

Table 4-5 • Labor force participation and unemployment rates by veteran status, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, 2004 (numbers are in thousands)<sup>1</sup>

In the civilian job market, having served in the U.S. military appears to be a more important asset for black people of both sexes than for most of their counterparts in the other groups shown here: the unemployment rates of black veterans, both female and male, are considerably lower than those of black people who have not served.

	<i>Women</i>		<i>Men</i>	
	<i>Veterans</i>	<i>Non-veterans</i>	<i>Veterans</i>	<i>Non-veterans</i>
All races <sup>2</sup>				
Total number	1,621	106,037	22,272	77,204
Percentage in the labor force	62.8	60.3	56.1	81.4
Unemployment rate	5.5	4.8	4.5	5.1
White				
Total number	1,247	86,183	19,525	63,090
Percentage in the labor force	59.3	59.7	55.2	82.7
Unemployment rate	5.0	4.1	4.2	4.5
Black/African American				
Total number	301	12,896	2,031	8,453
Percentage in the labor force	75.1	64.0	62.4	73.0
Unemployment rate	6.8	9.0	6.9	10.5
Asian				
Total number	13	4,666	239	3,943
Percentage in the labor force	68.5	59.4	56.3	79.6
Unemployment rate	3.5	4.2	1.7	4.3
Hispanic <sup>3</sup>				
Total number	86	12,312	1,023	11,996
Percentage in the labor force	64.5	58.4	68.2	85.5
Unemployment rate	5.3	7.0	5.7	5.8

<sup>1</sup>People age 20 and over in the civilian population.

<sup>2</sup>Includes Native Americans and Pacific Islanders, not shown separately (data not available).

<sup>3</sup>People of Hispanic ethnicity may be of any race.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, unpublished table (Table 1) "Employment status of persons by veteran status, age, race, Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, and sex, Annual Average 2004."

Table prepared by the Women's Research and Education Institute (WREI), 2005.