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The Unemployment Situation on Guam: September 2017

The Unemployment rate in Guam for September 2017 was 5.8 percent, an increase of 1.3 percentage points from the previous report of June 2017. In a comparison to the prior year's figure of September 2016, the rate increased 0.4 percentage points, from 5.4 percent.

The total number of persons unemployed in June 2017 was 4,130, which shows an increase of 220 from the September 2017 figure of 3,910.

In comparison to the prior year's figure of September 2016, there was a slight increase in the Not in the Labor Force category. For the September 2017 survey period, 2,670 persons or five percent indicated that they wanted a job but did not look for work for a variety of reasons. Alternatively, 95 percent of those in the Not in the Labor Force category indicated that they did not want a job during the survey period.

The labor force participation rate was 58.4 percent. The labor force participation rate is the percent of the total civilian population age 16 years of age or older in the labor force as either employed or unemployed. The participation rate was virtually unchanged from the period one year earlier in September 2016 when it was 58.9 percent.

As the statistics in this report are from a sample survey, some changes in reported figures over time could be due to sample error as well as changes in the labor force.

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: SEPTEMBER 2017

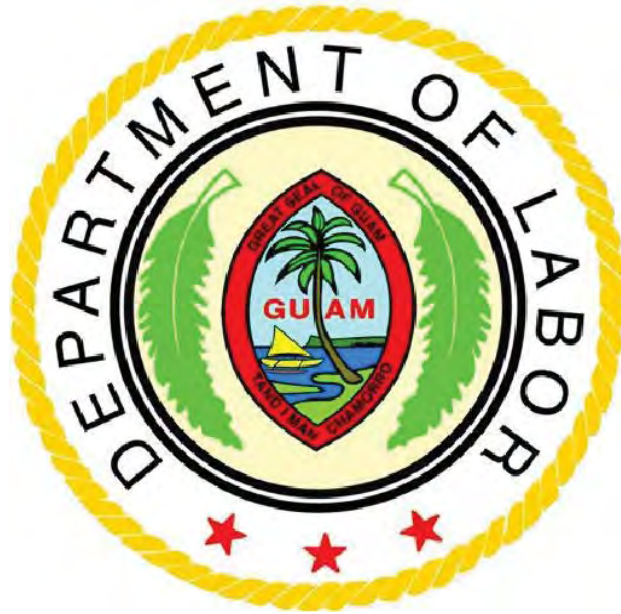
| SELECTED CATEGORIES | Mar 2016 | Jun 2016 | Sep 2016 | Mar 2017 | Jun 2017 | Sep 2017 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Total Civilian Population | | | | | | |
| 16 years of age and over | 121,770 | 121,970 | 122,170 | 122,380 | 122,440 | 122,540 |
| Civilian Labor Force | 69,400 | 71,420 | 71,960 | 72,510 | 73,900 | 71,600 |
| Total Employed | 66,600 | 68,650 | 68,050 | 69,360 | 70,570 | 67,470 |
| Adult women | 29,490 | 32,270 | 29,280 | 32,390 | 30,870 | 31,490 |
| Adult men | 35,080 | 34,190 | 37,140 | 35,390 | 38,690 | 34,540 |
| Teenagers | 2,030 | 2,190 | 1,630 | 1,580 | 1,010 | 1,440 |
| Household Heads | 25,800 | 24,610 | 24,670 | 29,380 | 25,500 | 26,270 |
| Full-time workers | 54,780 | 59,080 | 53,950 | 59,040 | 60,710 | 59,560 |
| Part-time workers | 11,820 | 9,570 | 14,100 | 10,320 | 9,860 | 7,910 |
| U.S. Citizens | 52,110 | 55,250 | 56,930 | 50,440 | 52,020 | 50,730 |
| Immigrant aliens | 14,490 | 13,400 | 11,120 | 18,920 | 18,550 | 16,740 |
| Veterans | 4,070 | 5,200 | 3,800 | 4,440 | 5,650 | 3,060 |
| Total Unemployed | 2,800 | 2,770 | 3,910 | 3,150 | 3,330 | 4,130 |
| Not in the Labor Force | 52,370 | 50,550 | 50,210 | 49,870 | 48,540 | 50,940 |

| UNEMPLOYMENT RATES% | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| All Workers | 4.0 | 3.9 | 5.4 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 5.8 |
| Adult women | 2.1 | 3.7 | 2.3 | 5.4 | 3.6 | 3.8 |
| Adult men | 5.2 | 3.4 | 5.8 | 2.8 | 4.6 | 6.7 |
| Teenagers | 11.1 | 12.3 | 34.3 | 15.4 | 22.2 | 23.7 |
| Household Heads | 1.9 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 2.4 | 2.8 | 4.0 |
| Full-time workers | 4.4 | 4.0 | 6.8 | 4.8 | 5.0 | 5.6 |
| Part-time workers | 2.1 | 3.1 | - | 1.4 | 1.5 | 7.2 |
| U.S. Citizens | 4.0 | 4.2 | 5.4 | 5.6 | 4.8 | 4.4 |
| Immigrants Aliens | 4.2 | 2.2 | 5.8 | 0.8 | 3.8 | 9.9 |

TABLE 2. EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AND JOB DESIRE OF PERSONS OUTSIDE THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND REASON NOT SEEKING WORK: SEPTEMBER 2017

| CATEGORIES | Mar 2016 | Jun 2016 | Sep 2016 | Mar 2017 | Jun 2017 | Sep 2017 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Not in the Labor Force | 52,370 | 50,550 | 50,210 | 49,870 | 48,540 | 50,940 |
| Did not want a job during survey period | 4,830 | 45,880 | 46,450 | 43,850 | 43,030 | 48,270 |
| Want job during survey period but did not look for work | 3,940 | 4,670 | 3,760 | 6,020 | 5,510 | 2,670 |
| Reasons for not looking for work: | | | | | | |
| Believe no job available | 250 | - | - | 860 | 730 | 180 |
| Cannot find work | 510 | 280 | 270 | 1,430 | 1,740 | 180 |
| School attendance | 1,270 | 280 | 1,070 | 1,000 | 1,160 | 530 |
| Family Responsibility | 640 | 1,920 | 1,610 | 2,150 | 1,160 | 890 |
| Cannot arrange child care | 250 | - | - | 430 | 290 | 530 |
| Others | 1,400 | 2,470 | 1,340 | 1,000 | 1,160 | 890 |

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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