



Beacon Economics Employment Report

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A partnership of the EVC and Beacon Economics

Multiple Labor Market Trends 'Going On Out There', Says Latest Beacon Economics Analysis

California's Unemployment Rate Doesn't Budge

Battle of the Trends:

October's employment data reveal a number of different - and contradictory - trends occurring in California's labor markets. Some industries continue their long-term decline, while others have turned the corner and are adding jobs. The result of this battle is often a convoluted employment picture. For example, residential employment in California fell by nearly 3,500 jobs, but industry employment expanded by over 43,000 jobs. At the same time the state's overall, seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained stuck at 12.4%. What does it all mean? Until there is a clear tip in the battle between declining and growing industries, we will continue to see conflicting numbers and California's labor market will remain relatively flat.

Job Growth? Depends on Industry:

California's goods-producing industries grew by 9,400 jobs and its service-producing industries expanded by 29,600 jobs. Industries posting the largest gains were Professional and Business Services (14,800 positions), Accommodations and Food Services (7,300 positions), and Healthcare and Social Assistance (6,200 positions). Notable declines were in Financial Activities which contracted by 4,300 positions; Information which lost 3,000 positions; and Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation which lost 2,900 positions.

Regional Employment Gains a Positive Sign:

Of California's 26 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA), 17 posted over-the-month employment gains. The largest increase was in the combined MSA of Los Angeles County and Orange County (15,900 positions added). One of the hardest hit areas in the state - the Inland Empire - posted an expansion of 7,100 positions. MSA's that experienced declines (albeit small ones) included San Diego (1,800 positions lost) and Sacramento (1,400 positions lost).

*[CLICK HERE](#) to go to *The Beacon Employment Report* web page with regional and industry breakdowns in all 50 states.*

Beacon Economics' interactive monthly employment report processes data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and data generated and released by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) on the third Friday of every month. Beacon Economics reproduces EDDs data by major MSA in California on a seasonally adjusted basis to facilitate month-to-month comparisons.

Contact Beacon's Experts

Founding principals, Dr. Jon Haveman and Dr. Christopher Thornberg are both PhD economists committed to rigorous research and objective, dispassionate analysis.



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