

## Latino Unemployment Rate At 7.9%

No change from March 2021, but the Latino jobless rate remains well above the national average and nearly double the pre-pandemic average.

INDICATORS	National	Latinos
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> Share of the labor force that is unemployed	6.1%	7.9%
<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	9.8 million	2.3 million
<b>Employed</b> Working people over the age of 16, including those temporarily absent from their jobs	151.2 million	26.8 million
<b>Labor Force Participation Rate</b> Share of the population over the age of 16 that is in the labor force	61.7%	65.3%

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 month date, year), Table A and A-3.

### Employment in April 2021

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported that the economy added 216,000 jobs in April 2021, missing analysts' estimates and suggesting a slower path to an economic recovery. The national unemployment rate rose slightly to 6.1%. Additionally, BLS revised the March 2021 report to show that the economy gained 770,000 jobs, unfortunately, 146,000 fewer jobs than was originally reported.

Employment in leisure and hospitality saw additional growth as pandemic-related restrictions continue to ease in many parts of the country. However, sectors including temporary help services, courier and messengers, manufacturing, and retail experienced job loss. In April, 9.4 million workers reported that they had been unable to work because their employer closed or lost businesses due to the pandemic. This measure is down from 11.4 million in March 2021.

- At 7.9% in April, Latino unemployment saw no change from March 2021. Unemployment for Latinos continues to hover at nearly double the pre-pandemic average of 4% and higher than the national average. The overall jobless rate is down considerably from the historic high of 18.9% in April 2020 but remains well above pre-pandemic levels. The number of unemployed workers is at 9.8 million—up slightly from March 2021 and representing four million more workers than in February 2020.
- The leisure and hospitality sector, where Latino workers are overrepresented, continued to see growth this month, adding an additional 331,000 jobs. More than half of the increase was in food services and drinking places (+187,000). Job gains also occurred in local education systems (+31,000), social assistance including child day care services (+23,000), and other services industries like repair and maintenance (+14,000) and personal and laundry services (+14,000). In all these sectors, employment remains far below their pre-pandemic February 2020 levels despite the gains that have occurred.
- This month showed a 0.3% decrease in the overall Latino labor force participation. The decrease in the Latino labor force’s participation can be partly attributed to the 0.7% drop in women’s employment. Although reports indicate the U.S. economy is starting to move closer to a recovery, there are still two million fewer women in the labor force than before the pandemic.<sup>1</sup> It is critical that women, particularly Latina and Black moms, receive the assistance they need to ensure they’re not left behind. Significant and inclusive federal policies to expand universal pre-k, child care, and paid leave would help Latina moms better balance paid work and family responsibilities, benefiting the overall economy.

## About US

UnidosUS, previously known as NCLR (National Council of La Raza), is the nation’s largest Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization. Through its unique combination of expert research, advocacy, programs, and an [Affiliate Network](#) of nearly 300 community-based organizations across the United States and Puerto Rico, UnidosUS simultaneously challenges the social, economic, and political barriers that affect Latinos at the national and local levels.

For more than 50 years, UnidosUS has united communities and different groups seeking common ground through collaboration, and that share a desire to make our country stronger. For more information on UnidosUS, visit [www.unidosus.org](http://www.unidosus.org) or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

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<sup>1</sup> “Moms Are Struggling to Break Back Into the U.S. Workforce,” *Bloomberg*. April 16, 2021. <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-16/labor-participation-rate-2021-women-especially-moms-lag-behind-everyone-else>