



N E W S R E L E A S E

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Date: September 16, 2011

News Release No.: 11-70

California's unemployment rate increases to 12.1 percent

NOTE TO EDITORS: *Unemployed Californians who are collecting Unemployment Insurance benefits are starting to receive their benefits via a new EDD Debit Card instead of by check. The roll-out began July 8 and 22,500 cards are now being issued daily. Customers will receive their cards automatically and will be notified by letter during the week they are switched from check to card. The cards are a faster, more convenient and secure payment process. Helpful information and a new educational video are available on EDD's website at www.edd.ca.gov.*

SACRAMENTO – California's unemployment rate increased to 12.1 percent in August, and nonfarm payroll jobs decreased by 8,400 during the month for a total gain of 98,500 jobs since 2011 began, according to data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) from two separate surveys.

The U.S. unemployment rate was unchanged in August at 9.1 percent.

In July, the state's unemployment rate was 12.0 percent, and in August 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 14,057,200 in August, a decrease of 8,400 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 (August 2010 to August 2011) shows an increase of 171,100 jobs (up 1.2 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 August was 15,830,000, a decrease of 18,000 from July, and down 58,000 from the employment total in August of last year.

(more)

The number of people unemployed in California was 2,175,000 – up by 8,000 over the month, but down by 83,000 compared with August of last year.

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT DETAIL (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

EDD's report on payroll employment (wage and salary jobs) in the nonfarm industries of California totaled 14,057,200 in August, a net loss of 8,400 jobs since the July survey. This followed a loss of 4,600 jobs (as revised) in July.

Five categories (mining and logging; manufacturing; trade, transportation and utilities; professional and business services; and leisure and hospitality) added jobs over the month, gaining 9,100 jobs. Trade, transportation and utilities posted the largest increase over the month, adding 5,700 jobs. Six categories (construction; information; financial activities; educational and health services; other services; and government) reported job declines over the month, down 17,500 jobs. Construction posted the largest decrease over the month, down 7,200 jobs.

In a year-over-year comparison (August 2010 to August 2011), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 171,100 jobs (up 1.2 percent).

Eight categories (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 209,200 jobs. Professional and business services posted the largest gain on a numerical basis, adding 57,700 jobs (up 2.8 percent). Information posted the largest gain on a percentage basis, up by 5.6 percent (an increase of 24,100 jobs).

Three categories (financial activities; other services; and government) posted job declines over the year, down 38,100 jobs. Government posted the largest decline on both a numerical and percentage basis, down by 27,400 jobs (a decrease of 1.1 percent).

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

In related data, the EDD reported that there were 543,089 people receiving regular unemployment insurance benefits during the August survey week. This compares with 566,380 last month and 620,844 last year. At the same time, new claims for unemployment insurance were 54,463 in August 2011, compared with 57,897 in July and 65,261 in August of last year.

Seasonally adjusted payroll detail follows:

PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²
(Amounts in thousands)

Industrial Classification	August 2011 (prelim.)	July 2011 (revised)	August 2010	Change Over 12 Months (Percent)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Workers	14,057.2	14,065.6	13,886.1	1.2
Mining and logging	27.7	27.5	27.3	1.5
Construction	557.9	565.1	550.1	1.4
Manufacturing	1,258.7	1,257.1	1,241.5	1.4
Trade, transportation and utilities	2,644.9	2,639.2	2,625.3	0.7
Information	454.3	455.1	430.2	5.6
Financial activities	752.5	756.5	759.0	-0.9
Professional and business services	2,136.8	2,136.7	2,079.1	2.8
Educational and health services	1,836.2	1,836.8	1,789.6	2.6
Leisure and hospitality	1,530.6	1,529.1	1,494.8	2.4
Other services	481.3	482.6	485.5	-0.9
Government*	2,376.3	2,379.9	2,403.7	-1.1
Agriculture	375.8	378.0	384.6	-2.3

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

TABLE A
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA²

	August 2011 (prelim.)	July 2011 (revised)	June 2011	August 2010
Civilian labor force ^a	18,006,000	18,014,000	18,043,000	18,146,000
Total civilian employment	15,830,000	15,848,000	15,910,000	15,888,000
Unemployment	2,175,000	2,167,000	2,133,000	2,258,000
Seasonally adjusted rate %	12.1	12.0	11.8	12.4
US seasonally adjusted rate %	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.6

TABLE B
EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN CALIFORNIA, UNADJUSTED DATA

	August 2011 (prelim.)	July 2011 (revised)	June 2011	August 2010
Civilian labor force ^a	18,116,000	18,129,000	18,069,000	18,265,000
Total civilian employment	15,958,000	15,875,000	15,889,000	15,977,000
Unemployment	2,158,000	2,255,000	2,181,000	2,288,000
Unadjusted rate %	11.9	12.4	12.1	12.5

^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
August 2011 (Preliminary); 2010 BENCHMARK
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	RATE*
STATE TOTAL	18,115,600	15,958,000	2,157,600	11.9%
ALAMEDA	749,000	668,900	80,100	10.7%
ALPINE	440	370	70	15.8%
AMADOR	16,860	14,710	2,150	12.8%
BUTTE	101,000	87,000	13,900	13.8%
CALAVERAS	19,420	16,490	2,930	15.1%
COLUSA	12,090	10,150	1,940	16.0%
CONTRA COSTA	517,600	462,900	54,700	10.6%
DEL NORTE	11,320	9,770	1,550	13.7%
EL DORADO	89,400	79,300	10,100	11.3%
FRESNO	437,100	367,800	69,300	15.8%
GLENN	12,690	10,630	2,060	16.3%
HUMBOLDT	59,900	53,200	6,700	11.1%
IMPERIAL	78,800	53,300	25,500	32.4%
INYO	9,360	8,460	910	9.7%
KERN	373,600	319,900	53,700	14.4%
KINGS	59,900	50,700	9,200	15.3%
LAKE	25,120	20,950	4,170	16.6%
LASSEN	13,370	11,650	1,720	12.9%
LOS ANGELES	4,863,400	4,247,900	615,500	12.7%
MADERA	66,400	56,800	9,600	14.4%
MARIN	132,000	121,700	10,300	7.8%
MARIPOSA	10,150	9,120	1,030	10.2%
MENDOCINO	42,340	37,830	4,510	10.7%
MERCED	106,900	88,200	18,700	17.5%
MODOC	3,990	3,480	520	13.0%
MONO	8,030	7,200	830	10.3%
MONTEREY	218,600	195,100	23,400	10.7%
NAPA	75,600	68,900	6,700	8.8%
NEVADA	50,490	45,100	5,390	10.7%
ORANGE	1,573,800	1,432,000	141,800	9.0%
PLACER	175,600	156,600	18,900	10.8%
PLUMAS	9,910	8,560	1,360	13.7%
RIVERSIDE	899,700	767,800	131,800	14.7%
SACRAMENTO	671,200	588,200	83,000	12.4%
SAN BENITO	25,100	21,800	3,200	12.9%
SAN BERNARDINO	836,300	722,800	113,500	13.6%
SAN DIEGO	1,569,400	1,409,800	159,600	10.2%
SAN FRANCISCO	458,600	418,400	40,200	8.8%
SAN JOAQUIN	300,500	252,100	48,300	16.1%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	135,600	122,300	13,200	9.7%
SAN MATEO	373,600	342,600	31,000	8.3%
SANTA BARBARA	219,300	200,100	19,200	8.8%
SANTA CLARA	886,100	798,200	87,900	9.9%
SANTA CRUZ	150,700	134,600	16,100	10.7%
SHASTA	83,500	71,600	11,900	14.2%
SIERRA	1,590	1,360	230	14.3%
SISKIYOU	19,200	16,180	3,020	15.7%
SOLANO	212,600	188,000	24,600	11.6%
SONOMA	252,000	226,800	25,100	10.0%
STANISLAUS	238,900	200,700	38,200	16.0%
SUTTER	42,300	35,600	6,700	15.8%
TEHAMA	24,370	20,500	3,860	15.9%
TRINITY	4,820	3,980	840	17.3%
TULARE	208,400	175,600	32,800	15.7%
TUOLUMNE	25,690	22,420	3,270	12.7%
VENTURA	427,000	382,400	44,700	10.5%
YOLO	96,000	85,300	10,700	11.2%
YUBA	29,500	24,000	5,500	18.7%

*Not seasonally adjusted.

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