



# The Quick Look

## A Merced County Labor Market Review - September 2006

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

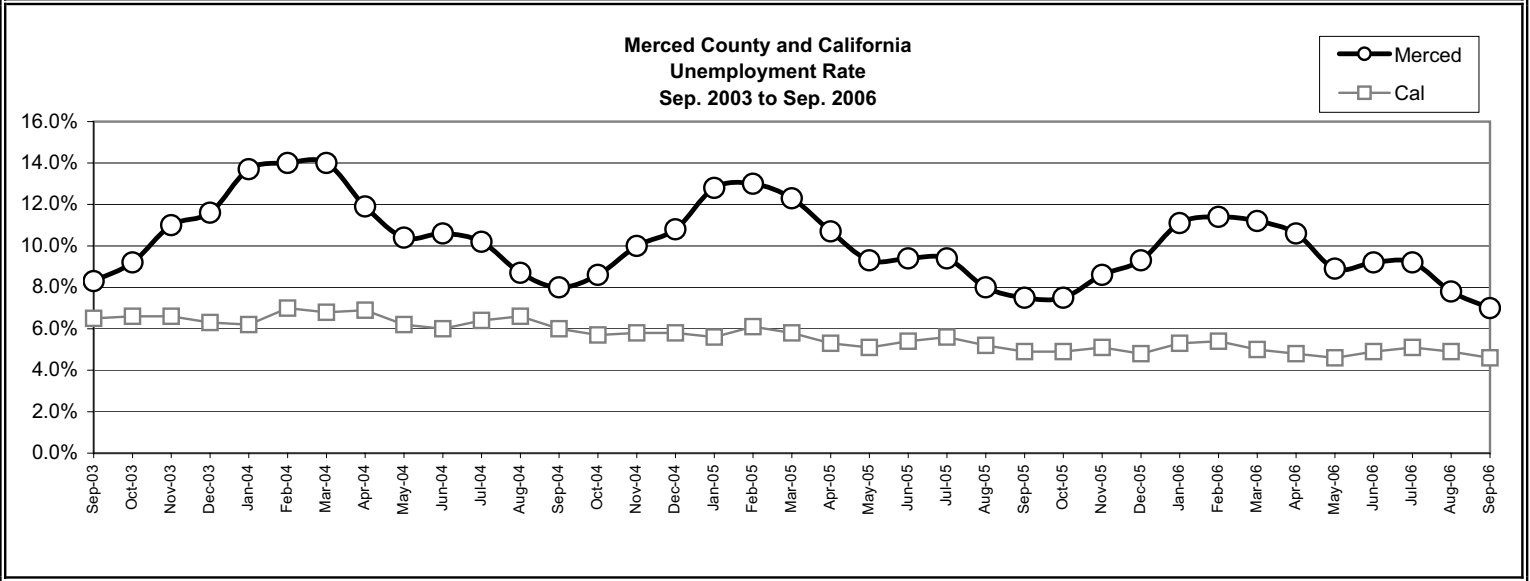
Merced County Data not adjusted for Seasonality	Labor Force and Industrial Employment						
	March 2005 Benchmark						
	Jul 05	Jul 06	Aug 06 Revised	Sep 06 Prelim.	Percent Change Month Year		
Civilian Labor Force	102,500	98,700	101,600	101,000	-0.6%	-1.5%	
Civilian Employment	94,800	89,700	93,600	93,900	0.3%	-0.9%	
Civilian Unemployment	7,700	9,100	7,900	7,100	-10.1%	-7.8%	
Civilian Unemployment Rate	7.5%	9.2%	7.8%	7.0%			
(CA Unemployment Rate)	4.9%	5.1%	4.9%	4.6%			
(U.S. Unemployment Rate)	4.8%	5.0%	4.6%	4.4%			
Total, All Industries	73,200	69,900	72,300	73,200	1.2%	0.0%	
Total Farm	13,000	11,900	12,200	12,500	2.5%	-3.8%	
Total Nonfarm	60,200	58,000	60,100	60,700	1.0%	0.8%	
Total Private	45,900	45,600	45,900	45,900	0.0%	0.0%	
Goods Producing	16,200	15,600	15,800	15,700	-0.6%	-3.1%	
Natural Resources and Mining	0	0	0	0			
Construction	3,700	3,600	3,600	3,500	-2.8%	-5.4%	
Manufacturing	12,500	12,000	12,200	12,200	0.0%	-2.4%	
Durable Goods	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	0.0%	0.0%	
Nondurable Goods	10,700	10,200	10,400	10,400	0.0%	-2.8%	
Food Man & Beverage & Tobacco	8,700	8,000	8,300	8,300	0.0%	-4.6%	
Residual - Textile Mills	200	2,200	2,100	2,100	0.0%	5.0%	
Service Providing	44,000	42,400	44,300	45,000	1.6%	2.3%	
Private Service Producing	29,700	30,000	30,100	30,200	0.3%	1.7%	
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	11,100	11,300	11,300	11,300	0.0%	1.8%	
Wholesale Trade	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,600	0.0%	0.0%	
Retail Trade	7,400	7,500	7,500	7,500	0.0%	1.4%	
Food and Beverage Stores	1,500	140	1,400	1,400	0.0%	-6.7%	
General Merchandise Stores	1,700	1,800	1,800	1,800	0.0%	5.9%	
Residual - Miscellaneous Store Retailers	4,200	4,300	4,300	4,300	0.0%	2.4%	
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,200	0.0%	4.8%	
Information	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	0.0%	0.0%	
Financial Activities	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0%	0.0%	
Finance and Insurance	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	0.0%	0.0%	
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	700	700	700	700	0.0%	0.0%	
Professional and Business Services	3,200	3,400	3,500	3,500	0.0%	9.4%	
Educational and Health Services	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,600	1.8%	1.8%	
Leisure and Hospitality	4,800	4,600	4,600	4,600	0.0%	-4.2%	
Food Services and Drinking Places	4,000	4,600	4,600	4,600	0.0%	-4.2%	
Residual - Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	800	700	700	700	0.0%	-12.5%	
Other Services	1,600	1,700	1,700	1,700	0.0%	6.3%	
Government	14,300	12,400	14,200	14,800	4.2%	3.5%	
Federal Government	800	800	800	800	0.0%	0.0%	
State Government	1,200	1,400	1,400	1,600	14.3%	33.3%	
Local Government	12,300	10,200	12,000	12,400	3.3%	0.8%	

The County continues with one of the highest unemployment rates in the State, ranking 55th out of 58 counties in the month of September. The preliminary result is a decrease of 0.8 percentage point in the unemployment rate from the revised August rate. For year ago data, this preliminary figure is a decrease of 0.5 percentage point from the unemployment rate a year ago..

Overall, the County's Civilian Labor Force decreased by 600 persons over last month's figure and an decrease of 1,500 persons over year ago figures. Industrial employment increased by 900 jobs in September over August's figure and showed no movement over year ago figures.

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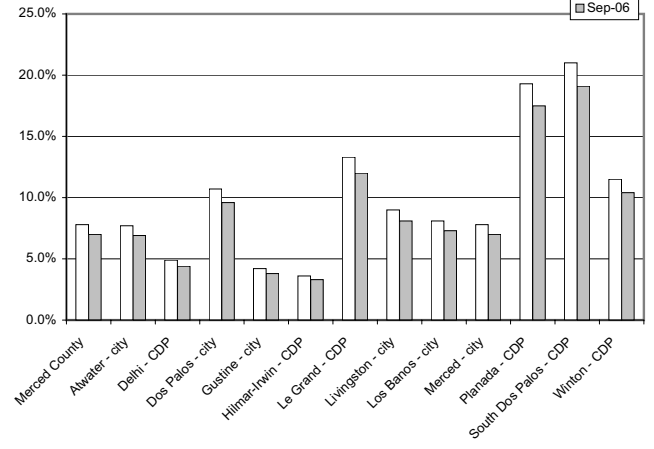


#### Sub County average unemployment rates for the county, cities, and municipalities.

Area Name	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	
			Number	Rate
Merced County	101,000	93,900	7,100	7.0%
Atwater City	11,800	11,000	800	6.9%
Delhi CDP	4,000	3,800	200	4.4%
Dos Palos City	1,900	1,700	200	9.6%
Gustine City	2,500	2,400	100	3.8%
Hilmar-Irwin CDP	2,800	2,700	100	3.3%
Le Grand CDP	700	600	100	12.0%
Livingston City	4,900	4,500	400	8.1%
Los Banos City	12,500	11,600	900	7.3%
Merced City	29,900	27,800	2,100	7.0%
Planada CDP	1,600	1,300	300	17.5%
South Dos Palos CDP	400	300	100	19.1%
Winton CDP	3,700	3,300	400	10.4%

CDP - Census Designated Place

#### Merced County - Community Unemployment



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.

#### Seven County Quick Look

County	Rank	Labor Force	Employ	Unemployed	Rate
Merced	55	101,000	93,900	7,100	7.0%
Madera	37	66,300	62,900	3,400	5.2%
Mariposa	15	9,570	9,170	400	4.1%
Fresno	52	407,100	380,500	26,600	6.5%
San Benito	29	24,400	23,200	1,100	4.7%
San Joaquin	47	287,500	269,300	18,100	6.3%
Stanislaus	50	232,400	217,600	14,800	6.4%

#### Seven County Unemployment Rate

