



ECONOMY FAST FACTS

AREA	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE Feb. 2010	CHANGE FROM Feb. 2009 estimate
California	12.8%	+2.6%
Calaveras County	16.8%	+3.1%
Fresno County	18.5%	+2.9%
Kern County	17.4%	+3.1%
Kings County	18.2%	+2.6%
Madera County	16.6%	+3%
Mariposa County	14.5%	+1.8%
Merced County	22.1%	+3%
San Joaquin County	18.4%	+3.1%
San Luis Obispo County	10.2%	+2.1%
Santa Barbara County	9.9%	+1.6%
Stanislaus County	19.1%	+2.9%
Tulare County	18.7%	+2.6%

Most of the jobs in **Calaveras County** are nonfarm related. Calaveras County ranked 13th in the State for the number of personal bankruptcies filed in 2009. Tourism is the main industry in **Mariposa County**. Land development and construction are other sources of employment in Mariposa County. California labor market reports that the occupations with the fastest job growth for the Mother Lode Region are personal financial planners, computer software workers; and occupational /physical therapy related positions.

Fresno County occupations with the fastest job growth according to the California labor market include network systems and data communication analysts, cargo and freight agents, computer software engineers and veterinary techs. On April 13, 2010 over 4,000 persons showed up at the Island Waterpark for a chance to obtain one of the 400 jobs that will be filled.

Kern County ranks among the top five most-productive agricultural counties in the United States. A March 24, 2010 news story on ABC23 stated that 1,500-2,000 green energy jobs will be created in the county. California Labor market reports that occupations with the fastest job growth include computer software engineers, mathematical scientists, network systems and data communications analysts, technical writers and veterinarians.

Kings County's naval air station helps generate local jobs. A March 26, 2010 article in the Hanford Sentinel stated that the county saw an increase of 1,000 manufacturing jobs over last year. Some small rural localities including Kettleman City, Avenal, and Stratford suffer very high unemployment rates ranging from 27%-40%.

Madera County has the greatest percentage of jobs in the health care and social assistance categories. Tourism is the major economic source for many of the small communities located in the Eastern part of the county. In March 2010 more than 200 job seekers attended the Oakhurst Job Fair. In 2009 it ranked 23rd in the State for the number of personal bankruptcies filed.

Merced County is the fifth leading agricultural county in the State and products associated with dairies generate the greatest amount of revenue. UC Merced plans to add more academic buildings, student housing, and a student union to its campus. This new construction is hoped to result in actual construction jobs for Merced County residents.

San Joaquin County had a drop in farm employment in 2009 per California EDD data. Agriculture impacts many non farm jobs throughout the County including trucking, veterinarians and the manufacturing of fertilizers and other farm chemicals. More than 50 employers with job openings were at a job fair in Stockton on April 1, 2010. In 2009 it ranked 8th in the State for the number of personal bankruptcies filed.

San Luis Obispo County has employment opportunities in technology, agriculture/viticulture, as well as tourism. Services and retail account for 75% of jobs in the county whereas manufacturing jobs account for less than 6% of all county jobs. The California Labor market reports that the fastest job growth occupations include computer software engineers and network systems and data communications analysts.

Santa Barbara County has a relatively rich economic base in the southern part of the county compared to that in the northern part of the County. Tourism is a source of revenue. The California Labor market reports that personal and home care aides, network systems and data communications analysts are the fastest job growth occupations in the county. Strawberries, broccoli and wine grapes are the top three agricultural jobs in the County.

A March 27, 2010 Modesto Bee article reports that **Stanislaus County** unemployment rate in February 2010 was the highest since February 1993. Only farming saw job gains over the past year. In 2009 Stanislaus county ranked 7th in the State for the number of personal bankruptcies filed.

Tulare County has experienced the most job losses in the construction and manufacturing fields. The two areas that showed a gain in employment in 2009 were in agriculture and food processing yet in January 2010 there was a loss of 2,000 farm jobs from Dec. 2009 according to a March 11, 2010 article in the Porterville Recorder. Between 2,000 -2,500 persons are anticipated to attend a Career Fair on April 21, 2010 in Tulare County.

Although the NUMMI automotive manufacturing plant closed in April 2010 in Fremont, CA, its closing is impacting several of our CCASSC counties as many employees live in both San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties and related businesses operate in Stanislaus and Merced counties.

Due to low participation in the earned income tax credit program, "Fresno, Madera, Merced, Kern, Kings, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Tulare Counties suffer a foregone business sales impact of more than \$180 million and a foregone employment impact of over 1,100 jobs "according to a March 9, 2010 policy paper titled *Left on the Table* by the New America Foundation.