



TARGET AREAS THAT ARE HIRING, LEGAL AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, and UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

FINDING A JOB- TARGET AREAS THAT ARE HIRING

Tory Johnson, from Good Morning America, recognizes that looking to a staffing firm for your employment needs is a great resource. Check out the article by clicking on the following link:

<http://abcnews.go.com/GMA/JobClub/tips-find-job-january/story?id=9650636&page=1>

LEGAL AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS- FEDERAL PENDING LEGISLATION

The American Staffing Association keeps its members up to date with pending legislation and staffing-specific laws. You may click on the bill # to open a link for more information on each pending legislation.

BILL #	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
HR 1 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 David Obey (D-WI)	This bill creates the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which would extend jobless benefits for workers who have exhausted the first 13 weeks of unemployment. The unemployed in states with high jobless rates would get an extra 13 weeks of benefits while people in other areas would get seven additional weeks of benefits.	Feb. 19, 2009: Signed by President.

[HR 290](#) This bill creates the Unemployment Insurance Modernization Act and would provide for special transfer of funds to states to improve the unemployment insurance fund. Jan. 8, 2009: Introduced. To Ways and Means Committee.

UI Modernization Act
Jim McDermott (D-WA)

[HR 3548](#) This bill would provide for an extension of unemployment benefits of up to 13 weeks for individuals who exhaust their existing emergency benefits and live in states with total unemployment rates of 8.5% or higher. The bill would extend for one year a federal unemployment tax that has been in place for more than 30 years. In an effort to cut down on UI overpayments, the bill also would require that current reporting on newly hired employees include the date work started. Nov. 6, 2009: Signed by President.

Unemployment Compensation Act of 2009
Jim McDermott (D-WA)

[HR 4183](#) This bill amends the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act and the Supplemental Appropriations Act to provide for a temporary extension of programs providing unemployment benefits. The bill extends benefits eligibility from Dec. 31, 2009 to March 31, 2011. Dec. 2, 2009: Introduced. To Ways and Means.

Helping Unemployed Workers Act
Jim McDermott (D-WA)

December 2009 Unemployment Data From The Bureau of Labor Statistics

Table A. States with unemployment rates significantly different from that of the U.S., December 2009, seasonally adjusted

State	Rate (p)
United States (1)	10.0
Alaska	8.8
Arkansas	7.7
California	12.4
Colorado	7.5
Connecticut	8.9
Delaware	9.0
District of Columbia	12.1

Florida	11.8
Hawaii	6.9
Illinois	11.1
Iowa	6.6
Kansas	6.6
Louisiana	7.5
Maine	8.3
Maryland	7.5
Michigan	14.6
Minnesota	7.4
Montana	6.7
Nebraska	4.7
Nevada	13.0
New Hampshire	7.0
New Mexico	8.3
New York	9.0
North Carolina	11.2
North Dakota	4.4
Ohio	10.9
Oklahoma	6.6
Oregon	11.0
Pennsylvania	8.9
Rhode Island	12.9
South Carolina	12.6
South Dakota	4.7
Texas	8.3
Utah	6.7
Vermont	6.9
Virginia	6.9
Wisconsin	8.7
Wyoming	7.5

1 Data are not preliminary.
p = preliminary.

Table B. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes from November 2009 to December 2009, seasonally adjusted

State	Rate		Over-the-month rate change (p)
	November 2009	December 2009 (p)	
Colorado	6.9	7.5	0.6
Connecticut	8.2	8.9	.7
Delaware	8.6	9.0	.4
Florida	11.5	11.8	.3
Louisiana	6.7	7.5	.8
Massachusetts	8.7	9.4	.7
Mississippi	9.8	10.6	.8
Montana	6.4	6.7	.3

New Mexico	7.8	8.3	.5
New York	8.6	9.0	.4
North Carolina	10.7	11.2	.5
North Dakota	4.1	4.4	.3
Pennsylvania	8.5	8.9	.4
South Dakota	4.8	4.7	-.2
Tennessee	10.2	10.9	.7
Texas	8.0	8.3	.3
Utah	6.3	6.7	.4
Vermont	6.4	6.9	.5
Virginia	6.6	6.9	.3
Washington	9.0	9.5	.5
West Virginia	8.4	9.1	.7
Wisconsin	8.2	8.7	.5

p = preliminary.

Table C. States with statistically significant unemployment rate changes from December 2008 to December 2009, seasonally adjusted

State	Rate		Over-the-year rate change (p)
	December 2008	December 2009 (p)	
Alabama	6.5	11.0	4.5
Alaska	6.8	8.8	2.0
Arizona	6.6	9.1	2.5
Arkansas	5.7	7.7	2.0
California	8.7	12.4	3.7
Colorado	5.8	7.5	1.7
Connecticut	6.6	8.9	2.3
Delaware	5.7	9.0	3.3
District of Columbia	8.2	12.1	3.9
Florida	7.6	11.8	4.2
Georgia	7.5	10.3	2.8
Hawaii	5.1	6.9	1.8
Idaho	6.1	9.1	3.0
Illinois	7.2	11.1	3.9
Indiana	7.8	9.9	2.1
Iowa	4.4	6.6	2.2
Kansas	5.0	6.6	1.6
Kentucky	7.6	10.7	3.1
Louisiana	5.5	7.5	2.0
Maine	6.5	8.3	1.8
Maryland	5.4	7.5	2.1
Massachusetts	6.4	9.4	3.0
Michigan	10.2	14.6	4.4
Minnesota	6.6	7.4	.8
Mississippi	7.8	10.6	2.8
Missouri	7.1	9.6	2.5

Montana	5.0	6.7	1.7
Nebraska	3.9	4.7	.8
Nevada	8.4	13.0	4.6
New Hampshire	4.3	7.0	2.7
New Jersey	6.8	10.1	3.3
New Mexico	4.7	8.3	3.6
New York	6.6	9.0	2.4
North Carolina	8.1	11.2	3.1
North Dakota	3.3	4.4	1.1
Ohio	7.4	10.9	3.5
Oklahoma	4.6	6.6	2.0
Oregon	8.3	11.0	2.7
Pennsylvania	6.4	8.9	2.5
Rhode Island	9.4	12.9	3.5
South Carolina	8.8	12.6	3.8
South Dakota	3.7	4.7	1.0
Tennessee	7.6	10.9	3.3
Texas	5.6	8.3	2.7
Utah	4.1	6.7	2.6
Vermont	5.9	6.9	1.0
Virginia	5.0	6.9	1.9
Washington	6.5	9.5	3.0
West Virginia	4.5	9.1	4.6
Wisconsin	5.9	8.7	2.8
Wyoming	3.2	7.5	4.3

p = preliminary.

Table D. States with statistically significant employment changes from November 2009 to December 2009, seasonally adjusted

State	November 2009	December 2009 (p)	Over-the-month change (p)
Alabama.....	1,898,900	1,888,500	-10,400
California.....	14,186,800	14,148,000	-38,800
Georgia.....	3,854,800	3,839,700	-15,100
Illinois.....	5,628,500	5,612,200	-16,300
Iowa.....	1,482,000	1,468,800	-13,200
Michigan.....	3,846,700	3,831,000	-15,700
Montana.....	437,400	431,000	-6,400
Nevada.....	1,166,200	1,154,600	-11,600
Ohio.....	5,103,600	5,086,900	-16,700
South Dakota.....	404,100	400,500	-3,600
Tennessee.....	2,646,600	2,636,700	-9,900
Vermont.....	294,600	292,200	-2,400
Wisconsin.....	2,727,500	2,712,300	-15,200

p = preliminary.

Table E. States with statistically significant employment changes from December 2008 to December 2009, seasonally adjusted

State	December 2008	December 2009 (p)	Over-the-year change (p)
Alabama.....	1,953,500	1,888,500	-65,000
Arizona.....	2,534,100	2,412,000	-122,100
California.....	14,727,400	14,148,000	-579,400
Colorado.....	2,320,600	2,234,000	-86,600
Connecticut.....	1,673,900	1,614,900	-59,000
Delaware.....	421,900	409,800	-12,100
Florida.....	7,576,100	7,343,700	-232,400
Georgia.....	4,013,600	3,839,700	-173,900
Hawaii.....	609,400	586,100	-23,300
Illinois.....	5,849,500	5,612,200	-237,300
Indiana.....	2,899,400	2,796,300	-103,100
Iowa.....	1,508,900	1,468,800	-40,100
Kansas.....	1,389,600	1,329,900	-59,700
Kentucky.....	1,823,800	1,764,500	-59,300
Louisiana.....	1,948,600	1,901,700	-46,900
Maine.....	604,800	588,800	-16,000
Maryland.....	2,568,400	2,524,000	-44,400
Massachusetts.....	3,230,200	3,164,000	-66,200
Michigan.....	4,038,100	3,831,000	-207,100
Minnesota.....	2,722,300	2,642,400	-79,900
Mississippi.....	1,127,200	1,101,400	-25,800
Missouri.....	2,770,900	2,708,300	-62,600
Montana.....	444,700	431,000	-13,700
Nebraska.....	963,700	938,300	-25,400
Nevada.....	1,235,600	1,154,600	-81,000
New Jersey.....	4,000,500	3,910,400	-90,100
New Mexico.....	843,100	817,100	-26,000
New York.....	8,713,500	8,544,900	-168,600
North Carolina.....	4,048,200	3,924,000	-124,200
Ohio.....	5,271,800	5,086,900	-184,900
Oklahoma.....	1,595,600	1,558,900	-36,700
Oregon.....	1,689,600	1,617,200	-72,400
Pennsylvania.....	5,749,200	5,598,900	-150,300
Rhode Island.....	471,200	453,800	-17,400
South Carolina.....	1,884,100	1,846,400	-37,700
South Dakota.....	411,400	400,500	-10,900
Tennessee.....	2,726,100	2,636,700	-89,400
Texas.....	10,631,300	10,355,300	-276,000
Utah.....	1,246,700	1,200,100	-46,600
Virginia.....	3,711,200	3,656,500	-54,700
Washington.....	2,923,700	2,834,900	-88,800
West Virginia.....	757,400	738,500	-18,900
Wisconsin.....	2,832,800	2,712,300	-120,500

Wyoming.....	303,100	282,400	-20,700
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p = preliminary.