

Unemployment Insurance

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Performance Goals

GPRA Performance Measure	FY 2009 Target
Percent of intrastate payments made timely	87.7%
Detection of recoverable overpayments	55.2%
Entered Employment Rate for UI claimants	64.7%

Analysis

- First payment time lapse declined almost two percentage points as states processed a 33 percent increase in initial claims.
- The detection of recoverable overpayments rate rose 1.9 percentage points because overpayments established rose by \$90 million, while the overpayment rate declined.
- The share of liability determinations made timely fell in 37 states, pushing the aggregate rate down by 1.3 percentage points, as states diverted staff to claims activities.

Charting Program Performance

Performance Measure	Four Quarters Ending 12/31/2007	Four Quarters Ending 12/31/2008
Percent of intrastate payments made timely	88.1	86.2
Detection of recoverable overpayments	54.3	56.2
Entered employment rate for UI claimants ¹	65.1 9/30/07	62.5 9/30/08
Numerator	4,924,570	5,190,139
Denominator	7,561,140	8,309,210
Percent of employer tax liability determinations made timely	85.7	84.4
Operational Results		
Reciency Rate	36.9	37.5
Exhaustion rate	35.6	41.5
Percent of recipients of prime working age (25-54)	73.6	73
Percent of recipient who are female	42.7	41.1
New initial UI claims	11,557,102	15,388,078
Number of first UI payments	7,753,957	10,149,218
Average duration of UI (weeks)	15.3	14.9

¹ Percentage of claimants reemployed in one of the four quarters of the year ending September 30, 2008, who received a UI first payment in the previous quarter. Data for year ending September 30, 2008, are latest available for this measure.

Program Description

By temporarily replacing part of unemployed workers' lost wages, the Federal-State Unemployment Insurance (UI) system minimizes individual financial hardship due to unemployment. Thus, it stabilizes the economy during economic downturns. States operate their own UI programs under their own laws; as Federal partner, DOL provides program leadership, allocates administrative funds, provides technical assistance, and exercises performance oversight.

	<p>Other Program Highlights</p> <p>Rising volumes of claims and payments forced most states to divert staff but payment timeliness still declined in 36 states. Six of these states experienced a decline of over 8 percentage points over the last year. States not only had to process regular program claims but also claims under the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program, extended in February through December 31, 2009.</p>
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