

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

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California's unemployment rate decreases to 6.7 percent
Nonfarm payroll jobs increase by 29,400

SACRAMENTO – California's unemployment rate decreased to 6.7 percent in February, and nonfarm payroll jobs increased by 29,400 during the month for a total gain of 1,827,900 jobs since the recovery began in February 2010, according to data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) from two separate surveys.

The U.S. unemployment rate decreased in February to 5.5 percent.

In January, the state's unemployment rate was 7.0 percent, and in February 2014, the unemployment rate was 8.0 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 15,949,200 in February, an increase of 29,400 jobs over the month, according to a survey of businesses that is larger and less variable statistically. The survey of 58,000 California businesses measures jobs in the economy. The year-over-year change, February 2014 to February 2015, shows an increase of 476,400 jobs (up 3.1 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 17,668,000, an increase of 48,000 from January, and up 450,000 from the employment total in February of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 1,275,000 – down by 42,000 over the month, and down by 217,000 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 15,949,200 in February, a net gain of 29,400 jobs since the January survey. This followed a gain of 59,100 jobs (as revised) in January.

Eight categories (mining and logging; construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; and leisure and hospitality) added jobs over the month, gaining 43,500 jobs. Leisure and hospitality posted the largest increase over the month, adding 12,600 jobs.

Three categories (information; other services; and government) reported job declines over the month, down 14,100 jobs. Government posted the largest decrease over the month, down 8,400 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (February 2014 to February 2015), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 476,400 jobs (up 3.1 percent).

Ten categories (construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; educational and health services; leisure and hospitality; other services; and government) posted job gains over the year, adding 476,900 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest gains on numerical basis, adding 114,300 jobs (up 4.8 percent). Construction posted the largest gains on a percentage basis, up 6.5 percent (adding 43,400 jobs).

One category, mining and logging, posted job declines over the year, down 500 jobs (a 1.6 percent decrease).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 426,874 people receiving regular Unemployment Insurance benefits during the February survey week. This compares with 397,142 in January and 539,062 in February of last year. At the same time, new claims for Unemployment Insurance were 43,302 in February, compared with 40,989 in January and 65,494 in February of last year.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	February 2015 (prelim.)	January 2015 (revised)	February 2014	Change Over 12 Months (percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	15,949.2	15,919.8	15,472.8	3.1
Mining and logging	30.8	30.6	31.3	-1.6
Construction	708.3	697.1	664.9	6.5
Manufacturing	1,271.0	1,266.8	1,268.7	0.2
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,918.4	2,915.6	2,839.4	2.8
Information	470.4	475.4	455.0	3.4
Financial activities	798.1	796.9	780.3	2.3
Professional and business services	2,505.5	2,496.3	2,391.2	4.8
Educational and health services	2,458.1	2,456.0	2,383.8	3.1
Leisure and hospitality	1,809.5	1,796.9	1,734.8	4.3
Other services	548.6	549.3	531.5	3.2
Government*	2,430.5	2,438.9	2,391.9	1.6
Agriculture	418.3	410.2	421.3	-0.7

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

TABLE A
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

	February 2015 (prelim.)	January 2015 (revised)	December 2014	February 2014
Civilian labor force ^a	18,943,000	18,938,000	18,914,000	18,710,000
Total civilian employment	17,668,000	17,620,000	17,566,000	17,218,000
Unemployment	1,275,000	1,317,000	1,347,000	1,492,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	6.7	7.0	7.1	8.0
US seasonally adjusted rate %	5.5	5.7	5.6	6.7

TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA

	February 2015 (prelim.)	January 2015 (revised)	December 2014	February 2014
Civilian labor force ^a	18,910,000	18,890,000	18,856,000	18,738,000
Total civilian employment	17,619,000	17,518,000	17,578,000	17,174,000
Unemployment	1,292,000	1,372,000	1,277,000	1,564,000
Unadjusted rate %	6.8	7.3	6.8	8.3

^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 2015 (Preliminary); 2014 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
STATE TOTAL	18,910,200	17,618,700	1,291,500	6.8%
ALAMEDA	811,800	771,400	40,400	5.0%
ALPINE	560	530	40	6.7%
AMADOR	14,440	13,370	1,070	7.4%
ORANGE	1,589,200	1,515,800	73,400	4.6%
KERN	392,100	348,900	43,200	11.0%
CALAVERAS	20,100	18,660	1,430	7.1%
BUTTE	101,200	93,200	8,100	8.0%
COLUSA	10,960	8,470	2,490	22.7%
CONTRA COSTA	544,200	515,400	28,800	5.3%
DEL NORTE	9,910	8,950	960	9.7%
IMPERIAL	78,800	63,000	15,800	20.0%
EL DORADO	89,000	83,500	5,500	6.1%
FRESNO	443,200	391,800	51,400	11.6%
GLENN	12,710	11,400	1,320	10.4%
KINGS	57,400	50,400	7,000	12.2%
HUMBOLDT	62,200	58,300	3,900	6.2%
INYO	9,010	8,400	610	6.7%
LAKE	30,140	27,640	2,500	8.3%
LASSEN	10,570	9,580	990	9.4%
LOS ANGELES	5,061,700	4,672,500	389,200	7.7%
MADERA	64,000	56,900	7,200	11.2%
MARIPOSA	7,430	6,670	760	10.2%
MENDOCINO	40,740	38,050	2,690	6.6%
MERCED	116,500	100,800	15,700	13.5%
STANISLAUS	240,300	214,500	25,800	10.7%
MODOC	3,170	2,810	350	11.1%
MONO	8,750	8,270	480	5.4%
NAPA	73,000	69,400	3,700	5.0%
NEVADA	48,740	45,890	2,850	5.9%
VENTURA	431,300	406,300	25,000	5.8%
PLACER	176,900	167,400	9,500	5.4%
PLUMAS	7,480	6,430	1,050	14.1%
SHASTA	74,300	67,700	6,600	8.9%
RIVERSIDE	1,021,400	950,700	70,700	6.9%
SACRAMENTO	683,400	639,800	43,600	6.4%
MONTEREY	212,300	187,700	24,600	11.6%
SAN BENITO	29,800	27,100	2,600	8.9%
SAN BERNARDINO	919,100	857,600	61,600	6.7%
SAN DIEGO	1,551,600	1,468,600	83,000	5.3%
SAN FRANCISCO	540,900	520,500	20,400	3.8%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	141,100	134,100	7,000	5.0%
SAN MATEO	437,000	421,500	15,500	3.5%
MARIN	140,700	135,500	5,100	3.7%
SANTA CLARA	1,017,500	973,500	44,000	4.3%
SANTA CRUZ	141,000	127,100	13,800	9.8%
SANTA BARBARA	219,100	206,100	13,000	5.9%
SONOMA	256,400	243,900	12,500	4.9%
SIERRA	1,480	1,320	160	10.9%
SISKIYOU	17,510	15,330	2,170	12.4%
SAN JOAQUIN	309,800	278,600	31,200	10.1%
SUTTER	44,200	38,300	5,900	13.3%
TEHAMA	25,150	22,890	2,250	9.0%
TRINITY	4,810	4,320	490	10.2%
TUOLUMNE	21,670	19,940	1,730	8.0%
SOLANO	203,900	190,400	13,400	6.6%
TULARE	198,500	172,000	26,600	13.4%
YOLO	102,200	94,500	7,700	7.5%
YUBA	28,000	25,100	3,000	10.6%

*Not seasonally adjusted.

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