

System  
Indicators

Demographics and Economy



**Per Capita Gross  
Domestic Product (2009)**

September 2011

## Per Capita Gross Domestic Product (for a portion of the Region)



Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the end value of everything produced by businesses and individuals and is a measure of the size of an economy. GDP is a basic measure of economic health and can indicate whether a region's economy is growing or shrinking. When expressed on a per capita basis it highlights a workforce's effectiveness in creating economic wealth. The level and trend over time of per capita GDP provides a benchmark to gage the needs (improved education?) and opportunities (new policies for business development?) for improving the economic vitality of the region.

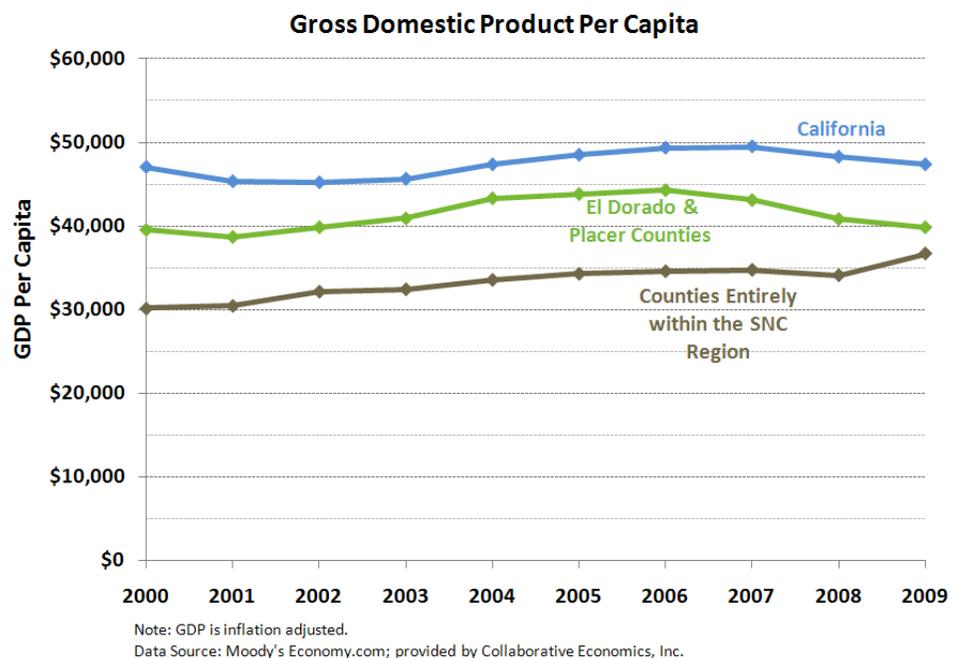
Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita is significantly lower in the Sierra Nevada than for California as a whole. From 2000 to 2007, per capita GDP in the twelve counties defined as entirely within the SNC Region grew steadily from \$30,200 to \$34,800 (adjusted for inflation to 2009 dollars) but throughout this period trailed average state GDP by between \$14,000 and \$17,000 in each year. In 2009, as California's per capita GDP declined in the recession, the economies of these twelve counties increased sharply to \$36,700, narrowing the gap with the state to \$10,700.

Whether 2009 was an anomaly for the Sierra Nevada region or whether the Region will fair relatively better economically and continue to close the gap with the State will only be known when data for subsequent years becomes available.

However, there was a sharp uptick in the number of

new businesses in the previous year (2008) and a relatively low number of business failures [see section on Business Churn]. This may have created a strong basis for a better 2009.

El Dorado and Placer Counties have a higher per capita GDP than the rest of the SNC Region, though still lower than the State. However, these two counties exhibited significant economic declines in GDP between 2006 and 2009.



The twelve counties entirely within the SNC Region accounted for a total of \$13.15 billion of GDP in 2009, compared to California's total GDP of \$1.8 trillion. A rough estimate is that the total GDP for the entire SNC Region was about \$30 billion<sup>4</sup>, which would be 0.7 percent of the statewide figure. In 2009, total GDP in the counties entirely within the SNC Region increased by seven percent over 2008, much faster growth than in previous years. Mariposa and Mono Counties had particularly robust growth in 2009. In contrast, the total GDP of California, adjusted for inflation, fell nearly four percent from 2008 to 2009<sup>5</sup>.

<b>Gross Domestic Product</b>				
<b>Counties Entirely Within the SNC Region</b>	<b>GDP in \$ Millions</b>		<b>Percent Change</b>	<b>Percent Population in SNC Region *</b>
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>		
Mariposa	\$556	\$648	+17%	100%
Mono	\$1,000	\$1,128	+13%	100%
Amador	\$1,248	\$1,378	+10%	98%
Alpine	\$56	\$62	+10%	100%
Lassen	\$1,120	\$1,211	+8%	100%
Calaveras	\$1,028	\$1,110	+8%	100%
Tuolumne	\$1,892	\$2,029	+7%	100%
Plumas	\$805	\$857	+7%	100%
Inyo	\$760	\$806	+6%	95%
Nevada	\$3,375	\$3,514	+4%	100%
Modoc	\$355	\$337	-5%	89%
Sierra	\$99	\$71	-28%	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,295</b>	<b>\$13,152</b>	<b>+7%</b>	<b>99%</b>

Note: GDP is inflation adjusted. \* Population is 2010 census

<b>Gross Domestic Product</b>				
<b>Counties Partially Within the SNC Region</b>	<b>GDP in Millions</b>		<b>Percent Change</b>	<b>Percent Population in SNC Region *</b>
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>		
Tehama	\$1,860	\$2,066	+11%	3%
Yuba	\$1,814	\$1,963	+8%	15%
Placer	\$15,608	\$15,889	+2%	33%
Kern	\$33,115	\$33,372	+1%	2%
Madera	\$4,445	\$4,460	0%	19%
Tulare	\$14,619	\$14,598	0%	2%
Butte	\$8,533	\$8,386	-2%	29%
Fresno	\$37,558	\$36,857	-2%	2%
Shasta	\$6,486	\$6,294	-3%	11%
El Dorado	\$5,591	\$5,097	-9%	83%
<b>Region Total</b>	<b>\$129,631</b>	<b>\$128,982</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>13%</b>

Note: GDP is inflation adjusted. \* Population is 2010 census

<sup>4</sup> Based on Regional population and estimate of Regional median (not average) per capita GDP

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis: California's Real GDP adjusted for inflation (chained 2005 dollars) was \$1.766 trillion in 2008 and \$1.701 trillion in 2009.