

Jobs Picture –June 2010

Employment and Unemployment Stats at a Glance

Official unemployment rate	9.5 percent
"Real" unemployment rate	16.5 percent
Number unemployed	14.6 million
Average duration of unemployment	35.2 weeks
Jobs deficit: jobs needed for full-employment	11.3 million
Job growth in June	-125,000

"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.

- A big drop in federal government employment as temporary Census 2010 jobs wind down led to a 125,000-job drop in U.S. payrolls in June. Private sector job creation remains anemic, up by just 83,000 jobs. The June employment report strengthens the case that more stimulus is needed to address the plight of the unemployed and prevent a slide back into recession.
- The fall in the unemployment rate to 9.5 percent (from May's 9.7 percent) can be attributed to workers dropping out of the labor force rather than to an improved labor market. The civilian labor force shrank by 652,000 in June.
- The long-term unemployment crisis continues, with the average duration of unemployment increasing to 35.2 weeks in June. Nearly 6.8 million workers have been out of a job for 6 months or more; that's 45.5 percent of the officially unemployed. If discouraged workers who aren't actively looking for work were included, the number would be much higher.
- The jobs deficit – the number of jobs needed to return the country to pre-recession employment levels – grew to 11.3 million in June. Reducing the unemployment rate to 5 percent (its December 2007 level) within 3 years would require the creation of more than 400,000 jobs per month.

For the full employment situation release, go to <http://stats.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.toc.htm>
Next update: Friday, August 6, 2010