

# Comparison of Labor Market Data in 1996 and 2008

## Democrats on the Economy in 1996:

*“Our economy is the healthiest it has been in three decades.”* (President Bill Clinton, State of the Union Address, January 23, 1996)

## Democrats on the Economy in 2008:

*“The bottom line is that this administration is the owner of the worst jobs record since Herbert Hoover.”* (Senator Charles Schumer, Press Release, March 7, 2008)

<b>Key Labor Market Data in 1996 and 2008</b>		
	<b>March 1996</b>	<b>March 2008</b>
1. U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.5%	5.1%
2. Number of Long-Term Unemployed	1.33 million	1.28 million
3. Average Weeks Unemployed	17.3 weeks	16.2 weeks
4. Median Weeks Unemployed	8.3 weeks	8.1 weeks
5. Not in Labor Force because discouraged over job prospects	451,000	401,000