



For Immediate Release
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***PRESS RELEASE ***

Manpower Monthly Employment Report: San Diego's innovation economy grew at nearly double the US average in 2015

December unemployment; San Diego adds 41,400 jobs in 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

-  **EMPLOYMENT** grew by an average of **41,400 jobs** in 2015, the most since **1999**.
-  **UNEMPLOYMENT** fell to **4.7 percent** in December for a 2015 annual average of **5.0**.
-  **PRIVATE SECTOR** drove growth, adding **37,900 jobs** on average compared to 2014.
-  **CONSTRUCTION** employment grew by **6.6 percent** in 2015, driven by increased demand.
-  **INNOVATION** sectors accounted for **one-quarter** of annual employment growth since 2014.

SAN DIEGO – In 2015, San Diego's economy outpaced the U.S. employment growth rate, according to statewide data released today by the California Employment Development Department (EDD) for the December 2015 period. The unemployment rate closed the year at **4.7 percent** in December, the lowest since June 2007.

December's data allows for a complete picture for year 2015, and shows that San Diego's economy grew at an accelerated pace in 2015 compared to recent years.

Key Findings:

- Employment grew by an average of 41,400 jobs in 2015, the most since 1999
- The San Diego region averaged **3.1 percent annual growth in 2015**, compared to **2.3 percent in 2014**
- Professional, scientific, and technical (PST) services, which is strongly associated with the region's innovation economy, grew by **6.6 percent in 2015**. Nationally, the sector only grew by **3.6 percent**

Phil Blair, executive officer at Manpower San Diego said, "San Diego's labor market experienced a very positive year in 2015, despite a slower than usual December. The region added tens of thousands of jobs since the previous year, primarily in high-wage and productive industries. This drove thousands of people back to the labor force and resulted in 20,000 fewer unemployed."

Mike Combs, the author of the report and research manager at CBRE said, “It was a banner year for San Diego’s economy. The region added the most jobs since the turn of the century, while the unemployment rate is the lowest it has been since the recession. San Diego’s manufacturing sector has experienced the largest percent growth in employment in nearly two decades, which should set us up for a hot industrial real estate market in 2016.”

These findings are part of the California Employment Development Department monthly employment report, which was released this morning. Using the report, San Diego Regional EDC conducts its own analysis – the Manpower Monthly Report – to understand how the region’s economy is performing. The report is sponsored by **Manpower San Diego** and was compiled with assistance from **CBRE San Diego**.

To learn more about where San Diego stacks up with our peer metropolitan areas across the U.S., please refer to the [Economic Dashboard](#).

Please view the complete analysis here: <http://www.sandiegobusiness.org/blog/san-diego/manpower-employment-report-december-2015>

You are welcome to use graphs and charts from the study with proper image credit to EDC.

About San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation

San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation’s (EDC’s) mission is to maximize the region’s economic prosperity and global competitiveness. As an independently funded non-profit fueled by more than 160 companies and organizations, EDC works to attract, retain and expand companies and the talent pool across the region’s three traded economies: military, tourism and innovation. sandiegobusiness.org

About Manpower

For more than 60 years, Manpower has been dedicated to enriching people's lives with meaningful employment and development opportunities, and providing companies with innovative workforce solutions that help them increase agility, improve productivity and boost the bottom line. manpower.com

