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NEWS



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The Unemployment Situation on Guam: March 2015

The Unemployment rate in Guam for March 2015 was 6.9 percent, a 0.8 percentage point reduction from the December 2014 figure of 7.7 percent. In a comparison to one year ago, in March 2014, the unemployment rate declined by 0.5 percentage points from 7.4 percent. An increase in the number of jobs and persons employed over the year contributed to the decline in the unemployment rate.

The total number of persons unemployed in March 2015 was 4,840.

In comparison to the prior year's figure of March 2014, there was a moderate increase in the Not in the Labor Force category. This group represents both discouraged workers who are available for work but did not look and those who are not available for work but would like to work if child care, school attendance and family responsibilities did not restrict their availability for work. The Not in the Labor Force category is primarily composed of retirees, homemakers and students.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Data on labor force, employment, and unemployment are derived from the sample survey of households conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in its Current Labor Force Statistics program. These periodic surveys of the population are conducted with a scientifically selected sample of households designed to represent the civilian non-institutional population. Respondents are interviewed to obtain information about the employment status of each member of the household 16 years of age and over. The inquiry relates to activity or status during the calendar week, Sunday through Saturday, which includes the 12th of the month. This is known as the survey week. Actual field interviewing is conducted in the following weeks.

Inmates of institutions, members of the Armed Forces, civilian living in military installations and housings, persons under 16 years of age, and nonimmigrant aliens are not covered in the periodic enumerations and are excluded from this report. Included in this report are citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Marshall Islands, who are authorized by the Compact of Free Association to accept employment in the United States and also, citizens of the Republic of Palau which are authorized to accept employment through the Covenant with the U.S. in October 1994.

Employed persons comprise (a) all those within the scope of the survey who, during the survey week did any work at all as paid employees, in their own business, profession, or farm or who worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of the family, and (b) all those were not working but who had jobs or business from which they were absent because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor-management dispute, or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid by their employers for the time off, and whether or not they were seeking other jobs.

Each employed person is counted only once. For those who hold more than one job, the job which they worked the greatest number of hours during the reference period is the one counted.

Excluded are persons whose only activity consisted of work around the house (such as, own home housework, and painting or repairing own home) or volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations.

Unemployed persons comprise of all persons within the scope of the survey, who did not work during the survey week, who made specific efforts to find a job within the past 4 weeks, and who were available for work during the survey week (except for temporary illness). Also included as unemployed are those who did not work at all, were available for work, and (a) were waiting to be called back to a job from which they were laid off; or (b) were waiting to report to a new wage or salary job within 30 days.

The **civilian labor force** comprises the total of all civilians as employed or unemployed in accordance with the criteria described above.

Not in the labor force includes all civilians within the scope of the survey 16 years and over who are not classified as employed or unemployed. Persons doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours) are also classified as not in the labor force.

Reliability of the estimates Statistics based on the household and establishment surveys are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed, there is a chance that the sample estimates may differ from the true population values they represent.

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TABLE 1. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION ON GUAM: MARCH 2015

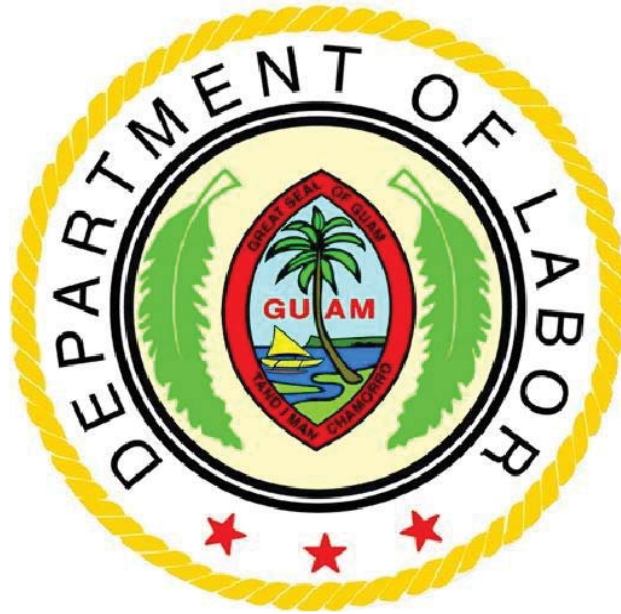
SELECTED CATEGORIES	Dec 2013	Mar 2014	Jun 2014	Sep 2014	Dec 2014	Mar 2015
Total Civilian Population						
16 years of age and over	121,570	121,370	121,820	121,280	121,850	121,160
Civilian Labor Force	70,490	72,070	70,530	71,060	74,870	70,420
Total Employed	64,550	66,720	64,150	66,020	69,110	65,580
Adult women	29,900	29,690	28,090	31,090	32,210	30,210
Adult men	33,350	35,140	33,780	32,310	35,620	34,190
Teenagers	1,290	1,890	2,280	2,620	1,280	1,180
Household Heads	28,120	25,810	24,290	25,150	28,580	25,800
Full-time workers	53,260	52,980	52,500	54,140	55,460	53,430
Part-time workers	11,290	13,740	11,640	11,880	13,650	12,150
U.S. Citizens	50,290	50,880	49,090	55,190	51,620	51,060
Immigrant aliens	14,260	15,840	15,060	10,830	17,490	14,510
Veterans	4,940	3,570	2,910	2,970	3,630	3,330
Total Unemployed	5,940	5,350	6,380	5,390	5,760	4,840
Not in the Labor Force	51,080	49,300	51,290	50,320	46,710	50,740

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES%						
All Workers	8.4	7.4	9.0	7.6	7.7	6.9
Adult women	9.6	5.3	7.4	7.5	9.6	6.3
Adult men	6.6	7.2	8.4	6.9	5.6	6.5
Teenagers	33.3	33.3	34.2	21.4	14.3	26.7
Household Heads	6.6	2.4	6.0	5.6	6.9	4.0
Full-time workers	7.6	8.5	10.9	7.8	7.5	7.4
Part-time workers	12.3	3.0	1.2	8.0	8.6	4.2
U.S. Citizens	6.6	8.0	9.2	6.8	6.6	7.2
Immigrants Aliens	14.3	5.6	9.4	12.9	10.9	5.6

TABLE 2. EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AND JOB DESIRE OF PERSONS OUTSIDE THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND REASON NOT SEEKING WORK: MARCH 2015

CATEGORIES	Dec 2013	Mar 2014	Jun 2014	Sep 2014	Dec 2014	Mar 2015
Not in the Labor Force	51,080	49,300	51,290	50,320	46,710	50,740
Did not want a job during survey period	43,360	44,790	45,900	45,390	41,810	43,970
Want job during survey period but did not look for work	7,720	4,510	5,390	4,830	4,910	6,770
Reasons for not looking for work:						
Believe no job available	200	110	500	340	210	220
Cannot find work	1,390	1,260	1,760	950	850	860
School attendance	1,390	730	880	1,400	1,490	2,370
Family Responsibility	800	530	1,000	520	1,410	1,290
Cannot arrange child care	2,380	530	630	810	640	650
Others	1,580	1,360	750	810	430	2,690

NOTES: Sum of details may not equal totals due to rounding. Respondents may list more than one reason for not looking for work. For coverage of survey and definitions, refer to EXPLANATORY NOTE.



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