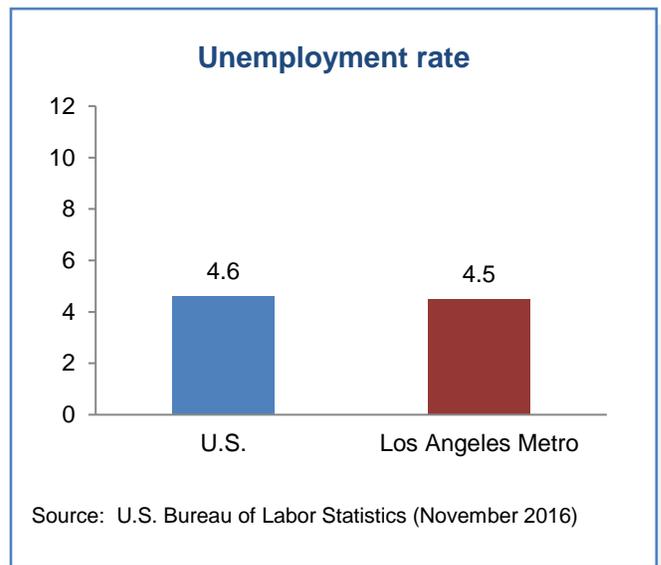




# Metro Economic Outlook: Los Angeles

The bright lights of Hollywood have always drawn crowds, but the Los Angeles region overall has become attractive for many other reasons. Post-recession job growth has been solid in a variety of sectors, and foreign investors have shown renewed interest in the area’s economy, as well.

“In general, it’s a very similar story to the rest of the nation,” said Kim Ritter, associate economist with the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp. (LAEDC), a nonprofit entity which tracks economic activity in Los Angeles County. “We’re not knocking it out of the ballpark, but we’ve had slow and steady growth. And we’ll take it, considering what’s going on in the rest of the world.”



**LOS ANGELES METRO: VITAL STATS**

**Total working age population:** 8,277,270 out of a total population of 13,340,068

**Number of households:** 4,315,637

**Consumer price index:** 250.185 (goods and services that cost \$100 in 1982-1984 cost \$250.19 in November 2016)

**Percentage of local residents with bachelor’s degrees:** 21.3

**With graduate or professional degrees:** 11.4

**Workers in STEM industries:** 15 per 1,000 residents

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau (2015), U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (November 2016), American Institute for Economic Research (2015)

The region has reached new highs for professional and business services jobs, Ritter said, and construction employment continues to grow, along with health care and social assistance jobs. In 2016, the only areas where the LAEDC expects small declines in employment are in the manufacturing and finance and insurance sectors.

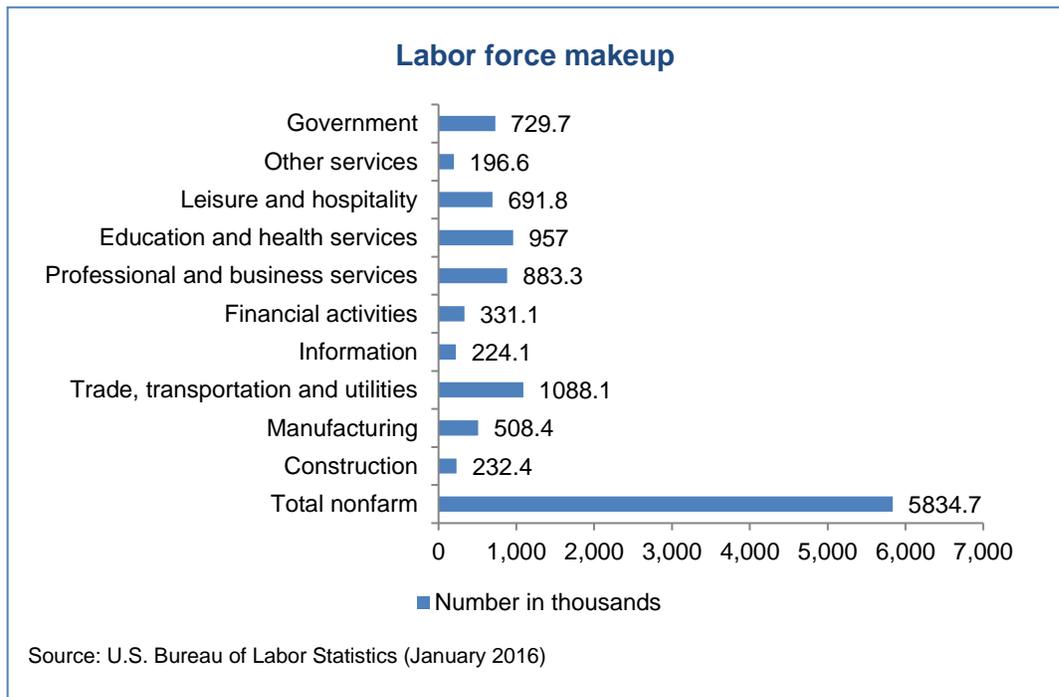
In 2016, Los Angeles is also ranked second in the U.S., and third globally, as a city that provides “the most stable and secure real estate investments,” according to a survey by the Association of Foreign Investors in Real Estate.

“Even with the high U.S. dollar right now, we’re viewed as a safe haven,” Ritter said. “Some people are worried about the potential of another recession, but we don’t see that as an immediate concern.”

The L.A. metro region covers Los Angeles County and neighboring Orange County. It is home to more than 13 million people and is the birthplace of an array of pop culture standards – including the electric guitar, the bathing suit and the skateboard.

Several high-tech innovations like the space shuttle, the Mars rover and the F-117, the first stealth fighter developed for the United States military, were also created locally.

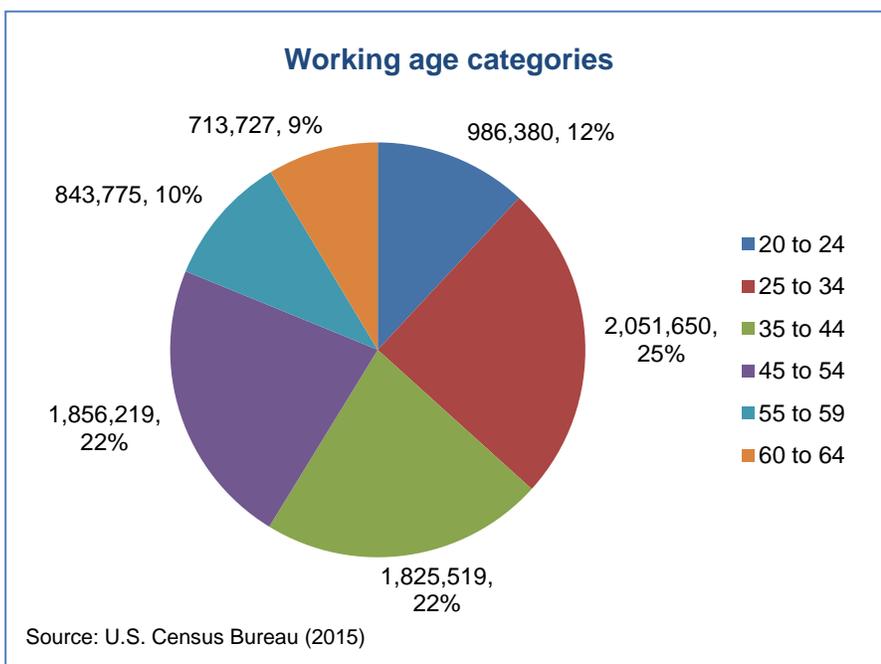
Among the region’s *Fortune* 500 companies are entertainment industry giant Walt Disney, digital television company DirecTV and manufacturer Reliance Steel & Aluminum.



Tourism, one of the Los Angeles region’s major industries, experienced record-breaking activity in 2015, with 45.5 million visitors, Ritter said. Los Angeles County has set a goal of attracting 50 million visitors by 2020, and “we’re well on our way to achieving that,” Ritter said.

A labor disruption in 2015 temporarily slowed activity at the port operations in Los Angeles and Long Beach, but the region remains “the hub of two-way trade between the U.S. and Asia,” Ritter said, thanks to a high concentration of distribution logistics and warehousing employment in the area.

“Anecdotally, there’s a lot of excitement out there,” Ritter said. “There are many new technology start-ups, a lot of activity in the creative industries, and there is more money flowing into the region. It’s very encouraging.” ♦



## Employee Benefits Data



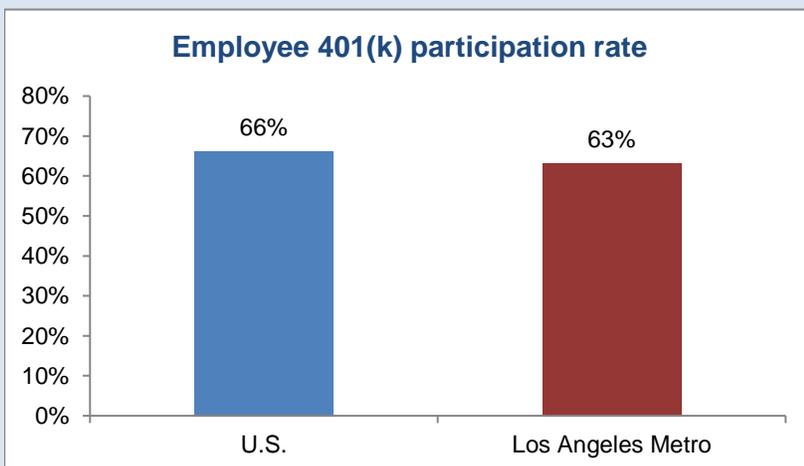
Employers in the Los Angeles metro area are less likely to offer consumer-driven health plans compared with the national level, by a margin of 8 percent.



They are significantly more likely to offer domestic partner benefits, by a margin of 30 percent over the national level.

Source: SHRM Health Care Benchmarking Database (2016)

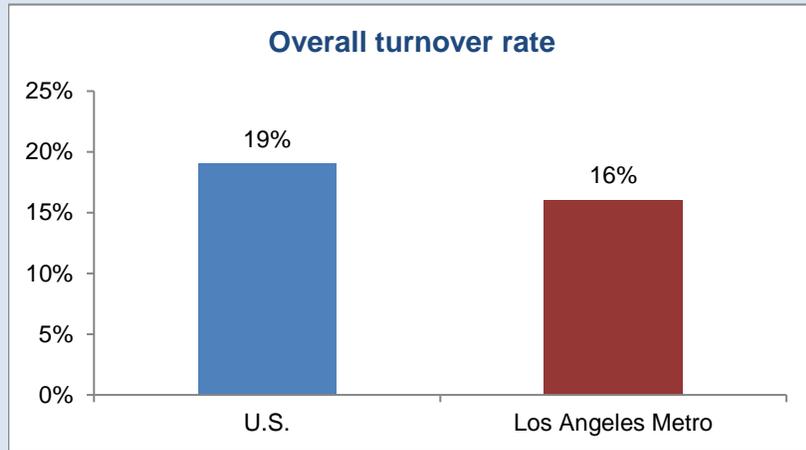
## Retirement



Employee 401(k) participation in the Los Angeles metro area workforce is lower than the national level, by a margin of 3 percent.

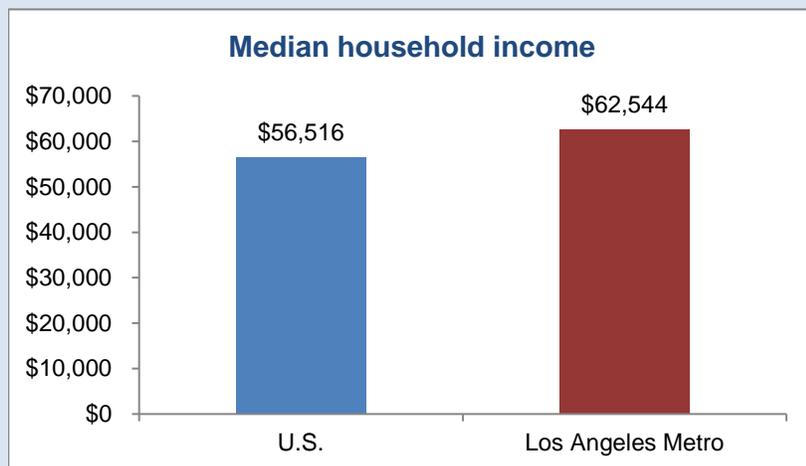
Source: SHRM Retirement & Welfare Benefits Database (2016)

## Income and Turnover Data



Source: SHRM Human Capital Benchmarking Database (2016)

The turnover rate in the Los Angeles metro area's workforce is lower than the national level, by a margin of 3 percent.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2015)

Median household income in the Los Angeles metro area is somewhat higher than the national level, by more than \$6,000 annually.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2015)

Per capita income in the Los Angeles area is slightly higher than the national level, by nearly \$1,000 annually.

## Top Management Salaries Data



Median salaries for top management positions in the Los Angeles metro vary when compared with national levels.

\*California state median data

\*\*Without labor relations experience

Source: Willis Towers Watson Data Services 2016 Survey Report on Top Management Compensation

Project lead: Joseph Coombs, Senior Analyst, Workforce Trends, SHRM  
 Project contributors: Shonna Waters, Ph.D., VP of Research  
 External contributors: Kim Ritter, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp.  
 Copy editing: Katya Scanlan, copy editor

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For more information, please contact:

SHRM Research Department  
 1800 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA  
 Phone: (703) 548-3440 Fax: (703) 535-6432  
 Email: [SHRMResearch@shrm.org](mailto:SHRMResearch@shrm.org)  
 Web: [www.shrm.org/research](http://www.shrm.org/research)