## **Labor Force Status**

# trends2000

Boston Redevelopment Authority Policy Development and Research, July, 2002

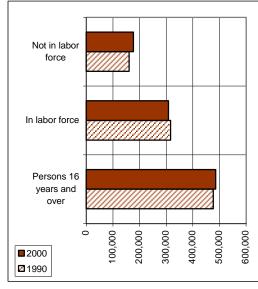


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#### **Trends in Boston's Labor Force:**

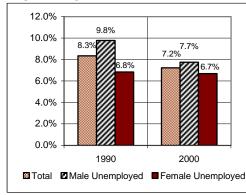
- While the number of persons 16 years old and over increased by 8,720, the number in the labor force decreased by 7,767 between 1990 and 2000.
- There was a corresponding increase of 16,487 persons not in the labor force over the decade.
- The percent of persons in the work force, (the Labor Force Participation Rate) declined from 66.4% to 63.6% between 1990 and 2000, while the percent not in the labor force increased from 33.6 to 36.4.
- The number of males in the labor force dropped markedly by 7,397 from 162,882 in 1990 to 155,485 in 2000, accounting for most of the total drop in the city's labor force, a drop from 72.5% to 67.6%.
- On the other hand, the number and percentage of females in the labor force remained fairly steady at 152,910 (60.9%) in 2000 compared to 153,280 (60.0%) in 1990.
- The male unemployment rate dropped from 9.8% in 1990 to 7.7% in 2000, but remained substantially higher than that of females, which dropped from 6.8% to 6.7%.

### 1. LABOR FORCE STATUS



Subject	1990	%	2000	%
	number	share	number	share
Persons 16 years and over	476,275	100	484,995	100
In labor force	316,162	66.4	308,395	63.6
Civilian labor force	314,997	66.1	308,107	63.5
Employed	288,704	60.6	285,859	58.9
Unemployed	26,293	5.5	22,248	4.6
As a % of Civ. Labor Force	8.3%		7.2%	
Armed Forces	1,165	0.2	288	0.1
Not in labor force	160,113	33.6	176,600	36.4
Males 16 years and over	224,715	100	230,104	100
In labor force	162,882	72.5	155,485	67.6
Civilian labor force	161,771	72.0	155,243	67.5
Employed	145,962	65.0	143,224	62.2
Unemployed	15,809	7.0	12,019	5.2
As a % of Civ. Labor Force	9.8%		7.7%	
Armed Forces	1,111	0.5	N. A.	N. A.
Not in labor force	61,833	27.5	N. A.	N. A.

## 2. UNEMPLOYMENT



Females 16 years & over	251,560	100	254,891	100
In labor force	153,280	60.9	152,910	60.0
Civilian labor force	153,226	60.9	152,864	60.0
Employed	142,742	56.7	142,635	56.0
Unemployed	10,484	4.2	10,229	4.0
As a % of Civ. Labor Force	6.8%		6.7%	
Armed Forces	54	0.0	N. A.	N. A.
Not in labor force	98,280	39.1	N. A.	N. A.