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ODJFS Releases Unemployment Overpayments Update

COLUMBUS, OHIO – Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) Director Matt Damschroder today provided a quarterly update on unemployment overpayments. The overpayments are attributable to both fraudulent and non-fraudulent activity in both the traditional unemployment and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) programs. They include any weekly monetary add-ons claimants received, called Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation.

As of June 30, 2023, ODJFS had identified approximately \$6.9 billion in fraud and non-fraud overpayments. This includes:

- \$185 million in fraudulent overpayments in the traditional unemployment system.
- \$1 billion in fraudulent PUA overpayments.
- \$891 million in non-fraud overpayments in the traditional unemployment system.
- \$4.8 billion in non-fraud PUA overpayments.

ODJFS has instituted a series of anti-fraud measures and is collaborating with financial institutions and law enforcement to recover overpaid amounts. To date, the following recoveries have been reported to the U.S. Department of Labor:

- \$27.1 million in fraudulent overpayments in the traditional unemployment system.
- \$21.5 million in fraudulent PUA overpayments.
- \$95.8 million in non-fraud overpayments in the traditional unemployment system.
- \$159.7 million in non-fraud PUA overpayments.

Fraud and non-fraud overpayments are reported to the U.S. Department of Labor on a regular basis for cases in which the agency issues an appealable determination. Therefore, the numbers are fluid. They change as pending claims are processed, as appeals are evaluated, and/or if the agency receives evidence that a previously identified non-fraud overpayment was actually the result of identity theft or other types of fraud.

Charts detailing the overpayments reported and amounts recovered to date can be found [here](#).

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The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services manages vital programs that strengthen Ohio families. These include job training and employment services, unemployment insurance, cash and food assistance, child care, child and adult protective services, adoption, and child support services.

