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## **Seasonal Unemployment**

The problem of seasonal unemployment is very sensitive because certain industries only produce or distribute their products at certain times of the year. The industries where seasonal unemployment is common practice are farming, tourism, and construction. As these sorts of jobs usually revolve around fixed calendars the employees both know and understand exactly when they will be out of work. In many cases, seasonal employees can collect government-sponsored unemployment benefits in their off-seasons. The defining characteristic of seasonal unemployment is its predictability. In nearly all cases, workers accept these sorts of jobs with full knowledge that they are only temporary.

Jobs that are dependant upon certain weather conditions are some of the most common candidates for temporary unemployment. Snow plow operators, ski slope staff, lifeguards and beach managers are but a few examples. Some types of construction work and exterior painting jobs also fit into this category.

Tourism jobs related to specific seasons. A number of tourism-related jobs are limited to a certain location of a “busy” season, which can be referred to seasonal unemployment, as well. Many of the world’s most sought-after travel destinations have certain times of year that are much busier than others. Some of this has to do with summer being the most popular season of the year and is almost always a busy time but much is also related to weather patterns. Regions subject to rainy seasons or stifling heat are often less popular during these periods. Most hotels and resorts will keep some staff employed during these “low” times, but they rarely operate at full capacity.

Actors, performers, and professional athletes often experience seasonal unemployment for certain portions of the year. Some theaters launch shows on a continuous basis, but most have certain scheduled “dark” periods. The same is true with ballet companies and other performing arts groups.

Those who play professional sports also typically have an off-season, which can lead to temporary joblessness. For amateurs or those who have yet to break into national leagues, however, necessary periods of rest during the off-season can be financially challenging. Whether due to deadlines, weather, and climate there are some fields where there is a lack of work at certain times of the year. Those who work in those fields face seasonal unemployment and must either charge high prices during the peak season, or find alternative working arrangements in the off season. To find the solution to such an urgent problem as seasonal unemployment is very difficult. But increasing the number of working places during the "unemployed" seasons could help solve this sophisticated problem.