

EMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS

Unemployment in the San Diego region rose by 35,000 between April 18 and April 25, hitting an all-time-high of 26.8% - beating the 24.9% rate recorded in the United States at the peak of the Great Depression in 1933.

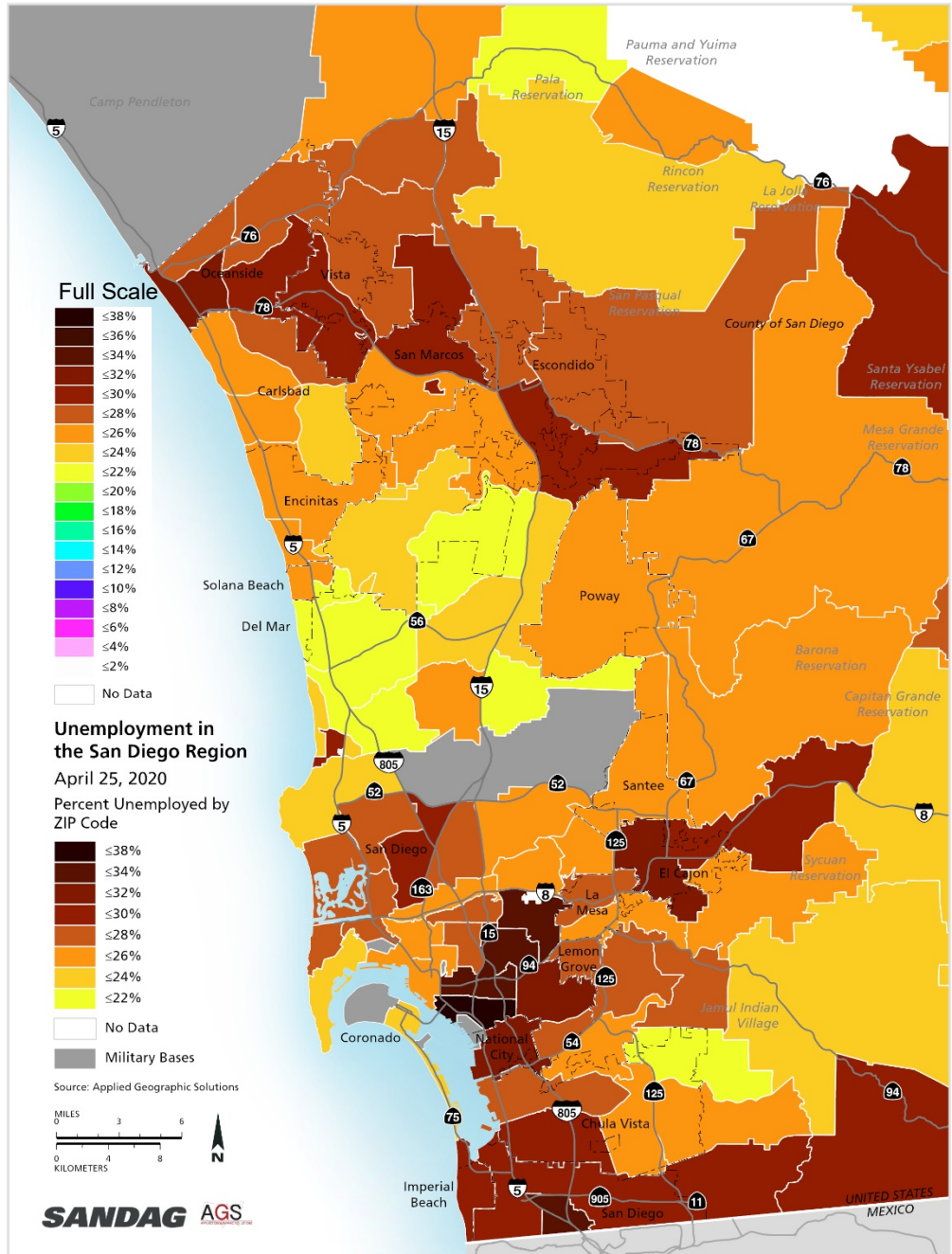
However, the current weekly increase has slowed since March 21, the end of the first week stay-at-home orders took effect.

The updated data are reflective of April 25, prior to California Governor Gavin Newsom's May 4 order to allow the reopening of portions of the economy on Friday, May 8. The phased reopening may signal that the pandemic curve is flattening, and economic improvement may occur in the next few weeks.

Although recorded unemployment claims should grow for the weeks of May 1 and May 8, the easing of restrictions will allow some people to go back to work. Unemployment rates could start falling as soon as the week of May 11.

The unemployment rate in the region is estimated to have increased an additional 2.1%, from 24.7% on April 18 to 26.8% on April 25, shown in Figure 2.

Figure 1: Estimated Unemployment by ZIP Code as of April 25, 2020



Source: Applied Geographic Solutions, Inc., Thousand Oaks, California, Weekly Release May 4, 2020

The San Diego region now has over 450,000 unemployed residents. Of the 450,000 unemployed, about 400,000 lost their jobs after March 7, when the COVID-19 pandemic began.

The ZIP codes with the highest unemployment rates this week have an average unemployment rate of 33.0%, where 1 in 3 workers are now out of work.

Those ZIP codes are:

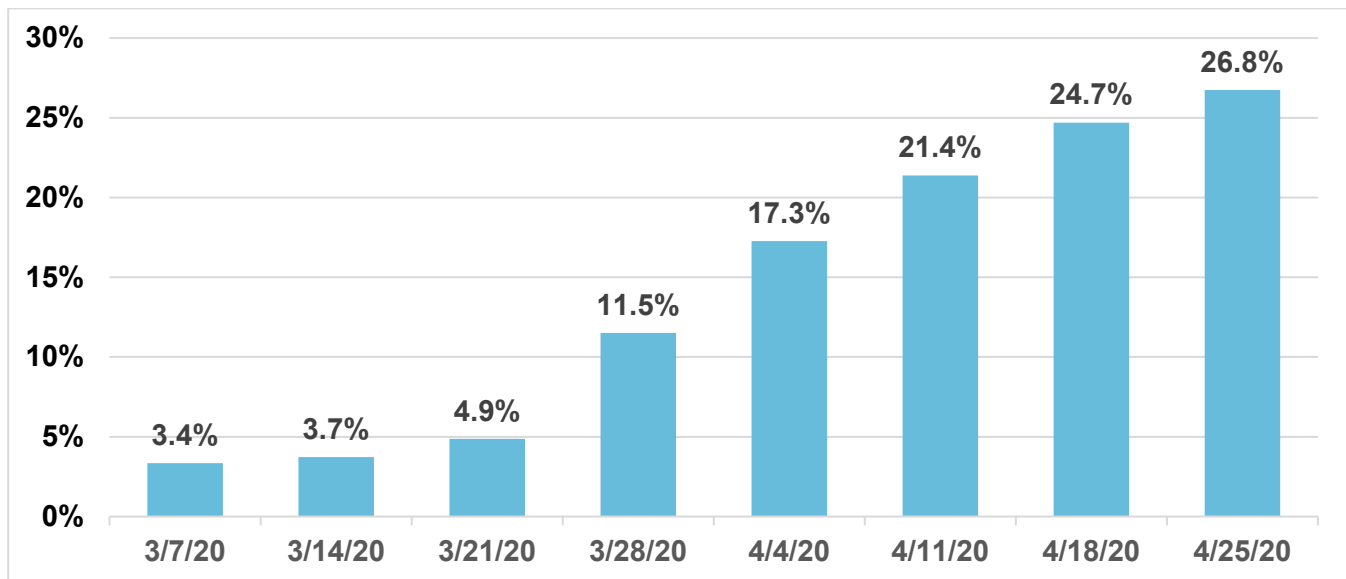
- **National City (91950), 31.1%**
- **Golden Hill (92102), 32.2%**
- **City Heights (92105), 32.3%**
- **San Ysidro (92173), 32.4%**
- **College (92115), 32.8%**
- **Logan Heights (92113), 37.5%**

Combined, these six ZIP codes total about 53,000 unemployed residents, compared to 52,000 countywide before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ZIP codes that are less affected include:

- **Rancho Bernardo W (92127), 20.2%**
- **Chula Vista NE (91914), 20.9%**
- **Carmel Valley (92130), 20.9%**
- **Del Mar (92014), 21.5%**
- **Scripps Ranch (92131), 21.6%**
- **Sorrento Valley (92121), 22.0%**

Figure 2: Estimated Unemployment Rate in the San Diego Region as of April 25, 2020



Source: Applied Geographic Solutions, Inc., Thousand Oaks, California, Weekly Release May 4, 2020