

# Jobs Picture – September 2009

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## Employment and Unemployment Stats at a Glance

<b>Official unemployment rate</b>	<b>9.8 percent</b>
<b>"Real" unemployment rate</b>	<b>17.0 percent</b>
<b>Number unemployed</b>	<b>15.1 million</b>
<b>Average duration of unemployment</b>	<b>26.2 weeks</b>
<b>Jobs lost since recession started (12/07)</b>	<b>7.2 million</b>
<b>Manufacturing job losses since recession started</b>	<b>1.2 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.*

- Despite some of the economic releases that say the recession has probably ended, the labor market continues to deteriorate. Job losses accelerated in September to 263,000 from 201,000 in August and the unemployment rate ticked up to 9.8% from 9.7% in August. In a further sign of weakening, hours worked also fell in September.
- Manufacturing was again one of the hardest hit sectors, shedding 51,000 jobs over the month and 1.6 million over the year. Manufacturing employment now stands at 11.7 million. Motor vehicle and parts employment dropped to 648,000 in September, a decline of 3,500 jobs from last month and 192,000 from last year.
- The unemployment rate for adult men climbed to 10.3% and the rate for African-American adult men was 16.5%, a slight improvement from August's rate of 17%.

For the full employment situation release, go to <http://stats.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.toc.htm>  
Next update: Friday, November 6, 2009