

## Jobs Picture – January 2009

---

### Employment and Unemployment Stats at a Glance

<b>Official unemployment rate</b>	<b>7.6 percent</b>
<b>"Real" unemployment rate</b>	<b>13.9 percent</b>
<b>Number unemployed</b>	<b>11.6 million</b>
<b>"Real" number unemployed</b>	<b>21.4 million</b>
<b>Average duration of unemployment</b>	<b>19.8 weeks</b>
<b>Manufacturing job losses since 1998 peak</b>	<b>4.6 million</b>
<b>Jobs lost since recession started (12/07)</b>	<b>3.6 million</b>

*"Real" unemployment includes people working part-time for economic reasons and workers who have searched for work and are available to work but are no longer considered officially unemployed. All figures are adjusted for seasonal variation.*

- Over half a million jobs were lost in January and the unemployment rate rose to 7.6 percent from 7.2 percent in December.
- The "Real" unemployment rate rose to 13.9 percent from 13.5 percent in December.
- On a percentage basis, job losses in the past few months are equivalent to those in 1975, 1980 and 1982.
- Manufacturing suffered large job losses again: 207,000 in January following a loss of 162,000 in December. This is the largest one-month decline since October 1982 and the largest percent decline (-1.6 percent) since February 1975.
- Most other industries also shed jobs again in January.

For the full employment situation release, go to <http://stats.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.toc.htm>

Next update: Friday, March 6, 2009