

## October 2018 California Employment Highlights

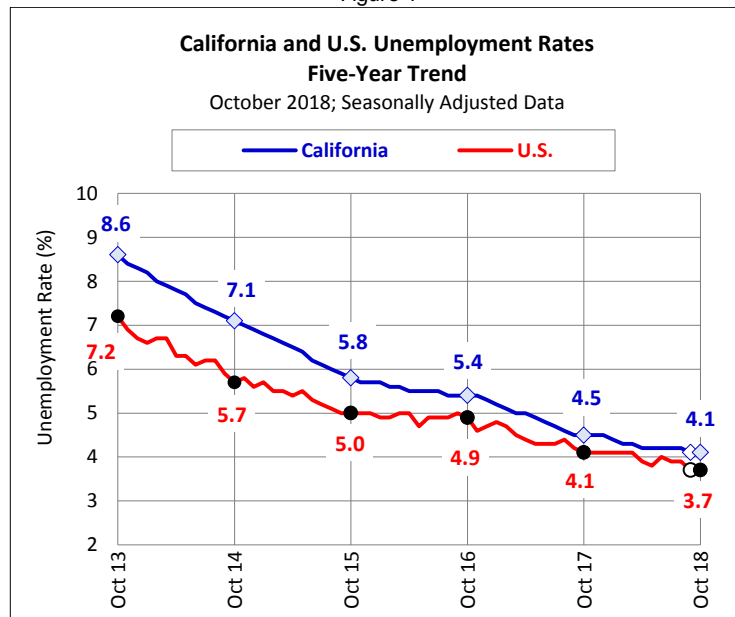
### OVERVIEW

- California's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 4.1 percent in October 2018, remaining at a record low in the official data series that dates back to the beginning of January 1976.
- Seven of California's 11 major industry sectors added jobs in October while four lost jobs.
  - The largest job gains were in the professional and business services (19,100) and manufacturing sectors (6,600).
  - The largest month-over loss was in the trade, transportation, and utilities sector (3,100).

### EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT

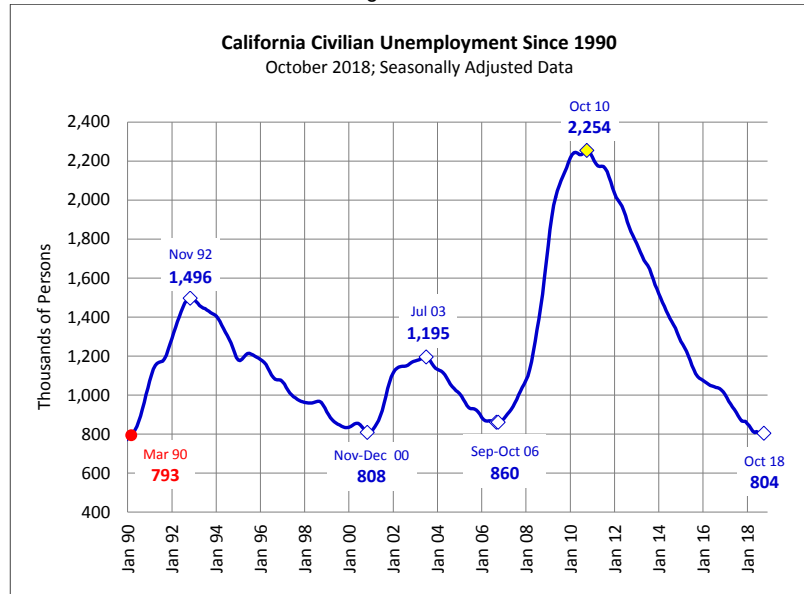
- California's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate held steady at 4.1 percent in October 2018, as shown in Figure 1. This tied with September 2018 as the record low unemployment rate in the official data series that dates back to the beginning of January 1976. The U.S. unemployment rate held steady at 3.7 percent in October, remaining at its lowest level since October 1969.

Figure 1



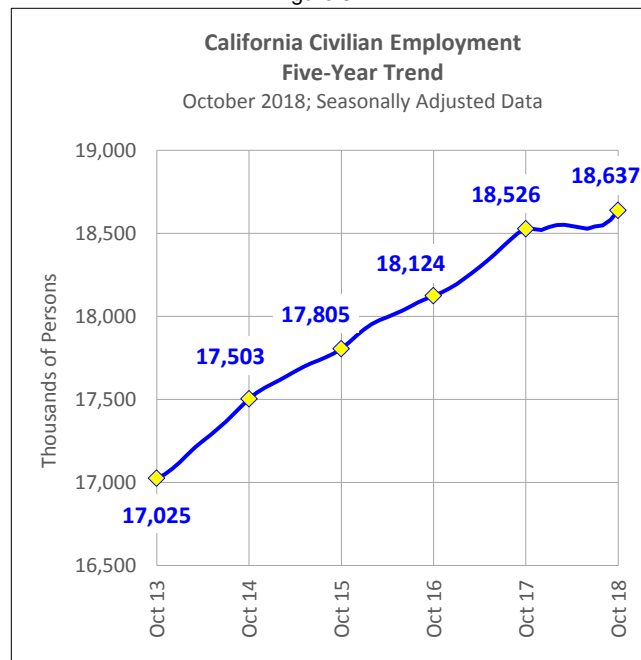
- The number of unemployed Californians rose by 1,000 persons to 804,000 in October 2018, but continued to hover at its lowest level since March 1990 (see Figure 2).

Figure 2



- The number of employed Californians rose by 55,000 persons to 18,637,000 in October 2018, demonstrated in Figure 3. This large gain followed a 34,000-person increase in September. To place the large employment increases of the last two months into perspective, the combined 88,000-person employment increase in September and October was larger than the 85,000-person increase that occurred over the 12-month period prior to September 2018.

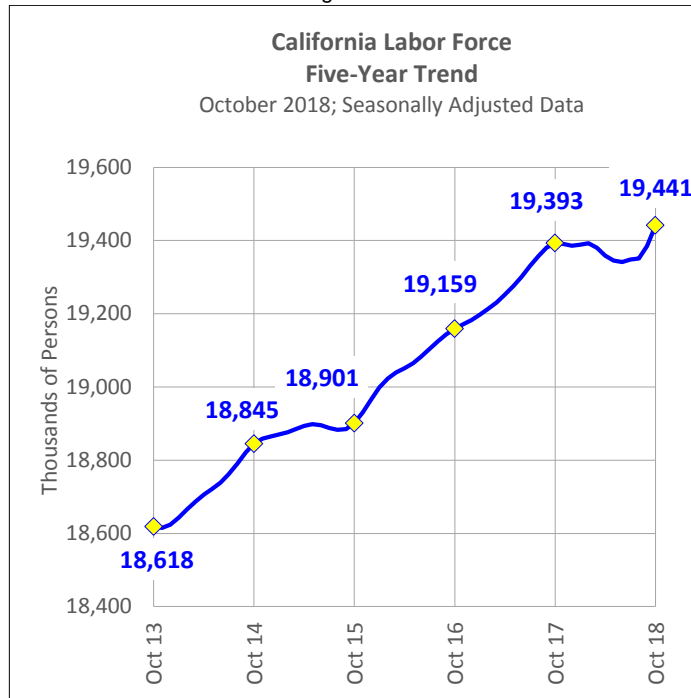
Figure 3



- Reflecting the large increase in employment, California's labor force grew by 56,000 persons to 19,441,000 in October 2018 (see Figure 4). California's labor force grew by 90,000 persons in the months of September and October 2018 combined. In contrast, it

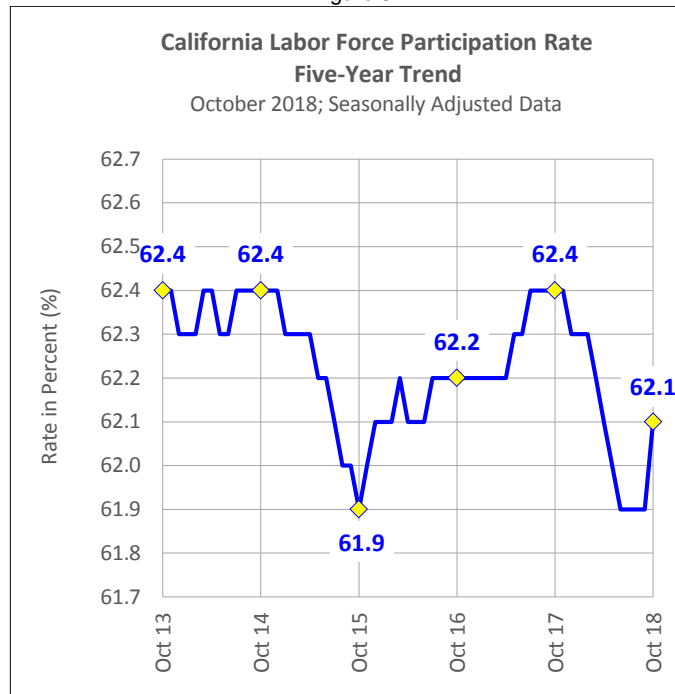
grew by just 75,000 persons over the preceding 15-month period from May 2017 through August 2018.

Figure 4



- California's labor force participation rate rose 0.2 percentage point to 62.1 percent in October 2018. This was 0.3 percentage point lower than it was in October 2017 (Figure 5).

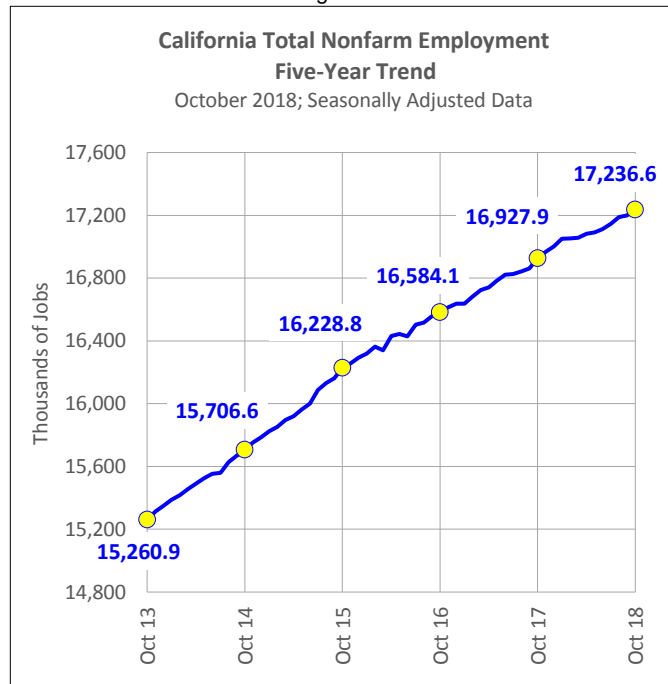
Figure 5



## NONFARM PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT

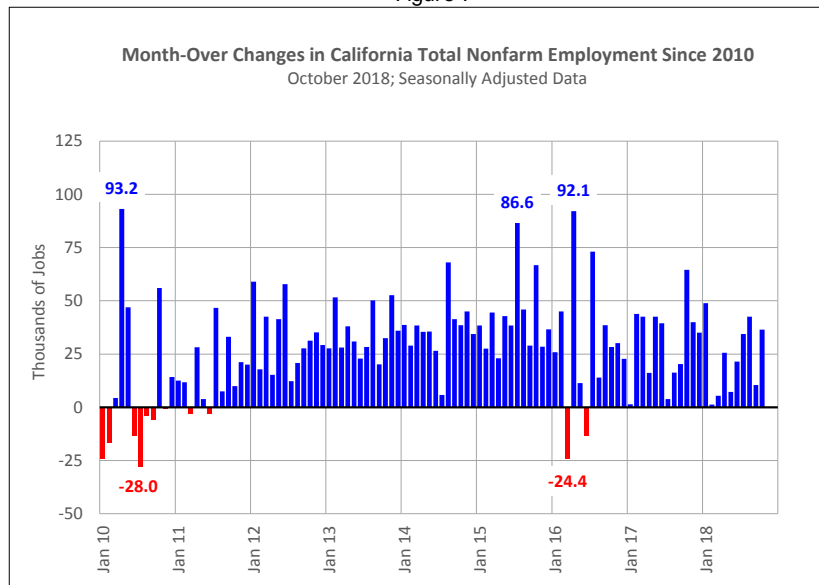
- California gained 36,400 nonfarm jobs in October 2018. This followed a downwardly revised 10,500-job gain in September.

Figure 6



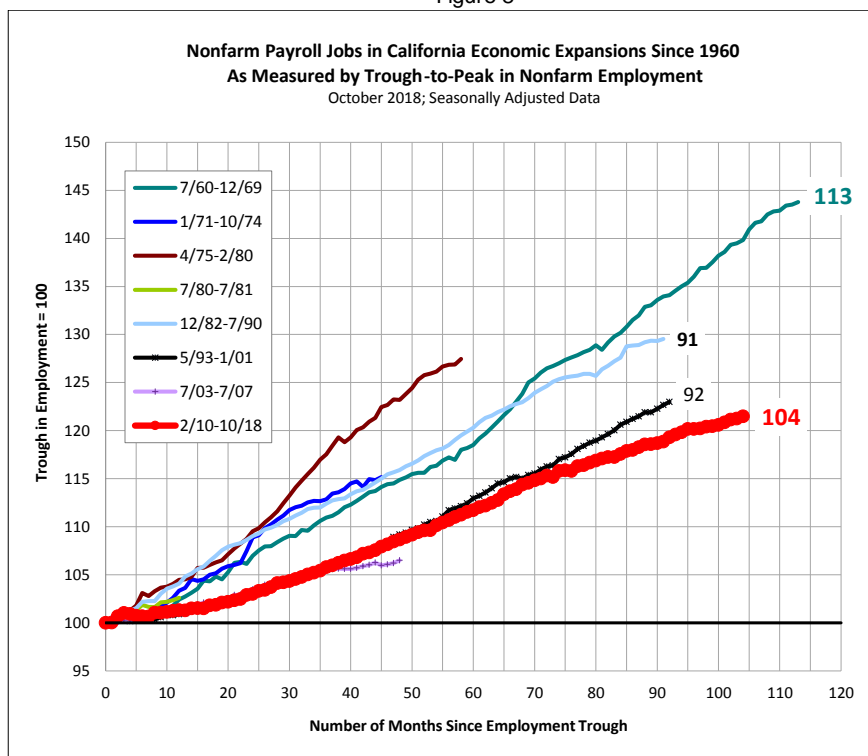
- California has now gained jobs in 28 consecutive months (shown in Figure 7) and 86 of the last 88 months.

Figure 7



- California gained a total of 3,047,000 nonfarm jobs from the recessionary low in February 2010 through October 2018, adding an average of 29,300 jobs per month over the course of the entire 104-month expansion. October's 36,400-job gain was stronger than this average.

Figure 8



## CALIFORNIA INDUSTRY TRENDS

- California's professional and business services sector added 19,100 jobs in October 2018, its largest month-over gain of calendar year 2018. Thus far, in 2018, this sector experienced three different months of job gains over 10,000 in July, August, and October with October having the largest gain. Each of the sector's subsectors added jobs this month with the administrative, support, and waste services subsector adding 9,800 jobs, the most out of this month. The professional, scientific, and technical services subsector added 8,900 jobs and 46,500 over the calendar year thus far. The management of companies and enterprises subsector added 400 jobs this month, rebounding from back-to-back month-over jobs losses in August and September.
- California's manufacturing sector added 6,600 jobs in October 2018 and broke its six-month consecutive streak of month-over job losses this year. Each of the sector's subsectors added over 1,000 jobs each in the same month, which has not occurred since March of this year. The nondurable goods subsector added 4,400 jobs, but due to the six months of consecutive job losses, the subsector had a collective loss of 7,800 jobs over the past ten months. The durable goods subsector added 2,200 jobs and, unlike the nondurable goods subsector, it had a collective gain of 9,300 jobs for the year.
- The information sector added 5,600 jobs this month and ended the two-month streak of month-over job losses in August and September. October's month-over gain was the

sectors' highest since February 2017 (13,000). Year-to-date for 2018, this sector added 9,200 jobs.

- In October 2018, California's government sector added 5,600 jobs, its third consecutive month of job gains this year. Year-to-date for 2018, this sector added 27,900 with its largest month-over gain occurring in June 2018 (13,700 jobs).
- California's construction sector added 3,000 jobs in October 2018, rebounding from the month-over loss of 700 jobs in the previous month. Gains in excess of 5,000 jobs in the months of January, February, and April helped to push the collective gains of the sector to 21,500 jobs this year.
- The state's leisure and hospitality added 1,600 jobs this month, its fourth consecutive month of month-over job gains. Between January and October, this sector added 29,900 jobs. The accommodation and food services subsector added 3,200 jobs and has added 32,200 jobs over the past ten months (January 2018-October 2018). The arts, entertainment, and recreation subsector lost 1,600 jobs this month. For back-to-back months, this subsector has lost jobs and the last time this occurred was in July and August of 2014.
- The mining sector added 200 jobs in October 2018 and has not experienced a month-over job loss since June of this year. Year-to-date for 2018, this sector has added 300 jobs.
- California's trade, transportation, and utilities (TTU) sector lost 3,100 jobs this month. This loss follows a loss of 3,300 jobs in the previous month, but collective gains still stood above 10,000 jobs for the year (13,400). The transportation, warehousing, and utilities subsector added 2,300 jobs this month and it was the sector's fifteenth consecutive month of month-over job gains. The retail trade subsector lost 3,900 jobs this month and had a collective loss of 100 jobs through the past ten months of 2018. The wholesale trade subsector lost 1,500 jobs this month and had a collective loss of 2,600 jobs over the course of 2018.
- In October 2018, the state's educational and health services sector lost 1,100 jobs. In addition, collective job gains for the year stood at 54,400 jobs, which was off the job pace set at this point last year (74,100). The health care and social assistance subsector added 1,500 jobs this month and year-to-date gains exceeded 52,000 jobs. The educational services subsector lost 2,600 jobs this month and October marked the second month in a row in which the subsector experienced a month-over job loss.
- The other services sector lost 1,000 jobs this month and moved its collective loss for the year upward to 5,000 jobs. This sector's collective gains have been hampered by relatively heavy losses in the months of February (4,500) and March (3,800) of this year.
- California's financial activities sector lost 100 jobs this month. The finance and insurance subsector added 700 jobs this month, but has added 200 jobs year-to-date for 2018. This gain bested the collective loss of 500 jobs the subsector experienced over the same ten-month period last year. The real estate, rental, and leasing subsector lost 800 jobs this month. In 2017, between January and October, the subsector added 4,000 jobs. This year it added 200 jobs collectively over the same period.

