



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

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### **California's unemployment rate decreases to 12.0 percent**

**SACRAMENTO** – California's unemployment rate decreased to 12.0 percent in March, and nonfarm payroll jobs decreased by 11,600 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 decreased in March, to 8.8 percent.

In February, the state's unemployment rate was a revised 12.1 percent, and in March 2010, the unemployment rate was 12.4 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,500 California households.

Nonfarm jobs in California totaled 14,049,300 in March, a decrease of 11,600 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 (March 2010 to March 2011) shows an increase of 188,100 jobs (up 1.4 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 March was 15,902,000, a decrease of 14,000 from February, and down 61,000 from the employment total in March of last year.

The number of people unemployed in California was 2,176,000 – down by 25,000 over the month, and down by 79,000 compared with March 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 14,049,300 in March, a net loss of 11,600 jobs since the February survey. This followed a gain of 84,600 jobs (as revised) in February.

Four categories (information; professional and business services; educational and health services; and government) added jobs over the month, gaining 9,100 jobs. Educational and health services posted the largest increase over the month, adding 5,100 jobs. Seven categories (mining and logging; construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; financial activities; leisure and hospitality; and other services) reported job declines this month, down 20,700 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (March 2010 to March 2011), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 188,100 jobs (up 1.4 percent).

Eight industry divisions (mining and logging; construction; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; information; professional and business services; educational and health services; and leisure and hospitality) posted job gains over the year, adding 235,900 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest gain on a numerical basis, adding 83,800 jobs (up 4.1 percent). Information posted the largest gain on a percentage basis, up by 5.3 percent (an increase of 22,800 jobs).

Three categories (financial activities; other services; and government) posted job declines over the year, down 47,800 jobs. Government posted the largest decline on both a numerical and percentage basis, down by 42,500 jobs (a decrease of 1.7 percent).

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

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 630,829 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the March survey week. This compares with 666,260 last month and 768,583 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 61,076 in March 2011, compared with 68,203 in February and 70,450 in March of last year.

***NOTE TO EDITORS:*** EDD encourages those who are filing for Unemployment Insurance benefits to do so online through our Web site at [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov). Online claim filing is the fastest, most convenient way to apply for 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	March 2011 (prelim.)	February 2011 (revised)	March 2010	Change Over 12 Months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers . . . . .	14,049.3	14,060.9	13,861.2	1.4
Mining and logging . . . . .	27.2	27.3	26.3	3.4
Construction . . . . .	572.8	577.1	570.1	0.5
Manufacturing . . . . .	1,248.7	1,249.8	1,242.3	0.5
Trade, transportation and utilities . . . . .	2,643.7	2,648.1	2,610.1	1.3
Information . . . . .	450.4	447.8	427.6	5.3
Financial activities . . . . .	756.7	758.1	758.7	-0.3
Professional and business services . . . . .	2,133.3	2,132.1	2,049.5	4.1
Educational and health services . . . . .	1,823.7	1,818.6	1,770.4	3.0
Leisure and hospitality . . . . .	1,514.3	1,516.8	1,481.9	2.2
Other services . . . . .	480.1	487.0	483.4	-0.7
Government* . . . . .	2,398.4	2,398.2	2,440.9	-1.7
Agriculture . . . . .	383.4	381.8	374.9	2.3

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

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

	March 2011 (prelim.)	February 2011 (revised)	January 2011	March 2010
Civilian labor force <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	18,078,000	18,117,000	18,151,000	18,217,000
Total civilian employment . . . . .	15,902,000	15,916,000	15,905,000	15,963,000
Unemployment . . . . .	2,176,000	2,201,000	2,246,000	2,255,000
Seasonally adjusted rate % . . . . .	12.0	12.1	12.4	12.4
US seasonally adjusted rate % . . . . .	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.7

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

	March 2011 (prelim.)	February 2011 (revised)	January 2011	March 2010
Civilian labor force <sup>a</sup> . . . . .	18,023,000	18,044,000	18,104,000	18,222,000
Total civilian employment . . . . .	15,802,000	15,833,000	15,812,000	15,888,000
Unemployment . . . . .	2,221,000	2,210,000	2,292,000	2,334,000
Unadjusted rate % . . . . .	12.3	12.2	12.7	12.8

<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**  
**March 2011 (Preliminary); 2010 BENCHMARK**  
**NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	18,023,100	15,801,900	2,221,200	12.3%
ALAMEDA	742,600	662,400	80,200	10.8%
ALPINE	550	480	70	12.3%
AMADOR	17,190	14,820	2,360	13.7%
BUTTE	103,900	88,900	15,000	14.4%
CALAVERAS	19,630	16,470	3,170	16.1%
COLUSA	11,820	8,670	3,160	26.7%
CONTRA COSTA	516,500	458,400	58,100	11.2%
DEL NORTE	11,480	9,870	1,620	14.1%
EL DORADO	89,500	77,700	11,800	13.1%
FRESNO	432,700	353,100	79,600	18.4%
GLENN	12,540	10,210	2,330	18.6%
HUMBOLDT	60,500	53,200	7,300	12.0%
IMPERIAL	80,300	60,500	19,800	24.6%
INYO	9,500	8,500	1,000	10.5%
KERN	358,400	295,500	62,900	17.5%
KINGS	60,400	49,300	11,100	18.4%
LAKE	24,510	19,730	4,780	19.5%
LASSEN	13,380	11,310	2,070	15.5%
LOS ANGELES	4,852,500	4,261,900	590,700	12.2%
MADERA	65,200	54,000	11,200	17.2%
MARIN	130,500	120,000	10,500	8.0%
MARIPOSA	9,070	7,740	1,330	14.7%
MENDOCINO	42,180	36,920	5,260	12.5%
MERCED	106,600	83,800	22,800	21.4%
MODOC	4,070	3,390	680	16.7%
MONO	9,110	8,360	750	8.2%
MONTEREY	208,800	174,400	34,400	16.5%
NAPA	72,000	64,500	7,400	10.3%
NEVADA	50,190	44,410	5,770	11.5%
ORANGE	1,568,300	1,426,300	142,100	9.1%
PLACER	173,600	153,500	20,100	11.6%
PLUMAS	9,920	7,940	1,980	19.9%
RIVERSIDE	904,700	777,500	127,200	14.1%
SACRAMENTO	659,800	576,400	83,400	12.6%
SAN BENITO	26,900	21,400	5,600	20.6%
SAN BERNARDINO	848,300	731,900	116,400	13.7%
SAN DIEGO	1,563,000	1,404,000	159,000	10.2%
SAN FRANCISCO	454,000	412,600	41,400	9.1%
SAN JOAQUIN	295,100	240,800	54,300	18.4%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	137,400	123,800	13,600	9.9%
SAN MATEO	369,000	337,800	31,200	8.4%
SANTA BARBARA	218,700	197,600	21,000	9.6%
SANTA CLARA	871,600	781,700	89,900	10.3%
SANTA CRUZ	147,200	125,600	21,700	14.7%
SHASTA	82,100	68,100	14,000	17.1%
SIERRA	1,520	1,240	280	18.6%
SISKIYOU	18,990	15,160	3,840	20.2%
SOLANO	211,200	185,200	26,000	12.3%
SONOMA	255,200	228,800	26,500	10.4%
STANISLAUS	235,900	192,400	43,500	18.4%
SUTTER	42,500	32,800	9,700	22.9%
TEHAMA	24,590	20,430	4,160	16.9%
TRINITY	5,200	4,120	1,090	20.9%
TULARE	204,200	165,900	38,300	18.7%
TUOLUMNE	24,940	21,280	3,660	14.7%
VENTURA	428,100	383,500	44,600	10.4%
YOLO	98,100	83,600	14,500	14.8%
YUBA	27,400	22,100	5,300	19.5%

\*Not seasonally adjusted.

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