



Know The Facts

Bureau of Labor
Statistics



Description:

Best known for their monthly published unemployment rate. If you subtract the employed from the workforce, you get the unemployed. The "workforce" number, along with other variables, do frequently get adjusted. This is not a reliable method for comparing month-to-month or yearly unemployment numbers.

Feb. 2012
Unemployment
Rate: 8.3%

Participation
Rate

15%
Real
Unemployment

Description:

Includes those in the "workforce" ages 16-64 who are employed and those who are actively looking for a job, as a percentage of the total civilian non-institutional population. Since the early 1980s, this population has grown by nearly 25 million.

Feb. 2012
Rate: 63.9%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Feb 2012

Lowest since
Jan. 1984
(except Jan 2012)

Description:

Includes BLS reported unemployment plus those who have quit looking for work and those who can only find part-time work.

Source: Congressional Budget Office, Feb 2012



Jan. 2012
Rate: 15%

Description:

People who have been seeking work for more than 26 weeks. By comparison, during the 1981-1982 recession, long-term unemployed accounted for about 25% of the unemployed population.

Jan. 2012
Rate: >40%

"Much of the impact of unemployment has fallen on people who have been unemployed for a long time rather than being shared by a wider set of people unemployed for shorter periods."

Source: Congressional Budget Office, Feb 2012

All-time high.

Unemployed
Need Not
Apply



Description:

A trend among employers to discourage unemployed job-seekers from applying for an open position.

Nationwide

Legislation

Description:

President Obama's "American Jobs Act", accompanied by several states, have either proposed or already passed legislation prohibiting employers from discriminating against the unemployed when advertising a job opening or even going as far as including the unemployed as a protected class.



New Jersey—passed

Over a dozen states
have pending
legislation.

Defeated in Senate
American Jobs Act

Take The
Pledge

Description:

TAKE THE PLEDGE
~~UNEMPLOYED~~
NEED NOT APPLY

Take a proactive stance with the unemployed and show commitment to your community.

Take The Pledge
before new
legislation comes
knocking at your
door.