



N E W S R E L E A S E

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Date: May 18, 2012

News Release No.: 12-17

California's unemployment rate decreases to 10.9 percent

SACRAMENTO – California's unemployment rate decreased to 10.9 percent in April, and nonfarm payroll jobs decreased by 4,200 during the month for a total gain of 385,600 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 decreased in April to 8.1 percent.

In March, the state's unemployment rate was 11.0 percent, and in April 2011, the unemployment rate was 11.8 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 14,237,000 in April, a decrease of 4,200 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 (April 2011 to April 2012) shows an increase of 175,600 jobs (up 1.2 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 April was 16,476,000, an increase of 20,000 from March, and up 296,000 from the employment total in April of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 2,007,000 – down by 24,000 over the month, and down by 164,000 compared with April 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 14,237,000 in April, a net loss of 4,200 jobs since the March survey. This followed a gain of 22,100 jobs (as revised) in March.

Four categories (mining and logging; trade, transportation and utilities; professional and business services; and other services) added jobs over the month, gaining 19,100 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest increase over the month, adding 12,700 jobs.

Seven categories (construction; manufacturing; information; financial activities; educational and health services; leisure and hospitality; and government) reported job declines over the month, down 23,300 jobs. Construction posted the largest decrease over the month, down 6,700 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (April 2011 to April 2012), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 175,600 jobs (up 1.2 percent).

Eight categories (mining and logging; construction; 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 231,100 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest gain on both a numerical and percentage basis, adding 80,600 jobs (up 3.8 percent).

Three categories (manufacturing; other services; and government) posted job declines over the year, down 55,500 jobs. Government posted the largest decline on both a numerical and percentage basis, down by 43,200 jobs (a 1.8 percent decrease).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 552,163 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the April survey week. This compares with 570,089 last month and 584,141 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 63,212 in April 2012, compared with 55,393 in March and 63,739 in April of last year.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	April 2012 (prelim.)	March 2012 (revised)	April 2011	Change Over 12 Months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	14,237.0	14,241.2	14,061.4	1.2
Mining and logging	29.3	29.1	28.3	3.5
Construction	558.2	564.9	554.3	0.7
Manufacturing	1,242.5	1,246.6	1,249.7	-0.6
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,706.3	2,700.8	2,658.6	1.8
Information	442.5	447.2	428.2	3.3
Financial activities	769.0	769.2	759.8	1.2
Professional and business services	2,198.3	2,185.6	2,117.7	3.8
Educational and health services	1,869.8	1,873.3	1,823.3	2.6
Leisure and hospitality	1,554.7	1,558.2	1,526.8	1.8
Other services	484.0	483.3	489.1	-1.0
Government*	2,382.4	2,383.0	2,425.6	-1.8
Agriculture	382.9	390.4	378.7	1.1

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

**TABLE A
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²**

	April 2012 (prelim.)	March 2012 (revised)	February 2012	April 2011
Civilian labor force ^a	18,483,000	18,487,000	18,468,000	18,351,000
Total civilian employment	16,476,000	16,456,000	16,455,000	16,180,000
Unemployment	2,007,000	2,031,000	2,012,000	2,171,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	10.9	11.0	10.9	11.8
US seasonally adjusted rate %	8.1	8.2	8.3	9.0

**TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA**

	April 2012 (prelim.)	March 2012 (revised)	February 2012	April 2011
Civilian labor force ^a	18,369,000	18,499,000	18,450,000	18,293,000
Total civilian employment	16,437,000	16,379,000	16,350,000	16,185,000
Unemployment	1,932,000	2,120,000	2,101,000	2,108,000
Unadjusted rate %	10.5	11.5	11.4	11.5

^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
April 2012 (Preliminary); 2011 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
STATE TOTAL	18,368,900	16,436,700	1,932,200	10.5%
ALAMEDA	765,200	697,000	68,300	8.9%
ALPINE	490	440	60	11.2%
AMADOR	16,550	14,520	2,040	12.3%
BUTTE	101,100	88,400	12,700	12.6%
CALAVERAS	19,380	16,780	2,590	13.4%
COLUSA	11,830	9,160	2,670	22.6%
CONTRA COSTA	528,100	479,900	48,300	9.1%
DEL NORTE	11,450	9,910	1,540	13.5%
EL DORADO	90,800	81,100	9,600	10.6%
FRESNO	444,100	373,800	70,300	15.8%
GLENN	12,940	10,910	2,030	15.7%
HUMBOLDT	60,900	54,400	6,400	10.6%
IMPERIAL	76,900	56,300	20,600	26.8%
INYO	9,380	8,500	880	9.4%
KERN	379,400	324,300	55,100	14.5%
KINGS	61,800	52,100	9,700	15.6%
LAKE	25,590	21,610	3,980	15.6%
LASSEN	12,980	11,220	1,760	13.6%
LOS ANGELES	4,855,700	4,319,900	535,800	11.0%
MADERA	63,800	53,900	9,900	15.5%
MARIN	137,800	129,000	8,800	6.4%
MARIPOSA	9,240	8,160	1,080	11.7%
MENDOCINO	42,110	37,710	4,400	10.5%
MERCED	107,400	87,200	20,200	18.8%
MODOC	3,700	3,120	580	15.7%
MONO	8,780	7,980	790	9.0%
MONTEREY	230,500	203,800	26,700	11.6%
NAPA	74,900	68,700	6,200	8.3%
NEVADA	50,770	45,950	4,820	9.5%
ORANGE	1,613,400	1,493,700	119,700	7.4%
PLACER	174,700	157,900	16,800	9.6%
PLUMAS	9,320	7,740	1,570	16.9%
RIVERSIDE	933,500	823,500	110,000	11.8%
SACRAMENTO	671,100	600,600	70,500	10.5%
SAN BENITO	27,400	23,000	4,500	16.2%
SAN BERNARDINO	859,600	759,000	100,600	11.7%
SAN DIEGO	1,582,200	1,444,000	138,200	8.7%
SAN FRANCISCO	469,700	435,000	34,700	7.4%
SAN JOAQUIN	301,700	255,100	46,600	15.4%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	140,700	129,500	11,200	7.9%
SAN MATEO	386,500	360,400	26,100	6.8%
SANTA BARBARA	229,900	212,200	17,800	7.7%
SANTA CLARA	910,600	836,000	74,600	8.2%
SANTA CRUZ	153,100	134,800	18,300	12.0%
SHASTA	84,700	73,200	11,400	13.5%
SIERRA	1,700	1,460	240	14.2%
SISKIYOU	19,410	16,220	3,190	16.4%
SOLANO	217,800	195,500	22,300	10.2%
SONOMA	259,300	237,000	22,300	8.6%
STANISLAUS	233,000	194,800	38,200	16.4%
SUTTER	43,900	35,200	8,700	19.8%
TEHAMA	24,930	21,190	3,740	15.0%
TRINITY	4,880	3,990	890	18.2%
TULARE	209,700	175,800	33,900	16.2%
TUOLUMNE	25,670	22,520	3,150	12.3%
VENTURA	440,100	401,800	38,300	8.7%
YOLO	98,800	86,600	12,200	12.3%
YUBA	27,700	22,900	4,700	17.1%

*Not seasonally adjusted.

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