

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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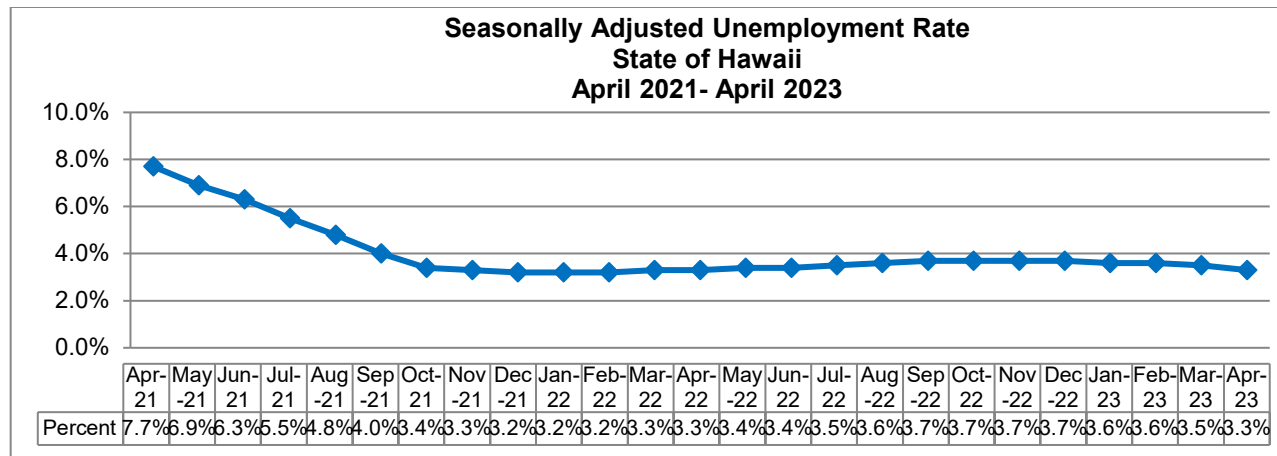
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 18, 2023

HAWAII'S APRIL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 3.3 PERCENT

Jobs increased by 18,600 year-over-year

HONOLULU — The Hawaii State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) today announced that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for April was 3.3 percent, compared to 3.5 percent in March. In April, 656,400 persons were employed and 22,500 were unemployed, for a total seasonally adjusted labor force of 678,900 statewide. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.4 percent in April, down from 3.5 percent in March.



The unemployment rate figures for the State of Hawaii and the U.S. in this release are seasonally adjusted, in accordance with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) methodology. The not seasonally adjusted rate for the state was 2.7 percent in April, compared to the revised rate of 3.0 percent in March.

State of Hawaii Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Data**			
	<u>Apr 2023</u>	<u>Mar 2023</u>	<u>Apr 2022*</u>
Labor Force	678,900	678,400	674,350
Employment	656,400	654,850	652,000
Unemployment	22,500	23,550	22,350

* benchmarked data

	APR 2023	MAR 2023	APR* 2022
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>			
STATE	3.3	3.5	3.3
U. S.	3.4	3.5	3.6
<u>Not Seasonally Adjusted</u>			
STATE	2.7	3.0	3.1
HONOLULU	2.6	2.9	3.1
HAWAII COUNTY	3.0	3.4	3.2
KAUAI	2.6	3.0	3.3
MAUI COUNTY	2.8	3.4	3.2
Maui Island	2.8	3.4	3.2
Molokai	4.6	5.1	5.6
Lanai	2.5	2.8	2.3
U. S.	3.1	3.6	3.3

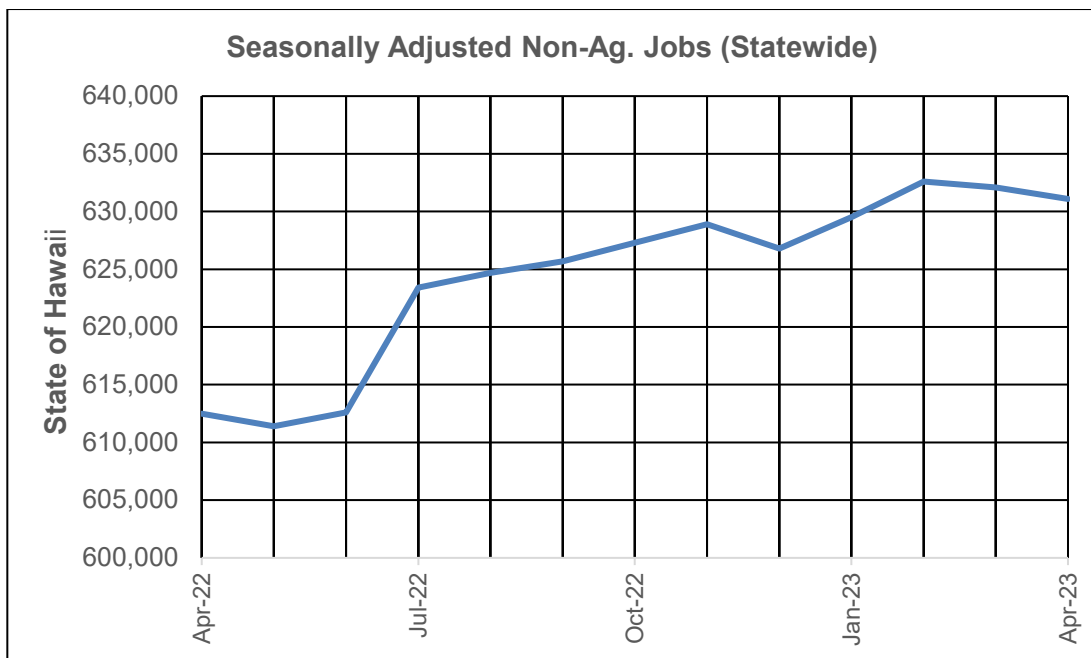
county & island rates are not seasonally adjusted

* benchmarked data

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey)

In a separate measure of employment, total nonagricultural jobs decreased by 1,000 month-over-month, from March 2023 to April 2023. Job gains were experienced in Professional & Business Services (+500); Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (+100); and Private Education & Health Services (+100). Within Professional & Business Services, gains were concentrated in the Administrative & Support & Waste Management & Remediation Services subsector. Employment in Manufacturing; Information; and Other Services remained stable. Job losses occurred in Financial Activities (-200); Leisure & Hospitality (-600); and Construction (-1,000). Within Leisure & Hospitality, job contraction occurred in Food Services & Drinking Places. Within Construction, about one-half of the decline was in Specialty Trade Contractors. Government employment went up by 100 jobs. Year-over-year (April 2022 was the 25th month of pandemic effects), nonfarm jobs have gone up by 18,600, or 3.0 percent. However, in comparison with March 2020 (the last month prior to pandemic effects), nonfarm jobs were down by 24,100, or -3.7 percent.

Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs (Statewide)			
	Apr-23	Mar-23	Apr-22
MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION	37,100	38,100	37,100
MANUFACTURING	12,800	12,800	12,600
Durable Goods	3,300	3,300	3,200
Non-Durable Goods	9,500	9,500	9,400
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	116,400	116,300	114,600
Wholesale Trade	17,300	17,300	17,300
Retail Trade	65,000	64,900	64,800
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	34,100	34,100	32,500
INFORMATION	9,000	9,000	8,100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	27,400	27,600	27,700
Finance & Insurance	15,200	15,300	15,800
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	12,200	12,300	11,900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	72,700	72,200	71,200
Professional, Scientific, Tech Svcs	26,500	26,500	25,800
Management of Companies & Enterprises	8,700	8,700	8,600
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt	37,500	37,000	36,800
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	86,400	86,300	86,200
Private Educational Services	14,800	14,600	13,700
Health Care & Social Assistance	71,600	71,700	72,500
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	119,500	120,100	109,900
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	13,100	12,400	11,600
Accommodation & Food Services	106,400	107,700	98,300
OTHER SERVICES	27,100	27,100	26,000
GOVERNMENT	122,700	122,600	119,100
Federal Government	35,200	35,100	34,600
State Government	68,700	68,700	66,000
Local Government	18,800	18,800	18,500
TOTAL: STATEWIDE	631,100	632,100	612,500
TOTAL: HONOLULU MSA	455,100	455,900	442,000
TOTAL: KAHULUI-WAILUKU-LĀHAINĀ MSA	75,500	75,600	73,900



Technical Notes:

Labor Force Components

The concepts and definitions used by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) program are the same as those used in the Current Population Survey for the national labor force data:

- *Civilian labor force.* Included are all persons in the civilian noninstitutional population ages 16 and older classified as either employed or unemployed. (See the definitions below.)
- *Employed persons.* These are all persons who, during the reference week (the week including the 12th day of the month), (a) did any work as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of their family, or (b) were not working but who had jobs from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, childcare problems, maternity or paternity leave, labor-management dispute, job training, or other family or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off or were seeking other jobs. Each employed person is counted only once, even if he or she holds more than one job.
- *Unemployed persons.* Included are all persons who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4 week-period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed.
- *Unemployment rate.* The unemployed percent of the civilian labor force [i.e., 100 times (unemployed/civilian labor force)].

Seasonal Adjustment

The seasonal fluctuations in the number of employed and unemployed persons reflect hiring and layoff patterns that accompany regular events such as the winter holiday season and the summer vacation season. These variations make it difficult to tell whether month-to-month changes in employment and unemployment are due to normal seasonal patterns or to changing economic conditions. Therefore, the BLS uses a statistical technique called seasonal adjustment to address these issues. This technique uses the history of the labor force data and the job count data to identify the seasonal movements and to calculate the size and direction of these movements. A seasonal adjustment factor is then developed and applied to the estimates to eliminate the effects of regular seasonal fluctuations on the data. Seasonally adjusted statistical series enable more meaningful data comparisons between months or with an annual average.

Current Population (Household) Survey (CPS)

A survey conducted for employment status in the week that includes the 12th day of each month generates the unemployment rate statistics, which is a separate survey from the Establishment Survey that yields the industry job counts. The CPS survey contacts approximately 1,000 households in Hawaii to determine an individual's current employment status. Employed persons consist of: 1) all persons who did any work for pay or profit during the survey reference week, 2) all persons who did at least 15 hours of unpaid work in a family-owned enterprise operated by someone in their household, and 3) all persons who were temporarily absent from their regular jobs, whether they were paid or not. Persons considered unemployed are those that do not have a job, have actively looked for work in the prior four weeks and are available for work. Temporarily laid-off workers are counted as unemployed, whether they have engaged in a specific job seeking activity. Persons not in the labor force are those who are not classified as employed or unemployed during the survey reference week.

Benchmark Changes to Local Area Unemployment Statistics Data

Statewide and substate data for 2010-2022 have revised inputs and have been re-estimated to reflect revised population controls and model re-estimation.

Change to Monthly Employment Estimates

This release incorporates revised job count figures for the seasonally adjusted series. The revised data reflects historical corrections applied to unadjusted super sector or sector level series dating back from 1990 through 2022. For years, analysts with the State of Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' Research and Statistics Office have developed monthly employment estimates for Hawaii and its metropolitan areas. These estimates were based on a monthly survey of Hawaii businesses and analysts' knowledge about our local economies. Beginning with the production of preliminary estimates for March 2011, responsibility for the production of State and metropolitan area (MSA) estimates were transitioned from individual state agencies to the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

For Hawaii, this means the transition of statewide, Honolulu and Kahului-Wailuku-Lāhainā MSA estimates for both the seasonally adjusted and not seasonally adjusted areas are produced by BLS. State agencies will continue to provide the BLS with information on local events that may affect the estimates, such as strikes or large layoffs/hiring at businesses not covered by the survey and to disseminate and analyze the Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates for local data users. BLS feels this change is designed to improve the cost efficiency of the CES program and to reduce the potential bias in state and area estimates. A portion of the cost savings generated by this change is slated to be directed towards raising survey response rates in future years, which will decrease the level of statistical error in the CES estimates. Until then, state analysts feel this change could result in increased month-to-month variability for the industry employment numbers particularly for Hawaii's counties and islands. BLS can be reached at (202) 691-6555 for any questions about these estimates.

The not seasonally adjusted job estimates for Hawaii County, Kauai County, Maui, Molokai, and Lanai are produced by the State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development, & Tourism.

Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force & Unemployment Estimates for Honolulu & Maui Co.

BLS publishes smoothed seasonally adjusted civilian labor force and unemployment estimates for all metropolitan areas, which includes the City and County of Honolulu and Maui County. BLS releases this data each month in the *Metropolitan Area Employment and Unemployment* news release. The schedule is available at <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/metro.toc.htm>.

Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization

<i>Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization for States, Second Quarter of 2022 through First Quarter of 2023 averages</i>						
State	Measure					
	U-1	U-2	U-3	U-4	U-5	U-6
United States	1.2	1.6	3.6	3.8	4.4	6.8
Hawaii	1.4	1.3	3.6	3.8	4.3	7.0

The six alternative labor underutilization state measures based on the Current Population Survey (CPS) and compiled on a 4-quarter moving average basis defined:

- U-1, persons unemployed 15 weeks or longer, as a percent of the civilian labor force;
- U-2, job losers and persons who completed temporary jobs, as a percent of the civilian labor force;
- U-3, total unemployed, as a percent of the civilian labor force (this is the definition used for the official unemployment rate);
- U-4, total unemployed plus discouraged workers, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus discouraged workers;
- U-5, total unemployed, plus discouraged workers, plus all other marginally attached workers*, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers; and
- U-6, total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part time for economic reasons, as a percent of the civilian labor force plus all marginally attached workers.

*Individuals who want and are available for work, and who have looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months (or since the end of their last job if they held one within the past 12 months) but were not counted as unemployed because they had not searched for work in the four weeks preceding the survey, for such reasons as childcare or transportation problems, for example. Discouraged workers are a subset of the marginally attached.

Please note that the state unemployment rates (U-3) that are shown are derived directly from the CPS. As a result, these U-3 measures may differ from the official state unemployment rates for the latest 4-quarter period. The latter are estimates developed from statistical models that incorporate CPS estimates, as well as input data from other sources, such as state unemployment claims data.

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