



# N E W S R E L E A S E

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*Note: Due to decreased demand for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefit assistance on Saturdays, EDD's UI telephone lines are now open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays. Check the EDD Web site ([www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov)) for a list of the reduced number of EDD Workforce Services offices open Saturdays with computers and phones available to apply for UI benefits.*

## California's Unemployment Rate Increases To 11.5 Percent

**SACRAMENTO** – California's unemployment rate was 11.5 percent in May, and nonfarm payroll jobs declined by 68,900 during the month, according to data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) from two separate surveys.

The U.S. unemployment rate also increased in May, rising to 9.4 percent.

In April, the state's unemployment rate was a revised 11.1 percent, and in May 2008, the unemployment rate was 6.8 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 14,343,400 in May, a decrease of 68,900 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 (May 2008 to May 2009) shows a decrease of 739,500 jobs (down 4.9 percent).

### EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA

The federal survey of households, done with a smaller sample than the survey of employers, shows a decrease in the number of employed people. It estimates the number of Californians holding jobs in May was 16,387,000, a decrease of 177,000 from April, and down 710,000 from the employment total in May of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 2,138,000 – up by 73,000 over the month, and up by 885,000 compared with May of last year.

(more)

## **PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED<sup>2</sup>)**

EDD's report on payroll employment (wage and salary jobs) in the nonfarm industries of California totaled 14,343,400 in May, a net loss of 68,900 jobs since the April survey. This followed a loss of 62,800 jobs (as revised) in April.

One category, **educational and health services**, added jobs over the month, gaining 2,100 jobs. Ten categories (**natural resources and mining; construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; other services; and government**) reported job declines this month, down 71,000 jobs. Government posted the largest decline over the month, down by 14,200 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (May 2008 to May 2009), nonfarm payroll employment in California decreased by 739,500 jobs (down 4.9 percent).

One industry division, **educational and health services**, posted job gains over the year, adding 23,300 jobs (a 1.4 percent increase).

Ten categories (**natural resources and mining; construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; financial activities; professional and business services; leisure and hospitality; other services; and government**) posted job declines over the year, down 762,800 jobs. Trade, transportation and utilities employment showed the largest decline on a numerical basis, down by 191,100 jobs (a decline of 6.6 percent). Construction posted the largest decline on a percentage basis, down by 18.6 percent (a decrease of 149,200 jobs).

## **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)**

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 839,960 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the May survey week. This compares with 853,607 last month and 467,563 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 67,579 in May 2009, compared with 72,718 in April and 47,003 in May of last year.

***NOTE TO EDITORS:*** *EDD encourages those who are filing for unemployment insurance benefits to do so on-line through our Web site at [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov). On-line claim filing is the fastest, most convenient way to apply for unemployment benefits, and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

**PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA<sup>2</sup>**  
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	May 2009 (prelim.)	April 2009 (revised)	May 2008	Change Over 12 Months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers . . . . .	14,343.4	14,412.3	15,082.9	-4.9
Natural resources and mining . . . . .	27.2	27.5	28.6	-4.9
Construction . . . . .	654.1	665.4	803.3	-18.6
Manufacturing . . . . .	1,314.4	1,324.0	1,436.6	-8.5
Trade, transportation and utilities . . . . .	2,691.9	2,700.2	2,883.0	-6.6
Information . . . . .	447.0	455.1	476.2	-6.1
Financial activities . . . . .	803.8	807.3	855.4	-6.0
Professional and business services . . . . .	2,130.9	2,141.8	2,257.0	-5.6
Educational and health services . . . . .	1,746.9	1,744.8	1,723.6	1.4
Leisure and hospitality . . . . .	1,515.6	1,518.3	1,577.9	-3.9
Other services . . . . .	502.0	504.1	517.5	-3.0
Government* . . . . .	2,509.6	2,523.8	2,523.8	-0.6
Agriculture . . . . .	393.7	373.0	403.3	-2.4

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

**TABLE A**  
**EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA<sup>2</sup>**

	May 2009 (prelim.)	April 2009 (revised)	March 2009	May 2008
Civilian labor force <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	18,525,000	18,630,000	18,615,000	18,351,000
Total civilian employment . . . . .	16,387,000	16,564,000	16,523,000	17,097,000
Unemployment . . . . .	2,138,000	2,065,000	2,092,000	1,253,000
Seasonally adjusted rate % . . . . .	11.5	11.1	11.2	6.8
US seasonally adjusted rate % . . . . .	9.4	8.9	8.5	5.5

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

	May 2009 (prelim.)	April 2009 (revised)	March 2009	May 2008
Civilian labor force <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	18,441,000	18,543,000	18,590,000	18,305,000
Total civilian employment . . . . .	16,375,000	16,505,000	16,449,000	17,119,000
Unemployment . . . . .	2,067,000	2,038,000	2,142,000	1,186,000
Unadjusted rate % . . . . .	11.2	11.0	11.5	6.5

<sup>a</sup> Labor force by place of residence including workers involved in trade disputes.

<sup>2</sup> 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**  
**May 2009 (Preliminary); 2008 BENCHMARK**  
*NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED*

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>18,441,400</b>	<b>16,374,500</b>	<b>2,066,900</b>	<b>11.2%</b>
ALAMEDA	770,500	688,100	82,400	10.7%
ALPINE	430	360	80	18.0%
AMADOR	18,130	16,000	2,130	11.7%
BUTTE	105,500	92,400	13,100	12.4%
CALAVERAS	21,390	18,470	2,910	13.6%
COLUSA	11,180	9,200	1,990	17.8%
CONTRA COSTA	528,000	475,000	53,000	10.0%
DEL NORTE	11,910	10,460	1,450	12.2%
EL DORADO	92,400	81,900	10,500	11.3%
FRESNO	439,100	371,500	67,700	15.4%
GLENN	12,800	10,920	1,870	14.6%
HUMBOLDT	61,000	54,200	6,800	11.2%
IMPERIAL	75,500	55,300	20,200	26.8%
INYO	8,920	8,050	860	9.7%
KERN	379,500	325,600	53,900	14.2%
KINGS	61,100	52,300	8,800	14.4%
LAKE	25,330	21,410	3,920	15.5%
LASSEN	13,360	11,720	1,640	12.3%
LOS ANGELES	4,968,100	4,403,800	564,300	11.4%
MADERA	68,600	59,200	9,400	13.7%
MARIN	135,100	124,900	10,200	7.5%
MARIPOSA	9,350	8,400	950	10.2%
MENDOCINO	44,170	39,650	4,520	10.2%
MERCED	105,800	87,500	18,300	17.3%
MODOC	3,910	3,430	480	12.2%
MONO	7,680	6,780	900	11.7%
MONTEREY	222,500	199,400	23,100	10.4%
NAPA	75,300	69,000	6,200	8.3%
NEVADA	49,350	43,830	5,530	11.2%
ORANGE	1,622,000	1,481,900	140,100	8.6%
PLACER	176,200	157,000	19,200	10.9%
PLUMAS	10,180	8,540	1,640	16.1%
RIVERSIDE	914,600	794,400	120,200	13.1%
SACRAMENTO	687,700	611,000	76,700	11.1%
SAN BENITO	25,400	21,800	3,500	14.0%
SAN BERNARDINO	875,100	762,800	112,300	12.8%
SAN DIEGO	1,561,100	1,414,100	147,000	9.4%
SAN FRANCISCO	448,000	407,100	40,800	9.1%
SAN JOAQUIN	310,100	263,500	46,500	15.0%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	139,400	127,700	11,700	8.4%
SAN MATEO	381,400	349,400	32,100	8.4%
SANTA BARBARA	226,400	209,300	17,100	7.6%
SANTA CLARA	886,800	788,100	98,700	11.1%
SANTA CRUZ	150,200	134,100	16,100	10.7%
SHASTA	84,400	71,600	12,800	15.1%
SIERRA	1,660	1,380	280	16.6%
SISKIYOU	19,490	16,640	2,850	14.6%
SOLANO	213,700	190,800	22,900	10.7%
SONOMA	263,200	238,100	25,000	9.5%
STANISLAUS	240,400	201,200	39,200	16.3%
SUTTER	43,400	35,500	7,900	18.2%
TEHAMA	26,440	22,800	3,640	13.8%
TRINITY	4,810	3,980	830	17.3%
TULARE	216,800	185,800	31,000	14.3%
TUOLUMNE	26,450	23,300	3,160	11.9%
VENTURA	433,200	391,900	41,300	9.5%
YOLO	98,200	87,900	10,300	10.5%
YUBA	28,700	23,800	4,900	17.1%