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**NEWS**



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## **The Unemployment Situation on Guam: December 2023**

The unemployment rate in Guam for December 2023 was 4.2 percent, an increase of 0.1 percentage points from the September 2023 figure of 4.1 percent, and an increase of 0.2 percentage points from the December 2022 figure one year earlier of 4.0 percent.

The total number of persons unemployed in September 2023 was 2,920, virtually unchanged in the latest quarter over the year. The December 2023 statistics continue the general trend of reduced numbers of unemployed persons along with lower unemployment rates since the pandemic high figures occurred in December 2020. Typhoon Mawar pummeled Guam on May 25, 2023 and temporarily depressed employment as well as the number of persons looking for work.

Guam's population covered by the survey, 16 years of age and over in December 2023 was 122,820. The covered civilian population is comprised of those in the labor force and those not in the labor force.

The December 2023 unemployment rate reflected virtually no change in the number of persons unemployed, however there was an increase in the number of persons that were out of the labor force. The number of persons not in the labor force increased from 49,740 in December 2022 to 53,700 in December 2023.

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# 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. Survey data was collected in four panels in March, June, September and December. The December 2023 published information is an average of the most recent four quarterly samples.

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.

**Acknowledgement** is due to those surveyed individuals whose cooperation and participation made this survey possible.

**TABLE 1. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION ON GUAM: December 2023**

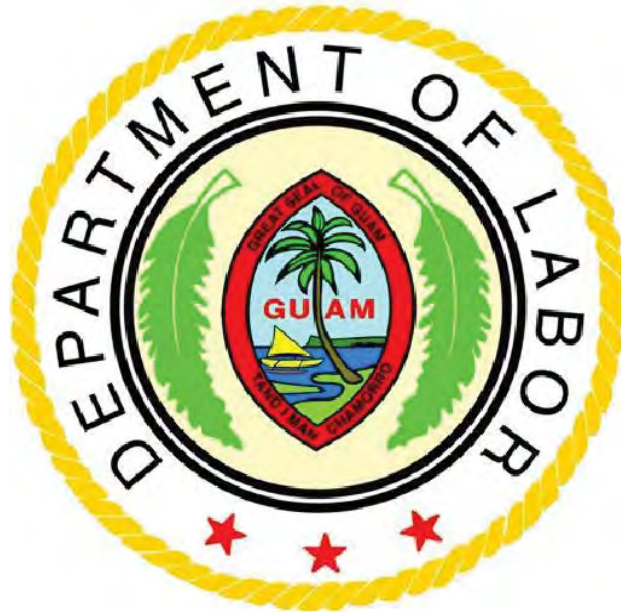
SELECTED CATEGORIES	Sep 2022	Dec 2022	Mar 2023	Jun 2023	Sep 2023	Dec 2023
Total Civilian Population						
16 years of age and over	123,640	123,110	123,160	122,960	122,680	122,820
Civilian Labor Force	71,680	73,370	74,210	70,420	71,990	69,120
Total Employed	68,550	70,460	71,050	67,630	69,010	66,200
Adult women	31,610	30,670	31,970	28,510	32,230	29,630
Adult men	35,370	38,130	36,710	35,210	34,930	34,130
Teenagers	1,570	1,660	2,370	3,910	1,850	2,440
Household Heads	27,540	25,290	31,380	26,280	25,990	26,540
Full-time workers	61,040	65,070	63,940	53,660	60,490	56,610
Part-time workers	7,510	5,390	7,110	13,970	8,520	9,590
U.S. Citizens	59,850	56,780	61,580	59,240	63,900	58,130
Immigrant aliens	8,700	13,680	9,470	8,380	5,110	8,070
Veterans	6,260	4,560	7,110	5,590	5,960	5,080
Total Unemployed	3,130	2,900	3,160	2,790	2,980	2,920
Not in the Labor Force	51,960	49,740	48,950	52,540	50,690	53,700

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES%	Sep 2022	Dec 2022	Mar 2023	Jun 2023	Sep 2023	Dec 2023
All Workers	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.2
Adult women	2.9	3.9	3.6	5.6	3.5	4.2
Adult men	3.4	1.1	3.1	1.6	4.7	4.5
Teenagers	37.5	42.9	-	12.5	-	12.5
Household Heads	5.4	3.2	1.9	4.1	-	2.8
Full-time workers	3.9	4.3	3.6	5.0	2.7	4.2
Part-time workers	7.7	-	-	-	-	-
U.S. Citizens	4.2	3.5	2.8	4.5	4.5	4.3
Immigrants Aliens	6.3	5.7	5.9	-	-	5.9

**TABLE 2. EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AND JOB DESIRE OF PERSONS OUTSIDE THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND REASON NOT SEEKING WORK: December 2023**

CATEGORIES	Sep 2022	Dec 2022	Mar 2023	Jun 2023	Sep 2023	Dec 2023
Not in the Labor Force	51,960	49,740	48,950	52,540	50,690	53,700
Did not want a job during survey period	50,390	49,330	48,360	50,390	49,420	52,420
Want job during survey period but did not look for work	1,570	415	590	2,150	1,280	1,280
Reasons for not looking for work:						
Believe no job available	-	-	590	510	-	550
Cannot find work	-	-	590	510	-	550
School attendance	310	-	-	-	420	420
Family Responsibility	310	-	590	630	-	590
Cannot arrange child care	-	415	-	-	-	-
Others	940	-	-	-	850	850

**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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