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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

JULY 1977

DUBUQUE COUNTY

A Labor Market Information Publication of the

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JOB SERVICE

Developed by the Job Market Information Unit  
Research and Statistics Department

affiliated with the

Employment and Training Administration  
U. S. Department of Labor

## Characteristic 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. Program.

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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## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

Data for the Quarter Ending June 30, 1977

### I. General Economic Conditions

Job Service records for the third quarter of the fiscal year (April - June 1977) reflect a strong upturn in the number of new hires compared with one year ago. This data is obtained from a monthly sample of major Dubuque employers. The number of new hires in April and May was up 66% from one year ago. New hires for the month of April were up 129% from last April. (Data for June is still being submitted.) New hires in manufacturing accounted for a significant share of the gains.

Dubuque County's employment level advanced sharply in April, as employment climbed to 39,900 from a March level of 38,800. About 500 hires were reported in manufacturing for the month. Other increases were reported in agriculture, construction, retail trade and the service industries. Service employment benefited from the relatively large number of CETA-funded positions contracted with private and public nonprofit organizations.

Unemployment was reported at a level of 1,700 persons for both April and May. This was considerably below the level of 2,100 persons for the same period one year ago. Dubuque County's unemployment rate dropped to 4.0% in April, the lowest rate recorded in over two years. The unemployment rate increased slightly in May to 4.1%, and is expected to increase in June with the influx of young people into the labor force.

Economic conditions were much improved during the third quarter for several reasons: 1) favorable seasonal factors in agriculture, construction and retail trade, 2) the allocation of CETA funds for positions in the service-oriented industries, 3) new hiring in manufacturing, and 4) the economic impact of having "F.I.S.T." filmed in Dubuque.

The number of insured unemployed persons in Dubuque County is less than half of the total number of unemployed persons. Insured unemployed persons comprise a smaller proportion of total unemployment during the third quarter due to the large number of youth entering the labor market. New entrants into the labor force are ineligible for Job Insurance.

### II. Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of insured unemployed persons was highest for the month of April. However, the April level of 835 was under the March level of 1,094 claimants. The number of claimants dropped to 565 in May, the lowest level for the quarter.

Male claimants accounted for close to 70% of the insured unemployed during the period. Age characteristics of the insured unemployed reveal a high concentration of young claimants. An average for the quarter indicates that about 67% of the claimants were under 35 years of age. This percentage characterized both male and female claimant groups.

Industry attachment of the insured unemployed (TABLE 2) reflects the impact of seasonal factors on the number of persons collecting jobless benefits. Mining and construction accounted for 25% of the insured unemployed in April. By contrast, mining and construction represented only 10% of the insured unemployed in June. The increase in the number of insured unemployed for June was the result of layoffs in nondurable goods manufacturing. The permanent closing of Sugar Creek Foods, a manufacturer of packaged butter, and layoffs in meat-packing effected an increase in the number of claimants for June.

Occupational characteristics of the insured unemployed (TABLE 3) show a high proportion of claimants in the category, "information not available." This group of claimants is not required to register for work because of a definite job attachment. Most of the workers affiliated with the building trades are categorized here.

Duration of unemployment for the third quarter is shown on TABLE 4. During the third quarter, 54.6% of the insured unemployed collected jobless benefits for 5-14 weeks. Short-term unemployment (1-4 weeks) accounted for 12.7% of the total. Long-term unemployment (15 weeks or longer) represented close to one-third of the total insured unemployed. The data on TABLE 4 is summarized in the following percentage distribution:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>Duration</u>			
1-4 weeks.....	12.7	12.4	13.1
5-14 weeks.....	54.6	53.7	56.5
15 weeks and over...	32.7	33.9	30.4

### III. Outlook

The number of insured unemployed is expected to drop in July, as construction and manufacturing take a firm hold on the local economy. Claims for Job Insurance are expected to increase slightly in August when several hundred manufacturing workers will be affected by a plant shutdown. The number of insured unemployed is expected to be lowest in September, the last month of the fiscal year. Nondurable goods manufacturing, retail trade and the services employment are expected to show a strong, year-end finish in September. On the same note the number of insured unemployed should drop.



TABLE 1. Sex and Age of the Insured Unemployed for Dubuque, Iowa SMSA 1/

CHARACTERISTIC	June 1977	Number		Net Change		Percent Change	
		May 1977	April 1977	May- June 1977	April- June 1977	May- June 1977	April- June 1977
TOTAL.....	615	565	835	+50	-220	+8.8	-26.3
Under 22.....	220	161	226	+59	-6	+36.6	-2.7
22-24.....	100	91	125	+9	-25	+9.9	-20.0
25-34.....	112	119	188	-7	-76	-5.9	-40.0
35-44.....	55	53	80	+2	-25	+3.8	-31.3
45-54.....	58	52	90	+6	-32	+11.5	-35.6
55-59.....	28	28	52	0	-24	0.0	-46.2
60-64.....	28	41	53	-13	-25	-31.7	-47.2
65 and over.....	14	20	21	-6	-7	-30.0	-33.3
MEN CLAIMANTS.....	382	382	608	0	-226	0.0	-37.2
Under 22.....	145	103	152	+42	-7	+40.8	-4.6
22-24.....	63	62	93	+1	-30	+1.6	-32.3
25-34.....	75	85	149	-10	-74	-11.8	-49.7
35-44.....	28	33	59	-5	-31	-15.2	-52.5
45-54.....	25	33	59	-8	-34	-24.2	-57.6
55-59.....	14	16	33	-2	-19	-12.5	-57.6
60-64.....	20	34	47	-14	-27	-41.2	-57.4
65 and over.....	12	16	16	-4	-4	-25.0	-25.0
WOMEN CLAIMANTS.....	233	183	227	+50	+6	+27.3	+2.6
Under 22.....	75	58	74	+17	+1	+29.3	+1.4
22-24.....	37	29	32	+8	+5	+27.6	+15.6
25-34.....	37	34	39	+3	-2	+8.8	-5.1
35-44.....	27	20	21	+7	+6	+35.0	+28.6
45-54.....	33	19	31	+14	+2	+73.7	+6.5
55-59.....	14	12	19	+2	-5	+16.7	-26.3
60-64.....	8	7	6	+1	+2	+14.3	+33.3
65 and over.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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.

\* Denotes less than six claimants. Percent change would be misleading due to the small number of claimants in the category.

TABLE 2. Industry Attachment of the Insured Unemployed in Dubuque, Iowa SMSA 1/

INDUSTRY ATTACHMENT	June 1977	May 1977	April 1977	Net Change		Percent Change	
				May- June 1977	April- June 1977	May- June 1977	April- June 1977
TOTAL.....	615	565	835	+50	-220	+8.8	-26.3
Mining and Construction.....	59	108	211	-49	-152	-45.4	-72.0
Manufacturing.....	263	174	284	+89	-21	+51.1	-7.4
Durable Goods.....	114	112	192	+2	-78	+1.8	-40.6
Fabricated Metal Products.....	8	10	11	-2	-3	-20.0	-27.3
Nondurable Goods.....	149	62	92	+87	+57	+140.3	+62.0
Transportation, Communication and Public Utilities.....	15	12	35	+3	-20	+25.0	-57.1
Wholesale and Retail Trade.....	170	171	188	-1	-18	-0.6	-9.6
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate.....	14	11	12	+3	+2	+27.3	+16.7
Services.....	78	77	85	+1	-7	+1.3	-8.2
State and Local Government.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Information Not Available.....	13	10	19	+3	-6	+30.0	-31.6

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.

\* Denotes less than six claimants. Percent change would be misleading due to the small number of claimants in the category.



TABLE 3. Occupational Attachment of the Insured Unemployed for Dubuque, Iowa SMSA 1/

OCCUPATIONAL ATTACHMENT	June 1977	May 1977	April 1977	Net Change		Percent Change	
				May- June 1977	April- June 1977	May- June 1977	April- June 1977
TOTAL.....	615	565	835	+50	-220	+8.8	-26.3
Professional, Technical, Managerial.....	11	9	14	+2	-3	+22.2	-21.4
Clerical and Sales.....	17	13	20	+4	-3	+30.8	-15.0
Service.....	18	19	18	-1	0	-5.3	0.0
Farming, Fishing, Forestry.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Industrial Categories:							
By Type of Work							
Processing.....	18	14	18	+4	0	+28.6	0.0
Machine Trades.....	*	12	21	*	*	*	*
Bench Work.....	12	7	12	+5	0	+41.7	0.0
Structural Work.....	16	19	27	-3	-11	-18.8	-40.7
Miscellaneous.....	19	23	38	-4	-19	-17.4	-50.0
Information Not Available.....	498	447	663	+51	-165	+11.4	-24.9
MEN CLAIMANTS							
Professional, Technical, Managerial.....	6	*	13	*	-7	*	-53.8
Clerical and Sales.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Service.....	*	6	6	*	*	*	*
Farming, Fishing, Forestry.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Industrial Categories:							
By Type of Work							
Processing.....	13	8	11	+5	+2	+62.5	+18.2
Machine Trades.....	*	11	20	*	*	*	*
Bench Work.....	*	*	8	*	*	*	*
Structural Work.....	15	19	25	-4	-10	-21.1	-40.0
Miscellaneous.....	17	21	37	-4	-20	-19.0	-54.1
Information Not Available.....	313	307	482	+6	-169	+2.0	-35.1

TABLE 3. Occupational Attachment of the Insured Unemployed for Dubuque, Iowa SMSA (cont'd)

OCCUPATIONAL ATTACHMENT	Total	1977			Net Change		Percent Change	
		June 1977	May 1977	April 1977	May-June 1977	April-June 1977	May-June 1977	April-June 1977
<b>WOMEN CLAIMANTS</b>								
Professional, Technical, Managerial.....	253	* 173	* 155	155*	*54	*	24 *	*
Clerical and Sales.....	14	14	11	517	+322	-3	+27.3	-17.6
Service.....	14	104	13	1012	+112	+2	+7.7	+16.7
Farming, Fishing, Forestry.....	0	14	*	6*	* 2	*	3 *	*
Industrial Categories:	170	85		106	16		16	74
By Type of Work	14	7		9	4		0	6
Processing.....	*	27	6	357	* 8	*	5 *	*
Machine Trades.....	0	0	*	2*	* 0	*	1 *	*
Bench Work.....	7	10	*	8*	* 1	*	1 *	*
Structural Work.....	*	0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Miscellaneous.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Information Not Available.....	185		140	181	+45	+4	+32.1	+2.2

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. 54 95 187

\* Denotes less than six claimants. Percent change would be misleading due to the small number of claimants in the category.

TABLE 4. Duration of Unemployment of the Insured Unemployed in Dubuque, Iowa SMSA by Sex <sup>1/</sup>

DURATION BY SEX	June 1977	May 1977	April 1977	Net Change		Percent Change	
				May- June 1977	April- June 1977	May- June 1977	April- June 1977
TOTAL.....	615	565	835	+50	-220	+8.8	-26.3
1-4 Weeks.....	114	62	78	+52	+36	+83.9	+46.2
5-14 Weeks.....	305	269	527	+36	-222	+13.4	-42.1
15 Weeks and Over.....	196	234	230	-38	-34	-16.2	-14.8
MEN CLAIMANTS.....	382	382	608	0	-226	0.0	-37.2
1-4 Weeks.....	75	44	51	+31	+24	+70.5	+47.1
5-14 Weeks.....	187	169	381	+18	-194	+10.7	-50.9
15 Weeks and Over.....	120	169	176	-49	-56	-29.0	-31.8
WOMEN CLAIMANTS.....	233	183	227	+50	+6	+27.3	+2.6
1-4 Weeks.....	39	18	27	+21	+12	+116.7	+44.4
5-14 Weeks.....	118	100	146	+18	-28	+18.0	-19.2
15 Weeks and Over.....	76	65	54	+11	+22	+16.9	+40.7

<sup>1/</sup> 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 5. Selected Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed by Industry and Occupation, Dubuque, Iowa SMSA 1/

MONTH: JUNE 1977

INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION	Total	Male	Age Group		Weeks Claimed	
			Under 25	Over 54	Under 5	Over 14
TOTAL.....	615	382	338	76	114	228
INDUSTRY:						
Mining and Construction.....	59	56	17	11	4	34
Manufacturing.....	263	173	155	34	84	73
Durable Goods.....	114	69	55	22	33	43
Nondurable Goods.....	149	104	100	12	51	30
Public Utilities.....	15	14	6	2	3	6
Wholesale and Retail Trade.....	170	95	106	16	16	74
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate.....	14	7	9	4	0	6
Services.....	78	27	35	8	5	30
State and Local Government.....	3	0	2	0	1	2
Information Not Available.....	13	10	8	1	1	3
OCCUPATION:						
Professional, Technical, Managerial....	11	6	5	0	0	3
Clerical and Sales.....	17	3	11	2	4	7
Service.....	18	4	11	2	3	7
Farming, Fishing, Forestry.....	1	1	0	0	0	0
Industrial Categories:						
By Type of Work						
Processing.....	18	13	10	3	5	4
Machine Trades.....	5	5	4	0	0	4
Bench Work.....	12	5	7	2	0	5
Structural Work.....	16	15	10	3	5	4
Miscellaneous.....	19	17	15	0	2	7
Information Not Available.....	498	313	265	64	95	187

1/ Data is 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.

