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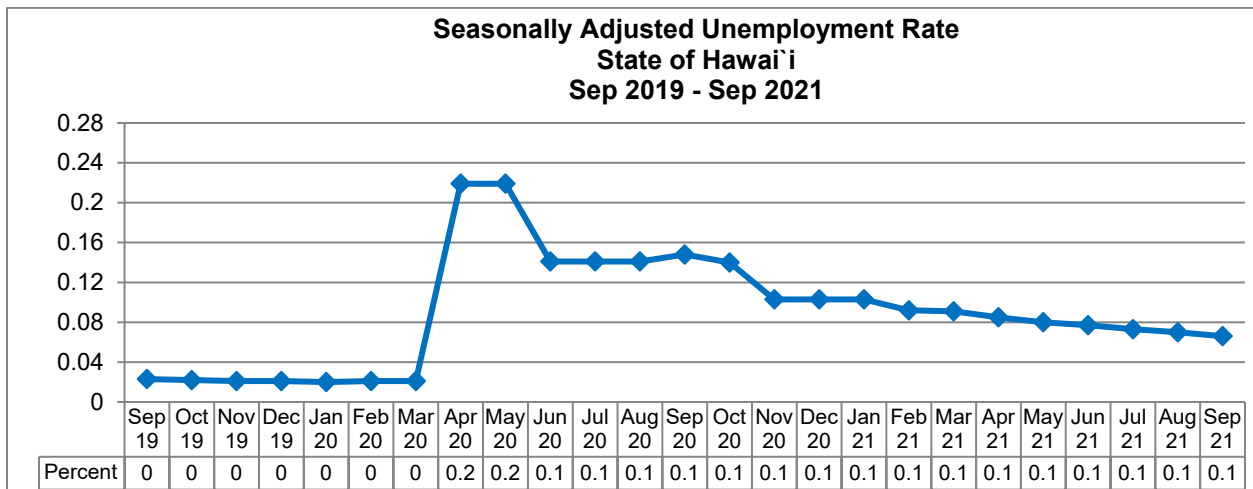
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 21, 2021

HAWAII'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 6.6 PERCENT IN SEPTEMBER

Jobs increased by 65,600 over-the-year

HONOLULU — The Hawai'i State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) today announced that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September was 6.6 percent compared to 7.0 percent in August. Statewide, 603,850 were employed and 43,000 unemployed in September for a total seasonally adjusted labor force of 646,850. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in September, down from 5.2 percent in August.



The unemployment rate figures for the State of Hawai'i 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 6.4 percent in September, compared to 6.6 percent in August.

State of Hawai'i Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Data**			
	<u>Sep</u> 2021	<u>Aug</u> 2021	<u>Sep</u> 2020*
Labor Force	646,850	647,350	610,100
Employment	603,850	601,800	519,700
Unemployment	43,000	45,550	90,450

* benchmarked data

**totals may not add due to rounding

	SEP 2021	AUG 2021	SEP* 2020
<u>Seasonally Adjusted</u>			
STATE	6.6	7.0	14.8
U. S.	4.8	5.2	7.8
<u>Not Seasonally Adjusted</u>			
STATE	6.4	6.6	15.3
HONOLULU	5.9	6.1	13.6
HAWAI'I COUNTY	6.3	6.6	13.5
KAUAI	8.5	8.9	20.4
MAUI COUNTY	8.1	8.5	24.0
Maui Island	8.1	8.7	24.5
Moloka'i	9.9	7.9	8.7
Lanai	4.7	3.5	20.0
U. S.	4.6	5.3	7.7

county & island rates are not seasonally adjusted

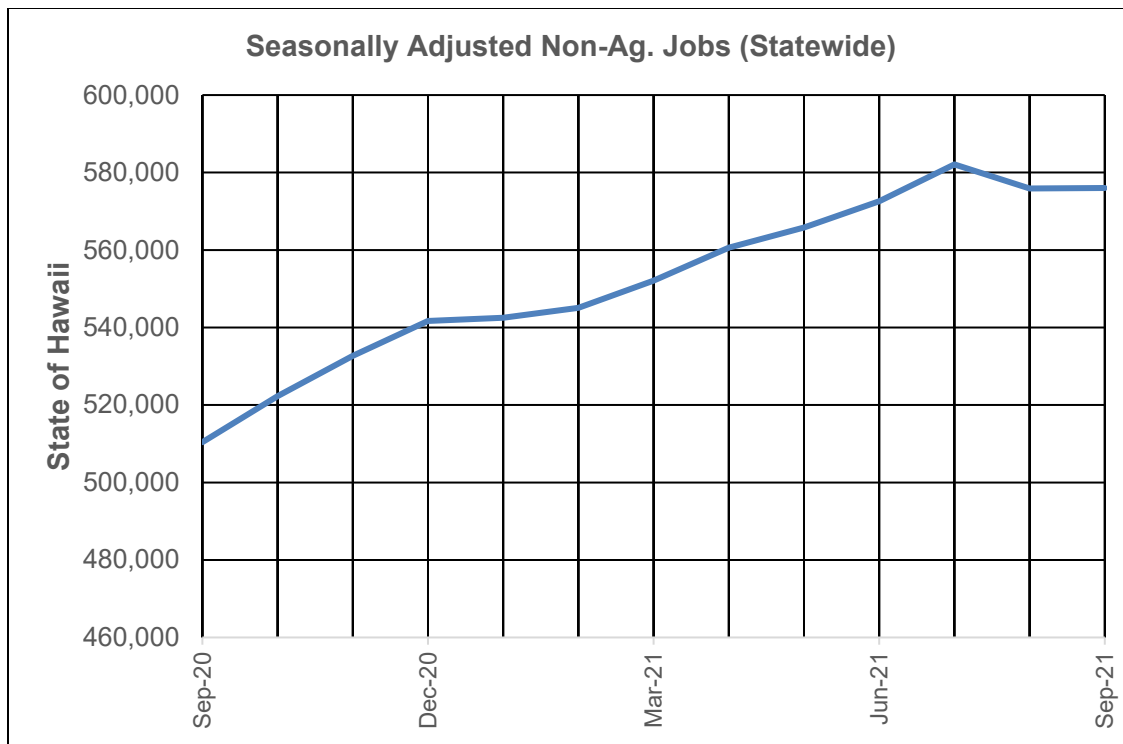
* benchmarked data

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey)

In another measure of employment, total nonagricultural jobs increased by 100 over-the-month. Job gains occurred in Education & Health Services (+700); Information (+300); Construction (+100); and Financial Activities (+100). Within Education & Health Services, expansion was concentrated in Educational Services. The Information sector saw an uptick in Motion Picture and Video Production hiring. Employment remained unchanged in Manufacturing and Leisure & Hospitality. Job losses were experienced in Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (-100); Other Services (-100); and in Professional & Business Services (-400). Government employment contracted by 500 jobs, mostly due to a smaller seasonal increase of workers in both the Department of Education and the University of Hawai'i system. Over-the-year (September 2020 was the 6th month of pandemic effects), nonfarm jobs have risen by 65,600, or 12.9 percent. However, in comparison with March 2020 (last month prior to pandemic effects), nonfarm jobs were down by 79,200, or -12.1 percent.

Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs (Statewide)

	Sep-21	Aug-21	Sep-20
MINING, LOGGING & CONSTRUCTION	37,100	37,000	35,600
MANUFACTURING	11,500	11,500	11,200
Durable Goods	3,300	3,300	3,300
Non-Durable Goods	8,200	8,200	7,900
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	105,100	105,200	94,500
Wholesale Trade	17,600	17,600	15,600
Retail Trade	59,200	59,500	55,200
Transportation, Warehousing, & Utilities	28,300	28,100	23,700
INFORMATION	6,800	6,500	6,500
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	27,500	27,400	26,100
Finance & Insurance	17,200	17,100	16,400
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	10,300	10,300	9,700
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	69,500	69,900	62,200
Professional, Scientific, Tech Svcs	24,000	24,100	23,500
Management of Companies & Enterprises	8,500	8,600	7,900
Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt	37,000	37,200	30,800
EDUCATION & HEALTH SERVICES	82,400	81,700	80,300
Educational Services	12,700	12,000	11,200
Health Care & Social Assistance	69,700	69,700	69,100
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	95,500	95,500	52,400
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	8,400	8,500	5,300
Accommodation & Food Services	87,100	87,000	47,100
OTHER SERVICES	22,700	22,800	20,800
GOVERNMENT	117,900	118,400	120,800
Federal Government	33,700	33,800	35,600
State Government	66,000	66,400	66,400
Local Government	18,200	18,200	18,800
TOTAL: STATEWIDE	576,000	575,900	510,400
TOTAL: HONOLULU MSA	423,600	425,500	377,500
TOTAL: KAHULUI-WAILUKU-LAHAINA MSA	65,200	64,800	52,300



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 some time 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 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 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 2010-2020 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 2004 through 2020. For years, analysts with the State Department of Labor & Industrial Relation's (DLIR) Research and Statistics Office have developed monthly employment estimates for Hawai'i and our metropolitan areas. These estimates were based on a monthly survey of Hawai'i businesses and analyst's 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 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 or 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 Hawai'i's counties and islands. BLS can be reached at (202) 691-6533 for any questions about these estimates.

The not seasonally adjusted job estimates for Hawai'i County, Kaua'i County, Maui Island, Moloka'i, and Lāna'i are produced by the State of Hawai'i Department of Labor & Industrial Relations.

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, third quarter of 2020 through second quarter of 2021 averages (percent).</i>						
State	Measure					
	U-1	U-2	U-3	U-4	U-5	U-6
United States	3.8	4.8	6.9	7.3	8.0	11.9
Hawai'i	7.5	8.6	10.3	10.8	11.9	18.5

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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