

# U.S. Employers Add 236,000 Jobs in April

Latino Unemployment Rate Decreases to 4.2%, a historic low.



## PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES LEADS JOB GROWTH, ADDING 76,000 JOBS

In April, the professional and business services sector added 76,000 jobs, with administrative and support services adding 53,000 jobs. Latinos are well represented in the professional and business services sector, making up 22.5% of workers.

INDICATORS	National	Latinos
<b>Employed</b> • Working people over the age of 16, including those temporarily absent from their jobs	156.7 million	27.4 million
<b>Unemployed</b> • Those who are available to work, trying to find a job, or expect to be called back from a layoff but are not working	5.8 million	1.2 million
<b>Civilian Labor Force</b> • The sum of employed and unemployed people	162.5 million	28.6 million
<b>Not in the Labor Force</b> • People over the age of 16 classified as neither employed nor unemployed	96.2 million	14.7 million
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> • Share of the labor force that is unemployed	3.6%	4.2%
<b>Labor Force Participation Rate</b> • Share of the population over the age of 16 that is in the labor force	62.8%	65.9%
<b>Employment-Population Ratio</b> • Share of the population over the age of 16 that is working	60.6%	63.2%

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/empsit.pdf> (accessed May 3, 2019), Table A and A-3.

## Employment of Latinos in April 2019

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that employers added 263,000 jobs in April, a significant increase from the 196,000 jobs added in March. In April, the national unemployment rate declined to 3.6%.

The Latino unemployment rate decreased to 4.2% in April, a new historic low. At 4.2%, the Latino unemployment rate still remains higher than the national rate of 3.6%. In April, Latinos saw a decrease in the number of employed (-218,000), and also a decrease in the number of unemployed (-165,000).

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% to 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 decreased to 3.7% from 4.6% in March. Yet, the number of employed Hispanic men decreased by approximately 159,000 between March and April.
- **Women (ages 20 years and older):** The unemployment rate for Latinas decreased to 3.7% in April from 4.4% in March. The number of employed Hispanic women increased by approximately 9,000 over the last month.
- **Young Hispanic workers (ages 16–19 years old):** The unemployment rate for Latino youth remained at 15.9% in April. This may be due to young workers entering the labor force.