



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

**News Release**

**LINDA LINGLE**  
GOVERNOR

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**HAWAII SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 3.0 PERCENT IN FEBRUARY**

**4,100 Jobs Created Over-The-Month as State Unemployment Rate Remains Significantly Lower than the Nation's**

**HONOLULU-** The Hawaii State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations announced today that the February statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 3.0 percent, showing little change over the revised January estimate of 2.9 percent. Since April 2004, Hawaii's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has been below 3.5 percent and has been at or below 3.0 percent over the last three months. One year ago, Hawaii's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate stood at 3.6. In February, the statewide seasonally adjusted labor force totaled 628,000 and was composed of 609,100 employed and 18,850 unemployed.

The U.S. seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in February was 5.4 percent, increasing from 5.2 percent in January. For the past twelve months, Hawaii's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has been over two percentage points lower than the national seasonally adjusted unemployment rate. In February 2004, the seasonally adjusted national unemployment rate was 5.6 percent.

In a separate measure of employment, total statewide seasonally adjusted nonagricultural jobs expanded in February over January by 4,100 to 592,000. Compared with one year ago, the seasonally adjusted jobcount has grown by 17,100 or 3.0 percent.

Over-the-month, notable job gains were experienced in Government (+2,100) and Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (+1,100), while increases also occurred in Leisure and Hospitality (+500) and Construction (+300).

Government employment increased largely due to the scheduled return of hourly positions at the Department of Education. Hiring in response to a busy cruise season was a major contributing factor to the rise in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities. The remaining seasonally adjusted industries were relatively stable, with Manufacturing, Education & Health Services, and Other Services declining by 100 jobs each.

"We are pleased to see Hawaii's employment growing, adding nearly 28,200 new jobs since December of 2002, which continues Hawaii's record high levels of employment," said Nelson B. Befitel, Director of labor and Industrial Relations. "It is especially satisfying to note that for that for 29 straight months in a row, Hawaii's unemployment rate has remained far below the national rate."

"Hawaii's employment situation is solid and continues to be strong and steady as our economy continues its positive growth," continued Befitel.

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**LABOR FORCE AND JOBCOUNT ESTIMATES**  
**February 2005 Report, Statewide**

	DEPARTMENT OF LABOR -- LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES							
	STATEWIDE							
	<b>(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)</b>							
	Feb-05	Jan-05	Feb-04	CHANGE FROM ONE MONTH AGO		CHANGE FROM ONE YEAR AGO		
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	626.0	622.4	612.5	3.6	0.6%	13.5	2.2%	
TOTAL EMPLOYED	608.9	604.9	592.6	4.0	0.7%	16.3	2.8%	
UNEMPLOYED	17.1	17.5	19.8	-0.4	-2.3%	-2.7	-13.6%	
percent of Labor Force	2.7%	2.8%	3.2%					
Total Nonfarm	591.9	584.3	574.3	7.5	1.3%	17.6	3.1%	
Total Private	470.9	468.1	453.4	2.7	0.6%	17.5	3.9%	
Goods Producing	45.8	45.6	43.2	0.3	0.6%	2.6	6.0%	
Service-Providing	546.0	538.7	531.0	7.3	1.4%	15.0	2.8%	
Private Service-Providing	425.0	422.5	410.1	2.5	0.6%	14.9	3.6%	
Nat. Res & Construct	30.4	30.1	27.9	0.3	1.0%	2.5	9.0%	
Construction of Buildings	9.8	9.6	8.7	0.2	6.1%	1.0	15.6%	
Special Trade Contractors	16.1	16.1	15.0	0.1	2.0%	1.1	12.0%	
Manufacturing	15.5	15.5	15.4	0.0	-0.2%	0.1	0.7%	
Durable Goods	4.4	4.4	4.3	0.0	0.1%	0.1	1.8%	
Non-Durable Goods	11.1	11.1	11.1	0.0	-0.3%	0.0	0.2%	
Trade, Transportation,	114.2	114.3	108.7	-0.1	-0.1%	5.5	5.0%	
Wholesale Trade	17.3	17.2	16.8	0.1	0.6%	0.5	2.9%	
Retail Trade	67.6	68.1	65.1	-0.5	-0.7%	2.5	3.9%	
Food and Beverage Sto	12.8	12.7	12.7	0.1	0.5%	0.1	1.1%	
Grocery Stores	10.7	10.6	10.5	0.0	0.4%	0.1	1.4%	
Clothing and Clothing	10.4	10.7	9.6	-0.3	-3.2%	0.8	8.6%	
General Merchandise S	12.3	12.6	10.8	-0.3	-2.3%	1.5	14.2%	
Department Stores	9.0	9.2	8.0	-0.2	-2.3%	1.0	12.3%	
Trans,Warehouse, Util	29.3	29.1	26.9	0.2	0.8%	2.4	9.1%	
Utilities	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	-0.2%	0.1	5.1%	
Transport & Warehouse	26.5	26.3	24.2	0.2	0.9%	2.3	9.5%	
Air Transportation	10.2	10.3	10.1	0.0	-0.2%	0.2	1.6%	
Information	11.2	11.3	10.1	-0.1	-0.7%	1.1	10.9%	
Telecommunications	3.7	3.8	3.8	-0.1	-1.6%	0.0	-0.9%	
Financial Activities	29.0	28.8	28.5	0.2	0.8%	0.5	1.7%	
Finance and Insurance	16.5	16.5	16.3	0.0	0.2%	0.2	1.0%	
Real Estate and Renta	12.5	12.3	12.2	0.2	1.6%	0.3	2.7%	
Professional and Busin	71.7	71.1	70.1	0.6	0.8%	1.6	2.2%	
Professional, Scienti	23.3	23.0	22.7	0.3	1.2%	0.6	2.5%	
Management of Compani	6.9	6.9	6.8	0.0	-0.6%	0.1	1.7%	
Administrative and Su	41.5	41.1	40.6	0.4	0.9%	0.9	2.2%	
Employment Services	15.1	14.8	14.2	0.2	1.6%	0.8	5.9%	
Educational and Health	69.0	68.1	66.5	0.9	1.3%	2.5	3.8%	
Educational Services	13.7	13.1	12.9	0.6	4.3%	0.7	5.7%	
Elementary and Second	7.1	6.8	6.6	0.3	4.2%	0.6	8.4%	
Health Care and Socia	55.3	55.0	53.6	0.3	0.6%	1.8	3.3%	
Ambulatory Health Car	21.6	21.7	21.0	0.0	-0.1%	0.7	3.2%	
Hospitals	14.1	14.0	14.2	0.1	0.8%	0.0	-0.3%	
Nursing and Residenti	6.5	6.5	6.1	0.0	0.4%	0.5	7.5%	
Social Assistance	13.0	12.8	12.4	0.2	1.6%	0.7	5.5%	
Leisure and Hospitalit	106.0	105.2	102.1	0.8	0.8%	3.9	3.8%	
Arts, Entertainment,	11.7	11.5	11.3	0.1	1.3%	0.3	2.9%	
Accommodation and Foo	94.3	93.7	90.7	0.7	0.7%	3.6	4.0%	
Accommodation	38.8	38.8	37.3	0.0	0.0%	1.5	4.1%	
Food Services and Dri	55.6	54.9	53.5	0.7	1.2%	2.1	3.9%	
Full-Service Restaura	28.8	28.3	27.7	0.5	1.8%	1.1	4.0%	
Other Services	23.9	23.8	24.1	0.1	0.5%	-0.2	-0.8%	
Government	121.0	116.2	120.9	4.8	4.1%	0.1	0.1%	
Federal Government	31.0	31.2	31.5	-0.2	-0.5%	-0.4	-1.3%	
Ship Building & Repai	4.2	4.1	4.3	0.0	0.6%	-0.1	-2.8%	
Department of Defense	16.5	16.5	16.6	0.0	-0.1%	-0.1	-0.4%	
State Government	73.1	68.1	72.6	4.9	7.2%	0.5	0.6%	
State Govt. Education	49.2	44.4	48.8	4.8	10.7%	0.4	0.8%	
Local Government	16.9	16.9	16.8	0.1	0.4%	0.1	0.6%	

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs

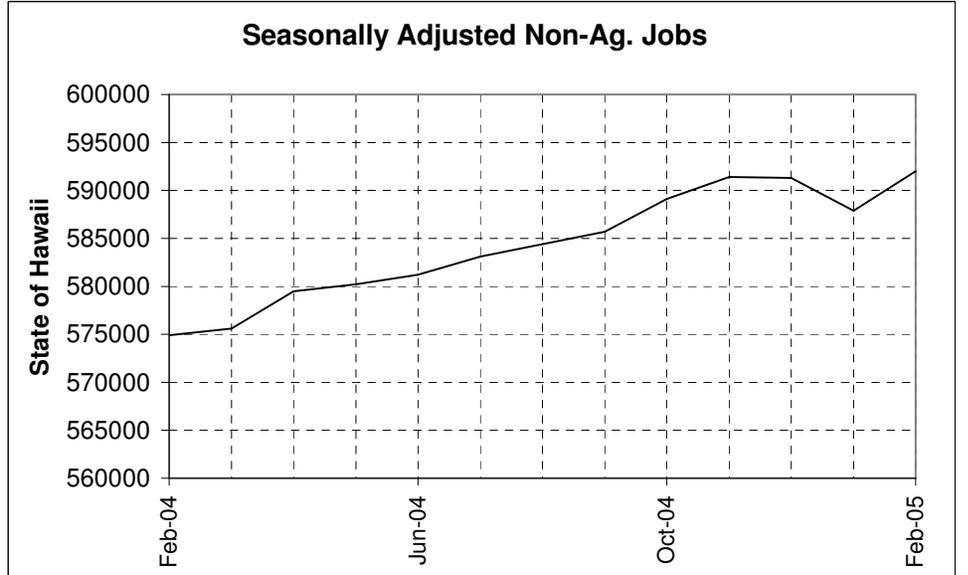
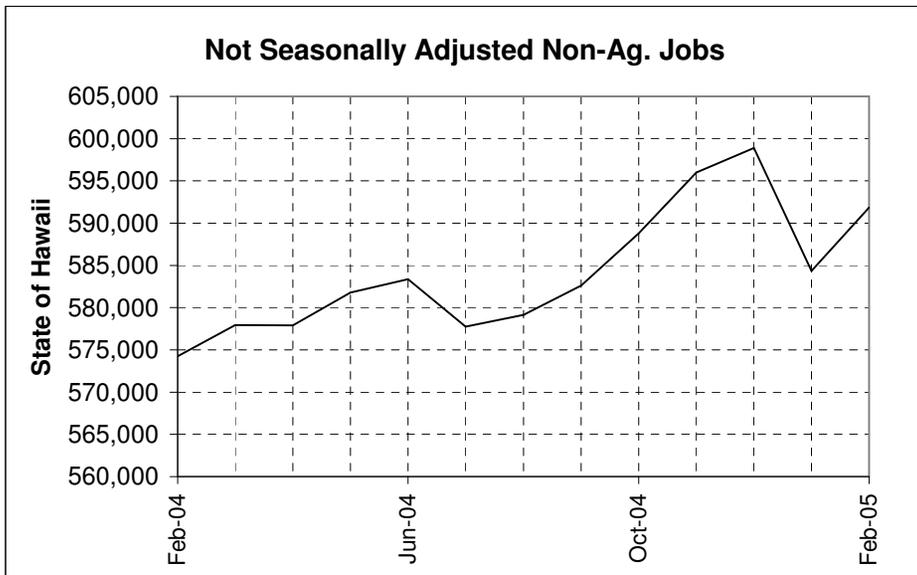
	Feb-05	Jan-05	Feb-04*
NAT. RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTR.	30,400	30,100	27,900
MANUFACTURING	15,450	15,500	15,350
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	114,200	114,350	108,750
INFORMATION	11,250	11,300	10,100
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	29,050	28,800	28,550
PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS SERVICES	71,700	71,100	70,100
EDUCATIONAL & HEALTH SERVICES	69,000	68,100	66,500
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	106,000	105,200	102,050
OTHER SERVICES	23,850	23,750	24,050
GOVERNMENT	121,000	116,200	120,850
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>591,850</b>	<b>584,350</b>	<b>574,250</b>

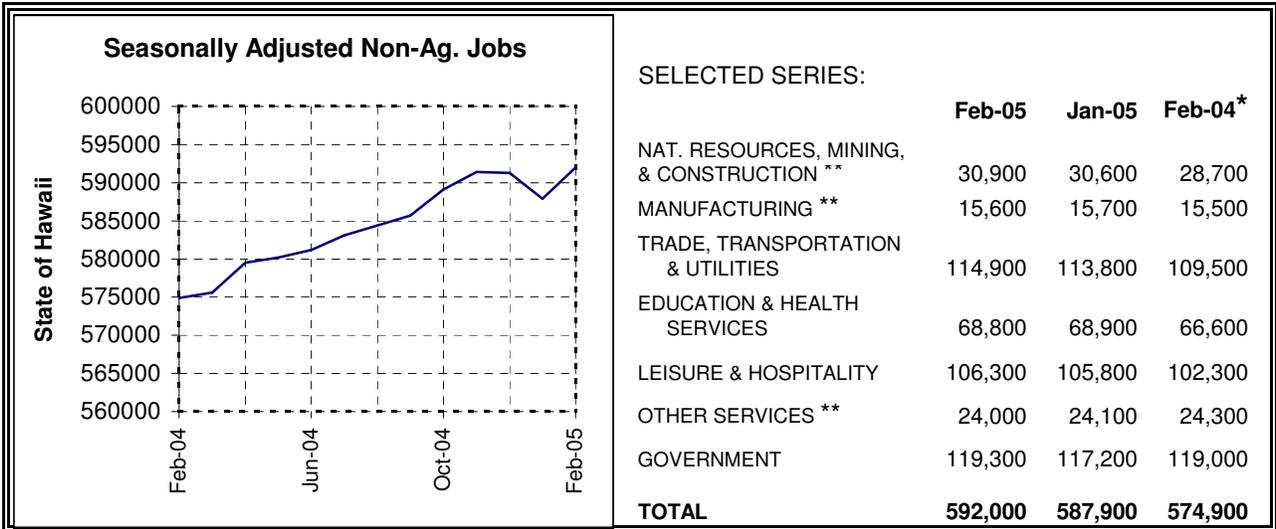
\* BENCHMARKED DATA

### Seasonally Adjusted Non-Ag. Jobs

	Feb-05	Jan-05	Feb-04*
NAT. RESOURCES, MINING & CONSTR. **	30,900	30,600	28,700
MANUFACTURING **	15,600	15,700	15,500
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	114,900	113,800	109,500
EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH SERVICES	68,800	68,900	66,600
LEISURE & HOSPITALITY	106,300	105,800	102,300
OTHER SERVICES **	24,000	24,100	24,300
GOVERNMENT	119,300	117,200	119,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>592,000</b>	<b>587,900</b>	<b>574,900</b>

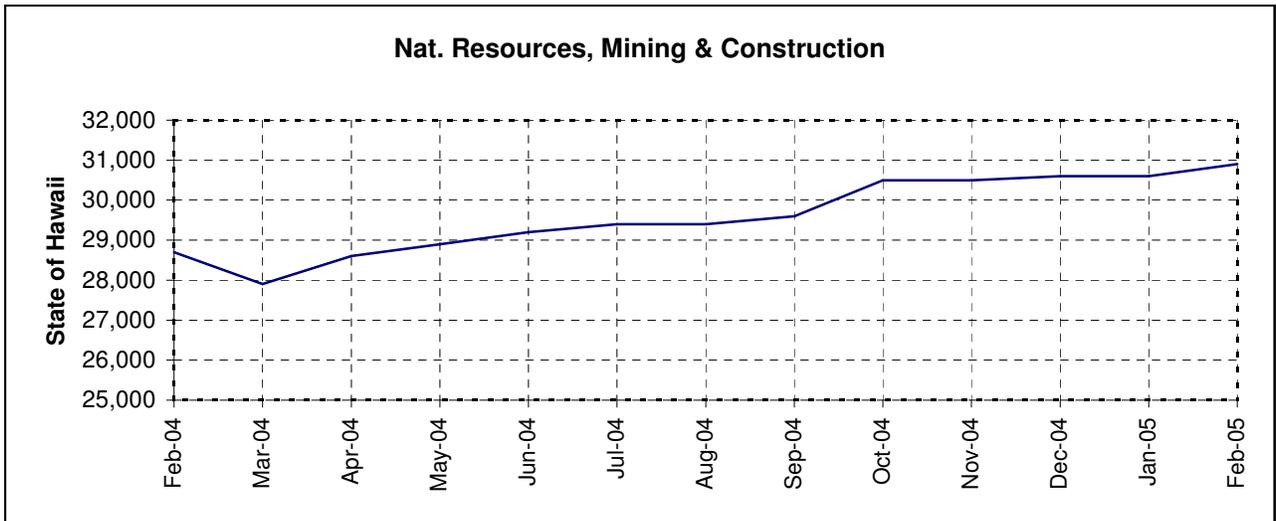
\*\* NEW SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES





\* BENCHMARKED DATA; \*\* NEW SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES

**300**



**(100)**

