

3 Things To Know

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Pre-Apprentices Become Journeymen

Because the Fresno Regional WDB (FRWDB) has been doing pre-apprenticeship construction training for seven (7) years now, we have our first batch of pre-apprentices who - having taken a subsequent five (5) years of apprenticeship training - are coming out as full-fledged journeymen in the electricians, plumbers and sheet metal workers unions.



Moving Quickly to Address Changing Needs

Swiftly realigning training priorities to address the hiring requirements of Amazon, Ulta and other local employers in our rapidly expanding distribution sector, the FRWDB has worked with Fresno City College and is now sponsoring the first ever Advanced Warehousing and Logistics co-horts on their Central Fresno campus.



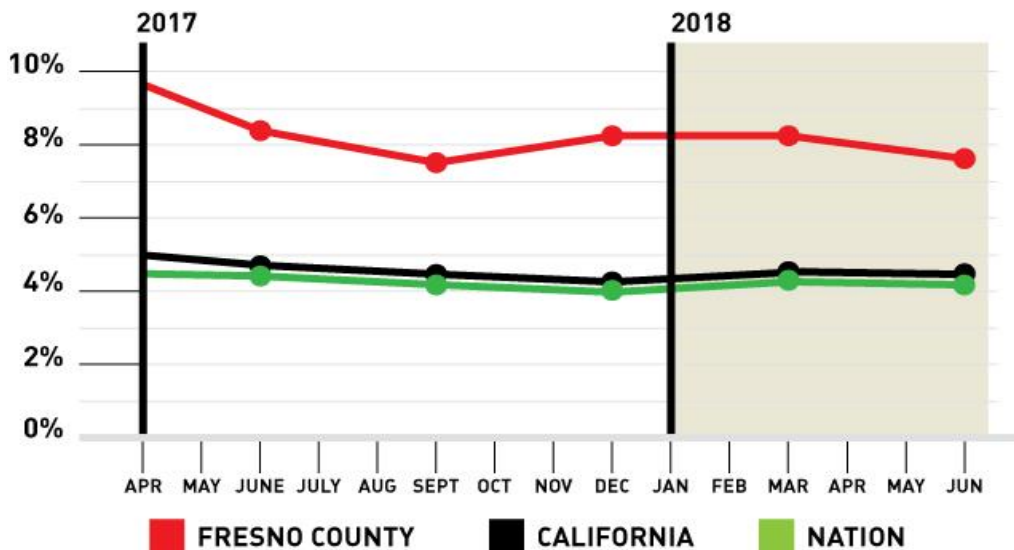
Training For Tomorrow's Regulations

Meeting the needs of local manufacturing employers, and others dependent upon the reliable and efficient transportation of goods, the FRWDB now sponsors the new Heavy Duty Truck Mechanic training program at Reedley Community College. This program is putting its graduates ahead of the technology curve by focusing on the next generation of diesel engines built to comply with California's newer, much stricter environmental regulations.

COMMUNITY PULSE - CRITICAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

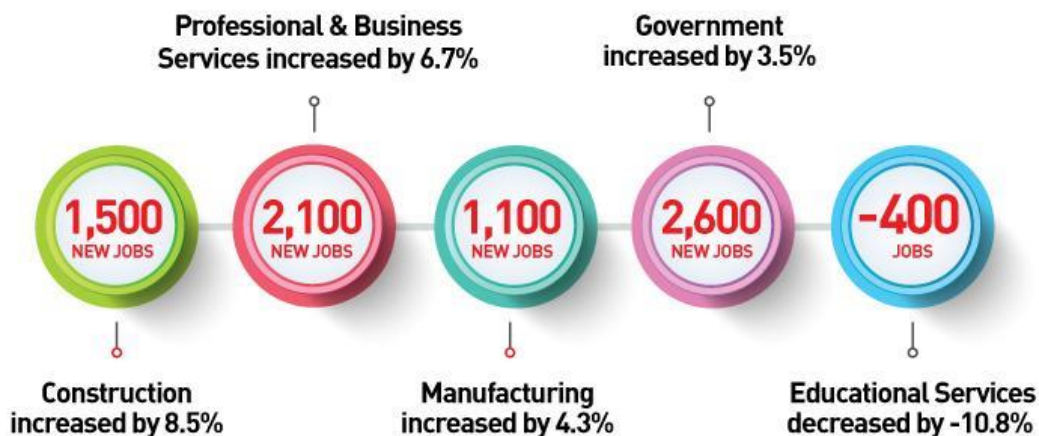
Latest Data Ending June 30, 2018

ONE YEAR UNEMPLOYMENT TRAJECTORY



The unemployment rate in Fresno County was 7.6 percent in June 2018, up from a revised 6.8 percent in May 2018 and below the year-ago estimate of 8.1 percent.

This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 4.5 percent for California and 4.2 percent for the nation during the same period.



Between May 2018 and June 2018, in Fresno County:

- Total industry employment increased by 400 jobs (up 0.1 percent) to total 409,500.
- Non-farm employment rose by 1,100 jobs (up 0.3 percent).
- Farm employment posted the largest decline with a drop of 700 jobs.
- Government decreased by 300 jobs with all of the job loss occurring in local government.
- Manufacturing payrolls moved up by 600 jobs. The entire gain was in non-durable goods.
- Construction experienced an increase of 400 jobs with specialty trade contractors accounting for 50 percent of the gain.

CONNECTING FOR SUCCESS!

From Shuttle Puller to Plumber's Apprentice *"advancing from job to career"*

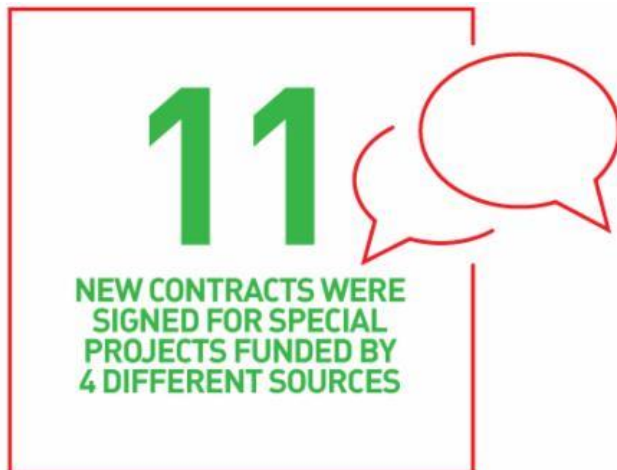
Terryll Woods, a hard working employee at a distribution center was part of a lay off. He, "wanted more and to learn more," so he turned this circumstance into an opportunity by aggressively looking for other options. He saw that High Speed Rail was hiring and contacted them. The Fresno Regional WDB, who provides training for potential employees for that large project, was notified and followed-up immediately with Terryll. He was screened for and entered the FRWDB's Construction/Trades Pre-apprenticeship Training Program.

Nervous, "in uncharted territories, new waters so to speak," Terryll gained confidence in the program, and himself, as he learned how the various trades, "go about doing their work and what is expected. It taught me hard work and to keep a good mind and good head on your shoulders."

Now, as a 5th Period Plumber beginning the rigorous path to Journeyman status, Terryll is working with New England Sheet Metal Mechanical in Visalia on a Kaweah Delta Hospital project and advancing his career in a way that helps him, supports his family, and makes our community a better, more prosperous place.



Congratulations
Terryll Woods
Program Participant



Manufacturing: Heart and Soul Helps Customers

and the Community

United Western Industries (UWI) serves its metal fabrication customers with precision custom forming, CNC Machining, Laser Cutting and Tool & Die services. Specializing in Heavy Truck parts, Gale Pirtle and the UWI team "...put our heart and soul into our work, we make sure our end product is at the highest quality for immediate use by our customers."

In 2016, almost by chance and with no real expectation of finding a potential employee that could meet UWI's rigorous standards, Gale attended a "Meet & Greet" event for manufacturing program graduates sponsored by the Fresno Regional WDB Business Services Center. After hearing graduates tell their stories, feeling their passion for the manufacturing focused courses they had taken and their appreciation for the skill sets they had acquired, Gale took four (4) resumes, followed-up with UWI's own evaluation processes and hired two. Since then a third Workforce trained and vetted employee has been hired.

Gale now tells other employers looking for quality hires, "when people put their trust in Workforce to train them with a skill, they are putting their trust in people who are dedicated to making sure they are getting the best education they can get. It then insures that, when an employer hires someone who has trained through Workforce, they are getting the best employee for the job."



Receiving Employer of Excellence Award at City Hall

Left to Right

Blake Konczal, Executive Director of the FRWDB

Gale Pirtle, Owner, United Western Industries

Council President Esmeralda Soria, District 1

Cliff Garten, Former Owner

Bruce Ketch, General Manager of United Western Industries

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