



## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

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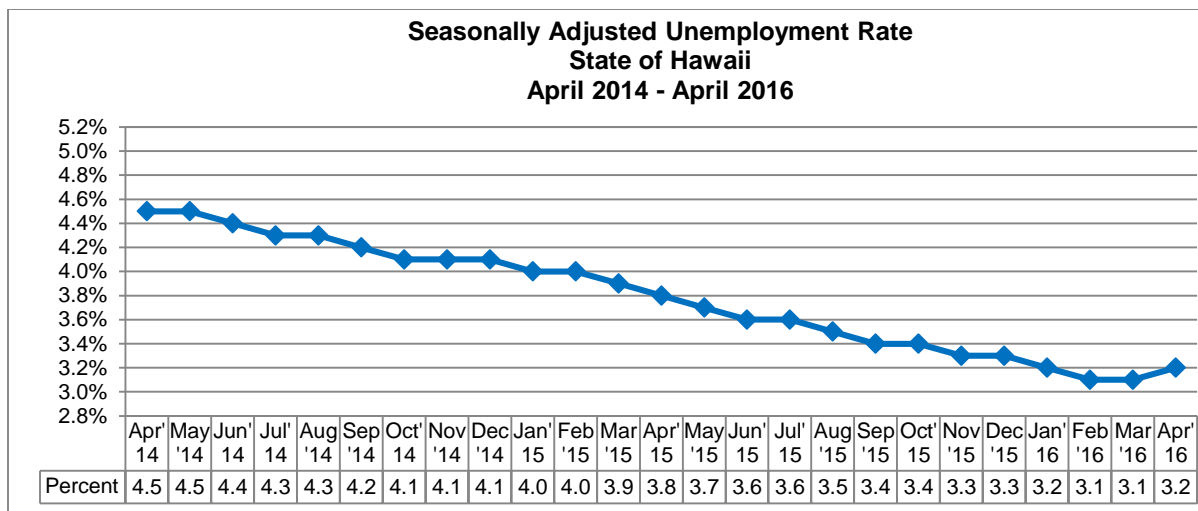
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 20, 2016

### HAWAII'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 3.2 PERCENT IN APRIL

**Non-Agricultural Jobs up 12,600 over-the-year**

HONOLULU — The Hawaii State Department of Labor & Industrial Relations (DLIR) today announced that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for April was 3.2 percent, up from 3.1 percent in March. Statewide, 667,950 were employed and 21,900 unemployed in April for a total seasonally adjusted labor force of 689,850. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.0 percent in April, the same as in March.



Both initial claims and weeks claims decreased by 47 or -3.5 percent and 1,399 or -17.1 percent respectively for unemployment benefits compared to one year ago. Over-the-month both initial claims and weeks claims increased by 4.5 percent and 3.3 percent respectively from March 2016.

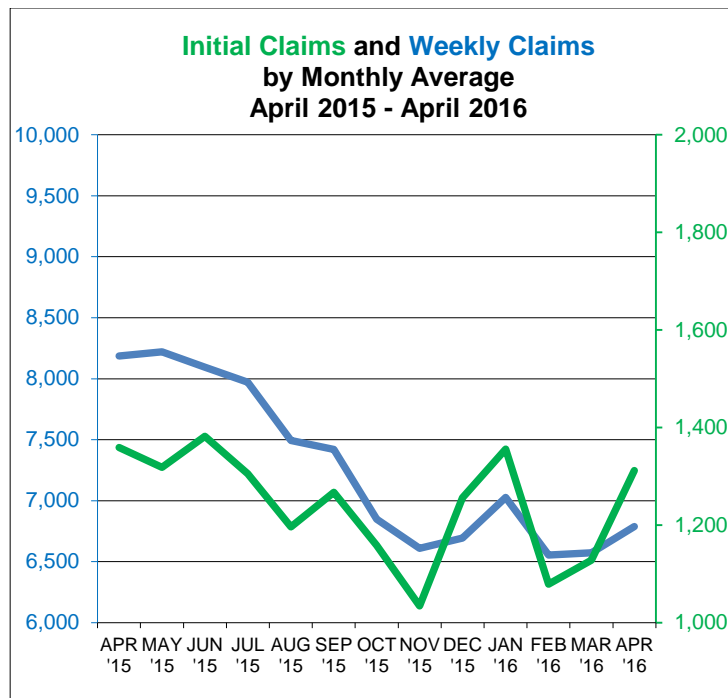
The unemployment rate figures for the State of Hawaii and the U.S. in this release are seasonally adjusted, in accordance with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) methodology. The not seasonally adjusted rate for the State was 3.1 percent in April, down from 3.2 percent in March.

State of Hawaii Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Data**				
	Apr 2016	Mar 2016	Apr 2015*	
Labor Force	689,850	690,150	675,150	
Employment	667,950	668,600	649,550	
Unemployment	21,900	21,550	25,650	
* benchmarked data                      **totals may not add due to rounding				

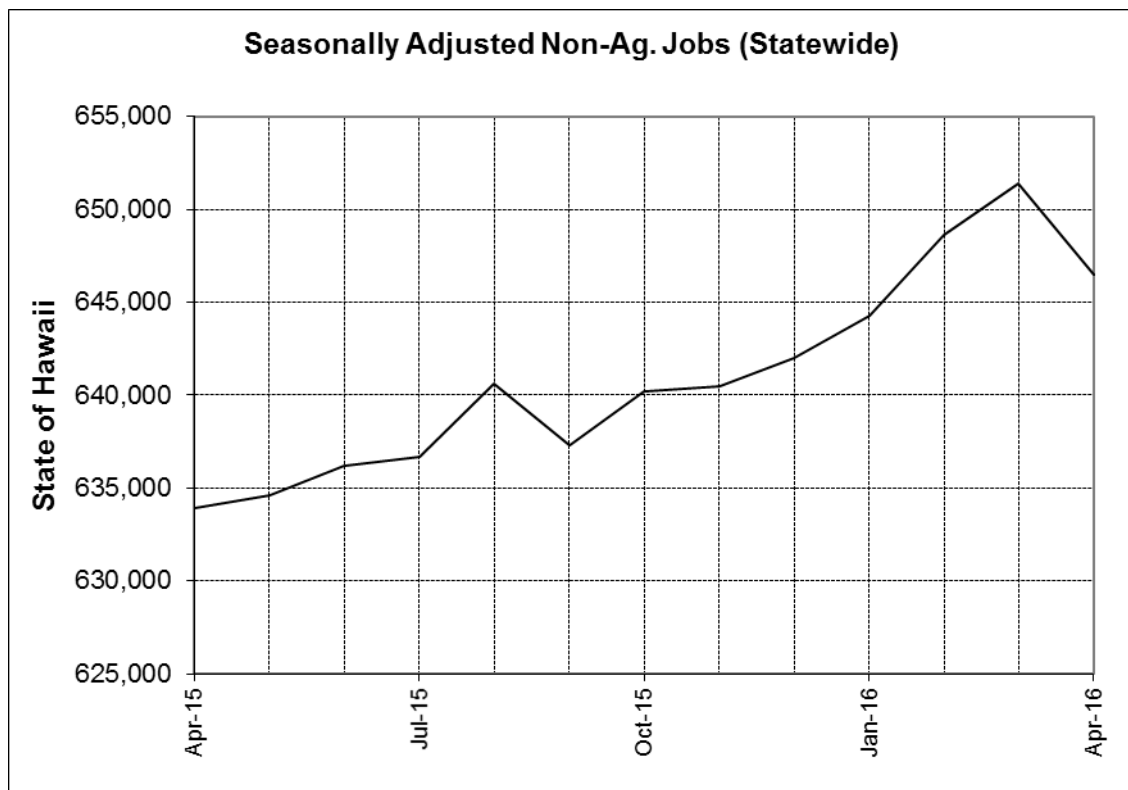
	APR 2016	MAR 2016	APR* 2015
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>			
<b>STATE</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>
<b>U. S.</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Not Seasonally Adjusted</b>			
<b>STATE</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.6</b>
HONOLULU	2.9	3.0	3.4
HAWAII COUNTY	4.0	3.9	4.5
KAUAI	3.6	3.5	4.2
MAUI COUNTY	3.2	3.4	3.9
Maui Island	3.0	3.3	3.7
Molokai	5.9	5.6	8.8
Lanai	9.0	5.3	5.5
<b>U. S.</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.1</b>
county & island rates are not seasonally adjusted			
* benchmarked data			

**Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey)**

In a separate measure of employment, in April over March, there was a decline of 4,900 total nonagricultural jobs. Within major industry sectors, there were job gains in Leisure & Hospitality (+800) and Educational & Health Services (+200). Job losses were experienced in Other Services (-100), Manufacturing (-200), Financial Activities (-200), Construction (-300), Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (-600), and Professional & Business Services (-2,000). The bulk of the drop in Professional & Business Services occurred in Administrative/Support/Waste Management/Remediation Services. Government employment decreased by 2,500 jobs, largely as a result of seasonal fluctuation at the Department of Education. Compared with April 2015, total nonfarm jobs have risen by 12,600, or 2.0 percent.



<b>Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs (Statewide)</b>			
<b>SELECTED SERIES:</b>	<b>Apr-16</b>	<b>Mar-16</b>	<b>Apr-15*</b>
MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION	39,900	40,200	33,700
MANUFACTURING	14,000	14,200	14,000
Non-Durable Goods	10,400	10,600	10,300
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	118,900	119,500	119,400
Wholesale Trade	17,600	17,600	18,000
Retail Trade	70,600	70,600	70,600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	28,300	28,500	28,100
Finance & Insurance	16,300	16,400	16,100
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	12,000	12,100	12,000
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	83,100	85,100	83,200
Professional, Scientific, Tech Svcs	24,300	24,500	24,300
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt	50,200	51,900	50,200
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	84,500	84,300	81,000
Educational Services	15,000	14,900	14,500
Health Care & Social Assistance	69,500	69,400	66,500
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	117,900	117,100	113,400
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	12,000	12,000	11,700
Accommodation & Food Services	105,900	105,100	101,700
OTHER SERVICES	27,200	27,300	26,600
GOVERNMENT	124,000	126,500	126,100
Federal Government	33,000	33,200	33,100
State Government	72,100	74,300	74,000
Local Government	18,900	19,000	19,000
<b>TOTAL: STATEWIDE</b>	<b>646,500</b>	<b>651,400</b>	<b>633,900</b>



#### Technical Notes

##### **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 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 ones 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 2011-2015 have been re-estimated to reflect revised population controls, model reestimation and for seasonally adjusted data, new seasonal adjustment.

### **Change to Monthly Employment Estimates**

This release incorporates revised job count figures from 1990 through 2015 for the seasonally adjusted series. The reconstructed data reflects data from historical corrections applied to unadjusted supersector or sector level series. For years, analysts with the State DLIR's Research and Statistics Office have developed monthly employment estimates for Hawaii and our 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 was 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-Lahaina MSA areas. 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.

### **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/lau/lausched.htm>.

### **Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization**

*Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization for States, second quarter of 2015 through first quarter of 2016 averages.*

## Alternative Measures of Labor Underutilization for US and Hawaii, second quarter of 2015 through first quarter of 2016 averages (percent)

State	Measure					
	U-1	U-2	U-3	U-4	U-5	U-6
United States	2.2	2.5	5.1	5.5	6.2	10.1
Hawaii	1.4	1.5	3.5	3.9	4.9	9.1

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 child care or transportation problems, for example. Discouraged workers are a subset of the marginally attached.

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.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program  
 Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.  
 TDD/TTY Dial 711 then ask for (808) 586-8866

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View DLIR news releases:  
<http://labor.hawaii.gov/blog/category/news/>

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**UNEMPLOYMENT RATES- NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

	APR 2016	MAR 2016	APR* 2015
<b>STATE</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.6</b>
HONOLULU	2.9	3.0	3.4
HAWAII COUNTY	4.0	3.9	4.5
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<b>U. S.</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.1</b>

\* benchmarked data

**UNEMPLOYMENT RATES- SEASONALLY ADJUSTED**

	APR 2016	MAR 2016	APR* 2015
<b>STATE</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>
<b>U. S.</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.4</b>

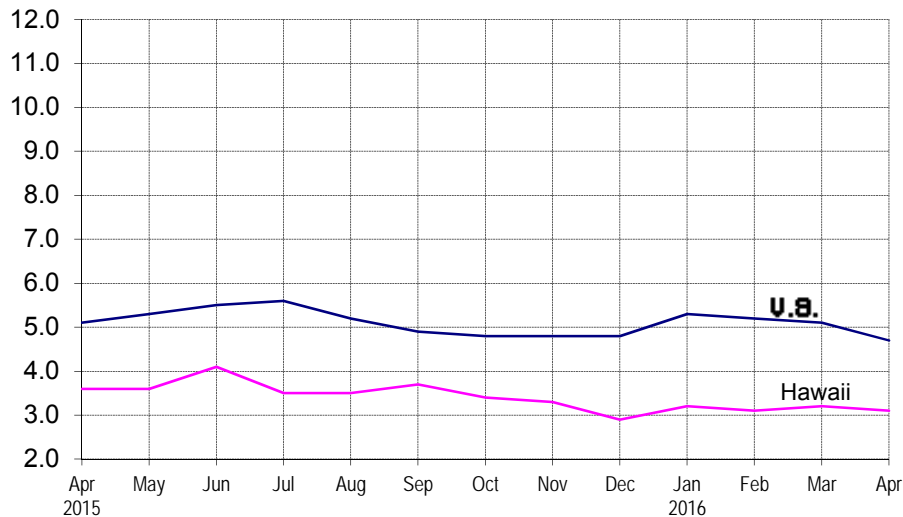
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Labor Force	689,850	690,150	675,150
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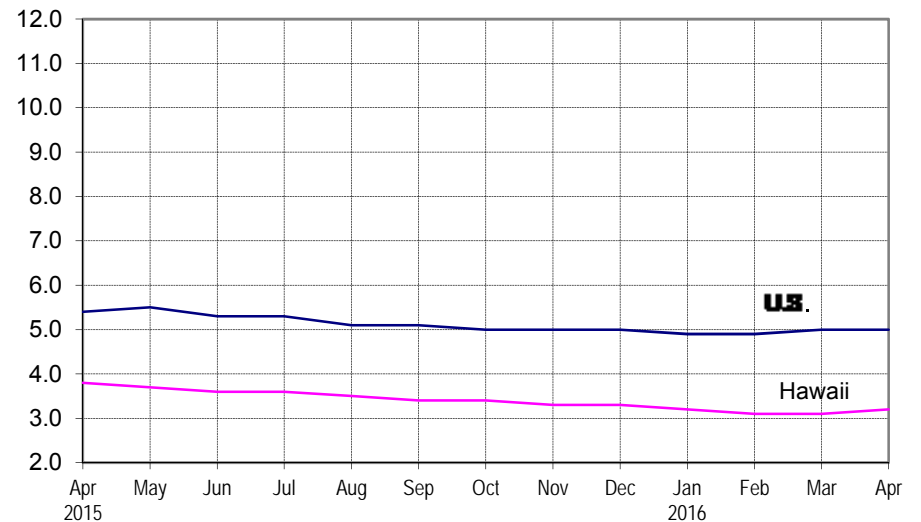
\* benchmarked data

\*\*totals may not add due to rounding

	Apr 2015	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 2016	Feb	Mar	Apr
U. S.	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.2	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.3	5.2	5.1	4.7
Hawai'i	3.6	3.6	4.1	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.3	2.9	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.1



	Apr 2015	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 2016	Feb	Mar	Apr
U. S.	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.0
Hawai'i	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.2



**Not Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs (Statewide)**

	<b>Apr-16</b>	<b>Mar-16</b>	<b>Apr-15*</b>
MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION	39,600	39,900	33,200
MANUFACTURING	13,900	14,100	13,800
Non-Durable Goods	10,300	10,400	10,200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	117,700	118,800	118,500
Wholesale Trade	17,600	17,600	17,900
Retail Trade	69,800	70,300	69,900
INFORMATION	8,700	8,700	8,400
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	28,100	28,300	28,100
Finance & Insurance	16,200	16,300	16,100
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	11,900	12,000	12,000
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	83,600	85,200	83,200
Professional, Scientific, Tech Svcs	24,400	24,700	24,500
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt	50,400	51,800	50,200
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	84,500	84,600	81,300
Educational Services	15,200	15,200	14,800
Health Care & Social Assistance	69,300	69,400	66,500
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	117,200	116,900	113,100
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	11,900	12,000	11,500
Accommodation & Food Services	105,300	104,900	101,600
OTHER SERVICES	27,000	27,000	26,500
GOVERNMENT	126,700	129,100	128,800
Federal Government	33,100	33,000	33,000
State Government	74,900	77,300	77,000
Local Government	18,700	18,800	18,800
<b>TOTAL: STATEWIDE</b>	<b>647,000</b>	<b>652,600</b>	<b>634,900</b>
<b>TOTAL: HONOLULU MSA</b>	<b>473,700</b>	<b>478,500</b>	<b>467,200</b>

**Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs (Statewide)**

<b>SELECTED SERIES:</b>	<b>Apr-16</b>	<b>Mar-16</b>	<b>Apr-15*</b>
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Non-Durable Goods	10,400	10,600	10,300
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	118,900	119,500	119,400
Wholesale Trade	17,600	17,600	18,000
Retail Trade	70,600	70,600	70,600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	28,300	28,500	28,100
Finance & Insurance	16,300	16,400	16,100
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	12,000	12,100	12,000
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	83,100	85,100	83,200
Professional, Scientific, Tech Svcs	24,300	24,500	24,300
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt	50,200	51,900	50,200
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OTHER SERVICES	27,200	27,300	26,600
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Federal Government	33,000	33,200	33,100
State Government	72,100	74,300	74,000
Local Government	18,900	19,000	19,000
<b>TOTAL: STATEWIDE</b>	<b>646,500</b>	<b>651,400</b>	<b>633,900</b>
<b>TOTAL: HONOLULU MSA</b>	<b>473,200</b>	<b>476,400</b>	<b>465,800</b>

\* BENCHMARKED DATA

