

2011 Integrated Energy Policy Report Staff Workshop California Economic Outlook

Areas of Interest

Panel 1 -- Factors Affecting California's Economy and Demographics Now and in the Decade Ahead

- What regions within California will experience the greatest and least amount of economic growth in the next ten years?
- What are the important economic indicators that signal economic recovery from a recession?
- How confident are you in the current economic projections?
- How much economic growth is necessary to fill the currently vacant houses and buildings, and/or to spur new construction?
- Is the state's lagging infrastructure improvement an impediment to economic growth?
- How might climate changes impact the California economy?
- Do you have insights on the economic cost and benefit of adaptation actions needed to address heat storm impacts, sea level rises, volatile rain patterns affecting water irrigation, forest degradation and adverse impacts to agriculture in the next 10-40 years?
- Will California's cap and trade regulation establish a more balanced economic system to reflect externality (public) benefits?
- How significant is petroleum fuel cost as a percent of Gross State Product for the California economy.
- Does the state obtain an economic benefit if sustained rising petroleum fuel costs compel a shift to substitute (alternative) fuels and vehicles over the next ten years?
- How is California's population growth changing, and how will changes affect the state's economy over the next decade? Are there important regional differences?

Panel 2 -- Rebuilding Jobs in California

- Once the state economy recovers in terms of Gross State Product growth, will job recovery lag behind? If so, how many years could it take before the state returns to pre-recession employment rates?
- How much and what kind of change do you foresee in California's industrial sector in the next ten years?
- How much of a shift do you envision from manufacturing to service-oriented jobs in various regions in California over the next decade?
- What kinds of jobs are likely to be created over the next decade and beyond?
- What impact will the "green revolution" have on job growth?

Panel 3 – Economic Downturn Impacts and Recovery Prospects for California Business and Industry

- What are the growth industries in California? Where are these industries located?
- What industries do you expect to decline? Where are these industries located?
- How are the demographic trends discussed during the earlier panel affecting your business sector?
- What construction trends do you see over the next ten years? Will there be regional differences?
- How much economic growth is necessary to spur new business construction?
- What impact may California environmental regulations have on your region's economy or your business sector in particular?
- What changes to economic or environmental policy would support recovery in your business sector?
- Under what conditions might state regulatory actions or incentives to encourage California-based energy product manufacturing and alternative fuel production trigger foreign government (or corporate) complaints about unfair trade?
- Does manufacturing energy products and substitute fuels in California outweigh relying on imports of cheaper substitute (alternative) fuels and energy products from other states and countries?
- How is energy usage changing in various regions or business sectors in California?