



From the Desk of  
**Michael Blichasz, Host**

Saturday Variety Program at 11 A.M.  
860 AM Radio • Philadelphia, PA

**I welcome you to review the information from my most recent weekly commentaries and ask that you share this information with your family members and friends.**

**AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com**

### Real Unemployment Rate in America

When you hear that the unemployment rate in America has gone down, consider what that really means. Does it mean that more people found jobs? Not always! In some cases, it means that people found jobs, but in other cases it means that a growing number of people have used up all of their unemployment benefits and are no longer being counted in U.S. unemployment statistics.

The real unemployment rate in America is 15.7% or 24 million people as calculated below:

- 1. The current unemployment rate is listed at 8.8% or 13.5 million people receiving benefits.**
- 2. Not included are the people recently dropped from unemployment compensation statistics.**
- 3. Individuals seeking part-time jobs, but unable to find a job.**
- 4. Individuals who are seeking to re-enter the workforce with no jobs available for them to fill.**
- 5. New graduates seeking jobs who are not counted in U.S. government statistics.**
- 6. Underemployed people who have a part-time job and are seeking additional employment.**

Based on this calculation, all those seeking employment total 24 million people.

The Buy American Made Campaign is trying to address the unemployment issue and with your help restore every level of employment for America's workforce. Ideally, full employment in the U.S.A. would mean 165 million jobs. We are 24 million short of that goal.

As we continue our campaign, I urge you to use your purchasing power to buy products fully or partially made in the U.S.A. Yes we live in a global economy, but that does not mean Americans should lose job skills and watch industries move abroad. Globalization should mean America is in competition with the world and a balance of American and foreign made items are in our stores.

It's time to put the real facts and figures on the table and consider what must be done to make our workforce more job ready, get businesses to reinvest in America and get America's economy on the road to recovery. Look at every label and consider the importance of the Buy American Made Campaign and the future of American workers, many of whom are your family members and friends.

### Manufacturing, Distribution & Sales!

The more I hear from people, the better I understand just how much people want to see America's economy turned around. People want us to return to a time of prosperity and address the issue of lasting employment opportunities through increased manufacturing, distribution, and sales of American made products.



It is well noted in the news media that of every dollar spent on U.S. government services and programs, 41 cents of every dollar is now borrowed from foreign countries. I do not understand why it has reached this point and I do not remember voting for a national referendum requesting America's leaders to borrow money from other countries so we can pay our bills. In order for us to take charge of America's economy, the American people must be the leading force through what we decide to purchase or consciously decide not to purchase. Our message to businesses must be that the American people want a larger portion of what's available in stores to have a MADE IN THE U.S.A. label or we shop where those selections are or will become available to us. The days of being customers of products made overseas while America's industries suffer must end.

The long-term goal of the American people must be to produce quality and competitive products that can be sold side-by-side on store shelves with imported products from around the world. Our most important goal is to expand every level of employment, prepare workers with job skills using the latest technology, and expand industrial arts programs in schools across the U.S.A. so American jobs and talents will always flourish.

It is good to hear about more radio, newspaper, and television reports promoting the Buy American Made Campaign. They have added to the momentum and desire for change. I urge you to help keep that momentum going so we can enter a new industrial revolution in the U.S.A.

We have a lot of work to do, so let's get on the road to recovery. Sometimes change is difficult and it takes time and sacrifice, but it must happen for the well-being of Americans now and for future generations.



### American Workers Need You!

**You are urged to purchase products made in America, so we can bring back a more reasonable balance between imported and American made products in our stores, support businesses of all sizes, expand employment opportunities and revitalize America's economy!**

**Support American Workers! Buy American Made Products!**

AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com



### Prolonged Recession Has Hurt America!

The prolonged recession and job outsourcing by U.S. businesses and the lack of new jobs created by America's industries has caused many Americans to live on unemployment compensation, their savings or depend on family for financial support. Unfortunately, this is a far cry from the American dream and clear evidence that our national leaders were not looking out for the well-being of Americans FIRST.



At this point in our history there is no doubt that without the creation of new jobs, especially in manufacturing, job opportunities for Americans will remain flat. National political leaders are now talking about the urgency of new jobs, but fail to provide a clear and concrete plan to create jobs that will best improve America's overall economy. Their focus must be on creating a new business environment including a major expansion in manufacturing as well as green technology and service oriented jobs.

Because America can no longer be a sales point for foreign made goods while American jobs and skills continue to be lost, I suggest our national leaders, both elected and business, work toward restoring a business climate in the U.S.A. and make these suggestions a reality:

- 1. Reduce high U.S. corporate taxes that encourage companies to move abroad.**
- 2. Close tax loopholes for American companies manufacturing outside the U.S.A.**
- 3. Conduct a total review of tariffs on all imported products.**

Just these few changes would help level the playing field for American businesses truly operating in the U.S.A. and adding to the well-being of America's workers and economy.

As you go shopping, remember, in order to keep Americans employed, we need to support products made in the U.S.A. FIRST. Change is happening, so speak up and use your purchasing power in support of American made.

### High Gas Prices Hurt America's Economy!

I don't know how many miles per gallon your car gets, but I know that HIGH GAS PRICES are hurting America's economy.



At this time of year, people travel more and make plans for the vacation season. However, this year high gas prices are affecting everything around us. High gas prices impact the cost of shipping food to stores, going shopping, going out to dinner and traveling to visit family and friends. Because gas prices rose so much many people are cutting back on driving. When gas costs around \$4.00 per gallon and you're getting 15 to 22 miles per gallon, people tend to cut back on driving because a fill up now cuts into other spending. Cutting back on basic spending to afford GAS has a very negative effect on tourism, shopping and the entertainment industries. Besides the actual cost of engaging in these activities, increased transportation costs are causing a financial squeeze that further weakens America's overall economy.

The last time I discussed rising gas prices in my commentary, I noted that I saw prices on everything rise as gas prices rose, but when the gas prices went down, the prices of products remained the same. High gas prices benefit corporate profits and investors and even government because as prices go up, sales and other taxes are considered in the increased prices.

The question most often asked is, "How can we change this situation"? First: contact all of your elected officials to go on record that you are disturbed that international events are having such an impact on gas prices in the U.S.A. Second: let them know that America must be energy independent and ask them to support all legislation that supports energy independence so we are governed by conditions in the U.S.A. and not by what is happening in other parts of the world. Third: let elected officials know your concern about the excessive profits gas companies are earning while Americans are finding it hard to make ends meet. I know that we live in a FREE economy, but if something is hurting the American people, it is our duty to speak up for change. Remember, everytime you contact your elected officials and speak up where you shop, you are making a more positive statement than you realize. You saw what saying nothing for 30 years did, now let's see what speaking up for positive change will do?

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