



## 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW: CALIFORNIA

*\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through December 2015\*\*  
\*\*Last updated on January 26th; January 2016 data will be released on March 14th\*\**

### JOBS

- In 2015, private-sector employment in California grew by 423,900 jobs, an average of 35,330 jobs per month. This represents a slowdown in job growth from the 35,560 jobs per month added in 2014. In December, California businesses added 56,700 jobs.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms in 2015 were: construction at 8.6 percent (59,300 jobs), professional and business services at 5.0 percent (124,700 jobs) and leisure and hospitality at 4.3 percent (76,600 jobs).
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, California businesses have added 2,170,600 jobs (an increase of 18.6 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 13.1 percent over this time.



### UNEMPLOYMENT

- The California unemployment rate fell by 1.3 percentage points in 2015 and was 5.8 percent in December. The rate is 6.4 percentage points below its recent peak of 12.2 percent in October 2010.
- Unemployment in California was 0.8 percentage point above the national rate of 5.0 percent in December. The rate was up 0.1 percentage point from November.
- There were 1,096,100 state residents unemployed in December, down 251,300 from one year prior.

### EARNINGS

- Adjusting for inflation, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in California rose by 0.7 percent in 2015. Nationally, these earnings increased by 1.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).
- In December, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers were \$28.13. The average workweek was 34.4 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$967.67.

## STATE QUICK FACTS

		<b>California</b>	<b>United States</b>
<b>Private-Sector Jobs Added</b> .....	In 2015	423,900	2.6 million
	Since Feb. 2010	2,170,600	14.1 million
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> .....	December 2015	5.8%	5.0%
	December 2014	7.1%	5.6%
	Recession-Era Peak	12.2%	10.0%
<b>Median Household Income (2014 \$)</b> .....	2014	\$60,500	\$53,700
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	\$63,600	\$57,400
<b>Poverty Rate</b> .....	2014	15.8%	14.8%
	2007 (Pre-Recession)	12.7%	12.5%
<b>All Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	7.4%	5.3%
<b>Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate</b> .....	2014	10.1%	7.2%
<b>Percentage Without Health Insurance</b> .....	2014	12.4%	11.7%
	2013	17.2%	14.5%

*Note: full 2015 data are not yet available for many indicators on this page; they will be included in future reports*

### STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in California grew by 2.3 percent in 2014, above the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.\*
- Since 2009, annual California GDP growth has averaged 1.9 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.8 percent.

### HOUSING

- Home prices in California increased by 7.4 percent from the third quarter of 2014 to the third quarter of 2015. They are up 51.6 percent since their recent low in the third quarter of 2011.
- In November 2015, builders in California broke ground on 98,810 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 94,894 units. That marks an increase of 16.6 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

### EXPORTS

- In California, goods exports totaled \$12.9 billion in November and \$162.7 billion over the past year, up 2.3 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 31.2 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

\* Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

\*\* A list of sources used to compile the California economic snapshot is available at: <http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources>

\*\*\* For additional California-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the California office: <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/>