



May Unemployment by the Numbers

After more than 29 months of this Administration's destructive jobs policies and the constant threat of higher taxes and record deficits, a simple look at our current unemployment data shows that the President's policies are failing.

- **9.1%:** The unemployment rate for the month of May. Since March 2009 (the month after the stimulus passed) through May 2011, unemployment has [averaged 9.4 percent](#). Prior to President Obama taking office, unemployment had not been above 9 percent in 28 years.
- **28:** The number of consecutive months that unemployment has been at or above 8 percent—the level the President said unemployment would never reach if the stimulus passed. Unemployment has not stayed above [8 percent](#) for so many consecutive months since the Great Depression.
- **13,914,000:** The number of unemployed Americans looking for work in the month of May. The number of unemployed eclipsed 13 million for the first time in history two months after President Obama took office and has remained above 13 million for 27 straight months.
- **44,587,328:** The number of Americans receiving [food stamps](#), the highest number of participants in history. Today 14 percent of Americans receive food stamps, an increase of 40 percent since President Obama took office.
- **39.7:** The average number of weeks that job seekers have been unemployed—the longest average time that Americans have been unemployed since the statistic was first recorded in 1948.
- **19.1%:** The rate of underemployment during mid-May according to Gallup's monthly [employment survey](#). This accounts for the unemployed, those unable to find full-time work and those discouraged from looking for work.
- **8,548,000:** The number of Americans who are working only part-time because they cannot find full time employment. The number of people working part time for economic reason reached 8 million for the first time in history under President Obama and has remained above 8 million for 28 consecutive months.
- **6,200,000:** The number of Americans unemployed and searching for work for more than 27 weeks. Since President Obama took office, the number of people unemployed for more than 27 weeks has increased by 131 percent.
- **1,231,000:** The number of job seekers that are new to the workforce and have yet to find a job. The number of new workers who cannot find a job has been above 1 million for 22 straight months.
- **24.2%:** The unemployment rate among job seekers between the ages of 16 and 19. Youth unemployment has been above 24 percent for 24 months, the longest streak since the Great Depression.

- **16.2%:** The unemployment rate among African Americans, an increase of 27 percent since President Obama took office.
- **11.9%:** The unemployment rate among Hispanics and Latinos, an increase of 20 percent since President Obama took office.
- **14.7%:** The unemployment rate among Americans without high school diplomas, an increase of 19 percent since President Obama took office.
- **6.8%:** The level at which the Obama administration [claimed](#) unemployment would be today if the "stimulus" was signed into law.
- **1,908,000:** The number of net jobs the economy has shed since the Democrats' "stimulus" was signed into law in February 2009.
- **\$1,161,000,000,000:** The total cost of the Democrats' "stimulus." CBO estimates the cost of the bill will reach [\\$814 billion](#) and interest on the debt for the bill will be at least [\\$347 billion](#).
- **Entrepreneurship is at a 17-Year Low:** Since 2007, there has been a 23% drop in new business creation - falling to the lowest levels seen since 1994.