New unemployment claims and dismal recession reports contradict that economy is improving

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Despite claims by the government that the economy is back on the rise and the recession is ending, the unemployment data is proving anything but. For example, first time unemployment claims have risen for the second week in a row according to the Department of Labor. Claims from the newly jobless rose 576K, even though Wall Street experts expected the numbers to fall to 550K.

The economy still continues to impact every possible area. Companies continue to lay off workers. Lockheed Martin, based in Maryland, announced that it would cut 800 jobs. In the longest recession since 2007, an estimated 6.7 million jobs have been lost. Retail sales are just one casualty of the continued economic climate. Economists expected sales to rise by .7, instead sales fell .1 percent. Even gasoline sales fell 2.1 percent in July. Real estate is not doing any better. One in every 355 homes is now facing foreclosure.

With lower unemployment levels during the month of July in 17 states, including Virginia and the District of Columbia, that still means that 26 states reported increased unemployment figures. The District of Columbia is included with 15 other states that have unemployment figures over 10 percent.

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