



## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

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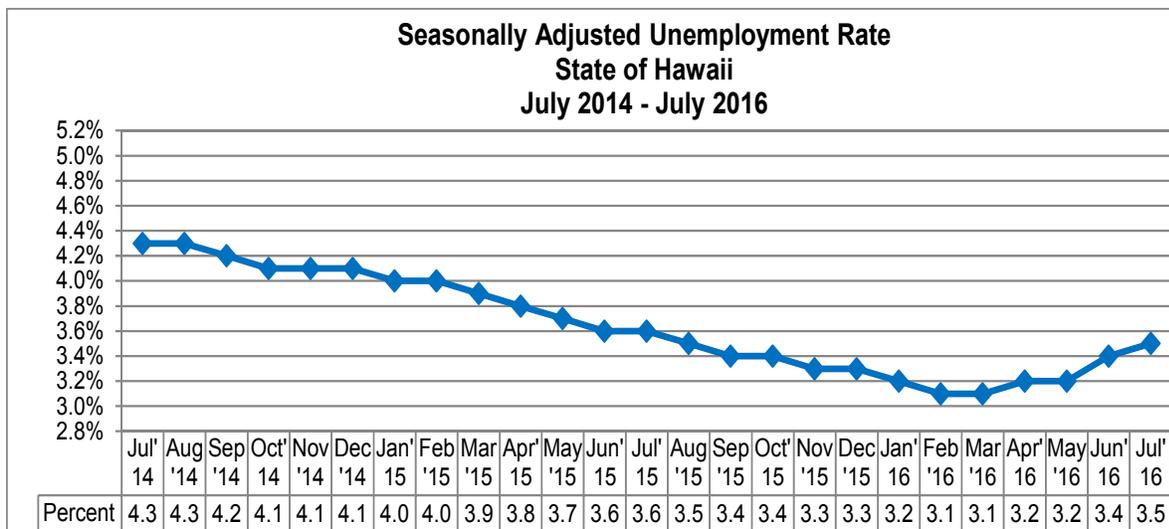
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 19, 2016

### HAWAII'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 3.5 PERCENT IN JULY

**Non-Agricultural Jobs up 14,100 over-the-year**

HONOLULU — The Hawaii State Department of Labor & Industrial Relations (DLIR) today announced that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July was 3.5 percent, up from the revised rate of 3.4 percent in June. Statewide, 660,650 were employed and 23,650 unemployed in July for a total seasonally adjusted labor force of 684,300. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9 percent in July, the same as in June.



Both initial claims and weeks claims decreased by 85 or -6.5 percent and 383 or -4.8 percent respectively for unemployment benefits compared to one year ago. Over-the-month initial claims fell by 6.2 percent while weekly claims increased by 3.1 percent from June 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 3.4 percent in July, dropping from 3.9 percent in June.

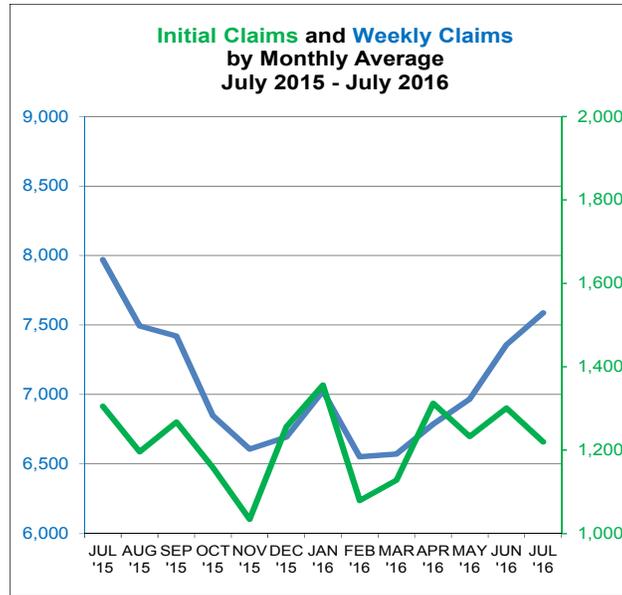
State of Hawaii Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Data**					
		Jul 2016		Jun 2016	Jul 2015*
Labor Force		684,300		685,600	677,350
Employment		660,650		662,550	653,250
Unemployment		23,650		23,050	24,100
* benchmarked data				**totals may not add due to rounding	

		JUL		JUN		JUL*
		2016		2016		2015
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>						
<b>STATE</b>		<b>3.5</b>		<b>3.4</b>		<b>3.6</b>
<b>U. S.</b>		<b>4.9</b>		<b>4.9</b>		<b>5.3</b>
<b>Not Seasonally Adjusted</b>						
<b>STATE</b>		<b>3.4</b>		<b>3.9</b>		<b>3.5</b>
<b>HONOLULU</b>		<b>3.1</b>		<b>3.7</b>		<b>3.3</b>
<b>HAWAII COUNTY</b>		<b>4.6</b>		<b>5.1</b>		<b>4.5</b>
<b>KAUAI</b>		<b>3.5</b>		<b>4.1</b>		<b>3.8</b>
<b>MAUI COUNTY</b>		<b>3.6</b>		<b>3.9</b>		<b>3.5</b>
	<b>Maui Island</b>	<b>3.4</b>		<b>3.6</b>		<b>3.3</b>
	<b>Molokai</b>	<b>9.3</b>		<b>11.6</b>		<b>9.6</b>
	<b>Lanai</b>	<b>6.7</b>		<b>7.6</b>		<b>2.4</b>
<b>U. S.</b>		<b>5.1</b>		<b>5.1</b>		<b>5.6</b>
county & island rates are not seasonally adjusted						
* benchmarked data						

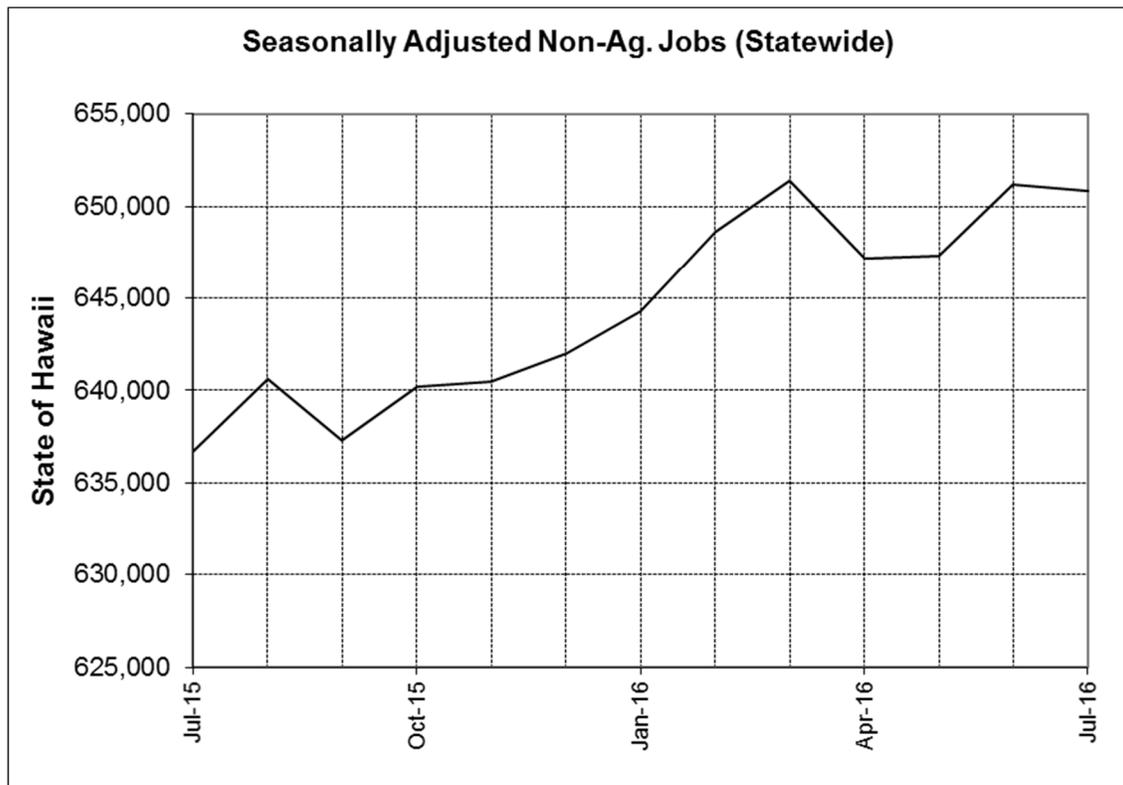
### **Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey)**

In another measure of employment, total nonagricultural jobs decreased by 400 over-the-month. Within the major industries, there were job gains in Leisure & Hospitality (+1,400), Educational & Health Services (+300), Other Services (+200), and Financial Activities (+100). The bulk of the rise in Leisure & Hospitality occurred in Food Services & Drinking Places. Employment in Manufacturing remained unchanged. Job losses were experienced in Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (-100), Construction (-700), and Professional & Business Services (-900). Specifically, most of the drop in Professional & Business Services was in the Administrative & Support subsector, which had a significant rise in employment in the prior month. Government employment declined by 700 jobs, largely as a result of seasonal fluctuation at the Department

of Education. In comparison with July 2015, total nonfarm jobs have expanded by 14,100, or 2.2 percent.



<b>Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs (Statewide)</b>			
<b>SELECTED SERIES:</b>	<b>Jul-16</b>	<b>Jun-16</b>	<b>Jul-15*</b>
MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION	39,400	40,100	34,900
MANUFACTURING	14,000	14,000	14,100
Non-Durable Goods	10,300	10,400	10,400
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	119,800	119,900	119,500
Wholesale Trade	17,600	17,600	18,000
Retail Trade	70,800	70,700	70,600
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	28,500	28,400	28,100
Finance & Insurance	16,400	16,400	16,100
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	12,100	12,000	12,000
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	83,800	84,700	83,500
Professional, Scientific, Tech Svcs	24,200	24,200	24,400
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt	50,400	51,600	50,500
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	84,200	83,900	80,900
Educational Services	14,700	14,900	14,100
Health Care & Social Assistance	69,500	69,000	66,800
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	119,500	118,100	114,400
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	12,200	12,200	11,700
Accommodation & Food Services	107,300	105,900	102,700
OTHER SERVICES	27,100	26,900	26,700
GOVERNMENT	125,900	126,600	126,000
Federal Government	33,600	33,600	33,000
State Government	73,300	73,900	74,100
Local Government	19,000	19,100	18,900
<b>TOTAL: STATEWIDE</b>	<b>650,800</b>	<b>651,200</b>	<b>636,700</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/news.release/metro.toc.htm>.

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

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

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

State	Measure					
	U-1	U-2	U-3	U-4	U-5	U-6
United States	2.1	2.4	5.0	5.4	6.1	9.9
Hawaii	1.3	1.4	3.3	3.7	4.6	8.7

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.

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