## Jobless rate soars in the city, state reports

Unemployment soared to 24.3 percent in January, the state **Employment Development** Department announced this week in a delayed report.

Watsonville's unemployment rate, nearly twice the rate of Santa Cruz County's 12.4 percent, is typical for the winter months. Still, the unemployment rate for January, 1995, was 3.6 percent less than in January 1994.

Monterey County's January unemployment was 17.9 percent. California's jobless rate was

8.7 percent in January, and the national rate was 6.2 percent.

A spokesman for the EDD in Sacramento said that the monthly employment reports were delayed because analysts were busy converting data to a new series of benchmarks.

## Watsonville unemployment rates





