4%	*	10.7%	*	11.2%	*
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	4.6%	4.7%	*	4.8%	*	4.9%	*	5.0%	*
Walked	2.4%	2.3%	*	2.5%	*	2.6%	*	2.7%	*
Other means	1.4%	1.3%	*	1.4%		1.5%	*	1.6%	*
Worked at home	3.8%	3.5%	*	3.5%	*	3.4%	*	3.2%	*
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	24.7	24.3	*	24.4	*	24.3	*	24.4	*

Selected Economic Characteristics	2004 Percent Distribution	2003 Percent Distribution		2002 Percent Distribution		2001 Percent Distribution		2000 Percent Distribution	
Employed civilian population 16 years and over	134,259,460	132,422,387	*	131,659,263	*	131,189,176	*	130,613,521	*
OCCUPATION									
Management, professional, and related occupations	34.1%	34.1%		33.8%	*	33.7%	*	33.3%	*
Service occupations	16.2%	16.1%		15.7%	*	15.3%	*	15.1%	*
Sales and office occupations	26.2%	26.2%		26.5%	*	26.6%	*	26.6%	*
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0.7%	0.7%		0.7%		0.7%		0.8%	*
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair occupations	9.8%	9.5%	*	9.4%	*	9.5%	*	9.5%	*
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	13.1%	13.3%	*	13.8%	*	14.2%	*	14.7%	*
INDUSTRY									
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	1.8%	1.8%		1.8%		1.8%		1.9%	
Construction	7.5%	7.2%	*	7.0%	*	7.0%	*	6.8%	*
Manufacturing	12.1%	12.3%		13.0%	*	13.6%	*	14.2%	*
Wholesale trade	3.8%	3.7%		3.6%	*	3.6%	*	3.8%	*
Retail trade	11.7%	11.6%		11.6%		11.9%		11.9%	*
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	5.0%	5.0%		5.2%	*	5.4%	*	5.2%	*
Information	2.6%	2.6%	*	2.8%	*	3.1%	*	3.1%	*
Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing	7.1%	7.1%		7.0%		6.9%	*	6.8%	*
Professional, scientific, and management, and administrative and waste management services	9.7%	9.7%		9.5%	*	9.6%		9.3%	*
Educational services, and health care, and social assistance	20.4%	20.6%	*	20.6%		19.8%	*	19.3%	*
Arts, entertainment, and recreation, and accommodation, and food services	8.5%	8.4%	*	8.1%	*	7.9%	*	8.0%	*
Other services, except public administration	4.9%	4.9%		4.8%		4.7%	*	4.9%	
Public administration	5.0%	5.0%		4.9%		4.8%	*	4.8%	*
CLASS OF WORKER									
Private wage and salary workers	77.7%	77.5%		77.6%		78.3%	*	78.5%	*
Government workers	14.9%	15.2%	*	15.2%	*	14.5%	*	14.2%	*
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	7.2%	7.1%	*	7.0%	*	6.9%	*	6.9%	*
Unpaid family workers	0.3%	0.3%		0.3%		0.3%		0.3%	*
INCOME AND BENEFITS (IN 2004 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)									
Total households	109,902,090	108,419,506	*	107,366,878	*	106,428,857	*	104,819,002	*
Less than \$10,000	8.9%	8.7%		8.5%	*	8.5%	*	8.3%	*
\$10,000 to \$14,999	6.3%	6.3%		6.3%		6.1%	*	6.1%	*
\$15,000 to \$24,999	12.3%	12.4%		12.0%	*	12.1%	*	12.2%	
\$25,000 to \$34,999	12.0%	12.0%		12.1%		12.2%	*	12.1%	
\$35,000 to \$49,999	15.5%	15.6%	*	15.7%	*	15.8%	*	15.7%	*
\$50,000 to \$74,999	19.0%	19.1%		19.4%	*	19.3%	*	19.5%	*
\$75,000 to \$99,999	11.1%	11.2%	*	11.1%		11.4%	*	11.2%	
\$100,000 to \$149,999	9.4%	9.3%		9.5%		9.3%	*	9.4%	
\$150,000 to \$199,999	2.9%	2.9%		2.8%		2.8%		2.8%	
\$200,000 or more	2.7%	2.5%	*	2.6%	*	2.5%	*	2.7%	
Median household income (dollars)	44,684	44,686		45,114	*	45,158	*	45,327	*
Mean household income (dollars)	60,070	59,596	*	60,091		60,142		60,782	*
With earnings									
Mean earnings (dollars)	61,341	60,944	*	61,322		61,273		61,457	
With Social Security									
Mean Social Security income (dollars)	13,046	12,991	*	12,958	*	12,767	*	12,698	*
With retirement income									
	17.2%	17.0%		16.9%	*	16.6%	*	16.8%	*

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Mean retirement income (dollars)	17,798	17,462	*	17,314	*	17,168	*	17,053	*
With Supplemental Security Income	3.8%	3.9%		3.7%		3.7%	*	3.8%	
Mean Supplemental Security Income (dollars)	6,907	6,912		6,844		6,854		6,834	
With cash public assistance income	2.4%	2.5%	*	2.4%		2.4%		2.6%	*
Mean cash public assistance income (dollars)	3,116	3,167		3,141		3,265	*	3,281	*
With Food Stamp benefits in the past 12 months	7.2%	6.7%	*	6.3%	*	6.0%	*	6.2%	*
Families	73,885,953	73,057,960	*	72,453,348	*	71,750,033	*	70,975,913	*
Less than \$10,000	5.5%	5.3%	*	5.2%	*	4.9%	*	4.9%	*
\$10,000 to \$14,999	4.0%	4.1%		4.0%		3.9%		3.9%	
\$15,000 to \$24,999	10.1%	10.0%		9.8%	*	9.9%	*	9.9%	
\$25,000 to \$34,999	11.0%	11.1%		11.0%		11.2%	*	11.1%	
\$35,000 to \$49,999	15.6%	15.8%		15.8%		16.0%	*	15.9%	*
\$50,000 to \$74,999	21.3%	21.4%		21.7%	*	21.7%	*	21.9%	*
\$75,000 to \$99,999	13.5%	13.7%	*	13.5%		13.9%	*	13.6%	
\$100,000 to \$149,999	12.0%	11.8%		12.0%		11.7%	*	11.7%	*
\$150,000 to \$199,999	3.7%	3.6%		3.6%		3.6%	*	3.6%	
\$200,000 or more	3.5%	3.2%	*	3.3%	*	3.2%	*	3.4%	
Median family income (dollars)	53,692	53,631		54,318	*	54,077	*	54,419	*
Mean family income (dollars)	69,593	68,719	*	69,309		69,233		69,770	
Per capita income (dollars)	24,020	23,731	*	23,906		23,964		23,887	*
Nonfamily households	36,016,137	35,361,546	*	34,913,530	*	34,678,824	*	33,843,089	*
Median nonfamily income (dollars)	27,226	27,046		27,492	*	27,540	*	27,910	*
Mean nonfamily income (dollars)	38,165	38,232		38,466		38,872	*	39,156	*
Median earnings:	26,691	26,659		26,789		26,647		26,526	*
Male full-time, year-round workers (dollars)	41,194	40,951	*	41,059		40,783	*	40,046	*
Female full-time, year-round workers (dollars)	31,374	31,030	*	30,702	*	30,433	*	29,832	*
PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES AND PEOPLE WHOSE INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS IS BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL									
All families	10.1	9.8	*	9.6	*	9.2	*	9.3	*
With related children under 18 years	15.5	14.9	*	14.7	*	13.9	*	14.3	*
With related children under 5 years only	16.7	16.5		15.9	*	15.2	*	15.5	*
Married couple families	5.0	4.8	*	4.7	*	4.6	*	4.6	*
With related children under 18 years	6.9	6.6	*	6.5	*	6.0	*	6.2	*
With related children under 5 years only	6.5	6.2		6.4		6.0	*	6.1	
Families with female householder, no husband present	29.2	28.3	*	28.3	*	27.3	*	27.3	*
With related children under 18 years	37.6	36.5	*	36.3	*	35.0	*	35.4	*
With related children under 5 years only	46.2	46.5		44.6		42.9	*	43.4	*
All people	13.1	12.7	*	12.4	*	12.1	*	12.2	*
Under 18 years	18.4	17.7	*	17.6	*	16.9	*	17.3	*
Related children under 18 years	18.1	17.3	*	17.2	*	16.4	*	16.8	*
Related children under 5 years	21.0	20.5		19.8	*	18.8	*	19.4	*
Related children 5 to 17 years	16.9	16.1	*	16.2	*	15.5	*	15.9	*
18 years and over	11.2	11.0	*	10.7	*	10.5	*	10.5	*
18 to 64 years	11.6	11.3	*	10.9	*	10.5	*	10.6	*
65 years and over	9.4	9.8	*	9.6		10.2	*	9.7	*
People in families	11.7	11.3	*	11.0	*	10.7	*	10.8	*
Unrelated individuals 15 years and over	22.3	22.3		21.6	*	21.6	*	21.5	*

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 American Community Survey

Estimates from two years are "significantly different" if their difference is large enough to infer that there was a less than 10 percent chance that the difference came entirely from random variation.

Notes:

- The number of householders does not necessarily equal the number of households because of differences in the weighting schemes for the population and occupied housing units.
- Employment and unemployment estimates may vary from the official labor force data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics because of differences in survey design and data collection. For guidance on differences in employment and unemployment estimates from different sources go to [Labor Force Guidance](#).
- Workers include members of the Armed Forces and civilians who were at work last week.
- Occupation codes are 4-digit codes, but are still based on Standard Occupational Classification 2000.
- Industry codes are 4-digit codes and are based on the North American Industry Classification System 2002. However, the Industry categories adhere to the guidelines issued in Clarification Memorandum No. 2, "NAICS Alternate Aggregation Structure for Use By U.S. Statistical Agencies," issued by the Office of Management and Budget.

Explanation of Symbols:

1. An '-' entry in an Estimate column indicates that no sample observations were available to compute an estimate.
2. An '-' following a median estimate means the median falls in the lowest interval of an open-ended distribution.
3. An '+' following a median estimate means the median falls in the upper interval of an open-ended distribution.
4. An 'N' entry in an Estimate column indicates that data for this geographic area cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small.