



# Who Is Out of the Labor Force?

By Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach, Lauren Bauer, Ryan Nunn, and Megan Mumford

TECHNICAL APPENDIX  
AUGUST 2017

## **Figure 1. Labor Force Status, by Age and Gender**

Source: Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Bureau of Labor Statistics 2016 and authors' calculations.

Notes: Population counts calculated using the Annual Social and Economic Supplement weight. Members of the Armed Forces are included in the supplement sample, so we include them as labor force participants. For those over the age of 16, those who are employed at least part-time or currently unemployed and searching for work are counted as a labor force participant. Conversely, labor force nonparticipants are those over the age of 16 who are neither working nor actively seeking work.

## **Figure 3. Classification of Reasons for Prime-Age Nonparticipation, by Gender**

Source: Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Bureau of Labor Statistics 2016 and authors' calculations.

Notes: Categories of reasons for nonparticipation are created as non-overlapping divisions in the following order of priority: caregiver, disabled, student, early retiree, recent earnings, and other. The recent earnings category reflects situations where the respondent is not currently in the labor force, but reported earned income in the previous year.

## **Figure 4. Living Arrangements of Prime-Age Nonparticipants, by Gender**

Source: Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Bureau of Labor Statistics 2016 and authors' calculations.

Notes: Sample is restricted to prime-age men (women) who are not in the labor force. The household classifications are mutually exclusive. Household classifications are based on the CPS household relationship variable and do not consider the presence of children under the age of 18. Other family includes siblings, cousins, grandparents, adult children (including foster children), and those reported as other family. Nonfamily includes roommates, boarders, and other non-relatives.



**Figure 5. Living Arrangements of Prime-Age Nonparticipants, by Gender and Income**

Source: Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Bureau of Labor Statistics 2016 and authors' calculations.

Notes: Household classifications and income categories are mutually exclusive. A household is considered to have earnings if there is earned income over \$1000 reported. Retirement is pre-tax retirement income or Social Security. Safety net includes income from welfare, Unemployment Insurance, worker's compensation, survivor's benefits, Supplemental Security Income (whether to an adult or child), disability, veteran's benefits, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and Social Security income to a child. Other unearned income includes interest, dividends, rent, education, child support, financial assistance from someone outside the household, or other income.