

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

News Release

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**SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR HAWAII
REMAINS AT 2.7 FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE MONTH**

Hawaii Sets a Historical High by Surpassing 600,000 Non-Agricultural Jobs

HONOLULU- The Hawaii State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations announced today that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for July was 2.7 percent, marking the third straight month at this level. In comparison, the national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged over-the-month at 5.0 percent. One year ago, Hawaii's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate stood at 3.1 percent, while the U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.5 percent. For the first seven months of 2005, Hawaii's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has averaged 2.8 percent.

In July, Hawaii's seasonally adjusted labor force totaled 634,400, and was comprised of 617,150 employed and 17,300 unemployed. Over-the-year, the number of employed has risen by 20,750, or 3.5 percent, while the number of unemployed has declined by 1,550, or 8.2 percent.

In a separate measure of employment, total nonagricultural jobs set a historical high as the statewide seasonally adjusted job count surpassed the 600,000-level for the first time. Since the beginning of the year, the job count has increased in every over-the-month period. Non-agricultural jobs expanded over June by 3,800 to 600,300.

Over-the-year, the number of jobs has grown by 17,200 or 2.9%. In July over June, within the seasonally adjusted industry series, notable employment gains occurred in Construction, which rose by 500 jobs, and in Trade, Transportation, & Utilities, which added 400 jobs, in part due to the opening of a large retail store. Smaller shifts in employment occurred in Education & Health Services (+200), Leisure & Hospitality (+100), Government (-100), and Other Services (-200). Over-the-year, of the seasonally adjusted industry series, Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (+5,200, +4.6%) gained the most jobs, while Construction (+3,200, +10.9%) experienced the highest percentage.

"It is amazing that Hawaii has now realized more job growth than at any other time in history," said Nelson Befitel, Director of Labor and Industrial Relations. "The state's job growth has truly benefited from the ongoing economic expansion and improving business climate."

Unemployment Trust Fund

To keep the public informed on the status of the state's Unemployment Compensation Fund (Fund), from which unemployment benefits are paid to qualified claimants, the following is the current status of the Fund and its projected balance at the end of the year.

Fund Balance as of end of July 2005:	\$422,494,061
Taxes received year-to-date through end of July:	\$ 73,985,661
Interest received year-to-date through end of July:	\$ 11,032,948
Benefits paid year-to-date through end of July:	\$ 50,489,431
Current Tax Schedule:	Schedule "C"

Calendar year 2005 Fund and Tax Schedule projections, as of the end of July:

Fund Balance, end of 2005:	\$451,700,000 (projected)
Taxes for Calendar Year 2005:	\$125,900,000 (projected)
Interest for Calendar Year 2005:	\$ 23,400,000 (projected)
Benefits for Calendar Year 2005:	\$ 85,600,000 (projected)
Tax Schedule for Calendar Year 2006:	Schedule "C" (projected)

For comparison purposes, in calendar year 2004 the Fund collected \$124.6 million in taxes and paid out \$104.7 million in benefits.

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LABOR FORCE AND JOBCOUNT ESTIMATES
July 2005 Report, Statewide

	DEPARTMENT OF LABOR -- LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES							
	STATEWIDE							
	(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)							
	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04	CHANGE FROM ONE MONTH AGO		CHANGE FROM ONE YEAR AGO		
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	642.4	634.4	620.5	8.0	1.3%	21.9	3.5%	
TOTAL EMPLOYED	623.0	613.6	599.6	9.4	1.5%	23.4	3.9%	
UNEMPLOYED	19.4	20.8	21.0	-1.4	-6.7%	-1.6	-7.6%	
percent of Labor Force	3.0%	3.3%	3.4%					
Total Nonfarm	594.7	600.0	577.7	-5.2	-0.9%	17.0	2.9%	
Total Private	480.5	478.6	463.5	1.9	0.4%	17.0	3.7%	
Goods Producing	48.2	47.8	45.3	0.3	0.6%	2.8	6.2%	
Service-Providing	546.6	552.1	532.4	-5.5	-1.0%	14.2	2.7%	
Private Service-Providing	432.3	430.7	418.2	1.6	0.4%	14.2	3.4%	
Nat. Res & Construct	32.8	32.4	29.9	0.4	1.1%	2.9	9.9%	
Construction of Buildings	10.5	10.3	9.5	0.2	-0.5%	1.0	6.0%	
Special Trade Contractors	17.8	17.7	16.0	0.1	1.8%	1.8	10.3%	
Manufacturing	15.3	15.4	15.5	-0.1	-0.3%	-0.1	-0.9%	
Durable Goods	4.3	4.3	4.4	0.0	-0.4%	0.0	-1.0%	
Non-Durable Goods	11.0	11.1	11.1	0.0	-0.3%	-0.1	-0.9%	
Trade, Transportation,	117.3	116.8	111.9	0.5	0.4%	5.4	4.8%	
Wholesale Trade	17.5	17.4	17.0	0.1	0.4%	0.5	2.6%	
Retail Trade	69.1	68.7	66.6	0.4	0.5%	2.5	3.8%	
Food and Beverage Sto	12.9	12.9	12.8	0.0	-0.2%	0.2	1.3%	
Grocery Stores	10.8	10.7	10.6	0.1	0.6%	0.1	1.3%	
Clothing and Clothing	11.2	11.0	10.0	0.2	1.9%	1.3	12.6%	
General Merchandise S	12.3	12.2	11.2	0.1	0.9%	1.1	10.1%	
Department Stores	9.2	9.1	8.3	0.1	1.1%	0.9	10.4%	
Trans,Warehouse, Util	30.7	30.6	28.3	0.1	0.2%	2.4	8.4%	
Utilities	2.9	2.9	2.7	0.0	0.5%	0.2	5.6%	
Transport & Warehouse	27.8	27.7	25.5	0.1	0.2%	2.2	8.7%	
Air Transportation	10.4	10.3	10.3	0.0	0.5%	0.1	0.7%	
Information	10.5	10.5	11.1	-0.1	-0.5%	-0.6	-5.0%	
Telecommunications	3.8	3.8	3.8	0.0	0.4%	0.1	1.5%	
Financial Activities	29.4	29.4	28.9	0.0	-0.1%	0.5	1.7%	
Finance and Insurance	16.5	16.6	16.4	-0.1	-0.7%	0.0	0.3%	
Real Estate and Renta	12.9	12.8	12.5	0.1	0.6%	0.4	3.5%	
Professional and Busin	73.8	73.2	70.5	0.7	0.9%	3.4	4.8%	
Professional, Scienti	23.4	23.4	22.8	0.1	0.3%	0.6	2.7%	
Management of Compani	7.1	7.0	6.9	0.1	1.8%	0.3	3.7%	
Administrative and Su	43.3	42.8	40.8	0.5	1.1%	2.5	6.2%	
Employment Services	16.1	15.6	14.4	0.5	3.3%	1.7	11.9%	
Educational and Health	69.1	69.1	67.1	0.1	0.1%	2.0	3.0%	
Educational Services	12.6	12.7	12.5	0.0	-0.4%	0.1	1.0%	
Elementary and Second	7.0	6.7	6.9	0.4	5.4%	0.1	1.8%	
Health Care and Socia	56.5	56.4	54.6	0.1	0.2%	1.9	3.5%	
Ambulatory Health Car	22.1	22.2	21.3	-0.1	-0.7%	0.8	3.7%	
Hospitals	14.3	14.3	14.1	0.0	-0.3%	0.2	1.3%	
Nursing and Residenti	6.6	6.6	6.3	0.0	0.1%	0.4	5.6%	
Social Assistance	13.5	13.2	12.9	0.3	2.2%	0.6	4.5%	
Leisure and Hospitalit	107.5	107.0	104.4	0.5	0.5%	3.1	3.0%	
Arts, Entertainment,	11.6	11.6	11.5	0.0	0.3%	0.1	1.1%	
Accommodation and Foo	95.9	95.4	92.9	0.5	0.5%	3.0	3.2%	
Accommodation	39.2	39.1	38.1	0.1	0.2%	1.1	2.9%	
Food Services and Dri	56.7	56.3	54.8	0.4	0.7%	1.9	3.4%	
Full-Service Restaura	29.1	29.0	28.2	0.1	0.3%	0.9	3.2%	
Other Services	24.7	24.7	24.3	0.0	-0.1%	0.4	1.6%	
Government	114.2	121.4	114.2	-7.2	-5.9%	0.0	0.0%	
Federal Government	31.3	31.2	31.8	0.1	0.3%	-0.5	-1.7%	
Ship Building & Repai	4.2	4.2	4.3	0.0	-0.3%	-0.1	-2.7%	
Department of Defense	16.7	16.6	16.9	0.1	0.5%	-0.2	-1.3%	
State Government	65.0	72.8	64.5	-7.8	-10.7%	0.5	0.8%	
State Govt. Education	41.3	49.1	40.9	-7.8	-15.8%	0.5	1.1%	
Local Government	18.0	17.4	17.9	0.5	3.1%	0.1	0.4%	

Not Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs

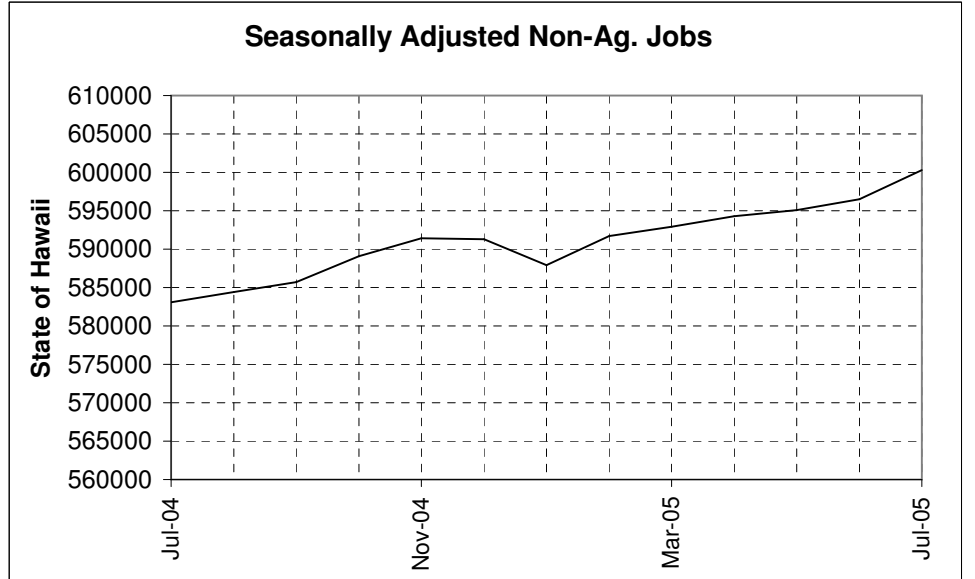
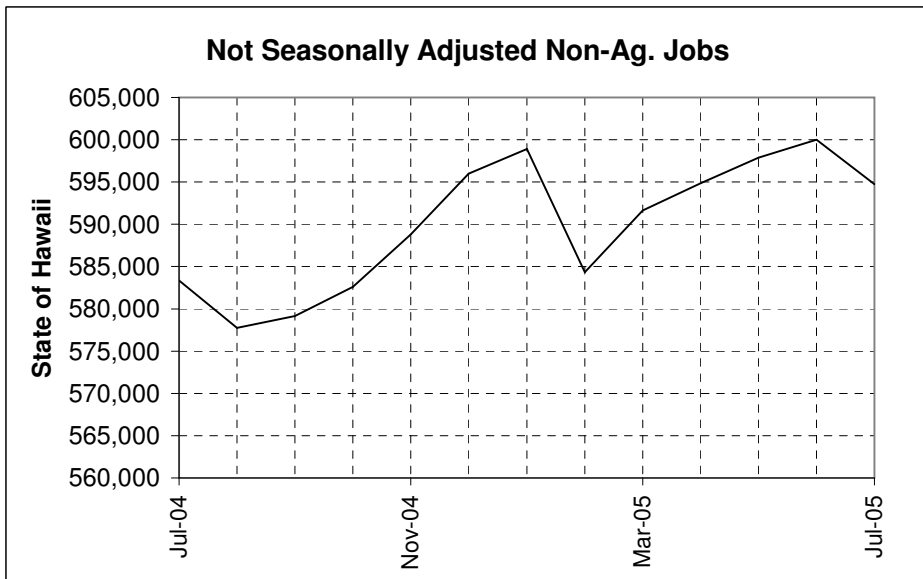
	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04*
NAT. RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTR.	32,800	32,450	29,850
MANUFACTURING	15,350	15,400	15,500
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	117,250	116,800	111,900
INFORMATION	10,500	10,550	11,050
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	29,400	29,400	28,900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	73,850	73,200	70,450
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	69,150	69,100	67,150
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	107,500	107,000	104,400
OTHER SERVICES	24,700	24,700	24,300
GOVERNMENT	114,250	121,400	114,200
TOTAL	594,750	600,000	583,350

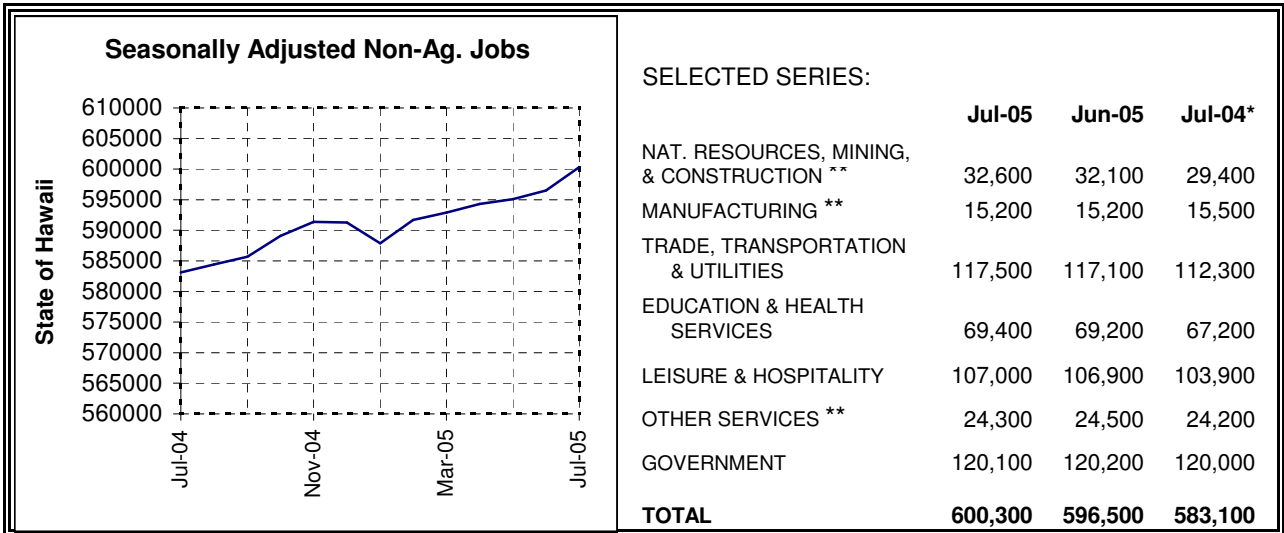
* BENCHMARKED DATA

Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs

	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04*
NAT. RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTR. **	32,600	32,100	29,400
MANUFACTURING **	15,200	15,200	15,500
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	117,500	117,100	112,300
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	69,400	69,200	67,200
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	107,000	106,900	103,900
OTHER SERVICES **	24,300	24,500	24,200
GOVERNMENT	120,100	120,200	120,000
TOTAL	600,300	596,500	583,100

** NEW SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

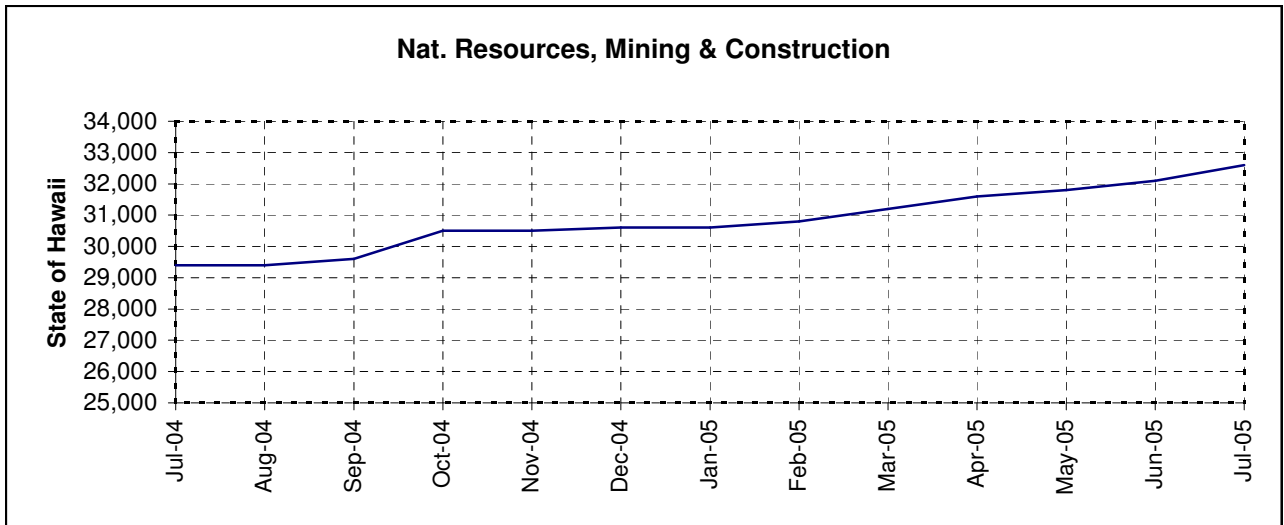




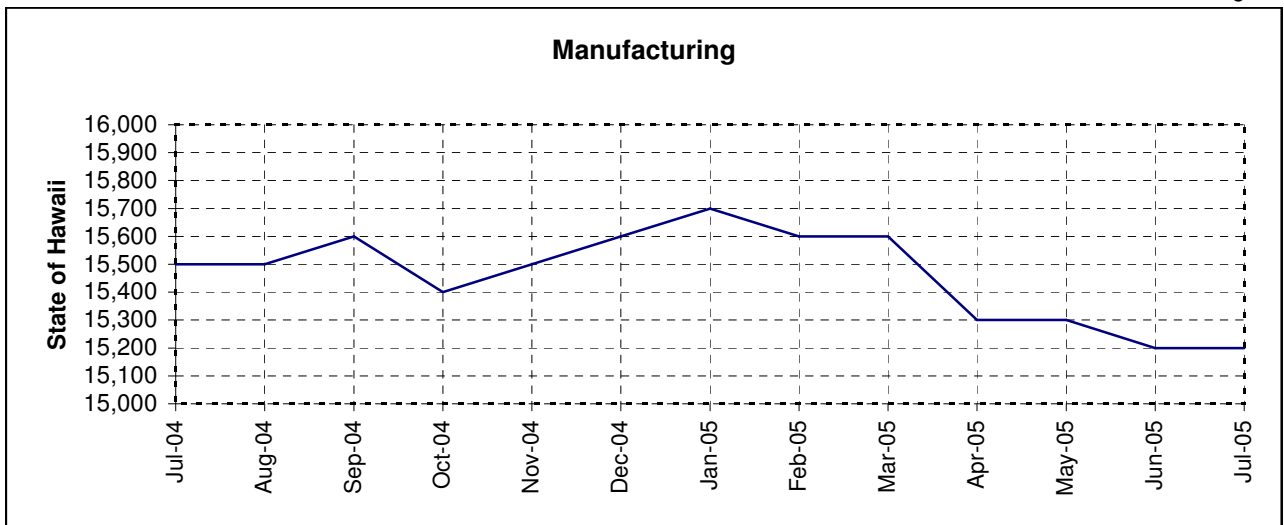
Jun-05 - Jul-05 (+3800)

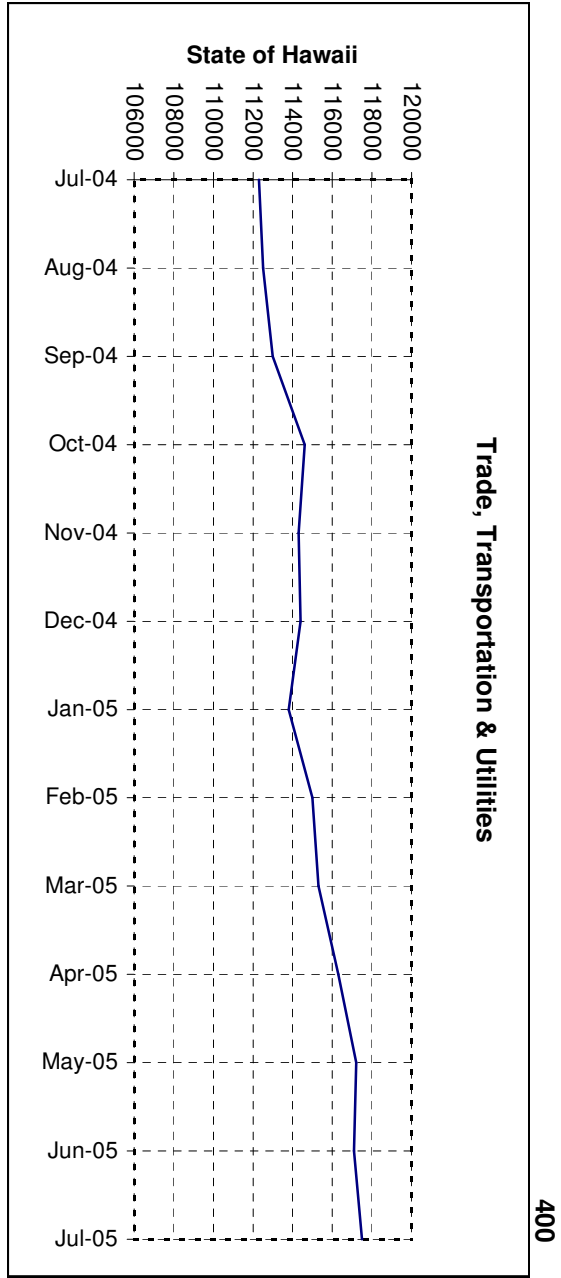
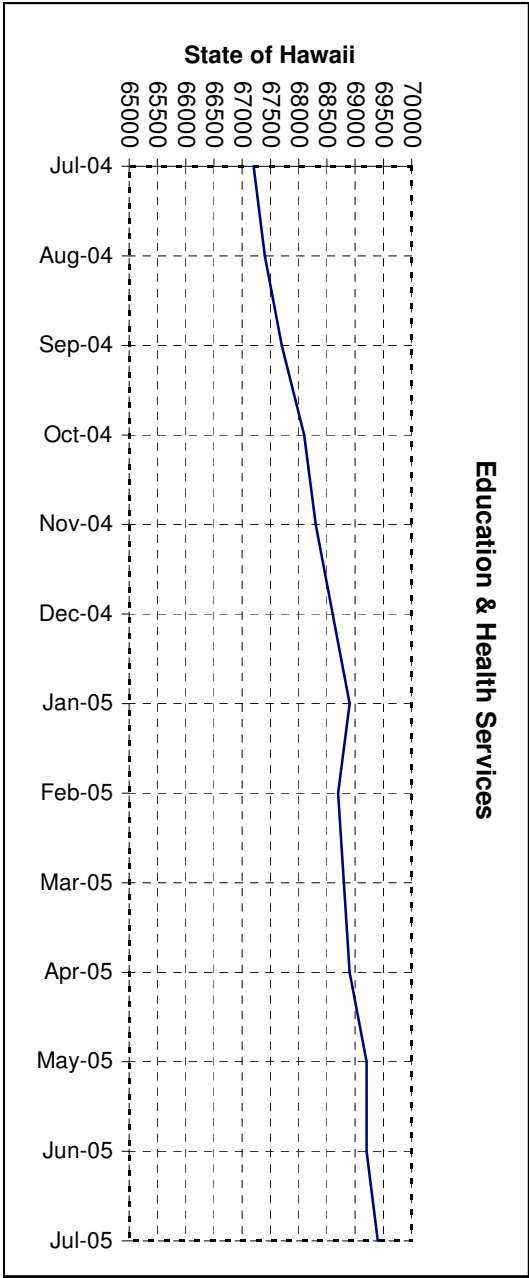
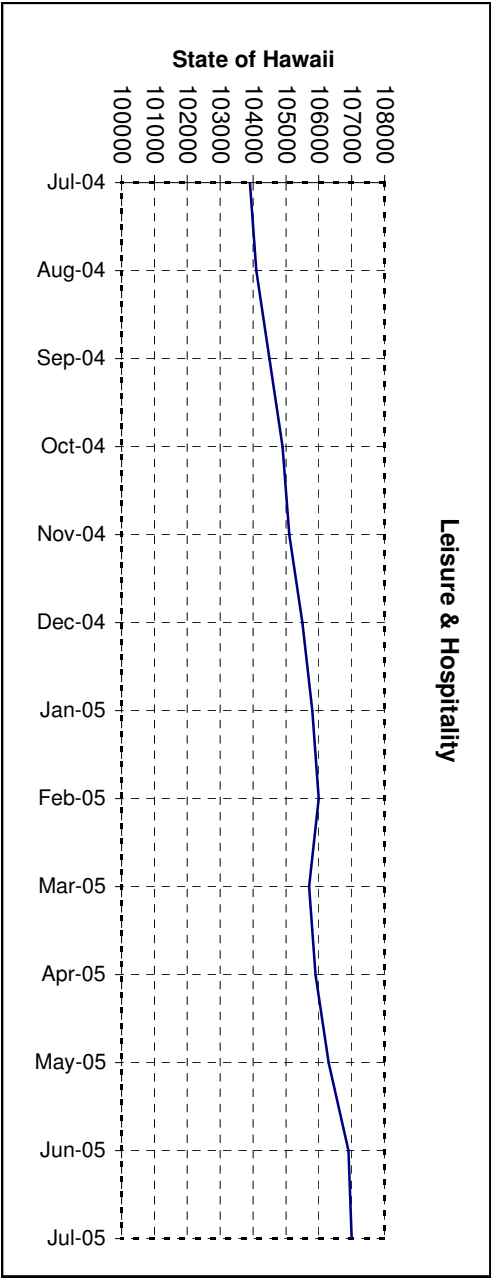
* BENCHMARKED DATA; ** NEW SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

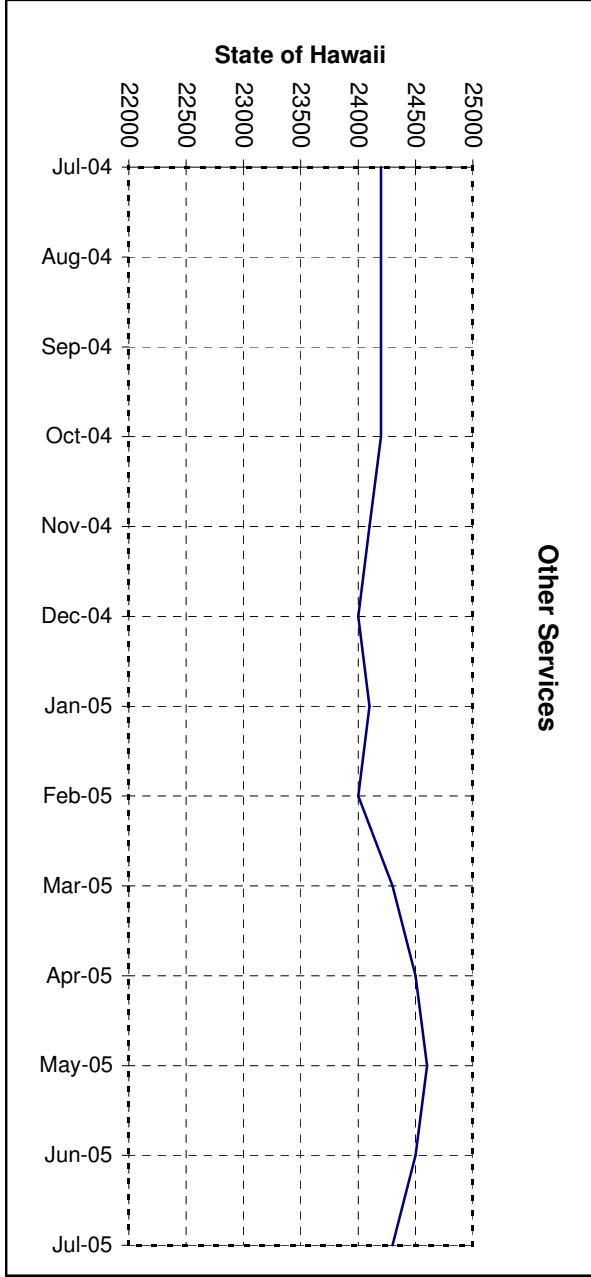
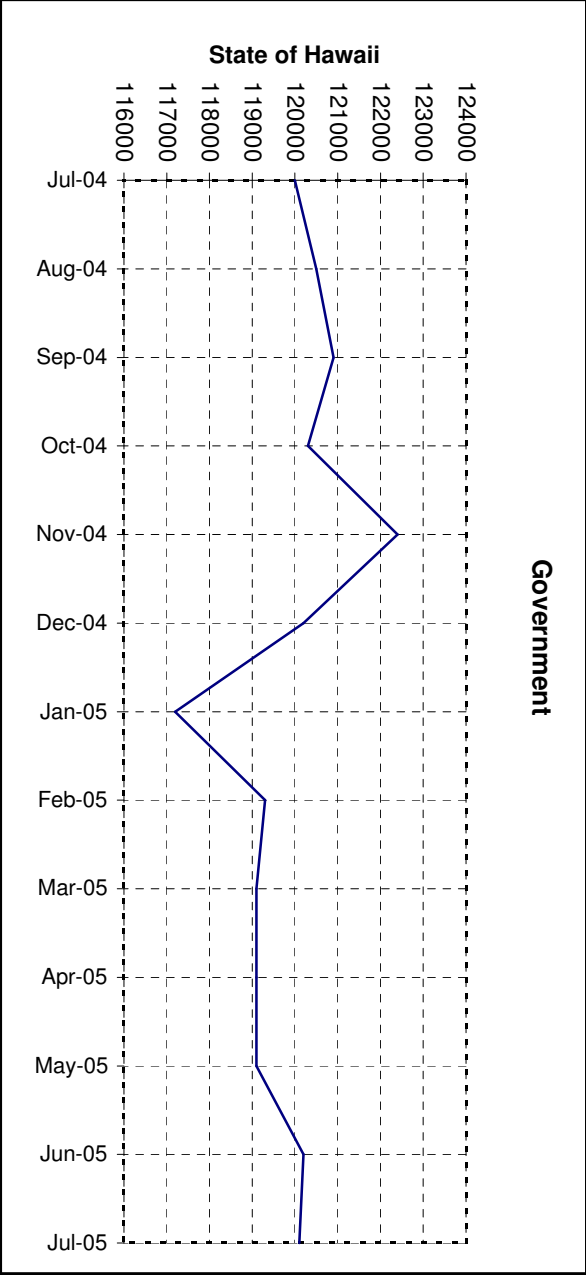
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UNEMPLOYMENT RATES- NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	JUL 2005	JUN 2005	JUL 2004
STATE	3.0	3.3	3.4
HONOLULU	2.9	3.2	3.3
HAWAII COUNTY	3.8	4.0	4.3
KAUAI	2.9	3.2	3.4
MAUI COUNTY	2.7	3.0	3.2
Maui Island	2.5	2.7	2.7
Molokai	10.4	9.8	15.1
Lanai	0.5	1.7	2.5
U. S.	5.2	5.2	5.7

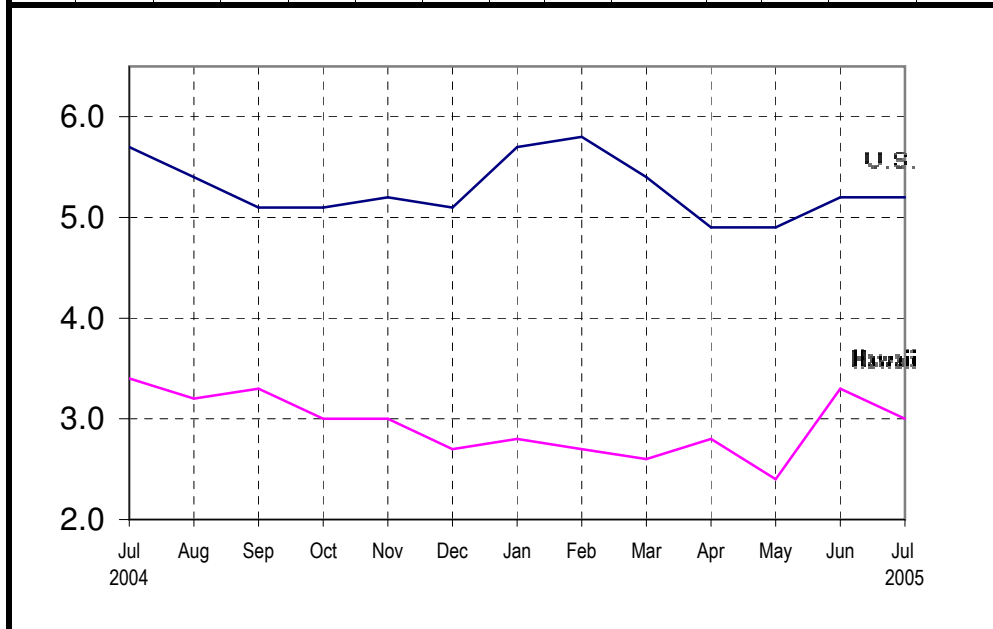
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES- SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	JUL 2005	JUN 2005	JUL 2004
STATE	2.7	2.7	3.1
U. S.	5.0	5.0	5.5

	<u>Jul 2005</u>	<u>Jun 2005</u>	<u>Jul 2004</u>
Labor Force	634,400	630,300	615,200
Employment	617,150	613,350	596,350
Unemployment	17,300	16,950	18,850

** totals may not add up due to rounding

	Jul 2004	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul 2005
U. S.	5.7	5.4	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.7	5.8	5.4	4.9	4.9	5.2	5.2
Hawaii	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.0	3.0	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.4	3.3	3.0



	Jul 2004	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul 2005
U. S.	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.0
Hawaii	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7

