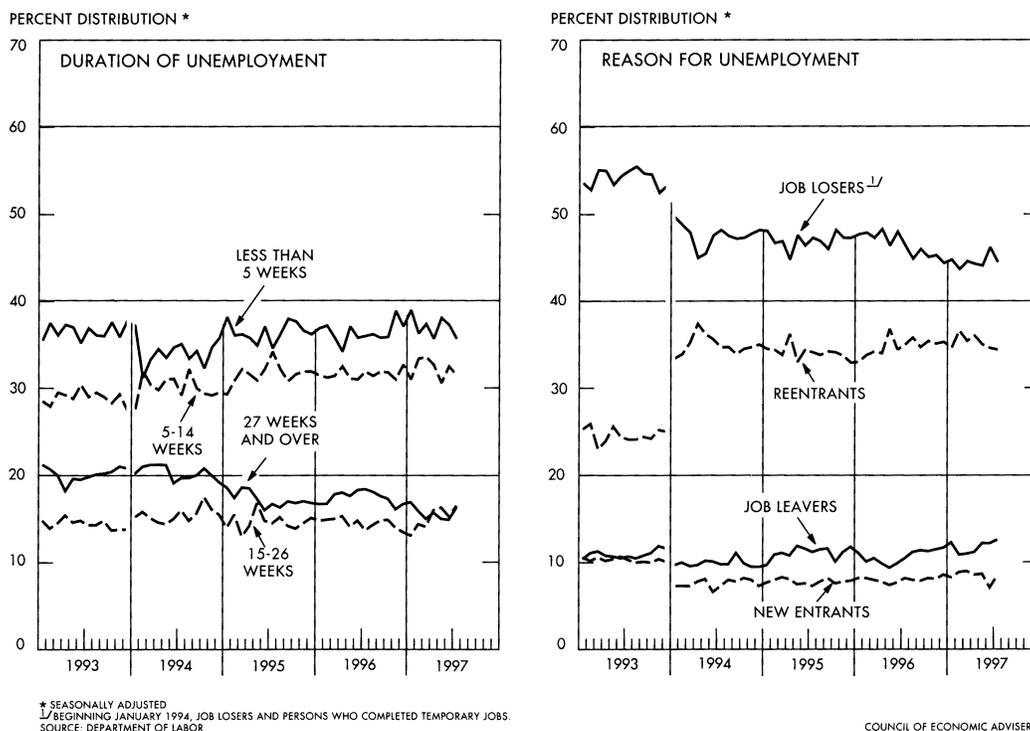


SELECTED MEASURES OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE PROGRAMS

In August, the percentages of the unemployed who had been out of work for less than 5 weeks and for 5-14 weeks rose; the percentages for 15-26 weeks and for 27 weeks and over fell. The mean duration of unemployment fell to 15.9 weeks and the median duration fell to 7.8 weeks.



[Monthly data seasonally adjusted, except as noted]

Period	Un-employment (thousands)	Duration of unemployment				Number of weeks		Reason for unemployment: percent distribution				State programs		Insured unemployment, all regular programs (unadjusted) ²	
		Percent distribution				Average (mean)	Median	Job losers ¹	Job leavers	Reentrants	New entrants	Insured unemployment	Initial claims		
		Less than 5 weeks	5-14 weeks	15-26 weeks	27 weeks and over										
														Weekly average, thousands	
1987	7,425	43.7	29.6	12.7	14.0	14.5	6.5	48.0	13.0	26.6	12.4	2,300	328	2,369	
1988	6,701	46.0	30.0	12.0	12.1	13.5	5.9	46.1	14.7	27.0	12.2	2,081	310	2,135	
1989	6,528	48.6	30.3	11.2	9.9	11.9	4.8	45.7	15.7	28.2	10.4	2,158	330	2,205	
1990	7,047	46.3	32.0	11.7	10.0	12.0	5.3	48.1	14.8	27.4	9.8	2,522	388	2,575	
1991	8,628	40.3	32.4	14.4	12.9	13.7	6.8	54.4	11.6	24.8	9.2	3,342	447	3,406	
1992	9,613	35.1	29.4	15.1	20.3	17.7	8.7	56.1	10.4	23.8	9.7	3,245	408	3,348	
1993	8,940	36.5	28.9	14.5	20.1	18.0	8.3	54.2	10.9	24.6	10.3	2,751	341	2,845	
1994 ³	7,996	34.1	30.1	15.5	20.3	18.8	9.2	47.7	9.9	34.8	7.6	2,670	340	2,739	
1995	7,404	36.5	31.6	14.6	17.3	16.6	8.3	46.9	11.1	34.1	7.8	2,575	357	2,636	
1996	7,236	36.4	31.6	14.6	17.4	16.7	8.3	46.6	10.7	34.7	8.0	2,594	356	2,649	
1996: Aug	6,910	36.2	31.4	14.3	18.1	17.2	8.5	44.9	11.2	35.8	8.0	2,524	325	2,254	
Sept	7,043	35.8	31.9	14.8	17.6	16.9	8.6	46.0	11.4	34.7	7.9	2,468	335	2,184	
Oct	7,019	35.9	31.8	14.9	17.3	16.7	8.3	45.1	11.3	35.4	8.2	2,470	334	2,046	
Nov	7,187	38.9	31.0	14.0	16.1	16.0	7.7	45.3	11.5	35.1	8.1	2,444	338	2,105	
Dec	7,167	37.1	32.7	13.5	16.7	15.8	7.8	44.4	11.7	35.3	8.6	2,518	355	2,752	
1997: Jan	7,268	39.0	31.0	13.1	16.9	16.0	7.7	44.8	12.3	34.6	8.3	2,453	334	2,303	
Feb	7,205	36.3	33.4	14.4	15.9	16.0	8.4	43.7	10.9	36.6	8.9	2,375	311	2,301	
Mar	7,144	37.4	33.6	14.1	15.0	15.3	7.9	44.6	11.0	35.4	9.0	2,294	312	2,924	
Apr	6,714	35.7	32.7	16.0	15.7	15.2	8.3	44.3	11.2	36.0	8.6	2,274	333	2,513	
May	6,534	38.1	30.6	16.3	15.0	15.1	7.7	44.1	12.2	35.0	8.7	2,263	326	2,069	
June	6,836	37.3	32.5	15.3	14.9	15.1	7.7	46.2	12.2	34.6	7.1	2,326	341	2,207	
July	6,583	35.7	31.5	16.5	16.3	16.6	8.5	44.5	12.6	34.4	8.5	2,300	319	2,176	
Aug	6,677	38.5	31.6	13.8	16.0	15.9	7.8	46.0	13.7	32.2	8.2	2,308	325	2,096	

¹ Beginning January 1994, job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs.

² Includes State (50 States, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands), ex-servicemen (UCX), and Federal (UCFE). Railroad (RR) programs included through 1993. Also includes Federal and State extended benefit programs. Does not include Federal supplemental compensation or Emergency Unemployment Compensation programs.

³ Data beginning January 1994 are not directly comparable with data for earlier periods.

NOTE.—Data relate to persons age 16 years and over (except for insured unemployment and initial claims).

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