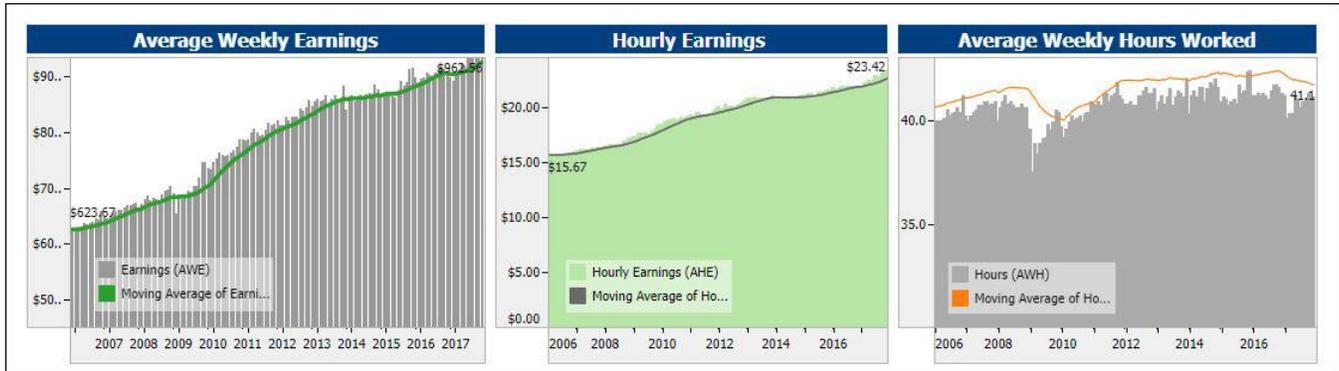
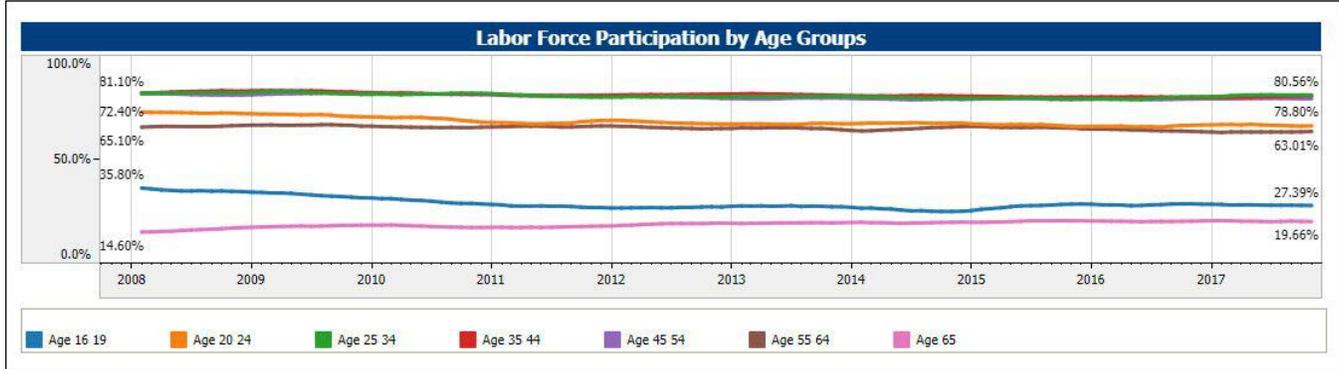
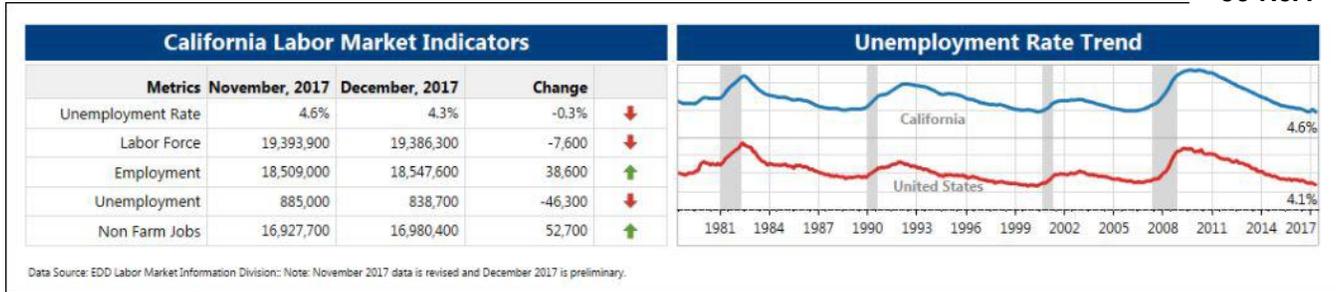


Workforce Development Board of Ventura County Job Outlook Report December 2017

STATE OF CALIFORNIA EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (EDD) LABOR MARKET MONTHLY RELEASE: Statewide Labor Market Review <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/>

CA NSA = 4.2%
US NSA = 3.9%



Month-over Job Gains: Nine of California's eleven industry sectors added a total of 56,900 jobs in December. Government posted the largest jobs increase with a gain of 10,300 jobs, followed by **leisure & hospitality**, up 10,100. Four additional industry sectors added 6,600 or more jobs in December: **professional and business services** (8,700), information (8,300), construction (7,000), and **financial activities** (6,600). **Manufacturing** (3,000), other services (1,600), and educational and **health services** (1,300).

Month-over Job Losses ;Two industry sectors reported job declines over the month, down a total of 4,200 jobs. Trade, transportation and utilities posted the largest decrease over the month, down 3,800 jobs, followed by mining and logging, down 400 jobs.

Year-over Job Gains: In a year-over-year comparison (December 2016 to December 2017), nonfarm payroll employment in California increased by 342,500 jobs (a 2.1 percent increase). Nine of California's eleven industry sectors added a total of 345,900 jobs over the year. The largest job gains were in educational and **health services**, up 80,000 jobs (a 3.1 percent increase), **leisure and hospitality**, up 62,700 jobs (a 3.3 percent

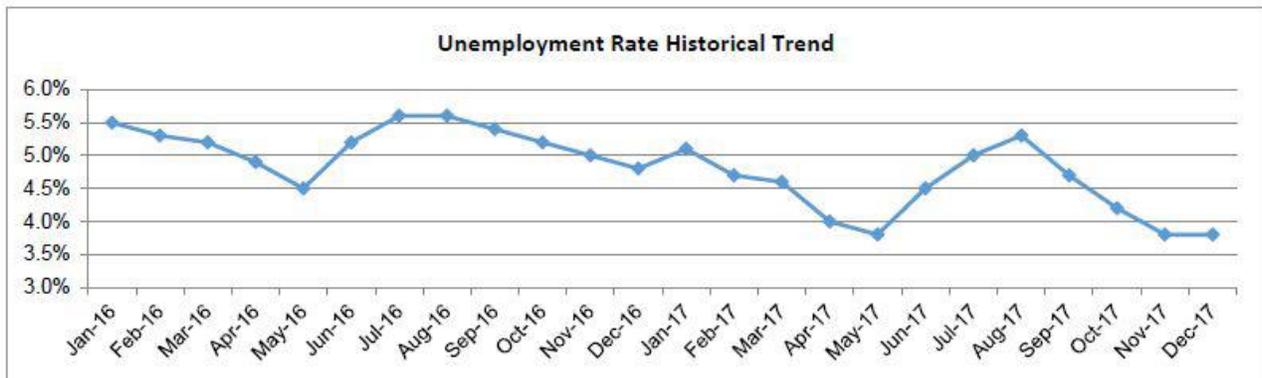
increase), and construction, up 56,000 jobs (a 7.1 percent increase). Other sectors adding jobs over the year were government, **professional and business services**, **information**, **other services**, trade, transportation and utilities and **financial activities**.

Year-over Job Losses: Two industry sectors posted job declines over the year, down a total of 3,400 jobs. **Manufacturing** fell by 2,000 jobs (down 0.2 percent), and mining and logging declined by 1,400 jobs (down 5.9 percent).

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION DIVISION MONTHLY RELEASE Ventura County:

[http://www.calmis.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/vent\\$pds.pdf](http://www.calmis.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/vent$pds.pdf)

The unemployment rate in the Ventura County was 3.8 percent in December 2017, unchanged from a revised 3.8 percent in November 2017, and below the year-ago estimate of 4.8 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 4.2 percent for California and 3.9 percent for the nation during the same period.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR - UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE WEEKLY CLAIMS REPORT:

Weekly national tracking of insured unemployment statistics comparing current week to previous week, month and year. DOL Claims Report - <http://www.dol.gov/ui/data.pdf>

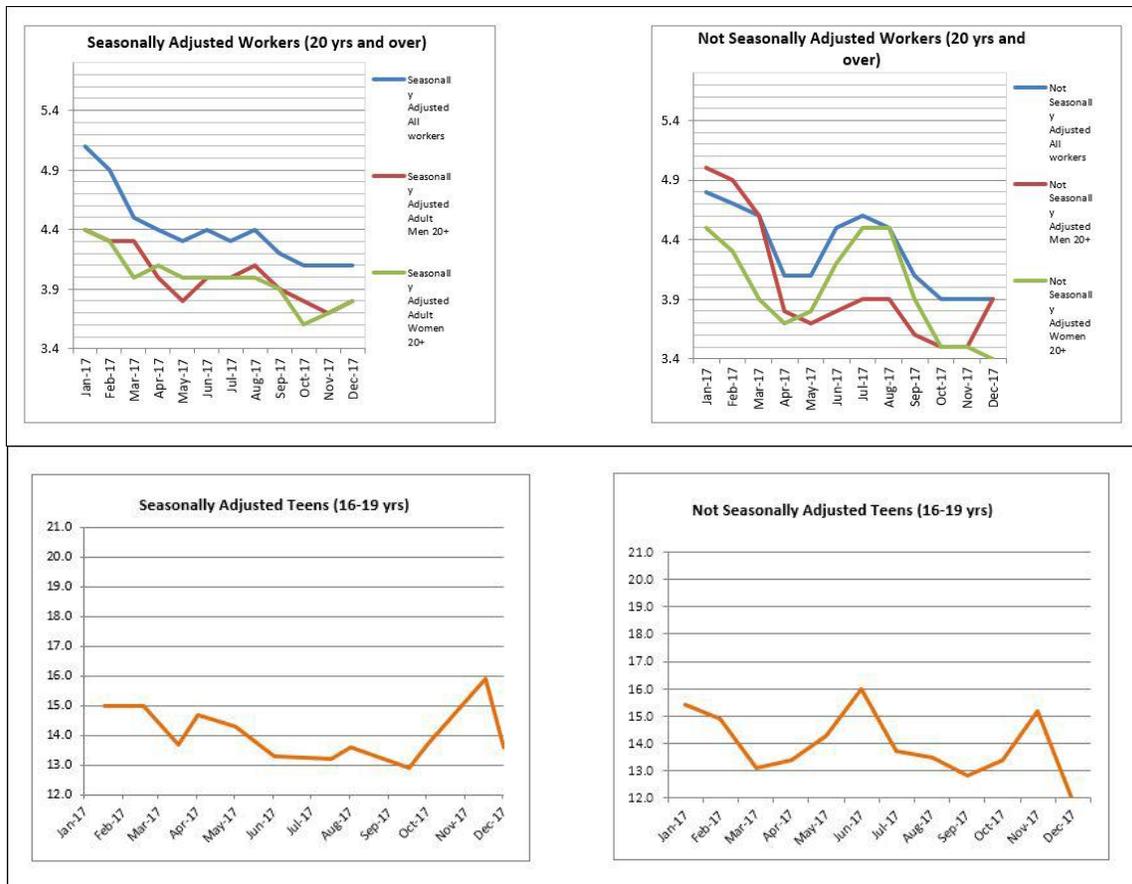
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DATA FOR REGULAR STATE PROGRAMS

WEEK ENDING	January 13	January 6	Change	December 30	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Initial Claims (SA)	220,000	261,000	-41,000	250,000	241,000
Initial Claims (NSA)	360,020	403,619	-43,599	351,348	352,799
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	244,500	250,750	-6,250	241,750	246,250
WEEK ENDING	January 6	December 30	Change	December 23	<u>Prior Year</u> ¹
Insured Unemployment (SA)	1,952,000	1,876,000	+76,000	1,905,000	2,061,000
Insured Unemployment (NSA)	2,400,581	2,305,682	+94,899	2,066,441	2,518,545
4-Wk Moving Average (SA)	1,921,000	1,917,000	+4,000	1,920,250	2,085,250
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (SA)</u> ²	1.4%	1.3%	+0.1	1.4%	1.5%
<u>Insured Unemployment Rate (NSA)</u> ²	1.7%	1.6%	+0.1	1.5%	1.8%

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR – THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION: DECEMBER 2017

Monthly national data by industry on employment, hours, and earnings of workers on the payrolls of nonfarm establishments. DOL Release - <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf>

- Total **nonfarm payroll employment** rose by 148,000 in December. Job gains occurred in **health care, construction, and manufacturing**. In 2017, payroll employment growth totaled 2.1 million, compared with a gain of 2.2 million in 2016.
- Employment in **health care** increased by 31,000 in December. Employment continued to trend up in **ambulatory health care services** (+15,000) and hospitals (+12,000). **Health care** added 300,000 jobs in 2017, compared with a gain of 379,000 jobs in 2016.
- In December, **manufacturing** employment rose by 25,000, largely reflecting a gain in durable goods industries (+21,000). **Manufacturing** added 196,000 jobs in 2017, following little net change in 2016 (-16,000).
- In December, employment changed little in **professional and business services** (+19,000). In 2017, the industry added an average of 44,000 jobs per month, in line with its average monthly gain in 2016.
- The **average workweek for all employees** on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.5 hours in December. In **manufacturing, the workweek edged down** by 0.1 hour to 40.8 hours, while overtime remained at 3.5 hours. The average workweek for **production and nonsupervisory employees** on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 33.8 hours.
- In December, **average hourly earnings for all employees** on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 9 cents to \$26.63. Over the year, average hourly earnings have risen by 65 cents, or 2.5 percent. Average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees increased by 7 cents to \$22.30 in December.



CONFERENCE BOARD - HELP WANTED ONLINE DATA SERIES DECEMBER 2017 REPORT

Measures the number of new, first-time online jobs and jobs reposted from the previous month for over 16,000 Internet job boards, corporate boards and smaller job sites that serve niche markets and smaller geographic areas. <https://www.conference-board.org/data/helpwantedonline.cfm>

Region	Number of unemployed people per online job posted
USA	1.41
California	1.65
Los Angeles	1.76

- Online advertised vacancies increased 229,700 to 4,930,700 in December, according to *The Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine® (HWOL) Data Series*, released January 3.
- The November Supply/Demand rate stands at 1.41 unemployed for each advertised vacancy, with a total of 1.9 million more unemployed workers than the number of advertised vacancies. The number of unemployed was approximately 6.6 million in November.

Sector/Occupational Changes

In December, eight of the largest ten online occupational categories posted increases and two declined.

Education, training, and library ads increased 56,000 to 231,100. The supply/demand rate lies at 1.42, i.e. over 1 unemployed job-seeker for every advertised available opening.

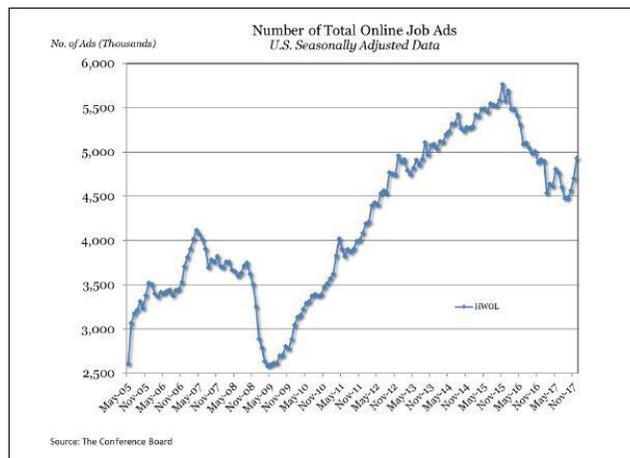
Management ads increased 12,500 to 401,700. The supply/demand rate lies at 0.82, i.e. 1 advertised opening per unemployed job-seeker.

Art, design, entertainment, sports, and media ads increased 13,300 to 116,400. The supply/demand rate lies at 1.17, i.e. 1 unemployed job-seeker for every advertised available opening.

Transportation ads increased 49,200 to 393,800. The supply/demand rate lies at 1.81, i.e. over 1 unemployed job-seekers for every advertised available opening.

Office and administration support ads increased 21,600 to 506,100. The supply/demand rate lies at 1.45, i.e. over 1 unemployed job-seekers for every advertised available opening.

Building and grounds cleaning and maintenance ads increased 14,000 to 123,100. The supply/demand rate lies at 2.88, i.e. over 2 unemployed job-seekers for every advertised available opening.



THE CONFERENCE BOARD - EMPLOYMENT TRENDS INDEX – DECEMBER 2017

This report offers a short-term, forward look at employment on its own. It gives economists and investors a new forecasting tool. It also helps business executives sharpen their short- to medium-term hiring and compensation planning. <http://www.conference-board.org/press/>

- The Conference Board Employment Trends Index™ (ETI) increased in December, after virtually no change in November. The index now stands at 107.10, up from 106.36 (revised) in November. The change represents a 5.2 percent gain in the ETI compared to a year ago.
- “The rapid improvement in the Employment Trends Index in recent months suggests that job growth is unlikely to slow down in the months ahead,” said Gad Levanon, Chief Economist, North America, at The Conference Board. “The US economy has been significantly accelerating in recent quarters and the tax cuts passed by Congress will provide an additional boost to the US economy in 2018. In such an environment, job growth will remain solid and the unemployment rate will reach lower than any rate since the 1960s.”

RELEVANT NEWS ARTICLES

January 5, 2018, “U.S. added 148,000 jobs in December, in lagging finish to year of strong growth”

By Danielle Paquette, *Washington Post*

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/wonk/wp/2018/01/05/u-s-added-200000-jobs-in-december-capping-year-of-strong-growth-economists-predict/?utm_term=.d4342950b426&wpisrc=nl_sb_smartbrief

- The U.S. economy added 148,000 jobs in December after a year of steady hiring, missing expectations for a larger last-minute surge, the government reported Friday.
- The unemployment rate stayed at 4.1 percent last month, the lowest point since 2000. Wages continued their slow climb, rising by 9 cents to \$26.63. That’s a 2.5 percent increase since December 2016 (and still below pre-recession levels).
- One dark spot was retail, which lost 20,000 jobs in December, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. About 67,000 positions vanished from stores in 2017, a sharp reversal from the 203,000 jobs that were added in 2016.
- The BLS report still sends a promising message to job seekers: Employers will be increasingly desperate for your applications in 2018. And while wages stayed flat in 2017, the unemployment rate sank at a faster pace, which gives economists hope that raises are on the horizon.

January 11, 2018, “What state has the lowest rate of workplace fatalities? California’s rank may surprise you!”

By Jonathan Lansner, *Orange County Register*

<https://www.ocregister.com/2018/01/11/what-state-has-the-lowest-rate-of-workplace-fatalities-californias-rank-may-surprise-you/>

- California had the fourth lowest rate of workplace fatalities in the nation in 2015-16, federal stats show. California had 376 people die on the job in 2016, down 12 from 2015, according to the latest statistics from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- That means fatal workplace injuries occurred in California at an average rate of 2.2 deaths for every 100,000 full-time workers in 2015-16. Only three other places fared better in the nation in this deaths-to-worker ratio.
- No. 1 was Rhode Island at 1.5 fatalities per 100,000 workers. The District of Columbia was second with 1.9 fatalities per 100,000. Third was Connecticut at 2.1 fatalities per 100,000. Right behind California was a tie between Delaware and Washington at 2.25 fatalities per 100,000.
- Worker deaths may be just one measure of how safe one feels at work, but they’re an eye-catching benchmark.

January 12, 2018, "U.S. retail sales rise in December, capping a strong year in spending"

By David Pierson, *LA Times*

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-retail-sales-20180112-story.html>

- American consumers continued to spend at stores in December, capping a robust year for retailers.
- U.S. retail sales rose 0.4% the final month of the year after a 0.9% increase in November, the U.S. Department of Commerce said Friday. The results mean retail sales grew 4.2% in 2017, the most since 2014.
- Combined with last month's glowing consumer spending data, economists say, the U.S. economy is showing signs of strength going into the new year.
- "We aren't sure who gets the credit for the strongest advance in consumer spending since 2010, but it is likely tied in part to the massive tax cuts from Washington and perhaps the Fed's easy money too-low interest rate policy for this stage of the business cycle with the economy in its ninth year of expansion from the end of the recession," said Chris Rupkey, chief financial economist at MUFG Union Bank in New York, in a note to clients Friday. "The tax cut from Washington may just make this the longest economic expansion in modern economic history looking back to the 1970s."

January 12, 2018, "Southern California wildfires trigger mass destruction hurting families, economy" By Madeline Farber,

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2018/01/12/southern-california-wildfires-trigger-mass-destruction-hurting-families-economy.html>

- The wind-whipped wildfire started Dec. 4...and caused at least 50,000 people to evacuate, destroyed 1,063 structures and scorched roughly 281,893 acres.
- California had faced a significant drought over the past five years, which created a log of dead vegetation across the state.
- One of the biggest revenue generators in the West are "recreational activities on public lands,"...
- "Businesses shut down, and small communities who depend on tourism are greatly impacted,"...
- Overall, the Thomas fire has cost more than \$204.5 million to fight, a U.S. Forest Service spokesman told the the *LA Times*.