

# NEWS RELEASE



STATE OF ALABAMA  
Department of  
Industrial Relations  
News For Immediate Release  
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## ALABAMA LEADS NATION IN REEMPLOYMENT

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, September 18, 2006 . . . . . Alabama is tops when it comes to putting its unemployed citizens back to work quickly.

According to a one-year United States Department of Labor study, the state's unemployment compensation program is first in the nation in the number of unemployment claimants who were reemployed in the first quarter following the quarter in which an initial unemployment payment was made.

"This is indicative of a strong Alabama economy with a significant number of jobs available for Alabamians who are willing and able to work," says Phyllis Kennedy, director, Alabama Department of Industrial Relations.

According to the Labor Department study that concluded on March 31, 2006, Alabama recorded a "facilitation of reemployment" figure of 69.5 percent, well above the national average of 55 percent. Indiana was a close second behind Alabama at 69 percent, followed by Ohio at 62.6 percent. Among southern states, Georgia trailed Alabama with 60 percent, followed by Tennessee at 58.8 percent.

The facilitation of reemployment statistics were generated by the Benefit Accuracy Measurement (BAM) Program. The Labor Department is using BAM in developing two new core measures, including facilitation of reemployment, to evaluate the overall performance of the nation's unemployment insurance programs.

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: the State Employment Service, Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on Industrial Relations, visit the Web site: <http://dir.alabama.gov/>.