

# Inland Empire/Desert Region Labor Market Update

Released January 22, 2021

## Between November and December 2020:



### Unemployment Rate

Increased to

**9.1%**



### Nonfarm Employment

Lost

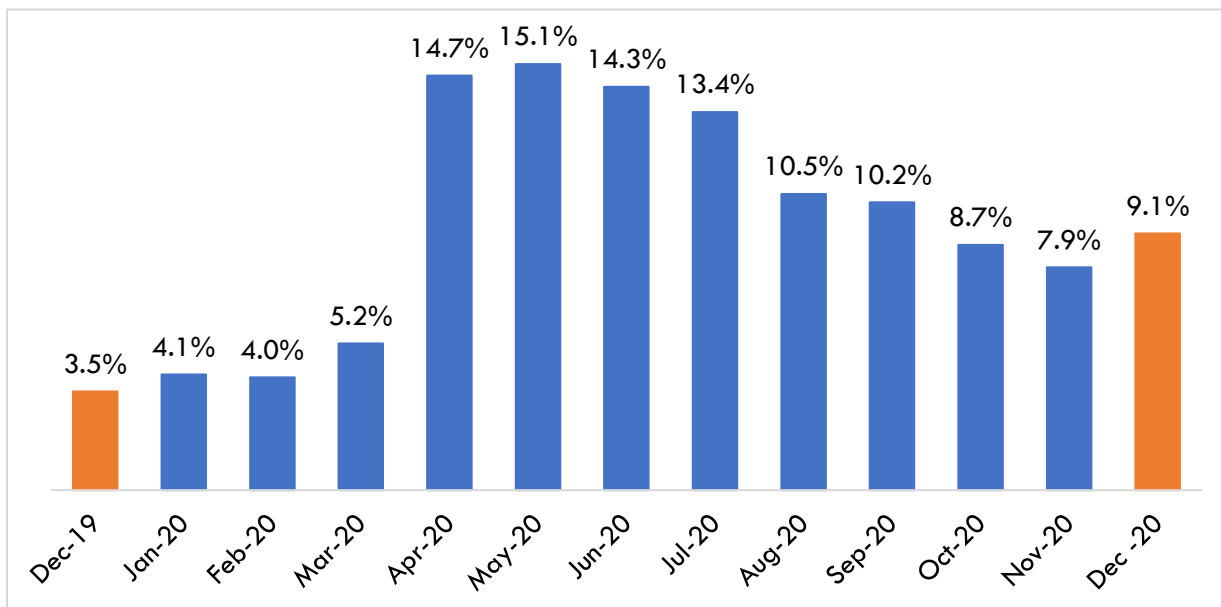
**-3,300 Jobs**

The December 2020 employment data release marks the tenth month of COVID-19's impact on employers and job seekers in the two-county Inland Empire/Desert Region (Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario MSA). This analysis data was collected the week that includes December 12th, 2020. Risk levels and business activity guidance by county is available at [Covid19.ca.gov](https://covid19.ca.gov).

## Labor Force and the Unemployment Rate

The regional unemployment rate **increase to 9.1%** in December 2020, up from 7.9% in November 2020 and up from 3.5% in December 2019, one year ago. The number of unemployed residents increased by 27,800, while the number of employed residents fell by 10,200 residents. Figure 1 displays the regional month-over unemployment rate change from December 2019 to December 2020.

Figure 2 Regional month-over unemployment rate change, December 2019 to December 2020



In December 2020, the unemployment rate in Riverside County increased to 9.1%, and San Bernardino County increased to 9.2%. Figure 2 displays the cities with the highest and lowest current unemployment rates in each county. Unemployment rates for all regional cities and census-designated places (CDP) by subregion are available at the end of this report in Figure 5.

Figure 2 Riverside and San Bernardino cities with the highest unemployment rates, December 2020\*

Riverside County 9.1%			San Bernardino County 9.2%		
Rank	Highest Unemployment Rate	Lowest Unemployment Rate	Rank	Highest Unemployment Rate	Lowest Unemployment Rate
1	Coachella 15.2%	Canyon Lake 4.6%	1	Adelanto 18.5%	Big Bear Lake 3.6%
2	Desert Hot Springs 14.1%	Rancho Mirage 6.9%	2	Victorville 13.6%	Chino Hills 5.6%
3	Hemet 12.9%	Temecula 6.9%	3	San Bernardino 13.1%	Loma Linda 6.0%
4	San Jacinto 11.8%	Eastvale 7.1%	4	Barstow 12.3%	Needles 6.4%
5	Banning 11.4%	Murrieta 7.2%	5	Hesperia 11.7%	Rancho Cucamonga 6.5%

\*Incorporated cities only

## Industry Employment

Regional nonfarm employer payrolls **decreased by 3,300 jobs over the month**, a 0.2% decrease. The region is **down 111,500 jobs over the year** or 7.1%. Farm employment was flat over the month but reported 700 fewer jobs over the year.

Figure 3 Regional month-over total nonfarm job change, December 2019 to December 2020



Notable month-over job changes were recorded in the following major industry sectors:

The **accommodations and food services** sector lost 8,600 jobs between November and December 2020, or down 7.9%. Job cuts in this sector were likely due to business restriction mandates to slow the spread of COVID-19. Most of the jobs lost in this sector were reported in the restaurant subsector (down 7,600 jobs), specifically in full-service restaurants, down 4,400 jobs, or 16.4% over the month. Limited-service eating places (fast-food restaurants, for example) cut 2,700 jobs or 4.1%. Accommodations reported a loss of 1,000 jobs.

The **other services** sector, establishments primarily engaged in equipment and machinery repairing, religious activities, laundry services, personal care services, and death care services, reported 1,800 fewer jobs over the month. Most of the job losses were reported in the personal & laundry services subsector, down 1,300 jobs, or 14.4%.

**Wholesale trade**, establishments engaged in business-to-business transactions before goods and services reach their final destination, lost 1,100 jobs. Most of the job cuts were reported in the merchant wholesalers, durable goods subsector, down 800 jobs.

**Government** job losses (down 1,100 jobs) were recorded in the local government education (down 500 jobs), local government excluding education (down 400), and the county (down 200 jobs) subsectors.

Job gains were reported in the **transportation and warehousing** sector, adding 4,100 jobs over the month. Growth in this sector was boosted by higher than usual seasonal expansion in the couriers & messengers subsector (up 3,500 jobs), likely to accommodate the need for additional holiday gift delivery.

**Health care & social assistance** employers added 2,200 jobs, mostly in the ambulatory health care services subsector, up 1,800 jobs. This subsector comprises establishments that provide health care services to ambulatory patients and do not usually provide inpatient services; examples include offices of physicians, offices of dentists, offices of mental health practitioners, outpatient care centers, medical and diagnostic laboratories, and home health services.

The **administrative & support & waste services** sector recorded a net gain of 1,500 jobs, up 1.5%. Job increases in the employment services (e.g., temporary job firms were up 800 jobs or 1.8%) and investigation & security services (up 500 jobs, or 3.1%) subsectors contributed to most of this sector's job growth.

**Retail trade** reported a seasonal net increase of 1,100 jobs over the month. Most of the jobs added were in the clothing & clothing accessories stores subsector, up 800 jobs, or 4.4%. The building material & garden equipment stores subsector was down 400 jobs or 2.6%.

Month-over and year-over changes in each major industry sector are available in Figure 4.

*Figure 4 Major industry sector job change, month-over, and year-over, December 2019 to December 2020*

Major Industries	December 2020 Jobs	Month-over Change	Month-over % Change	Year-over Change	Year-over % Change
Total Nonfarm	1,459,600	-3,300	-0.2%	-111,500	-7.1%
Total Farm	13,900	0	0.0%	-700	-4.8%
Government	249,400	-1,100	-0.4%	-12,500	-4.8%
Health Care & Social Assistance	233,100	2,200	1.0%	-3,400	-1.4%
Retail Trade	177,600	1,100	0.6%	-13,400	-7.0%
Transportation & Warehousing	155,200	4,100	2.7%	5,700	3.8%
Construction	107,100	800	0.8%	2,700	2.6%
Administrative & Support & Waste Services	104,200	1,500	1.5%	-3,800	-3.5%
Accommodation & Food Services	100,700	-8,600	-7.9%	-53,600	-34.7%
Manufacturing	88,400	-900	-1.0%	-12,100	-12.0%
Wholesale Trade	66,000	-1,100	-1.6%	-1,000	-1.5%
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	41,800	800	2.0%	-300	-0.7%
Other Services	35,200	-1,800	-4.9%	-9,300	-20.9%
Finance & Insurance	23,700	200	0.9%	-500	-2.1%
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	20,300	100	0.5%	0	0.0%
Educational Services	16,800	-700	-4.0%	-3,400	-16.8%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	15,500	0	0.0%	-4,800	-23.6%
Information	9,700	100	1.0%	-1,700	-14.9%
Management of Companies & Enterprises	9,200	100	1.1%	200	2.2%
Utilities	4,800	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Mining and Logging	900	-100	-10.0%	-300	-25.0%

All the best in 2021,

Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research, Inland Empire/Desert Region

[Michael.goss@chaffey.edu](mailto:Michael.goss@chaffey.edu)

[Paul.vaccher@chaffey.edu](mailto:Paul.vaccher@chaffey.edu)

Sources: CA EDD LMID, COE, North American Industry Classification System

Figure 5 Regional unemployment rate by city and census-designated place by subregion, December 2020

City/Census Designated Place (CDP)	Unemployment Rate
<b>High Desert</b>	
Lenwood CDP	2.5%
Needles	6.4%
Morongo Valley CDP	8.5%
Twentynine Palms	9.9%
Apple Valley	10.2%
Hesperia	11.7%
Barstow	12.3%
Yucca Valley	12.5%
Victorville	13.6%
Big River CDP	14.0%
Joshua Tree CDP	14.5%
Bluewater CDP	14.7%
Mountain View Acres CDP	14.8%
Searles Valley CDP	16.4%
Adelanto	18.5%
<b>Inland Empire</b>	
San Antonio Heights CDP	2.4%
March AFB CDP	2.6%
Big Bear Lake	3.6%
Woodcrest CDP	4.7%
Chino Hills	5.6%
Big Bear City CDP	5.7%
El Cerrito CDP	5.7%
Crestline CDP	5.8%
Loma Linda	6.0%
Rancho Cucamonga	6.5%
Wrightwood CDP	6.6%
Eastvale City	7.1%
Yucaipa	7.1%
Norco	7.2%
Redlands	7.2%
Corona	7.3%
Chino	7.4%
Upland	7.5%
Home Gardens CDP	7.7%
Mentone CDP	8.0%
Ontario	8.2%
Riverside	8.4%
Jurupa Valley	8.5%
Montclair	8.6%
Fontana	8.7%
Grand Terrace	9.2%
Lake Arrowhead CDP	9.7%
Highland	9.8%
Colton	9.9%
Bloomington CDP	10.2%

City/Census Designated Place (CDP)	Unemployment Rate
<b>Inland Empire – Continued</b>	
Moreno Valley	10.4%
Rialto	11.0%
Perris	11.2%
Running Springs CDP	12.5%
San Bernardino	13.1%
Highgrove CDP	13.6%
Muscoy CDP	18.6%
<b>Low Desert</b>	
Thousand Palms CDP	6.3%
Rancho Mirage	6.9%
Indian Wells	7.6%
Bermuda Dunes CDP	8.1%
La Quinta	8.4%
Palm Desert	8.7%
Palm Springs	9.0%
Blythe	9.4%
Cathedral City	9.6%
Mecca CDP	9.8%
Indio	10.3%
Desert Hot Springs	14.1%
Coachella	15.2%
<b>Southwestern Riverside</b>	
Canyon Lake	4.6%
Cherry Valley CDP	5.5%
Idyllwild Pine Cove CDP	5.5%
Temecula	6.9%
Murrieta	7.2%
Beaumont	7.7%
Cabazon CDP	7.7%
Wildomar	8.3%
Lake Elsinore	8.7%
Nuevo CDP	8.7%
Romoland CDP	8.8%
Calimesa	9.0%
Menifee	9.1%
Lakeview CDP	9.7%
Homeland CDP	9.8%
Valle Vista CDP	9.8%
Winchester CDP	10.4%
Banning	11.4%
San Jacinto	11.8%
Hemet	12.9%
Lakeland Village CDP	13.6%
East Hemet CDP	13.8%