

## Older Unemployment Wildly Mixed

### 50-54 Age Group Jobless Jumps 20 Percent

(CLEVELAND) — The Bureau of Labor Statistics ([BLS](#)) March unemployment report showed a mixed bag of news. While the overall national unemployment rate slipped from 3.9 to 3.8 percent, the number of unemployed age 50 and older rose two percent.

The 50-54 age group saw their numbers skyrocket by 20 percent to 567,000 from February's 472,000. Likewise, their unemployment rate increased from 2.9 percent in February to 3.4 percent in March. These are the largest increases since February, 2023.

Meanwhile, workers 55 and older showed a slight improvement with their overall numbers falling six percent to just over one million. The unemployment rate for this age group also fell from 2.8 percent in February to 2.6 percent in March – the lowest point since last July.

Combined, March's unemployment for the 50+ population slipped by two percent in March to 1.55 million.

Also, the nation's Labor Participation Rate inched up two-tenths of a point to 62.7 percent.

Three times each week at [www.nifty50s.com](http://www.nifty50s.com), the Nifty50s publishes advice, news, information and resources all focused on helping the age 50+ job seeker. From self-help and how-to articles, to videos and trends as well as tips & tricks and a new resource of listings of free job search tools, the Nifty50s compiles together in one convenient location items carefully selected to assist the roughly 1.55 million\* unemployed over the age of 50. The Nifty50s is owned and operated by 158 LLC, a private, limited liability company based in Cleveland, Ohio.

\* All figures according to the March, 2024 Bureau of Labor Statistics' most recent data.