Reforming Unemployment Insurance Is an Economic and Racial Justice Imperative

As a result of structural racism, workers of color are more likely than white workers to be unemployed.



In worse times (April 2020)



NEW REPORT points to the racist history of U.S. social programs and a key decision that impacts inequities in today's unemployment system.

FIGHT

DON"

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When unemployment insurance was enacted in 1935, it excluded the 65 percent of Black workers who worked in agriculture or domestic jobs that were carved out of the program. Unemployed Black workers were 24% less likely to receive unemployment benefits than their white counterparts over the last 30 years.



Black workers experienced an average of 31 weeks of unemployment compared to 26 weeks for white workers

in the last quarter of 2021.

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