



N E W S R E L E A S E

Contact: Loree Levy
Kevin Callori
(916) 654-9029

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California's unemployment rate unchanged at 10.9 percent ***Nonfarm payroll jobs increase by 4,000***

SACRAMENTO – California's unemployment rate was unchanged at 10.9 percent in February, and nonfarm payroll jobs increased by 4,000 during the month for a total gain of 333,100 jobs since the recovery began in September 2009, according to data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) from two separate surveys.

The U.S. unemployment rate was unchanged in February at 8.3 percent.

In February 2011, the state's unemployment rate was 12.0 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 14,184,500 in February, an increase of 4,000 jobs over the month, according to a survey of businesses that is larger and less variable statistically. The survey of 42,000 California businesses measures jobs in the economy. The year-over-year change (February 2011 to February 2012) shows an increase of 127,300 jobs (up 0.9 percent).

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA

The federal survey of households, done with a smaller sample than the survey of employers, shows an increase in the number of employed people. It estimates the number of Californians holding jobs in February was 16,455,000, an increase of 12,000 from January, and up 293,000 from the employment total in February of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 2,013,000 – down by 6,000 over the month, and down by 185,000 compared with February of last year.

(more)

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

EDD's report on payroll employment (wage and salary jobs) in the nonfarm industries of California totaled 14,184,500 in February, a net gain of 4,000 jobs since the January survey. This followed a gain of 1,500 jobs (as revised) in January.

Four categories (manufacturing; information; professional and business services; and educational and health services) added jobs over the month, gaining 24,400 jobs. Information posted the largest increase over the month, adding 9,300 jobs.

Six categories (mining and logging; construction; trade, transportation and utilities; financial activities; other services; and government) reported job declines over the month, down 20,400 jobs. Government posted the largest decrease over the month, down 10,300 jobs. One category, leisure and hospitality, was unchanged over the month.

In a year-over-year comparison (February 2011 to February 2012), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 127,300 jobs (up 0.9 percent).

Eight categories (construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; and leisure and hospitality) posted job gains over the year, adding 184,200 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest gain on both a numerical and percentage basis, adding 67,700 jobs (up 3.2 percent).

Two categories (other services and government) posted job declines over the year, down 56,900 jobs. Government posted the largest decline on both a numerical and percentage basis, down by 49,800 jobs (a decrease of 2.1 percent). One category, mining and logging, was unchanged over the year.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 565,418 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the February survey week. This compares with 575,895 last month and 666,260 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 55,287 in February 2012, compared with 59,344 in January and 68,203 in February of last year.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	February 2012 (prelim.)	January 2012 (revised)	February 2011	Change Over 12 Months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	14,184.5	14,180.5	14,057.2	0.9
Mining and logging	28.4	28.9	28.4	0.0
Construction	566.5	567.4	564.2	0.4
Manufacturing	1,250.0	1,243.8	1,245.7	0.3
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,695.6	2,701.4	2,648.8	1.8
Information	433.2	423.9	429.7	0.8
Financial activities	762.8	763.4	762.3	0.1
Professional and business services	2,183.3	2,180.5	2,115.6	3.2
Educational and health services	1,859.7	1,853.6	1,819.9	2.2
Leisure and hospitality	1,543.2	1,543.2	1,523.9	1.3
Other services	482.6	484.9	489.7	-1.4
Government*	2,379.2	2,389.5	2,429.0	-2.1
Agriculture	397.3	399.3	397.2	0.0

*Includes all civilian employees of federal, state, and local governments.

TABLE A
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

	February 2012 (prelim.)	January 2012 (revised)	December 2011	February 2011
Civilian labor force ^a	18,468,000	18,462,000	18,475,000	18,361,000
Total civilian employment	16,455,000	16,443,000	16,415,000	16,162,000
Unemployment	2,013,000	2,019,000	2,060,000	2,198,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	10.9	10.9	11.2	12.0
US seasonally adjusted rate %	8.3	8.3	8.5	9.0

TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA

	February 2012 (prelim.)	January 2012 (revised)	December 2011	February 2011
Civilian labor force ^a	18,451,000	18,365,000	18,432,000	18,316,000
Total civilian employment	16,349,000	16,284,000	16,414,000	16,067,000
Unemployment	2,102,000	2,081,000	2,018,000	2,250,000
Unadjusted rate %	11.4	11.3	10.9	12.3

^a Labor force by place of residence including workers involved in trade disputes.

² Seasonal adjustment is a statistical method that removes typical employment patterns that occur at various times throughout the year (e.g., additional retail hiring during the holiday season).

MONTHLY LABOR FORCE DATA FOR COUNTIES
February 2012 (Preliminary); 2011 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
STATE TOTAL	18,451,300	16,349,100	2,102,200	11.4%
ALAMEDA	767,300	694,100	73,200	9.5%
ALPINE	550	480	70	12.5%
AMADOR	16,530	14,360	2,170	13.1%
BUTTE	101,500	87,800	13,800	13.6%
CALAVERAS	19,500	16,660	2,830	14.5%
COLUSA	11,600	8,460	3,140	27.1%
CONTRA COSTA	528,900	477,900	51,000	9.6%
DEL NORTE	11,380	9,800	1,580	13.9%
EL DORADO	91,000	80,400	10,600	11.6%
FRESNO	441,600	365,300	76,300	17.3%
GLENN	12,860	10,660	2,200	17.1%
HUMBOLDT	60,800	54,000	6,900	11.3%
IMPERIAL	77,800	57,100	20,700	26.7%
INYO	9,540	8,590	960	10.0%
KERN	380,200	321,400	58,800	15.5%
KINGS	62,600	51,900	10,600	17.0%
LAKE	25,740	21,500	4,240	16.5%
LASSEN	13,110	11,140	1,970	15.0%
LOS ANGELES	4,925,100	4,331,300	593,800	12.1%
MADERA	67,300	56,900	10,400	15.5%
MARIN	136,800	127,700	9,100	6.6%
MARIPOSA	9,140	7,880	1,260	13.8%
MENDOCINO	42,230	37,530	4,700	11.1%
MERCED	110,600	88,500	22,200	20.0%
MODOC	3,720	3,100	620	16.7%
MONO	9,140	8,320	810	8.9%
MONTEREY	220,400	186,600	33,800	15.3%
NAPA	75,800	69,100	6,700	8.9%
NEVADA	51,290	46,110	5,170	10.1%
ORANGE	1,612,100	1,483,200	129,000	8.0%
PLACER	174,400	156,500	17,800	10.2%
PLUMAS	9,510	7,720	1,790	18.8%
RIVERSIDE	943,800	824,400	119,400	12.6%
SACRAMENTO	670,700	595,400	75,300	11.2%
SAN BENITO	27,900	22,800	5,100	18.3%
SAN BERNARDINO	866,700	759,900	106,800	12.3%
SAN DIEGO	1,589,500	1,441,000	148,500	9.3%
SAN FRANCISCO	468,300	430,600	37,700	8.0%
SAN JOAQUIN	302,800	252,600	50,300	16.6%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	139,300	127,200	12,100	8.7%
SAN MATEO	385,000	356,700	28,200	7.3%
SANTA BARBARA	226,200	206,100	20,100	8.9%
SANTA CLARA	908,700	828,600	80,100	8.8%
SANTA CRUZ	151,200	130,600	20,600	13.6%
SHASTA	84,700	72,300	12,300	14.6%
SIERRA	1,690	1,430	260	15.4%
SISKIYOU	19,680	15,990	3,690	18.8%
SOLANO	218,900	195,100	23,800	10.9%
SONOMA	256,200	232,300	23,800	9.3%
STANISLAUS	236,200	195,800	40,400	17.1%
SUTTER	43,900	34,700	9,200	20.9%
TEHAMA	25,190	21,260	3,930	15.6%
TRINITY	4,970	3,990	990	19.9%
TULARE	208,800	172,000	36,800	17.6%
TUOLUMNE	26,040	22,580	3,460	13.3%
VENTURA	437,000	395,100	41,900	9.6%
YOLO	100,300	85,900	14,500	14.4%
YUBA	27,700	22,600	5,000	18.1%

*Not seasonally adjusted.

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