

**Major Communications Data Version 1.1**

Agency Name: Department of Labor						
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Title (Clear Heading)	Short (no more than 5 sentences) overview of the main communications points	Date and time of communication	Additional citizen friendly tags (e.g. recovery, stimulus) that can be used on Recovery.gov to help present the news items (separate tags with ";")	Link to Communications Item	Type of Major Communication (Press Release, Video, Press Event, Other)	Text of Major Communications (Press Release, Video, Press Event, Other)
DOL announces release of \$5.9 million in unemployment insurance modernization incentive funds to South Dakota	DOL made funds available to South Dakota to pay unemployment benefits, and, with the legislature's approval, for administering the state's unemployment insurance program or delivering employment services. The funds will help unemployed workers get by temporarily until they are re-trained or re-employed.	04/02/2009 05:00 PM	unemployment;insurance;incentive funds;South Dakota;training;modernization;UI	<a href="http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20090356.htm">http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20090356.htm</a>	Press Release	<p>WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Labor today certified for release \$5,882,545 in unemployment insurance (UI) modernization incentive funds to the state of South Dakota. South Dakota qualified for the funds available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) by allowing workers to use their more recent earnings to qualify for benefits. South Dakota's approved application will be posted at the department's Employment and Training Administration Web site at <a href="http://www.doleta.gov/recovery">http://www.doleta.gov/recovery</a>.</p> <p>"South Dakota's UI program has been updated to better meet the needs of the 21st century labor force," said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. "The new legislation just enacted in South Dakota is particularly helpful to unemployed workers who have entered the workforce recently and otherwise might not qualify for UI benefits."</p> <p>The South Dakota Department of Labor can use the funds to pay unemployment benefits or, if appropriated by the legislature, for administering its unemployment insurance program or delivering employment services.</p> <p>"South Dakota is committed to helping people get back to work in these difficult economic times."</p>
Sec. of Labor Hilda L. Solis issues statement on March 2009 employment numbers	Sec. Solis acknowledged that the loss of 663,000 additional jobs and the increase in the overall unemployment rate to 8.5 percent in March 2009 show that there is more work to be done to help struggling families. DOL continues to actively support workers during this difficult time by providing billions of dollars to increase the level of unemployment benefits and extend their duration. Funds are also being used to increase the opportunities for workers to receive training.	04/03/2009 10:00 AM	employment numbers;unemployment rate;unemployment benefits;training	<a href="http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/opa/OPA20090364.htm">http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/opa/OPA20090364.htm</a>	Press Release	<p>WASHINGTON — U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis issued the following statement on the March 2009 Employment Situation report released today:</p> <p>"Our economy lost another 663,000 jobs in March, bringing the total number of Americans that have lost their jobs to 5.1 million since this recession began last year. The overall unemployment rate has increased to 8.5 percent.</p> <p>"The Americans who have lost their jobs worry about paying the mortgage, keeping their health insurance and paying tuition. Families across our country are stressed and hurting, and they are at the center of the administration's efforts to provide real relief and opportunity for the future.</p> <p>"By enacting the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, we have taken an important step to save and create jobs while making important investments for future economic growth. The administration also has taken important steps to help families struggling to make their mortgage payments, and to get credit flowing for small businesses and families.</p> <p>"Today's numbers show that we have more work to do.</p> <p>"The Labor Department continues to actively support workers during this difficult time."</p>

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DOL announces release of \$29.3 million in unemployment insurance modernization incentive funds to Connecticut	DOL released funds to Connecticut to pay unemployment benefits, or, if appropriated by the legislature, for administering its unemployment insurance program. Funds may also be used to deliver employment services. Stimulus funding is an important part of Connecticut's network of support programs.	04/07/2009 01:00 PM	unemployment;insurance;incentive funds;Connecticut;training;modernization ;UI	<a href="http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20090372.htm">http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20090372.htm</a>	Press Release	<p>WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Labor today certified for release \$29,270,446 in unemployment insurance (UI) modernization incentive funds to the state of Connecticut. Connecticut qualified for the funds available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) by allowing workers to use their more recent earnings to qualify for benefits. Connecticut's approved application will be posted at the department's Employment and Training Administration Web site at <a href="http://www.doleta.gov/recovery">http://www.doleta.gov/recovery</a>.</p> <p>"By helping workers who have entered the workforce recently, Connecticut's UI program better meets the needs of the 21st century labor force," said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. "Especially now, when jobs are harder to find, it is essential that those out of work through no fault of their own receive the benefits they deserve."</p> <p>The Connecticut Department of Labor can use the funds to pay unemployment benefits or, if appropriated by the legislature, for administering its unemployment insurance program or delivering employment services.</p>
DOL announces grant of more than \$2.4 million to Missouri to assist workers affected by mass layoffs and plant closures	DOL will award resources under the Recovery Act (ARRA) to the Missouri Division of Workforce Development grant funds to help workers across three regions affected by layoffs and closures at 11 companies. The grant will provide workers with access to a full array of employment-related services including skills assessment, training, and job search assistance. These services will help affected workers transition into occupations in the high growth industries identified through Missouri's Hot Jobs initiative.	04/08/2009 03:30 PM	layoffs;closures;Missouri;skills assessment, training; job search;transition;employment	<a href="http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20090373.htm">http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20090373.htm</a>	Press Release	<p>WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Labor today announced a \$2,409,877 grant to assist approximately 815 workers affected by mass layoffs and plant closures at 11 companies across three regions in southern Missouri. These include the Ozark region, the southeast region and the south central region.</p> <p>Workers affected include those employed in industries such as distribution, manufacturing and telecommunications. Companies include: Cargill Value Added Meats, EDCO Group Inc. (doing business as Healthport), McQueary Brothers Drug Co., Noranda Aluminum Inc., Nordyne, Paul Mueller Co., Petit Jean Poultry Inc., Rapco/Major Custom Cable Inc., Thorngate Ltd., Tracker Marine and Westgate Resorts.</p> <p>"An occupationally diverse group of workers in these regions experienced dislocations during 2008 and into 2009," said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. "This grant will provide access to the employment-related services necessary to transition into occupations in the high growth industries identified through Missouri's Hot Jobs initiative."</p>