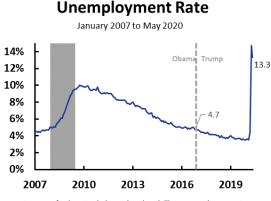


# The U.S. Economy by the Numbers – June 5, 2020

# **Unemployment Rate**

- BLS reports that the unemployment rate fell to **13.3%** in May, but it still remains higher than at any point during the Great Recession. It also states that the rate would have been about 3 percentage points higher if the some of the results had not been misclassified.
- The unemployment rate for Whites declined to 12.4% and for Hispanics to 17.6%. The unemployment rate for Blacks (16.8%), and Asians (15%) changed little.
- The unemployment rate for women decreased to **14.5%**; however, this remains higher than the unemployment rate for men which is **12.2%**.

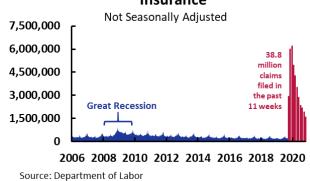


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, using the Civilian Unemployment Rate Ages 16+, Seasonally Adjusted

# **New Unemployment Claims**

• DOL reported nearly **1.6 million** new unemployment claims for the week ending May 30, bringing the 11 week total to almost **40 million**.

# Initial Claims for Unemployment Insurance



# Jobs

- Nonfarm jobs increased by 2.5 million in May, regaining about 1/10 of the 22.1 million jobs lost during March and April. Over the past 3 months, the economy has lost 19.6 million jobs.
- More than half of the jobs gained came in food services and drinking places.

# **Gross Domestic Product**

- Real GDP **decreased** at annual rate of **4.8%** in Q1 2020, the largest decline since the Great Recession.
- CBO projects Q2 GDP will decline at an annual rate of 38%.

#### Wages and Income

- Median weekly earnings for full-time workers in the fourth quarter rose 4.0% over the past year, but are only 2.0% higher with inflation taken into account.
- The median income of U.S. households is about \$63K.
- In 2018, the **top 20%** of households earned more than the rest of the country combined. The top 5% of households earned **over 20%** of aggregate income.

# **Minimum Wage**

• The minimum wage is **\$7.25 per hour** (\$15,080 per year full-time). That's almost **\$3 less per hour** in today's dollars, accounting for inflation, than at its 1968 peak.

# **Federal Debt**

• CBO forecasts the budget deficit will rise to \$3.7 trillion in 2020 and projects the federal debt held by the public to be 101% of GDP by the end of the fiscal year.

# Inflation

• The CPI for all items **rose by almost 0.4%** over the last 12 months.

#### **Gas Prices**

• Average gas prices nationwide in early June were \$1.97/gallon due to low oil prices.

# **Interest Rates**

 In early June, the interest rate on a 10-year Treasury note was 0.77%. The average mortgage interest rate was 3.18%.