US Economic Indicators: Unemployment

March 6, 2020

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thinking outside the box
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Figure 1.

Unemployment Rates

Note: Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Figure 2.

**SPECIAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES**
(percent, sa)

- Underemployment Rate* Plus Unemployment Rate (6.1)
- U-6 Rate** (7.0)

**EMPLOYED PART-TIME FOR ECONOMIC REASONS**
(as percent of civilian labor force)

- Total (2.6)
- Slack Business Conditions (1.7)
- Can Only Find Part-Time Work (0.8)

Note: Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.

*Total number of people working part time for economic reasons as percent of civilian labor force. **Unemployed plus marginally attached plus part time for economic reasons as percent of civilian labor force. ***Unemployed plus discouraged workers as percent of civilian labor force.

Figure 3.

UNEMPLOYED & UNDER-EMPLOYED (millions, sa)

- Unemployed (5.8)
- Employed Part-Time for Economic Reasons (4.3)

Note: Shaded area denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Figure 4.

EMPLOYED PART-TIME FOR ECONOMIC REASONS (millions, sa)

- Total (4.3)
- Slack Business Conditions (2.8)
- Can Only Find Part-Time Work (1.3)

Note: Shaded area denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.
**Figure 5.**

Unemployed: Total, Short-Term, & Long-Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total (millions, sa)</th>
<th>Long-Term (millions, sa)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.


* Unemployed for less than 27 weeks.

** Unemployed for 27 weeks and longer.

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**Figure 6.**

Unemployment Rates: Total, Short-Term, & Long-Term

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total (percent)</th>
<th>Short-Term (percent)</th>
<th>Long-Term (percent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.


* Unemployed for less than 27 weeks.

** Unemployed for 27 weeks and longer.
Figure 7. AVERAGE & MEDIAN DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT
(weeks, sa)

Note: Shaded areas denote recessions according to the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Figure 8. MARGINALLY ATTACHED TO THE LABOR FORCE & DISCOURAGED WORKERS
(millions, nsa)

* Persons marginally attached to the labor force are those who currently are neither working nor looking for work but indicate that they want and are available for a job and have looked for work sometime in the past 12 months.

** Discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached, have given a job-market related reason for not currently looking for work.
UNEMPLOYMENT (millions)

- Unemployment (5.8)
- Unemployment at Labor Force Participation Rates of 63%, 65%, & 67%

* Labor force participation rate times working-age population minus household employment.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (percent, sa)

- Official Unemployment Rate (3.5)
- Unemployment Rate at Labor Force Participation Rates of 63%, 65%, and 67%*

* Labor force participation rate times working-age population minus household employment all divided by adjusted labor force.
Unemployed

Figure 11.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
(percent)

- Unemployment Rate (3.5)
- U-6 Unemployment Rate* (7.0)

* Total unemployed, plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all persons marginally attached to the labor force.


Figure 12.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: 1980-1990 vs. 2007-PRESENT

1980-1990
- 1980-1990
- 2007-Present

Figure 13.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY RACE & ETHNICITY (percent)

- African-American (5.8)
- Hispanic (4.4)
- White (3.1)
- Asian (2.5)


Figure 14.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY EDUCATION (percent, ages 25 and older)

- Less than High School Degree (5.7)
- High School Degree (3.6)
- Some College (3.0)
- Bachelor’s Degree (1.9)
