

N E W S R E L E A S E

News Release

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California unemployment rate falls to 4.4 percent
Nonfarm payrolls jobs increase by 35,500

NOTE TO EDITORS: *This release incorporates revised historical labor force numbers and industry employment data. Each year our labor force and employment data are updated to reflect additional data inputs and estimation techniques. These data are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, based on the same methodology used by all states.*

SACRAMENTO – California’s employers added 35,500 nonfarm payroll jobs in January, while the state’s unemployment rate fell to 4.4 percent – a record low in a data series dating back to the beginning of 1976 – according to data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) from two surveys. California has also now gained a total of 2,851,800 jobs since the economic expansion began in February 2010.

The U.S. unemployment rate was unchanged in January at 4.1 percent, while the nation’s employers added 200,000 nonfarm payroll jobs.

In January 2017, the state’s unemployment rate was 5.2 percent. The unemployment rate is derived from a federal survey of 5,100 California households.

Nonfarm payroll jobs in California totaled 17,038,400 in January, according to a survey of businesses that is larger and less variable statistically. The survey of 71,000 California businesses measures jobs in the economy. The year-over change, January 2017 to January 2018, shows an increase of 400,100 jobs (up 2.4 percent).

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA

The federal household survey, done with a smaller sample than the survey of employers, shows an increase in the number of employed Californians over the month and the year. It estimates the number of Californians holding jobs in January was 18,537,000, an increase of 17,000 from December, and up 342,000 from the employment total in January of last year.

The number of unemployed Californians was 851,000 in January – down by 15,000 over the month, and down by 152,000 compared with January of last year.

(more)

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

EDD's payroll employment report (wage and salary jobs) in the nonfarm industries of California totaled 17,038,400 in January, a net gain of 35,500 jobs from December. This followed a revised gain of 35,000 jobs in December (a downward revision of 17,700 jobs from the original 52,700 job gain estimate).

Month-over Job Gains

Eight of California's eleven industry sectors added a total of 44,300 jobs in January. Construction posted the largest jobs increase with a gain of 11,100 jobs, followed by trade, transportation & utilities, up 10,800 and educational and health services, up 10,700. Other industry sectors adding jobs over the month were leisure & hospitality (6,400), manufacturing (2,100), other services (1,100), government (1,100) and financial activities (1,000). Mining and logging remained unchanged.

Month-over Job Losses

Two industry sectors reported job declines over the month, down a total of 8,800 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest decrease over the month, down 7,300 jobs, followed by information, down 1,500 jobs.

Year-over Job Gains

In a year-over-year comparison (January 2017 to January 2018), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 400,100 jobs (a 2.4 percent increase).

California's eleven industry sectors added a total of 400,100 jobs over the year. The largest job gains were in educational and health services, up 95,700 jobs (a 3.7 percent increase), construction, up 75,500 jobs (a 9.8 percent increase), and leisure & hospitality, up 58,400 jobs (a 3.0 percent increase). Other sectors adding jobs over the year were trade, transportation and utilities, professional and business services, government, other services, information, financial activities, manufacturing and mining and logging.

Year-over Job Losses

In the month of January, none of California's eleven industry sectors lost jobs.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 342,480 people receiving regular Unemployment Insurance benefits during the January survey week. This compares with 351,959 in December and 386,875 in January of last year. At the same time, new claims for Unemployment Insurance were 52,028 in January, compared with 45,447 in December and 62,201 in January of last year.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	January 2017	December 2017 (revised)	January 2018 (prelim.)	Change Over 12 Months (percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	16,638.3	17,002.9	17,038.4	2.4
Mining and logging	21.5	22.0	22.0	2.3
Construction	772.3	836.7	847.8	9.8
Manufacturing	1,313.7	1,316.4	1,318.5	0.4
Trade, transportation and utilities	3,025.3	3,064.5	3,075.3	1.7
Information	521.6	535.1	533.6	2.3
Financial activities	828.8	835.5	836.5	0.9
Professional and business services	2,536.2	2,591.8	2,584.5	1.9
Educational and health services	2,590.6	2,675.6	2,686.3	3.7
Leisure and hospitality	1,927.6	1,979.6	1,986.0	3.0
Other services	559.6	566.6	567.7	1.4
Government*	2,541.1	2,579.1	2,580.2	1.5
Agriculture	432.1	435.1	428.9	-0.7

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

TABLE A
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

	January 2017	November 2017	December 2017 (revised)	January 2018 (prelim.)
Civilian labor force ^a	19,197,000	19,391,000	19,386,000	19,388,000
Total civilian employment	18,195,000	18,526,000	18,520,000	18,537,000
Unemployment	1,003,000	865,000	866,000	851,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	5.2	4.5	4.5	4.4
US seasonally adjusted rate %	4.8	4.1	4.1	4.1

TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA

	January 2017	November 2017	December 2017 (revised)	January 2018 (prelim.)
Civilian labor force ^a	19,135,000	19,384,000	19,318,000	19,295,000
Total civilian employment	18,059,000	18,571,000	18,515,000	18,408,000
Unemployment	1,075,000	813,000	804,000	887,000
Unadjusted rate %	5.6	4.2	4.2	4.6

^aLabor force by place of residence, including workers involved in trade disputes.

²Seasonal 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
January 2018 (Preliminary); 2017 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
STATE TOTAL	19,294,600	18,407,900	886,700	4.6%
ALAMEDA	848,100	820,400	27,700	3.3%
ALPINE	550	530	30	4.5%
AMADOR	14,580	13,880	700	4.8%
BUTTE	102,400	96,600	5,700	5.6%
CALAVERAS	21,180	20,270	910	4.3%
COLUSA	10,430	8,500	1,930	18.5%
CONTRA COSTA	564,000	544,500	19,500	3.4%
DEL NORTE	9,700	9,080	620	6.4%
EL DORADO	90,300	86,700	3,600	4.0%
FRESNO	447,900	408,800	39,100	8.7%
GLENN	12,730	11,780	940	7.4%
HUMBOLDT	62,500	60,020	2,480	4.0%
IMPERIAL	72,800	60,400	12,400	17.0%
INYO	8,710	8,340	380	4.3%
KERN	382,700	347,600	35,100	9.2%
KINGS	56,900	51,800	5,100	9.0%
LAKE	29,890	28,110	1,780	6.0%
LASSEN	9,970	9,320	650	6.5%
LOS ANGELES	5,118,000	4,875,400	242,700	4.7%
MADERA	62,500	57,400	5,000	8.0%
MARIN	141,500	137,900	3,600	2.5%
MARIPOSA	7,000	6,520	480	6.9%
MENDOCINO	39,620	37,810	1,810	4.6%
MERCED	113,700	102,400	11,300	9.9%
MODOC	3,170	2,880	290	9.0%
MONO	9,450	9,100	350	3.7%
MONTEREY	208,200	188,300	19,800	9.5%
NAPA	71,700	68,900	2,800	3.9%
NEVADA	49,070	47,230	1,840	3.7%
ORANGE	1,621,800	1,571,200	50,700	3.1%
PLACER	182,600	176,200	6,300	3.5%
PLUMAS	7,180	6,460	720	10.0%
RIVERSIDE	1,084,900	1,034,100	50,800	4.7%
SACRAMENTO	703,300	673,500	29,800	4.2%
SAN BENITO	30,200	28,400	1,800	6.0%
SAN BERNARDINO	960,300	918,600	41,700	4.3%
SAN DIEGO	1,581,900	1,525,000	56,900	3.6%
SAN FRANCISCO	568,400	553,600	14,800	2.6%
SAN JOAQUIN	327,100	304,300	22,800	7.0%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	141,500	136,800	4,700	3.3%
SAN MATEO	452,100	441,400	10,700	2.4%
SANTA BARBARA	212,000	201,600	10,400	4.9%
SANTA CLARA	1,044,700	1,014,600	30,200	2.9%
SANTA CRUZ	142,500	132,500	10,000	7.0%
SHASTA	74,300	70,200	4,200	5.6%
SIERRA	1,280	1,190	90	6.9%
SISKIYOU	17,770	16,230	1,550	8.7%
SOLANO	208,000	198,800	9,200	4.4%
SONOMA	261,900	253,800	8,100	3.1%
STANISLAUS	241,800	223,900	17,900	7.4%
SUTTER	45,000	40,800	4,200	9.4%
TEHAMA	25,520	24,030	1,490	5.8%
TRINITY	4,790	4,490	300	6.2%
TULARE	203,500	181,300	22,100	10.9%
TUOLUMNE	21,160	20,070	1,100	5.2%
VENTURA	424,200	406,000	18,200	4.3%
YOLO	107,400	102,000	5,400	5.0%
YUBA	28,600	26,500	2,100	7.4%

*Not seasonally adjusted.

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