

Workforce Review

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

December 2004

Did you know?

The U.S. labor market expanded at a meager pace in January, the government reported Friday, February 4, indicating that employers are still cautious about hiring despite more than a year of healthy economic growth.

According to the Labor Department, the economy added 146,000 new jobs in January, barely on a par with the growth trend of the labor force caused by the expansion of the population, and substantially less than the 180,000 jobs a month, on average, created last year.

The unemployment rate dropped to a three-year low of 5.2 percent in January from 5.4 percent in December. But that was because hundreds of thousands of people stopped looking for jobs and dropped out of the labor force.

The labor participation rate, the share of working-age people who are either working or looking for work, continued on its slide of the last four years, reaching 65.8 percent, the lowest level since 1988. The number of discouraged workers—those who stopped looking for work because they did not think they would find any—reached 515,000, almost 20 percent more than a year ago.

For the full text of this article, please visit San Jose Mercury News at www.mercurynews.com.

Source: San Jose Mercury News [2/5/05]
www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/business/10825088.htm
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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	December 2003 (Actual)	November 2004 (Revised)	December 2004 (Preliminary)	Change in Percentage Points	
				11/04-12/04	12/03-12/04
Santa Clara County	6.6%	5.1%	4.7%	- 0.4	- 1.9
California	6.2%	5.7%	5.4%	- 0.3	- 0.8
United States	5.4%	5.2%	5.1%	- 0.1	- 0.3

Civilian Labor Force	December 2003 (Actual)	November 2004 (Revised)	December 2004 (Preliminary)	Change in Percentage	
				11/04-12/04	12/03-12/04
Santa Clara County Total	876,600	863,500	855,800	- 0.9%	- 2.4%
Civilian Employed	819,000	819,500	816,000	- 0.4%	- 0.4%
Civilian Unemployed	57,600	44,000	39,800	- 9.5%	- 30.9%

Where the Jobs Are	December 2003 (Actual)	November 2004 (Revised)	December 2004 (Preliminary)	Change in Percentage	
				11/04-12/04	12/03-12/04
Santa Clara Co. Nonfarm	848,500	839,200	838,900	- 0.0%	- 1.1%
Manufacturing	171,800	169,800	170,300	+ 0.3%	- 0.9%
Comp. & Elec.Product Mfg.	116,200	115,900	116,300	+ 0.3%	+ 0.1%
Service Providing	639,200	631,900	632,200	+ 0.0%	- 1.1%
Business Services	163,200	158,400	157,600	- 0.5%	- 3.4%
Health Care	66,400	65,900	66,100	+ 0.3%	- 0.5%
Government	93,700	92,800	92,300	- 0.5%	- 1.5%

Source: California Employment Development Department, LMID

Labor Force by City (NOVA Region)	Labor Force	Unemployment Rate (11/04)	Unemployment Rate (12/04)	Rate Change (11/04-12/04)	Percentage of County's Labor Force
Santa Clara County	855,800	5.0%	4.7%	- 0.3	100.0%
Cupertino	24,390	2.9%	2.7%	- 0.2	1.6%
Los Altos	14,250	3.1%	2.8%	- 0.3	1.0%
Milpitas	27,710	5.2%	4.8%	- 0.4	3.3%
Mountain View	43,620	3.5%	3.2%	- 0.3	3.5%
Palo Alto	33,400	2.6%	2.4%	- 0.2	2.0%
Santa Clara	57,720	4.7%	4.4%	- 0.3	6.3%
Sunnyvale	73,010	4.3%	4.0%	- 0.3	7.3%
NOVA Workforce Investment Area	274,100	3.9%	3.7%	- 0.2	32.0%

Source: California Employment Development Department, LMID

Regional Layoff Activity

Company	WARN*	City	Affected	Cause
Adaptec	No	Milpitas	40	RIF
Advanced Micro Devices	No	Sunnyvale	3	RIF
Coudert Brothers LLP	No	Palo Alto	17	RIF
Hewlett-Packard	No	Palo Alto	-	RIF
KLA Tencor	No	Milpitas	15	RIF
National Semiconductor	No	Santa Clara	90	RIF
Netscape/AOL	No	Mountain View	-	RIF
Seagate	No	Milpitas	111	RIF
Stoddard's Brewhouse	No	Sunnyvale	35	Closure

311+

Summary

 Individuals
Affected YTD[†]: 3,241[‡]

 WARN
Current YTD: 5

 WARN
Previous YTD: 34

* 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