Monthly Economic Indicators: April 2019
Highlights
Compiled by the Research and Economic Analysis Division, DBEDT

Job Market
The civilian labor force was 665,550 in April 2019, a decline of 15,050 or 2.2 percent from the same month last year. Civilian employment recorded 646,800 people at work in April 2019, 19,100 fewer than the same month last year, for a decline of 2.9 percent.

The April 2019 not seasonally adjusted (NSA) unemployment rate was 2.8 percent, a 0.6 percentage point increase over April 2018. The U.S. NSA unemployment rate for April 2019 was 3.3 percent, down 0.4 percentage points from the 3.7 percent recorded in April 2018. At 2.9 percent, Hawaii ranked 4th lowest for the NSA 2019-04 YTD unemployment rate among the 50 states. Vermont was lowest at 2.5 percent, Iowa at 2.7 percent and New Hampshire at 2.8 percent.

The total number of non-agriculture wage and salary jobs in April 2019 was 660,400, 0.7 percent higher than the same month last year. It marks the 104th consecutive month that jobs have increased or remained the same year-over-year.

Initial unemployment claims declined 12.1 percent in April 2019 compared with April 2018 and was 20.4 percent lower than March 2019.
**Building Permits**

The total value of private building permits issued in April 2019 was $231.7 million and was 15.8 percent lower than April 2018.

Permit activities were generally lower in April 2019 compared to same month last year. Residential permits declined 7.0 percent, Commercial & industrial permits declined 87.9 percent, while Additions & alterations increased 62.3 percent in April 2019 compared to April 2018.

**State Tax Revenue**

State general fund revenue was $810.4 million for an increase of 32.7 percent from April 2018 to April 2019 and registered an increase of 7.6 percent from April 2018 YTD to April 2019 YTD.

General excise and use tax revenue was $323.2 million for an increase of 84.9 percent from April 2018 to April 2019, and YTD increase of 9.3 percent.

Individual income tax revenue (net of refunds) was $354.8 million for an increase of 10.7 percent from April 2018 to April 2019 and 5.4 percent YTD.

The transient accommodations tax revenue was $56.4 million for a decline of 0.7 percent from April 2018 to April 2019 but an increase of 4.9 percent YTD.
Visitor Arrivals and Spending

In April 2019, Hawaii visitor arrivals totaled 856,250 of which 831,445 arrived by air and 24,805 by cruise ship.

Visitor arrivals by air increased by 5.8 percent and days increased by 2.7 percent while expenditures declined by 6.3 percent for April 2019 compared to April 2018.

As of April 2019, visitors by air from the U.S. mainland accounted for 65.9 percent of the total air visitors, with U.S. West at 47.0 percent and U.S. East at 18.9 percent. Japanese visitors accounted for 13.8 percent of the total, and 6.7 percent of the air visitors came from Canada.

Visitor Arrivals by Major Markets (by air only), April 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>April 2018</th>
<th>April 2019</th>
<th>% Chg.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitor arrivals</td>
<td>786,053</td>
<td>831,445</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor days</td>
<td>6,756,199</td>
<td>6,938,365</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor expenditure ($mil)</td>
<td>1,411.1</td>
<td>1,322.2</td>
<td>-6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avg. length of stay (days)</td>
<td>8.60</td>
<td>8.34</td>
<td>-2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPPD ($)</td>
<td>208.9</td>
<td>190.6</td>
<td>-8.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Hawaii Tourism Authority.

Monthly Economic Indicators Main Page:
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