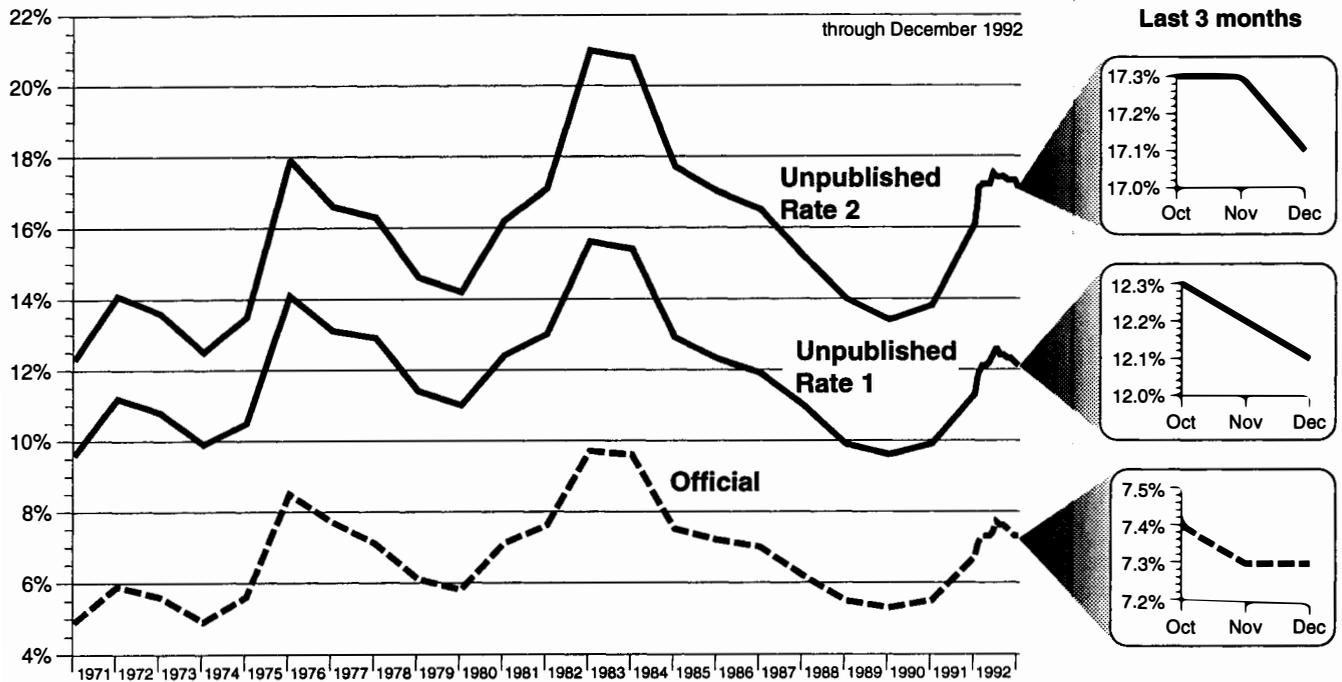


U.S. Unemployment Coverup



Data used for unpublished unemployment rates

(thousands)

Year	Civilian labor force (a)	Official unemployed (b)	Want a job now (c)	Part-time, economic reasons (d)	Total unemployed and underemployed (b+c+d)	Official U-5b rate (b/a)	Unpublished Rate 1 (b+c)/a	Unpublished Rate 2 (b+c+d)/a
1970	82,771	4,093	3,881	2,198	10,172	4.9%	9.6%	12.3%
1971	84,382	5,016	4,423	2,452	11,891	5.9%	11.2%	14.1%
1972	87,034	4,882	4,493	2,430	11,805	5.6%	10.8%	13.6%
1973	89,429	4,365	4,510	2,343	11,218	4.9%	9.9%	12.5%
1974	91,949	5,156	4,514	2,751	12,421	5.6%	10.5%	13.5%
1975	93,775	7,929	5,271	3,541	16,741	8.5%	14.1%	17.9%
1976	96,158	7,406	5,233	3,334	15,973	7.7%	13.1%	16.6%
1977	99,009	6,991	5,775	3,368	16,134	7.1%	12.9%	16.3%
1978	102,251	6,202	5,446	3,298	14,946	6.1%	11.4%	14.6%
1979	104,962	6,137	5,427	3,372	14,936	5.8%	11.0%	14.2%
1980	106,940	7,637	5,675	4,064	17,376	7.1%	12.4%	16.2%
1981	108,670	8,273	5,835	4,499	18,607	7.6%	13.0%	17.1%
1982	110,204	10,678	6,559	5,852	23,069	9.7%	15.6%	21.0%
1983	111,550	10,717	6,503	5,997	23,217	9.6%	15.4%	20.8%
1984	113,544	8,539	6,070	5,512	20,121	7.5%	12.9%	17.7%
1985	115,461	8,312	5,933	5,334	19,579	7.2%	12.3%	17.0%
1986	117,834	8,237	5,825	5,345	19,407	7.0%	11.9%	16.5%
1987	119,865	7,425	5,714	5,122	18,261	6.2%	11.0%	15.2%
1988	121,669	6,701	5,373	4,965	17,039	5.5%	9.9%	14.0%
1989	123,869	6,528	5,395	4,656	16,579	5.3%	9.6%	13.4%
1990	124,787	6,874	5,473	4,860	17,207	5.5%	9.9%	13.8%
1991	125,303	8,426	5,736	6,046	20,206	6.7%	11.3%	16.1%
Monthly data (seasonally adjusted)								
1991								
December	125,619	8,891	5,932 ¹	6,321	21,144	7.1%	11.8%	16.8%
1992 (BLS revision, January 1993)								
January	126,028	8,992	6,068 ¹	6,516	21,576	7.1%	11.9%	17.1%
February	126,185	9,223	6,068 ¹	6,442	21,733	7.3%	12.1%	17.2%
March	126,548	9,284	6,068 ¹	6,436	21,788	7.3%	12.1%	17.2%
April	126,743	9,225	6,291 ¹	6,343	21,859	7.3%	12.2%	17.2%
May	127,039	9,459	6,291 ¹	6,486	22,236	7.4%	12.4%	17.5%
June	127,298	9,788	6,291 ¹	6,100	22,179	7.7%	12.6%	17.4%
July	127,350	9,628	6,147 ¹	6,342	22,117	7.6%	12.4%	17.4%
August	127,404	9,624	6,147 ¹	6,352	22,123	7.6%	12.4%	17.4%
September	127,274	9,550	6,147 ¹	6,362	22,059	7.5%	12.3%	17.3%
October	127,066	9,379	6,209 ¹	6,434	22,022	7.4%	12.3%	17.3%
November	127,365	9,301	6,209 ¹	6,493	22,003	7.3%	12.2%	17.3%
December	127,591	9,280	6,209 ¹	6,349	21,838	7.3%	12.1%	17.1%

¹ The want a job now figure is compiled quarterly. The figure used for monthly calculation of the Unpublished Rate 1 is that from the most recent available quarter.

Explanatory Note

In December, over 6.2 million jobless and 6.3 million more semi-employed people were ignored by the U.S. government's Bureau of Labor Statistics in its calculation of the official (U-5b) unemployment rate. To bring out the truth, EIR is publishing the rates you would see if the government didn't cover up.

The widely publicized official unemployment rate is based on a monthly statistical sampling of approximately 57,000 households. But in order for someone to be counted as *unemployed*, the respondent member of the household (often not the person who is out of work) must be able to state what specific effort that person made in the last four weeks to find a job. If no specific effort can be cited, the jobless person is classified as "not in the labor force" and ignored in the official unemployment count.

But nearly 6 million of these discarded people are also reported on the monthly survey indicating that they "want a regular job now." EIR's *Unpublished Rate 1* is calculated by adding these discarded jobless to the officially "unemployed." The *Unpublished Rate 2* includes, in addition, over 6 million more people forced into part-time work for economic reasons such as slack work or inability to find a full-time job. These people show up as *employed* in the official statistics even if they worked only one hour during the survey week.

For comparability with the official rate, the EIR rates are calculated on the same base figure, the BLS defined *civilian labor force*. This figure comprises all civilians classified as either *employed* or *unemployed*. For a number of reasons the *civilian labor force* can be considered as a bloated figure. Its use as the divisor in unemployment rate calculations thus further masks the depth of the unemployment problem. Large segments of the population, who might not under healthy economic conditions be forced to seek work, have become a part of the *civilian labor force* over the past 25 years of "post-industrial society" economy. This includes young mothers, the elderly, and many college students.