BLS BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR GOVERNMENT OF GUAM





DAVID M. DELL'ISOLA, *Director* Gerard A. Toves, *Deputy Director* Gary A. Hiles, *Chief Economist*

P.O. Box 9970, Tamuning, GU 96931 Tel. No: (671) 475-7054 Release No.: 2024-09 For Release: January 30, 2024

The Unemployment Situation on Guam: March 2024

The unemployment rate in Guam for March 2024 was 4.0 percent, a decrease of 0.2 percentage points from the December 2023 figure of 4.2 percent, and a decrease of 0.3 percentage points from the March 2023 figure one year earlier of 4.3 percent.

The total number of persons unemployed in March 2024 was 2,720, a slight decrease in the latest quarter. The March 2024 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 March 2024 was 122,820. The covered civilian population is comprised of those in the labor force and those not in the labor force.

The March 2024 unemployment rate reflected a slight reduction in the number of persons unemployed, however there was also a slight increase in the number of persons that were out of the labor force since December 2023. The number of persons not in the labor force increased from 53,700 in December 2023 to 53,890 in March 2024.

The labor force participation rate, the civilian labor force as a fraction of the civilian population age 16 years of age and over, was virtually unchanged from to 56.2 percent in March 2024 from 56.3 percent in December 2023.

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 inter- viewed 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 March 2024 published information is an average of the 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 be- cause 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 oth- er 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: March 2024

SELECTED CATEGORIES	Dec 2022	Mar 2023	Jun 2023	Sep 2023	Dec 2023	Mar 2024
Total Civilian Polulation						
16 years of age and over	123,110	123,160	122,960	122,680	122,820	122,820
Civilian Labor Force	73,370	74,210	70,420	71,990	69,120	68,930
Total Employed	70,460	71,050	67,630	69,010	66,200	66,210
Adult women	30,670	31,970	28,510	32,230	29,630	29,630
Adult men	38,130	36,710	35,210	34,930	34,130	34,130
Teenagers	1,660	2,370	3,910	1,850	2,440	2,450
Household Heads	25,290	31,380	26,280	25,990	26,540	26,540
Full-time workers	65,070	63,940	53,660	60,490	56,610	56,610
Part-time workers	5,390	7,110	13,970	8,520	9,590	9,600
U.S. Citizens	56,780	61,580	59,240	63,900	58,130	58,130
Immigrant aliens	13,680	9,470	8,380	5,110	8,070	8,080
Veterans	4,560	7,110	5,590	5,960	5,080	5,080
Total Unemployed	2,900	3,160	2,790	2,980	2,920	2,720
Not in the Labor Force	49,740	48,950	52,540	50,690	53,700	53,890
INEMPLOYMENT RATES%						
All Workers	4.0	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.0
Adult women	3.9	3.6	5.6	3.5	4.2	3.2
Adult men	1.1	3.1	1.6	4.7	4.5	4.5
Teenagers	42.9	-	12.5	-	12.5	12.5
Household Heads	3.2	1.9	4.1	-	2.8	2.9
Full-time workers	4.3	3.6	5.0	2.7	4.2	4.2
Part-time workers	-					-
U.S. Citizens	3.5	2.8	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.3
Immigrants Aliens	5.7	5.9	-	-	5.9	5.9

TABLE 2. EMPLOYMENT SITUATION AND JOB DESIRE OF PERSONS OUTSIDE THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND REASON NOT SEEKING WORK: March 2024

CATEGORIES	Dec 2022	Mar 2023	Jun 2023	Sep 2023	Dec 2023	Mar 2024		
Not in the Labor Force	49,740	48,950	52,540	50,690	53,700	53,890		
Did not want a job during survey period	49,330	48,360	50,390	49,420	52,420	52,610		
Want job during survey period but did not								
look for work	415	590	2,150	1,280	1,280	1,280		
Reasons for not looking for work:								
Believe no job available	-	590	510	-	550	550		
Cannot find work	-	590	510	-	550	550		
School attendance	-	-	-	420	420	420		
Family Responsibility	-	590	630	-	590	600		
Cannot arrange child care	415	-	-	-	-	-		
Others	-	-	-	850	850	700		

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.



Bureau of Labor Statistics Department of Labor Government of Guam

P.O. Box 9970 Tamuning, GU 96931

Tel: (671) 475-7054 Fax: (671) 475-7060

http://dol.guam.gov