Regional Quarterly Economic Update

Although preliminary unemployment numbers for Marin County showed a slight uptick in January from 3.6 percent in December to 4 percent in January, the rate was down from 4.8 percent a year ago, according to numbers released the first week of March by the state Employment Development Department Labor Market Information Division.

The county ranked second lowest in the state behind only San Mateo County (3.9 percent). This compares well with the state’s unadjusted unemployment rate for January of 7.3 percent and the national unemployment rate for January of 6.1 percent. (In February, the U.S. rate edged down to 5.5 percent.)

Of the 140,000 people in the Marin County labor force in January about 5,600 were unemployed, primarily in San Rafael (1,400) and Novato (1,100). Larkspur also saw a drop of about 300 jobs.

In the San Rafael Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Marin County, about 3,200 jobs were added between January 2014 and January 2015, according to the state Employment Development Department. Most of the gain was in the leisure and hospitality industries, which added 1,200 jobs. Education and health services added 900 jobs. Trade, transportation and utilities, and manufacturing each gained 600 positions. Construction added 500. The sectors to lose jobs included government (−500 or −3.3 percent), financial activities (−300 or −4.2 percent), and professional and business services (−100 jobs or −0.5 percent).

In the greater metropolitan division, which includes Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo counties, the picture was slightly different. There was a 2.1 percent increase in the number of jobs year-over-year. The professional and business services sector, which added 18,900 jobs primarily in professional, scientific, and technical services, saw the greatest jump in January. Leisure and hospitality added about 5,300 jobs. The category of information had the fastest year-over job growth rate of any of the major industry groups at 8.3 percent or a 4,300-job increase.

On a national level, the only major worker group to experience a significant change in unemployment numbers in February was teenagers, which dropped 1.7 percent to 17.1 percent, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. There was little or no change in jobless rates for other major groups: adult men (5.2 percent), adult women (4.9 percent), blacks (10.4 percent), Hispanics (6.6 percent), whites (4.7 percent), and Asians (4.0 percent).

The BLS also reported there were 732,000 “discouraged workers,” or people who are not currently looking for work because they believe no jobs are available for them, in February.
Looking Ahead: Projected Job Growth

Nearly 80 percent of all projected nonfarm job growth is concentrated in three industry sectors, according to 10-year job projections for the San Francisco-San Mateo-Redwood City Metropolitan Division, (Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo counties), according to the state.

Professional and business services, the area’s largest industry sector, is expected to add 47,900 jobs or more than a third of the projected nonfarm growth, between 2012 and 2022. Educational services, health care, and social assistance anticipates job gains of 32,900 jobs; more than a third of which will be concentrated in social assistance. Leisure and hospitality is projected to add 24,800 jobs, with the majority of gains in the accommodation and food services subsector.

The 50 fastest growing occupations are projected to grow 23 percent or higher over the 10-year period. More than 40 percent of the fastest growing occupations are in science, engineering, mathematics, and information technology-related fields. These occupations range from biological technicians that pay a median wage of more than $32 per hour to computer network architects that pay about $61 an hour.

This regional quarterly economic update is presented as part of College of Marin’s Strategic Plan Action Step 13.1 to communicate information from the business community to the College community.

Kudos

As the nation celebrates national poetry month during April, we have reason to celebrate here as well. Congratulations to Community Education Instructor Prartho Sereno who has been selected as the Marin Poet Laureate. Sereno is a highly regarded member of the poetry community for her writing, extensive teaching, and enthusiasm for extending poetry to a range of ages. Her award-winning poetry books include Causing a Stir and Call from Paris. She has been teaching the always popular class, The Poetic Pilgrimage: Writing Poetry as Spiritual Practice, for the Community Education program since 1998.

The Poet Laureate Program was launched in 2008 with the joint sponsorship of the Marin Arts Council, Marin Poetry Center, and the Marin County Cultural Services Commission. In 2012 the Marin County Free Library System became an additional sponsoring organization. Through its selection and support of a distinguished local poet the program actively promotes poetry in Marin County.

New Process for Copy Paper Requests

If copy paper is needed for department printers, copiers, or department use, please fill out a Request for Paper form in Reprographics or email Alexio Perez. Paper requests will be processed each Friday and deliveries made on Monday, or as appropriate during holidays. Please do not call Reprographics or Shipping and Receiving for orders. If paper is needed prior to the delivery day, you may come to Reprographics and pick up your request in person.
Upcoming Events

Spring Dance Concert: *By Dance Possessed*
With choreography by Dance Department faculty and production design by e. “Ernie” Ernstrom, *By Dance Possessed* is a performance that will captivate and mesmerize you. The dance concert will feature guest artists from Savage Jazz Dance Company (SJDC). Founded in 1992 by Artistic Director Reginald Ray-Savage, SJDC is distinguished by its disciplined dancers and instructors, and its dedication to the exploration of jazz music’s range of expression.

April 3, 4, 10, and 11, 8 p.m.
James Dunn Theatre, Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus
Box Office (415) 485-9385
Tickets: $20 general, $15 seniors, $10 students/COM employees and alumni

**Advanced Voice Class Recital: Canzoni Italiani – Italian Songs and Arias**
Directed by Linda Noble Brown

After Suor Cristina Scuccia clinched the final of *The Voice of Italy* television talent show last spring she said, “I have a gift to give, and I am giving it to you… It wouldn’t be worth much if I kept it for myself.” The Music Department agreed and are borrowing some of her country’s most popular songs to share their own gifts as they perform traditional Italian art songs, arias, and popular Italian music. Buon ascolto!

Wednesday, April 8, 11:10 a.m.
Lefort Recital Hall / PA72
Performing Arts Building, Kentfield Campus

**Student Success Speaker Series**
The Student Success Speaker Series is back! Students, faculty, staff, and community members are invited to attend these workshops for tips and important information that can be applied to your academic, professional, and personal life. These free presentations are open to the public. Associated Students College of Marin (ASCOM) will provide refreshments. Contact Single Stop Coordinator Tara Arenas at (415) 457-8811 ext. 7761 for more information.

**Upcoming Sessions**
All sessions take place at noon in the Student Services Building, cafeteria.

**April 8**
What to Expect Out of a Career in the Military
*COM Veterans Association*
April 15
Sexual Harassment and Violence: What it is and Finding Support  
*Dr. Dawn Danz, COM psychologist*

April 22
DACA and California Driver License Updates  
*Jonathan Matthews, Brazilian Alliance legal clinic director*

April 29
Tips on Budgeting your Money and How to Save  
*Sarah Wotherspoon, Private Ocean, certified financial planner*

**Contemporary Opera Marin Presents: The Triumph of Death**

Directed by Paul Smith  
Art/Scenic Environment by Chester Arnold

Performed in acknowledgment of Holocaust Remembrance Day, Contemporary Opera Marin presents American composer Frederic Rzewski’s music theater drama *The Triumph of Death*. This powerful work is an adaptation of Peter Weiss’ play, *The Investigation*, based on the Frankfurt Auschwitz trials of 1963. Fully staged and sung in English, it is scored for voices and string quartet with noted American artist and COM faculty member, Chester Arnold, designing the environment for this work.

**April 16, 17 and 18, 7:30 p.m.**  
**April 19, 2 p.m.**  
Fine Arts Gallery, Performing Arts Building  
Kentfield Campus

**Healthcare and Dental Career Fair**
The annual Healthcare and Dental Career Fair will take place Monday, April 20, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Student Services Building, first floor. Medical and dental recruiters from all over the Bay Area will be in attendance to present employment and continuing education opportunities. Agencies will be accepting resumes and applications. For more information contact Carol Perez, (415) 485-9510.

**Free STD Testing for Students**
The Health Center is offering free, painless, STD testing Wednesday, April 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Health Services Portable, Kentfield Campus. Chlamydia and Gonorrhea testing is available on a drop-in basis. Students who would like to include HIV testing must schedule an appointment by calling (415) 485-9458.
ESCOM’s Afternoon Author Series
As part of the Haddie Mini Lecture Series, Emeritus Students College of Marin (ESCOM) is delighted to partner with Book Passage in bringing a free series of outstanding authors to the community. The series wraps up this month with author Michael David Lukas discussing *The Oracle of Stamboul*. This spellbinding tale of historical fiction is set in 1877, and follows the captivating adventures of the young and gifted Eleonora Cohen. A book signing will follow the lecture and books will be available for purchase. Parking is free for this event. More information is available on the [Community Education website](http://www.marin.edu) or by calling (415) 485-9652.

**Friday, April 24**
1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Learning Resources Center, library
Kentfield Campus

Two Evenings of Chamber Music
Directed by Jessica Ivry

The chamber music class performs trios, quartets, and quintets from three centuries of the classical repertoire. Two free performances, with a different program each evening.

**April 30, 12:30 p.m.**
**May 3, 7:30 p.m.**
Lefort Recital Hall (PA72), Performing Arts Building, Kentfield Campus

Drama Department Presents: *The Seagull*
By Anton Chekhov
Directed by Molly Noble

A masterwork by Russia’s well-known nineteenth century playwright Anton Chekhov features unforgettable characters caught up in the passions and pathos of everyday life. When famed actress Arkadina returns home to her family with a young lover, Trigorin, in tow; they become tied up in tragicomic triangles of romance, intrigue, and unrequited love. The play is viewed by some as a tragedy involving eternally unhappy people. Others believe it is a humorous, and at times bitter, satire poking fun at human folly. Attend a performance of *The Seagull* and decide for yourself.

**April 30, 7:30 p.m.** (pay-what-you-will preview)
**May 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, and 16, 7:30 p.m.**
**May 10* and 17, 2 p.m.** (*talkback with the director)*
Studio Theatre, Performing Arts Building, Kentfield Campus
Non-subscription single ticket prices: $20 general, $15 seniors; $10 students/COM employees and alumni
College of Marin Symphonic Band: *America vs. the World!*
Directed by Trevor Björklund

Both celebrating and opposing the European traditions that inspired their music, this concert will showcase composers of the American symphonic band sound. Free performance featuring a variety of works across the spectrum of musical reaction.

**May 6, 7:30 p.m.**
James Dunn Theatre, Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

**Jazz Ensemble**
Directed by Cayce Carnahan

Enjoy this free concert celebrating the music of Bay Area composers.

**May 7, 7:30 p.m.**
James Dunn Theatre, Performing Arts Building
Kentfield Campus

**Transfer Recognition Reception**
The Transfer and Career Center will be hosting the Transfer Recognition Reception to honor and recognize our students who are transferring to four-year institutions. The event will be held Thursday, May 7, in the Student Services Building, first floor, Kentfield Campus. The evening will begin with light refreshments served at 5 p.m. followed by a ceremony at 5:30 p.m. to celebrate the students’ achievement and success. After the ceremony, students, their guests, and faculty and staff will enjoy a catered reception. You are invited to celebrate our students as they make their transition from College of Marin. For additional information, please contact Andrea Mann, (415) 485-9671.

**Ongoing Events**

**Tax Day is April 15 – Free Tax Preparation at Single Stop**
The Single Stop Office will be offering free tax preparation for students every Monday and Wednesday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through April 15. To qualify for free tax help the previous year’s income must be less than $53,000. U.S. citizenship is not required. This service is available on a drop-in basis only, no appointments will be taken. Call Single Stop Coordinator Tara Arenas at (415) 457-8811 ext. 7761 for more information.
Sports

Baseball
The Baseball team played Los Medanos College and Mendocino College last week and posted a 2-1 record. The Mariners put up a lot of points in the games against Los Medanos, 11-1 and 12-5, before traveling to Ukiah to face Mendocino on Saturday. A scrappy Mendocino squad took an early 6-0 lead and held on for a 9-5 win over COM.

COM vs. Yuba College
Tuesday, April 7, 2:30 p.m. in Kentfield
COM vs. Folsom Lake College
Thursday, April 9, 2:30 p.m. in Kentfield

Track and Field
The Track and Field team competed at the American River Invitational over the weekend. Freshman Amanda Villareal set a pair of season bests. In the 100 meter hurdles she recorded a time of 16.70 seconds and in the 100 meter dash she clocked in with a time of 13.68 seconds. Kim Maxwell set a season best in 200 meter dash at 29.73 seconds and competed in the 400 meter dash with a time of 1:09:04.

Stanford Invitational
Saturday, April 4, 9 a.m.
Stanford University, Palo Alto

Ed Adams Invite
Friday, April 10
Hartnell College, Salinas

Have a great weekend,

David Wain Coon, Ed.D.
Superintendent/President