



EPI FACT SHEET

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Jobs Crisis and the Great Recession

(Note that all numbers are current as of December 4, 2009. States numbers are current as of November 20, 2009.)

THE JOBS CRISIS

- Number unemployed: **15.4 million** (up from 7.5 million in December 2007)
- Portion of unemployed who have been jobless more than six months: **38.3%**
- Total jobs lost during the recession: **8.0 million**
- Jobs lost in November 2009: **11,000**
- Jobs needed to return to pre-recession unemployment rate: **10.9 million**
- Number of jobseekers per job opening: **6.1**
- Unemployment rate: **10.0%**
- States with double-digit unemployment in October 2009: **15**
- White unemployment: **9.3%**; black unemployment: **15.6%**; Hispanic unemployment: **12.7%**
- Manufacturing jobs lost since the start of the recession: **2.1 million** (15.5% of that sector's jobs)
- Construction jobs lost in the recession: **1.6 million** (20.8%, nearly one in five construction jobs)
- Mass layoffs (i.e., 50 or more people by a single employer) in October 2009: **2,127**; jobs lost: **217,182**
- Underemployment rate: **17.2%**; share of workers un- or underemployed: **more than 1 in 6**
- Under- and unemployed, marginally attached and involuntary part-time workers: **26.9 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**

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- 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)
 - Growth rate of nominal hourly wage of production workers over the last three months: **1.7%**
 - Additional people covered by Medicaid/SCHIP in 2008: **3 million**

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

- Average weekly unemployment benefit in October (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 October: **3.9 million**
- Average monthly cost of COBRA with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act subsidy: **\$370**; without American Recovery and Reinvestment Act subsidy: **\$1,057**
- Jobs lost since February 2008: **2.7 million**; jobs likely lost since February 2008 without passage of ARRA: **4.0 to 4.5 million**

Compiled by Anna Turner.