

This publication is provided jointly from the WIA Local Workforce Investment Boards representing Maricopa County and the City of Phoenix.

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"Maricopa Workforce Connections has been a valuable asset to our team and it has been our pleasure working with them at our Yellow Ribbon events. They are also coordinating a job fair in conjunction with our largest Yellow Ribbon Reintegration event for our Veterans returning home. We're looking forward to other great successes with Maricopa Workforce Connections."— CPT Holly Brauer, Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program, Arizona Army National Guard.

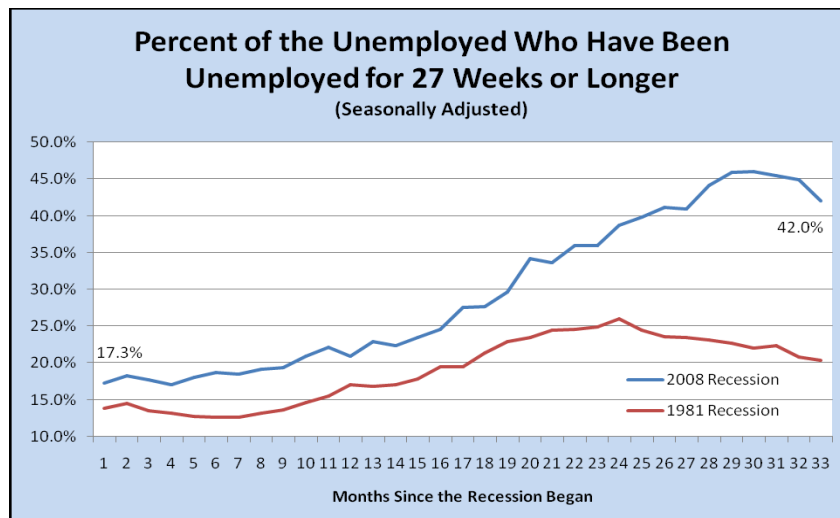


FACTS & FIGURES

Long-term unemployed pose significant dilemma to economic recovery

(www.workforceatm.org, Sept. 17, 2010) Excerpts:

- Although initial unemployment claims have begun in recent weeks to slowly come down, the number of long-term unemployed is still very high, and indicates the employment situation remains tepid.
- In August, 42 percent of the workforce, or 6.2 million workers, had been unemployed for 27 weeks or longer. This is almost 2.5 times the percentage of long-term unemployed workers present at the beginning of the recession.
- Long-term unemployment, as a percentage of the total workforce, reached a high of 46 percent in May 2010, and has been slowly declining since. In comparison, during the 1981 recession, the rate of long-term unemployed peaked at 26 percent in June 1983.



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Collaboratively providing workforce solutions to businesses and individuals throughout Maricopa County.

Nation's Workforce Leaders highlight Skills Training to Grow Economy and Help Get Americans Back to Work. At national workforce conference in Wisc., over 25 states cite On-the-Job Training, other programs that are growing skills, growing jobs and growing America — (State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development news release, September 23, 2010) — “The National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) held its annual three-day conference in Madison, Wisc. [in September], drawing leaders from across the country whose agencies oversee employment and training services, Unemployment Insurance, veterans services, one-stop job center partnerships, and other vital workforce programs.”

“Nationwide, these agencies served 26.4 million workers in 2008, and in 2009, given the recession, those served grew to over 37.8 million. States across the country, including Wisc., note that approximately 25 percent of the labor force has been served by state workforce programs over the last year.”

Arizona was represented by Rochelle Webb, Administrator for the Arizona Department of Economic Security who is also NASWA's new President. In the release she is quoted as follows, “The National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) supports legislation to strengthen On-the-Job Training and provide resources to upgrade the skills of the economically disadvantaged and dislocated workers, expand the capacity of small business, and create jobs. In particular, NASWA urges Congress to hasten passage of legislation to increase funding for this program. Locally, OJT programs help Arizona businesses to increase the skills of their workforce. On-the-Job Training offers a value-added service to employers and stimulates the local economy.”

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PARTNER ITEMS

City of Mesa to receive \$3 million over 3 years to help get more low-income youth successfully through college — *Mesa CLIP (Communities Learning in Partnership)* is strategically aligned to, in part, increase Mesa's qualified and educated workforce. To that end, The City of Mesa has developed a Workforce Development Alliance that includes Maricopa Workforce Connections and several of its community partners. WIA is reallocating youth development dollars to increase services to the Mesa area with additional Access Point locations. Details of this grant are available in the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation news release (9/27/10) available [here](#). Excerpt: According to the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce, the U.S. labor market will be short 3 million college-educated workers over the next eight years unless there is a dramatic increase in the number of young adults who successfully complete college. The mayors of the four cities receiving grants today recognize that increasing completion rates requires the coordinated efforts of government agencies, higher education institutions, community groups, and the private sector.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Event for Census 2010 employees — On September 16th, PWC and MWC joined with others in the Arizona Workforce Connection system to participate in the Career Networking Event *Redux* for Census 2010 employee. About 400 former Census employees and 27 employers attended this event at the Church for the Nations, Student Center on North Central Avenue. Representatives from several workforce development and state agencies also attended providing information about services and programs to assist these former Census workers in connecting with new employment opportunities. One-Stop staff coordinated professional resume reviews that assisted many of the attendees. and helped coordinate the volunteers, recruited some of the employers who attended, and provided promotion of the event through the One-Stop Centers. The event was billed as a *Redux* because this is the 2nd such event that MWC and PWC have supported. The first was held on July 15th and was attended by more than 500 former Census employees.

Local Workforce Areas and Partners Recruit for Amazon.com

On Sunday, September 26, and Tuesday, September 28, 2010, Phoenix Workforce Connection, along with its partners, Goodwill Industries of Central Arizona, Friendly House, ACYR (Arizona Call-a-Teen Youth Resources), and Maricopa Workforce Connections, assisted Amazon.com in an unprecedented two-day job fair event. The event was unlike any other and at the end of the second day, approximately 3,000 individuals had attended the fair and about 700 contingent job offers were made.



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