

## A59004718

This graph shows how the number of applicants for unemployment insurance changes in two periods of time and a third period forecasting the number of beneficiaries and excluded applicants from receiving UI. Initially on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 14.8 million people filled continued unemployment claims. This is people who “have already filed an initial claim and who have experienced a week of unemployment and then filed a continued claim to claim benefits for that week of unemployment” [1]. A second relevant date is August 7<sup>th</sup> considering that 22 states withdraw from federal benefits. As a result, from the initial 14.8 million applicants of continued claims, 1.1 million people got reduced unemployment insurance benefits, and 1.6 million lost completely their benefits. Finally, a third pivotal point in time for unemployment insurance is September 6<sup>th</sup> given that federal benefits ended in all states. In this point of time, it was forecasted that from the initial 14.8 million people who applied to unemployment insurance, only 2,7 million will obtain partial benefits, and 7.5 million will lose benefits. Based on this numbers and subtracting the initial 1.6 who lost benefits earlier in time, this implies that 3 million applications were discarded for unknown reasons to what is explained to the graph.

In synthesis, the graph in question describes an UI system where only 18.2% of the applicants receive benefits. This proportion is close to what Gruber describes regarding the US UI system: “Between eligibility requirements and the effort required to claim UI, only 20% of unemployed workers actually receive UI benefits”. In other words, the graph shows a highly excluding UI system, where only 18.2 obtain benefits, and 20% of the applicants even applying to UI are discarded from receiving benefits.

[1] <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/CCSA>

[2] Gruber, Jonathan. Public Finance and Public Policy. 3rd ed, Worth Publishers, 2011.