

Workforce Review

A monthly review of labor market information for Northern Santa Clara County

February 2010

Did you know?

One in Five U.S. Jobless Are Unemployed After a Year, Pew Says

More than one in five jobless Americans have been without work for a year or more, potentially leading to a loss of skills that will hurt the economy, according to a study by the Pew Fiscal Analysis Initiative.

About 3.4 million people, or 23 percent of the unemployed in December, were jobless for at least 12 months, the study showed. And, while the long-term job loss spans industries and age groups, those who are 55 and older have had the hardest time finding new positions, according to the report.

While more experienced Americans are less likely to lose their jobs, once unemployed they face an increasing chance of being out of work longer, the report showed. Almost 30 percent of unemployed workers aged 55 and older have been without work for a year or more, the highest share of any age group. Across age groups, people with a high school diploma or less were most likely to be unemployed for more than a year.

Even so, education did not guarantee a short stint of unemployment. Twenty-one percent of jobless workers with a bachelor's degree have been out of work for a year or longer, compared with 27 percent of high school graduates and 23 percent of those without a high school diploma. Those who are unemployed for such a length of time can lose job skills and face the largest cuts in weekly earnings once they do return to work, today's report showed.

The problem of long-term unemployment is not likely to diminish soon, according to the report. A workweek near record lows indicates companies can give current employees more work before having to take on more staff. Also, a surge in permanent firings signals many of those jobs are not coming back.

Source: Bloomberg News (04/04/10)



Developing a skilled workforce for Silicon Valley

February 2010

Labor Force Statistics (San José–Sunnyvale–Santa Clara MSA)

Civilian Unemployment Rate	February 2009	January 2010	February 2010	Percentage Point Change	
				Monthly	Annual
San José–Sunnyvale MSA	9.9%	12.4%	12.1%	- 0.3	+ 2.2
California	10.7%	13.2%	12.8%	- 0.4	+ 2.1
United States	8.9%	10.6%	10.4%	- 0.2	+ 1.5

Civilian Labor Force	February 2009	January 2010	February 2010	Percentage Change	
				Monthly	Annual
San José–Sunnyvale MSA	909,300	897,400	898,700	+ 0.1%	- 1.2%
Civilian Employed	818,900	786,200	790,300	+ 0.5%	- 3.5%
Civilian Unemployed	90,400	111,200	108,400	- 2.5%	+ 19.9%

Greatest Change in Employment	February 2009	January 2010	February 2010	Percentage Change	
				Monthly	Annual
Total Nonfarm	871,000	835,100	836,900	+ 0.2%	- 3.9%
Educational Services	34,300	32,800	34,200	+ 4.3%	- 0.3%
Employment Services	15,700	16,500	16,800	+ 1.8%	+ 7.0%
Government, State & Local	86,100	87,600	87,100	- 0.6%	+ 1.2%
Health Care	75,600	75,000	75,300	+ 0.4%	- 0.4%
Manufacturing	160,300	151,600	152,400	+ 0.5%	- 4.9%

NOTE: San José–Sunnyvale–Santa Clara MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area) = Santa Clara and San Benito Counties

Source: California Employment Development Department, LMID

Labor Force by High-Tech Region (Metropolitan Statistical Area)

	Labor Force			% Change Annual	Employed			% Change Annual	Unemployment Rate	
	February 2009	February 2010	February 2010		February 2009	February 2010	February 2009		February 2010	
United States	153,804,000	153,194,000	153,194,000	- 0.4%	140,105,000	137,203,000	- 2.1%	8.9%	10.4%	
California	18,341,800	18,194,200	18,194,200	- 0.8%	16,378,600	15,866,700	- 3.1%	10.7%	12.8%	
Austin, TX	872,400	906,300	906,300	+ 3.9%	814,400	840,600	+ 3.2%	6.6%	7.2%	
Boston, MA	2,522,600	2,528,600	2,528,600	+ 0.2%	2,339,800	2,302,600	- 1.6%	7.2%	8.9%	
Portland, OR	1,187,500	1,164,600	1,164,600	- 1.9%	1,061,600	1,035,500	- 2.5%	10.6%	11.1%	
San Diego	1,567,400	1,552,500	1,552,500	- 1.0%	1,431,100	1,387,700	- 3.0%	8.7%	10.6%	
San Francisco	975,700	955,200	955,200	- 2.1%	900,300	864,600	- 4.0%	7.7%	9.5%	
Seattle, WA	1,493,100	1,488,600	1,488,600	- 0.3%	1,368,900	1,352,100	- 1.2%	8.3%	9.2%	
San José–Sunnyvale	909,300	898,700	898,700	- 1.2%	818,900	790,300	- 3.5%	9.9%	12.1%	

NOTE: Totals may not add correctly due to rounding

Source: Multiple states' employment development departments (CA, MA, OR, TX, WA)

Regional Layoff Activity

Company	WARN**	City	Affected	Cause
Applied Materials	Y	Santa Clara	183	RIF
Lifescan	N	Milpitas	11	RIF
Medtronic	N	Sunnyvale	24	RIF
Sun Microsystems	Y	Santa Clara	126	RIF
Vmware	Y	Palo Alto	9	RIF
Company Confidential	N	Mountain View	200	RIF

553

WARN Summary

Individuals Affected YTD [†] :	2,896 [‡]
WARN Current YTD:	62
WARN Previous YTD:	79

** WARN: Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (notice of mass layoff or closure)

[†] YTD: Year to Date (Fiscal year: July 1 - June 30)[‡] Summary Total may not equal sum of monthly numbers due to internal adjustments

NOTE: Layoff data are preliminary and should be considered an estimate of monthly regional activity

Source: NOVA's internal Rapid Response database