

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

No.: 15-17

Date: May 22, 2015

California's unemployment rate decreases to 6.3 percent
Nonfarm payroll jobs increase by 29,500

SACRAMENTO – California's unemployment rate decreased to 6.3 percent in April, and nonfarm payroll jobs increased by 29,500 during the month for a total gain of 1,890,900 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 April to 5.4 percent.

In March, the state's unemployment rate was 6.5 percent, and in April 2014, the unemployment rate was 7.8 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 16,012,200 in April, an increase of 29,500 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, April 2014 to April 2015, shows an increase of 457,300 jobs (up 2.9 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 April was 17,755,000, an increase of 43,000 from March, and up 464,000 from the employment total in April of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 1,199,000 – down by 25,000 over the month, and down by 254,000 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 16,012,200 in April, a net gain of 29,500 jobs since the March survey. This followed a gain of 40,500 jobs (as revised) in March.

Eight categories (mining and logging; construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; professional and business services; educational and health services; and government) added jobs over the month, gaining 35,900 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest increase over the month, adding 14,500 jobs.

Three categories (financial activities; leisure and hospitality; and other services) reported job declines over the month, down 6,400 jobs. Financial activities posted the largest decrease over the month, down 2,800 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (April 2014 to April 2015), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 457,300 jobs (up 2.9 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 458,100 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest gains on a numerical basis, adding 119,500 jobs (up 5.0 percent). Construction posted the largest gains on a percentage basis, up 6.4 percent (adding 42,600 jobs).

One category, mining and logging, posted job declines over the year, down 800 jobs (a 2.6 percent decrease).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 415,987 people receiving regular Unemployment Insurance benefits during the April survey week. This compares with 464,530 in March and 481,018 in April of last year. At the same time, new claims for Unemployment Insurance were 47,462 in April, compared with 44,502 in March and 62,715 in April of last year.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	April 2015 (prelim.)	March 2015 (revised)	April 2014	Change Over 12 Months (percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	16,012.2	15,982.7	15,554.9	2.9
Mining and logging	30.5	30.4	31.3	-2.6
Construction	713.1	713.0	670.5	6.4
Manufacturing	1,275.8	1,273.7	1,269.1	0.5
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,936.2	2,935.6	2,852.5	2.9
Information	473.8	467.4	455.5	4.0
Financial activities	793.1	795.9	781.5	1.5
Professional and business services	2,531.4	2,516.9	2,411.9	5.0
Educational and health services	2,466.3	2,465.5	2,397.5	2.9
Leisure and hospitality	1,806.8	1,808.8	1,746.8	3.4
Other services	549.5	551.1	537.1	2.3
Government*	2,435.7	2,424.4	2,401.2	1.4
Agriculture	422.6	414.9	433.8	-2.6

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

TABLE A
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

	April 2015 (prelim.)	March 2015 (revised)	February 2015	April 2014
Civilian labor force ^a	18,954,000	18,936,000	18,944,000	18,744,000
Total civilian employment	17,755,000	17,712,000	17,668,000	17,291,000
Unemployment	1,199,000	1,224,000	1,276,000	1,453,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	6.3	6.5	6.7	7.8
US seasonally adjusted rate %	5.4	5.5	5.5	6.2

TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA

	April 2015 (prelim.)	March 2015 (revised)	February 2015	April 2014
Civilian labor force ^a	18,884,000	18,878,000	18,910,000	18,659,000
Total civilian employment	17,731,000	17,654,000	17,617,000	17,313,000
Unemployment	1,153,000	1,224,000	1,292,000	1,345,000
Unadjusted rate %	6.1	6.5	6.8	7.2

^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 2015 (Preliminary); 2014 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
STATE TOTAL	18,884,100	17,731,100	1,153,100	6.1%
ALAMEDA	810,700	774,500	36,200	4.5%
ALPINE	460	420	40	8.0%
AMADOR	14,460	13,520	940	6.5%
BUTTE	102,000	95,100	6,900	6.8%
CALAVERAS	20,270	18,980	1,290	6.3%
COLUSA	10,830	9,120	1,710	15.8%
CONTRA COSTA	543,200	517,600	25,600	4.7%
DEL NORTE	9,860	9,020	840	8.5%
EL DORADO	88,600	83,700	4,900	5.5%
FRESNO	443,900	398,600	45,300	10.2%
GLENN	12,720	11,570	1,150	9.1%
HUMBOLDT	62,500	59,100	3,400	5.4%
IMPERIAL	77,700	61,200	16,500	21.2%
INYO	8,980	8,480	500	5.6%
KERN	388,100	348,200	39,900	10.3%
KINGS	56,500	50,400	6,100	10.8%
LAKE	29,990	27,860	2,120	7.1%
LASSEN	10,590	9,790	800	7.5%
LOS ANGELES	5,046,800	4,689,300	357,500	7.1%
MADERA	61,500	55,100	6,400	10.4%
MARIN	141,300	136,600	4,600	3.3%
MARIPOSA	7,730	7,180	550	7.1%
MENDOCINO	40,880	38,650	2,230	5.5%
MERCED	114,700	101,400	13,300	11.6%
MODOC	3,250	2,970	280	8.5%
MONO	7,880	7,380	500	6.4%
MONTEREY	221,600	204,700	16,900	7.6%
NAPA	73,400	70,300	3,000	4.1%
NEVADA	48,360	45,780	2,580	5.3%
ORANGE	1,585,900	1,520,600	65,300	4.1%
PLACER	176,200	167,700	8,500	4.8%
PLUMAS	7,790	6,970	820	10.5%
RIVERSIDE	1,016,600	953,300	63,300	6.2%
SACRAMENTO	679,700	640,900	38,800	5.7%
SAN BENITO	29,800	27,500	2,300	7.8%
SAN BERNARDINO	915,300	859,600	55,800	6.1%
SAN DIEGO	1,549,800	1,475,500	74,300	4.8%
SAN FRANCISCO	542,500	524,100	18,400	3.4%
SAN JOAQUIN	309,800	282,600	27,200	8.8%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	141,200	135,200	6,100	4.3%
SAN MATEO	438,900	425,000	13,900	3.2%
SANTA BARBARA	221,900	211,600	10,300	4.6%
SANTA CLARA	1,022,400	983,000	39,300	3.8%
SANTA CRUZ	141,700	130,700	11,000	7.8%
SHASTA	74,000	68,300	5,700	7.7%
SIERRA	1,450	1,330	120	8.4%
SISKIYOU	17,390	15,800	1,600	9.2%
SOLANO	203,500	191,700	11,900	5.8%
SONOMA	257,700	246,900	10,800	4.2%
STANISLAUS	237,300	213,900	23,400	9.8%
SUTTER	43,900	38,900	5,100	11.5%
TEHAMA	24,970	23,040	1,930	7.7%
TRINITY	4,840	4,410	430	8.8%
TULARE	199,200	176,300	22,900	11.5%
TUOLUMNE	21,460	19,960	1,500	7.0%
VENTURA	430,500	408,800	21,800	5.1%
YOLO	101,900	95,700	6,300	6.1%
YUBA	27,800	25,200	2,600	9.2%

*Not seasonally adjusted.

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