

Monthly Economic Indicators: April 2016 Highlights

Compiled by the Research and Economic Analysis Division, DBEDT

Job Market

Hawaii's labor market continued to improve in April 2016 over the same month in 2015.

The civilian labor force increased to 685,050 in April 2016, an increase of 9,200, or 1.4 percent from the same month last year. Civilian employment recorded 663,750 people at work in April 2016, 1.9 percent higher than the same month last year.

The April 2016 unemployment rate stood at 3.1 percent, the lowest rate since the 2.5 percent in April 2007. 3.1 percent compares very favorably to the 3.6 percent rate for April 2015. At 3.2 percent, Hawaii ranked 3rd lowest among all the states for YTD April 2016, behind New Hampshire and South Dakota tied for 1st at 3.0 percent.

The total number of non-agriculture wage and salary jobs in April 2016 was 647,000, 1.9 percent higher than the same month last year. It marks the 68th consecutive month that jobs have increased year-over-year.

Consistent with the labor market improvement, initial unemployment claims decreased 3.5 percent in April 2016 compared with April 2015, but was 4.5 percent higher than March 2016.

Civilian Employed



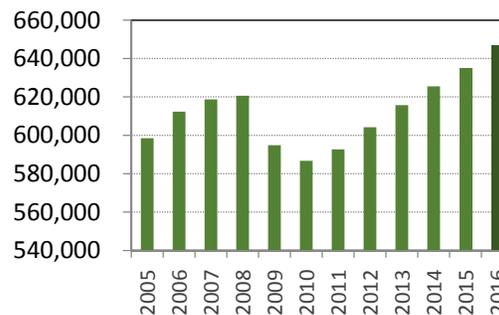
Source: Hawaii Dept. of Labor & Industrial Relations.

Unemployment Rate



Source: Hawaii Dept. of Labor & Industrial Relations.

Total Non-agriculture W&S jobs : Apr.



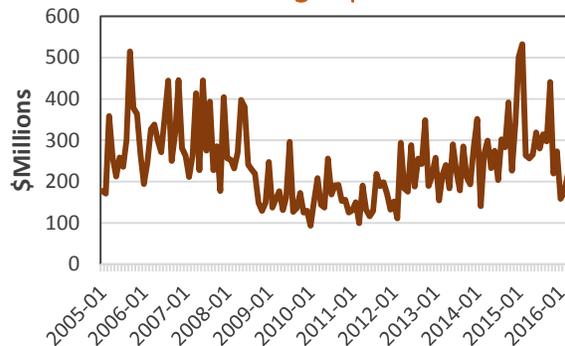
Source: Hawaii Dept. of Labor & Industrial

Building Permits

The total value of private building permits issued in April 2016 was \$257.8 million, 0.6 percent higher than the same month in 2015. Permit activities were slow for Commercial and industrial this month at \$27.8 million for a 45.8 percent decline from the same month in 2015.

Additions and alterations increased 63.7 percent in April 2016 compared with April 2015 while the value of Residential permits declined 23.9 percent and Commercial and industrial declined 45.8 percent. YTD April 2015 to YTD April 2016, all categories declined.

Value of Private Building Permits through Apr. 2016



Source: County Building Dept. & U.S. Census Bureau.

Value of Private Building Permits by Category: April

Category	Apr. 2015 (\$mil)	Apr. 2016 (\$mil)	Change (%)
Total	256.2	257.8	0.6
Residential	120.3	91.6	-23.9
Comm & industrial	51.3	27.8	-45.8
Add'n & alterations	84.6	138.4	63.7

Source: County Building Dept. & U.S. Census Bureau.

State Tax Revenue

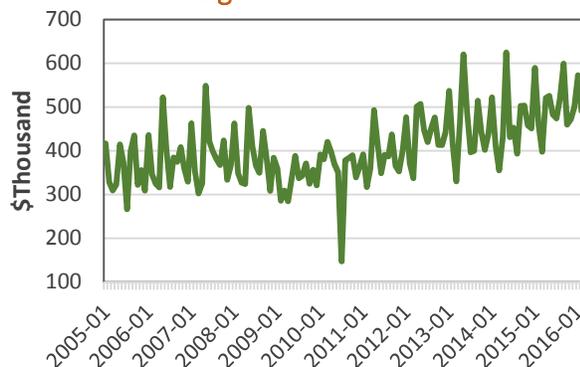
State general fund revenues declined 6.3 percent from April 2015 to April 2016, and 3.9 percent YTD.

General excise and use tax revenues declined 1.0 percent from April 2015 to April 2016 but increased 6.0 percent YTD.

Individual income tax revenues declined 23.1 percent from April 2016 to April 2015 but increased 0.7 percent YTD from April 2016 to YTD April 2015.

The transient accommodations tax declined 0.7 percent from April 2015 to April 2016 but increased 5.2 percent YTD.

State general fund revenues



Source: Hawaii Dept. of Taxation

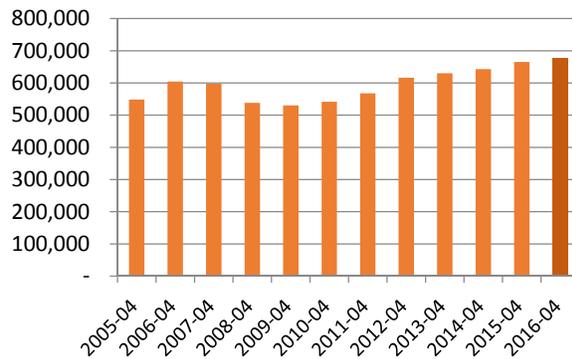
Visitor Arrivals and Spending

In April 2016, Hawaii visitor arrivals totaled 700,573, of which 677,671 arrived by air and the remaining 20,902 by cruise ship.

Visitor arrivals by air and days increased by 1.8 and 0.9 percent respectively, while expenditures declined by 1.5 percent for April 2016 compared to April 2015.

As of April 2016 YTD, visitors by air from the U.S. mainland accounted for 61.5 percent of the total air visitors, with U.S. West at 39.6 percent and U.S. East at 21.9 percent. Japanese visitors accounted for 16.2 percent of the total, and 8.1 percent of the air visitors came from Canada.

Visitor Arrivals by Air (Apr.)



Visitor Market at Glance (by air only)

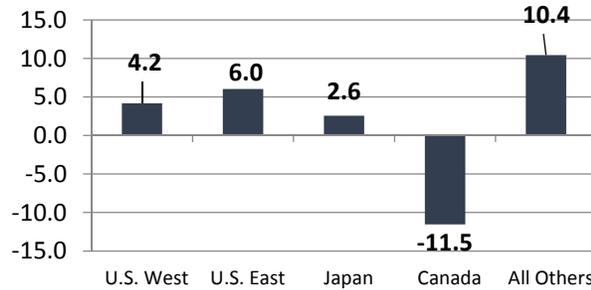
	Apr. 2015	Apr. 2016	% Chg.
Visitor arrivals	665,393	677,671	1.8
Visitor days	5,836,322	5,886,933	0.9
Visitor expenditure (\$mil)	1,154.0	1,137.0	-1.5
Avg. length of stay (days)	8.77	8.69	-1.0
PPPD (\$)	197.7	193.1	-2.3

Source: Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Visitor Arrivals by Major Markets (by air only), YTD April 2016



% Change from last year



Monthly Economic Indicators Main Page:

<http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/mei/>

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