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The Unemployment Situation on Guam: December 2012

The Unemployment rate in Guam for December 2012 was 10.7 percent, a decrease of 0.2 percentage points from the September 2012 figure of 10.9 percent and a decrease of 1.1 percentage points from the March 2012 figure of 11.8 percent.

The total number of persons unemployed in December 2012 was 7,800, which shows a slight decrease of 170, in the latest quarter, and a decrease of 260 since March 2012.

Guam's population covered by the survey, 16 years of age and over in December 2012 was 121,340, which shows an increase of 200, in the latest quarter, and an increase of 530 since March 2012.

The unemployment rate went down reflecting a decreased number of persons unemployed and an increase in the number of persons counted in the Not in the Labor Force category. The number of persons Not in the Labor Force increased by 620 from 48,160 in September 2012 to 48,780 in December 2012. For the December 2012 survey period, 12,390 persons, or 25 percent, in the Not in the Labor Force category indicated that they wanted a job but did not look for work for a variety of reasons. Whereas, 75 percent in the Not in the Labor Force category indicated that they did not want a job during the survey period.

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.

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TABLE 1. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION ON GUAM: DECEMBER 2012

SELECTED CATEGORIES	Mar 2011	Mar 2012	Jun 2012	Sep 2012	Dec 2012
Total Civilian Population					
16 years of age and over	119,720	120,810	120,910	121,140	121,340
Civilian Labor Force	74,950	68,400	72,890	72,980	72,560
Total Employed	64,970	60,340	62,700	65,010	64,770
Adult women	29,010	28,320	27,620	27,050	30,190
Adult men	34,110	30,790	32,970	33,480	32,980
Teenagers	1,860	1,440	2,110	2,040	1,600
Household Heads	26,860	25,320	25,520	24,800	27,190
Full-time workers	54,450	50,920	50,620	52,380	52,370
Part-time workers	10,520	9,460	12,090	9,960	12,390
U.S. Citizens	51,470	47,070	50,110	52,600	49,980
Immigrant aliens	13,500	13,230	12,590	9,960	14,793
Veterans	4,150	4,350	3,410	3,800	4,800
Total Unemployed	9,970	8,060	10,190	7,970	7,800
Not in the Labor Force	44,770	52,410	48,020	48,160	48,780

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES%					
All Workers	13.3	11.8	14.0	10.9	10.7
Adult women	14.8	12.0	11.7	8.8	9.6
Adult men	10.0	10.5	14.5	10.8	9.3
Teenagers	38.6	34.5	30.5	31.5	42.8
Household Heads	8.7	7.2	9.4	6.3	6.2
Full-time workers	13.4	11.9	14.8	11.2	11.5
Part-time workers	12.9	11.5	10.2	9.3	7.5
U.S. Citizens	12.4	11.0	13.9	11.2	9.4
Immigrants Aliens	16.4	14.8	14.2	9.1	14.9

TABLE 2. EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AND JOB DESIRE OF PERSONS OUTSIDE THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND REASON NOT SEEKING WORK: DECEMBER 2012

CATEGORIES	Mar 2011	Mar 2012	Jun 2012	Sep 2012	Dec 2012
Not in the Labor Force	44,770	52,410	48,020	48,160	48,780
Did not want a job during survey period	35,450	41,960	38,560	39,970	36,380
Want job during survey period but did not look for work	9,320	10,450	9,460	8,190	12,390
Reasons for not looking for work:					
Believe no job available	550	670	-	490	200
Cannot find work	1,380	1,110	780	490	1,200
School attendance	2,620	5,200	2,870	3,270	5,000
Family Responsibility	2,080	3,100	3,080	2,950	4,000
Cannot arrange child care	1,060	530	1,030	660	1,400
Others	2,840	1,930	2,400	1,960	2,800

NOTES: Sum of details may not equal totals due to rounding. For coverage of survey and definitions, refer to EXPLANATORY NOTE.