

2009

District of Columbia Economic Report

Department of Employment Services
Office of Labor Market Research and Information

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Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
HIGHLIGHTS.....	4
POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS.....	5
Age and Gender.....	5
Race and Ethnicity	7
Income.....	7
Education.....	8
JOB MARKET ANALYSIS.....	9
Non-Farm Payroll Employment.....	9
District of Columbia Industry Sector Employment.....	10
Industry Sector Highlights: December 2008 – December 2009	11
COVERED EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: 2009.....	11
Wage and Salary Employment by Major Industry Sectors.....	11
LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS: 2009.....	13
District of Columbia Civilian Labor Force	14
Unemployment and Labor Force Participation Rates by Population Demographic	14
Unemployment Rates by Wards	17
Mass Layoff Statistics.....	18
Top 20 Private Sector Employers in the District of Columbia	19
OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: 2009.....	19



INTRODUCTION

Recessions affect regions in different ways. The latest recession heavily hit areas of the country with a high reliance on construction, manufacturing and finance. The District of Columbia's (District) economy primarily relies on service-oriented firms and was partially spared the severity of the recession because of the presence of the federal government, and growth in the educational and health services industries. However, the District was not immune to high unemployment rates. The city continued to be challenged by the fact that many of its residents in the most economically-challenged segments of the city lack the skills necessary to compete in a regional labor market that increasingly requires post-secondary education. The District is home to some of the most educated and high-income households in the nation, but a sizable percentage of the population lacks education beyond a high school diploma, and many residents live in areas of chronic poverty.

The 2009 Annual Economic Report for the District of Columbia addresses such questions as: *1) What are the current demographics of the available labor pool? 2) How did the economic downturn affect the District's economy? And 3) What were the effects on employment by industry sectors?*

The Department of Employment Services (DOES) submits this report in fulfillment of its commitment to provide past year statistical information as well as current year information. It was prepared in accordance with guidelines from the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (ETA), Program Year 2009 Workforce Information Grant to aid District of Columbia policy makers, the District of Columbia Workforce Investment Council, and DOES program managers and administrators of workforce development programs.



HIGHLIGHTS

- The “Great Recession” that started in December 2007 was officially declared over in June 2009, according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.
- In 2009, total District population increased by 7,824, or 1.32 percent. All ethnic groups, except Asians, reported an increase in population. The African American population increased by 1,431; Whites increased by 3,849; Latinos increased by 1,901; Asians decreased by 2,431; and all other races increased by 3,074. The District’s population is younger than the national average, and its working age cohort accounted for the largest proportion of the District’s population.
- Until recently, the size of the District’s labor force has generally increased with its civilian population. In 2007, the civilian population and labor force experienced double digit growth, while the growth rates for 2008 and 2009 were relatively unchanged at 1 percent for the civilian population and less than 3 percent for the labor force.
- Whites accounted for the highest proportion in the labor force (51 percent), followed by African Americans (44 percent), and Latinos (10 percent). Males had the highest labor force participation rate at 74.7 percent compared to 64.5 percent for females; Whites had the highest labor force participation rate at 80.6 percent compared to African Americans who had the lowest participation rate at 58.8 percent.
- The average unemployment rate for African Americans in 2009 was 15.6 percent, compared to 4.2 percent for Whites, and 8.4 percent for Latinos. The unemployment rate of 16.4 percent for African American males was the highest of any group.
- The District’s youth, ages 16 - 19, experienced extremely high unemployment rates in 2009 – averaging 49.3 percent. African American youths experienced the highest unemployment at 56.4 percent.
- The District had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of \$40,779, median household income of \$59,200, and median family income of \$71,208. About 13.0 percent of families and 18.4 percent of District individuals lived below the poverty line, and the child poverty rate was over 29 percent. Nationally, the District had the second highest child poverty rate in the country and the fourth highest among U.S. families living below the poverty level.
- The city had a more highly educated population than the nation as a whole. The data show a definitive link between college education and job prospects. Twelve of the top 20 employers in the District were either universities or hospitals.
- First-time unemployment insurance claim filings more than quadrupled from 456 to 1,472 (+223 percent) and almost all demographic groups experienced a rise in first-time claim filings.
- Total non-farm wage and salary employment decreased by 2,200 jobs, or 0.31 percent, to 701,700 jobs.
- From December 2007 to June 2009, the nation lost more than 6.7 million payroll jobs – an average of almost 373,000 jobs a month. Over the same period, the District recorded a gain of 3,800 jobs and averaged more than 200 new jobs a month. The District was among a few states to add jobs during this period.



POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

In 1950, the District's population peaked at 802,128 persons. The city then experienced a five-decade population decline, losing more than 230,000 persons (or 29 percent) by 2000 (See Table 1). The 2000 U.S. Census revealed a reversal of the declining trend and showed the city's population steadily increasing, to 579,059 persons in 2009. During the same time period, the population under 18 years of age decreased by 1,302, or 1.1 percent, to an estimated 113,710 persons, while the population over 18 years of age increased by 28,900 or 6.3 percent to an estimated 485,947 persons in 2009. Also, in 2009, women accounted for 53 percent of the District's population, compared to 49.3 percent nationally.

Table 1: The District of Columbia Historical Population Trends, 1800 to 2009

Census	Populations	Percent Change			
1800	8,144	****			
1810	15,471	90.0%			
1820	23,336	50.8%			
1830	30,261	29.7%			
1840	33,745	11.5%			
1850	51,687	53.2%			
1860	75,080	45.3%			
1870	131,700	75.4%			
1880	177,624	34.9%			
1890	230,392	29.7%			
1900	278,718	21.0%			
1910	331,069	18.8%	Survey Estimates	Populations	Percent Change
1920	437,571	32.2%	July 1, 2001	577,678	0.98
1930	486,869	11.3%	July 1, 2002	579,112	0.25
1940	663,091	36.2%	July 1, 2003	577,371	-0.30
1950	802,178	21.0%	July 1, 2004	579,521	0.37
1960	763,956	-4.8%	July 1, 2005	582,049	0.44
1970	756,510	-1.0%	July 1, 2006	585,419	0.58
1980	638,333	-15.6%	July 1, 2007	587,868	0.42
1990	606,900	-4.9%	July 1, 2008	591,833	0.67
2000	572,059	-5.7%	July 1, 2009	599,657	1.32

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and American Community Survey

Age and Gender

The District has a younger population than the nation on average, with a median age of 35.1, compared to 36.8 for the U.S. (Table2). The 2009 U.S. Census Bureau estimates (Figure 1) that younger workers in the 20 – 34 year old group account for 27.1 percent of the District's population, compared to 20.8 percent nationally. By contrast, the District's proportion of the population in the 50 – 64 age group is 17.1 percent compared to 18.7 percent nationally.

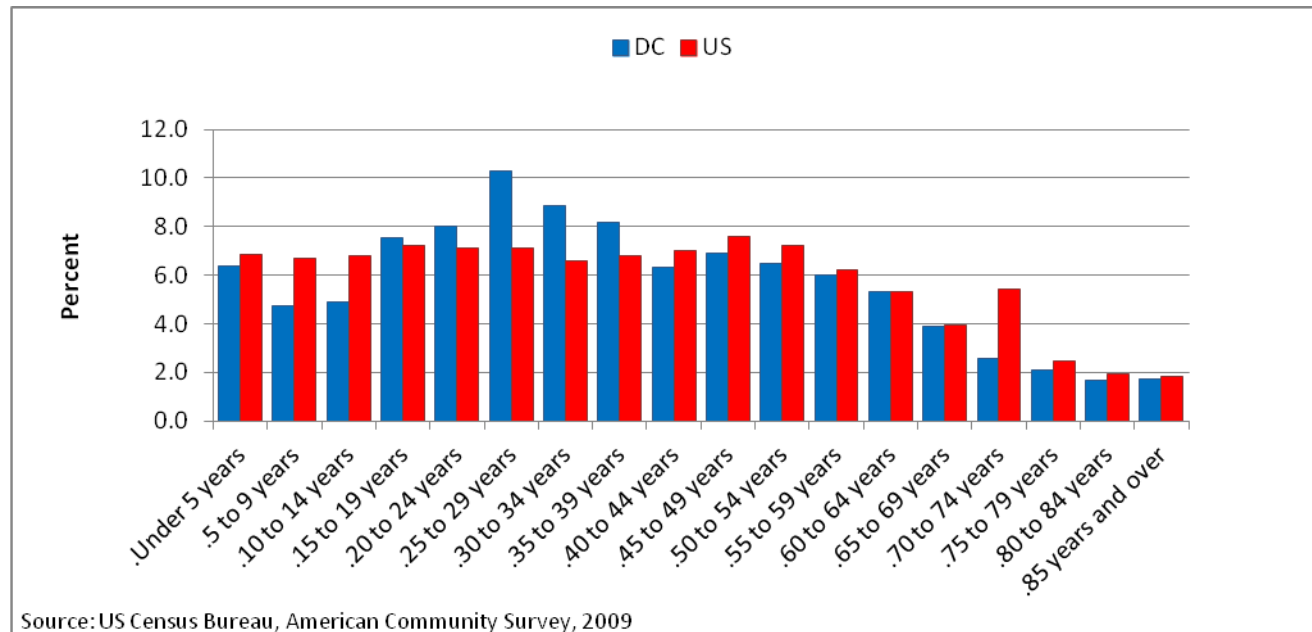


Table 2: District of Columbia Population by Age and Gender

Gender and Age	Population Estimates		Census Population 2000	Change From		Percent Change From	
	July 1, 2009	July 1, 2008		2008	2000	2008	2000
Both Sexes	599,657	591,833	572,059	7,824	27,598	1.32%	4.82%
Under 18 years	113,710	112,016	115,012	1,694	-1,302	1.51%	1.13%
18 years and over	485,947	479,817	457,047	6,130	28,900	1.28%	6.32%
Median age (years)	35.1	35.0	34.6	0.1	0.5	0.23%	1.32%
Male	281,649	279,880	269,366	1,769	12,283	0.63%	4.56%
Under 18 years	57,205	57,078	57,920	127	-715	0.22%	1.23%
18 years and over	224,444	222,802	211,446	1,642	12,998	0.74%	6.15%
Median age (years)	34.5	34.0	33.7	0.5	0.8	1.46%	2.30%
Female	318,008	311,953	302,693	6,055	15,315	1.94%	5.06%
Under 18 years	56,505	54,938	57,072	1,567	-567	2.85%	0.99%
18 years and over	261,503	257,015	245,621	4,488	15,882	1.75%	6.47%
Median age (years)	35.7	35.9	35.6	-0.2	0.1	-0.56%	0.40%

Source: Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Population by Age and Sex

Figure 1: District of Columbia Population Distribution by Age



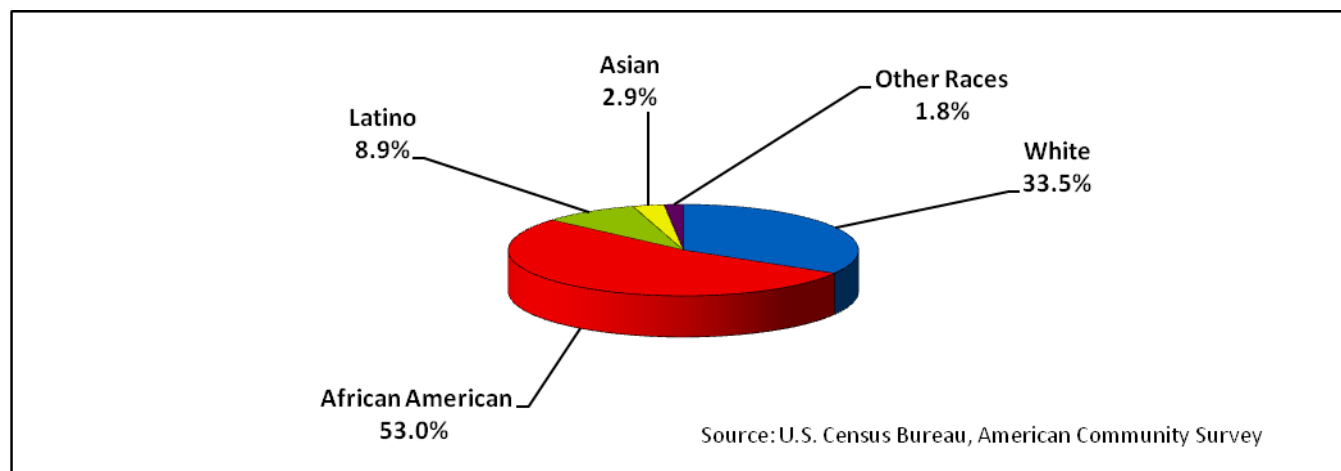
Race and Ethnicity

As reported in Table 3 and Figure 2, African Americans were the largest racial group in the District in 2009 with 315,968 persons (52.8 percent), followed by Whites with 199,898 persons (33.3 percent), Latinos with 53,025 persons (8.8 percent), Asians with 17,268 persons (3.3 percent), and all other races with 13,498 persons (1.8 percent) of total population. Over the past several years, as the District's population has increased, the racial make-up has also become more diversified. The proportion of African Americans has steadily declined, while the proportion of other races has increased. From 2000 to 2009, total population increased by 27,598 residents or 4.8 percent. Over the same period, the African American population decreased by 27,927 persons or 8.1 percent. Asian population increased by 27.9 percent (or 4,297 persons); White population increased by 21.6 percent (or 34,789 persons); Latino population increased by 13.3 percent (or 6,171 persons); and all other races increased by 30.6 percent (or 2,444 persons). In 2009, all ethnic groups, except for Asians, experienced an increase in population. African Americans increased by 1,431 persons; Whites increased by 3,849 persons; Latinos increased by 1,901 persons; Asians decreased by 2,431 persons; and all other races increased by 3,074 persons.

Table 3: District of Columbia Population by Race and Ethnicity, 2000-2009

Race*	Population**			Net Change		Percent Change	
	2009	2008	2000	2008-2009	2000-2009	2008 -2009	2000-2009
Total All Races	599,657	591,833	572,059	7,824	27,598	1.32	4.82
White	199,898	196,049	161,260	3,849	34,789	1.96	21.57
African American	315,968	314,537	342,464	1,431	-27,927	0.45	-8.15
Latino	53,025	51,124	44,953	1,901	6,171	3.72	13.73
Asian	17,268	19,699	15,402	-2,431	4,297	-12.34	27.90
Other Races	13,498	10,424	7,980	3,074	2,444	29.49	30.63
*Other Races include American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, and two or more races							
**The 2000 population is census data and the 2008 and 2009 are population estimates.							
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey							

Figure 2: District of Columbia Population Percent Share by Race and Ethnicity: 2009



Income

In 2009, the District had a per capita personal income of \$40,779, which was \$1,272 lower than in 2008 but \$19,192 higher than the national average of \$21,587 (see Table 4). The median household income was \$59,200 (\$50,221 for U.S.) and the median family income was \$71,208 (\$61,082 for U.S.). Although, incomes are higher



than the national average in the District, about 13.0 percent of families and 18.4 percent of District individuals lived below the poverty line, compared to 9.9 percent and 14.3 percent of the U.S. population, respectively. In 2009, the child poverty rate in the District was over 29 percent, compared to the national average of 20 percent, and the District was ranked second in child poverty rate and fourth in families living below the poverty level.

Table 4: Income and percent of population below poverty levels

Area	Median Household Income	Median Family Income	Per Capita Personal Income	Families Below Poverty Level	Individuals Below Poverty Level	Child Poverty Rate
District of Columbia	\$59,200	\$71,208	\$40,779	13.00%	18.40%	29.40%
National	\$50,221	\$61,082	\$21,587	9.90%	14.30%	20.00%
Note: Data in 2009 Inflation-adjusted dollars						
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey						

Education

As illustrated in Table 5, the District continued to have a more highly educated population than the nation as a whole in 2009. More than 47.1 percent of the population 25 years and over were college graduates, compared to 27.5 percent for the nation. The percent of high school graduates in the District was 85.5 percent, compared to 84.6 percent for the nation. From 2000 to 2009, the percent of college graduates in the District rose by 8.0 percent while increasing by only 3.1 percent nationally. The percent of high school graduates in the District increased by 7.7 percent compared to 4.2 percent nationally.

Table 5: Educational attainment of the population of 25 years and over

Area	Percent High School Graduates			Percent College Graduates		
	2009	2008	2000	2009	2008	2000
District of Columbia	85.50%	85.80%	77.80%	47.10%	48.20%	39.10%
National	84.60%	85.00%	80.40%	27.50%	29.50%	24.40%
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey						

Figure 3 shows that the majority of the District's young people ages 16 to 19 years old were enrolled in school (33,128) and a small portion (2,841) were not high school graduates. Figure 4 shows that 158,497 of the District's population ages 25 to 64 years old have at least a Bachelor's degree, 64,142 have some college or an Associate's degree, 67,461 have a high school diploma, and 21,766 have less than a high school education.



Figure 3: District of Columbia education attainment for population ages 16 – 19

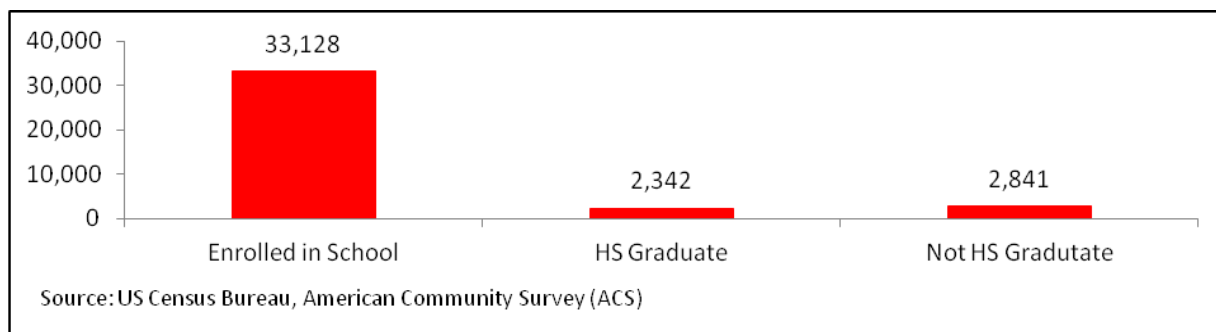
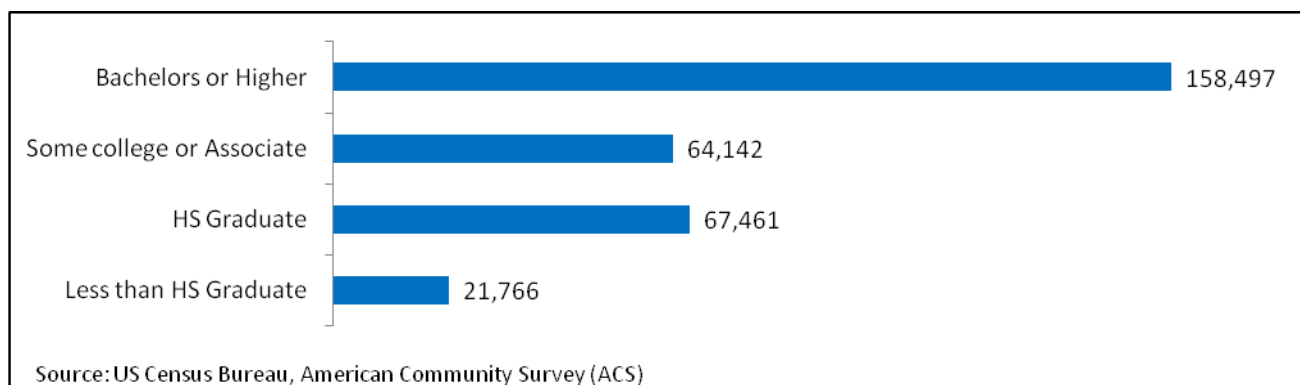


Figure 4: District of Columbia labor force participation by education for population ages 25 – 64



JOB MARKET ANALYSIS

Non-Farm Payroll Employment

Non-farm payroll employment measures the number of jobs in the city. The number of jobs and the industries that create those jobs are important indicators of a city’s economic health. Payroll employment is one of the most current and reliable indicators of economic conditions and recessionary trends. By the end of the Great Recession in June 2009, the nation had shed over 6 million jobs, while the District was among the few areas to gain jobs during this time period. However, in 2009, the District experienced a loss of 2,200 (or 0.31 percent) non-farm payroll jobs (Table 6).

Table 6: Total Non-farm Employment, D.C. and U.S. 1995 – 2009 (not seasonally adjusted)

Year	Employment	Over-Year Change	Over-Year % Change	
	D.C.	D.C.	D.C.	U.S.
1995	642,600	-16,100	-2.44	2.63
1996	623,000	-19,600	-3.05	2.05
1997	618,400	-4,600	-0.74	2.56
1998	613,500	-4,900	-0.79	2.57
1999	627,400	13,900	2.27	2.43
2000	650,200	22,800	3.63	2.16
2001	653,700	3,500	0.54	0.03
2002	664,200	10,500	1.61	-1.13



2003	665,500	1,300	0.20	-0.26
2004	674,200	8,700	1.31	1.10
2005	682,200	8,000	1.19	1.73
2006	687,600	5,400	0.79	1.78
2007	693,800	6,200	0.90	1.12
2008	703,900	10,100	1.46	-0.4
2009	701,700	-2,200	-0.31	-4.40
Note: * Annual Averages (not seasonally adjusted)				
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Employment Statistics (CES)				

District of Columbia Industry Sector Employment

Employment growth by industry identifies the types of jobs being created in an area. Industries with declining employment are those that are becoming less important in the city's economy. There may also be industries which behave more cyclically – growing during expansion and decreasing in times of economic slowdown or contraction. Deciphering these trends is critical for identifying the types of jobs being lost and determining whether those jobs will return and what types of new jobs will be created.

With continued reduction of jobs and rapidly rising unemployment, the outlook for the District's economy and its labor markets remained uncertain at the beginning of 2009. The only major, private sector industries to post job gains over the year were educational and health services, up 3,000 jobs, and leisure and hospitality, which expanded by 400 jobs. The major employment gains were in the public sector, led by an expansion of the federal government, which grew by 6,400 jobs

Professional and business service jobs (down by 4,800) experienced the largest drops of any industry sector over the year. These losses were concentrated in professional, scientific, and technical services; legal services; administrative and support services; and waste management and remediation services. Four additional District industries lost more than 1,000 jobs over the year: information (1,800), construction (1,400), financial activities (1,300) and trade, transportation, and utilities (1,100). On a percentage basis, manufacturing and construction – both residential and commercial - had the biggest year-over job losses of any District industry sector.

In 2009, total not seasonally adjusted non-farm employment was 701,700, with the private sector providing 65 percent of total employment, or 462,800 workers. The federal government employed more than 200,200 workers, representing 29 percent of District employment. Private sector employment was concentrated in four major industry sectors, which made up more than 54 percent of total non-farm employment, or 375,000 workers. The sectors are: professional and business services, at 147,600 workers or 21 percent; educational and health services at 105,000 workers, or 15 percent; other services, except public administration, at 64,800 workers, or 9 percent; and leisure and hospitality at 58,200 workers, or 8 percent of total District employment.

Table 7: District of Columbia and U.S. non-farm employment (not seasonally adjusted)

Industry	2008	2009	Change	Percent Share 2009		Percent Change 2008-2009	
				D.C.	U.S.	D.C.	U.S.
All Jobs	703,900	701,700	-2,200	100.0%	100.0%	-0.3	-4.4
Goods Producing	14,600	13,000	-1,600	1.9%	14.2%	-11.0	-13.0
Service Producing	689,400	688,700	-700	98.1%	85.8%	-0.1	-2.8
Construction	13,000	11,600	-1,400	1.7%	4.6%	-10.8	-16.0
Manufacturing	1,600	1,400	-200	0.2%	9.1%	-12.5	-11.6
Trade, Transp., and Utilities	27,900	26,800	-1,100	3.8%	19.0%	-3.9	-5.3
Information	20,900	19,100	-1,800	2.7%	2.1%	-8.6	-6.0



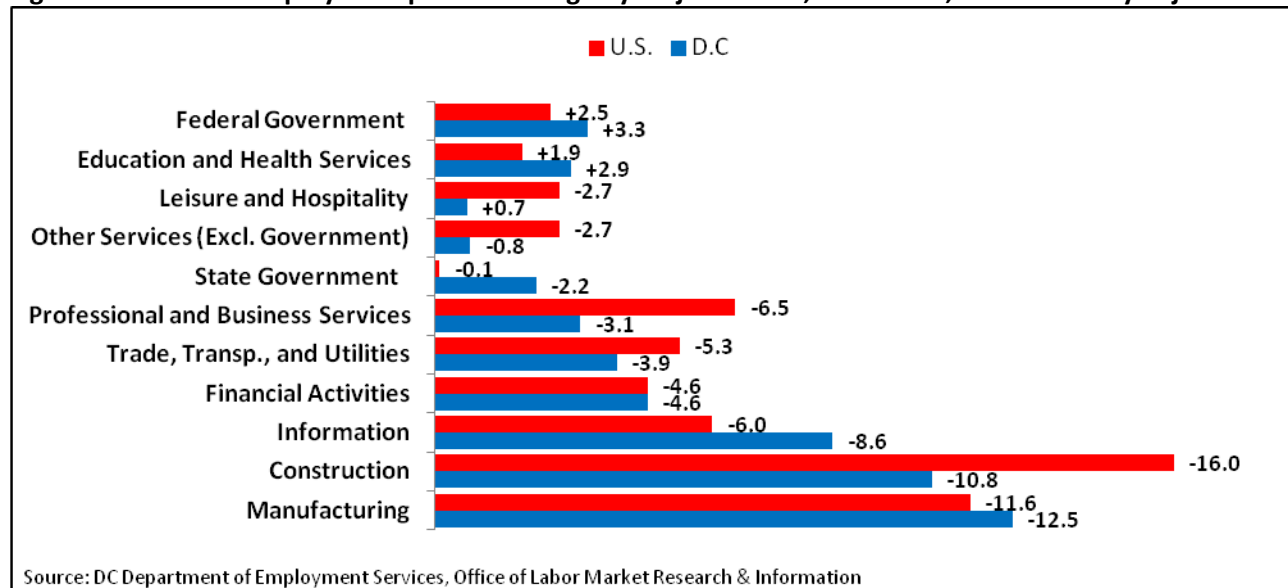
Financial Activities	28,200	26,900	-1,300	3.8%	5.9%	-4.6	-4.6
Professional and Business Services	152,400	147,600	-4,800	21.0%	12.7%	-3.1	-6.5
Education and Health Services	102,000	105,000	3,000	15.0%	14.7%	2.9	1.9
Leisure and Hospitality	57,800	58,200	400	8.3%	10.0%	0.7	-2.7
Other Services (Excl. Government)	65,300	64,800	-500	9.2%	4.1%	-0.8	-2.7
Federal Government	193,800	200,200	6,400	28.5%	2.2%	3.3	2.5
State Government	41,000	40,100	-900	5.7%	15.1%	-2.2	-0.1

Source: DC Department of Employment Services, Office of Labor Market Research & Information

Industry Sector Highlights: December 2008 – December 2009

Figure 5 shows the U.S. and District 2008 and 2009 annual average percent change of non-farm employment by major sectors. Non-farm payroll jobs were kept afloat during the recession largely by the federal government and educational and health services, both in the District as well as at national level. The federal government and education and health services grew by 3.3 percent and 2.9 percent, respectively, in the District, as compared to 2.5 percent and 1.9 percent for the nation. The only other sector that showed positive yearly change in the District was leisure and hospitality, which increased by 0.7 percent. Construction and manufacturing experienced the highest percent changes in job losses in both the District and the nation. Construction had the fastest decrease in the nation (-16 percent), while manufacturing payrolls were reduced by 12 percent, as compared to 11 percent and 13 percent, respectively, in the District.

Figure 5: Non-farm employment percent change by major sectors, 2008-2009, not seasonally adjusted



COVERED EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: 2009

Wage and Salary Employment by Major Industry Sectors

According to 2009 QCEW data, the District's private sector accounts for more than 65 percent of all wage and salary employment, 99 percent of all establishments, and 60 percent of the total wage. There were 446,485 jobs in the private sector that generated over \$30.5 billion in total wages; 63 percent of were in four service-producing industries: professional and business services, educational and health services, leisure and hospitality, and other services (See Table 8). These sectors employed 357,387 workers, which represented over 83 percent



of private sector employment. In 2009, while the federal government represented less than 1 percent of all establishments, it accounted for over 29 percent of total employment and over 35 percent of total wages paid in the District. In all, the public sector accounted for 1 percent of all establishments, 34.5 percent of total employment, and over 40 percent of total wages in the District.

Table 8: District of Columbia Wage and Salary Employment by Industry Sectors, 2009

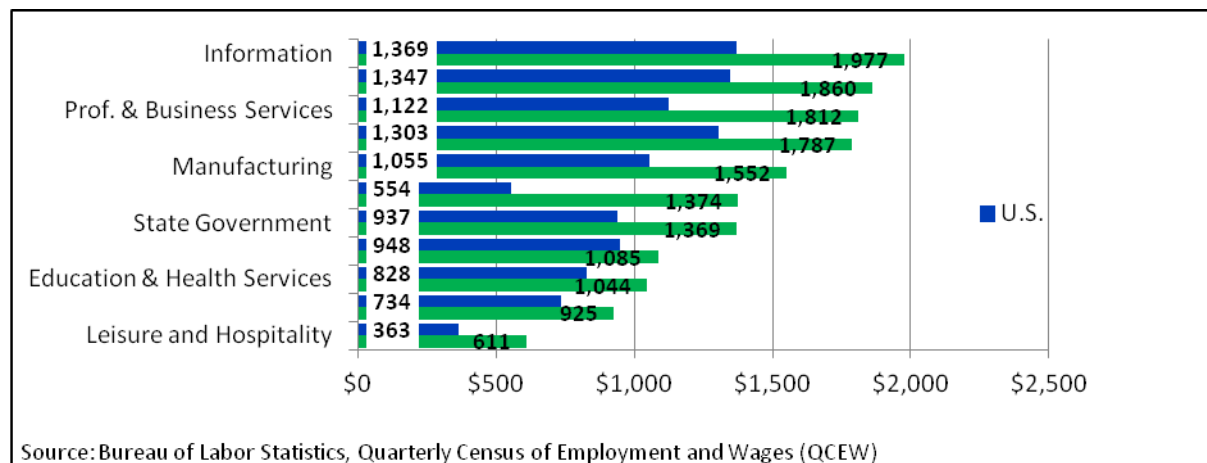
Total All Industries	Number of Firms	Percent Share of Firms	Average Annual Employment	Percent Share Employment	Average Total Wage	Percent Share Wage
	34,090	100.0	681,816	100.0	\$52,795,306,644	100.0
Total Government	337	1.0	235,331	34.5	21,102,402,036	40.0
Federal Government	295	0.9	200,179	29.4	\$18,599,919,496	35.2
State Government	42	0.1	35,152	5.2	\$2,502,482,540	4.7
Construction	1,009	3.0	11,576	1.7	\$653,040,572	1.2
Manufacturing	168	0.5	1,412	0.2	\$113,988,520	0.2
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	3,234	9.5	26,887	3.9	\$1,293,813,753	2.5
Information	895	2.6	19,102	2.8	\$1,963,756,784	3.7
Financial Activities	2,088	6.1	24,845	3.6	\$2,403,320,167	4.6
Prof. & Business Services	9,704	28.5	142,878	21.0	\$13,463,962,007	25.5
Education & Health Services	2,497	7.3	94,973	13.9	\$5,155,459,803	9.8
Leisure and Hospitality	2,446	7.2	57,837	8.5	\$1,837,393,289	3.5
Other Services	8,934	26.2	61,699	9.0	\$4,409,545,348	8.4
Unclassified	2,778	8.1	5,276	0.8	\$398,624,365	0.8

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2009

Average Weekly Wage

Figure 6 shows the 2009 wage and salary average annual weekly wage earnings by industry sectors for the District and nation. What is apparent is that the District’s weekly earnings are well above the U.S. national average. In 2009, the District’s average weekly wage for all industries was \$1,489, which was 70 percent above the U.S. average weekly wage of \$876. The information industry paid the highest weekly wage at \$1,977, while leisure and hospitality paid the lowest weekly wage at \$611. Except for trade, transportation, and utilities and leisure and hospitality, all the other major industry sectors paid average weekly wages above \$1,000.

Figure 6: District of Columbia and U.S. average weekly wage by industry: 2009 annual averages



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)

LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS: 2009

The unemployment rate measures the percentage of people who are without work. It is calculated by dividing the estimated number of unemployed people in the state by the civilian labor force. The result expresses unemployment as a percentage of the labor force.

However, the unemployment rate is a lagging indicator of economic activity. During a recession, many people leave the labor force entirely, which results in a slowing of the jobless rate. In the early stages of recovery from recession, the jobless rate may swell again, as more people return to the labor force believing they will immediately be able to find work.

The level of initial claims for unemployment insurance is a better indicator of labor market conditions. As the District's economy weakened, businesses began to lay off workers, causing initial claims for unemployment insurance to rise. During 2009, there was an average of 465 initial claims filed per week: as the labor market began to recover and layoffs subsided, initial claims should have declined. However, the year ended with an unexpected surge in initial claims, which ultimately skyrocketed by 247 percent - from 370 claims the week ending November 28, 2009, to 1,287 the week ending December 19, 2009. The year finished on a positive note, with initial claims dropping to 849 in the final week of 2009.

Official estimates from the BLS were that the District experienced its highest not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in October 2009, at 10.6 percent, which was the highest rate on record since October 1983, when the District recorded unemployment of 10.8 percent. The data also show that unemployment is particularly high among young people in the District's labor force, especially among African American youth.

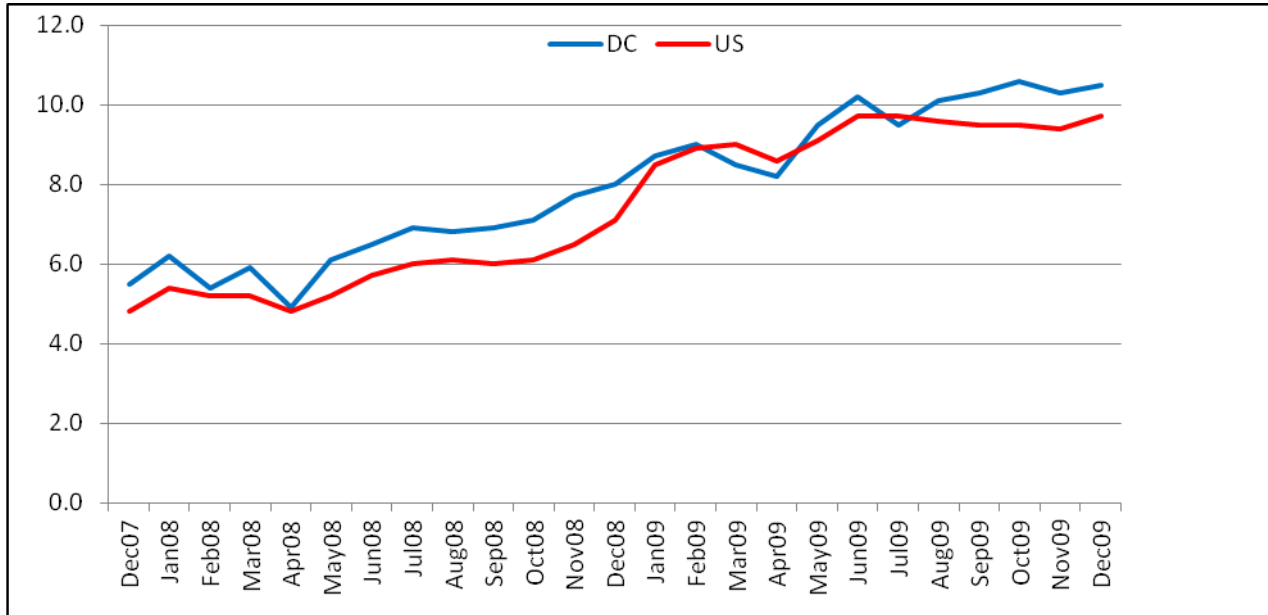
Figure 7 shows the District and the U.S. national not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate since the recession started in December 2007 through December 2009. From December 2007 to June 2009, the unemployment rate in the District increased by 85 percent - from 5.5 percent to 10.2 percent - while the national unemployment rose 102 percent - from 4.8 percent to 9.7 percent. From June 2009 to December 2009, the unemployment rate for the District rose 2.9 percent, while the national rate was unchanged at 9.7 percent. The unemployment in the District was generally above the national average for the period between December 2007 through December 2009, except for the months of April 2009 and July 2009 when the District's rate was 8.2 percent and 9.5 percent, compared to the U.S. national rate of 8.6 percent and 9.7 percent, respectively.

In 2009, the District's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose by 3.1 percentage points over the previous year. The December 2009 unemployment rate of 10.5 percent was 3.6 points higher than the most recent low of 4.9 percent in April 2008.

The District experienced the lowest not seasonally adjusted unemployment of 8.2 percent in April 2009. In all, there were 26,900 unemployed District residents in April 2009 – 65 percent more unemployed District residents than in April 2008, the recent low. There also were 299,368 employed District residents in April 2009 (16,584), or 5 percent fewer employed District residents than in April 2008, and 21,715 or 7 percent less than the July 2008 employment level of 321,083, when employment peaked in 2008.



Figure 7: District of Columbia and U.S. unemployment rates, December 2007 – December 2009, not seasonally adjusted

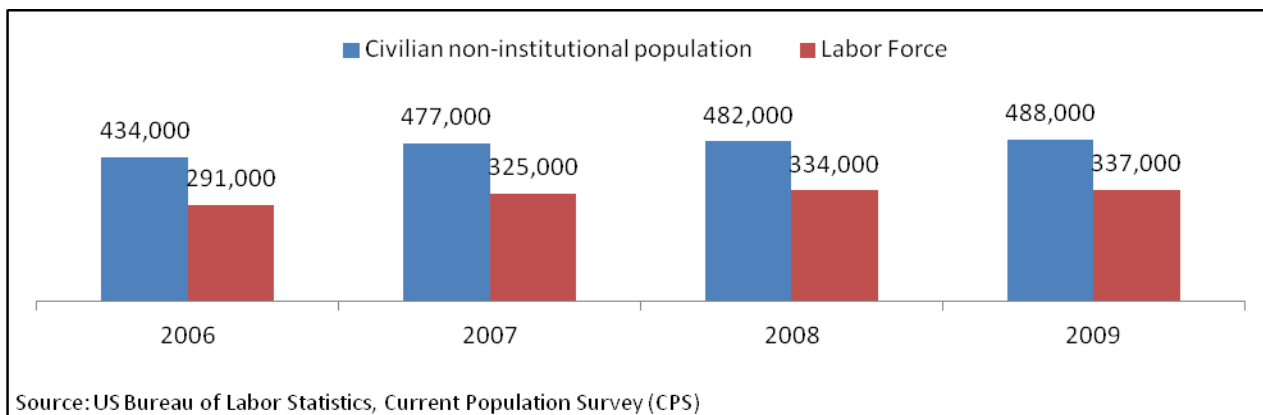


Source: DC Department of Employment Services, Office of Labor Market Research & Information

District of Columbia Civilian Labor Force

Figure 8 shows the civilian non-institutional population and civilian labor force data for the District from 2006 through 2009. During this time, the labor force generally increased with the civilian population. In 2006, 67 percent of the population was in the labor force. That percentage increased to 69 percent in 2009. While both the civilian population and labor force recorded double-digit percent increases in 2007, the change was 1 percent for civilians and less than 3 percent for the labor force for both 2008 and 2009.

Figure 8: District of Columbia civilian non-institutional population and size of labor force: 2007 – 2009



Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey (CPS)

Unemployment and Labor Force Participation Rates by Population Demographic

As mentioned earlier, the unemployment rate provides an incomplete picture of labor market conditions. The unemployment rate does not include involuntary, part-time workers, nor does it capture discouraged workers who may stop searching for work because they cannot find jobs. A more accurate measure is the labor force participation rate, which measures the civilian non-institutional population 16 years and older who are still

employed or who are still looking for work within a particular time span. Table 9 shows that 74.7 percent of males participated in the labor force compared to a 64.5 participation rate for females. Seventy-four percent of women with children under age 6 worked in 2000 (up 19.9 percent from 1980), as did 89.2 percent of women with children ages 6 to 17 (up 15.0 percent). In 2000, women with older, minor children were more likely to be in the labor force than women with younger children.

Table 9 and Figure 9 show that Whites had the highest participation rates (80.6 percent), and White males had the highest rate (85.3 percent); African Americans had the lowest participation rates (58.8 percent) and the highest unemployment rate (15.6 percent). African American females had the lowest participation rates (55.4 percent), and African American males had the highest unemployment rate (16.4 percent) of all genders. The age-group labor force participation (Figure 10) follows a normal distribution pattern with the mid-age group of 25 to 44 years having the highest rate at 86 percent, and lower-most age group of 16 to 24 years and upper-most age group of 65 years and over at the bottom, with participation rates of 26 percent and 21 percent, respectively.

Table 9: District of Columbia employment status of the civilian non-institutional population group, by sex, race or ethnicity and age: 2009 annual averages

Population Group	Civilian non-institutionalized Population	Civilian Labor Force		Employed		Unemployed		
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	DC Rate	US Rate
Total	488,000	337,000	69.1	305,000	62.6	32,000	9.5	9.3
Men	225,000	168,000	74.7	151,000	67.3	16,000	6.9	10.3
Women	263,000	169,000	64.4	154,000	58.3	16,000	9.2	6.1
White	213,000	171,000	80.6	163,000	76.3	8,000	4.2	8.5
Men	106,000	90,000	85.3	86,000	80.8	5,000	5.2	9.4
Women	107,000	81,000	75.9	78,000	72.9	3,000	4.1	7.3
African American	253,000	149,000	58.8	125,000	49.6	23,000	15.6	14.8
Men	109,000	69,000	63.3	58,000	52.8	11,000	16.4	17.5
Women	144,000	80,000	55.4	68,000	47.2	12,000	14.9	12.4
Asian	14,000	11,000	79.1	11,000	77.2	N/A	2.4	7.3
Men	6,000	5,000	84.7	5,000	82.9	N/A	2.1	7.9
Women	8,000	6,000	74.7	6,000	72.7	N/A	2.7	6.6
Hispanic or Latino	44,000	33,000	75.2	30,000	68.8	3,000	8.4	12.1
Men	23,000	20,000	83.3	18,000	75.7	2,000	9.2	12.5
Women	21,000	14,000	66.0	13,000	61.1	1,000	7.4	11.5
Age Group								
16 - 19 years	22,000	6,000	25.8	3,000	13.1	3,000	49.3	24.3
20 - 24 years	49,000	35,000	70.7	29,000	58.8	6,000	16.6	14.7
25 - 34 years	121,000	104,000	86.2	96,000	79.5	8,000	7.7	9.9
35 - 44 years	86,000	75,000	87.7	68,000	79.5	7,000	9.3	7.9
45 - 54 years	76,000	61,000	80.6	56,000	73.8	5,000	8.5	7.2
55 - 64 years	63,000	41,000	65.3	38,000	61.2	3,000	6.4	6.6
65 years and over	71,000	15,000	21.3	15,000	20.6	1,000	3.6	6.4

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey (CPS)



Figure 9: District of Columbia labor force participation rates by race and gender: 2009

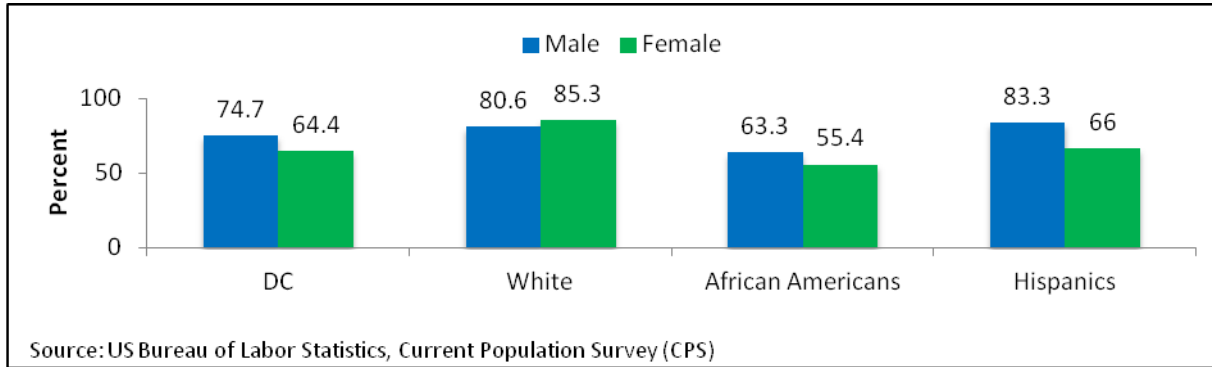
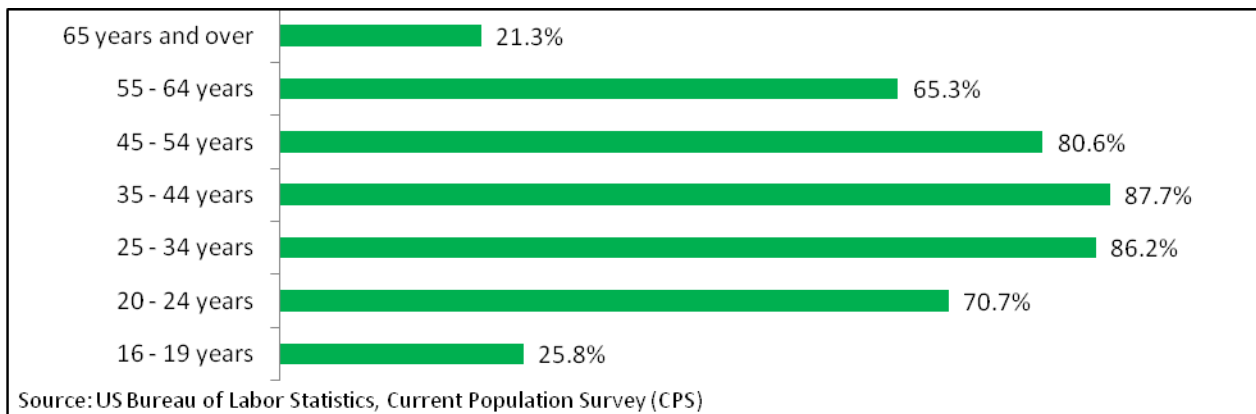
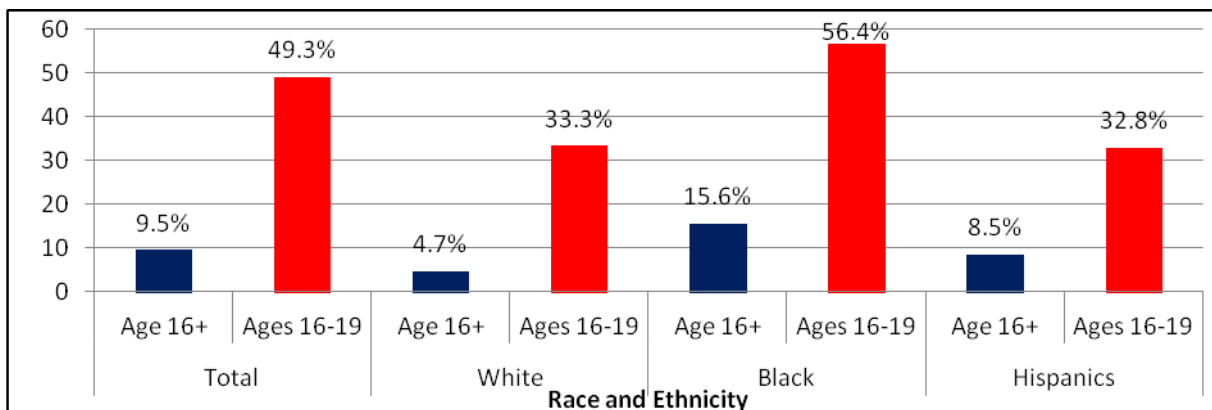


Figure 10: District of Columbia labor force participation rates by age group: 2009



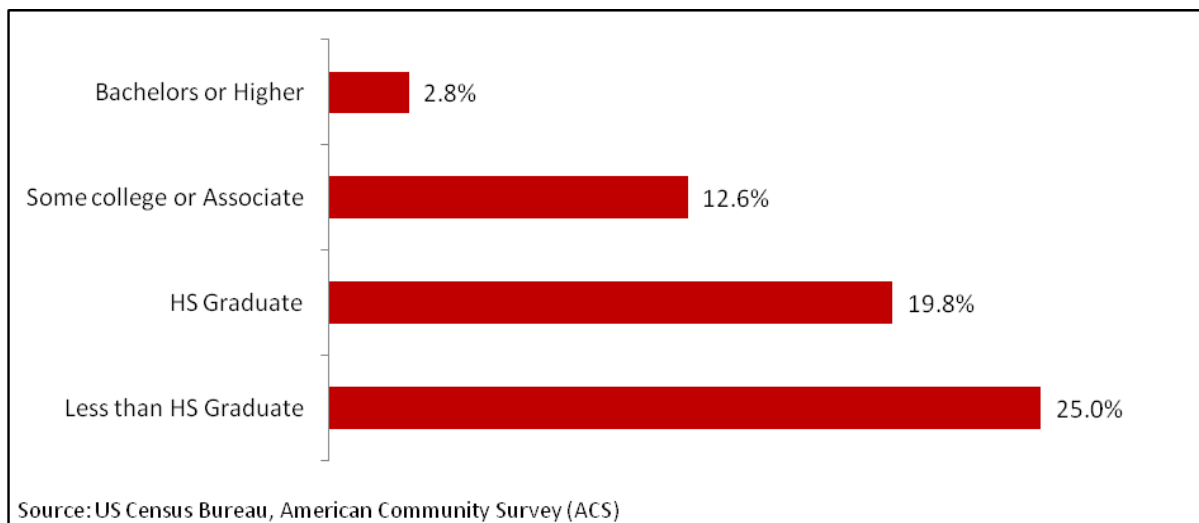
Frictional unemployment moves with business cycles and improves as the economy returns to growth. In 2009, the teen population in the District (Figure 11) had an especially high unemployment rate in 2009 of 49.3 percent, with African American teens experiencing the highest unemployment at 56.4 percent. African Americans also had the highest unemployment rate overall at 15.6 percent, which was 88 percent higher than White unemployment of 4.7 percent, while Latinos had unemployment of 8.5 percent (Table 9). District teen ages 16 to 19 experienced the highest unemployment at 49.3 percent, which was more than double the U.S. rate. Those over 65 years old had the lowest unemployment at 3.6 percent in the District, compared to U.S. rate of 6.4 percent (Table 9).

Figure 11: District of Columbia unemployment rates by race and age group (2009 Current Population Survey)



Rising unemployment has also affected workers of all educational backgrounds and occupations. However, the increase in unemployment disproportionately affected the less educated. The unemployment rate increase among those with a Bachelor’s degree or higher was significantly less than that of other educational groups. Those 25 to 64 year olds with at least a Bachelor’s degree had the lowest unemployment, at 2.8 percent, while those with some college or an Associate’s degree had an unemployment rate of 12.6 percent. Those with at least a high school diploma had unemployment of 19.8 percent, and those with less than high school diploma experienced the highest unemployment at 25.0 percent (see Figure 12). Overall, the population of 25 to 65 year olds had an unemployment rate of 11.0 percent compared to 49.1 percent unemployment for teenagers 16 to 19 years.

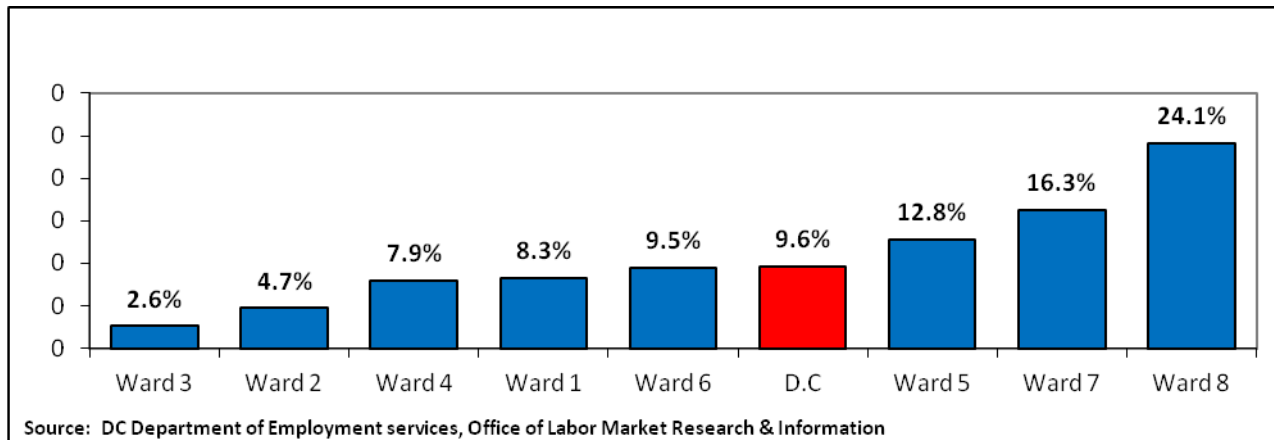
Figure 12: District of Columbia unemployment rates by education status for population 25 – 64 years, 2009



Unemployment Rates by Wards

The 2009 not seasonally adjusted unemployment rates for the District’s wards shown in Figure 13 tell a tale of two cities . Areas east of the Anacostia River have significantly higher unemployment than the District, overall. The combined unemployment rates of Wards 5, 7, and 8 in 2009 was 19.3 percent, more than double the District’s rate of 9.6 percent in 2009, while the combined unemployment rate for Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 was 7.1 percent, well below the District’s rate.

Figure 13: District of Columbia and Wards Unemployment Rate: 2009 (not seasonally adjusted)



Mass Layoff Statistics

Mass layoff statistics provide additional insight into recent economic trends. These data identify, describe, and track large job cutbacks by individual establishments. A potential mass layoff event occurs when an establishment has 10 initial unemployment compensation claims filed against it within a five-week period. A confirmed mass layoff event occurs when an employer verifies that 50 or more employees were separated from their jobs for more than 30 days.

Mass layoff events in the District from 2007 through 2009 affected workers throughout the labor force. The number of workers affected by mass layoffs nearly quadrupled from 2007 to 2009 (See Table 10). However, their number increased at a faster rate in 2007 than in 2008. Verified mass layoff events in the District over the 2007 to 2009 period affected workers from different demographic groups more or less equally, as indicated in Table 10. The number of initial claims filed by Whites increased more than tenfold - from 32 to 373. Claims by the 55 years of age and over age group increased from 70 to 273; male claims rose from 158 to 740; females claims increased by 146 percent - from 298 to 732, while African Americans claims increased by 138 percent - from 363 to 844, and among Latinos the number of claims increased from 39 to 183. The number of initial claims filed by the prime working age group, those 30 to 54 years of age, increased more than twofold - from 293 to 954.

Table 10: District of Columbia – Initial claims associated with potential layoff events by gender: 2007-2009*

Demographic	Year			Percent	Change 2007- 2009	
	2007	2008	2009	2009	Net	Percent
Gender						
Male	158	383	740	50.3%	582	368%
Female	298	634	732	49.7%	434	146%
Total	456	1,017	1,472	100.0%	1016	223%
Race & Ethnicity	2007	2008	2009	Share 2009	Net	Percent
White	32	92	373	25.3%	341	1066%
African American	363	811	844	57.3%	481	133%
Hispanic	39	73	183	12.4%	144	369%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	5	16	26	1.8%	21	420%
Asian or Pacific Islander	17	25	40	2.7%	23	135%
Information not available	0	0	6	0.4%	6	0%
Age	2007	2008	2009	Share 2010	Net	Percent
Under 30	93	229	244	16.6%	151	162%
30 to 44	172	349	530	36.0%	358	208%
45 to 54	121	267	424	28.8%	303	250%
55 and over	70	172	273	18.5%	203	290%
Information not available	0	0	1	0.1%	1	0%
Total	456	1,017	1,472	100.0%	1,016	223%

Note*: Potential events have yet to be confirmed by an employer.

Source: DC Department of Employment Services, Office of Labor Market Research & Information



Top 20 Private Sector Employers in the District of Columbia

In September 2009, 12 of the top 20 employers in the District of Columbia, as shown in Table 11, were either universities or hospitals.

Table 11: Top 20 Private Sector Employers in the District of Columbia, September 2009*

Employer Name
1. Georgetown University
2. George Washington University
3. Washington Hospital Center
4. Children's National Hospital
5. Howard University
6. Georgetown University Hospital
7. American University
8. Fannie Mae
9. The Catholic University Of America
10. Providence Hospital
11. Howard University Hospital
12. Sibley Memorial Hospital
13. The George Washington Hospital
14. Admiral Security Service
15. The Washington Post
16. Hyatt Corporation
17. Gallaudet University
18. Computer Science Corp
19. Allied Barton Security Services LLC
20. Restaurant Associates LLC
*Ranking by size of employment
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment & Wages (QCEW)

OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS: 2009

Table 12 shows District and national occupational employment and wages by major occupational groups in 2009. Office and administrative support, business and financial operations, and management occupations were the top three groups accounting for 40.4 percent of total employment in 2009, compared to 26.4 percent in the nation. The single occupational group with the largest number of employees in the District and in the nation was office and administrative support, which accounted for 97,960 jobs in the District and 17.1 percent of total employment in the nation. Sales and related occupations had the second largest number of jobs nationally, accounting for 10.5 percent of total employment, compared to 3.9 percent in the District, less than half the national average. In 2009, the District paid higher than the national average wages in all major occupational groups: the total average annual wage for the District was \$70,740, compared to \$43,460 for the nation. Two occupational groups paid over \$100,000 average annual wages: legal occupations, with a yearly salary of \$134,770, and management occupations, paying an average of \$119,510 a year, compared to \$95,800 and \$102,900 for the same occupations across the nation, respectively.

Table 12: D.C. and U.S. occupational employment and wages by major occupational groups: 2009

Occupational Title	Total Employment	Share of Employment		Average Annual Wage		Average Hourly Wage	
		D.C.	U.S.	D.C.	U.S.	D.C.	U.S.
All Occupations	637,180	100.0%	100.0%	\$70,740	\$43,460	\$34.01	\$20.90
Management	78,170	12.3%	4.7%	\$119,510	\$102,900	\$57.46	\$49.47



Business & financial operations	81,250	12.8%	4.6%	\$83,700	\$65,900	\$40.24	\$31.68
Computer & mathematical science	33,450	5.2%	2.5%	\$86,360	\$76,290	\$41.52	\$36.68
Architecture & engineering	12,330	1.9%	1.8%	\$95,200	\$73,590	\$45.77	\$35.38
Life, physical, & social science	21,620	3.4%	1.0%	\$92,940	\$65,660	\$44.68	\$31.57
Community & social services	11,120	1.7%	1.4%	\$47,520	\$42,750	\$22.85	\$20.55
Legal	37,410	5.9%	0.8%	\$134,770	\$95,820	\$64.80	\$46.07
Education, training, & library	36,460	5.7%	6.5%	\$61,360	\$49,530	\$29.50	\$23.81
Arts, design, entertainment, sports, & media	27,540	4.3%	1.3%	\$79,900	\$51,720	\$38.41	\$24.87
Healthcare practitioner & technical	25,320	4.0%	5.5%	\$76,990	\$69,690	\$37.01	\$33.51
Healthcare support	9,740	1.5%	3.0%	\$29,920	\$26,710	\$14.38	\$12.84
Protective service	25,150	3.9%	2.4%	\$54,300	\$41,740	\$26.11	\$20.07
Food preparation & serving related	41,630	6.5%	8.6%	\$26,620	\$20,880	\$12.80	\$10.04
Building & grounds cleaning & maintenance	22,440	3.5%	3.3%	\$27,930	\$24,970	\$13.43	\$12.00
Personal care & service	9,390	1.5%	2.6%	\$33,930	\$24,680	\$16.31	\$11.87
Sales & related	24,630	3.9%	10.5%	\$43,020	\$36,020	\$20.68	\$17.32
Office & administrative support	97,960	15.4%	17.1%	\$44,110	\$32,990	\$21.21	\$15.86
Construction & extraction	10,800	1.7%	4.4%	\$49,090	\$43,350	\$23.60	\$20.84
Installation, maintenance, & repair	9,280	1.5%	3.9%	\$50,300	\$42,210	\$24.18	\$20.30
Production	6,800	1.1%	6.8%	\$46,130	\$33,290	\$22.18	\$16.01
Transportation & material moving	14,610	2.3%	6.8%	\$37,560	\$32,180	\$18.06	\$15.47

