

### 3.3.2 Regional and Community Economic Conditions

Private nonfarm employment in Riverside County totaled 366,000 persons in 1999, an increase of 30 percent from five years earlier. This employment growth is nearly twice that of the Statewide average (16 percent) and well above surrounding counties (Orange ten percent; Los Angeles 11 percent; San Bernardino 22 percent; San Diego 25 percent) for the same period (U.S. Census Bureau, [www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/map/99data/06/065.txt](http://www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/map/99data/06/065.txt)). Much of the economic activity in Riverside County is generated in the west half of the County and is linked to trade with Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties.

#### 3.3.2.1 Employment and Income

The County's profile of business firms and employment is presented in Table 3.3.B, with comparisons to the State economy. Among the 21 primary economic sectors reported by the Census Bureau in 1999, retail trade accounts for the most establishments (16 percent of total reported) and employment (16 percent of total reported jobs). Manufacturing firms generated the largest share of payroll (17 percent) and second highest employment (14 percent). Construction, Accommodations and Food Service, and Health Care and Social Assistance also rank high in economic activity in Riverside County. Six of the County's 15 largest employers are health care related concerns.

Table 3.3.B - Riverside County Business Patterns, 1999

Economic Sector	Establishments		Employees		Annual Payroll (millions)	
	<i>Riverside</i>	<i>CA</i>	<i>Riverside</i>	<i>CA</i>	<i>Riverside</i>	<i>CA</i>
Construction	3,200 12%	8%	44,028 12%	6%	\$1,383 15%	6%
Manufacturing	1,475 5%	6%	49,509 14%	15%	\$1,584 17%	17%
Retail Trade	4,217 16%	14%	59,135 16%	12%	\$1,309 14%	7%
Finance, Insurance	1,173 5%	5%	9,981 3%	5%	\$384 4%	8%
Prof., Tech. Services	1,967 3%	12%	10,392 3%	8%	\$360 4%	11%
Health Care, Social Asst.	2,692 11%	10%	42,058 12%	10%	\$1,216 13%	9%
Lodging, Food Service	2,242 9%	8%	44,618 12%	9%	\$561 6%	3%
All Other Sectors	8,793 34%	37%	106,637 28%	35%	\$2,687 28%	39%
<b>Total Reported</b>	<b>25,705 100%</b>		<b>366,358 100%</b>		<b>\$9,484 100%</b>	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, [www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/map/99data/06/065.txt](http://www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/map/99data/06/065.txt) and [www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/map/99data/06/999.txt](http://www.census.gov/epcd/cbp/map/99data/06/999.txt)

Relative to the State's economy, Riverside County has much greater activity in the Construction sector, reflecting the high level of residential and commercial building now underway, and less activity related to professional and technical services. The large Lodging and Accommodations sector is indicative of the importance of tourism in the County, such as the resorts near Palm Springs.

The County's economic mix has changed several ways since 1994. Construction has grown sharply, with jobs doubling from 21,000 to 44,000 jobs and the sector rising from 8 to 12 percent proportion of total employment. The importance of the employment in services industries in the County also has increased, with a 70 percent rise in employment (to 160,000 jobs, when considering all service industry jobs). During the past five years employment in Agriculture and Forestry has fallen (from 5,800 jobs to 1,400), as has work in the Retail sector (79,000 jobs to 59,000), although reclassification of industrial codes may account for some of these internal changes.