

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**DISLOCATED WORKER BENEFITS PROGRAM  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009 TO THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR OF THE  
124TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

In accordance with 26 MRSA §1196, sub-§2, there is respectfully submitted herewith an annual report of activities under the dislocated worker benefits (DWB) program for 2009.

- A. The number of persons who receive benefits under those provisions: 154
- B. The average length of time in training for persons who receive benefits under those provisions: 4.8 wks
- C. The average weekly benefit and average total amount of benefits paid to persons under those provisions:

Average Weekly Benefit.....	<u>\$256.55</u>
Total Benefits Paid to Each Person.....	<u>\$1,239.49</u>

- D. The success rate in placing trainees who receive benefits under those provisions for 1988-2009:  
[Data available only for trainees enrolled in Job Training System (JTS) programs.]

	1988-1994	1995-2009	Total
Total Eligible for DWB Program .....	5,748	8,550	14,298
Referred to Other Programs .....	1,487*	2,976	4,463
Total Referred to Jobs Training System (JTS) Programs. ....	4,261	5,574	9,835
Unenrolled Applicants .....	261	517	778
Total Enrolled Applicants .....	4,000	5,057	9,057
Active Enrollees .....	721	287	1,008
Total Inactive Entrants to JTS. ....	3,279	4,770	8,049
Project or Program Exiters. ....	171	218	389
Exited due to Global Exclusions** .....	0	216	216
Total Completions or Self-Exiters .....	3,108	4,336	7,444
Positive Completions:			
Full/Part-Time Unsubsidized Employment .....	2,263	3,571	5,834
Self-Employment .....	58	21	79
Called Back/Remained with Layoff Employer .....	0	36	36
Entered Other Training .....	0	8	8
Completed Major Level Training .....	0	8	8
Competency Certificate .....	4	8	12
Completed Individual Service Strategy .....	27	8	35
Retirement .....	0	3	3
Total Positive Completions .....	2,352	3,663	6,015
Total Positive Completions as a Percent of Total Completions or Self-Exiters .....	<u>76%</u>	<u>84%</u>	<u>81%</u>

\*Includes Mountain Valley Training Dislocated Worker Program funded through General Revenue funds in 1988.

\*\*Global exclusions include issues, which are expected to last more than 90 days of institutionalization, health/medical, family care, deceased, reservists called to active duty, and youth relocated to mandated residential programs.

- E. The total cost of benefits paid under those provisions and the effect on the Unemployment Trust Fund:

Total Cost of DWB .....	<u>\$399,116</u>
As a Percent of Total Benefits Paid .....	0.2%
As a Percent of Dec. 31, 2009 Trust Fund Balance .....	0.1%
Total Benefit Costs .....	\$248,172,551
Unemployment Trust Fund Balance as of Dec. 31, 2009 .....	334,225,006
Estimated 2009 Reserve Multiple:	
With DWB Program .....	0.788
Without DWB Program .....	0.789

- F. The number of persons participating in training while receiving extended unemployment benefits under those provisions during the report year who have previously completed a training program while receiving extended under those provisions, including the length of time between those enrollments:  
(Data since 1995)

Total Number of Previously Completed Training ..... 0                      Average Length of Time Between Enrollment ..... 0 yrs

## DISLOCATED WORKER BENEFITS (DWB) PROGRAM

### DEFINITIONS OF SELECTED TERMS

Unenrolled Applicants - Individuals who applied for JTS services but were not enrolled.

Total Inactive Entrants to JTS - Individuals who were enrolled in a JTS program and subsequently terminated.

Project or Program Exiters - Participants who were terminated due to the ending of the JTS project or program.

Total Completions or Self-Terminations - Individuals who were served by and terminated from JTS programs.

Full/Part-Time Unsubsidized Employment - Participants who entered full/part-time employment not subsidized by federal or state funds.

Self-Employment - A gainfully occupied participant who works for himself/herself as opposed to salaried or commissioned workers who are the employees of others.

Competency Certificate - Participants who have completed a Private Industry Council (PIC) approved competency area.

Completed Employment Development Plan (EDP) - Individuals who have completed the goals listed on their EDPs but who did not have a job at termination.

Reserve Multiple - Trust Funds are usually analyzed in terms of their ability to meet future benefit costs.

The reserve multiple provides a means of statistically gauging this ability by comparing a Trust Fund's capacity to meet its future benefit costs against some measure of past liabilities.

In making this comparison, the reserve multiple utilizes two measures: (1) the reserve ratio and (2) the highest benefit cost rate for a prior period.

The reserve ratio is determined by dividing the year-end Trust Fund reserves by total wages of contributing employers for that year.

The highest benefit cost rate for a prior period is usually defined as benefit costs (regular and state share of extended benefits, excluding direct reimbursable) for a 12-month period divided by total wages of contributing employers for the same period.

Expressed mathematically, the reserve multiple takes the following form:

$$\text{Reserve Multiple} = \frac{\text{Reserve Ratio}}{\text{Highest Benefit Cost Rate}}$$

A severe spell of unemployment usually is not confined to a single 12-month period but typically extends 18 months (1.5 x 12 months) or more. Therefore, Trust Fund reserves, expressed as a percentage of total wages, are considered inadequate if they are less than 1.5 times the highest benefit cost rate experienced during a 12-month period.

$$2009 \text{ Reserve Multiple} = \frac{(\text{December 31, 2009 Trust Fund}) / (\text{Total Wages for 2009})}{(\text{Highest Benefit Costs for 12-month period}) / (\text{Total Wages for Same Period})} =$$

$$\text{With DWB } \frac{(\$334,225,006) / (\$14,950,790,000)**}{(\$58,330,903) / (\$2,055,161,391)} = 0.788$$

$$\text{Without DWB } \frac{(\$334,624,122) / (\$14,950,790,000)**}{(\$58,330,903) / (\$2,055,161,391)} = 0.789$$

\*Calendar year 1975 is the highest benefit cost rate for a 12-month period.

\*\*Total Wages for 2009 are estimated.

February 25, 2010