

LONG TERM UNEMPLOYMENT TOUGH ON MEN



Long term unemployment is damaging on many levels. Lack of jobs prevents economic growth. Consumer spending accounts for two thirds of the United States economy. More people on unemployment strain government funding for assistance programs at a time when budgets are already stretched. The issue of long term unemployment may have a negative effect on men that may have implications in the future. Men have traditionally been considered the bread winners of families. Even as women have become part of the workforce and working two parent families have become common, there has always been something iconic about the American working male. Long periods of unemployment may change this image. A [report](#) from the Economist magazine showed that the number of employed did not reach the same level in a recovery as before a recession hit. This trend has been consistent in economic downturns for the past sixty years. There is particular concern with the severity and length of the most recent recession. A large number of men may not return to the workforce at all. As unemployed job seekers become unable to find work, more frustration develops. Men out of the labor market for an extended amount of time lose confidence in themselves and their ability to find work. They may feel their job skills are outdated and no longer relevant. Many especially those at an advanced age are reluctant to start over and learn new skills. Some become dependent on government assistance. Homelessness and other social problems may increase. According to The Brookings Institute, there have been [employment gains](#) but not enough to decrease unemployment. The average duration of unemployment reached a peak of 40.5 weeks in September, about 10% higher than the average duration at the start of this year. There is evidence that individuals with a long duration of unemployment are less likely to be hired by employers than people just entering the ranks of the unemployed. Those newer to unemployment may have more recent job experience that employers are seeking. Employers may be wary of people who have been out of the workforce longer. About [two thirds of the jobs lost](#) in recent years have been held by men. Men worked in many industries that were severely impacted by the recession. Higher salaries have also made them more vulnerable to cutbacks and layoffs. Women have been able to recover more quickly and securely than men. Many companies, such as Intel, are investing their time and money into female employees, believing those efforts will make them more competitive globally. As the country continues to face stagnant economic growth, men may have a tough time being able to recover. The loss of jobs traditionally held by males means it is harder for them to find similar employment. Job growth has occurred in areas where women can be just as effective as men in those roles.

<https://blog.granted.com/>