



# The Quick Look

## A Merced County Labor Market Review - July 2005

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 95340. Telephone (209) 724-2042. Email: pitd26@co.merced.ca.us

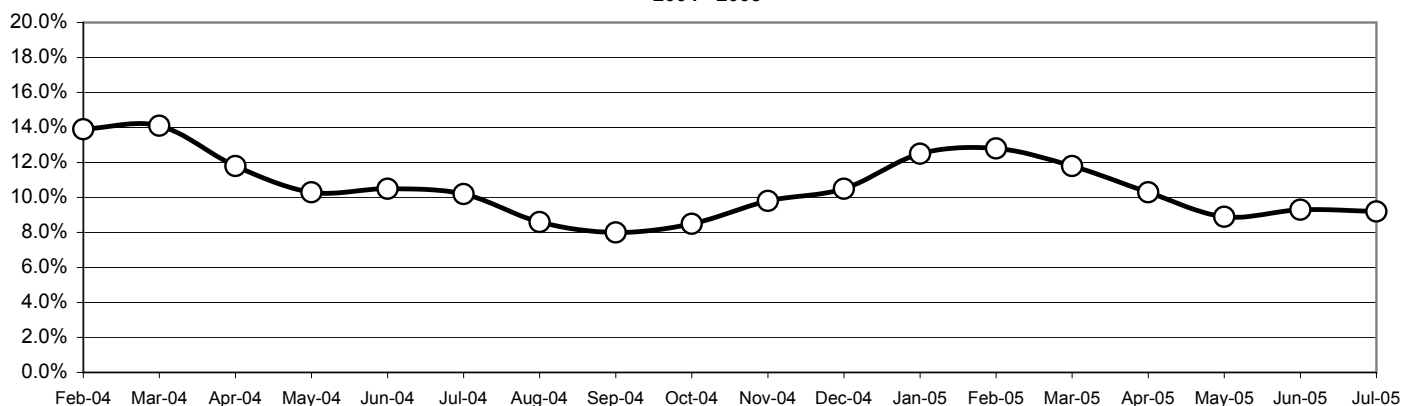
Merced County Data not adjusted for Seasonality	Labor Force and Industrial Employment					
	March 2004 Benchmark				Percent Change	
	Jul 04	May 05	Jun 05 Revised	Jul 05 Prelim.	Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force	99,400	99,700	101,500	99,400	-2.1%	0.0%
Civilian Employment	89,300	90,800	92,100	90,200	-2.1%	1.0%
Civilian Unemployment	10,100	8,800	9,500	9,200	-3.2%	-8.9%
Civilian Unemployment Rate	10.2%	8.9%	9.3%	9.2%		
(CA Unemployment Rate)	6.5%	5.0%	5.4%	5.4%		
(U.S. Unemployment Rate)	5.7%	4.9%	5.2%	5.2%		
Total, All Industries	67,600	69,400	70,400	67,600	-4.0%	0.0%
Total Farm	12,100	10,500	11,300	11,700	3.5%	-3.3%
Total Nonfarm	55,500	58,900	59,100	55,900	-5.4%	0.7%
Total Private	44,900	44,500	44,900	45,100	0.4%	0.4%
Goods Producing	15,800	15,200	15,600	15,900	1.9%	0.6%
Construction	3,600	3,800	3,900	3,900	0.0%	8.3%
Manufacturing	12,200	11,400	11,600	11,900	2.6%	-2.5%
Durable Goods	1,700	1,600	1,600	1,600	0.0%	-5.9%
Nondurable Goods	10,500	9,800	10,000	10,300	3.0%	-1.9%
Food Man & Beverage & Tobacco	8,900	8,300	8,500	8,900	4.7%	0.0%
Residual - Textile Mills	1,600	1,500	1,500	1,400	-6.7%	-12.5%
Service Providing	39,700	43,700	43,500	40,000	-8.0%	0.8%
Private Service Producing	29,100	29,300	29,300	29,200	-0.3%	0.3%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	1,900	11,000	11,000	11,000	0.0%	0.9%
Wholesale Trade	1,500	1,400	1,400	1,400	0.0%	-6.7%
Retail Trade	7,500	7,700	7,700	7,800	1.3%	4.0%
Food and Beverage Stores	1,400	1,600	1,500	1,500	0.0%	7.1%
General Merchandise Stores	1,600	1,700	1,700	1,800	5.9%	12.5%
Residual - Miscellaneous Store Retailers	4,500	4,400	4,500	4,500	0.0%	0.0%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,900	1,900	1,900	1,800	-5.3%	-5.3%
Information	1,400	1,400	1,300	1,300	0.0%	-7.1%
Financial Activities	1,800	1,700	1,700	1,700	0.0%	-5.6%
Finance and Insurance	1,100	1,000	1,000	1,000	0.0%	-9.1%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	700	700	700	700	0.0%	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	3,500	3,300	3,400	3,400	0.0%	-2.9%
Educational and Health Services	5,300	5,500	5,400	5,400	0.0%	1.9%
Leisure and Hospitality	4,700	4,800	4,900	4,700	-4.1%	0.0%
Food Services and Drinking Places	4,000	4,000	4,100	4,000	-2.4%	0.0%
Residual - Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	700	800	800	700	-12.5%	0.0%
Other Services	1,500	1,600	1,600	1,700	6.3%	13.3%
Government	10,600	14,400	14,200	10,800	-23.9%	1.9%
Federal Government	800	800	800	800	0.0%	0.0%
State Government	600	700	700	700	0.0%	16.7%
Local Government	9,200	12,900	12,700	9,300	-26.8%	1.1%

The County continues with one of the highest unemployment rates in the State, ranking 54rd out of 58 counties in the Month of July. The preliminary result is a decrease of 0.1 percentage point in the unemployment rate from the revised June rate. This preliminary figure is a decrease of 1.0 percentage point from the unemployment rate of one year ago.

Overall, the County's Civilian Labor Force decreased by 2,100 persons over last month's figure and no increase or decrease over year ago figures. Industrial employment decreased by 2,800 jobs in July over June's figures and showed no increased or decrease over year ago figures.

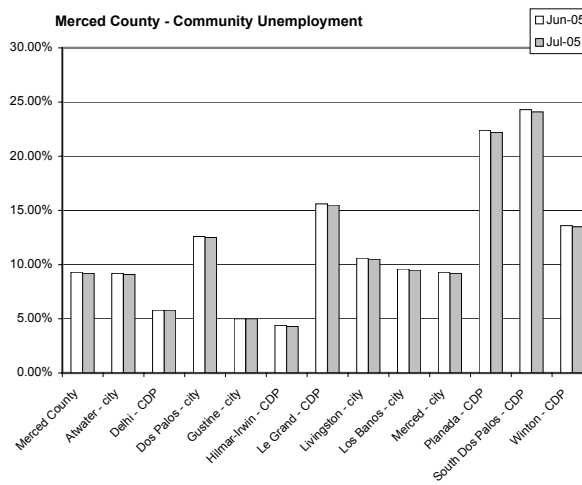
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**Merced County Unemployment Rate  
 2004 - 2005**



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

Area Name	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	
			Number	Rate
Merced County	99,400	90,200	9,200	9.2%
Atwater City	11,700	10,600	1,100	9.1%
Delhi CDP	3,800	3,600	200	5.8%
Dos Palos City	1,800	1,600	200	12.5%
Gustine City	2,400	2,300	100	5.0%
Hilmar-Irwin CDP	2,700	2,600	100	4.3%
Le Grand CDP	700	600	100	15.5%
Livingston City	4,800	4,300	500	10.5%
Los Banos City	12,300	11,100	1,200	9.5%
Merced City	29,400	26,700	2,700	9.2%
Planada CDP	1,600	1,200	400	22.2%
South Dos Palos CDP	400	300	100	24.1%
Winton CDP	3,700	3,200	500	13.5%



CDP - Census Designated Place

Merced County's workforce has grown over the past 20 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 9.7 percent to an annual high of 17.1 percent.

The County's unemployment rate is the third highest in the state. Merced County saw a decrease in the unemployment rate of 0.1 percentage point above June's revised unemployment rate. All seven counties saw decreases in their unemployment rate, ranging from a high of 0.6 percentage point.

**Seven County Quick Look**

County	Rank	Labor Force	Employ	Unemployed	Rate
Merced	56	99,400	90,200	9,200	9.2%
Madera	40	65,700	61,100	4,600	7.0%
Mariposa	18	9,520	9,040	480	5.1%
Fresno	49	427,700	393,900	33,800	7.9%
San Benito	34	25,100	23,500	1,600	6.2%
San Joaquin	43	291,500	270,300	21,200	7.3%
Stanislaus	46	236,300	218,100	18,200	7.7%

**Seven County Unemployment Rate**

