



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

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### **California's Unemployment Rate Unchanged at 12.5 Percent**

**SACRAMENTO** – California's unemployment rate was 12.5 percent in February, and nonfarm payroll jobs decreased by 20,400 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 was unchanged in February, at 9.7 percent.

In January, the state's unemployment rate was 12.5 percent, and in February 2009, the unemployment rate was 10.2 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 13,814,600 in February, a decrease of 20,400 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 2009 to February 2010) shows a decrease of 586,400 jobs (down 4.1 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 during the month. It estimates the number of Californians holding jobs in February was 15,884,000, an increase of 34,000 from January, but down 606,000 from the employment total in February of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 2,274,000 – up by 5,000 over the month, and up by 406,000 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 13,814,600 in February, a net loss of 20,400 jobs since the January survey. This followed a gain of 25,400 jobs (as revised) in January.

Five categories (mining and logging; trade, transportation and utilities; professional and business services; educational and health services; and other services) added jobs over the month, gaining 23,700 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest increase over the month, adding 10,000 jobs. Six categories (construction; manufacturing; information; financial activities; leisure and hospitality; and government) reported job declines this month, down 44,100 jobs. Construction posted the largest decline over the month, down by 21,500 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (February 2009 to February 2010), nonfarm payroll employment in California decreased by 586,400 jobs (down 4.1 percent).

One industry division, educational and health services, posted job gains over the year, adding 21,200 jobs (a 1.2 percent increase).

Ten categories (mining and logging; 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 607,600 jobs. Trade, transportation and utilities employment showed the largest decline on a numerical basis, down by 123,500 jobs (a decline of 4.6 percent). Construction posted the largest decline on a percentage basis, down by 17.7 percent (a decrease of 119,900 jobs).

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

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 714,145 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the February survey week. (When federal UI extensions are included, the total is 1,479,286 people receiving benefits.) This compares with 717,070 last month and 768,762 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 63,766 in February 2010, compared with 92,738 in January and 76,303 in February of last year.

***NOTE TO EDITORS:*** EDD encourages those who are filing for Unemployment Insurance (UI) 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. EDD's UI telephone lines also are open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for claim filing and assistance.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

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

Industrial Classification	February 2010 (prelim.)	January 2010 (revised)	February 2009	Change Over 12 Months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers . . . . .	13,814.6	13,835.0	14,401.0	-4.1
Mining and logging . . . . .	24.7	24.6	27.7	-10.8
Construction . . . . .	556.3	577.8	676.2	-17.7
Manufacturing . . . . .	1,239.4	1,241.3	1,335.9	-7.2
Trade, transportation and utilities . . . . .	2,583.5	2,575.3	2,707.0	-4.6
Information . . . . .	436.0	437.7	451.3	-3.4
Financial activities . . . . .	781.3	782.6	813.9	-4.0
Professional and business services . . . . .	2,030.6	2,020.6	2,119.7	-4.2
Educational and health services . . . . .	1,759.8	1,754.7	1,738.6	1.2
Leisure and hospitality . . . . .	1,468.9	1,478.7	1,525.9	-3.7
Other services . . . . .	468.8	468.5	493.2	-4.9
Government* . . . . .	2,465.3	2,473.2	2,511.6	-1.8
Agriculture . . . . .	385.8	380.1	378.0	2.1

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

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

	February 2010 (prelim.)	January 2010 (revised)	December 2009	February 2009
Civilian labor force <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	18,159,000	18,118,000	18,102,000	18,357,000
Total civilian employment . . . . .	15,884,000	15,850,000	15,868,000	16,490,000
Unemployment . . . . .	2,274,000	2,269,000	2,234,000	1,868,000
Seasonally adjusted rate % . . . . .	12.5	12.5	12.3	10.2
US seasonally adjusted rate % . . . . .	9.7	9.7	10.0	8.2

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

	February 2010 (prelim.)	January 2010 (revised)	December 2009	February 2009
Civilian labor force <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	18,194,000	18,128,000	18,035,000	18,342,000
Total civilian employment . . . . .	15,867,000	15,732,000	15,839,000	16,379,000
Unemployment . . . . .	2,327,000	2,396,000	2,195,000	1,963,000
Unadjusted rate % . . . . .	12.8	13.2	12.2	10.7

<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**  
**February 2010 (Preliminary); 2009 BENCHMARK**  
**NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>18,194,200</b>	<b>15,866,700</b>	<b>2,327,400</b>	<b>12.8%</b>
ALAMEDA	752,200	665,500	86,700	11.5%
ALPINE	590	520	70	11.6%
AMADOR	17,950	15,420	2,530	14.1%
BUTTE	105,100	89,500	15,600	14.9%
CALAVERAS	20,060	16,680	3,380	16.8%
COLUSA	11,990	8,690	3,310	27.6%
CONTRA COSTA	522,000	460,800	61,200	11.7%
DEL NORTE	11,620	10,040	1,580	13.6%
EL DORADO	92,200	80,100	12,100	13.2%
FRESNO	441,300	359,500	81,800	18.5%
GLENN	13,030	10,650	2,380	18.2%
HUMBOLDT	60,900	53,500	7,400	12.2%
IMPERIAL	75,200	54,700	20,400	27.2%
INYO	9,850	8,830	1,030	10.4%
KERN	367,300	303,300	64,000	17.4%
KINGS	62,600	51,100	11,400	18.2%
LAKE	25,360	20,450	4,910	19.3%
LASSEN	13,490	11,230	2,260	16.8%
LOS ANGELES	4,873,000	4,273,400	599,600	12.3%
MADERA	68,600	57,200	11,400	16.6%
MARIN	130,300	119,300	11,000	8.4%
MARIPOSA	9,300	7,960	1,340	14.5%
MENDOCINO	43,230	37,820	5,420	12.5%
MERCED	107,900	84,100	23,800	22.1%
MODOC	3,910	3,220	690	17.6%
MONO	10,230	9,430	800	7.8%
MONTEREY	213,000	175,400	37,600	17.7%
NAPA	74,700	66,900	7,800	10.4%
NEVADA	51,580	45,460	6,120	11.9%
ORANGE	1,592,500	1,438,000	154,400	9.7%
PLACER	178,000	157,300	20,700	11.6%
PLUMAS	9,580	7,400	2,180	22.8%
RIVERSIDE	910,400	774,500	136,000	14.9%
SACRAMENTO	687,600	599,200	88,500	12.9%
SAN BENITO	27,100	21,100	6,000	22.1%
SAN BERNARDINO	861,100	736,900	124,300	14.4%
SAN DIEGO	1,552,500	1,387,700	164,800	10.6%
SAN FRANCISCO	455,000	410,000	45,000	9.9%
SAN JOAQUIN	302,900	247,200	55,600	18.4%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	136,300	122,400	13,900	10.2%
SAN MATEO	370,000	335,400	34,600	9.4%
SANTA BARBARA	220,300	198,500	21,800	9.9%
SANTA CLARA	871,600	769,200	102,400	11.7%
SANTA CRUZ	147,900	125,200	22,700	15.3%
SHASTA	85,600	70,500	15,100	17.7%
SIERRA	1,710	1,390	320	18.7%
SISKIYOU	20,290	16,360	3,940	19.4%
SOLANO	213,100	185,900	27,100	12.7%
SONOMA	254,800	226,600	28,100	11.0%
STANISLAUS	238,200	192,800	45,400	19.1%
SUTTER	43,200	33,500	9,700	22.4%
TEHAMA	26,140	21,700	4,440	17.0%
TRINITY	5,080	3,950	1,130	22.3%
TULARE	208,800	169,700	39,100	18.7%
TUOLUMNE	26,280	22,330	3,950	15.0%
VENTURA	430,100	382,200	47,900	11.1%
YOLO	101,300	86,500	14,800	14.6%
YUBA	28,500	22,700	5,800	20.3%

\*Not seasonally adjusted.

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