



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

News Release

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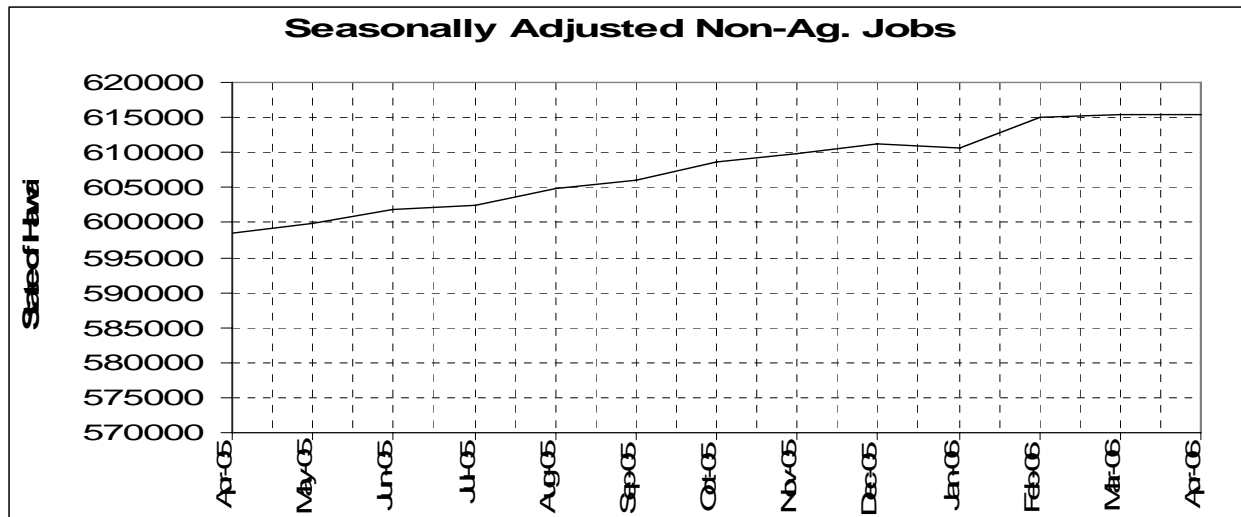
**HAWAII'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
REMAINS LOWEST IN NATION AT 2.8 PERCENT IN APRIL**

Unemployment rate has been under 3 percent since January 2005

HONOLULU- The Hawaii State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations announced today that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for April was 2.8 percent, a 0.2 percentage point increase over March. In contrast, the national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained unchanged over-the-month at 4.7 percent. One year ago, the Hawaii and U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rates stood at 2.8 percent and 5.1 percent respectively. Since January 2005, Hawaii's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has been below 3 percent. In April, there were 627,550 employed and 18,050 unemployed for a total statewide seasonally adjusted labor force of 645,600.

	APR 2006	MAR 2006	APR 2005
STATE	2.8	2.6	2.8
U. S.	4.7	4.7	5.1

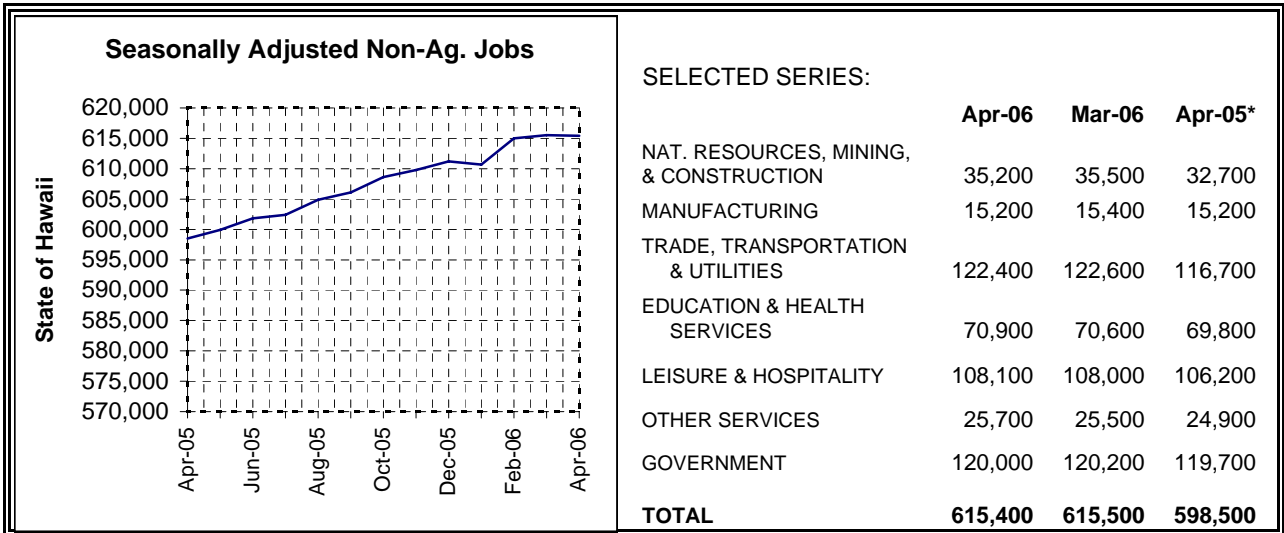
In another measure of employment, total seasonally nonagricultural jobs remained virtually stable over March, inching down by 100 jobs, or less than 0.1 percent, to 615,400. Throughout the seasonally adjusted industry series, there was also little over-the-month change. Moderate job gains were experienced in Education & Health Services (+300), Other Services (+200), and Leisure & Hospitality (+100). Job declines occurred in Construction (-300) and in Manufacturing, Trade, Transportation & Utilities, and Government (-200 jobs each). Over-the-year, total seasonally adjusted nonagricultural jobs have expanded by 16,900, or 2.8 percent, with Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (+5,700) adding the most jobs and Construction (+7.6%) increasing by the largest percentage.



“The strength of our local economy has enabled long term job growth, while keeping unemployment extremely low over the last 24 months,” said Nelson B, Befitel, Director of Labor & Industrial Relations.

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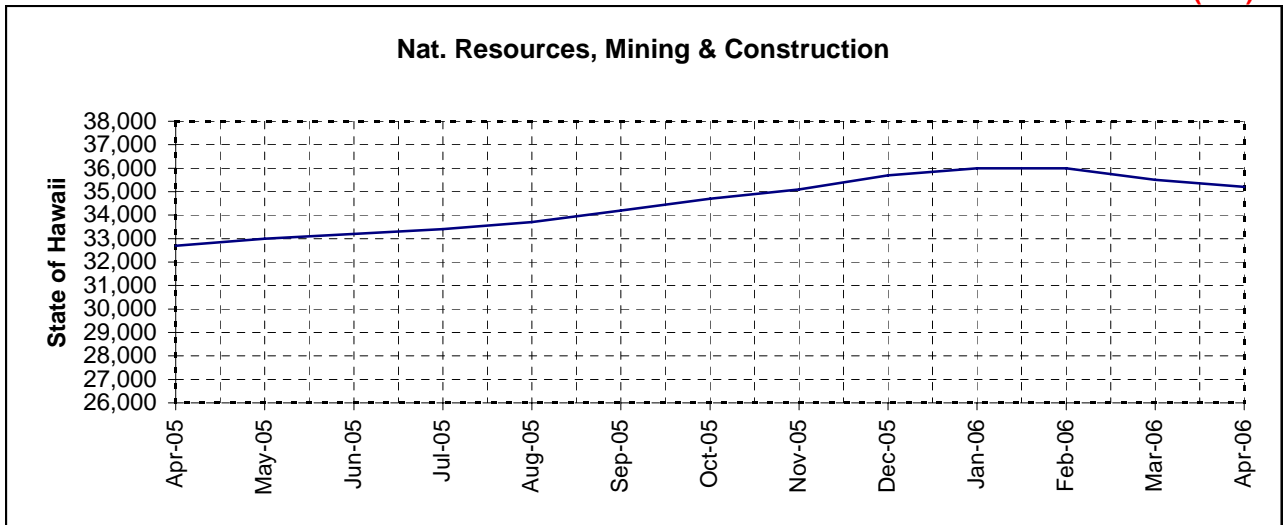
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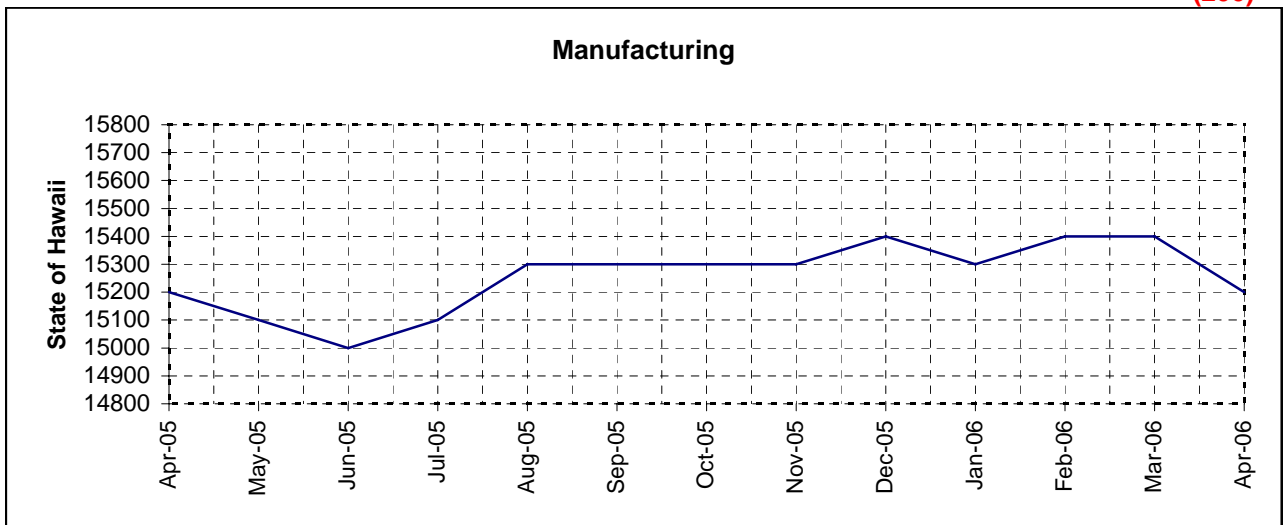
Mar-06 - Apr-06 (-100, -.02%)

* BENCHMARKED DATA

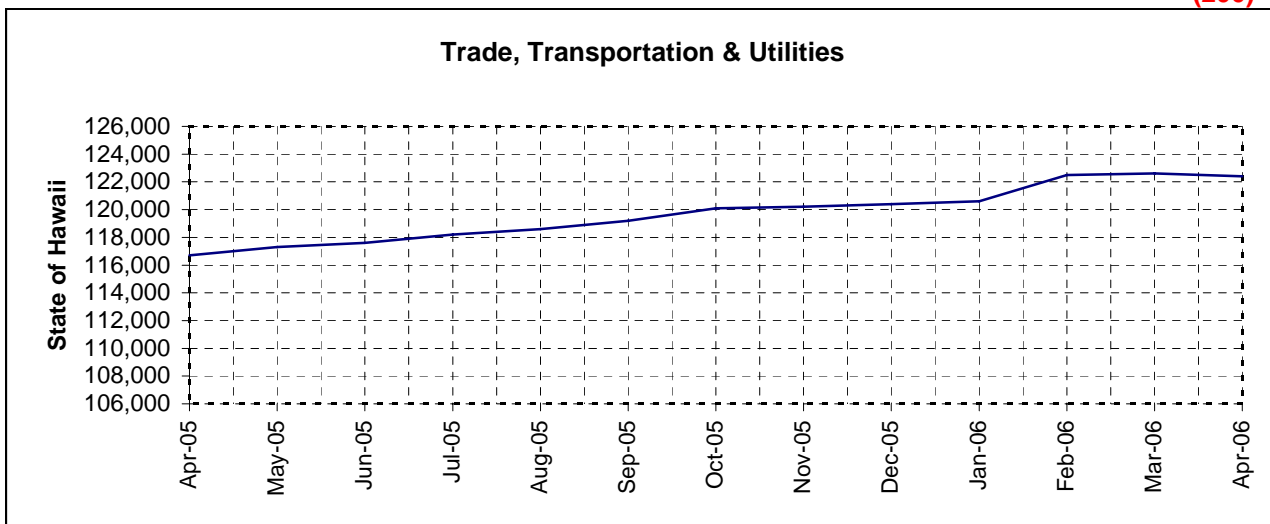
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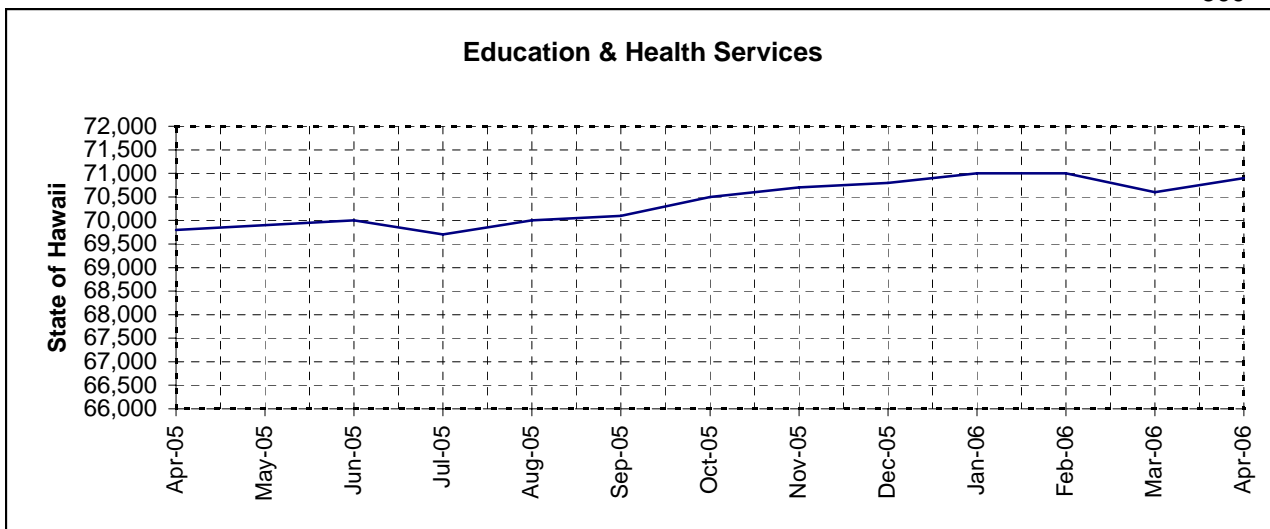
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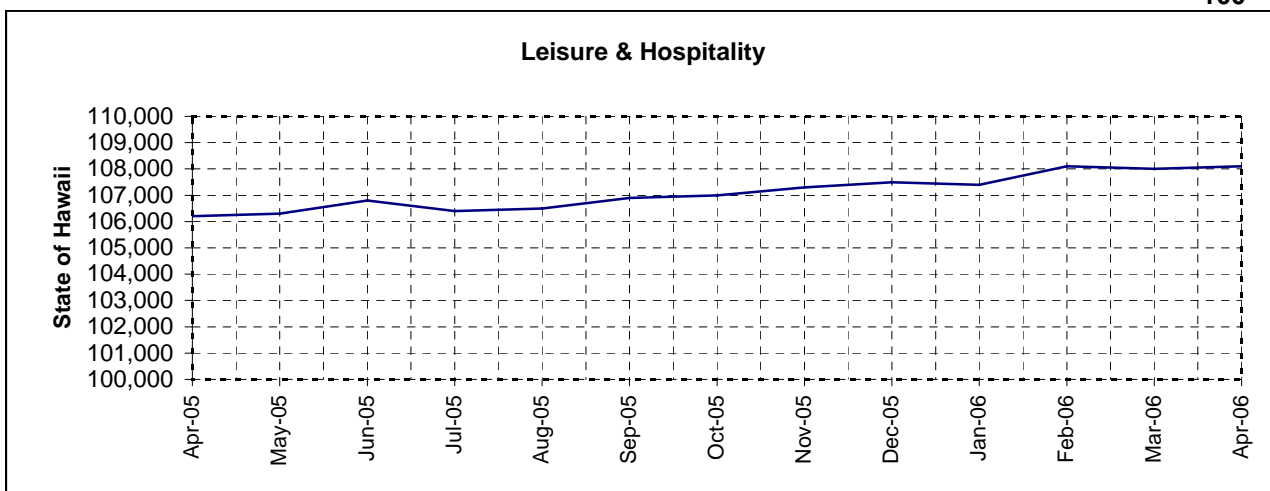
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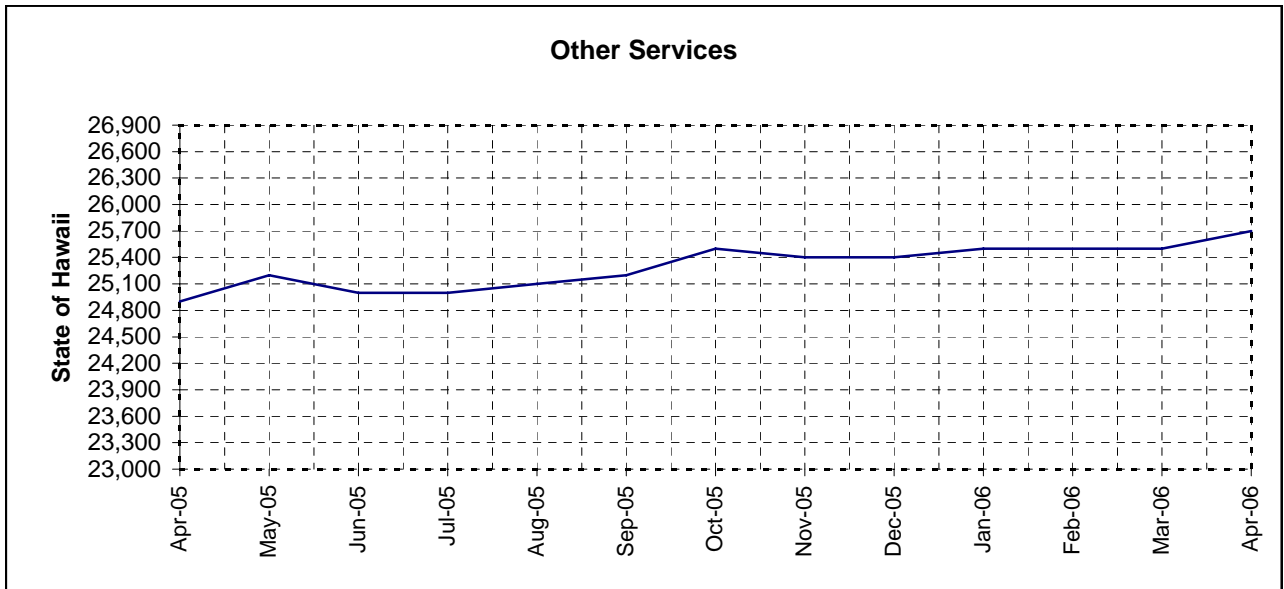
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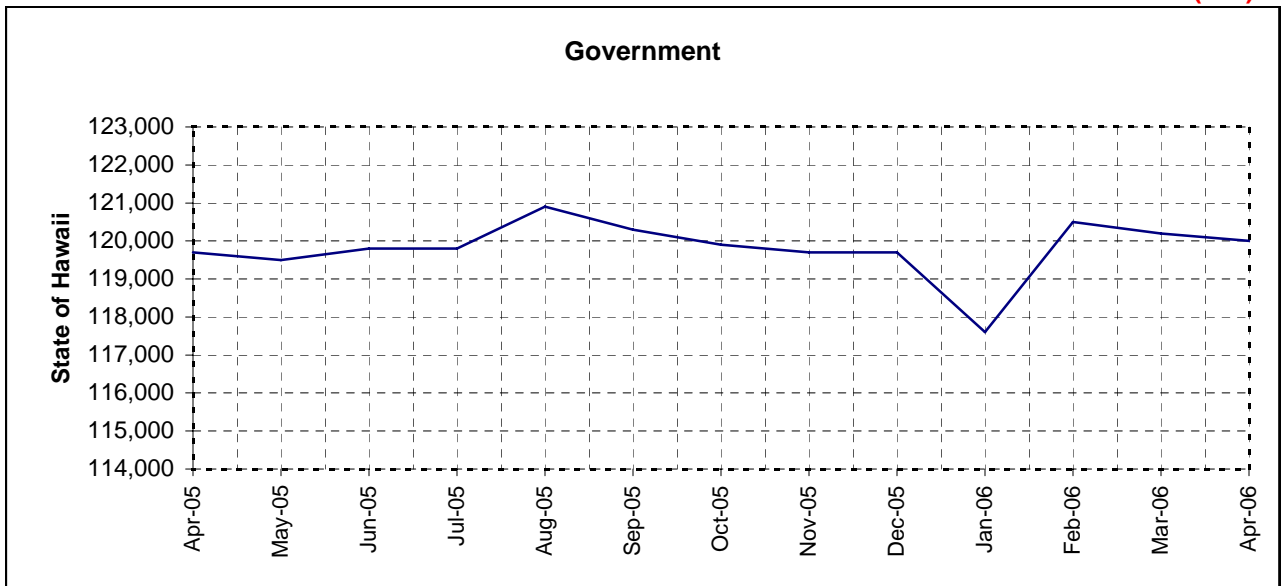
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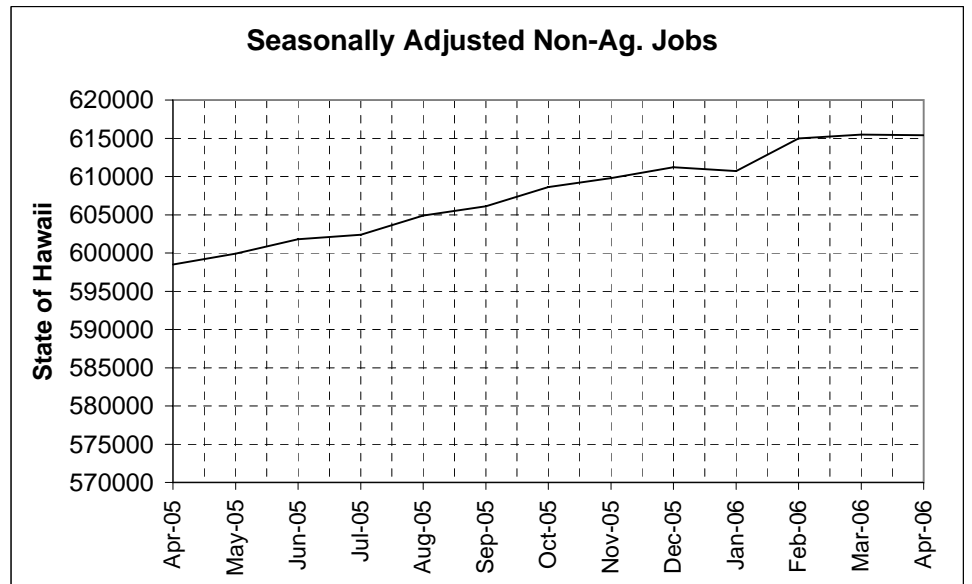
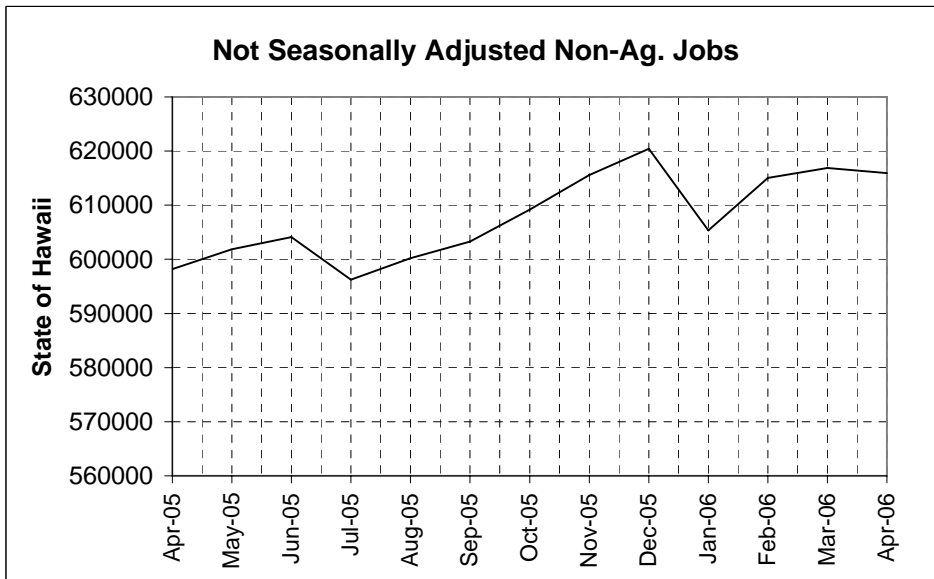
Not Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs

	Apr-06	Mar-06	Apr-05*
NAT. RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTR.	35,450	35,350	32,400
MANUFACTURING	15,300	15,300	15,100
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	121,200	121,400	115,400
INFORMATION	11,400	11,300	10,700
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	29,650	29,750	28,900
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	76,950	76,600	73,600
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	70,900	71,000	69,850
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	107,600	107,800	105,800
OTHER SERVICES	25,600	25,450	25,050
GOVERNMENT	121,800	122,950	121,400
TOTAL	615,900	616,850	598,200

Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs

	Apr-06	Mar-06	Apr-05*
NAT. RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTR.	35,200	35,500	32,700
MANUFACTURING	15,200	15,400	15,200
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	122,400	122,600	116,700
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	70,900	70,600	69,800
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	108,100	108,000	106,200
OTHER SERVICES	25,700	25,500	24,900
GOVERNMENT	120,000	120,200	119,700
TOTAL	615,400	615,500	598,500

* BENCHMARKED DATA



LABOR FORCE AND JOBCOUNT ESTIMATES
March 2006 Report, Statewide

	DEPARTMENT OF LABOR -- LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES							
	STATEWIDE							
	(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)							
	Apr-06	Mar-06	Apr-05	CHANGE FROM ONE MONTH AGO		CHANGE FROM ONE YEAR AGO		
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	646.5	645.4	631.4	1.1	0.2%	15.1	2.4%	
TOTAL EMPLOYED	628.7	629.6	614.2	-0.9	-0.1%	14.5	2.4%	
UNEMPLOYED	17.8	15.9	17.2	1.9	11.9%	0.6	3.5%	
percent of Labor Force	2.8%	2.5%	2.7%					
Total Nonfarm	615.9	616.8	598.2	-0.9	-0.2%	17.7	3.0%	
Total Private	494.1	493.9	476.8	0.2	0.0%	17.3	3.6%	
Goods Producing	50.7	50.6	47.5	0.1	0.2%	3.2	6.8%	
Service-Providing	565.1	566.2	550.7	-1.1	-0.2%	14.4	2.6%	
Private Service-Providing	443.3	443.2	429.3	0.1	0.0%	14.0	3.3%	
Nat. Res & Construct	35.4	35.3	32.4	0.1	0.3%	3.0	9.4%	
Construction of Buildings	11.3	11.3	10.2	0.0	-0.1%	1.1	5.9%	
Special Trade Contractors	19.0	18.9	17.5	0.1	-0.3%	1.4	10.9%	
Manufacturing	15.3	15.3	15.1	0.0	0.1%	0.2	1.2%	
Durable Goods	4.5	4.5	4.4	0.0	0.2%	0.1	2.3%	
Non-Durable Goods	10.8	10.8	10.7	0.0	0.0%	0.1	0.7%	
Trade, Transportation,	121.2	121.4	115.4	-0.2	-0.1%	5.8	5.0%	
Wholesale Trade	18.0	18.0	17.4	0.0	0.2%	0.6	3.6%	
Retail Trade	70.3	70.8	67.8	-0.5	-0.7%	2.5	3.7%	
Food and Beverage Sto	12.9	13.1	12.6	-0.2	-1.3%	0.3	2.4%	
Grocery Stores	10.7	10.9	10.6	-0.1	-1.3%	0.2	1.6%	
Clothing and Clothing	11.3	11.5	11.0	-0.2	-1.3%	0.3	3.0%	
General Merchandise S	12.2	12.4	11.7	-0.2	-2.0%	0.5	4.2%	
Department Stores	9.3	9.4	8.7	-0.2	-1.8%	0.5	6.2%	
Trans,Warehouse, Util	32.9	32.6	30.3	0.3	0.9%	2.6	8.7%	
Utilities	2.9	2.9	2.8	0.0	0.6%	0.1	2.5%	
Transport & Warehouse	30.0	29.7	27.4	0.3	1.0%	2.6	9.4%	
Air Transportation	10.1	10.1	10.3	0.0	0.1%	-0.2	-1.6%	
Information	11.4	11.3	10.7	0.1	1.0%	0.7	6.4%	
Telecommunications	4.0	4.0	3.8	0.0	0.7%	0.2	6.1%	
Financial Activities	29.7	29.7	28.9	-0.1	-0.3%	0.8	2.6%	
Finance and Insurance	16.7	16.8	16.3	-0.1	-0.5%	0.4	2.2%	
Real Estate and Renta	13.0	13.0	12.6	0.0	-0.1%	0.4	3.1%	
Professional and Busin	77.0	76.6	73.6	0.4	0.5%	3.4	4.6%	
Professional, Scienti	23.8	23.8	23.2	0.1	0.3%	0.7	2.9%	
Management of Compani	7.5	7.5	7.3	0.0	0.2%	0.2	2.2%	
Administrative and Su	45.7	45.4	43.1	0.3	0.6%	2.6	6.0%	
Employment Services	17.7	17.4	15.6	0.2	1.3%	2.1	13.3%	
Educational and Health	70.9	71.0	69.8	-0.1	-0.2%	1.0	1.5%	
Educational Services	14.0	14.2	13.7	-0.2	-1.1%	0.3	2.4%	
Elementary and Second	7.1	7.2	7.0	-0.1	-1.1%	0.1	1.3%	
Health Care and Socia	56.9	56.9	56.2	0.0	0.0%	0.7	1.3%	
Ambulatory Health Car	22.7	22.7	22.5	0.0	0.1%	0.3	1.2%	
Hospitals	14.0	14.0	14.1	0.0	-0.1%	-0.1	-0.5%	
Nursing and Residenti	6.8	6.8	6.6	0.0	-0.1%	0.2	2.5%	
Social Assistance	13.4	13.3	13.0	0.0	0.2%	0.4	2.8%	
Leisure and Hospitalit	107.6	107.8	105.8	-0.2	-0.2%	1.8	1.7%	
Arts, Entertainment,	11.7	11.7	11.5	0.0	0.4%	0.2	2.1%	
Accommodation and Foo	95.9	96.1	94.3	-0.2	-0.2%	1.6	1.7%	
Accommodation	39.1	39.2	38.5	-0.1	-0.1%	0.7	1.7%	
Food Services and Dri	56.8	56.9	55.9	-0.2	-0.3%	0.9	1.6%	
Full-Service Restaura	29.3	29.5	28.8	-0.2	-0.5%	0.5	1.7%	
Other Services	25.6	25.4	25.0	0.2	0.6%	0.6	2.3%	
Government	121.8	123.0	121.4	-1.2	-0.9%	0.4	0.3%	
Federal Government	31.4	31.5	31.1	-0.1	-0.2%	0.3	1.1%	
Ship Building & Repai	4.2	4.2	4.1	-0.1	-0.4%	0.1	0.8%	
Department of Defense	16.4	16.5	16.3	0.0	-1.2%	0.0	0.4%	
State Government	73.1	74.2	73.4	-1.1	-1.5%	-0.3	-0.4%	
State Govt. Education	48.9	50.1	49.4	-1.2	-2.4%	-0.4	-0.9%	
Local Government	17.3	17.3	16.9	0.0	0.1%	0.3	2.1%	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES- NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	APR 2006	MAR 2006	APR 2005
STATE	2.8	2.5	2.7
HONOLULU	2.7	2.4	2.7
HAWAII COUNTY	3.3	3.0	3.2
KAUAI	2.7	2.8	2.7
MAUI COUNTY	2.7	2.4	2.5
U. S.	4.5	4.8	4.9

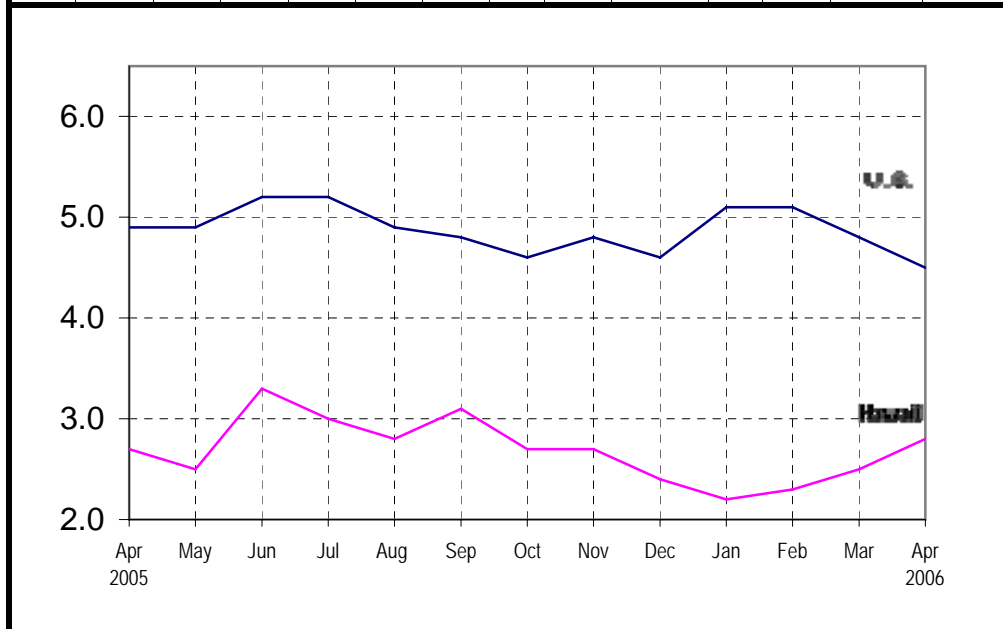
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES- SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	APR 2006	MAR 2006	APR 2005
STATE	2.8	2.6	2.8
U. S.	4.7	4.7	5.1

	<u>Apr 2006</u>	<u>Mar 2006</u>	<u>Apr 2005</u>
Labor Force	645,600	645,750	630,050
Employment	627,550	628,950	612,250
Unemployment	18,050	16,800	17,850

** totals may not add up due to rounding

	Apr 2005	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr 2006
U. S.	4.9	4.9	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.6	5.1	5.1	4.8	4.5
Hawaii	2.7	2.5	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.8



	Apr 2005	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr 2006
U. S.	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.7
Hawaii	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.8

