



# The Quick Look

## A Merced County Labor Market Review - March 2009

Welcome to the Merced County labor market review. The Quick Look has been developed by the Department of Workforce Investment staff for the Merced County Local Workforce Investment Board. The data and information is provided by the California Employment Development Department. Questions can be referred to the Department of Workforce Investment, 1880 West Wardrobe Avenue, Merced, CA 95341. Telephone (209) 724-2055. Email: [pitd131@co.merced.ca.us](mailto:pitd131@co.merced.ca.us) or to EDD's Labor Market Information Division at (916) 262-2162.

Merced County Data not adjusted for Seasonality	Labor Force and Industrial Employment					
	March 2006 Benchmark				Percent Change	
	Mar 08	Jan 09	Feb 09	Mar 09	Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	102,600	106,400	107,700	108,000	0.3%	5.3%
Civilian Employment	88,500	86,500	86,400	86,000	-0.5%	-2.8%
Civilian Unemployment	14,100	20,000	21,300	22,000	3.3%	56.0%
Civilian Unemployment Rate	13.7%	18.8%	19.8%	20.4%		
(CA Unemployment Rate)	6.5%	10.6%	11.0%	11.5%		
(U.S. Unemployment Rate)	5.2%	8.5%	8.9%	9.0%		
Total, All Industries	66,700	64,300	64,300	64,400	0.2%	-3.4%
Total Farm	8,800	8,400	8,500	8,600	1.2%	-2.3%
Total Nonfarm	57,900	55,900	55,800	55,800	0.0%	-3.6%
Total Private	41,900	40,200	40,100	40,000	-0.2%	-4.5%
Goods Producing	11,700	10,600	10,500	10,500	0.0%	-10.3%
Natural Resources and Mining and Constuction	2,700	1,900	1,900	1,900	0.0%	-29.6%
Construction	2,700	1,900	1,900	1,900	0.0%	-29.6%
Manufacturing	9,000	8,700	8,600	8,600	0.0%	-4.4%
Durable Goods	1,900	1,700	1,700	1,700	0.0%	-10.5%
Nondurable Goods	7,100	7,000	6,900	6,900	0.0%	-2.8%
Service Providing	46,200	45,300	45,300	45,300	0.0%	-1.9%
Private Service Producing	30,200	29,600	29,600	29,500	-0.3%	-2.3%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	11,400	11,200	11,100	11,000	-0.9%	-3.5%
Wholesale Trade	1,800	1,700	1,700	1,700	0.0%	-5.6%
Retail Trade	7,400	7,200	7,100	7,000	-1.4%	-5.4%
Food and Beverage Stores	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	0.0%	0.0%
General Merchandise Stores	1,700	1,900	1,800	1,800	0.0%	5.9%
Residual - Miscellaneous Store Retailers	4,100	3,700	3,700	3,600	-2.7%	-12.2%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	2,200	2,300	2,300	2,300	0.0%	4.5%
Information	1,300	1,200	1,200	1,200	0.0%	-7.7%
Financial Activities	1,800	1,700	1,700	1,700	0.0%	-5.6%
Finance and Insurance	1,200	1,100	1,100	1,100	0.0%	-8.3%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	600	600	600	600	0.0%	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	3,700	4,000	4,000	4,000	0.0%	8.1%
Educational and Health Services	5,600	5,500	5,500	5,500	0.0%	-1.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,900	4,600	4,700	4,700	0.0%	-4.1%
Food Services and Drinking Places	4,200	4,000	4,100	4,100	0.0%	-2.4%
Residual - Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	700	600	600	600	0.0%	-14.3%
Other Services	1,500	1,400	1,400	1,400	0.0%	-6.7%
Government	16,000	15,700	15,700	15,800	0.6%	-1.3%
Federal Government	800	800	800	800	0.0%	0.0%
State Government	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	0.0%	0.0%
Local Government	13,600	13,300	13,300	13,400	0.8%	-1.5%

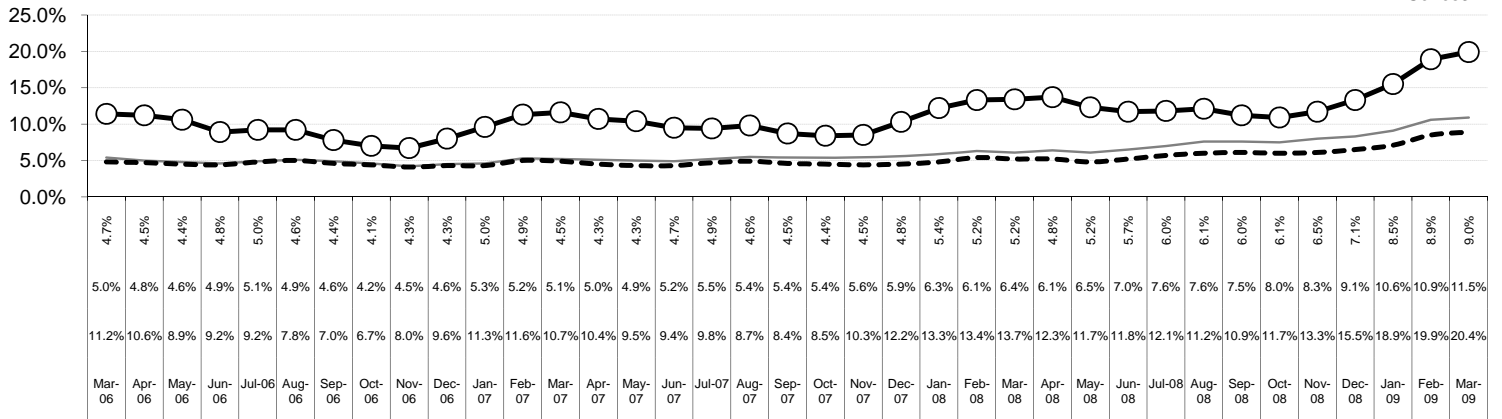
The County continues with one of the highest unemployment rates in the State, ranking 55th out of 58 counties in the month of March. The preliminary result is an increase of .6 percentage points in the unemployment rate from the February rate. For year ago data, this preliminary figure is an increase of 6.7 percentage points in the unemployment rate.

Overall, the County's Civilian Labor Force increased by 300 persons over last month's figure and an increase of 5,400 persons over year ago figure. Industrial employment increased by 100 jobs in March over February's figure and an decrease of 2,300 jobs over year ago's figures.

## The Quick Look

Mar 2009

**Merced County, California, and the United States  
Unemployment Rate  
March 2006 to March 2009**

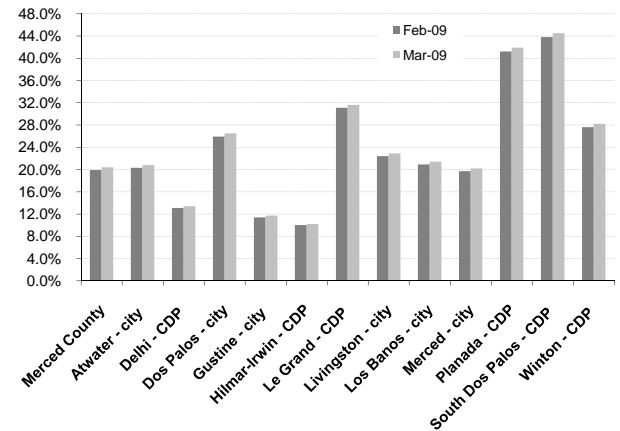


### Sub County average unemployment rates for the county, cities, and municipalities.

Area Name	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	
			Number	Rate
Merced County	108,000	86,000	22,000	20.4%
Atwater city	12,700	10,100	2,600	20.8%
Delhi CDP	4,000	3,500	500	13.4%
Dos Palos city	2,100	1,600	600	26.5%
Gustine city	2,500	2,200	300	11.7%
Hilmar Irwin CDP	2,800	2,500	300	10.2%
Le Grand CDP	800	500	300	31.6%
Livingston city	5,400	4,100	1,200	22.9%
Los Banos city	13,600	10,700	2,900	21.4%
Merced city	32,000	25,500	6,500	20.2%
Planada CDP	2,000	1,200	900	41.9%
South Dos Palos CDP	600	300	200	44.5%
Winton CDP	4,200	3,000	1,200	28.2%

CDP - Census Designated Place

**Merced County - Community Unemployment**



Merced County's workforce has grown over the past 16 years reflecting improvement of the County's economic well being; however, unemployment remains a consistent barrier to greater prosperity. Average unemployment has fluctuated from an annual low of 9.3 percent to an annual high of 17.5 percent.

### Counties in the San Joaquin Valley Quick Look

County	Rank	Labor Force	Employ	Unemployed	Rate
Merced	55	108,000	86,000	22,000	20.4%
Fresno	46	446,100	370,300	75,800	17.0%
Kern	40	371,000	312,000	59,000	15.9%
Kings	44	61,400	51,200	10,200	16.7%
Madera	36	68,900	58,300	10,600	15.3%
San Joaquin	42	309,000	258,200	50,800	16.4%
Stanislaus	48	244,000	201,200	42,800	17.5%
Tulare	49	207,500	170,700	36,800	17.7%
San Joaquin Valley		1,815,900	1,507,900	308,000	17.0%

**Counties in the San Joaquin Valley  
Unemployment Rates**

