



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Characteristics of Families. Accessed 5/2/2013.  
Produced by Keith Hall and Veronique de Rugy, Mercatus Center at George Mason University.

Unsurprisingly, the slow recovery has been particularly hard on families. New data released last month by the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that 8.4 million families had at least one unemployed member. That makes the family unemployment rate 10.5 percent, well above the average national unemployment rate of 8.1 percent in 2012. Some 20 percent of families had no one working in 2012, a number that includes both the unemployed and looking for work and the jobless and not looking for work. The statistics are grim when we look at families with children under 18 years old, where 12.2 percent have no one working.

Keith Hall [discusses](#) the historically slow economic recovery and long-term unemployment at U.S. News.

***To contact Dr. de Rugy or Dr. Hall, call 202.550.9246 or email [rlandaue@gmu.edu](mailto:rlandaue@gmu.edu)***