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### Understanding Unemployment Statistics (Activity)

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## Understanding Unemployment Statistics

When you see unemployment statistics in the news – such as, “unemployment rises to 11%” – are you certain that you are interpreting them correctly? This short activity will help you to understand unemployment statistics in all of their nuance and complexity.

Begin by watching [this video](#) by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. The video explains the technical definition of the term “unemployment”, as used by official government agencies.

Did anything surprise you about how “unemployment” is defined?:

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After watching the video, look at the [current unemployment statistics](#) from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Who is left out of these statistics, in your opinion?

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