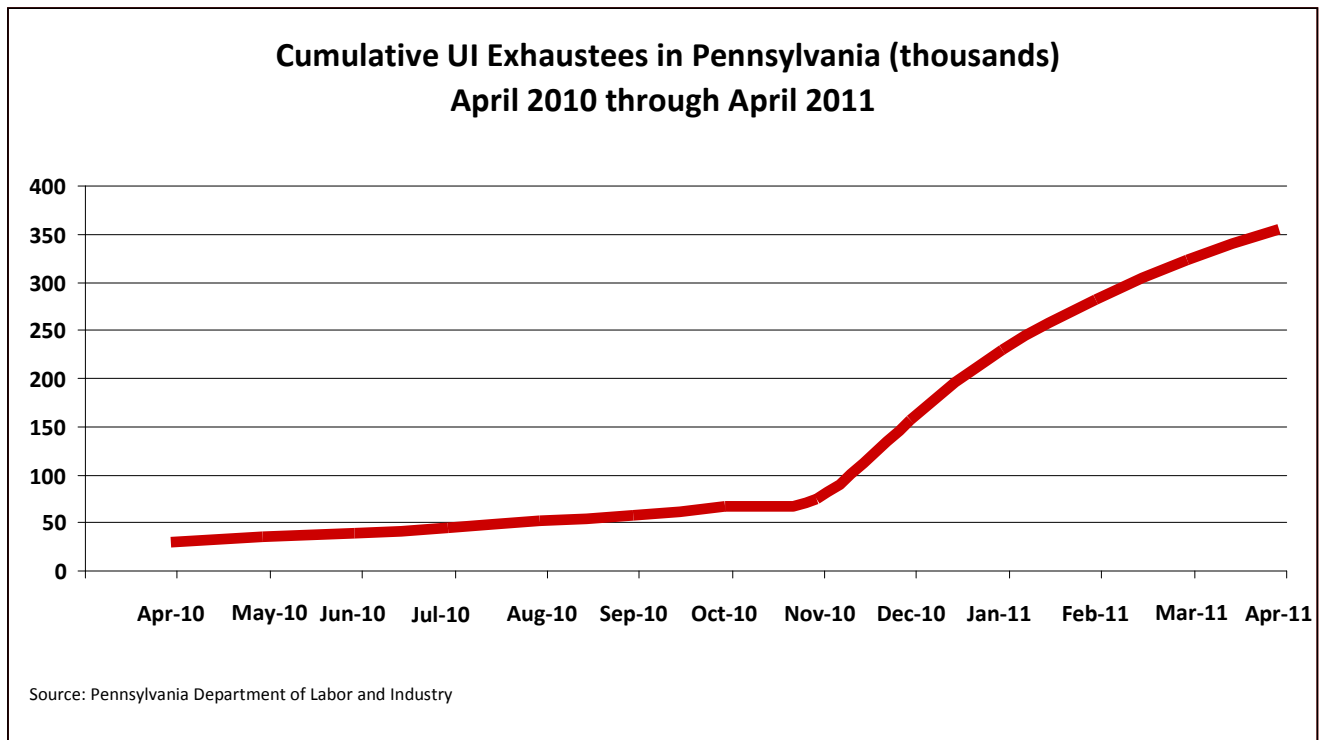


## CONGRESS MUST PASS UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE EXTENSIONS IN NOVEMBER 2010

Unemployment in Pennsylvania stands at 9.2%, just below the national average. Currently, those unemployed are able to receive up to 99 weeks of unemployment insurance (UI) under a series of emergency measures put in place by the federal government to provide a safety net during this period of extraordinarily high unemployment. These emergency additions to the normal unemployment system are critical to the health of Pennsylvanians and the Pennsylvania economy: they increase the normal amount of UI that an individual can receive from 26 weeks of benefits to up to 99 weeks. **If Congress does not act, the emergency measures, Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) and High Unemployment Period Extended Benefits (HUP EB), are slated to phase out beginning on November 27, 2010.**

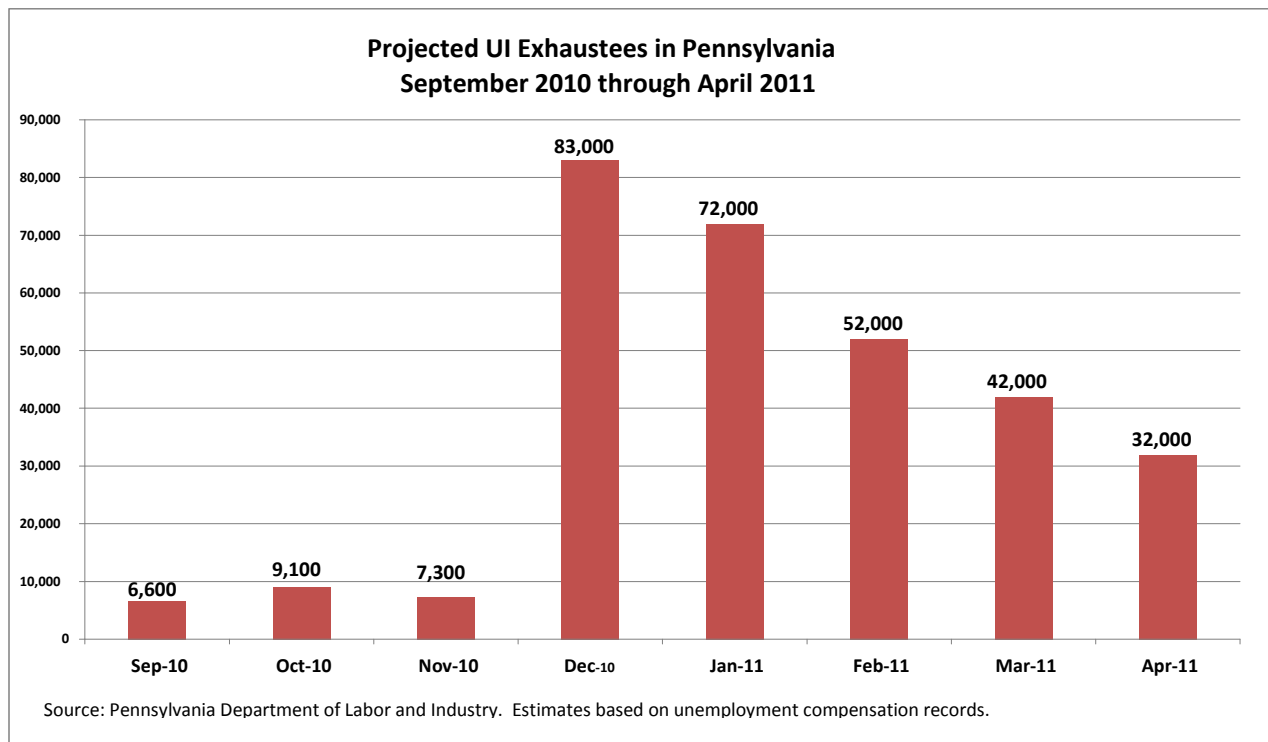
The most recent bill extending these critical UI programs, passed on July 22, 2010, extends EUC through November 27, 2010 and extends 100% federal funding of HUP EB through December 4, 2010. For each program this means something different. EUC provides up to 53 additional weeks of UI on top of the standard 26 weeks that Pennsylvania provides to its citizens. These 53 weeks are split among four tiers of varying lengths. As EUC phases out after November 27, 2010, no one will be able to start newly collecting EUC; those already on EUC will only be able to finish their current tier. **The last payable week for EUC will be April 30, 2011.** In practical terms, this means that people will start to exhaust their EUC benefits in the first week in December. Although some people will be able to collect benefits until April 2011, this is only a subset of current UI recipients.



100% federal funding of HUP EB ends on December 4, 2010. After this date, Pennsylvanians will not be able to take advantage of the additional 20 weeks of benefits that EB provides.

**Without extensions of EUC and HUP EB, an individual that loses his job in Pennsylvania on December 5, 2010 will only be able to get 26 weeks of UI benefits.** With more than 38% of the unemployed out of work for more than 26 weeks, losing EUC and HUP EB and reverting back to only 26 weeks of benefits would be devastating to Pennsylvania.

From January 1, 2010 through August 2010, 51,500 individuals exhausted their UI benefits in Pennsylvania. An additional 23,000 are projected to exhaust their benefits in the period from September through November 2010. As distressing as these numbers are, they pale in comparison to the 83,000 people who will exhaust their benefits in December alone if EUC and HUP EB are not extended. **In total, 281,000 Pennsylvanians will exhaust their UI benefits between December and April 2011 without an extension of EUC and HUP EB.** The drastic increase in exhaustees is almost entirely attributable to the phasing out of EUC and HUP EB.



*Updated October 18, 2010, by Community Legal Services, Inc. (CLS), 1424 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. For questions, please contact Michael Hollander at 215-981-3794.*