



EPI FACT SHEET

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Jobs Crisis and the Great Recession

(Note that all numbers are current as of January 8, 2010. States numbers are current as of January 22, 2010.)

THE JOBS CRISIS

- Number unemployed: **15.3 million** (up from 7.5 million in December 2007)
- Portion of unemployed who have been jobless more than six months: **39.8%**
- Total jobs lost during the recession: **8.1 million**
- Jobs lost in December 2009: **85,000**
- Jobs needed to return to pre-recession unemployment rate: **10.6 million**
- Number of jobseekers per job opening: **6.4**
- Unemployment rate: **10.0%**
- States with double-digit unemployment in December, 2009: **17**
- White unemployment: **9.0%**; black unemployment: **16.2%**; Hispanic unemployment: **12.9%**
- Manufacturing jobs lost since the start of the recession: **2.1 million** (15.6% of that sector's jobs)*
- Construction jobs lost in the recession: **1.6 million** (21.5%, about one in five construction jobs)*
- Mass layoffs (50 or more people by a single employer) in November 2009: **1,797**; jobs lost: **165,346**
- Number of workers who have dropped out of the labor force since December, 2007: **roughly 3.6 million**
- Underemployment rate: **17.3%**; share of workers un- or underemployed: **more than 1 in 6**
- Under- and unemployed, marginally attached and involuntary part-time workers: **27 million**

HARDSHIPS AND THE SAFETY NET

- Americans with no health insurance in 2008: **46.3 million**
- Drop in children covered through parents' employers, 2000 to 2007: **3.4 million**
- Annual Social Security benefit for average retiree: **\$13,922**; share of older Americans receiving all their income from Social Security: **more than 1 out of 4**
- Number of children in poverty in 2008: **14.1 million** (over one-third)
- Drop in real median income from 2007 to 2008: **3.6%** (largest one-year drop since 1967)
- Annualized growth rate of nominal, hourly wages of production workers over the last three months: **2.6%**
- Additional people covered by Medicaid/SCHIP in 2008: **3 million**

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

- Average weekly unemployment benefit in November (including additional \$25 per week from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act): **\$334**
- Number of additional people each week receiving unemployment compensation because of ARRA in December: **5.1 million**
- Average monthly cost of COBRA with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act subsidy: **\$370**;
Without American Recovery and Reinvestment Act subsidy: **\$1,057**

*EPI analysis of BLS data.

Compiled by Anna Turner.