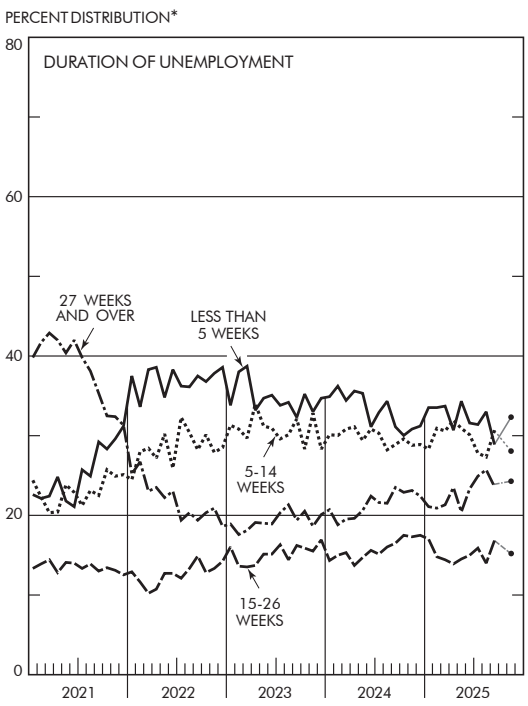
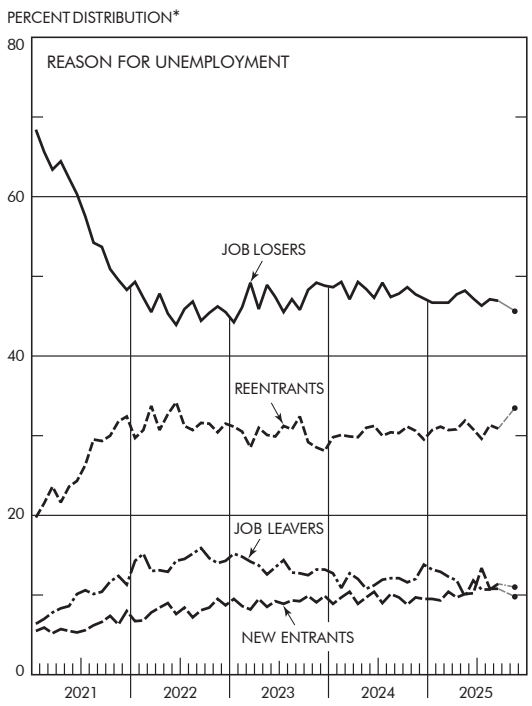
Selected Measures of Unemployment and Unemployment Insurance Programs

In November, the percentages of the unemployed who had been out of work for less than 5 weeks and for 27 weeks and over rose, while the percentages for 5 to 14 weeks and for 15 to 26 weeks fell. The mean duration of unemployment fell to 23.0 weeks and the median duration fell to 9.5 weeks.





*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

[Monthly data seasonally adjusted, except as noted by NSA]

Period	Unemployment (thousands)	Duration of unemployment: Percent distribution: Less than 5 weeks	5–14 weeks	15–26 weeks	27 weeks and over	Duration of unemployment: Number of weeks: Average (mean) [1]	Median	Reason for unemployment: percent distribution: Job losers	Job leavers	Reentrants	New entrants	State programs: Insured unemployment (NSA)	Initial claims (NSA)	Insured unemployment, all programs (NSA) [2]
												Weekly average, thousands		
2015	8,296	28.9	27.7	15.3	28.1	29.2	11.6	49.0	9.9	30.6	10.6	2,237	275	2,274
2016	7,751	30.5	28.7	14.9	25.9	27.5	10.6	48.2	11.1	30.1	10.6	2,099	259	2,128
2017	6,982	32.5	28.8	14.6	24.2	25.0	10.0	49.2	11.1	29.8	9.9	1,948	240	1,971
2018	6,314	34.4	29.7	14.5	21.4	22.7	9.3	47.4	12.6	30.5	9.5	1,755	219	1,774
2019	6,001	34.8	29.8	14.3	21.1	21.6	9.1	46.4	13.6	30.2	9.8	1,684	217	1,702
2020	12,947	28.6	36.5	19.4	15.4	16.5	9.7	75.5	5.3	15.2	4.1	10,093	1,377	19,081
2021	8,623	24.8	23.0	13.5	38.7	28.7	16.5	59.1	9.3	25.6	6.0	3,191	547	12,034
2022	5,996	37.0	28.5	12.6	21.9	22.6	8.7	46.1	14.3	31.5	8.0	1,503	221	1,657
2023	6,080	34.7	30.7	15.2	19.4	20.6	8.9	47.2	13.5	30.1	9.1	1,760	231	1,801
2024	6,761	33.1	29.8	15.7	21.4	21.6	9.6	48.1	12.0	30.4	9.6	1,848	224	1,871
2024: Nov	7,121	30.8	28.8	17.3	23.1	23.6	10.5	47.7	12.0	30.6	9.7	1,682	235	1,703
Dec	6,886	31.2	28.9	17.5	22.4	23.7	10.4	47.2	13.8	29.5	9.5	2,301	321	2,326
2025: Jan	6,849	33.5	28.3	17.0	21.1	22.0	10.4	46.7	13.2	30.7	9.5	2,318	307	2,341
Feb	7,052	33.5	30.9	14.8	20.9	21.3	10.0	46.7	12.9	31.1	9.3	2,164	226	2,188
Mar	7,083	33.7	30.6	14.4	21.3	22.8	9.8	46.7	12.3	30.7	10.4	2,405	222	2,432
Apr	7,166	30.7	31.9	13.9	23.5	23.2	10.4	47.7	11.8	30.8	9.7	1,978	236	2,001
May	7,237	34.3	30.9	14.5	20.4	21.8	9.5	48.2	9.8	31.9	10.1	1,806	224	1,828
June	7,015	31.6	30.1	15.0	23.3	23.0	10.1	47.2	11.8	30.8	10.2	2,143	258	2,167
July	7,236	31.4	27.8	15.9	24.9	24.1	10.2	46.3	10.7	29.6	13.4	2,105	245	2,129
Aug	7,384	33.0	27.3	14.0	25.7	24.5	9.8	47.1	10.7	31.3	10.8	2,107	209	2,132
Sept	7,603	28.9	30.7	16.8	23.6	24.1	10.0	46.9	11.4	30.9	10.8	1,876	213	1,899
Oct	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,746	231	1,778
Nov	7,831	32.4	28.1	15.2	24.3	23.0	9.5	45.6	11.0	33.5	9.8	1,791	227	1,828

[1] Beginning January 2011, includes unemployment durations of up to 5 years; prior data are for up to 2 years.
[2] Includes State (50 States, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands), Federal (UCFE), ex-service members (UCX), and Federal and State extended benefit programs. Also includes Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (2020-2021), Emergency Unemployment Compensation (2008-2013), and Federal Additional Compensation (2009-2010).

Note: Data relate to persons age 16 years and over (except for insured unemployment and initial claims). Data for October 2025 are unavailable due to the 2025 lapse in appropriations.

Source: Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics and Employment and Training Administration).

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