

## LOW TEEN EMPLOYMENT IN OHIO



The employment picture in Ohio is not looking so hot for teenagers who are looking for employment, especially for a summer job now that school is out and they may be looking for something to do. In fact, less than two out of five teenagers in the state of Ohio found jobs during the summer last year and it is expected to be even tougher this summer. In fact, the employment rate for teenagers in Ohio has continued to decrease for the past decade. There were only 38.5 percent of teenagers living in the state of Ohio between the ages of 16 through 19 who actually had had a job during the summer of 2011. In the state of Ohio, the employment rate for younger individuals in the area, specifically teenagers, was higher than the national average for teenagers. But this was not necessarily good news, especially since the state of Ohio has managed to see a huge decline in the number of employed teenagers over the past few years. There were many employers that once would hire teenagers, especially during the summer. However, after the recession and the crippling of the economy, many things changed and those changes had a negative effect on teenagers who were looking for employment. Employers that used to hire teenagers are not necessarily doing so anymore and now, they expect potential employees to have some sort of certification or further education, beyond just having obtained a high school diploma or GED. With employers becoming pickier about who they hire, teenagers are finding it harder and harder to find employment, which is a huge concern, especially since employment is one of the best ways to keep teenagers out of trouble during the summer months when they are out of school. One professor for the University of Dayton's School of Education and Allied Professionals, Tom Lasley, says that in this day and age, there are a lot of jobs that are based on technology and because of that, people are required to have a degree or certification to get these kinds of jobs, jobs that would have once belonged to teenagers who were

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