



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

NELSON B. BEFITEL, DIRECTOR
COLLEEN Y. LaCLAIR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 586-8844
Fax: (808) 586-9099

MR 2007 04

For Immediate Release: April 20, 2007

HAWAII'S SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 2.5 PERCENT IN MARCH

Number of employed people has expanded by 15,200 over the past year

HONOLULU- The Hawai'i State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations announced today that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for March was 2.5 percent, an increase of 0.2 percentage point over February's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 2.3 percent. The national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in March was 4.4 percent, a decrease of 0.1 percent from the previous month. Over the last 12 months, Hawai'i's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has been on average 2.3 percentage points lower than the national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate.

	MAR 2007	FEB 2007	MAR 2006
STATE	2.5	2.3	2.6
HONOLULU*	2.3	2.0	2.3
HAWAI'I COUNTY*	3.0	2.6	3.0
KAUA'I*	2.3	2.0	2.8
MAUI COUNTY*	2.2	2.0	2.4
Maui Island*	2.1	1.9	2.3
Moloka'i*	4.6	5.2	4.3
Lana'i*	2.8	1.7	2.2
U. S.	4.4	4.5	4.7

* Non-Seasonally Adjusted

In March, Hawai'i's seasonally adjusted labor force totaled 655,450, and was composed of 639,400 employed and 16,100 unemployed. Over-the-year, the number of employed has expanded by 15,200, or 2.4 percent, while the number of unemployed has contracted by 750, or 4.5 percent.

State of Hawai'i Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Data			
	<u>Mar 2007</u>	<u>Feb 2007</u>	<u>Mar 2006</u>
Labor Force	649,000	649,000	641,000
Employment	639,400	634,150	624,200
Unemployment	16,100	14,850	16,850

Industry Payroll Employment

In another measure of employment, total seasonally adjusted nonagricultural jobs grew over-the-month by 1,000 to 625,600. The largest gain in jobs between March over February was in Leisure and Hospitality (+600) followed by Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (+400). Over-the-year, the seasonally adjusted jobcount rose by 12,400 or 2.0 percent. Within the private sector, the sectors showing most notable job gains included: Construction (+1,800),

Leisure and Hospitality (+1,500) and Education and Health Services (+1,400). Construction (+5.1 percent) expanded by the largest percentage.

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

SELECTED SERIES:	Mar-07	Feb-07	Mar-06
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING AND CONSTRUCTION	37,200	37,000	35,400
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	121,800	121,400	120,800
Wholesale Trade	17,800	17,800	17,800
Retail Trade	70,000	69,700	70,500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	71,900	71,700	70,500
Educational Services	13,900	13,800	13,800
Health Care and Social Assistance	58,000	57,900	56,700
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	109,000	108,300	107,500
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	11,500	11,400	11,500
Accommodation & Food Services	97,500	96,900	96,000
OTHER SERVICES	26,500	26,700	25,900
GOVERNMENT	122,400	122,500	119,900
Federal Government	32,100	32,000	31,600
State Government	72,500	72,700	70,900
Local Government	17,800	17,800	17,400
TOTAL: STATE	625,600	624,600	613,200

❖ **Leisure & Hospitality (+700)**

Arts, Entertainment, Recreation rose slightly by 100 jobs, while the bulk of the growth occurred in Accommodation and Food Services, rising by 600 jobs. Accommodation rose minimally, however Food Services accounted for most of this gain as more restaurants continued to open in Waikiki. Overall, this major group exhibited over-the-month percentage increases for the fifth consecutive month.

❖ **Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+400)**

Wholesale Trade remained relatively stable. Retail Trade accounted for 300 of the increase, most of which were concentrated in clothing and clothing accessories and general merchandise stores throughout the state.

❖ **Construction (+200)**

Majority of the growth was due to the increase in residential building construction, which was offset by a slight drop in special trade contractors.

❖ **Educational & Health Services (+200)**

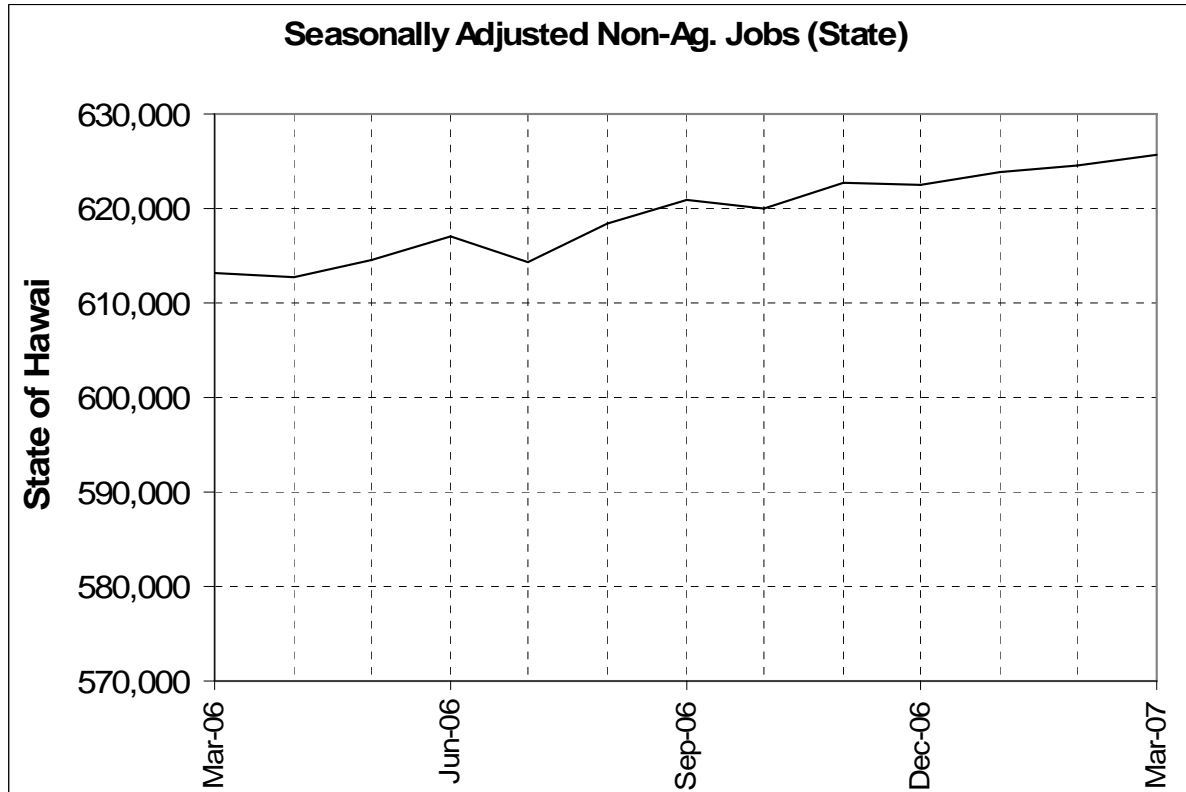
Education Service and Health Care and Social Assistance each reported a minimal increase of 100 jobs. Most of the increase in health care and social assistance was notable in doctors' offices.

❖ **Government (-100)**

Federal government recorded a slight gain of 100 jobs while State government lost 200 jobs in the Department of Education. Local government registered no change.

❖ **Other Services (-200)**

This miscellaneous group reported a drop of 200 jobs in various industry series mainly in grant-making and giving services and commercial and industrial machinery and equipment repair and maintenance.



“Long-term job growth across numerous industrial sectors has given local residents a wide array of employment opportunities,” said Nelson Befitel, Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

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 status as of the end of March 2007 and its projected balance at the end of the year.

Fund Balance as of end of March 2007:	\$539,320,534
Taxes received year to date through end of March:	\$25,843,066
Interest received year to date through end of March:	\$6,399,577
Benefits paid year to date through end of March:	\$25,065,752

Tax Schedule for calendar year 2007: Schedule “B”

Fund projections (as of March 2007) for calendar year 2007 and calendar year 2008 tax schedule:

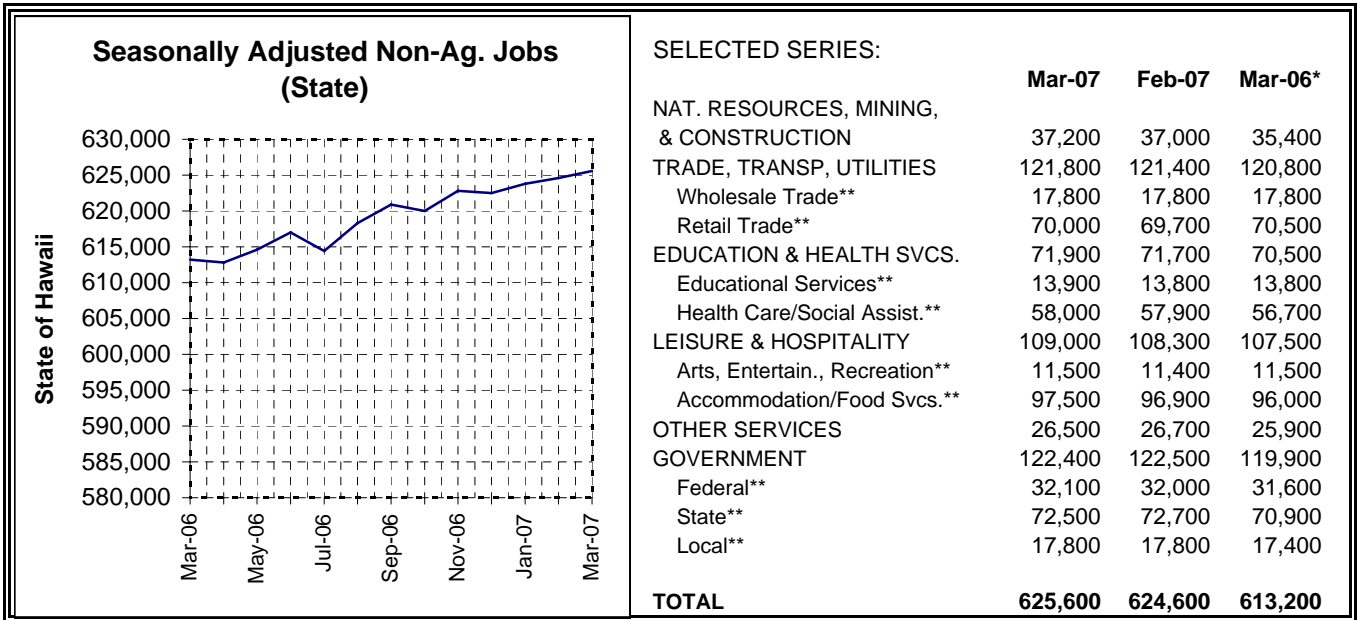
Fund Balance, end of 2007:	\$559,000,000 (projected)
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Taxes for calendar year 2007:	\$104,000,000 (projected)
Interest for calendar year 2007:	\$26,000,000 (projected)
Benefits for calendar year 2007:	\$103,000,000 (projected)
Tax Schedule for calendar year 2008:	Schedule "B" (projected)

For comparison purposes, in calendar year 2006 the Fund collected \$142.2 million in taxes and paid out \$90.6 million in benefits.

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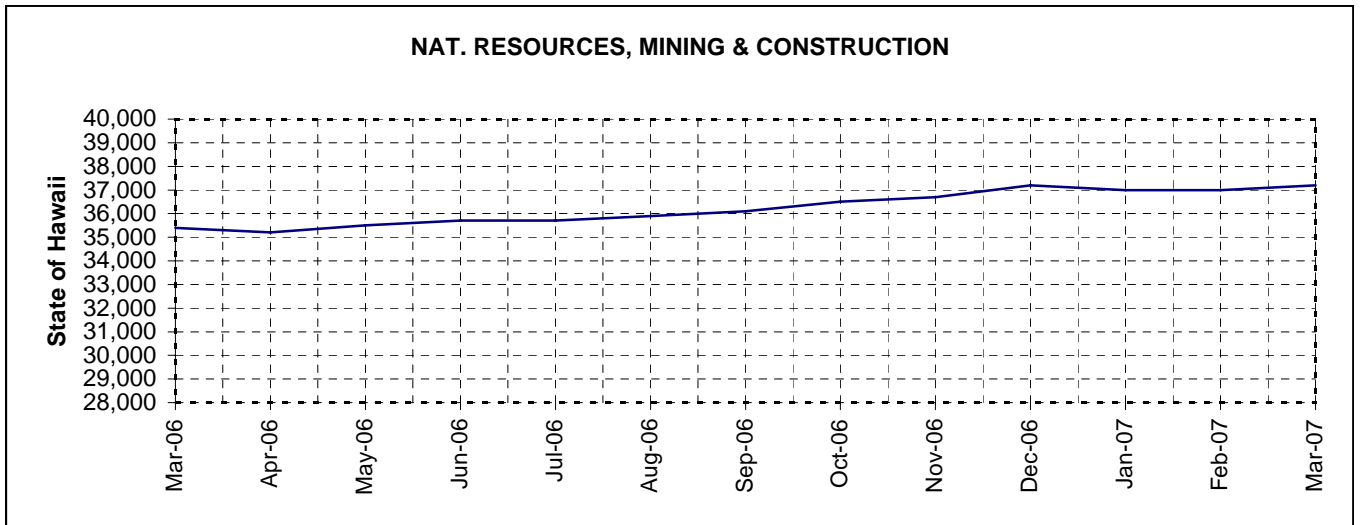
For more information, contact:
James P. Hardway
Special Assistant to the Director
Phone: (808) 586-8845
Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: jhardway@hawaii.gov



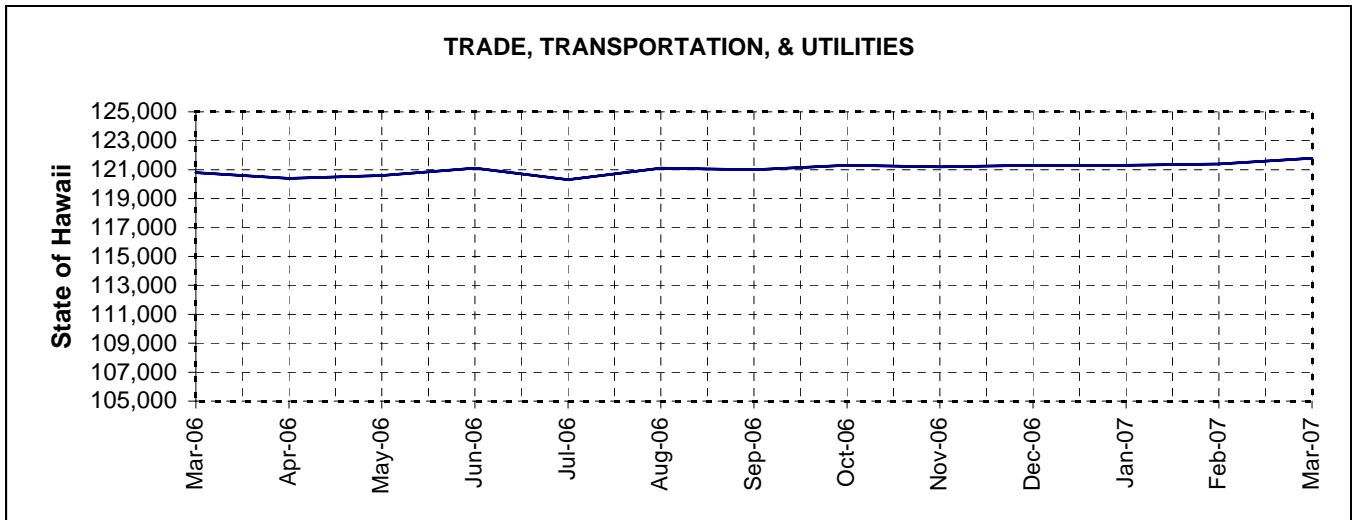
Feb-07 - Mar-07 (+1,000, +.2%)

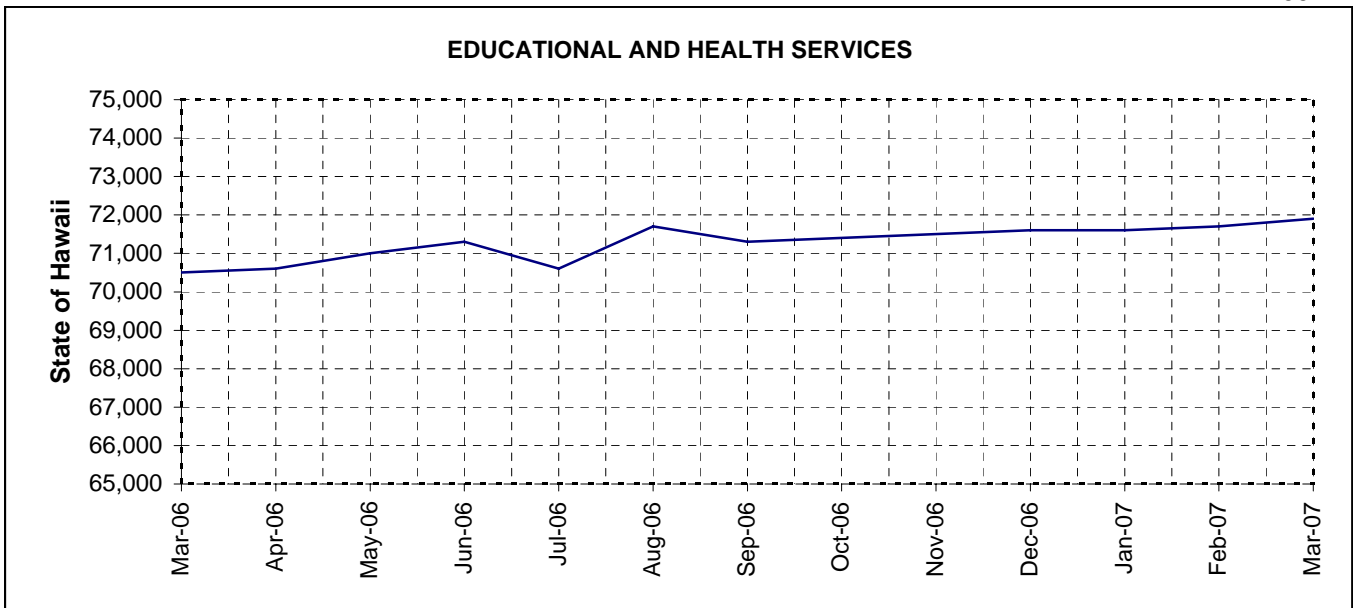
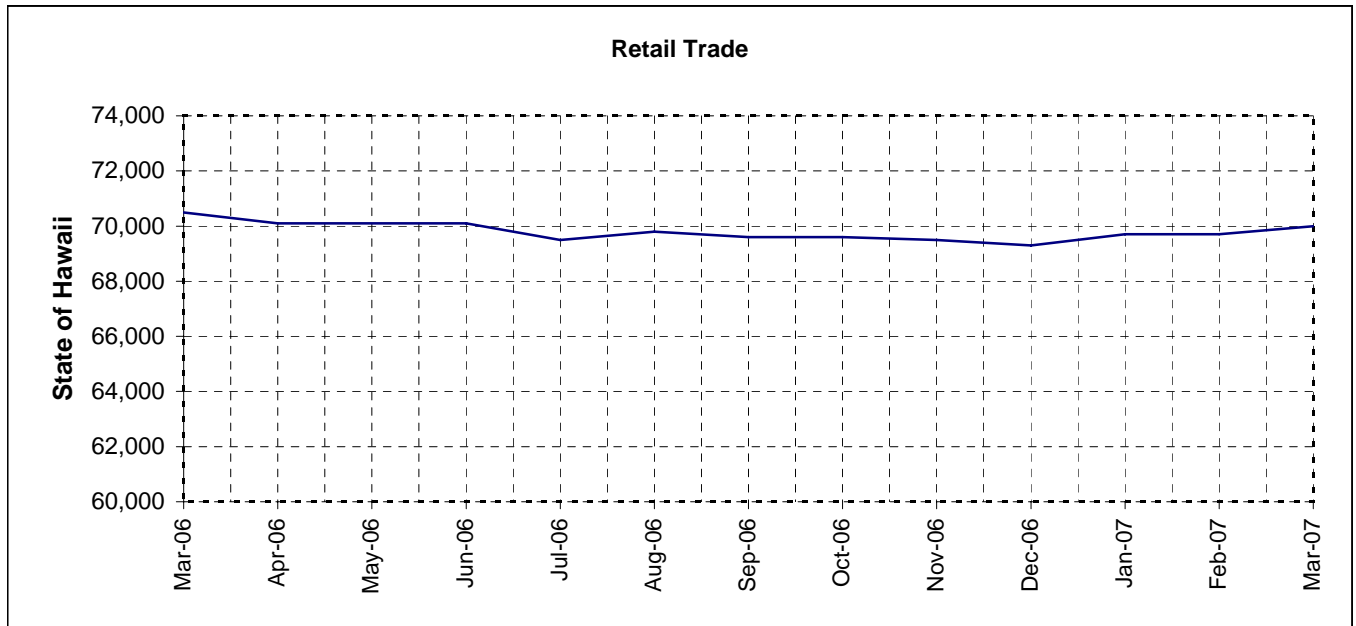
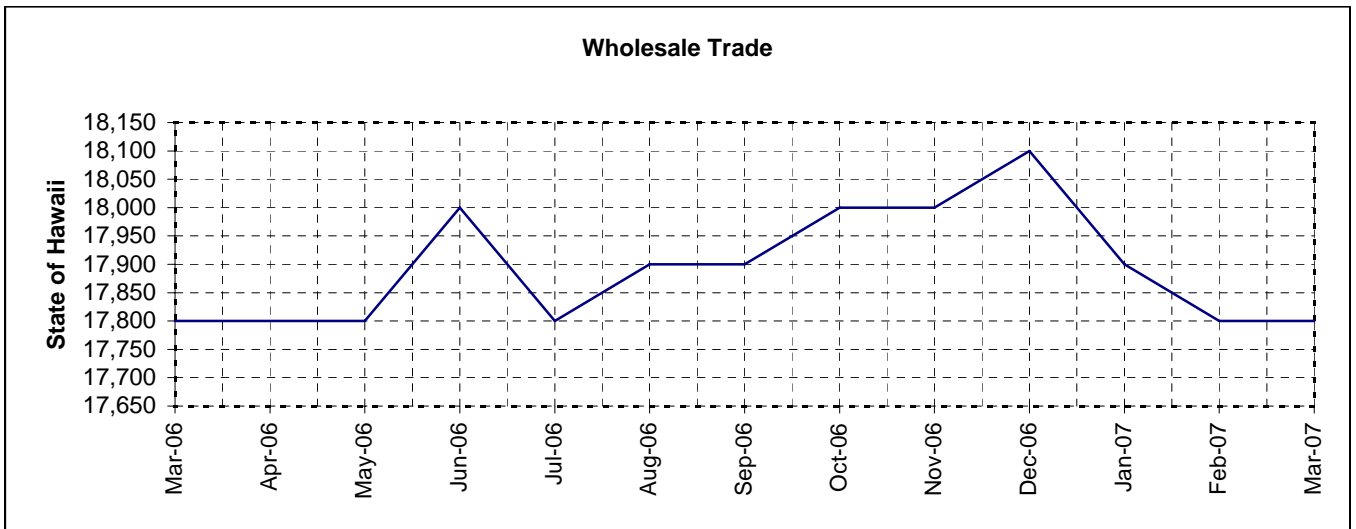
* BENCHMARKED DATA ** NEW SERIES

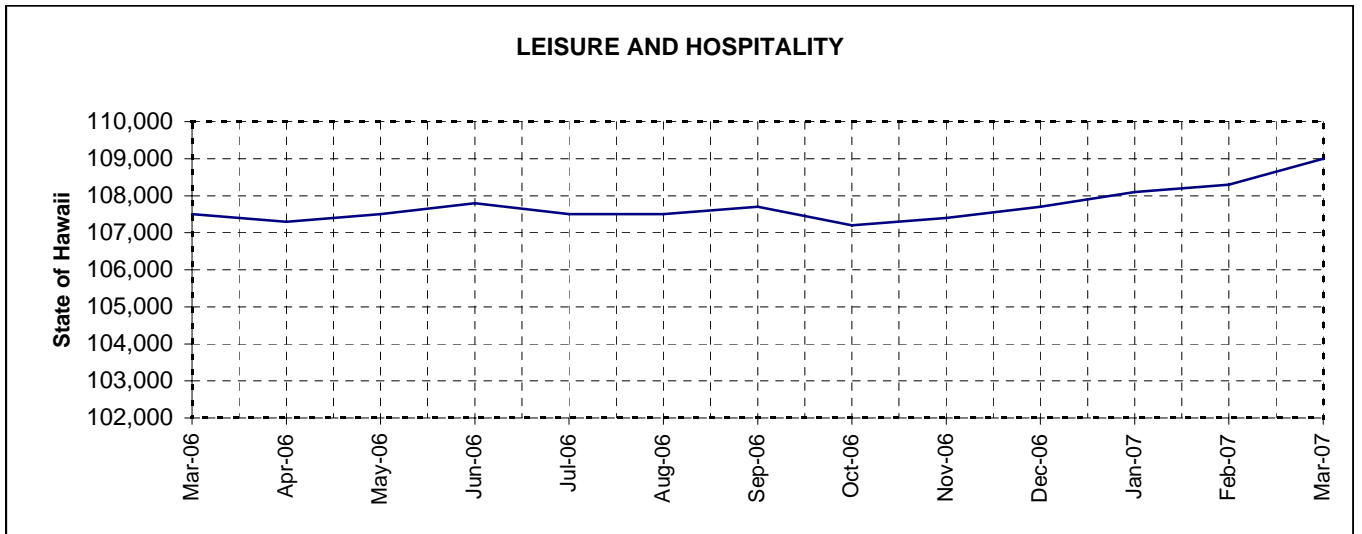
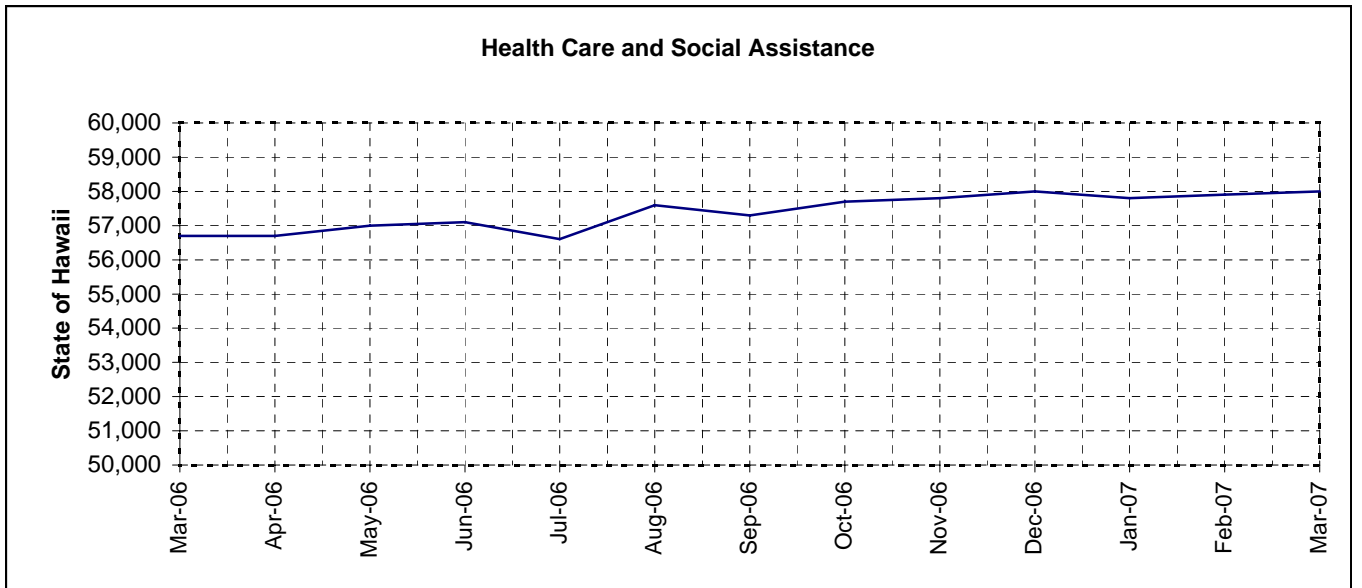
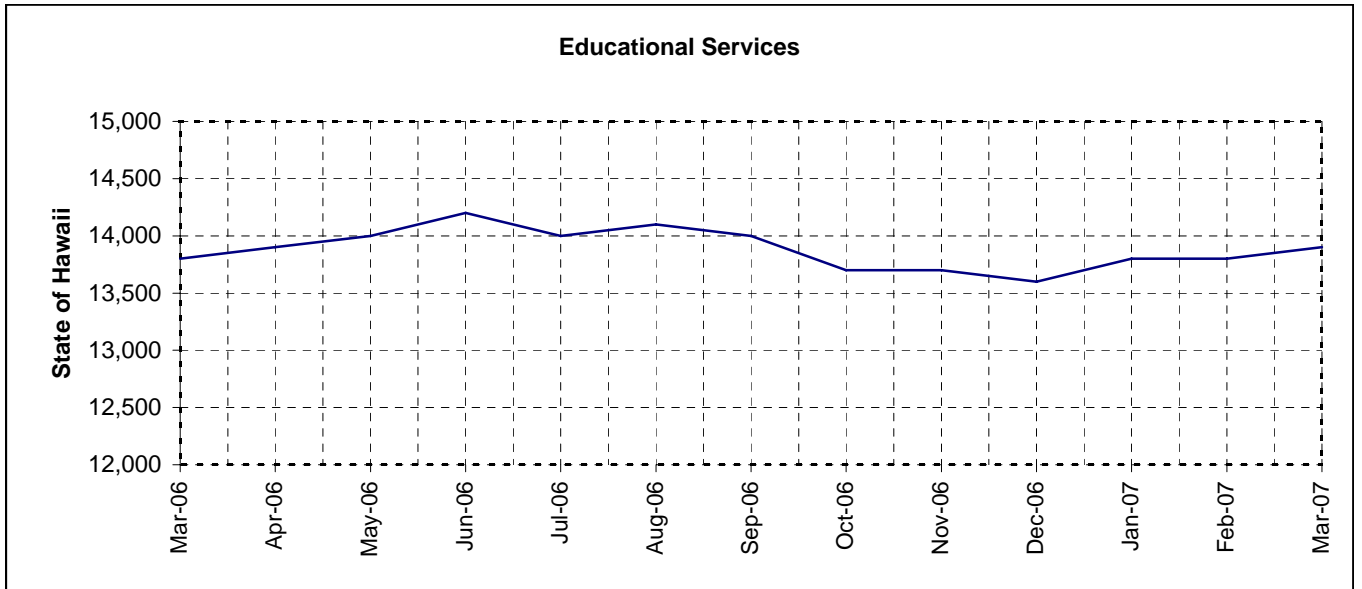
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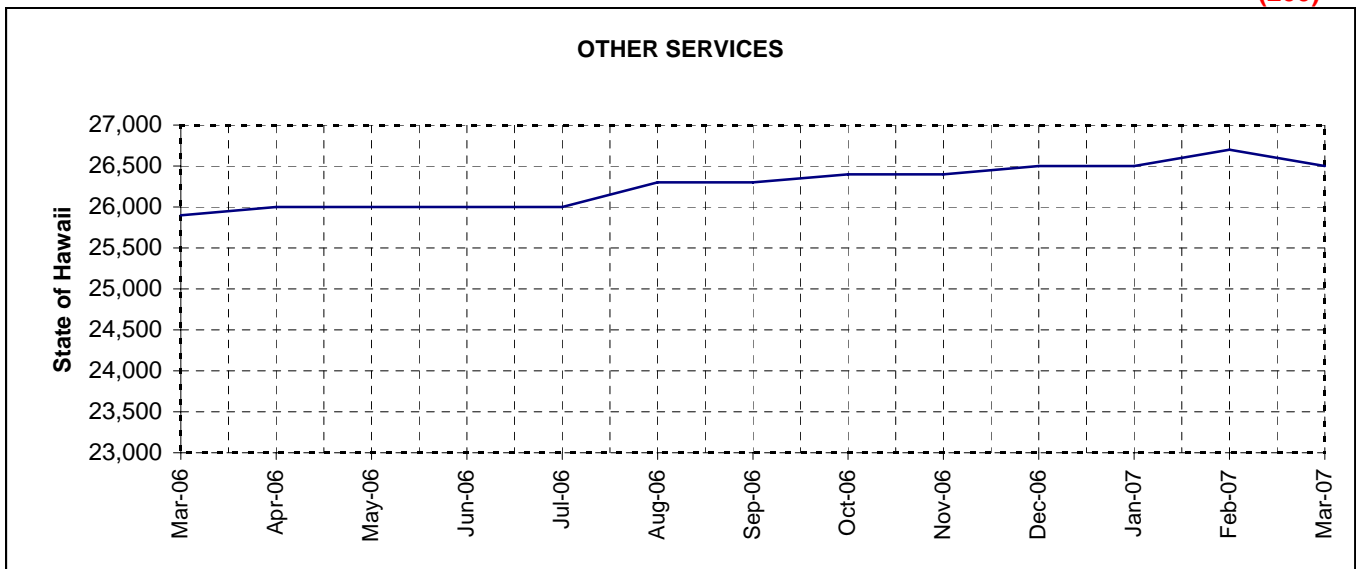
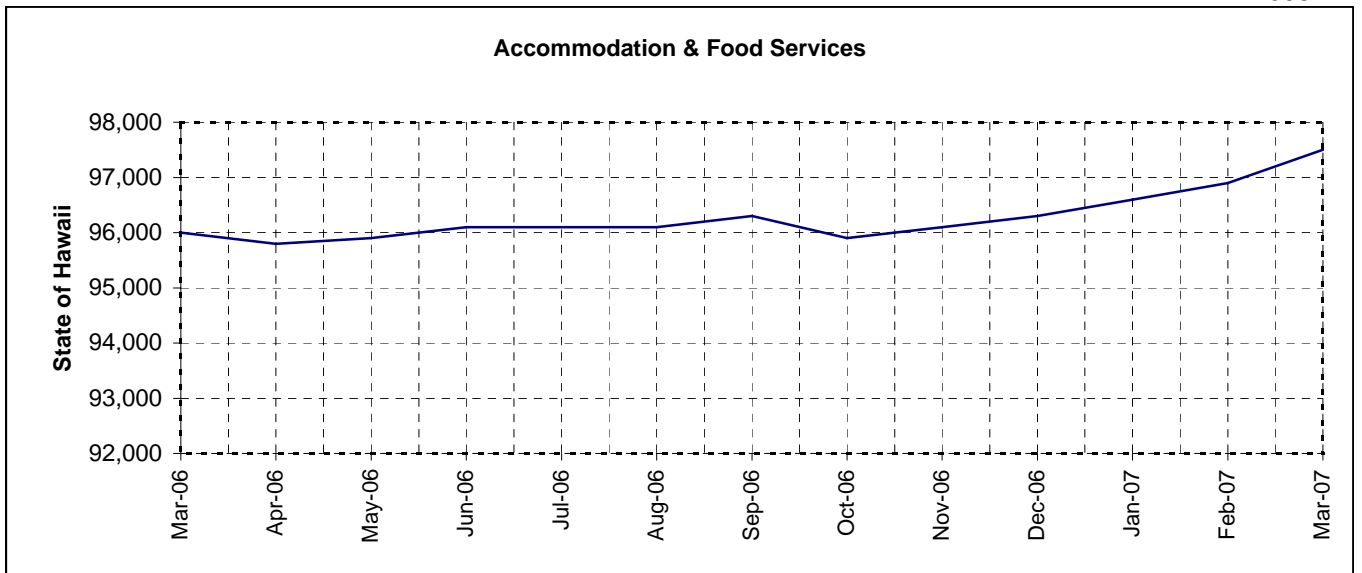
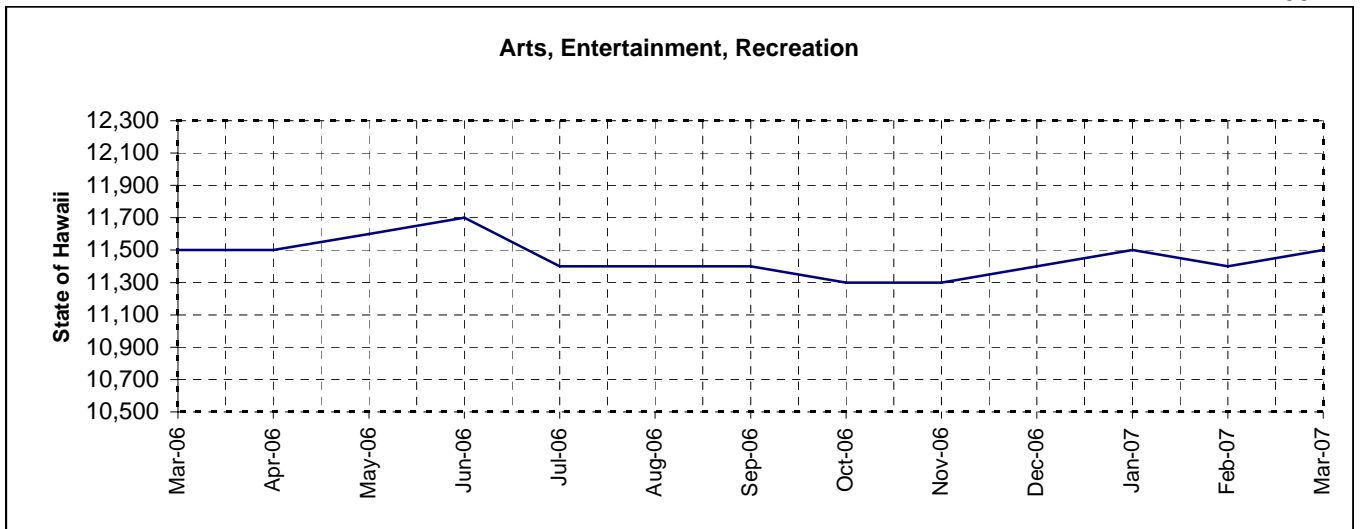


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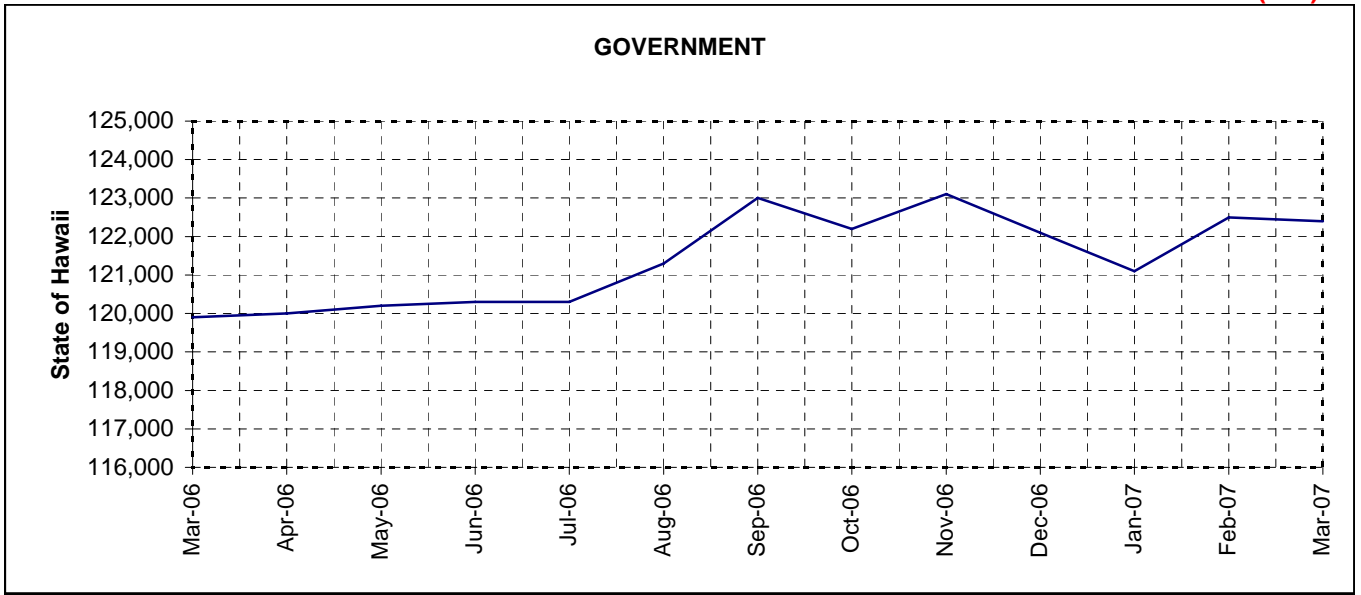




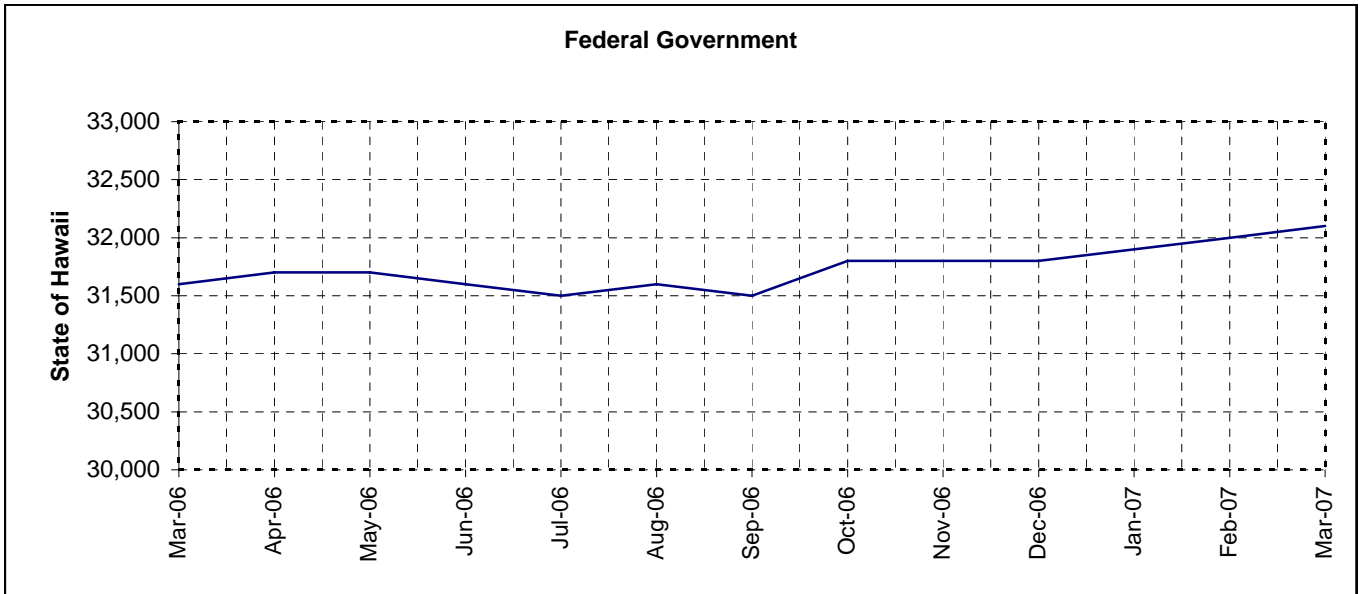




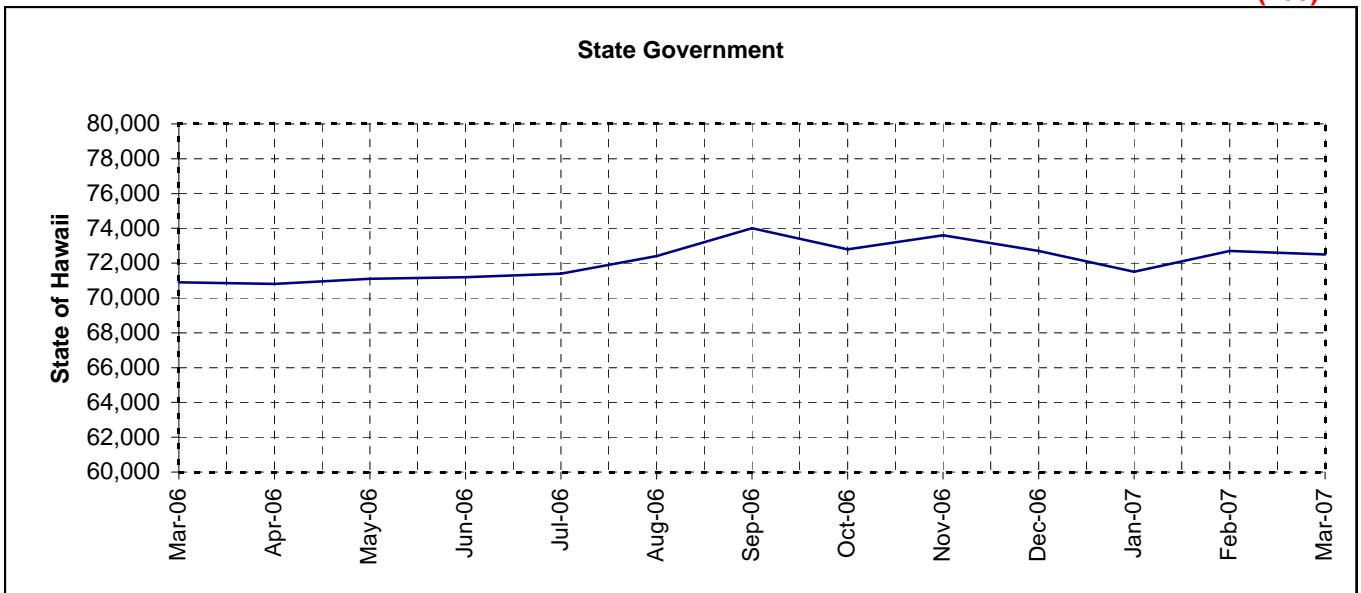
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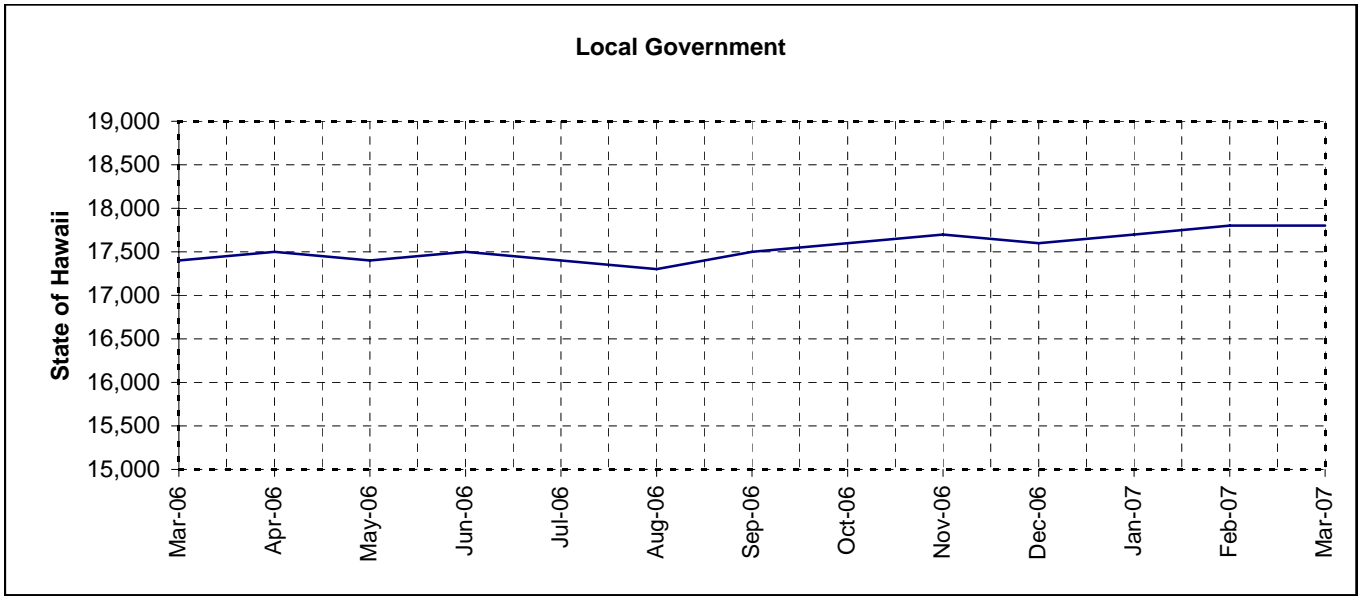


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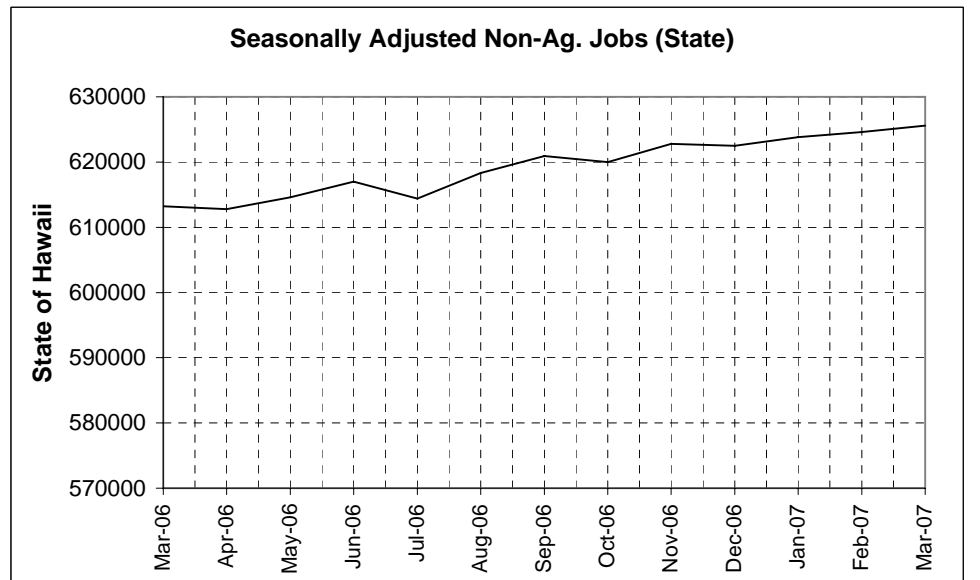
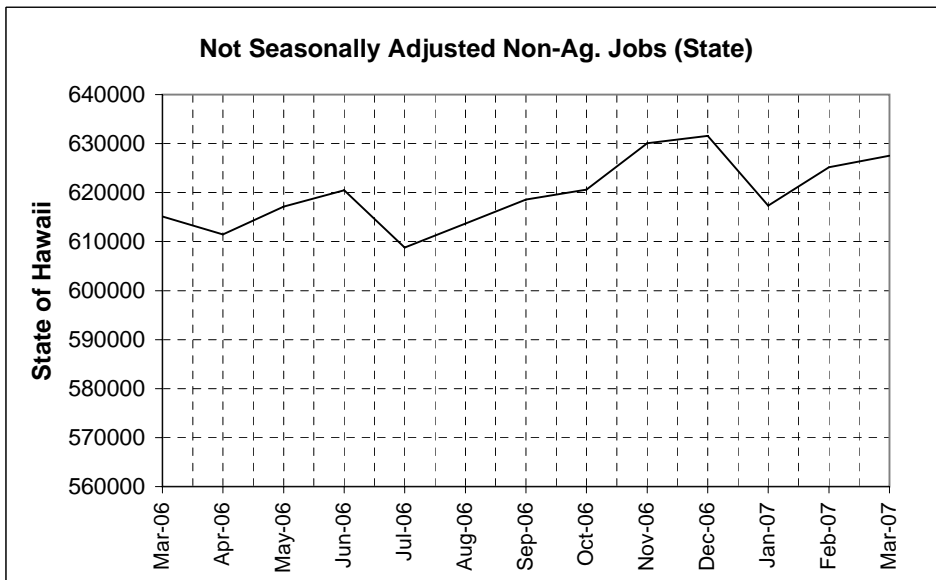
Not Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs (State)

	Mar-07	Feb-07	Mar-06*
NAT. RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTR.	36,900	36,750	34,900
MANUFACTURING	14,950	14,950	15,150
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	121,000	120,800	119,950
Wholesale Trade	17,850	17,850	17,750
Retail Trade	69,200	69,100	69,850
INFORMATION	10,800	10,950	10,950
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	30,000	29,850	29,850
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	81,400	81,100	77,200
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	72,150	71,750	70,650
Educational Services	14,300	14,050	14,050
Health Care & Social Assistance	57,900	57,700	56,600
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	108,800	108,400	107,750
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	11,450	11,450	11,500
Accommodation & Food Services	97,350	96,950	96,250
OTHER SERVICES	26,450	26,500	25,850
GOVERNMENT	125,100	124,100	122,900
Federal Government	32,000	31,950	31,450
State Government	75,450	74,600	74,200
Local Government	17,650	17,600	17,250
TOTAL: STATE	627,500	625,150	615,100
TOTAL: HONOLULU MSA	461,600	460,100	452,650

Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs (State)

SELECTED SERIES:	Mar-07	Feb-07	Mar-06*
NATURAL RESOURCES, MINING AND CONSTRUCTION	37,200	37,000	35,400
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	121,800	121,400	120,800
Wholesale Trade**	17,800	17,800	17,800
Retail Trade**	70,000	69,700	70,500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	71,900	71,700	70,500
Educational Services**	13,900	13,800	13,800
Health Care and Social Assistance**	58,000	57,900	56,700
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	109,000	108,300	107,500
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation**	11,500	11,400	11,500
Accommodation & Food Services**	97,500	96,900	96,000
OTHER SERVICES	26,500	26,700	25,900
GOVERNMENT	122,400	122,500	119,900
Federal Government**	32,100	32,000	31,600
State Government**	72,500	72,700	70,900
Local Government**	17,800	17,800	17,400
TOTAL: STATE	625,600	624,600	613,200
TOTAL: HONOLULU MSA**	459,700	459,000	450,900

* BENCHMARKED DATA ** NEW SERIES



LABOR FORCE AND JOBCOUNT ESTIMATES
March 2007 Report, Statewide

	DEPARTMENT OF LABOR -- LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES							
	STATEWIDE							
	(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)							
	Mar-07	Feb-07	Mar-06	CHANGE FROM ONE MONTH AGO		CHANGE FROM ONE YEAR AGO		
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	655.5	647.3	640.4	8.2	1.3%	15.1	2.4%	
TOTAL EMPLOYED	640.1	633.9	624.8	6.2	1.0%	15.3	2.4%	
UNEMPLOYED	15.4	13.5	15.6	1.9	14.1%	-0.2	-1.3%	
percent of Labor Force	2.4%	2.1%	2.4%					
Total Nonfarm	627.5	625.2	615.1	2.3	0.4%	12.4	2.0%	
Total Private	502.4	501.1	492.2	1.4	0.3%	10.2	2.1%	
Goods Producing	51.8	51.7	50.1	0.1	0.2%	1.8	3.5%	
Service-Providing	575.7	573.5	565.0	2.2	0.4%	10.7	1.9%	
Private Service-Providing	450.6	449.4	442.1	1.3	0.3%	8.5	1.9%	
Nat. Res & Construct	36.9	36.7	34.9	0.1	0.4%	2.0	5.7%	
Construction of Buildings	12.6	12.4	11.3	0.1	-1.4%	1.3	8.6%	
Special Trade Contractors	19.0	19.0	18.4	0.0	1.2%	0.5	11.3%	
Manufacturing	14.9	15.0	15.2	0.0	-0.3%	-0.2	-1.6%	
Durable Goods	4.4	4.4	4.5	0.0	-0.5%	-0.1	-1.2%	
Non-Durable Goods	10.5	10.5	10.7	0.0	-0.2%	-0.2	-1.8%	
Trade, Transportation,	121.0	120.8	119.9	0.2	0.2%	1.1	0.9%	
Wholesale Trade	17.8	17.8	17.7	0.0	0.0%	0.1	0.5%	
Retail Trade	69.2	69.1	69.8	0.1	0.2%	-0.6	-0.9%	
Food and Beverage Sto	12.8	12.9	12.8	-0.1	-0.5%	0.0	0.3%	
Grocery Stores	10.6	10.7	10.7	-0.1	-1.1%	-0.1	-0.7%	
Clothing and Clothing	11.8	11.7	11.4	0.1	1.1%	0.4	3.7%	
General Merchandise S	12.4	12.3	12.2	0.1	0.7%	0.2	1.3%	
Department Stores	9.1	9.0	9.2	0.1	1.2%	-0.1	-0.9%	
Trans,Warehouse, Util	33.9	33.9	32.4	0.1	0.2%	1.6	4.9%	
Utilities	3.0	3.0	2.9	0.0	0.2%	0.1	1.8%	
Transport & Warehouse	31.0	30.9	29.4	0.1	0.2%	1.5	5.2%	
Air Transportation	10.2	10.1	10.2	0.1	0.7%	0.0	-0.2%	
Information	10.8	11.0	10.9	-0.2	-1.5%	-0.1	-1.2%	
Telecommunications	4.2	4.2	4.1	0.0	-0.6%	0.1	2.7%	
Financial Activities	30.0	29.9	29.8	0.2	0.5%	0.2	0.6%	
Finance and Insurance	17.1	17.0	16.8	0.1	0.8%	0.4	2.3%	
Real Estate and Renta	12.9	12.9	13.1	0.0	0.2%	-0.2	-1.6%	
Professional and Busin	81.4	81.1	77.2	0.3	0.4%	4.2	5.5%	
Professional, Scienti	24.6	24.6	24.2	0.0	0.1%	0.4	1.7%	
Management of Compani	7.7	7.7	7.5	0.0	0.6%	0.2	2.7%	
Administrative and Su	49.1	48.8	45.5	0.2	0.5%	3.6	7.9%	
Employment Services	19.7	19.5	17.0	0.2	1.1%	2.8	16.3%	
Educational and Health	72.2	71.8	70.7	0.4	0.6%	1.5	2.2%	
Educational Services	14.3	14.1	14.1	0.2	1.6%	0.2	1.6%	
Elementary and Second	7.3	7.3	7.0	0.0	0.1%	0.3	3.7%	
Health Care and Socia	57.9	57.7	56.6	0.2	0.3%	1.3	2.3%	
Ambulatory Health Car	22.9	22.8	22.6	0.1	0.5%	0.3	1.4%	
Hospitals	14.1	14.1	13.8	0.0	-0.1%	0.3	2.2%	
Nursing and Residenti	6.7	6.7	6.7	0.0	0.3%	0.0	0.3%	
Social Assistance	14.2	14.1	13.5	0.1	0.5%	0.6	4.8%	
Leisure and Hospitalit	108.8	108.4	107.7	0.4	0.4%	1.1	1.0%	
Arts, Entertainment,	11.4	11.4	11.5	0.0	0.0%	0.0	-0.4%	
Accommodation and Foo	97.4	97.0	96.2	0.4	0.4%	1.1	1.2%	
Accommodation	39.1	39.0	39.1	0.1	0.2%	0.1	0.2%	
Food Services and Dri	58.2	57.9	57.2	0.3	0.6%	1.1	1.8%	
Full-Service Restaura	30.0	29.8	29.5	0.1	0.4%	0.4	1.5%	
Other Services	26.4	26.5	25.9	-0.1	-0.3%	0.6	2.2%	
Government	125.1	124.1	122.9	1.0	0.8%	2.2	1.8%	
Federal Government	32.0	31.9	31.5	0.1	0.2%	0.5	1.7%	
Ship Building & Repai	4.0	4.0	4.2	0.1	0.4%	0.0	-0.1%	
Department of Defense	16.5	16.5	16.5	0.0	0.4%	-0.2	-4.4%	
State Government	75.5	74.6	74.2	0.9	1.2%	1.3	1.7%	
State Govt. Education	51.0	50.2	50.1	0.8	1.7%	0.9	1.8%	
Local Government	17.6	17.6	17.2	0.1	0.3%	0.4	2.3%	

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES- NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	MAR 2007	FEB 2007	* MAR 2006
STATE	2.4	2.1	2.4
HONOLULU	2.3	2.0	2.3
HAWAII COUNTY	3.0	2.6	3.0
KAUAI	2.3	2.0	2.8
MAUI COUNTY	2.2	2.0	2.4
Maui Island	2.1	1.9	2.3
Molokai	4.6	5.2	4.3
Lanai	2.8	1.7	2.2
U. S.	4.5	4.9	4.8

* county data preliminary- subject to Bureau of Labor Statistics approval

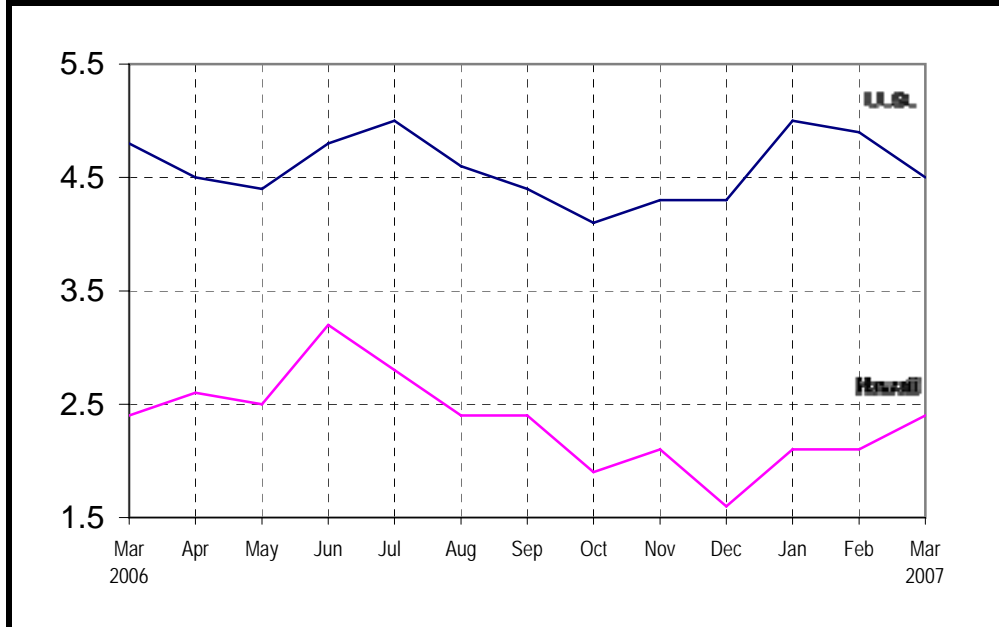
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES- SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	MAR 2007	FEB 2007	MAR 2006
STATE	2.5	2.3	2.6
U. S.	4.4	4.5	4.7

State of Hawaii Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Data**			
	<u>Mar 2007</u>	<u>Feb 2007</u>	<u>Mar 2006</u>
Labor Force	655,450	649,000	641,000
Employment	639,400	634,150	624,200
Unemployment	16,100	14,850	16,850

** totals may not add up due to rounding

	Mar 2006	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar 2007
U. S.	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.8	5.0	4.6	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.3	5.0	4.9	4.5
Hawaii	2.4	2.6	2.5	3.2	2.8	2.4	2.4	1.9	2.1	1.6	2.1	2.1	2.4



	Mar 2006	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar 2007
U. S.	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.4
Hawaii	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.5

