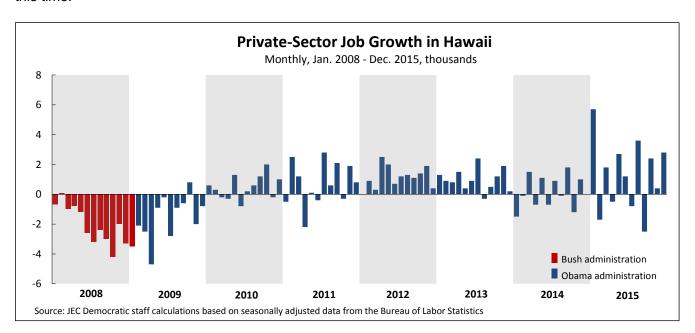
# 2015 YEAR IN REVIEW: HAWAII

\*\*Includes Bureau of Labor Statistics jobs, unemployment and earnings data through December 2015\*\*

\*\*Last updated on January 26th: January 2016 data will be released on March 14th\*\*

## **JOBS**

- In 2015, private-sector employment in Hawaii grew by 15,100 jobs, an average of 1,260 jobs per month. This represents an improvement over the 170 jobs per month added in 2014. In December, Hawaii businesses added 2,800 jobs.
- The state sectors with the greatest job gains in percentage terms in 2015 were: logging, mining and construction at 15.5 percent (4,800 jobs), other services at 8.5 percent (2,200 jobs) and leisure and hospitality at 2.6 percent (3,000 jobs).
- Since February 2010, the national low point for private-sector employment, Hawaii businesses have added 55,900 jobs (an increase of 12.1 percent). Nationally, private payrolls have increased by 13.1 percent over this time.



# **UNEMPLOYMENT**

- The Hawaii unemployment rate fell by 0.8 percentage point in 2015 and was 3.2 percent in December. The rate is 4.1 percentage points below its recent peak of 7.3 percent in October 2009.
- Unemployment in Hawaii was 1.8 percentage points below the national rate of 5.0 percent in December. The rate was down 0.1 percentage point from November.
- There were 22,200 state residents unemployed in December, down 4,900 from one year prior.

## **EARNINGS**

- Adjusting for inflation, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers in Hawaii rose by 1.4 percent in 2015. Nationally, these earnings increased by 1.7 percent (not seasonally adjusted).
- In December, average hourly earnings of private-sector workers were \$24.87. The average workweek was 33.0 hours, and average weekly earnings were \$820.71.

| STATE QUICK FACTS                     |                      |          |               |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|---------------|
|                                       |                      | Hawaii   | United States |
| Private-Sector Jobs Added             | ln 2015              | 15,100   | 2.6 million   |
|                                       | Since Feb. 2010      | 55,900   | 14.1 million  |
|                                       |                      |          |               |
| Unemployment Rate                     | . December 2015      | 3.2%     | 5.0%          |
|                                       | December 2014        | 4.0%     | 5.6%          |
|                                       | Recession-Era Peak   | 7.3%     | 10.0%         |
|                                       |                      |          |               |
| Median Household Income (2014 \$)     | . 2014               | \$71,200 | \$53,700      |
|                                       | 2007 (Pre-Recession) | \$73,100 | \$57,400      |
| Poverty Rate                          | 2014                 | 10.8%    | 14.8%         |
| Poverty Rate                          |                      | , .      |               |
|                                       | 2007 (Pre-Recession) | 7.5%     | 12.5%         |
| All Veterans' Unemployment Rate       | . 2014               | 5.1%     | 5.3%          |
| Post-9/11 Veterans' Unemployment Rate |                      | 12.7%    | 7.2%          |
|                                       |                      |          |               |
| Percentage Without Health Insurance   | . 2014               | 5.3%     | 11.7%         |
|                                       | 2013                 | 6.7%     | 14.5%         |

Note: full 2015 data are not yet available for many indicators on this page; they will be included in future reports

#### STATE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

- Real gross domestic product (GDP) in Hawaii grew by 0.4 percent in 2014, below the national average growth rate of 2.2 percent.\*
- Since 2009, annual Hawaii GDP growth has averaged 1.3 percent, compared with a national average annual growth rate of 1.8 percent.

### **Housing**

- Home prices in Hawaii increased by 2.4 percent from the third quarter of 2014 to the third quarter of 2015.
  They are up 37.9 percent since their recent low in the first quarter of 2011.
- In November 2015, builders in Hawaii broke ground on 2,220 new housing units (seasonally adjusted annual rate), bringing the average over the past 12 months to 5,638 units. That marks an increase of 116.2 percent from the average over the prior 12 months.

#### **EXPORTS**

- In Hawaii, goods exports totaled \$366 million in November and \$1.9 billion over the past year, up 47.1 percent from the 12 months ending in November 2014 (inflation-adjusted).
- Exports over the past 12 months are up 220.7 percent from their level in 2009 (inflation-adjusted).

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Because of methodological differences, total U.S. real GDP by state differs slightly from headline national GDP figures

<sup>\*\*</sup> A list of sources used to compile the Hawaii economic snapshot is available at: http://bit.ly/JEC-state-by-state-sources

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> For additional Hawaii-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Hawaii office: http://hawaii.gov/labor/