



Census 2010 temporary and intermittent workers and Federal government employment

Starting in Spring 2010, the U.S. Bureau of the Census began collecting data for the decennial census as directed by the U.S. Constitution. Initial preparation begins up to a year and half prior to the actual Census Day (April 1, 2010) and involves hiring thousands of temporary workers to conduct address canvassing and follow-up. Staffing requirements for short-term field operations vary from day to day. The temporary and intermittent nature of these operations can result in significant fluctuations in monthly employment estimates as measured by the Current Employment Statistics (CES) survey. Hiring for the census is reflected in employment data for Federal government. The following table quantifies the impact of the 2010 Census on CES Federal government employment estimates from November 2008 to April 2011.

**Decennial temporary and intermittent workers
Employment level and over-the-month change*
All employees, in thousands
Not Seasonally Adjusted**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sep</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>Dec</u>
1990	4 +4	15 +11	68 +53	153 +85	335 +182	251 -84	179 -72	81 -98	44 -37	27 -16	19 -8	13 -7
1998				1 +1	3 +2	3 0	2 -1	14 +12	12 -3	29 +17	41 +12	20 -22
1999	23 +4	40 +17	38 -2	22 -16	8 -14	9 +1	11 +2	17 +6	18 +1	11 -7	13 +1	15 +2
2000	32 +17	59 +27	154 +95	181 +28	530 +348	305 -225	232 -73	146 -86	24 -122	11 -12	6 -6	1 -4
2001	2 +1	2 +0	1 -1									
2008											1 +1	3 +2
2009	5 +2	6 +2	12 +5	126 ^C +114	69 ^C -57	9 ^C -60	4 ^C -5	5 +1	8 +3	17 +9	13 -4	15 +2
2010	24 +9	39 +15	87 +48	154 +66	564 +411	339 -225	196 -143	82 -114	6 -77	1 -5	0 -1	0 0
2011	1 +1	3 +2	3 +0	0 -3	0 +0	0 +0						

Sources: Current Employment Statistics Survey, Bureau of Labor Statistics, July 8, 2011

U.S. Bureau of the Census. Temporary and intermittent workers for the decennial census perform short-term field operations, which have very dynamic staffing levels that vary from day to day.

*There are two observations for each month. The first line shows employment in thousands, and the second line reflects the over-the-month change. Over-the-month changes may not add due to rounding.

^C Corrected for level of intermittent Census workers