

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
Labor Market Information Division

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**FRESNO METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)  
(FRESNO AND MADERA COUNTIES)**

**Farm employment added 7,600 jobs over the month; down 100 jobs over the year**

The unemployment rate in the Fresno MSA was 8.1 percent in April 2026, down from a revised 8.9 percent in March 2026, and below the year-ago estimate of 8.6 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 5.0 percent for California and 4.0 percent for the nation during the same period. The unemployment rate was 8.2 percent in Fresno County, and 7.7 percent in Madera County.

**Between March 2026 and April 2026**, total industry employment increased by 10,300 jobs (up 2.1 percent), to total 502,400. Nonfarm employment added 2,700 jobs (up 0.6 percent), and farm employment rose by 7,600 jobs (up 17.2 percent).

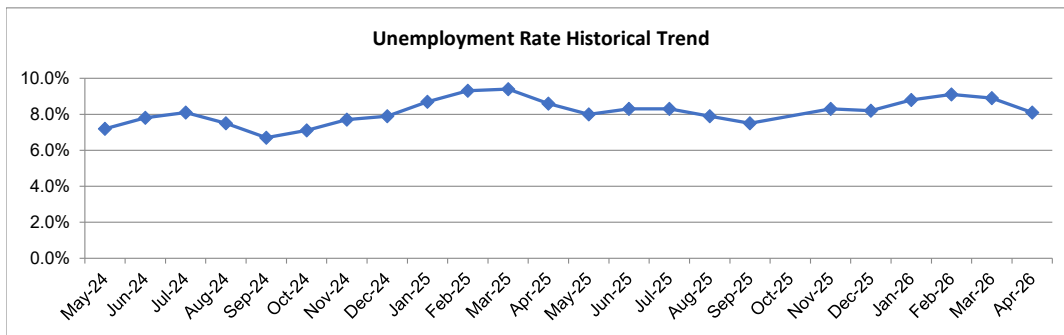
- Farm employment increased by 7,600 jobs due to seasonal employment patterns.
- Private education and health services gained 1,300 positions. Health care and social assistance had the largest uptick (up 800 jobs).
- Professional and business services added 600 jobs with most of the job gain focused in administrative and support (up 500 jobs).
- On the downside, government lost 100 jobs. The loss was seen in local government.
- Manufacturing dropped 100 jobs; all were in non-durable goods.

**Between April 2025 and April 2026**, total industry employment increased by 7,300 jobs (up 1.5 percent). Nonfarm employment rose by 7,400 jobs (up 1.7 percent), and farm employment fell by 100 jobs (down 0.2 percent).

- Private education and health services posted the largest year-over increase of 6,200 jobs. The gain was concentrated in health care and social assistance (up 5,800 jobs), accompanied by an increase of 400 jobs in private educational services.
- Leisure and hospitality advanced by 1,400 positions.
- Trade, transportation, and utilities rose by 700 jobs over the year.
- On the contrary, three major industries experienced cutbacks: government (down 600 jobs), financial activities (down 300), and professional and business services (down 300).

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
 FRESNO METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)  
 (Fresno and Madera Counties)

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Industry	Mar-2026	Apr-2026	Change		Apr-2025	Apr-2026	Change
	Revised	Prelim				Prelim	
Total, All Industries	492,100	502,400	10,300		495,100	502,400	7,300
Total Farm	44,300	51,900	7,600		52,000	51,900	(100)
Total Nonfarm	447,800	450,500	2,700		443,100	450,500	7,400
Mining, Logging, and Construction	24,300	24,600	300		24,800	24,600	(200)
Mining and Logging	300	300	0		300	300	0
Construction	24,000	24,300	300		24,500	24,300	(200)
Manufacturing	27,900	27,800	(100)		27,900	27,800	(100)
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	81,300	81,500	200		80,800	81,500	700
Information	2,600	2,600	0		2,600	2,600	0
Financial Activities	12,200	12,400	200		12,700	12,400	(300)
Professional and Business Services	35,700	36,300	600		36,600	36,300	(300)
Private Education and Health Services	110,100	111,400	1,300		105,200	111,400	6,200
Leisure and Hospitality	44,300	44,500	200		43,100	44,500	1,400
Other Services	15,100	15,200	100		14,600	15,200	600
Government	94,300	94,200	(100)		94,800	94,200	(600)

Notes: Data not adjusted for seasonality. Data may not add due to rounding  
 Labor force data are revised month to month  
 Additional data are available on line at [www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov](http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov)

May 22, 2026

Employment Development Department  
 Labor Market Information Division  
 Contact: [LMID RESEARCHERS](#)

**Fresno MSA**  
**(Fresno and Madera Counties)**  
 Industry Employment & Labor Force  
 March 2025 Benchmark

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Apr 25	Feb 26	Mar 26 Revised	Apr 26 Prelim	Percent Change	
					Month	Year
Civilian Labor Force (1)	549,500	552,600	547,600	547,200	-0.1%	-0.4%
Civilian Employment	502,200	502,500	498,700	502,800	0.8%	0.1%
Civilian Unemployment	47,300	50,200	48,900	44,400	-9.2%	-6.1%
Civilian Unemployment Rate (CA Unemployment Rate)	8.6%	9.1%	8.9%	8.1%		
(U.S. Unemployment Rate)	5.1%	5.5%	5.2%	5.0%		
	3.9%	4.7%	4.3%	4.0%		
<b>Total, All Industries (2)</b>	<b>495,100</b>	<b>495,100</b>	<b>492,100</b>	<b>502,400</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
Total Farm	52,000	47,900	44,300	51,900	17.2%	-0.2%
Total Nonfarm	443,100	447,200	447,800	450,500	0.6%	1.7%
Total Private	348,300	352,900	353,500	356,300	0.8%	2.3%
Goods Producing	52,700	52,200	52,200	52,400	0.4%	-0.6%
Mining, Logging, and Construction	24,800	24,200	24,300	24,600	1.2%	-0.8%
Mining and Logging	300	300	300	300	0.0%	0.0%
Construction	24,500	23,900	24,000	24,300	1.3%	-0.8%
Manufacturing	27,900	28,000	27,900	27,800	-0.4%	-0.4%
Durable Goods	9,800	9,600	9,600	9,600	0.0%	-2.0%
Non-Durable Goods	18,100	18,400	18,300	18,200	-0.5%	0.6%
Service-Providing	390,400	395,000	395,600	398,100	0.6%	2.0%
Private Service Providing	295,600	300,700	301,300	303,900	0.9%	2.8%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	80,800	81,500	81,300	81,500	0.2%	0.9%
Wholesale Trade	17,200	17,200	17,200	17,200	0.0%	0.0%
Retail Trade	43,000	42,900	42,900	43,100	0.5%	0.2%
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities	20,600	21,400	21,200	21,200	0.0%	2.9%
Transportation and Warehousing	17,300	17,800	17,700	17,700	0.0%	2.3%
Information	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	0.0%	0.0%
Financial Activities	12,700	12,200	12,200	12,400	1.6%	-2.4%
Finance and Insurance	7,100	6,800	6,800	6,900	1.5%	-2.8%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	5,600	5,400	5,400	5,500	1.9%	-1.8%
Professional and Business Services	36,600	35,600	35,700	36,300	1.7%	-0.8%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	13,400	12,800	12,800	12,900	0.8%	-3.7%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	3,400	3,200	3,200	3,200	0.0%	-5.9%
Administrative and Support and Waste and Rep	19,800	19,600	19,700	20,200	2.5%	2.0%
Administrative and Support Services	18,000	17,800	17,900	18,300	2.2%	1.7%
Waste Management and Remediation Service	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,900	5.6%	5.6%
Private Education and Health Services	105,200	109,600	110,100	111,400	1.2%	5.9%
Private Educational Services	6,100	5,900	6,000	6,500	8.3%	6.6%
Health Care and Social Assistance	99,100	103,700	104,100	104,900	0.8%	5.9%
Ambulatory Health Care Services	28,000	29,100	29,200	29,400	0.7%	5.0%
Hospitals	19,900	20,500	20,600	20,700	0.5%	4.0%
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	9,000	9,200	9,200	9,300	1.1%	3.3%
Social Assistance	42,200	44,900	45,100	45,500	0.9%	7.8%
Leisure and Hospitality	43,100	44,100	44,300	44,500	0.5%	3.2%
Accommodation and Food Services	37,200	38,500	38,600	38,700	0.3%	4.0%
Food Services and Drinking Places	33,900	34,900	35,000	35,200	0.6%	3.8%
Other Services	14,600	15,100	15,100	15,200	0.7%	4.1%
Government	94,800	94,300	94,300	94,200	-0.1%	-0.6%
Federal Government	10,000	9,400	9,400	9,400	0.0%	-6.0%
Total State and Local Government	84,800	84,900	84,900	84,800	-0.1%	0.0%
State Government	15,900	14,900	14,900	15,000	0.7%	-5.7%
State Government Educational Services	3,800	2,900	2,900	2,900	0.0%	-23.7%
Local Government	68,900	70,000	70,000	69,800	-0.3%	1.3%
Local Government Educational Services	47,100	48,500	48,400	48,300	-0.2%	2.5%
Local Government excluding Educational Ser	21,800	21,500	21,600	21,500	-0.5%	-1.4%
County Government	9,900	9,700	9,700	9,600	-1.0%	-3.0%
City Government	7,100	6,900	7,000	7,000	0.0%	-1.4%
Special Districts plus Tribes	4,800	4,900	4,900	4,900	0.0%	2.1%

Data Not Seasonally Adjusted

	Apr 25	Feb 26	Mar 26 Revised	Apr 26 Prelim	Percent Change Month      Year

**Notes:**

(1) Civilian labor force data are by place of residence; include self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike. Data may not add due to rounding. The unemployment rate is calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Industry employment is by place of work; excludes self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike. Data may not add due to rounding.

These data are produced by the Labor Market Information Division of the California Employment Development Department (EDD). Questions should be directed to: [Contact: LMID RESEARCHERS](#)

These data, as well as other labor market data, are available via the Internet at <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>.

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