



OREGON EMPLOYMENT FAST FACTS -- April 2011

The two extension program bills that were making their way through the legislature last month passed. The 3 year look-back for extended benefits was signed into law on March 24th. This law allows the 12,000 people currently on Extended Benefits to claim until their benefits run out, and for those who exhaust EUC to claim, if eligible, in the future. Extended Benefits is expected to remain “on” through 2011, until the three-year look back sunsets. The Oregon Emergency Benefits (OEB3) will allow those who have exhausted benefits and remain unemployed to claim an additional 6 weeks of benefits this spring.

Regular UI Data Statistics

Initial Claims are down 14% from last March. The number of New initial claims is nearly the same, while those returning to UI, to existing claims (additional claims) is down over 20%. The total number of weeks claimed in March 2011 was down 37% from March of last year. There were 40% fewer claimants exhausting benefits in March 2011 as in March 2010.

The duration of claims in the first quarter of 2011 was 18.04 weeks, down from 18.58 in the fourth quarter of 2010, while the exhaustion rate was down to 50.4% from 52.8% for the same periods. This data indicates that Oregonian’s are returning to work sooner and not suffering as many additional spells of unemployment as last year. This is consistent with a recovery.

Twenty-five percent fewer people are claiming UI extension benefits this March than last. Some of the reduction in extension program claimants is due to exhaustion of UI benefits. At the end of March over 32,000 people had exhausted all UI benefits since January of 2010. Around 675 unemployed Oregonian’s exhaust their UI benefits each week. The graph at the bottom of page two shows the trends in regular UI benefit exhaustions, and all UI programs exhaustions.

Current and comparative Oregon employment economic data:

Monthly Data	Mar 2011	Feb 2011	Mar 2010
Civilian Labor Force	1,990,968	1,984,627	1,978,873
Employment	1,782,548	1,768,435	1,740,530
Unemployment	208,420	216,192	238,343
Unemployment Rate (not seasonally adjusted)	10.5 (9.2 US)	10.9 (9.5 US)	12.0 (10.2 US)
Total Unemployment Rate (seasonally adjusted) (TUR is usually the rate reported in the press)	10.0 (8.8 US)	10.2 (8.9 US)	11.0 (9.7 US)

(April 2011 employment data will be released Tuesday, May 17, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.)



<u>Annual Data</u> (<i>Calendar Year (CY)2010=1/01/10-12/31/10</i>)	CY 2010	CY 2009	CY 2008	CY 2007
Average Benefit Check Amount (<i>Regular Program Claim week</i>)	276.43	300.37	294.29	\$280.00
Average Duration <i>Regular Program</i> (in weeks)	18.6	19.5	13.9	14.0
First payments (Number of First payments on Regular claim in year)	220,585	263,086	198,479	138,246
Number of Exhaustees (Exhausted all <i>Regular Program</i> benefits available)	116,422	141,732	55,343	39,580
Percentage that exhausted <i>Regular Program</i> benefits (Percentage with a 1 st payment that exhaust <i>Regular</i> benefits)	52.8%	53.4%	35.8%	30.6%
Initial Claims Filed (<i>All programs</i>)	795,389	901,239	584,306	381,833
Weeks Claimed (<i>All programs</i>)	9,109,163	8,967,422	3,703,371	2,352,627
Non-Monetary Determinations (<i>All programs</i>)	163,005	171,377	143,674	125,616
Appeals (<i>All programs</i>)	36,597	31,834	21,499	19,927



OREGON EMPLOYMENT FAST FACTS (continued):

(CY2010 = 1/01/2010- 12/31/2011)	CY 2010	CY 2009	CY 2008	CY 2007
Number of Individuals who received one or more benefit payments in the year:	367,893	366,183	240,439	172,997
Total funds paid to all claimants	2,753,567,704	\$2,719,646,973	976,979,220	\$561,038,330

	Week 2011-13	Week 2010-13	Week 2009-13
Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) Report week: (week ending April 2, 2011)	5.05 (IUR triggers some programs, like OAB, EB)	6.45	7.32
Number of People Claiming (During week including the 12 th) (all programs)	Mar -11 155,137	Mar-10 206,286	Mar -09 175,358

UI Program Information:

Minimum: from \$115 to \$116 **Maximum:** from \$493 to \$496

The change affects new UI claims filed on or after July 4, 2010 (effective with a BYE of 26-11 and later).

Current UI EXTENSION PROGRAM in effect:

HEB (20 week EB)	High Extended Benefit Period (In March 2011 a 3-year look-back was allowed on the TUR trigger to allow Oregon to continue to meet federal criteria for EB)	02/28/09	Min. 20 weeks
EB (13 week EB)	Extended Benefits	12/07/08	superseded by HEB
EUC 2008	Emergency Unemployment Compensation No Initial Claim filings accepted for claim weeks after: Last payable week:	07/06/2008	12/31/2011 06/09/2012

