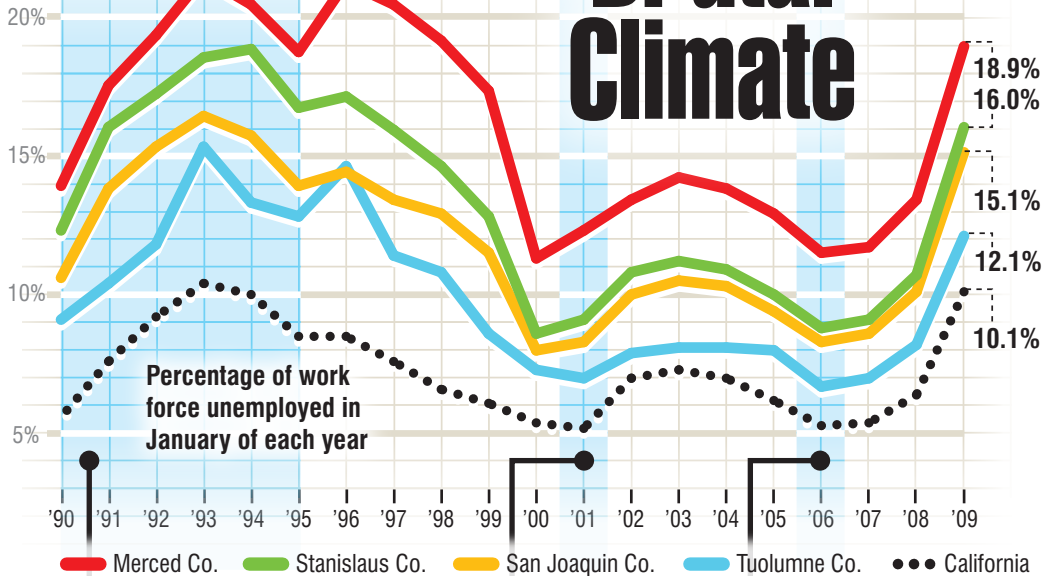


# 'Brutal' Climate



**Early 1990s:** A national recession drove up the jobless rate in and near Stanislaus County, compounding the usual winter lull in farm and cannery jobs.

**2001:** Another recession brought job losses, but they were less than in the past because of the region's diversifying economy.

**2006:** The end to the region's housing boom reduced jobs in construction and related fields. The situation worsened in 2008 and 2009 because of recession and trouble in financial markets.