



CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL
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THE PRICE OF 10% UNEMPLOYMENT: POLLING THE JOBLESS
December 4-10, 2009

Ten percent unemployment has taken both a financial and emotional toll on those Americans who have lost jobs: being out of work has caused a life crisis for most of the unemployed - and almost half of the jobless Americans interviewed in the latest CBS News/New York Times Poll say that crisis has been major.

Of course, the finances of most unemployed Americans are not good. Majorities have dipped into savings, cut back on expenses, curtailed doctor visits and borrowed money. Nearly half have no health insurance, and a quarter say they have been threatened with foreclosure or eviction.

But the emotional impact has also been severe. Seven in ten have suffered from higher stress as a result of being unemployed, and half have suffered anxiety or depression. More than half have felt embarrassed or ashamed about their lack of a job.

Over half of unemployed parents say their children's lives have changed as a result of their unemployment, and four in ten have noticed changes in their children's behavior.

CBS News and The New York Times interviewed a random sample of 708 adults who are out of work and looking for a new job, the individuals the 10% jobless rate represents. The longer unemployment lasts, the greater the emotional impact: Those who have been unemployed more than six months are even more likely to report many of these ill effects.

THE FINANCIAL TOLL

Coping with the effects of the economic recession has been challenging for unemployed Americans. Over eight in 10 of those out of work say their job loss has created a crisis in their life, including 46% who say it is a "major crisis." Among Americans who have been out of work for longer than six months, 57% say their unemployment has caused a major life crisis.

HAS THE LOSS OF YOUR JOB CREATED A CRISIS IN YOUR LIFE?

(among unemployed Americans)

Table with 2 columns: Response and Percentage. Rows: Yes, major (46%), Yes, minor (40%), No crisis (13%)

Nearly all unemployed Americans have had to reduce their spending, and 54% have cut back on both luxuries and necessities. Another 31% are spending less, but on luxury items only.

**MADE SPENDING CUTBACKS?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Yes, luxuries    | 31% |
| Yes, necessities | 8   |
| Yes, both        | 54  |
| No               | 7   |

Jobless Americans have taken other measures to help cope with their financial situation, too. Majorities have taken money out of their savings, borrowed money from family or friends, and cut back on doctor's visits. Most say they have cut back on vacations too. A quarter has been on food stamps, and one in five has received food from a non-profit or religious institution.

**AS A RESULT OF BEING UNEMPLOYED HAVE YOU...**

(among unemployed Americans)

|   | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| Cut back on vacations                             | 77% | 5  |
| Taken money out of any savings                    | 60% | 31 |
| Cut back on doctor's visits or medical treatments | 54% | 45 |
| Borrowed money from family or friends             | 53% | 47 |
| Received food stamps                              | 26% | 74 |
| Received food from non-profit/religious org.      | 20% | 80 |

Not surprisingly, more than four in five will back on their holiday spending.

In addition, half of unemployed Americans say their spouse has had to take on additional hours or another job as a result of their unemployment.

**AS A RESULT OF BEING UNEMPLOYED HAS YOUR SPOUSE HAD TO WORK MORE?**

(among unemployed Americans with a working spouse)

|     |     |
|-----|-----|
| Yes | 50% |
| No  | 50  |

While most jobless Americans say they have not been threatened with foreclosure or eviction, 26% have, including 13% who say they have lost their home.

**AS A RESULT OF BEING UNEMPLOYED, HAVE YOU BEEN THREATENED WITH FORECLOSURE OR EVICTION?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Yes, and lost home         | 13% |
| Yes, but did not lose home | 13  |
| No                         | 74  |

Those who have been looking for a job for six months or more are even more likely to have been threatened with foreclosure.

For many, losing their job also meant losing their health care coverage. 47% of Americans who are out of work say they don't have health insurance, and eight in 10 of them attribute that to having lost their job.

61% of unemployed Americans say affording basic medical care has been a hardship for their family.

**BASIC MEDICAL CARE**

(among unemployed Americans)

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Affordable | 34% |
| Hardship   | 61  |

54% say they have collected unemployment insurance, including 42% who are currently receiving benefits. But most of them - 61% - say the benefits they receive are not enough to cover the costs of basic necessities like housing and food. And 40% think it's very likely their benefits will run out before they find a job.

**UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS ENOUGH TO COVER COSTS OF BASIC NECESSITIES?**

(among those who are receiving unemployment benefits)

|     |     |
|-----|-----|
| Yes | 39% |
| No  | 61  |

Overall, 71% of the unemployed say their household's financial situation is in bad shape - more than twice the percentage of Americans overall who say the same. Things are even worse for those who have been unemployed longer. Four in 10 of those who have been without a job for over six months say their financial situation is very bad.

**HOUSEHOLD FINANCIAL SITUATION**

|             | Total |            | Unemployed for:  |               |
|-------------|-------|------------|------------------|---------------|
|             | All   | Unemployed | 6 months or less | Over 6 months |
| Very good   | 13%   | 2%         | 1%               | 3%            |
| Fairly good | 56    | 26         | 27               | 25            |
| Fairly bad  | 20    | 44         | 52               | 32            |
| Very bad    | 11    | 27         | 19               | 40            |

**THE EMOTIONAL TOLL OF UNEMPLOYMENT**

Unemployment brings more than financial hardship -- it brings stress and emotional troubles, too. Nearly six in 10 say being out of work has caused both a financial and emotional crisis. Those who have been out of work longer than six months are even more likely to say it's been both a financial and emotional crisis.

**FINANCIAL OR EMOTIONAL CRISIS?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|           |     |
|-----------|-----|
| Financial | 24% |
| Emotional | 4   |
| Both      | 57  |
| No crisis | 13  |

Seven in ten say their stress level is up as a result of being out of work. The longer a person has been out of work, the more likely they are to report increased stress levels.

**UNEMPLOYMENT HAS MADE YOUR STRESS LEVEL...?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|           | Total<br>Unemployed | 6 months<br>or less | Over<br>6 months |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Increase  | 69%                 | 62%                 | 80%              |
| Decrease  | 8                   | 10                  | 10               |
| No effect | 23                  | 28                  | 14               |

The jobless report specific emotional difficulties, too. A majority says they've had trouble sleeping, almost half have gotten into more arguments and almost half have felt depressed or anxious.

**AS A RESULT OF BEING UNEMPLOYED HAVE YOU...**

(among unemployed Americans)

|  | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Had trouble sleeping                     | 55% | 45 |
| Had anxiety or depression                | 48% | 52 |
| Had more arguments<br>w/friends & family | 48% | 52 |

Almost six in ten (57%) of those out of work six months or more report anxiety, compared to 42% of those out less than six months.

Women are more likely than men to report feeling anxiety or depression.

**ANXIETY OR DEPRESSION AS A RESULT OF UNEMPLOYMENT?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|     | Men | Women |
|-----|-----|-------|
| Yes | 45% | 53%   |
| No  | 55  | 47    |

Among those who report feeling depressed or anxious, just a fourth of them say they've seen a mental health professional to get help.

Even though many other people are also going through the same difficulties they are, 54% of the unemployed interviewed in the poll say they've felt embarrassed or ashamed for being out of work -- at least once in a while. One quarter feels this often.

**HAVE YOU FELT EMBARRASSED ABOUT BEING UNEMPLOYED?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Yes, most of the time | 28% |
| Yes, sometimes        | 18  |
| Yes, once in a while  | 8   |
| No                    | 46  |

**UNEMPLOYMENT AT HOME: THE IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND THE HOUSEHOLD**

When a wage-earner becomes unemployed, a whole household often feels the pain. Among the jobless with children at home, 38% report seeing changes in their child's behavior since they've lost their job.

**SEEN CHANGES IN CHILD'S BEHAVIOR SINCE YOU LOST YOUR JOB?**

(among unemployed with children under 18)

|     |     |
|-----|-----|
| Yes | 38% |
| No  | 56  |

One way unemployed parents are dealing with their children is to talk about the situation with them: most with children old enough to understand have done so. 53% have talked about their job loss with their children, 24% have not, and 21% say their children are too young to talk about it.

Most say there has been at least some change in their children's lives, and 31% say their children's lives are a lot different now.

**HOW MUCH HAVE YOUR KIDS' LIVES CHANGED SINCE YOU'VE BEEN UNEMPLOYED?**

(among unemployed with children under 18)

|               | Total Unemployed | 6 months or less | Over 6 months |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| A lot         | 31%              | 18%              | 48%           |
| Some          | 25               | 26               | 22            |
| Not much/none | 41               | 51               | 29            |

Length of unemployment makes a great deal of difference on this. Nearly half of those out of work six months or longer report their kids' lives have changed a lot, compared to 18% of those out of work for six months or less.

Is there anything positive at all that comes from losing a job? When asked, most Americans cannot name anything. Of those who do volunteer something, it is that they spend more time with their family.

**HAS ANYTHING POSITIVE HAPPENED FROM BEING UNEMPLOYED?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| No, nothing/Not sure           | 60% |
| Spending more time with family | 21  |
| More time for exercise         | 3   |
| Chance to further education    | 3   |

65% of the unemployed report they do more household chores since they lost their job. The time spent on some other activities has not

changed as dramatically, but 29% say they are exercising more. And while 20% have increased the amount of time they do volunteer work, about the same number say they are volunteering less. However, few have changed the frequency with which they attend religious services.

**AS A RESULT OF BEING UNEMPLOYED DO YOU..**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                          | More | Less | Same |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|
| Perform household chores | 65%  | 2    | 32   |
| Exercise                 | 29%  | 19   | 51   |
| Do volunteer work        | 20%  | 21   | 53   |
| Attend church            | 13%  | 3    | 80   |

**LOOKING AHEAD: THE JOB MARKET**

39% of unemployed Americans are optimistic that the job market will get better in their area over the next year. About one in five thinks the job market will get worse, while 36% think it will stay the same. Extended joblessness makes people more pessimistic: Those who have been out of work for longer than six months are less optimistic than those who have not been unemployed as long.

**WILL THE JOB MARKET IN YOUR AREA...?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|               | Total<br>Unemployed | Six months<br>or less | Six months<br>or more |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Get better    | 39%                 | 43%                   | 33%                   |
| Get worse     | 22                  | 19                    | 26                    |
| Stay the same | 36                  | 35                    | 39                    |

When it comes to lost jobs returning to their community, fewer than half expect the jobs their communities have lost will come back when the economy recovers, and 40% think they won't. Those who have been out of work longer are even less hopeful.

**WILL THE LOST JOBS IN YOUR COMMUNITY COME BACK?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|     | Total<br>Unemployed | Six months<br>or less | Six months<br>or more |
|-----|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Yes | 46%                 | 52%                   | 37%                   |
| No  | 40                  | 34                    | 48                    |

Optimism about jobs returning varies by region. In the Midwest - once the bedrock of manufacturing jobs in the country - 52% of unemployed Americans think the lost jobs in their communities will not come back, while elsewhere the unemployed are more hopeful.

**WILL THE LOST JOBS IN YOUR COMMUNITY COME BACK?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|     | All | Northeast | Midwest | South | West |
|-----|-----|-----------|---------|-------|------|
| Yes | 46% | 48%       | 32%     | 49%   | 52%  |
| No  | 40  | 32        | 52      | 41    | 32   |

Many out-of-work Americans are worried that unemployment in their households will not stop with them. Six in 10 are at least somewhat concerned that someone else in their household might also lose their job in the next 12 months. Nearly four in 10 are very concerned.

Over half of those out of work six months or more say they are very concerned.

**CONCERN ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE  
IN HOUSEHOLD LOSING THEIR JOB**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                      | Total<br>Unemployed | Six months<br>or less | Six months<br>or more |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Very concerned       | 38%                 | 28%                   | 53%                   |
| Somewhat concerned   | 24                  | 28                    | 17                    |
| Not at all concerned | 27                  | 32                    | 19                    |

**LOOKING FOR WORK**

54% of unemployed Americans expect to be unemployed no more than a year in total, though a quarter thinks they will be out of work for one to two years and one in five thinks they will be jobless even longer. Older unemployed adults - those over 45 - are more pessimistic about how long they will be out of work than the younger Americans now looking for employment.

**HOW LONG DO YOU EXPECT TO BE UNEMPLOYED?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                        | All | Under 45 | Over 45 |
|------------------------|-----|----------|---------|
| Less than three months | 7%  | 7%       | 8%      |
| 3-6 months             | 25  | 26       | 24      |
| 7-11 months            | 22  | 27       | 10      |
| A year or more         | 37  | 33       | 46      |

But the next job may not be quite the same as the last one, and it may not pay as well either. Six in 10 unemployed Americans expect their next job to be different from their last one, including a third who expect to be doing a very different kind of work than they had been.

**HOW DIFFERENT WILL YOUR NEXT JOB BE FROM YOUR LAST JOB?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                         | All | Under 45 | Over 45 |
|-------------------------|-----|----------|---------|
| Very different work     | 32% | 38%      | 20%     |
| Slightly different work | 29  | 24       | 42      |
| The same type of work   | 33  | 33       | 31      |

Only a quarter are very confident they will land a job that will have approximately the same income and benefits they earned at their last job. Another 30% are somewhat confident, but 46% are not very confident or not confident at all.

**CONFIDENCE IN GETTING A NEW JOB**

**AS GOOD AS THE LAST JOB**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                           | All | Under 45 | Over 45 |
|---------------------------|-----|----------|---------|
| Very confident            | 23% | 27%      | 13%     |
| Somewhat confident        | 30  | 31       | 28      |
| Not very/at all confident | 46  | 41       | 58      |

Jobless Americans under 45 are confident, while most over 45 are not, and the longer they have been out of work, the less confident people become. Those out of work for a longer period are less confident they will find a job with similar pay and benefits to their last one.

**CONFIDENCE IN GETTING A NEW JOB**

**AS GOOD AS THE LAST JOB**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                           | Total<br>Unemployed | Six months<br>or less | Six months<br>or more |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Very confident            | 23%                 | 30%                   | 11%                   |
| Somewhat confident        | 30                  | 33                    | 26                    |
| Not very/at all confident | 46                  | 36                    | 62                    |

Nearly three in four of the unemployed say they have the right qualifications for the jobs they are applying for - including 39% who feel they are over-qualified. College graduates are more likely than those without college degrees to report being over-qualified for the positions they are applying for.

And seven in 10 of those who now find themselves looking for work have at least considered changing careers. 44% have pursued job re-training programs or other educational opportunities as a result of being unemployed. 42% have considered moving to a different part of the state or country where there might be more jobs.

**AS A RESULT OF BEING UNEMPLOYED, HAVE YOU...?**

(among unemployed Americans)

|                             | Yes | No |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|
| Considered changing careers | 69% | 31 |
| Pursued job re-training     | 44% | 56 |
| Considered moving           | 42% | 57 |

Out-of-work Americans over 45 are as likely to look into changing careers as their younger counterparts, but less likely to pursue job re-training or consider relocating.

Nearly four in 10 have been working part-time or occasionally while they look for long-term employment. Americans unemployed for six months or longer are more likely to have worked occasionally or part-time.



**ARE YOU WORRIED?: CONCERNS OF THOSE WITH JOBS**

Many Americans who do have jobs say they don't feel as secure as they used to. Four in 10 currently employed Americans say that over the past couple of years they have felt less secure and confident that they can continue in their job as long as they want. Four in 10 say there has been no change and one in five feels more secure. These numbers have not changed much over the past year and a half of the economic downturn.

**HOW SECURE HAVE YOU FELT IN YOUR JOB RECENTLY?**

(among those currently employed)

|             | Now | 2/2009 | 3/2008 |
|-------------|-----|--------|--------|
| More secure | 20% | 24%    | 21%    |
| Less secure | 39  | 33     | 35     |
| No change   | 40  | 42     | 43     |

And about a quarter of Americans with jobs say they have had their salaries or wages reduced as a result of the bad economic conditions facing the country. Working Americans who earn less than \$50,000 a year are even more likely to have had their salary reduced than those earning more.

**HAS YOUR SALARY OR WAGES BEEN REDUCED IN THE LAST YEAR?**

(among those currently employed)

|     | All | Under \$50K | Over \$50K |
|-----|-----|-------------|------------|
| Yes | 27% | 33%         | 26%        |
| No  | 72  | 64          | 74         |

**VIEWS OF THE ECONOMY AND THE STIMULUS**

Not surprisingly, nearly nine in ten unemployed Americans say the economy is bad, including 38% who say it is very bad. Those without jobs are more negative about the economy than Americans as a whole.

**CONDITION OF THE ECONOMY**

|            | Unemployed | All |
|------------|------------|-----|
| Good       | 12%        | 22% |
| Fairly bad | 50         | 44  |
| Very bad   | 38         | 33  |

Few of those without jobs see much light at the end of the economic tunnel either -- only 27% of them think the economy is getting better. Another 22% thinks it is getting worse, while half think it's staying the same.

**THE ECONOMY IS GETTING...**

|                  | Unemployed | All |
|------------------|------------|-----|
| Better           | 27%        | 29% |
| Worse            | 22         | 23  |
| Staying the same | 50         | 47  |

The unemployed are twice as likely as Americans overall to say the recession has been a hardship on their family that has caused major

life changes. Few of those without jobs say the recession has not had much effect on their lives.

Those who have been unemployed for more than six months are particularly affected; 58% say the recession has been a hardship for themselves and their family.

**EFFECT OF THE RECESSION ON YOUR FAMILY**

|                 | All | Total<br>Unemployed | Unemployed for:     |                  |
|-----------------|-----|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|                 |     |                     | 6 months<br>or less | Over<br>6 months |
| Hardship        | 24% | 49%                 | 43%                 | 58%              |
| Difficult       | 49  | 44                  | 48                  | 38               |
| Not much effect | 26  | 5                   | 6                   | 4                |

Few Americans agree with those economists who have pronounced the recession over. Those without jobs are even more pessimistic, and think any recovery will take an especially long time. 52% of them expect the recession to last another two years or more (compared with 44% of Americans overall).

**HOW MUCH LONGER WILL RECESSION LAST?**

|                      | Unemployed | All |
|----------------------|------------|-----|
| Six months to a year | 34%        | 34% |
| Two years            | 27         | 18  |
| More than two years  | 25         | 26  |
| Already over         | 6          | 11  |

When asked who or what is most to blame for the current high unemployment rate in the U.S., 26% of the unemployed blame George W. Bush, the top response. Another 12% blame the banks, and 8% blame Congress and politicians generally and jobs going overseas. Other Americans share those views.

Only 3% of the unemployed (and 4% of Americans overall) blame President Barack Obama for job losses.

**WHO OR WHAT IS TO BLAME FOR UNEMPLOYMENT?**

|                      | Unemployed | All |
|----------------------|------------|-----|
| George W. Bush       | 26%        | 20% |
| Banks                | 12         | 9   |
| Congress/Politicians | 8          | 14  |
| Jobs going overseas  | 8          | 9   |
| Barack Obama         | 3          | 4   |

Like other Americans, half of the unemployed think the government economic stimulus package has not yet had an impact on the economy. But, again like the public overall, by more than two to one, they expect it to improve the economy rather than make it worse.

**EFFECT OF STIMULUS PACKAGE ON ECONOMY**

|                    | Unemployed | All |
|--------------------|------------|-----|
| Has made it better | 33%        | 32% |
| Has made it worse  | 13         | 15  |
| No impact          | 50         | 46  |

Similarly, like Americans overall, few of those without jobs think the stimulus package has already created jobs. 41% don't think it will. However, 51% of the unemployed expect that the stimulus package will create jobs.

**EFFECT OF STIMULUS PACKAGE ON JOBS**

|                                 | Unemployed | All |
|---------------------------------|------------|-----|
| Has created jobs                | 2%         | 6%  |
| Will create jobs but hasn't yet | 51         | 44  |
| Will not create jobs            | 41         | 45  |

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This poll was conducted among a random sample of 1,650 adults nationwide, interviewed by telephone December 4-10, 2009. Phone numbers were dialed from RDD samples of both standard land-lines and cell phones. The error due to sampling for results based on the entire sample could be plus or minus two percentage points. The error for subgroups is higher.

An oversample of people out of work and looking for a job were interviewed for a total of 708 interviews with the unemployed. The results were then weighted in proportion to the adult population as reported by the U.S. Census. The margin of error for the sample of the unemployed is four points.

Results among all Americans are from a CBS News/New York Times Poll conducted December 4-8, 2009.

This poll release conforms to the Standards of Disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES POLL

The Price of 10% Unemployment: Polling the Jobless

December 4-10, 2009

q7 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling job creation?

|            | Total | Unemployed |
|------------|-------|------------|
| Approve    | 38    | 47         |
| Disapprove | 47    | 44         |
| DK/NA      | 15    | 9          |

q8 How would you rate the condition of the national economy these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

|             |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|
| Very good   | 2  | 0  |
| Fairly good | 20 | 12 |
| Fairly bad  | 44 | 50 |
| Very bad    | 33 | 38 |
| DK/NA       | 1  | 0  |

q9 Do you think the economy is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?

|        |    |    |
|--------|----|----|
| Better | 29 | 27 |
| Worse  | 23 | 22 |
| Same   | 47 | 50 |
| DK/NA  | 1  | 1  |

q10 Do you think the recession is over, or not? IF NO, ASK: How much longer do you think the recession will last – six months, a year, two years or more than two years?

|                   |    |    |
|-------------------|----|----|
| Six months        | 7  | 11 |
| A year            | 27 | 23 |
| Two years         | 18 | 27 |
| More than 2 years | 26 | 25 |
| Recession is over | 11 | 6  |
| DK/NA             | 11 | 8  |

q11 Who or what do you think is most to blame for the current high unemployment rate in the U.S.?

|                           |    |    |
|---------------------------|----|----|
| George W. Bush            | 20 | 26 |
| Congress/Politicians      | 14 | 8  |
| Banks                     | 9  | 12 |
| Jobs going overseas       | 9  | 8  |
| Barack Obama              | 4  | 3  |
| Big business/Execs/CEOs   | 4  | 5  |
| Wall Street               | 3  | 5  |
| Consumers                 | 2  | 0  |
| Recession/Bad Economy     | 2  | 1  |
| High taxes on businesses  | 1  | 0  |
| Stimulus hasn't worked    | 1  | 0  |
| Business/factory closures | 1  | 1  |
| Other                     | 13 | 15 |
| DK/NA                     | 17 | 16 |

q12 Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican party or the Democratic party is more likely to create new jobs?

|                | Total<br>% | Unemployed<br>% |
|----------------|------------|-----------------|
| Republican     | 31         | 24              |
| Democratic     | 42         | 45              |
| Both (vol.)    | 3          | 3               |
| Neither (vol.) | 11         | 14              |
| DK/NA          | 13         | 14              |

q13 So far, do you think the government's stimulus package has made the economy better, made the economy worse, or has it had no impact on the economy so far?

|           |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|
| Better    | 32 | 33 |
| Worse     | 15 | 13 |
| No impact | 46 | 50 |
| DK/NA     | 7  | 4  |

q14 From what you know so far, which comes closest to your own view? 1. the economic stimulus package has already created a substantial number of new jobs in the U.S. OR 2. it will create a substantial number of new jobs but hasn't done that yet OR 3. it will not create a substantial number of new jobs?

|                          |    |    |
|--------------------------|----|----|
| Has already created jobs | 6  | 2  |
| Will but hasn't yet      | 44 | 51 |
| Will not create new jobs | 45 | 41 |
| DK/NA                    | 5  | 6  |

q15 Over the next year, do you think the job market in your area will get better, get worse, or stay about the same?

|          |    |    |
|----------|----|----|
| Better   | 39 | 39 |
| Worse    | 18 | 22 |
| The same | 41 | 36 |
| DK/NA    | 2  | 3  |

q16 In your own community, just from what you've seen or heard, do you think the jobs that your community has lost in this recession will probably come back when the economy improves, or do you think they were jobs that will probably never come back?

|                             |    |    |
|-----------------------------|----|----|
| Jobs will come back         | 52 | 46 |
| Jobs will never come back   | 35 | 40 |
| Some will/some won't (vol.) | 10 | 10 |
| DK/NA                       | 3  | 4  |

q17 How would you rate the financial situation in your household these days? Is it very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad?

|             |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|
| Very good   | 13 | 2  |
| Fairly good | 56 | 26 |
| Fairly bad  | 20 | 44 |
| Very bad    | 11 | 27 |
| DK/NA       | 0  | 1  |

q18 Do you think your household's financial situation is getting better, getting worse or staying about the same?

|                | Total<br>% | Unemployed<br>% |
|----------------|------------|-----------------|
| Getting better | 13         | 11              |
| Getting worse  | 22         | 33              |
| Same           | 64         | 55              |
| DK/NA          | 1          | 1               |

q19 When you think about your current financial situation, what, if anything, worries you the most?

|                           |    |    |
|---------------------------|----|----|
| Losing job                | 20 | 30 |
| Health care costs         | 10 | 6  |
| Can't pay bills           | 9  | 20 |
| Housing costs             | 7  | 11 |
| Retirement/Soc. Security  | 6  | 3  |
| Paying for college/school | 4  | 3  |
| Worsening economy         | 3  | 1  |
| Uncertain future          | 3  | 7  |
| Taxes                     | 2  | 0  |
| Rising interest rates     | 1  | 0  |
| National debt             | 1  | 0  |
| Credit cards + other debt | 1  | 1  |
| Investments               | 1  | 0  |
| Dollar devaluation        | 1  | 1  |
| Nothing                   | 3  | 1  |
| Other                     | 11 | 12 |
| DK/NA                     | 17 | 4  |

q20 In the past year, have you made cutbacks in your day-to-day spending? IF YES, ASK: Did you cut back on luxury items or necessities?

|                               |    |    |
|-------------------------------|----|----|
| Yes, luxuries                 | 41 | 31 |
| Yes, necessities              | 10 | 8  |
| No                            | 21 | 7  |
| Luxuries + necessities (vol.) | 28 | 54 |
| DK/NA                         | 0  | 0  |

q21 Which best describes the way you and your family have been affected by the recession? 1) The recession has been a hardship and caused major life changes, or 2) The recession has been difficult but not caused any major life changes, or 3) The recession has not had much affect one way or the other.

|                        |    |    |
|------------------------|----|----|
| Hardship               | 24 | 49 |
| Difficult              | 49 | 44 |
| Not much affect        | 26 | 5  |
| Positive effect (vol.) | 0  | 0  |
| DK/NA                  | 1  | 2  |

q28 How long have you been out of work and actively seeking employment - less than 3 months, 3 to 6 months, 7 to 11 months, 1 to 2 years or more than 2 years?

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| Six months or less   | 60 |
| More than six months | 40 |
| DK/NA                | 0  |

q29 In the end, about how long do you expect it will have taken in total to find long-term employment - less than 3 months, 3 to 6 months, 7 to 11 months, 1 to 2 years, or more than 2 years?

|                      | Unemployed |
|----------------------|------------|
|                      | %          |
| Six months or less   | 32         |
| More than six months | 59         |
| DK/NA                | 9          |

q30 Were you laid off or did you quit your job?

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Laid off/Fired             | 76 |
| Quit                       | 16 |
| Buyout (vol.)              | 0  |
| Recent graduate/Never work | 3  |
| Hours cut (vol.)           | 1  |
| Combination/Other (vol.)   | 3  |
| DK/NA                      | 1  |

q31 Was your last job a full-time or a part-time job?

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Full-time                 | 85 |
| Part-time                 | 14 |
| Mixture/More than one job | 1  |
| DK/NA                     | 0  |

q32 How long had you been employed at that job -- less than 1 year, 1 to 2 years, 3 to 5 years, 6 to 10 years or more than 10 years?

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Less than 1 year   | 28 |
| 1-2 years          | 22 |
| 3-5 years          | 29 |
| 6-10 years         | 11 |
| More than 10 years | 9  |
| DK/NA              | 0  |

q33 Did your last employer offer you a severance package or other compensation when you left the job?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 16 |
| No    | 83 |
| DK/NA | 1  |

q34 Would you say your job was a white collar job, a blue-collar job, or something else?

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| White collar   | 33 |
| Blue collar    | 44 |
| Something else | 19 |
| DK/NA          | 4  |

q35 Were you the highest wage earner in your household, or weren't you?

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Yes, highest wage earner | 53 |
| No                       | 47 |
| DK/NA                    | 0  |

q36 How concerned are you that in the next 12 months someone else in your household might be out of work and looking for a job -- very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not concerned at all?

|                             | Unemployed<br>% |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Very concerned              | 38              |
| Somewhat concerned          | 24              |
| Not at all concerned        | 27              |
| One person household (Vol.) | 10              |
| DK/NA                       | 1               |

q37 While looking for long-term employment, have you done any occasional or part-time work, or not?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 37 |
| No    | 63 |
| DK/NA | 0  |

q39 Compared to when you first became unemployed, would you say you NOW spend more time, less time or about the same amount of time searching for a new job?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| More  | 48 |
| Less  | 18 |
| Same  | 30 |
| DK/NA | 4  |

q40 Overall, thinking about most of the jobs you are applying for, would you say you have more qualifications than the jobs require, the right amount of qualifications the jobs require or only some of the qualifications the jobs require?

|              |    |
|--------------|----|
| More         | 39 |
| Right amount | 35 |
| Some         | 24 |
| DK/NA        | 2  |

q41 Of all the resources you have used, which is MOST effective in finding leads for new jobs?

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Online job sites            | 31 |
| Networking                  | 17 |
| Newspapers                  | 15 |
| Family and friends          | 7  |
| Head hunters                | 4  |
| Online bulletin boards      | 4  |
| Social networking web sites | 1  |
| Former employers            | 1  |
| Nothing                     | 1  |
| Other                       | 14 |
| Don't know                  | 5  |

q42 As a result of being unemployed, have you moved or considered moving to another part of the state or country where there might be more jobs, or haven't you considered moving?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 42 |
| No    | 57 |
| DK/NA | 1  |



q43 As a result of being unemployed, have you seriously considered changing your career or field, or haven't you considered this?

|       | Unemployed<br>% |
|-------|-----------------|
| Yes   | 69              |
| No    | 31              |
| DK/NA | 0               |

q44 As a result of being unemployed, have you pursued any job re-training programs or educational opportunities, or not?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 44 |
| No    | 56 |
| DK/NA | 0  |

q45 Compared to your last long-term job, do you expect that your next long-term job will involve the same kind of work you had been doing, or a slightly different kind of work, or a very different kind of work than you had been doing?

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Same               | 33 |
| Slightly different | 29 |
| Very different     | 32 |
| DK/NA              | 6  |

q46 How confident are you that you will be able to find a job with approximately the same income and benefits you earned in your last job -- very confident, somewhat confident, not very confident, or not at all confident?

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| Very confident       | 23 |
| Somewhat confident   | 30 |
| Not very confident   | 27 |
| Not at all confident | 19 |
| DK/NA                | 1  |

q47 All in all, would you say the job loss you experienced created a major crisis in your life, a minor crisis, or no crisis at all?

|              |    |
|--------------|----|
| Major crisis | 46 |
| Minor crisis | 40 |
| No crisis    | 13 |
| DK/NA        | 1  |

q48 Would you say it is more of a financial crisis, more of an emotional crisis, or both?

|                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| Financial crisis | 24 |
| Emotional crisis | 4  |
| Both             | 57 |
| No crisis in q47 | 13 |
| DK/NA            | 2  |

q49 As a result of being unemployed, have you taken money out of any savings account, including retirement savings, in order to make ends meet, or haven't you taken money out of savings?

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Yes                        | 60 |
| No                         | 31 |
| Didn't have savings (vol.) | 9  |
| DK/NA                      | 0  |

q50 As a result of being unemployed, have you borrowed money from family members or friends, or haven't you?

|       | Unemployed<br>% |
|-------|-----------------|
| Yes   | 53              |
| No    | 47              |
| DK/NA | 0               |

q51 As a result of being unemployed, has your household's credit card debt increased, decreased or stayed about the same? IF INCREASED, ASK: Would you say it has increased a lot, or only a little?

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| Increased, a lot    | 12 |
| Increased, a little | 12 |
| Decreased           | 10 |
| Stayed same         | 48 |
| DK/NA               | 18 |

q52 As a result of being unemployed, have you cut back on vacations, or not?

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Yes                         | 77 |
| No                          | 5  |
| Don't take vacations (vol.) | 17 |
| DK/NA                       | 1  |

q53 As a result of being unemployed, have you received food stamps, or haven't you?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 26 |
| No    | 74 |
| DK/NA | 0  |

q54 As a result of being unemployed, have you received food from a non-profit organization or religious institution, or haven't you?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 20 |
| No    | 80 |
| DK/NA | 0  |

q55 As a result of being unemployed, have you cut back on doctor's visits or medical treatments, or not?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 54 |
| No    | 45 |
| DK/NA | 1  |

q56 As a result of being unemployed, has the amount of time you devote to doing volunteer work increased, decreased, or stayed about the same?

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Increased                | 20 |
| Decreased                | 21 |
| Same                     | 53 |
| Never volunteered (Vol.) | 5  |
| DK/NA                    | 1  |

q57 As a result of being unemployed, do you attend religious services more often, less often, or has there been no change?

|                     | Unemployed<br>% |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| More                | 13              |
| Less                | 3               |
| No change           | 80              |
| Never attend (vol.) | 3               |
| DK/NA               | 1               |

q58 As a result of being unemployed, do you exercise more often, less often, or has there been no change?

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| More                  | 29 |
| Less                  | 19 |
| No change             | 51 |
| Never exercise (vol.) | 1  |
| DK/NA                 | 0  |

q59 As a result of being unemployed, do you perform more household chores, fewer household chores, or about the same amount of household chores as before?

|                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| More                   | 65 |
| Fewer                  | 2  |
| Same amount            | 32 |
| Never do chores (Vol.) | 1  |
| DK/NA                  | 0  |

q60 As a result of being unemployed, have you been threatened with foreclosure or eviction for not paying your mortgage or rent, or haven't you? IF YES: Did you lose your home, or didn't you?

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Yes, and lost home         | 13 |
| Yes, but did not lose home | 13 |
| No                         | 74 |
| DK/NA                      | 0  |

q61 How much have your children's lives changed as a result of your being unemployed -- a lot, some, not much, or not at all?

|            | Unemployed and have children under age 18 |
|------------|---|
| A lot      | 31  |
| Some       | 25  |
| Not much   | 16  |
| Not at all | 25  |
| DK/NA      | 3   |

q62 Have you noticed any changes in your children's behavior that you think might be the result of economic or financial changes in your household, or not?

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Yes                         | 38 |
| No                          | 56 |
| No financial changes (vol.) | 2  |
| DK/NA                       | 4  |

q63 Have you discussed your family's financial situation with your children, or haven't you discussed it with your children?

Unemployed and have children under age 18

|                           | %  |
|---------------------------|----|
| Discussed with children   | 53 |
| Haven't discussed         | 24 |
| Children too young (vol.) | 21 |
| Some not all (vol.)       | 0  |
| DK/NA                     | 2  |

q64 Is your spouse currently employed - either full time or part time -- or is your spouse temporarily out of work, or not in the market for work at all? IF NOT IN MARKET FOR WORK, ASK: Is your spouse currently retired, or not?

Unemployed and Married

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Currently employed         | 70 |
| Temporarily out of work    | 17 |
| Not in the market for work | 12 |
| Retired                    | 1  |
| DK/NA                      | 0  |

q65 As a result of your being unemployed, has your spouse worked additional hours or an additional job?

Unemployed and spouse works

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 50 |
| No    | 50 |
| DK/NA | 0  |

q66 Are you currently receiving unemployment benefits from the government, or aren't you? IF NOT, ASK: Did you receive unemployment benefits at any point since becoming unemployed, or not?

Unemployed

|                                     | %  |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Currently receiving benefits        | 42 |
| Did receive benefits, but no longer | 12 |
| Didn't receive benefits             | 46 |
| DK/NA                               | 1  |

q67 Are the unemployment benefits you receive enough to cover the costs of your basic necessities like housing and food, or not?

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Enough     | 39 |
| Not enough | 61 |
| DK/NA      | 0  |

q68 How likely do you think it is that your unemployment benefits will run out before you find a new job -- very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| Very       | 40 |
| Somewhat   | 35 |
| Not very   | 14 |
| Not at all | 8  |
| DK/NA      | 3  |

q69 Do you have some form of health insurance or health care coverage, or not?

|       | Total<br>% | Unemployed<br>% |
|-------|------------|-----------------|
| Yes   | 90         | 52%             |
| No    | 10         | 47              |
| DK/NA | 0          | 1               |

q71 How would you describe the affordability of basic medical care for you and your family -- would you say basic medical care is affordable or is it a hardship?

|            |    |    |
|------------|----|----|
| Affordable | 60 | 34 |
| Hardship   | 38 | 61 |
| DK/NA      | 3  | 5  |

q72 Do you not have health insurance because you are unemployed, or do you not have health insurance for another reason?

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Because unemployed | 80 |
| Another reason     | 20 |
| DK/NA              | 0  |

q73 As a result of being unemployed, are you more stressed than usual, less stressed or is your stress level no different?

|              |    |
|--------------|----|
| More         | 69 |
| Less         | 8  |
| No different | 23 |
| DK/NA        | 0  |

q74 As a result of being unemployed, have you had more conflicts or arguments than usual with your family and friends, or haven't you?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 48 |
| No    | 52 |
| DK/NA | 0  |

q75 As a result of being unemployed, have you had any trouble sleeping, or haven't you?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 55 |
| No    | 45 |
| DK/NA | 0  |

q76 As a result of being unemployed, have you experienced any emotional or mental health issues, such as anxiety or depression, or haven't you?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 48 |
| No    | 52 |
| DK/NA | 0  |

q77 Have you seen a mental health professional to address your emotional or mental health issues, or haven't you?

|       | Among those who said "yes" in q76 |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| Yes   | 24                                |
| No    | 76                                |
| DK/NA | 0                                 |

q78 Some people who are unemployed say they feel embarrassed or ashamed as a result of being out of work. Have you felt embarrassed or ashamed about being out of work? IF YES: How often do you feel that way -- most of the time, some of the time, or hardly ever?

|                   | Unemployed |
|-------------------|------------|
|                   | %          |
| Yes, most of time | 28         |
| Yes, some of time | 18         |
| Yes, hardly ever  | 8          |
| No                | 46         |
| DK/NA             | 0          |

q79 As a result of being unemployed, has anything positive happened to you or your family, or not? IF YES, ASK: What was that?

|                               |    |
|-------------------------------|----|
| More time with family         | 21 |
| More time for health/exercise | 3  |
| Further education             | 3  |
| More time for home projects   | 1  |
| People have been very nice    | 1  |
| Time for volunteering         | 1  |
| Start over in new field       | 1  |
| More time for hobbies         | 1  |
| Other                         | 8  |
| Nothing                       | 39 |
| DK/NA                         | 21 |

q80 In the past couple of years would you say you have felt MORE secure and confident that you can continue in your job as long as you want, or LESS secure and confident, or has there been NO change?

|           | Employed |
|-----------|----------|
|           | %        |
| More      | 20       |
| Less      | 39       |
| No change | 40       |
| DK/NA     | 1        |

q81 In the last 12 months, as a result of bad economic conditions, have your salary or wages been reduced, or not?

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| Yes   | 27 |
| No    | 72 |
| DK/NA | 1  |

q82 How concerned are you that in the next 12 months you or someone else in your household might be out of work and looking for a job -- very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not concerned at all?

|                      | Employed/Retired/Not in the market for work |
|----------------------|---|
| Very concerned       | 20  |
| Somewhat concerned   | 37  |
| Not at all concerned | 43  |
| DK/NA                | 0   |

q100 Compared to the last few years, will you spend more money on gifts this holiday season, less money, or about the same amount?

|       | Total | Unemployed |
|-------|-------|------------|
|       | %     | %          |
| More  | 5     | 0          |
| Less  | 55    | 83         |
| Same  | 38    | 15         |
| DK/NA | 2     | 2          |

q102 If you were asked to use one of these five names for your social class, which would you say you belong in upper class, upper-middle class, middle class, working class, or lower class?

|              |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|
| Upper        | 3  | 0  |
| Upper-middle | 11 | 4  |
| Middle       | 46 | 37 |
| Working      | 31 | 41 |
| Lower        | 9  | 17 |
| DK/NA        | 0  | 1  |

q103 Do you ever feel as if you're at risk of falling out of your current social class?

|       | Total | Unemployed |
|-------|-------|------------|
|       | %     | %          |
| Yes   | 35    | 48         |
| No    | 60    | 50         |
| DK/NA | 5     | 3          |

|                   | <u>UNWEIGHTED</u> | <u>WEIGHTED</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Total Respondents | 1650              |                 |
| Total unemployed  | 708               | 116             |

*\*Results for all Americans (the Total column) are based on a CBS News/New York Times Poll conducted December 4-8, 2009 among 1,031 adults nationwide.*