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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

JUNE 1977

CEDAR RAPIDS S.M.S.A.

(Linn County)

A Labor Market Information Publication of the

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JOB SERVICE

affiliated with the

Employment and Training Administration
U. S. Department of Labor

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

This quarterly publication is designed to disseminate information on the characteristics of the insured unemployed to manpower planners, officials and other users of labor market information concerned with the problems of the unemployed. An unemployment insurance (U.I.) claimant is an individual who has been determined monetarily eligible for benefit payments under one or more of the Federal or State U.I. programs and whose benefit year or compensation, by reason of an extended duration period, has not ended and who has not exhausted his benefit right. Additional claimant groups include those receiving benefit payments under Federal U.I. programs. The publication is concerned primarily with those under the state U.I. programs.

Since this publication is directed toward planners we would appreciate any suggestions you may have that would be useful in providing the most useful and complete information available. Any questions or suggestions should be directed to the:

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GENERAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Cedar Rapids S.M.S.A. -- Seasonal fluctuations in employment and unemployment are not unusual during January, February, and March. Unemployment levels in January and February are usually among the highest of the year. A decline in unemployment starts in March and continues until June. Unemployment totaled 3,400 in January, 3,300 in February, and 3,200 in March.

Lay-offs caused by weather conditions and post holiday slowdowns account for a large part of the unemployed. Industries affected the most during this period are construction, manufacturing, and retail trade. New entrants and reentrants into the labor market also comprise a large share of the unemployed, however, these people are not eligible to collect unemployment insurance.

State of Iowa -- There has been a steady decline in the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate since October, 1976. The October, 1976 unemployment rate was 4.1% the highest level in 1976. The unemployment rate in January and February of 1977 was 3.7%. This dropped to 3.4% in March. Much of the over-the-period drop in the adjusted rate was attributed to the relative stability in manufacturing employment and increased activity in retail trade and service industries. Another factor was the small impact the severe weather and energy shortages had on Iowa.

Nation -- Economic indicators, such as the index of leading economic indicators and the Gross National Product (GNP) showed signs that the national economy was expanding. The unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted), although reacting to effects of the severe weather and energy shortages in February, maintained a relatively stable level of 7.3% (February, 1977 rate was 7.5%).

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

Age -- The largest group of insured unemployed is the 25--34 age bracket. This group represents 31% of all those on state unemployment insurance during the months of January, February, and March, 1977. Also, during this time period, about 65% of all insured unemployed were under 35 years of age. Probably the best explanation for the insured unemployed being younger is that these workers have the least seniority and are the first to be affected by a lay-off.

Sex -- The information below indicates a high percentage of males in the total claimant group for each month. During the quarter females only accounted for 22% of the total.

	<u>Jan. 1977</u>	<u>Feb. 1977</u>	<u>Mar. 1977</u>
Total	1,495 (100.0%)	1,651 (100.0%)	1,512 (100.0%)
Male	1,194 (79.9%)	1,285 (77.8%)	1,193 (78.9%)
Female	301 (20.1%)	366 (22.2%)	319 (21.1%)

Industry -- Attachment of the insured unemployed, as shown on Table 2, indicates that about 67% of the claimant group had been employed in either construction or manufacturing. If claimants from service, wholesale and retail trade are added to those in construction and manufacturing this group makes-up 90% of the total.

Weather is the cause for the high number of construction claims. The number of claimants with attachments to manufacturing, service, wholesale, and retail trade is high due to post-holiday production slowdowns and inventory periods.

Duration -- During this three month period the duration of unemployment reflects the seasonal trends found in the industry attachment statistics. In January only 50.0% of the claimants were unemployed for 5 to 14 weeks. In February, and March, the 5 to 14 group increased and the 1 to 4 week group dropped. This indicates that a large portion of the insured unemployed lost their jobs in December, 1976 or January, 1977.

OUTLOOK

The number of insured unemployed will drop during the second quarter of calendar year 1977. This decline will be smaller than usual since Penick and Ford Ltd., a manufacturing firm, had to lay-off many of their employees. Construction claimants will have the most noticeable drop since weather conditions have permitted much outside activity. Retail trade and service industries will show some improvement by the end of this quarter.

TECHNICAL NOTES

The data presented in this report represents characteristics of unemployment insurance (U.I.) claimants who filed U.I. claims for benefits covering the survey week containing the 12th of the month. An unemployment insurance (U.I.) claimant is an individual who has been determined monetarily eligible for benefit payments under the Iowa unemployment insurance program and whose benefit year or compensation, by reason of an extended duration period, has not ended and who has not exhausted his benefit right.

SUPPORTING STATISTICAL TABLES

Tables 1--5 contain data on the insured unemployed who are residents of Iowa for the Second Quarter (January, February, and March) for Fiscal Year 1977. Data were compiled as part of a cooperative program with the Employment and Training Administration, U. S. Department of Labor.

TABLE 1. AGE AND SEX OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED IN CEDAR RAPIDS S.M.S.A. 1/

	Mar. 1977	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1977	Net Change		Percent Change	
				Feb.- Mar. 1977	Jan.- Mar. 1977	Feb.- Mar. 1977	Jan.- Mar. 1977
TOTAL	1,512	1,651	1,495	-139	17	- 8.4	1.1
Under 22	290	310	261	- 20	29	- 6.5	11.1
22-24	239	279	244	- 40	- 5	- 14.3	- 2.0
25-34	465	519	473	- 54	- 8	- 10.4	- 1.7
35-44	210	219	221	- 9	-11	- 4.1	- 5.0
45-54	180	188	171	- 8	9	- 4.4	5.3
55-59	74	70	72	4	2	5.7	2.8
50-64	40	52	42	- 12	- 2	- 23.1	- 4.8
65 and Over	14	14	11	0	3	0.0	27.3
MEN CLAIMANTS							
Under 22	214	226	192	- 12	22	- 5.3	11.5
22-24	184	211	193	- 27	- 9	- 12.8	- 4.7
25-34	374	418	391	- 44	-17	- 8.5	- 4.3
35-44	163	165	173	- 2	-10	- 1.2	- 5.8
45-54	149	155	142	- 6	7	- 3.9	4.9
55-59	64	58	59	6	5	10.3	8.5
60-64	35	43	36	- 8	- 1	- 18.6	- 2.8
65 and Over	10	9	8	1	2	11.1	25.0
WOMEN CLAIMANTS							
Under 22	76	84	69	- 8	7	- 9.5	10.1
22-24	55	68	51	- 13	4	- 19.1	7.8
25-34	91	101	82	- 10	9	- 9.9	11.0
35-44	47	54	48	- 7	- 1	- 13.0	- 2.1
45-54	31	33	29	- 2	2	- 6.1	6.9
55-59	10	12	13	- 2	- 3	- 16.7	- 23.1
60-64	5	9	6	- 4	- 1	- 44.4	- 16.7
65 and Over	4	5	3	- 1	1	- 20.0	33.3

1/ Data are for the week including the 12th of the month. Data were compiled as part of a cooperative program with the Employment and Training Administration, U. S. Department of Labor.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRY ATTACHMENT OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED IN CEDAR RAPIDS S.M.S.A. 1/

INDUSTRY ATTACHMENTS	Mar. 1977	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1977	Net Change		Percent Change	
				Feb.- Mar. 1977	Jan.- Mar. 1977	Feb. Mar. 1977	Jan.- Mar. 1977
TOTAL	1,512	1,651	1,495	-139	17	- 8.4	1.1
Mining	1	1	1	0	0	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	554	575	513	- 21	41	- 3.7	8.0
Manufacturing	463	540	528	- 77	- 65	-14.3	-12.3
Durable goods	367	434	411	- 67	- 44	-15.4	-10.7
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod	44	49	38	- 5	6	-10.2	15.8
Fabricated Metal Prod	19	40	45	- 21	- 26	-52.5	-57.8
Machinery (exc. elec)	143	164	182	- 21	- 39	-12.8	-21.4
Electrical Equipment	133	162	128	- 29	5	-17.9	3.9
Other Durable Goods	28	19	18	9	10	47.4	55.6
Nondurable Goods	96	106	117	- 10	- 21	- 9.4	-17.9
Food & Kindred Prod.	75	88	97	- 13	- 22	-14.8	-22.7
Other Nondurable Goods	21	18	20	3	1	16.7	5.0
Public Utilities	57	62	47	- 5	10	- 8.1	21.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	224	230	204	- 6	20	- 2.6	9.8
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	24	23	20	1	4	4.3	20.0
Services	120	132	102	- 12	18	- 9.1	17.6
State & Local Govt.	5	9	7	- 4	- 2	-44.4	-28.6
Information Not Available	50	60	57	- 10	- 7	-16.7	-12.3

1/ Data are for the week including the 12th of the month. Data were compiled as part of a cooperative program with the Employment and Training Administration, U. S. Department of Labor.

TABLE 3. OCCUPATIONAL ATTACHMENT OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED 1/

OCCUPATIONAL ATTACHMENT	Mar. 1977	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1977	Net Change		Percent Change	
				Feb.- Mar. 1977	Jan.- Mar. 1977	Feb.- Mar. 1977	Jan.- Mar. 1977
TOTAL	1,512	1,651	1,495	-139	17	- 8.4	1.1
Prof./Tech./Managerial	30	27	26	3	4	11.1	15.4
Clerical/Sales	51	51	41	0	10	0.0	24.4
Service	16	11	13	5	3	45.5	23.1
Farming/Fishing/Forestry	3	2	2	1	1	50.0	50.0
Industrial Categories:							
By Type of Work							
Processing	17	12	11	5	6	41.7	54.5
Machine Trades	24	28	24	- 4	0	-14.3	0.0
Bench Work	28	40	27	- 12	1	-30.0	3.7
Structural Work	97	102	100	- 5	- 3	- 4.9	- 3.0
Miscellaneous	65	70	60	- 5	5	- 7.1	8.3
By Complexity 2/							
High	21	22	23	- 1	- 2	- 4.5	- 8.7
Medium	26	25	20	1	6	4.0	30.0
Low	184	205	179	21	5	-10.2	2.8
Information Not Available	1,181	1,308	1,191	-127	-10	- 9.7	- 8.3

1/ Data are for the week including the 12th of the month. Data were compiled as part of a cooperative program with the Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.

2/ Only industrial occupational categories are arranged by degree of complexity. Indicated groups are classified on the basis of the fourth digit of the occupation code.

TABLE 4. DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED IN CEDAR RAPIDS S.M.S.A. BY SEX 1/

DURATION BY SEX AND RACE	Mar. 1977	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1977	Net Change		Percent Change	
				Feb.- Mar. 1977	Jan.- Mar. 1977	Feb.- Mar. 1977	Jan.- Mar. 1977
TOTAL	1,512	1,651	1,495	-139	17	- 8.4	1.1
1-4 weeks	160	272	465	-112	-305	-41.2	-65.6
5-14 weeks	1,037	1,045	747	- 8	290	- .8	38.8
15 weeks and Over	315	334	283	- 19	32	- 5.7	11.3
SEX BY WEEKS UNEMPLOYED							
Men Claimants							
1-4 weeks	130	231	419	-101	-289	-43.7	-69.0
5-14 weeks	827	823	566	4	261	.5	46.1
15 weeks and Over	236	231	209	5	27	2.2	12.9
Women Claimants							
1-4 weeks	30	41	46	- 11	- 16	-26.8	-34.8
5-14 weeks	210	222	181	- 12	29	- 5.4	16.0
15 weeks and Over	79	103	74	- 24	5	-23.3	6.8

1/ Data for the week including the 12th of the month. Data were compiled as part of a cooperative program with the Employment and Training Administration, U. S. Department of Labor.

TABLE 5. SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION, CEDAR RAPIDS S.M.S.A. 1/

MONTH: March, 1977 INDUSTRY & OCCUPATION	TOTAL	MALE	Age Group		Weeks Claimed	
			UNDER 25	OVER 54	UNDER 5	OVER 14
INDUSTRY:						
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mining	.1	.1	.2	-	-	.2
Contract Construction	36.6	45.6	23.5	60.0	43.8	30.1
Manufacturing	30.6	25.8	35.2	11.7	30.0	36.3
Durable Goods	24.3	19.4	26.5	9.0	19.4	29.7
Nondurable Goods	6.3	6.4	8.7	2.8	10.6	6.6
Public Utilities	3.8	4.4	2.5	5.5	4.4	5.1
Wholesale and Retail Trade	15.8	12.9	20.5	11.0	12.5	16.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.6	1.2	1.2	2.1	2.5	1.7
Services	7.9	5.4	9.3	8.3	5.6	7.1
State and Local Government	.3	.4	.2	.7	-	.2
Information Not Available	3.3	3.1	6.0	-	1.3	2.5
OCCUPATION:						
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Prof./Tech./Managerial	2.0	2.0	1.7	2.1	3.1	1.7
Clerical/Sales	3.4	1.9	3.8	2.1	3.1	4.7
Service	1.1	.8	1.3	.7	1.9	1.2
Farming/Fishing/Forestry	.2	.3	.3	-	-	-
Industrial Categories:						
By Type of Work						
Processing	1.1	.8	1.7	2.1	2.5	.5
Machine Trades	1.6	1.9	2.3	.7	3.1	2.0
Bench Work	1.8	.8	2.2	.7	1.3	2.7
Structural Work	6.4	8.0	5.0	13.1	3.1	7.6
Miscellaneous	4.3	5.4	6.0	4.8	5.0	3.9
By Complexity						
High	1.4	1.8	1.3	1.4	1.9	1.7
Medium	1.7	2.0	1.3	2.8	1.9	1.2
Low	12.2	13.2	14.5	17.2	11.3	13.7
Information Not Available	78.1	78.1	75.6	73.8	76.9	75.7

Footnote for Table 5. Selected Characteristics Of The Insured Unemployed By Industry And Occupation,
Cedar Rapids S.M.S.A.

1/ Data is for the week including the 12th and are based on the claims filed during the week, including the 19th.
Data were compiled as part of a cooperative program with the Employment and Training Administration, U. S.
Department of Labor.

