

## EMPLOYMENT PICTURE SLOWING DOWN



The employment picture seems to be slowing down as the unemployment rate has become higher and fewer jobs are being created. This is causing problems for many different people, one of those people being Julia Gray. Julia Gary is a writer and editor, she also has her master's degree, yet she has been unemployed for over a year. Gray says that at this point in time, the media world for the Chicago area just seems to be dead. Gray said that she was able to receive unemployment benefits or quite some time and says that the benefits helped her out a lot. However, her benefits have finally run out and now, she is still left unemployed, eagerly searching for some sort of employment to hold her over. The Labor Department recently announced that the unemployment rate increased a bit and is now at an adjusted rate of 8.2 percent, up from the previous month when it was at 8.1 percent. This means that there are still nearly 13 million residents of the United States who are out of work and unemployed. This is not good news, especially since the long-term unemployment benefits are beginning to be cut and many people are losing out on the benefits that they thought they would be able to receive for a longer period of time. Many workers have had to deal without receiving paychecks for several months. In fact, there are over 5 million workers who have gone without work and without benefits for months now. This is tough for many different people, especially those who have unemployment benefits that are getting ready to expire for good. While cuts are being made to extended unemployment benefits, the economy is still fairly sluggish and is not improving at much of a fast pace at all. During the month of May, according to the Labor Department, employers had only managed to add a little less than 70,000 jobs, which was a decrease from the amount of jobs created during the month of April. During the month of April, just about 77,000 jobs were created. The job creation for the spring months was lower than expected, especially since the winter was rather warm this year, which means many jobs were created earlier on during those months. Many people will argue that the labor market is sluggish but has still improved a bit and if people are willing to move to an area in which more jobs are available, and then they will be able to find the employment they are looking for. Certain areas are doing better when it comes to job creation than other areas. However, that is something that many people are simply not willing to do because they do not want to have to up and leave their home just to find some sort of employment, which is not even guaranteed.