

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM**

**RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS DIVISION**

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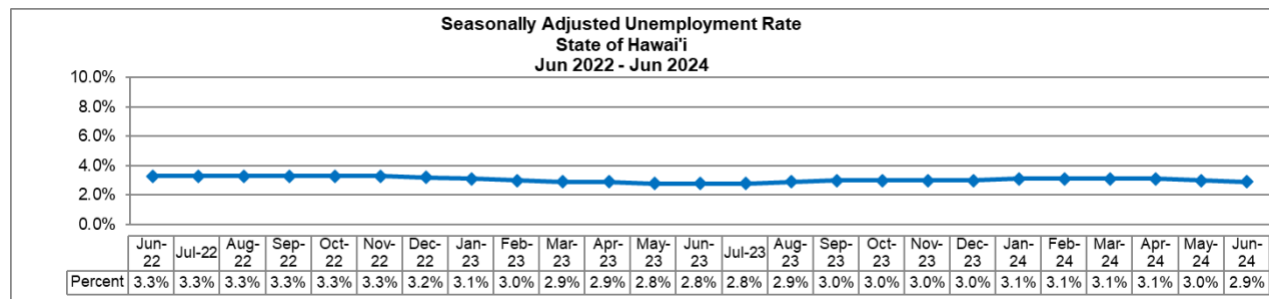
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 18, 2024

**HAWAI'I JUNE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 2.9 PERCENT**

*Jobs increased by 2,000 year-over-year*

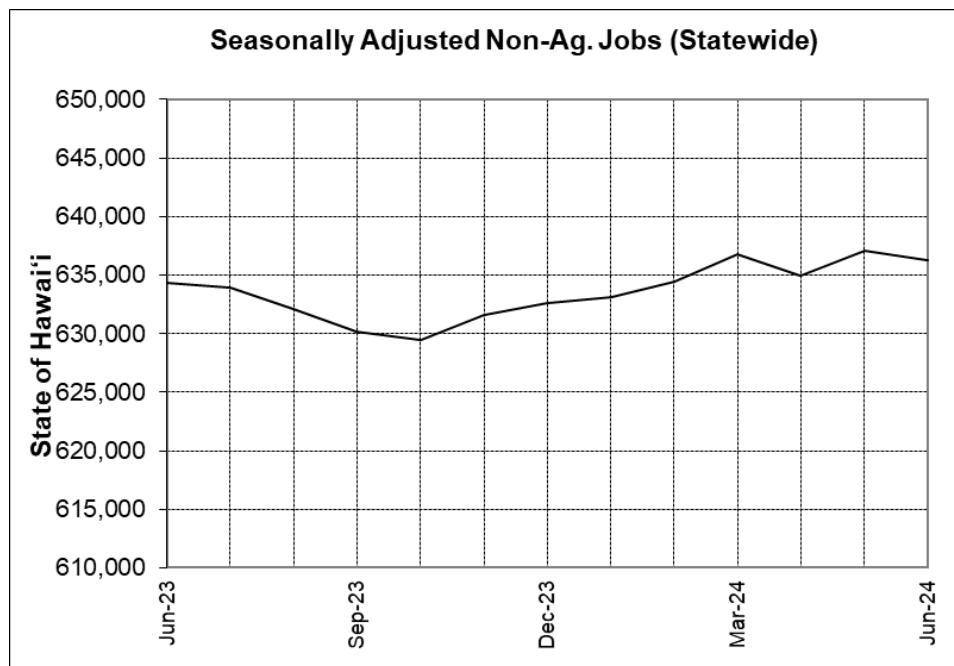
HONOLULU — The Hawai'i State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) today announced that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for June was 2.9 percent, compared to 3.0 percent in May. In June, 650,600 persons were employed and 19,400 were unemployed, for a total seasonally adjusted labor force of 670,000 statewide. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in June, up from 4.0 percent in May.



The unemployment rate figures for the state of Hawai'i and the U.S. in this release are seasonally adjusted in accordance with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) methodology. The not-seasonally adjusted rate for the state was 3.3 percent in June, compared to the revised rate of 2.3 percent in May.



<b>Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs (Statewide)</b>			
	<b>Jun-24</b>	<b>May-24</b>	<b>Jun-23</b>
MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION	42,100	41,700	38,100
MANUFACTURING	12,800	12,700	12,700
Durable Goods	3,400	3,400	3,300
Non-Durable Goods	9,400	9,300	9,400
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	115,300	115,400	118,200
Wholesale Trade	17,300	17,300	17,400
Retail Trade	64,800	64,600	65,800
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	33,200	33,500	35,000
INFORMATION	6,600	6,700	8,200
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	26,800	26,800	27,900
Finance & Insurance	15,200	15,200	15,600
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	11,600	11,600	12,300
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	71,600	71,500	72,100
Professional, Scientific, Tech Svcs	26,100	26,200	26,700
Management of Companies & Enterprises	8,700	8,700	8,900
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt	36,800	36,600	36,500
PRIVATE EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	90,900	90,800	88,500
Private Educational Services	14,800	14,700	14,500
Health Care & Social Assistance	76,100	76,100	74,000
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	118,700	119,100	119,400
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	13,300	13,200	13,100
Accommodation & Food Services	105,400	105,900	106,300
OTHER SERVICES	25,800	26,300	26,500
GOVERNMENT	125,700	126,100	122,700
Federal Government	35,800	35,600	35,100
State Government	71,100	71,400	68,900
Local Government	18,800	19,100	18,700
<b>TOTAL: STATEWIDE</b>	<b>636,300</b>	<b>637,100</b>	<b>634,300</b>
<b>TOTAL: HONOLULU MSA</b>	<b>462,100</b>	<b>462,000</b>	<b>456,400</b>
<b>TOTAL: KAHULUI-WAILUKU-LAHAINA MSA</b>	<b>71,300</b>	<b>71,800</b>	<b>76,600</b>



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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 four-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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 Hawai'i 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 sub-state data for 2019 to 2023 have revised inputs and data for 2010 to 2023 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 2019 through 2023. For years, analysts with the state of Hawai'i Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Research and Statistics Office have developed monthly employment estimates for Hawai'i and its metropolitan areas. These estimates were based on a monthly survey of Hawai'i 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 Hawai'i, this means the transition of statewide, Honolulu and Kahului-Wailuku-Lahaina 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 toward 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 Hawai'i'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 Hawai'i County, Kaua'i County, Maui, Moloka'i and Lāna'i are produced by the state of Hawai'i Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

### **Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force and Unemployment Estimates for Honolulu and Maui County.**

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**

*Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization for States, second quarter of 2023 through first quarter of 2024 averages (percent)*

Area	Measure					
	U-1	U-2	U-3	U-4	U-5	U-6
United States	1.3	1.8	3.7	3.9	4.6	7.0
Hawai'i	1.2	1.2	3.0	3.1	3.8	6.2

The six alternative labor underutilization state measures based on the Current Population Survey (CPS) and compiled on a four-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 four-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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