

# Workforce Review

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

## March 2009

### Did you know?

More California natives are staying put

Research from the University of California, San Diego, shows that more than 70% of Californians ages 15 to 24 were born and raised in the state, according to the report, "The New Homegrown Majority in California." By contrast, nearly two-thirds of state residents 45 to 54 years old were born out of state.

The change has far-reaching implications for everything from investment in the public education system to who will buy retiring baby boomers' homes and shoulder the burden of future taxes, said Dowell Myers, one of the study's principal authors. "It's a sea change in demography but also in political perceptions," Myers said. "We've transformed from being a state of migrants to a settled state of native Californians. "We're basically becoming more self-reliant on who we have here. And we're going to be prospering or suffering on who we have here."

The younger generation of native-born Californians is more likely to support higher taxes for public services and to stick around to return the state's investment in their education, the study said.

The recent trends, which cut across racial and ethnic groups, mark a reversal in losses of native-born Californians during the recession of the past few years. California natives now are more inclined to remain in their home state than residents of 45 other states, the report says. Cultural ties may be one factor. But across the country today more people are staying put for a combination of reasons, said D'Vera Cohn, who has studied the trends for the Pew Research Center. An aging population, the complexity of moving families when both parents work and the recession all appear to play a role, she said.

Source: Los Angeles Times (04/21/09)



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