

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

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Executive Director's Bulletin

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Labor Market Report

February 2017

Today, the State of California Labor Market Information Division (LMID) released its Monthly Press Release on Unemployment and Industry Sector job growth/decline in Santa Barbara County.

The unemployment rate for **February 2017 was 5.5%**, down from 6.0% in January, and below the year-ago estimate of 5.8%. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 5.2% for California and 4.9% for the nation during February 2017.

HIGHLIGHTS:

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE*: 5.5% (Down from 6.0% in January 2017)

LABOR FORCE: 215,700

EMPLOYMENT: 203,800

UNEMPLOYMENT: 11,900

LARGEST GAIN (Sector): Leisure & Hospitality (800 jobs)

LARGEST DECLINE (Sector): Trade, Transportation & Utilities (500 jobs)

- Note: This Unemployment Rate does not capture the “non-participation” numbers of people who have stopped looking for work. This non-participation rate is not measured for Santa Barbara County—but is for the nation, and in most recent data it adds one percentage point to the unemployment rate.

Santa Barbara County Unemployment Rate by City

	Unemployment Number	Rate
Buellton City	100	3.5%
Carpinteria City	400	4.8%
Goleta City	600	3.3%
Guadalupe City	200	5.2%
Lompoc City	1,300	7.2%
Santa Barbara City	2,200	4.4%
Santa Maria City	3,200	6.7%
Solvang City	200	6.8%

ABOUT THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF Santa Barbara COUNTY

The Workforce Development Board, www.SBCWDB.org, is dedicated to serving the workforce needs of businesses, adults, laid-off workers and youth throughout Santa Barbara County. The WDB is a public/private partnership created by the Federal Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act and is staffed by the County of Santa Barbara.

Job seekers and employers can take advantage of free services at two Workforce Resource Centers (“One-Stops”) to help find work or new employees. Programs include employment services for job seekers, the latest labor market information and regional workforce research for businesses, as well as training that specialize in helping people gain the skills and confidence necessary to find and obtain a job. The One-Stop Shops are at 1410 S. Broadway in Santa Maria, (805) 614-1550, and 130 E. Ortega Street in Santa Barbara, (805) 568-1296.

Santa Barbara County Industry Clusters of Opportunity (designated by WDB):

Healthcare
Energy and Environment
Building and Design
Aerospace Vehicles & Defense
Biotechnology & Related Devices
Information & Communication Technologies
Business Services
Agriculture & Wineries
Food, Beverage & Tourism

For more information please go to: [http://www.labormarketinfo.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/satb\\$pds.pdf](http://www.labormarketinfo.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/satb$pds.pdf) for the State Report on Santa Barbara County’s unemployment figures.