



EPI FACT SHEET

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Jobs Crisis and the Great Recession

(Note that all numbers are current as of March 5, 2010. States numbers are current as of January 22, 2009.)

THE JOBS CRISIS

- Number unemployed: **14.9 million** (up from 7.5 million in December 2007)
- Total jobs lost during the recession: **8.4 million**
- Jobs lost in February 2010: **36,000**
- Jobs needed to return to pre-recession unemployment rate: **11.1 million**
- Number of jobseekers per job opening: **6.1**
- Unemployment rate: **9.7%**
- States with double-digit unemployment in December, 2009: **17**
- White unemployment: **8.8%**; black unemployment: **15.8%**; Hispanic unemployment: **12.4%**
- Manufacturing jobs lost since the start of the recession: **2.2 million** (15.8% of that sector's jobs)*
- Construction jobs lost in the recession: **1.9 million** (25.8%, about one in four construction jobs)*
- Mass layoffs (50 or more people by a single employer) in January 2010: **1,761**; jobs lost: **182,261**
- Underemployment rate: **16.8%**; share of workers un- or underemployed: **more than 1 in 6**
- Under- and unemployed, marginally attached and involuntary part-time workers: **26.2 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: **1.3%**
- Additional people covered by Medicaid/SCHIP in 2008: **3 million**

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

- Average weekly unemployment benefit in January (including additional \$25 per week from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act): **\$335**
- Number of additional people each week receiving unemployment compensation because of ARRA in January: **4.6 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.