

Incumbents, Unemployment Rate and Presidential Elections

Year	Unemployment Rate (%)	Difference From Previous Year	Presidential Elections
1935	20.1	-3.2%	1936: Incumbent FDR defeats challenger Landon
1936*	16.9		
1939	17.2	-2.6%	1940: Incumbent FDR defeats challenger Willkie
1940*	14.6		
1943	1.9	-0.7%	1944: Incumbent FDR defeats challenger Dewey
1944*	1.2		
1947	3.9	-0.2%	1948: Incumbent Truman defeats challenger Dewey
1948*	3.7		
1955	4.3	-0.4%	1956: Incumbent Eisenhower defeats challenger Stevenson
1956*	3.9		
1963	5.5	-0.4%	1963: Incumbent LBJ defeats challenger Goldwater
1964*	5.1		
1971	5.8	-0.2%	1972: Incumbent Nixon defeats challenger McGovern
1972*	5.6		
1975	8.5	-0.7%	** 1976: Challenger Carter defeats incumbent Ford
1976*	7.7		
1979	6.0	+1.5%	1980: Challenger Reagan defeats incumbent Carter
1980*	7.5		

1983	8.8	-1.4%	1984: Incumbent Reagan defeats challenger Mondale
1984*	7.4		
1991	7.0	+0.3%	1992: Challenger Clinton defeats incumbent Bush
1992*	7.3		
1995	5.5	-0.3%	1996: Incumbent Clinton defeats challenger Dole
1996*	5.2		
2003	6.0	-0.5%	2004: Incumbent Bush defeats challenger Kerry
2004*	5.5		
2011	8.8	-1.0%	2012: Incumbent Obama defeats challenger Romney
2012*	7.8		
2019	3.5	3.4%	2020: Challenger Biden defeats incumbent Trump
2020*	6.9		

***Election Years**

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