

# Employment Surges 3% Among Top Employers

**ECONOMY:** Disney, UCI, healthcare lead the pack

By JESSIE YOUNT

Orange County's biggest companies remain on a recruiting push.

Employment surged 3% to 203,536 workers this year, among the 29 companies with more than 3,000 local workers in this week's Business Journal list of largest employers.

Two companies on the list achieved double-digit growth: Santa Ana-based **Allied Universal** and **CHOC Children's** in Orange.

Costa Mesa-based **Automobile Club of Southern California** trailed closely behind with an 8.6% increase.

## The LIST

Employers

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It employs about 3,800 people in OC.

The Business Journal findings indicate that large companies are growing faster than the region's contingent of small and midsized companies; employment has grown 1.3% countywide since last year, according to the Employment Development Department, with jobs in professional and business services leading the way.

Twelve firms on the list reported growth, while three reported declines. Two companies held steady, while the remainder are Business Journal estimates based on city records and other employment data.

The list includes two universities, two theme park operators, and eight healthcare



Heart valve work at No. 13 Edwards Lifesciences this month

providers. A dozen of the employers on the list are based in OC.

### Attractions Abound

Orange County's largest employer continues to expand.

**Disneyland** once again topped the list, reporting a 6.7% increase in its workforce to 32,000 employees.

The Anaheim-based company created 6,700 temporary construction jobs and 1,600 new operation jobs dedicated to its new **Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge** area, according to

**Walt Disney Co.** (NYSE: DIS) data.

A recent study placed the powerhouse's economic impact at \$5.8 billion last year, a 50% increase since 2013. The study was conducted by the **Woods Center for Economic Analysis and Forecasting** within **California State University-Fullerton's Mihaylo College of Business and Economics**.

Growth is likely to continue next year, as Disney unveils its Rise of the Resistance attraction at Star Wars land and the Avengers Campus at **Disney California Adventure Park**.

### Security First

Santa Ana-based **Allied Universal** ranked No. 23, with a 35.2% surge in security-related hiring that brought its local employee count to 3,650.

The company—the largest private security company in the country—now employs 215,000 workers in North America and has revenues north of \$7 billion.

The security firm acquired a series of smaller businesses this year, including **Advent Systems Inc.**, **Shelter Security Services** and **Cypress Private Security LP**.

Last year, Chief Executive **Steve Jones** told the Business Journal to expect an IPO in the coming years; a Business Journal estimate places the company's public value around \$7 billion.

### Highs & Lows

Orange County's biggest publicly traded company, **Edwards Lifesciences Corp.** (NYSE: EW), added approximately 350 employees and climbed 7.4%. That places the company at nearly 5,000 employees, with major growth coming from its clinical affairs division, according to company officials.

OC's top hospitals reported significant growth. **Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian** climbed 6.6% to 6,500 workers and **CHOC Children's** grew to 3,938 employees, increasing employment by 10%.

Fellow grocers **Albertsons Cos.** and **Ralphs and Food 4 Less**, both divisions of **Kroger Co.**, decreased workers to 7,535 and 3,462, respectively. ■

## THE LIST EMPLOYERS



**REBECCA CAMPBELL**  
President, Disneyland Resort  
The Walt Disney Co.



**KIMBERLY C. CRIFE**  
CEO and President  
CHOC Children's (Children's Hospital of Orange County)



**HOWARD GILLMAN**  
Chancellor  
University of California-Irvine



**SAID HILAL**  
CEO  
Applied Medical Resources Corp.






**JULIE MURPHY**  
Executive VP, People  
Walmart Inc.



**FRAMROZE 'FRAM' VIRJEE**  
President  
California State University-Fullerton

# THE LIST EMPLOYERS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF OC EMPLOYEES

Rank	Company •Address	Company logo	OC employees •yearly % change	Companywide employees •yearly % change	Operations in Orange County	Top local official(s) •Title •Phone/fax	
1	<b>The Walt Disney Co.</b> 1313 S. Harbor Blvd. (1) Anaheim 92802-2309 Headquarters: Burbank		32,000 7%	201,000 1%	Disneyland Park, Disney California Adventure Park, Disneyland Hotel, Disney's Paradise Pier Hotel, Disney's Grand Californian Hotel & Spa, Downtown Disney District	Rebecca Campbell president, Disneyland Resort (714) 781-1580	
2	<b>University of California-Irvine</b> Irvine 92697 (2) Headquarters: Irvine		24,714 3%	24,714 3%	University of California-Irvine, UCI Health	Howard Gillman chancellor (949) 824-5111	
3	<b>County of Orange</b> Headquarters: Santa Ana (3)		17,365 1%	17,365 1%	Regional service provider and planning agency whose core businesses include public safety, public health, environmental protection, regional planning, public assistance, social services and aviation	Frank Kim county executive officer (714) 834-2345	
4	<b>St. Joseph Health</b> 3345 Michelson Drive, Ste. 100 (4) Irvine 92612-0693 Headquarters: Irvine		14,000 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	27,830 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	St. Joseph Health System headquarters, St. Joseph Hospital-Orange, St. Jude Medical Center, Mission Hospital-Laguna Beach, Mission Viejo, St. Joseph Health System Home Health Agency, St. Joseph Heritage Medical Group, St. Joseph Heritage Healthcare, St. Jude Heritage Medical Group	Erik Wexler executive VP, Providence St. Joseph Health/ CEO, Southern California (949) 381-4000	
5	<b>Kaiser Permanente</b> 3460 E. La Palma Ave. (5) Anaheim 92806-2020 Headquarters: Oakland		8,200 0%	218,000 0%	Kaiser Permanente hospitals, medical offices, regional offices	Mark Costa senior VP, area manager (510) 271-5910	
6	<b>Albertsons Southern California Division</b> 1421 S. Manhattan Ave. (6) Fullerton 92831-5221 Headquarters: Fullerton		7,535 -2%	270,000 -2%	Albertsons, Vons, Pavilions, Sav-on Pharmacy, distribution centers	Shane Dorcheus executive VP, retail operations/Southern California division president (714) 300-6000	



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7	<b>Boeing Co.</b> 2201 Seal Beach Blvd. (10) Seal Beach 90740-5603 Headquarters: Chicago		6,600 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	153,000 9%	Boeing Defense, Space & Security, Boeing Commercial Airplanes	Jim H. Chilton senior VP, space and launch, defense, space and security (562) 797-2020	
8	<b>Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian<sup>(2)</sup></b> 1 Hoag Drive (9) Newport Beach 92658-6100 Headquarters: Newport Beach		6,500 <sup>(3)</sup> 7%	6,500 7%	Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian, Hoag Hospital Newport Beach, Hoag Hospital Irvine, Hoag Medical Group, Hoag Health Centers, Hoag Urgent Care Centers	Robert T. Braithwaite CEO/president (949) 764-4624	
9	<b>Walmart Inc.</b> 702 SW Eighth St. (8) Bentonville 72716-8611 Headquarters: Bentonville, Ark.		6,200 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	2,200,000 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	Walmart Supercenters, Walmart stores, Neighborhood Markets, Sam's Club stores	Julie Murphy executive VP, People (479) 273-4000	
10	<b>Target Corp.</b> 1000 Nicollet Mall (7) Minneapolis 55403-2542 Headquarters: Minneapolis		6,000 -5%	350,000 0%	Target stores, distribution center; regional, group and district offices	Brian Cornell chairman/CEO (800) 440-0680/(612) 761-5555	
11	<b>MemorialCare Health System</b> 17360 Brookhurst St. (11) Fountain Valley 92708-3720 Headquarters: Fountain Valley		5,400 0%	10,500 0%	MemorialCare headquarters, Saddleback Medical Center, Orange Coast Medical Center, MemorialCare Medical Foundation, MemorialCare Medical Group <sup>(4)</sup>	Barry Arbuckle CEO/president (714) 377-2900	

**Abbreviations:** NA: not applicable  
Photos show the first top official listed  
**Note:** The list includes corporations, hospitals and universities. It excludes government entities, school and community college districts. To the best of our knowledge, this information is accurate as of press time. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy and thoroughness of the list, omissions and typographical errors sometimes occur. Unless otherwise noted, the information on this list was provided by the companies themselves. List may not be reprinted without permission of the editor.  
<sup>(1)</sup> Business Journal estimate

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes Hoag Hospital Irvine  
<sup>(3)</sup> OC employees includes Hoag Orthopedic Institute  
<sup>(4)</sup> MemorialCare Health System's operations in Orange County includes: Greater Newport Physicians; Seaside Health Plan; and MemorialCare Ambulatory Surgery, Imaging, Breast Health, Kidney Dialysis, and Urgent Care Health Centers

Researched by Meghan Kliever and Brian Alvarado

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12 (13)	<b>Bank of America Corp.</b> 520 Newport Center Drive, 11th floor Newport Beach 92660-7020 Headquarters: Charlotte, N.C.		5,000 NA	205,000 -2%	Retail, preferred and small business, Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, private bank, business banking, global commercial banking, global corporate and investment banking, global markets	Allen Staff Orange County market president/commercial real estate banking executive (949) 287-0456	
13 (14)	<b>Edwards Lifesciences Corp.</b> 1 Edwards Way Irvine 92614-5688 Headquarters: Irvine		4,998 7%	13,848 7%	Headquarters, heart valve production, R&D	Mike A. Mussallem chairman/CEO (949) 250-2500/(949) 250-2525	
14 (12)	<b>California State University-Fullerton</b> 800 N. State College Blvd. Fullerton 92831-3547 Headquarters: Fullerton		4,349 NA	4,349 NA	California State University-Fullerton, CSUF Irvine campus, Grand Central Art Center in Santa Ana	Framroze 'Fram' Virjee president (657) 278-3611	
15 (18)	<b>Irvine Company</b> 550 Newport Center Drive Newport Beach 92660-7011 Headquarters: Newport Beach		4,120 2%	4,860 3%	Headquarters, workplace communities, retail centers, apartment communities, resort and hotels, golf course, community development	Donald Bren chairman (949) 720-2000	
16 (17)	<b>Home Depot Inc.</b> 2455 Paces Ferry Road Atlanta 30339-1834 Headquarters: Atlanta		4,100 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	400,000 0%	Home Depot stores, regional offices	Craig Menear chairman/CEO/president (800) 466-3337	

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17 (18)	<b>Cedar Fair LP</b>	1 Cedar Point Drive Sandusky 44870-5259 Headquarters: Sandusky, Ohio		4,000 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	47,300 6%	Knott's Berry Farm, Knott's Soak City Water Park, Knott's Berry Farm Resort Hotel	Richard Zimmerman CEO/president (419) 627-2233/(419) 627-2260	
18 (24)	<b>CHOC Children's (Children's Hospital of Orange County)</b>	1201 W. La Veta Ave. Orange 92868-3874 Headquarters: Orange		3,938 10%	4,270 7%	CHOC Children's Hospital-Orange, CHOC Children's at Mission Hospital, CHOC Children's Specialists, CHOC Orange Clinic, Clinica Para Ninos, CHOC Clinic at the Santa Ana Boys & Girls Club, CHOC Clinic in Garden Grove, CHOC Health Center at Hoag/Newport Beach, CHOC Health Center at Mission Viejo, CHOC Medical Foundation, CHOC Children's Network	Kimberly C. Cripe CEO/president (714) 997-3000/(714) 509-8477	
19 (22)	<b>Costco Wholesale Corp.</b>	999 Lake Drive Issaquah 98027-8990 Headquarters: Issaquah, Wash.		3,915 3%	249,881 3%	Costco stores	Caton Frates senior VP, Los Angeles regional office (800) 774-2678	
20 (20)	<b>UnitedHealth Group Inc.</b>	3110 W Lake Center Drive Santa Ana 92704-6917 Headquarters: Minnetonka, Minn.		3,900 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	300,000 15%	PacifiCare, UnitedHealthcare, UnitedHealthcare Behavioral Health, UnitedHealthcare Dental and Vision, Secure Horizons, Optum Rx	Elizabeth Winsor CEO, UnitedHealthcare national accounts (800) 328-5979	
21 (21)	<b>Tenet Healthcare Corp.</b>	1445 Ross Ave. Dallas 75202-2711 Headquarters: Dallas		3,867 0%	115,500 -11%	Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center, Placentia-Linda Hospital, Los Alamitos Medical Center, Conifer Health Solutions, regional offices, imaging and surgery centers	Bryan Rogers CEO, Southern California market (469) 893-2000	

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22	<b>Automobile Club of Southern California</b> 3333 Fairview Road Costa Mesa 92626-1610 Headquarters: Costa Mesa		3,800 9%	15,000 7%	Administrative offices, branches for travel and insurance sales, call centers	John Boyle CEO/president (714) 885-2333	
23	<b>Allied Universal</b> 1551 N. Tustin Ave., Ste. 650 Santa Ana 92705-8664 Headquarters: Santa Ana		3,650 35%	215,000 37%	Headquarters, security solutions (security officer and systems), janitorial services	Steve Jones CEO (714) 619-9700/(714) 619-9701	
24	<b>Ralphs and Food 4 Less, divisions of The Kroger Co.</b> 1100 W. Artesia Blvd. Compton 90220-5108 Headquarters: Cincinnati		3,462 -4%	443,000 -1%	Ralphs, Food 4 Less	Mike Murphy/Bryan Kaltenbach president, Ralphs/president, Food 4 Less (310) 884-9000	
25	<b>CVS Health</b> 1 CVS Drive Woonsocket 02895-6146 Headquarters: Woonsocket, R.I.		3,400 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	295,000 20%	CVS Pharmacy stores	Larry Merlo CEO/president (401) 765-1500	
26	<b>Starbucks Corp.</b> 2401 Utah Ave. S., Ste. 800 Seattle 98134-1435 Headquarters: Seattle		3,300 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	291,000 5%	Starbucks coffeehouses; regional development, design operations	Kevin Johnson CEO/president (800) 782-7282	
27	<b>Marriott International Inc.</b> 10400 Fernwood Road Bethesda 20817-1102 Headquarters: Bethesda, Md.		3,100 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	176,000 -1%	Marriott Hotels & Resorts, Ritz-Carlton, Fairfield Inn, Courtyard by Marriott, Residence Inn, SpringHill Suites, Renaissance Hotels, TownePlace Suites	Arne Sorenson CEO/president (301) 380-3000	
27	<b>Stater Bros. Holdings Inc.</b> 301 S. Tippecanoe Ave. San Bernardino 92408-0121 Headquarters: San Bernardino		3,100 <sup>(1)</sup> NA	18,000 NA	Stater Bros. stores	Pete Van Helden CEO/president (855) 782-8377	
29	<b>Applied Medical Resources Corp.</b> 22872 Avenida Empressa Rancho Santa Margarita 92688-2650 Headquarters: Rancho Santa Margarita		3,023 8%	4,230 8%	Headquarters, medical device maker	Said Hilal CEO (949) 713-8000/(949) 713-8200	

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