

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Labor Force Participation by Citizenship  
1980 to 1999**

May 13, 2001

**Table 1.0**  
**CNMI Labor Force Participation by Sex and Citizenship, 1980 to 1999**

Sex and Citizenship	Number of persons				Percentage of total			
	1980	1990	1995	1999	1980	1990	1995	1999
Total persons	6,089	26,581	37,540	48,693	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
U.S. citizens	3,787	6,685	10,020	12,641	62.2	25.1	26.7	26.0
CNMI born	3,388	5,085	7,050	9,283	55.6	19.1	18.8	19.1
Other U.S. citizens	399	1,600	2,970	3,357	6.6	6.0	7.9	6.9
Non-US citizens	2,302	19,896	27,520	36,052	37.8	74.9	73.3	74.0
Permanent residents	620	1,522	1,706	3,463	10.2	5.7	4.5	7.1
Temporary residents	1,682	18,374	25,814	32,589	27.6	69.1	68.8	66.9
Total Females	2,094	11,491	18,033	25,967	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
U.S. citizens	1,443	2,688	4,189	5,502	68.9	23.4	23.2	21.2
CNMI born	1,309	2,100	3,003	4,093	62.5	18.3	16.7	15.8
Other U.S. citizens	134	588	1,186	1,409	6.4	5.1	6.6	5.4
Non-US citizens	651	8,803	13,844	20,465	31.1	76.6	76.8	78.8
Permanent residents	260	713	774	1,980	12.4	6.2	4.3	7.6
Temporary residents	391	8,090	13,070	18,485	18.7	70.4	72.5	71.2
Total Males	3,995	15,090	19,507	22,726	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
U.S. citizens	2,344	3,997	5,831	7,139	58.7	26.5	29.9	31.4
CNMI born	2,079	2,985	4,047	5,190	52.0	19.8	20.7	22.8
Other U.S. citizens	265	1,012	1,784	1,949	6.6	6.7	9.1	8.6
Non-US citizens	1,651	11,093	13,676	15,587	41.3	73.5	70.1	68.6
Permanent residents	360	809	932	1,483	9.0	5.4	4.8	6.5
Temporary residents	1,291	10,284	12,744	14,104	32.3	68.2	65.3	62.1

Source: Census of 1980, 1990, 1995 and Current Labor Force Survey, 4th Quarter, 1999.

Notes: "CNMI-born" are persons who were born in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

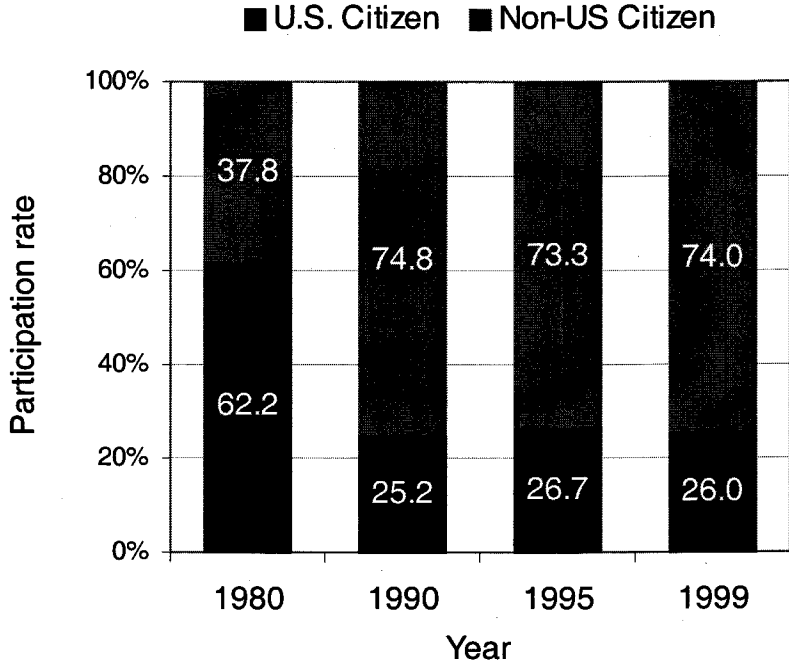
"Other U.S. citizens" are persons who were born outside of the CNMI and migrated here.

"Permanent residents" are CNMI residents holding green cards, FAS citizens and immediate relatives (IRs) of US citizens.

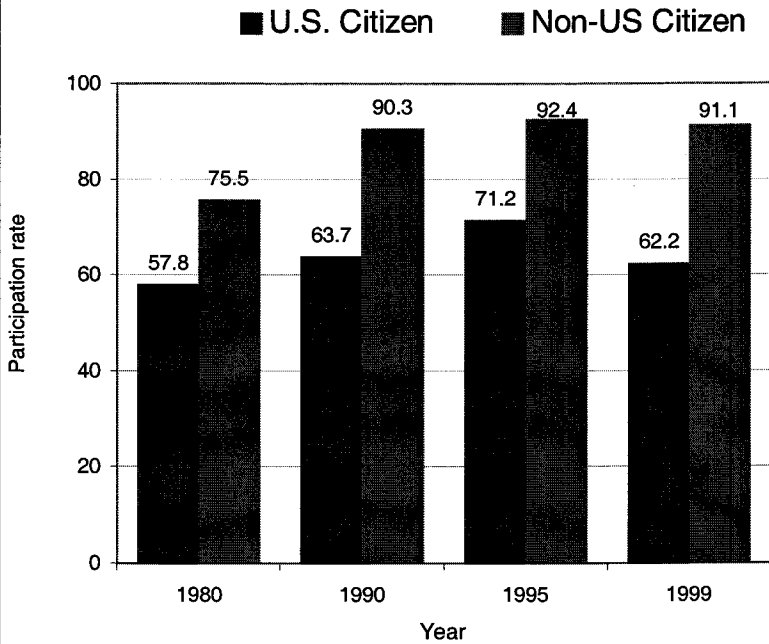
"Temporary residents" are CNMI residents holding temporary business and working visa permits.

- From 1980 to 1999, the total number of persons in the labor force in the CNMI increased eight (8) times, from 6,089 (1980) to over 48,000 (1999) persons, as shown in Table 1.0.
- During this period, the number of non-US citizens increased from 38 percent (1980) to become the majority of total labor force at 74 percent (1999), i.e., in 1999, three out of four persons in the labor force were non-US citizens, as shown in Table 1.0 and in Chart 1.0.
- The labor force participation rate of non-US citizens was higher than that of US citizens during this period, as shown in Chart 1.1.

**Chart 1.0 CNMI Labor Force Percent Distribution by Citizenship, 1980 to 1999**



**Chart 1.1 CNMI Labor Force Participation Rates by Citizenship, 1980 to 1999**



**Table 2.0**  
**CNMI Total Employed Persons by Major Industry and by Citizenship, 1980 to 1999**

Industry	Number of Employed Persons											
	Total Employed Persons				U.S. Citizens				Non-U.S. Citizens			
	1980	1990	1995	1999	1980	1990	1995	1999	1980	1990	1995	1999
Total persons employed	5,941	25,965	34,812	46,590	3,673	6,302	8,745	11,328	2,268	19,663	26,067	35,262
Agriculture	103	551	371	199	48	42	23	33	55	509	348	166
Forestry and fisheries	19	70	48	23	18	16	14	23	1	54	34	-
Mining	4	79	138	156	2	8	15	55	2	71	123	101
Construction	1,000	5,767	3,489	2,953	244	347	143	123	756	5,420	3,346	2,830
Manufacturing	110	5,688	7,770	14,778	41	251	338	727	69	5,437	7,432	14,051
Nondurable goods	79	5,514	7,630	14,499	31	216	318	704	48	5,298	7,312	13,795
Durable goods	31	174	140	280	10	35	20	23	21	139	120	257
Transportation, communic. & other util	517	1,635	2,540	1,859	387	864	1,168	799	130	771	1,372	1,080
Wholesale trade	101	365	518	1,445	79	139	169	256	22	226	349	1,189
Retail trade	818	3,090	5,462	4,329	492	873	1,100	936	326	2,217	4,362	3,393
Eating places	231	1,123	2,142	-	102	113	191	-	129	1,010	1,951	-
Finance, insurance, and real estate	163	518	723	972	139	335	325	476	24	183	398	496
Services	1,836	6,793	11,201	14,787	1,184	2,127	3,111	3,798	652	4,666	8,090	10,989
Business and repair services	181	837	1,560	2,623	95	153	163	538	86	684	1,397	2,085
Personal services	706	3,353	5,103	8,136	355	374	473	1,058	351	2,979	4,630	7,078
Hotels and Motels	547	1,807	2,618	5,392	329	337	396	923	218	1,470	2,222	4,469
Entertainment and recreation services	54	544	860	883	33	140	223	204	21	404	637	679
Professional and related services	895	2,059	3,360	3,145	701	1,460	2,032	1,998	194	599	1,328	1,147
Public administration	1,264	1,409	2,552	4,572	1,033	1,300	2,339	3,928	231	109	213	644
	Industry Percent Distribution of Total Employed Persons											
Total persons employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	1.7	2.1	1.1	0.4	1.3	0.7	0.3	0.3	2.4	2.6	1.3	0.5
Forestry and fisheries	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.1	-
Mining	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.3
Construction	16.8	22.2	10.0	6.3	6.6	5.5	1.6	1.1	33.3	27.6	12.8	8.0
Manufacturing	1.9	21.9	22.3	31.7	1.1	4.0	3.9	6.4	3.0	27.7	28.5	39.8
Nondurable goods	1.3	21.2	21.9	31.1	0.8	3.4	3.6	6.2	2.1	26.9	28.1	39.1
Durable goods	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.7
Transportation, communic. & other util	8.7	6.3	7.3	4.0	10.5	13.7	13.4	7.1	5.7	3.9	5.3	3.0
Wholesale trade	1.7	1.4	1.5	3.1	2.2	2.2	1.9	2.3	1.0	1.1	1.3	3.4
Retail trade	13.8	11.9	15.7	9.3	13.4	13.9	12.6	8.3	14.4	11.3	16.7	9.6
Eating places*	3.9	4.3	6.2	-	2.8	1.8	2.2	-	5.7	5.1	7.5	-
Finance, insurance, and real estate	2.7	2.0	2.1	2.1	3.8	5.3	3.7	4.2	1.1	0.9	1.5	1.4
Services	30.9	26.2	32.2	31.7	32.2	33.8	35.6	33.5	28.7	23.7	31.0	31.2
Business and repair services	3.0	3.2	4.5	5.6	2.6	2.4	1.9	4.7	3.8	3.5	5.4	5.9
Personal services	11.9	12.9	14.7	17.5	9.7	5.9	5.4	9.3	15.5	15.2	17.8	20.1
Hotels and Motels	9.2	7.0	7.5	11.6	9.0	5.3	4.5	8.1	9.6	7.5	8.5	12.7
Entertainment and recreation services	0.9	2.1	2.5	1.9	0.9	2.2	2.6	1.8	0.9	2.1	2.4	1.9
Professional and related services	15.1	7.9	9.7	6.8	19.1	23.2	23.2	17.6	8.6	3.0	5.1	3.3
Public administration	21.3	5.4	7.3	9.8	28.1	20.6	26.7	34.7	10.2	0.6	0.8	1.8
	Citizenship Percent Distribution of Total Employed Persons by Industry											
Total persons employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	61.8	24.3	25.1	24.3	38.2	75.7	74.9	75.7
Agriculture	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	46.6	7.6	6.2	16.6	53.4	92.4	93.8	83.4
Forestry and fisheries	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	94.7	22.9	29.2	100.0	5.3	77.1	70.8	-
Mining	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	50.0	10.1	10.9	35.3	50.0	89.9	89.1	64.7
Construction	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	24.4	6.0	4.1	4.2	75.6	94.0	95.9	95.8
Manufacturing	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	37.3	4.4	4.4	4.9	62.7	95.6	95.6	95.1
Nondurable goods	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	39.2	3.9	4.2	4.9	60.8	96.1	95.8	95.1
Durable goods	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	32.3	20.1	14.3	8.2	67.7	79.9	85.7	91.8
Transportation, communic. & other util	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	74.9	52.8	46.0	43.0	25.1	47.2	54.0	57.0
Wholesale trade	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	78.2	38.1	32.6	17.7	21.8	61.9	67.4	82.3
Retail trade	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	60.1	28.3	20.1	21.6	39.9	71.7	79.9	78.4
Eating places*	100.0	100.0	100.0	...	44.2	10.1	8.9	...	55.8	89.9	91.1	...
Finance, insurance, and real estate	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	85.3	64.7	45.0	49.0	14.7	35.3	55.0	51.0
Services	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	64.5	31.3	27.8	25.7	35.5	68.7	72.2	74.3
Business and repair services	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	52.5	18.3	10.4	20.5	47.5	81.7	89.6	79.5
Personal services	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	50.3	11.2	9.3	13.0	49.7	88.8	90.7	87.0
Hotels and Motels	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	60.1	18.6	15.1	17.1	39.9	81.4	84.9	82.9
Entertainment and recreation services	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	61.1	25.7	25.9	23.1	38.9	74.3	74.1	76.9
Professional and related services	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	78.3	70.9	60.5	63.5	21.7	29.1	39.5	36.5

- From 1980 to 1999, the total number of employed persons in the CNMI increased almost eight (8) times, from 5,941 (1980) to over 46,000 (1999) persons, as shown in Table 2.0.
- During this period, the number of employed non-US citizens increased much faster than US citizens, from 38 percent in 1980 to become the majority, 75 percent, of total employed persons in 1999. *i.e.*, in 1999, three out of four employed persons in the CNMI were non-US citizens, as shown in Table 2.0 and Chart 2.1.

- As shown in Table 2.0 and in Chart 2.0, since 1990, non-US citizens comprised the majority of total workers in each industry, except for "Public administration".

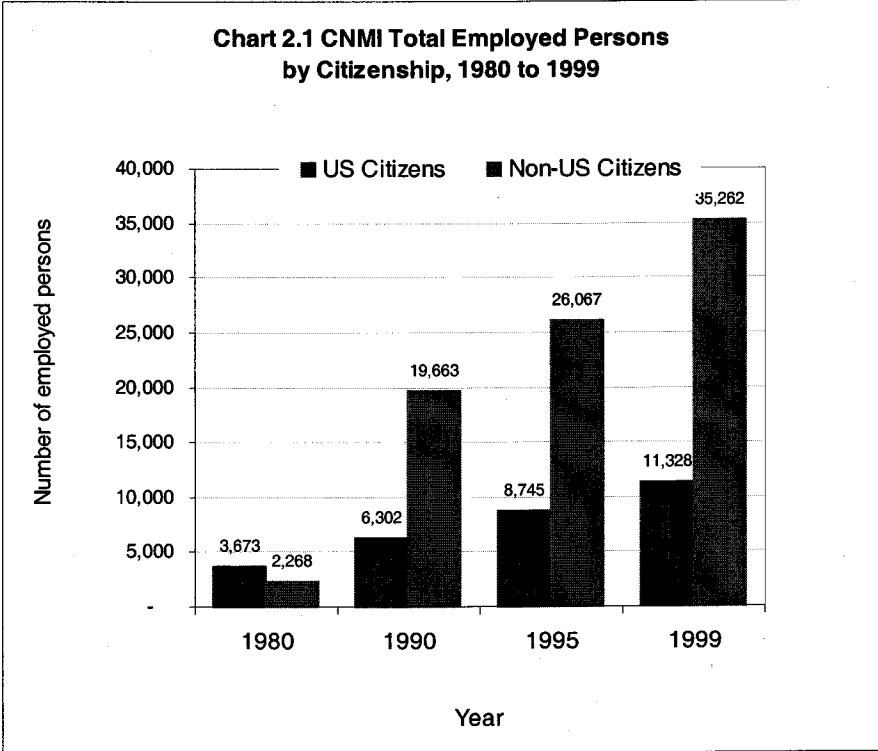
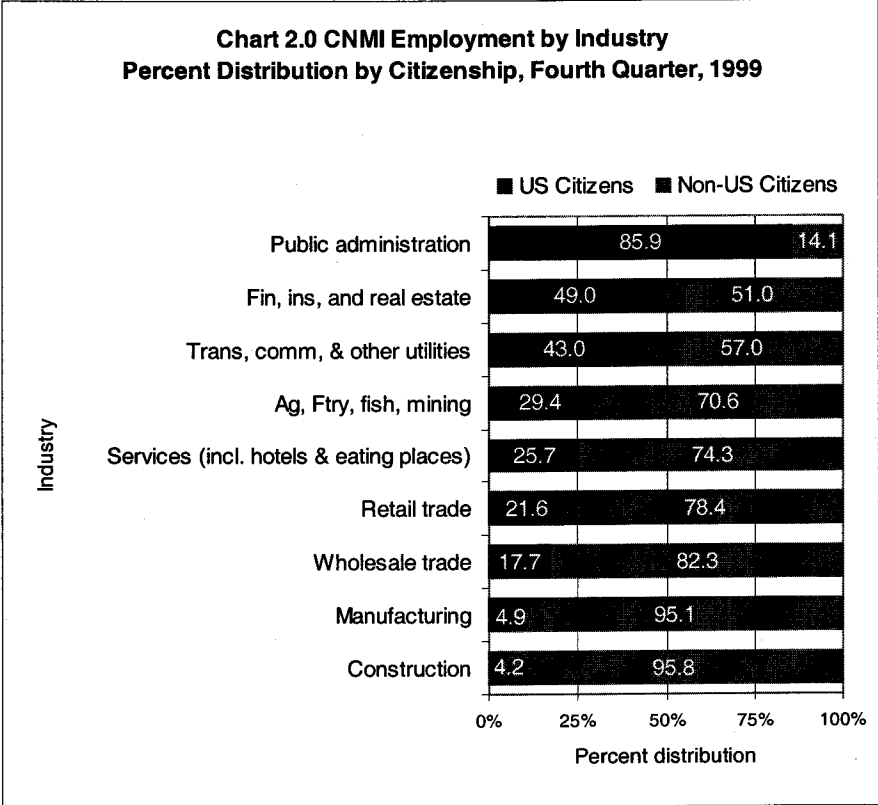


Table A.3.0

CNMI Total Employed Persons by Class of Worker, 1980 to 1999

Class of Worker	Number of Employed Persons											
	Total Employed Persons				U.S. Citizens				Non-U.S. Citizens			
	1980	1990	1995	1999	1980	1990	1995	1999	1980	1990	1995	1999
Total Employed persons	5,941	25,965	34,812	46,590	3,673	6,302	8,745	11,328	2,268	19,663	26,067	35,262
Private for wage and salary workers	3,308	22,027	28,841	38,920	1,564	3,102	4,044	5,454	1,744	18,925	24,797	33,466
Government workers	2,500	3,510	5,018	6,367	2,013	2,942	4,300	5,333	487	568	718	1,034
Self-employed workers	124	382	866	716	88	240	378	344	36	142	488	372
Unpaid family workers	9	46	87	70	8	18	23	23	1	28	64	47
	Class of Worker Percent Distribution of Total Employed Persons											
Total Employed persons	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Private for wage and salary workers	55.7	84.8	82.8	83.5	42.6	49.2	46.2	48.1	76.9	96.2	95.1	94.9
Government workers	42.1	13.5	14.4	13.7	54.8	46.7	49.2	47.1	21.5	2.9	2.8	2.9
Self-employed workers	2.1	1.5	2.5	1.5	2.4	3.8	4.3	3.0	1.6	0.7	1.9	1.1
Unpaid family workers	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1
	Citizenship Percent Distribution of Total Employed Persons by Class of Worker											
Total Employed persons	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	61.8	24.3	25.1	24.3	38.2	75.7	74.9	75.7
Private for wage and salary workers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	47.3	14.1	14.0	14.0	52.7	85.9	86.0	86.0
Government workers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	80.5	83.8	85.7	83.8	19.5	16.2	14.3	16.2
Self-employed workers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	71.0	62.8	43.6	48.0	29.0	37.2	56.4	52.0
Unpaid family workers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	88.9	39.1	26.4	32.9	11.1	60.9	73.6	67.1

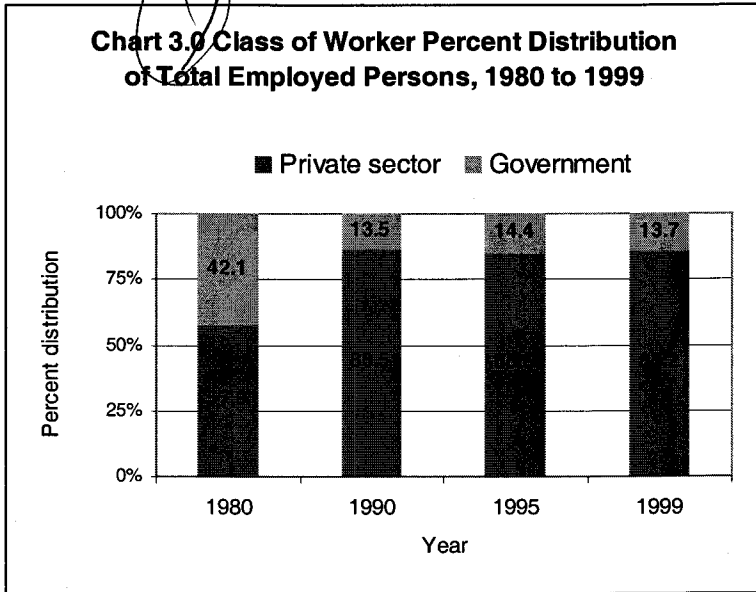
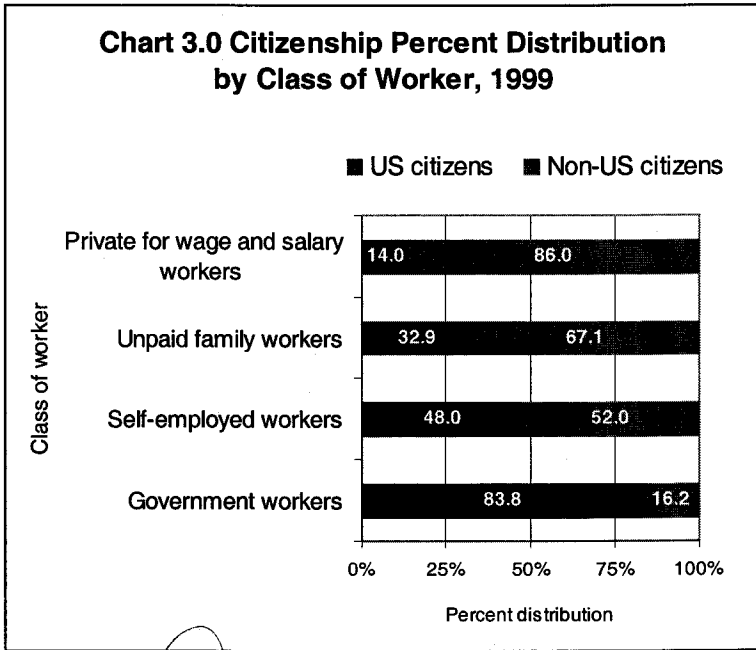
Source: Census of 1980, 1990, 1995 and Current Labor Force Survey, 4th Quarter, 1999.

Between 1980 to 1999, Private sector employees increase much faster than government employees. As shown in table 3.0 and class 3.0 Private sector ~~employees~~ workers ~~that~~ increased from 55 percent in 1980 to 85 percent of total employed persons in the CNMI.

By class of worker

As shown in table 3.0 and class 3.0

US citizens are concentrated in the government sector while Non-US citizens are concentrated in the private sector.



**Table 4.0**  
**CNMI Total Unemployed Persons by Citizenship, 1980 to 1999**

Citizenship	Number of Persons Unemployed			
	1980	1990	1995	1999
Total persons	148	616	2,728	2,103
U.S. citizens	114	383	1,275	1,313
CNMI born	109	340	1,010	1,133
Other U.S. citizens	5	43	265	180
Non-US citizens	34	233	1,453	790
Permanent residents	19	112	242	279
Temporary residents	15	121	1,211	511
Percent of Total Persons Unemployed				
Total persons	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
U.S. citizens	77.0	62.2	46.7	62.4
CNMI born	73.6	55.2	37.0	53.9
Other U.S. citizens	3.4	7.0	9.7	8.6
Non-US citizens	23.0	37.8	53.3	37.6
Permanent residents	12.8	18.2	8.9	13.3
Temporary residents	10.1	19.6	44.4	24.3
Unemployment Rates				
Total persons	2.4	2.3	7.3	4.3
U.S. citizens	3.0	5.7	12.7	10.4
CNMI born	3.2	6.7	14.3	12.2
Other U.S. citizens	1.3	2.7	8.9	6.0
Non-US citizens	1.5	1.2	5.3	2.2
Permanent residents	3.1	7.4	14.2	8.1
Temporary residents	0.9	0.7	4.7	1.6

Source: Census of 1980, 1990, 1995 and Current Labor Force Survey, 4th Quarter, 1999.

Notes: "CNMI-born" are persons who were born in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

"Other U.S. citizens" are persons who were born outside of the CNMI and migrated here.

"Permanent residents" are CNMI residents holding green cards, FAS citizens and immediate relatives (IRs) of US citizens.

"Temporary residents" are CNMI residents holding temporary business or working visa permits.

- B ~~unemployment~~ <sup>(2.4%)</sup> rate was low in 1980 and 1990 <sup>(2.3%)</sup>,  
 moved to 7.3 per in 1995 and dropped to 4.3 per in  
 1999.
- C By citizenship, generally, Non-US citizens had lower  
 unemployment rate than US citizens. As shown in  
 table 4.0 and chart 4.0, U.S. <sup>Cit</sup> unemployment went from  
 3 per in 1980 to 12.7 in 1995 and declined to 10.4  
 in 1999. For Non US citizens, they unemployment rate  
 went from 1.5 in 1980 to 5.3 in 1995 and declined to 2.2%  
 in 1999.
- D As shown in chart 4.1, 62% of total unemployed persons are  
 US citizens while 38% are Non-US citizens.



