

# November Job Creation Drops to 155,000

National Unemployment Rate Remains Unchanged at 3.7%



## HEALTH CARE LEADS JOB GROWTH WITH 32,000 JOBS

In November, health care added 32,000 jobs, with ambulatory health care services and hospitals leading the growth. Latinos are underrepresented in the health care sector, making up only 13% of workers.

INDICATORS	National	Latinos
<b>Employed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working people over the age of 16, including those temporarily absent from their jobs</li> </ul>	156.8 million	27.5 million
<b>Unemployed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Those who are available to work, trying to find a job, or expect to be called back from a layoff but are not working</li> </ul>	6.0 million	1.3 million
<b>Civilian Labor Force</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The sum of employed and unemployed people</li> </ul>	162.8 million	28.8 million
<b>Not in the Labor Force</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People over the age of 16 classified as neither employed nor unemployed</li> </ul>	95.9 million	14.3 million
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share of the labor force that is unemployed</li> </ul>	3.7%	4.5%
<b>Labor Force Participation Rate</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share of the population over the age of 16 that is in the labor force</li> </ul>	62.9%	66.8%
<b>Employment-Population Ratio</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share of the population over the age of 16 that is working</li> </ul>	60.6%	63.8%

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 December 7, 2018), Table A and A-3.

## Employment of Latinos in November 2018

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that employers added 155,000 jobs in November, down from 250,000 jobs in October. In November, the national unemployment rate remained the same at 3.7%, continuing the lowest unemployment rate in decades. This may be because individuals are finding more work, as employers have added an average of 209,000 jobs monthly over the past 12 months.

The Latino unemployment rate increased slightly to 4.5% in November, from 4.4% in October. The 4.4% Latino unemployment rate in October was a historic low. However, despite the hard work put forth by Latinos, which has contributed to lowering the unemployment rate, Latino unemployment remains higher than the national rate of 3.7%. Latinos saw an increase in those employed (+258,000) and an increase in the number of unemployed (+48,000). There was an increase of 306,000 Latinos in the civilian labor force from October to November, which may have contributed to the increase in the labor force participation rate, up to 66.8% from 66.2%.

Despite high labor force participation and 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 2.8%, compared to the 3.5% to 4% economists recommend for a healthy economy. Another important indicator of job quality and a strong labor market is the ability to find full-time work. Yet, in November, the total number of people working part-time but who would prefer full-time employment continued to increase, rising to a total of 4.8 million.

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

- **Men (ages 20 years and older):** The Latino male unemployment rate decreased from 3.9% in October to 3.4% in November. The number of employed Hispanic men increased by approximately 218,000 between October and November.
- **Women (ages 20 years and older):** The unemployment rate for Latinas increased from 4.3% in October to 4.6% in November. Yet, the number of employed Hispanic women increased by approximately 40,000 over the last month.
- **Young Hispanic workers (ages 16-19 years old):** The unemployment rate for Latino youth increased significantly between October and November, from 11.6% to 15.6%. This may be due to young workers entering the labor force.