

Workforce Review

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

May 2007

Did you know?

Not So Down in the Valley

Silicon Valley chief executives are getting their mojo back. They're bullish about the local economy and expanding their workforces, even though the region's perennial cost-of-living problems, especially runaway housing prices, continue to worry them, according to a survey released in May. The Silicon Valley Leadership Group's annual CEO Business Climate Survey showed that close to two-thirds (63 percent) of respondents stepped up hiring in the past year, while only 11 percent downsized. Exactly half the respondents expected more job growth at their firms in 2007, while just 12 percent anticipated a decline.

Among those adding jobs, 7 percent added 500 jobs or more. No company eliminated jobs at that rate. "When it comes to job growth, we've finally replaced real pain with champagne," said Carl Guardino, CEO of the group, which represents top executives at 210 valley companies. "It's good for our companies, our economy, for employees who endured four of the steepest and deepest economic downturn years in the history of Silicon Valley." The 115 responding companies have combined revenue of \$650 billion, ranging from startups to Fortune 500 companies, and encompassing industries from high-tech to life sciences to financial services, Guardino said.

While jobs growth was the good news, a large chunk of the survey looked at bad news: The continuing issues that still need to be addressed were most notably astronomical housing prices, worsening traffic congestion and increasing health care costs. Housing "screams out as the most important concern of every group," the report said. A staggering 99 percent of respondents said housing costs are among the top three cost-of-living challenges, and 84 percent listed it among the top five business challenges.

Source: *San Francisco Chronicle* [05/30/07]



A regional catalyst shaping and influencing the Silicon Valley workforce investment system to promote economic opportunity and shared prosperity.

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Civilian Unemployment Rate	May 2006 (Actual)	April 2007 (Revised)	May 2007 (Preliminary)	Percentage Point Change	
				04/07-05/07	05/06-05/07
San José–Sunnyvale MSA	4.3%	4.4%	4.4%	0.0%	0.1%
California	4.6%	5.0%	4.9%	- 0.1%	+ 0.3%
United States	4.4%	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%	- 0.1%

Civilian Labor Force	May 2006 (Actual)	April 2007 (Revised)	May 2007 (Preliminary)	Percentage Change	
				04/07-05/07	05/06-05/07
San José–Sunnyvale MSA	849,600	869,500	870,700	+ 0.1%	+ 2.5%
Civilian Employed	813,300	830,900	832,200	+ 0.2%	+ 2.3%
Civilian Unemployed	36,400	38,600	38,500	- 0.3%	+ 5.8%

Where the Jobs Are (San José–Sunnyvale MSA)	May 2006 (Actual)	April 2007 (Revised)	May 2007 (Preliminary)	Percentage Change	
				04/07-05/07	05/06-05/07
Total Nonfarm	891,000	908,800	913,100	+ 0.5%	+ 2.5%
Goods Producing	217,500	219,100	220,100	+ 0.5%	+ 1.2%
Manufacturing	171,100	170,700	171,500	+ 0.5%	+ 0.2%
Service Providing	673,500	689,700	693,000	+ 0.5%	+ 2.9%
Health Care	70,100	73,600	73,400	- 0.3%	+ 4.7%
Prof. & Business Svcs.	163,300	170,400	170,400	0.0%	+ 4.3%

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 County (San Francisco Bay Area)	Labor Force		Labor Force % Change (05/06-05/07)	Employed		Employed % Change (05/06-05/07)	Unemployment Rate	
	May 2006	May 2007		May 2006	May 2007		May 2006	May 2007
	California	17,801,700	18,095,500	+ 1.7%	16,982,800	17,216,800	+ 1.4%	4.6%
Alameda County	738,300	750,000	+ 1.6%	707,400	717,200	+ 1.4%	4.2%	4.4%
Contra Costa County	513,300	522,100	+ 1.7%	492,600	499,400	+ 1.4%	4.0%	4.3%
Marin County	130,700	133,600	+ 2.2%	126,300	129,200	+ 2.3%	3.4%	3.3%
Napa County	72,800	75,000	+ 3.0%	70,300	72,300	+ 2.8%	3.5%	3.6%
San Francisco County	416,600	426,200	+ 2.3%	399,800	409,000	+ 2.3%	4.0%	4.0%
San Mateo County	363,900	372,700	+ 2.4%	351,200	359,300	+ 2.3%	3.5%	3.6%
Santa Clara County	824,900	845,500	+ 2.5%	790,200	808,600	+ 2.3%	4.2%	4.4%
Solano County	210,900	214,300	+ 1.6%	201,100	204,000	+ 1.4%	4.6%	4.8%
Sonoma County	256,700	261,600	+ 1.9%	247,100	251,100	+ 1.6%	3.7%	4.0%
S.F. Bay Area	3,528,100	3,601,000	+ 2.1%	3,386,000	3,450,100	+ 1.9%	4.0%	4.2%

NOTE: Totals may not add correctly due to rounding

Source: California Employment Development Department, LMID

Regional Layoff Activity: May 2007					Summary
Company	WARN *	City	Affected	Cause	Individuals Affected YTD †: 3,984
Advanced Micro Devices	No	Sunnyvale	42	RIF	WARN Current YTD: 39
Cosentino's Market	No	Santa Clara	39	Closure	
CV Therapeutics	Yes	Palo Alto	150	RIF	WARN Previous YTD: 26
Spansion	No	Sunnyvale	45	RIF	
Symantec Corporation	Yes	Cupertino	75	RIF	* WARN : Workers' Adjustment and Retraining Notification (notice of mass layoff or closure) † YTD : Year to Date — Refers to fiscal year (July 1–June 30) ‡ Cumulative total may not equal sum of monthly numbers due to internal adjustments
Symantec Corporation	Yes	Mountain View	56	RIF	
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