

## Indicator 62. Employment of Young Adults

### Labor force participation of persons 16 years old and over, by sex and age: 1950 to 1995

Year	Males				Females			
	16 years old and over	16 to 19 years old	20 to 24 years old	25 to 34 years old	16 years old and over	16 to 19 years old	20 to 24 years old	25 to 34 years old
<b>Civilian labor force,<sup>1</sup> in thousands</b>								
1950	43,817	2,504	4,632	10,527	18,389	1,712	2,675	4,092
1955	44,475	2,369	3,221	10,806	20,548	1,723	2,445	4,252
1960	46,388	2,787	4,123	10,251	23,240	2,054	2,580	4,131
1965	48,255	3,397	5,926	10,653	26,200	2,513	3,375	4,336
1970	51,228	4,008	5,709	11,311	31,543	3,241	4,874	5,698
1975	56,299	4,805	7,398	13,854	37,475	4,065	6,069	8,456
1980	61,453	4,998	8,287	16,327	45,487	4,380	7,093	11,842
1985	64,411	4,134	8,283	18,808	51,050	3,767	7,434	14,742
1990	68,234	3,866	7,291	19,813	56,554	3,544	6,552	15,990
1992	69,184	3,547	7,242	19,355	57,798	3,204	6,461	15,748
1993	69,633	3,564	7,164	19,053	58,407	3,261	6,393	15,412
1994	70,817	3,896	7,540	18,854	60,239	3,585	6,592	15,499
1995	71,360	4,036	7,338	18,670	60,944	3,729	6,349	15,528
<b>Percent in labor force<sup>2</sup></b>								
1950	86.4	63.2	89.0	96.2	33.9	41.0	46.1	34.0
1955	85.4	58.9	90.8	97.7	35.7	39.7	46.0	34.9
1960	83.3	56.1	88.1	97.5	37.7	39.3	46.1	36.0
1965	80.7	53.8	88.0	97.4	39.3	38.0	50.0	38.6
1970	79.7	56.1	83.3	96.4	43.3	44.0	57.7	45.0
1975	77.9	59.1	84.5	95.2	46.3	49.1	64.1	54.9
1980	77.4	60.5	85.9	95.2	51.5	52.9	68.9	65.5
1985	76.3	56.8	85.0	94.7	54.5	52.1	71.8	70.9
1990	76.1	55.7	84.3	94.2	57.5	51.8	71.6	73.6
1992	75.6	53.3	83.3	93.8	57.8	49.2	71.2	74.1
1993	75.2	53.1	83.1	93.5	57.9	49.9	71.3	73.6
1994	75.1	54.1	83.1	92.6	58.8	51.3	71.0	74.0
1995	75.0	54.8	83.1	93.0	58.9	52.2	70.3	74.9
<b>Percent unemployed<sup>3</sup></b>								
1950	5.1	12.7	7.7	4.2	5.7	11.4	6.3	5.3
1955	4.2	11.6	7.0	3.0	4.9	10.2	5.4	4.7
1960	5.4	15.3	8.9	4.8	5.9	13.9	8.3	6.3
1965	4.0	14.1	6.3	3.0	5.5	15.7	7.3	5.5
1970	4.4	15.0	8.4	3.4	5.9	15.6	7.9	5.7
1975	7.9	20.1	14.3	7.0	9.3	19.7	12.7	9.1
1980	6.9	18.2	12.5	6.7	7.4	17.2	10.3	7.2
1985	7.0	19.5	11.4	6.6	7.4	17.6	10.7	7.4
1990	5.8	16.3	9.1	5.5	5.4	14.7	8.5	5.6
1992	7.8	21.5	12.2	7.8	6.9	18.5	10.2	7.3
1993	7.1	20.4	11.3	6.9	6.5	17.4	9.6	6.7
1994	6.2	19.0	10.2	5.9	6.0	16.2	9.2	6.2
1995	5.6	18.4	9.2	5.1	5.6	16.1	9.0	5.7

<sup>1</sup> The civilian labor force includes all employed persons, plus those seeking employment; it excludes persons in the military.

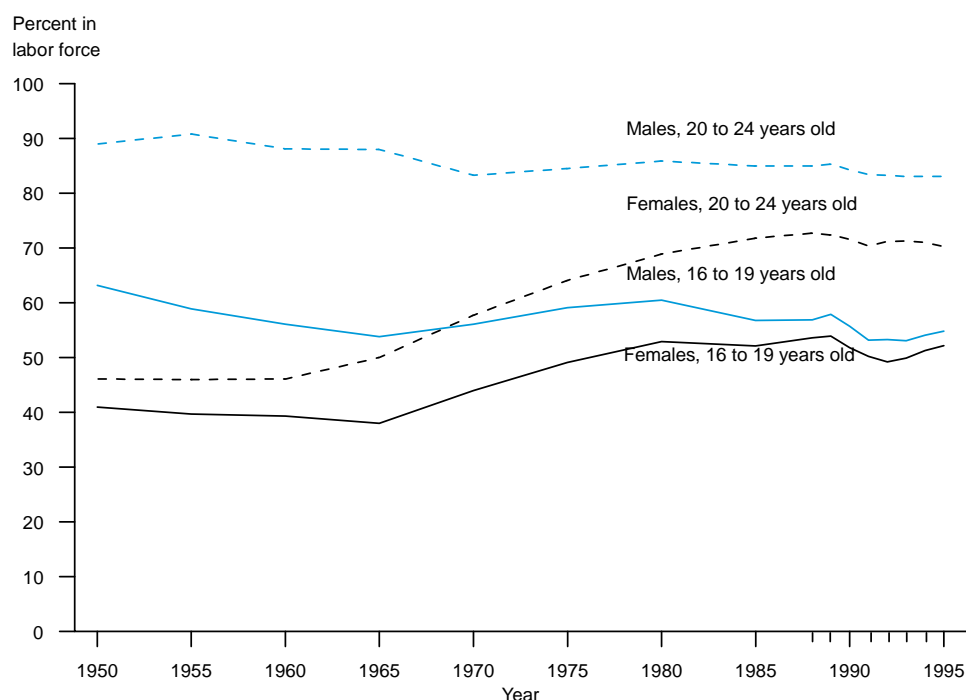
<sup>2</sup> The labor force participation rate is the percentage of persons either employed or seeking employment.

<sup>3</sup> The unemployment rate is the proportion of those in the labor force who are not working and are seeking employment.

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employment and Earnings*, (January issues); *Handbook of Labor Statistics*, Bulletin 2217. U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1956 and 1987*; and *Current Population Reports*, Series P-50, nos. 31 and 72; and unpublished data. Council of Economic Advisors, *Economic Report of the President, 1987*.

## Indicator 62. Employment of Young Adults

### Labor force participation rate of young adults, by sex and age: 1950 to 1994



**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Employment and Earnings* (January issues); *Handbook of Labor Statistics*, Bulletin 2217. U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, *Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1956 and 1987*; and *Current Population Reports*, Series P-50, nos. 31 and 72; and unpublished data. Council of Economic Advisers, *Economic Report of the President, 1987*.

The proportion of young men 20 to 24 years old in the labor force has remained relatively steady over the past 25 years. Young women's participation in the labor force grew significantly during the 1960s, 1970s, and early 1980s. Between 1960 and 1985, the proportion of women 20 to 24 years old in the labor force rose from 46 percent to 72 percent, but there has been little change since then.