

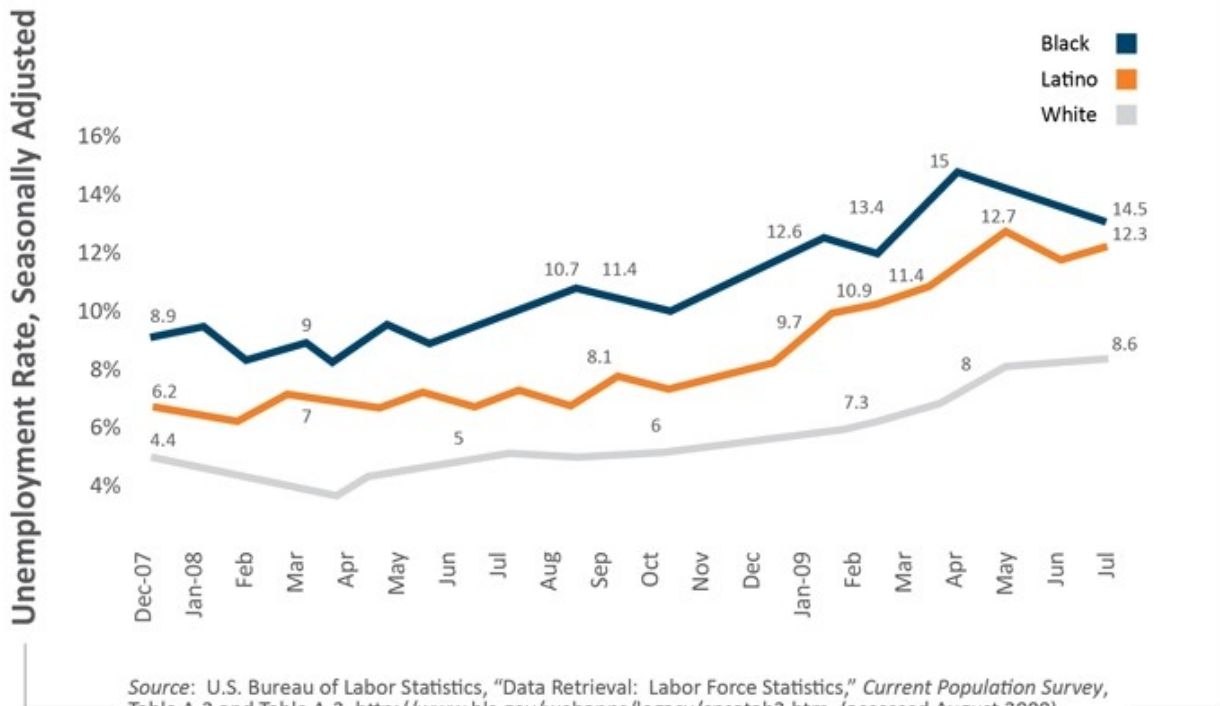
Latino Employment Status, July 2009

While some experts point to signs that the recession might be slowing down, the jobs outlook remains bleak for Latinos and Blacks. In July 2009, Latinos were the only group to see a slight rise in their unemployment rate, a change of 0.1 from 12.2% to 12.3%. Overall, the unemployment rate for the nation declined from 9.5% to 9.4%.

Figure 1 shows the unemployment rates for Blacks, Latinos, and Whites since the recession began in December 2007. Black unemployment has been in the double digits for nearly one full year. The Latino unemployment rate passed the 10% mark in February 2009, the same month President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Figure 1

Monthly Unemployment Rate by Race and Ethnicity, December 2007—July 2009



	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-09	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Black	8.9	9.2	8.4	9	8.8	9.7	9.4	9.9	10.7	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.9	12.6	13.4	13.3	15	14.9	14.7	14.5
Latino	6.2	6.4	6.3	7	7	7	7.7	7.5	8.1	7.9	8.8	8.6	9.2	9.7	10.9	11.4	11.3	12.7	12.2	12.3
White	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.9	5	5.2	5.5	5.5	6	6.2	6.6	6.9	7.3	7.9	8	8.6	8.7	8.6