

# **Monthly economic indicators report (08-27-20) + COVID 19 resources as of 09/02/20- Maui County Office of Economic Development**

Aloha Maui Community and Business Leaders,

Thank you for all you do for our community and your organization while we continue to help each other during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the ongoing 14-day quarantine for out-of-state travelers and the return to the two-week quarantine for Neighbor Island travelers, we need to continue following safe practices to reduce the spread of the virus in our community. This includes avoiding crowds, observing physical distancing of 6 to 10 feet, wearing face masks in public, staying home when sick and frequently washing hands.

We should also remember to practice “ALOHA” with everyone, while we help each other get through this difficult time to emerge Maui County strong. In this e-mail I have attached the press release on State of Hawaii’s online Safe Travels system that became mandatory effective Sept. 1.

Please sign up for all types of alerts and updates from the County at <https://www.mauicounty.gov/list.aspx>

Please share this e-mail with colleagues, friends and family.

Thank you. Please stay safe and healthy.

## **1. Monthly Economic Indicators Report (as of 08-27-20 Attached)**

It is our pleasure to forward you The Monthly Economic Indicators released on August 27, covering July 2020.

The MEI 2020-07p was updated on Sept. 2 with the BLS/DLIR seasonally adjusted LAUS (unemployment data) for Honolulu and Maui counties.

The next MEI will be released around September 30.

This report is provided as a service from the Office of Economic Development in partnership with the Hawaii Business Research Library. Please feel free to distribute it

to anyone who could benefit. If you received this from another person, and would like to be added to our distribution list for this report, please send me an email.

## **2. Mayor Victorino announces additional \$3 million for small business relief program and expanded qualifications**

PRESS RELEASE  
September 1, 2020

Mayor Michael Victorino announced today that an additional \$3 million in CARES Act funds has been added to the Kokua Maui County Small Business Recovery & Relief Fund to help small businesses impacted by COVID-19.

So far, 557 grants have been awarded with the first round of funds of \$3 million. Nearly \$96,000 was awarded to assist 19 businesses from Molokai.

All \$3 million of initial funds had been disbursed within the third week of the program. The additional funding brings the total fund to \$6 million.

“This additional funding is a boost to help our small business operators get through this pandemic, keep their employees on payroll and continue offering goods and services to the people of Maui County,” Mayor Michael Victorino said. “We want to extend a special mahalo to our local credit unions for partnering with us to help our community.”

The fund stems from a County of Maui partnership with local federal credit unions to launch a recovery and relief fund using CARES Act dollars to help small businesses.

The program covers reimbursable business expenses such as rent/lease payments, utility payments and COVID-19-related safety precautions at a place of business. The maximum award for small businesses is \$7,500.

Qualifications for the program have expanded with the second round of funding. Businesses with \$2 million or less in annual gross revenue are now eligible.

Any business that applied and was deemed ineligible because they exceeded the first-round limit of \$1 million in annual gross revenue will automatically be reconsidered. They do not need to reapply.

Program changes include:

- Additional Gross revenue for 2019 expanded to \$2 million or less
- Recipients of the Maui Chamber of Commerce Micro Business Loans can now apply for a maximum of \$3,750. (Previously, Micro Loan recipients were not eligible to apply.)

Businesses eligible to apply must:

- Have a physical commercial/industrial business location within Maui County.
- Have an active registered Trade Name with the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA).
- Have a current General Excise Tax (GET) license as proof of registration for doing business in the State of Hawaii.
- Have been established prior to March 20, 2019, which should be reflected on the business' GET license as the starting date.
- Be open for business at time of application.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Small business applicants do not need to be credit union members to apply for grants.**

“When we were asked to administer the second round of funding, it was unanimous among the six Maui Chartered Credit Unions to continue,” said Gary Fukuroku, president and CEO of Maui County Federal Credit Union. “All of us felt a need to continue to assist the community in these troubled times. It’s a collaboration of everyone’s efforts that has made the program a success. I want to thank Clay Fuchigami, Trevor Tokishi, Guy Muraoka, Craig Kinoshita and Kelly Tobita and their staffs for all the support and hard work, as well as a special thanks to Jason Matsui.”

The County of Maui has partnered with six chartered FCUs to implement the program: Maui County FCU, Maui FCU, Valley Isle Community FCU, Kahului FCU, Wailuku FCU and Maui Teachers FCU.

For information on the Kokua Maui County Small Business Recovery & Relief Fund, visit [mauinuistrong.net/kokua-maui-county](http://mauinuistrong.net/kokua-maui-county) or call (808) 270-5745.

### **3. DBEDT Releases 2019 State Of Hawai'i Data Book**

PRESS RELEASE  
August 14, 2020

HONOLULU – The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) today released the 2019 edition of the “State of Hawai‘i Data Book.”

The book is in electronic form and is available on the DBEDT website at: [dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/](http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/). The data may be downloaded in whole or in part as either PDF or Excel files.

The Hawai‘i State Data Book is the most comprehensive statistical book about Hawai‘i in a single compilation. Classified into 24 sections with more than 850 data tables, it covers a broad range of information in areas such as population, education, environment, economics, energy, business enterprises, government, tourism, and transportation.

“The Data Book is one of the most popular products on the DBEDT website. Decision makers in both the public and private sectors rely on accurate data to make informed decisions, which is why the Data Book is a top priority for us,” said DBEDT Director Mike McCartney. “DBEDT has been producing the Data Book over 50 years. It provides data in all aspects about Hawai‘i and widely used for individual career and business planning, demographic and economic research, as well as for general information.”

Added State Economist Dr. Eugene Tian: “We update the data book year-round when data becomes available. We also extracted and extended those data tables with historical data and put them in a separate product called the Data Book Time Series, which can be found on the DBEDT website.”

Some interesting data in this newest edition include:

- As of 2019, there were 293 patients with Hansen’s Disease registered with the Hawai‘i State Department of Health. This includes 12 patients residing in Kalaupapa. (Table 2.33)
- Amongst the 10,853 high schoolers who graduated in 2019, 22 percent participated in dual credit courses, which allowed the students to earn college credit while taking high school classes. After graduating high school, 21 percent of students enrolled in a 2-year college and 34 percent enrolled in a 4-year college. (Table 3.23)
- In fall 2019, enrollment for the University of Hawai‘i system fell below 50,000 for the first time since fall 2006. Enrollment at UH [Mānoa](#) , UH Hilo, and UH West O‘ahu was a combined total of 23,911. Enrollment at all UH Community Colleges was 26,066. (Table 3.24)

- In 2019, there were a reported 1,396 complaints of internet crime in Hawai'i, up from 1,135 in 2012. The complaints resulted in \$10 million in losses by victims in 2019, up 335 percent from \$2.3 million in losses reported in 2012. (Table 4.13)
- During 2019, the Hawai'i State Land Use Commission reclassified 972 acres, 240 'Urban' acres on Maui and 732 'Rural' acres on Hawai'i, into 'Agriculture'. (Table 6.04)
- The U.S. Department of Defense awarded procurement contracts of nearly \$2.3 billion to be performed in Hawai'i in federal fiscal year 2019, an increase of 11.2 percent from FY 2018. The total amount of the contracts awarded to small businesses, however, decreased by 4.6 percent from 983.7 million in FY2018 to 938.0 million in FY2019. (Table 10.25)
- The number of Individuals served by the food stamp program has decreased every year since 2014. The decrease during the five year was almost 20 percent from 193,565 in 2014 to 158,628 in 2019. (Table 11.04)
- According to the 2017 Economic Census which is the latest year data released by the U.S. Census Bureau, there were 265 child care establishments in Hawai'i, which was an increase of 20 from the 245 establishment in 2012. (Table 11.21)
- According to the 2017 Economic Census, there were 343 accommodation establishments in Hawai'i, with 289 hotels and motels. There were 3,522 food services and drinking places, with 3,122 restaurants and other eating places. The accommodation and food services industry (NAICS 72) had 112,743 paid employees, with annual payrolls totaling \$3.3 billion. (Table 23.29)

DBEDT's Research and Economic Analysis Division (READ) also maintains the time series of tables and updates the data continuously throughout the year. The time series and the update can also be found on the DBEDT website at <http://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/databook/>.

#### About the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT)

DBEDT is Hawai'i's resource center for economic and statistical data, business development opportunities, energy and conservation information, and foreign trade advantages. DBEDT's mission is to achieve a Hawai'i economy that embraces innovation and is globally competitive, dynamic and productive, providing opportunities for all Hawai'i's citizens. Through its attached agencies, the department fosters planned community development, creates affordable workforce housing units in high-quality living environments, and promotes innovation sector job growth.

## 4. State of Hawaii's online Safe Travels system becomes mandatory effective Sept. 1

PRESS RELEASE  
August 29, 2020

The State of Hawaii is implementing its new, mandatory online Safe Travels system, beginning Sept. 1. The Safe Travels System will modify the current County of Maui application process.

"This modified process enforces travel quarantines and protects our communities from the spread of COVID-19," Mayor Michael Victorino said. "This new procedure is a welcome step toward a more efficient, streamlined process to speed up traveler processing at airports. We want to ensure that everyone is safe and healthy while traveling, and I appreciate the public's patience and understanding as our quarantine screening and enforcement procedures evolve."

Travelers to Maui County airports are reminded that they must submit applications for limited travel quarantine online at [mauicounty.gov](https://mauicounty.gov) by clicking on the "requested for limited quarantine form" icon. **Requests should be completed at least 3 days prior to the requestor's departure.**

For those applying for a Limited Quarantine Exemption, the application should be completed **BEFORE** submitting the separate online Safe Travels application. The new state form has a field to input a traveler's limited quarantine application number. This is provided to a traveler after applying for it online.

All air travelers need to fill out the online Safe Travels application at <https://travel.hawaii.gov>, regardless of whether they are seeking a limited quarantine. Travelers between Lahaina and Manele harbors will continue to use paper mandatory travel form.

A traveler seeking a limited quarantine for home-to-work exemption must first go to [mauicounty.gov](https://mauicounty.gov). Click on the orange "**Request for Limited Quarantine Form.**" Please read all the information carefully, and be sure to provide **ALL** necessary documentation.

Needed information, including what travelers need to prepared to provide, specifically:

- A medical letter from a treating physician
- Essential Work Letter from employer on business letterhead, including dates of travel, jobsite/workplace in Maui County

- Copy of a government-issued ID

If traveling for medical reasons and returning to Maui for an essential job, travelers must submit both of the above documents. Travelers need to take pictures of needed documents for uploading as a photo on the Request for Limited Quarantine Form. (Only .png and .jpg photo types can be uploaded. The system **does not** accept .pdf files.) The address sought is the location of a jobsite or location of place of lodging for quarantine.

Requests for limited quarantine that do not qualify include:

- Trips to see family and/or friends or attend funerals
- COVID-19 negative test
- Travel identified as personal errands

## 5. Safe Travel Hawaii Service Desk

**For more information on State of Hawaii's online Safe Travels system:**

<https://ets.hawaii.gov/travelhelp/>

<https://ets.hawaii.gov/travelhelp/additional-safe-travels-faqs/>

**If you need further assistance:**

Safe Travels Service Desk (10 a.m. to 10 p.m. HST): 1-855-599-0888

Calls outside of working hours will go to voicemail and be returned the next business day.

You may call our partners at Aloha United Way, 2-1-1.

There are multiple ways you can reach them from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. HST

In Hawaii, you may call 2-1-1

Out of State: Toll free number: 1-877-275-6569

Chat: [www.auw211.org](http://www.auw211.org)

Email: [info211@auw.org](mailto:info211@auw.org)

Search their online database 24/7 at [auw211.or/Search.aspx](http://auw211.or/Search.aspx)

**For State Quarantine Information:**

<https://hidot.hawaii.gov/coronavirus/>

**For Travel to Hawaii:**

<https://www.hawaii tourism authority.org/covid-19-updates/>

<https://www.gohawaii.com/special-alerts-information>

1-800-GO-HAWAII

**6. Maui County Public Health Emergency Rules, Amended August 26, 2020**

Attached are links to the Public Health Emergency Rules, Amended August 26, 2020 for your reference.

[https://www.mauicounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/123756/2008124-COM\\_Public-Health-Emergency-RulesAmended-8-26-20-certified---signed](https://www.mauicounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/123756/2008124-COM_Public-Health-Emergency-RulesAmended-8-26-20-certified---signed)

Also attached is a copy of the Emergency Proclamation stating that these rules will be extended for another 60 days.

[https://www.mauicounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/123754/2008124-COM\\_Public-Health-Emergency-Proclamation-certified--signed](https://www.mauicounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/123754/2008124-COM_Public-Health-Emergency-Proclamation-certified--signed)

**7. Governor Ige's 12 Emergency Proclamation signed on Aug, 20, 2020 for your reference**

[https://governor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2008089-ATG\\_Twelfth-Proclamation-COVID-19-distribution-signed.pdf](https://governor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2008089-ATG_Twelfth-Proclamation-COVID-19-distribution-signed.pdf)

## **8. Please continue to utilize these resources**

### **1. [www.KamaainaFirst.com](http://www.KamaainaFirst.com)**

Kamaaina First continues to connect more local businesses and local shoppers. We have added a section with kama'aina deals that will help you revamp your business.

### **2. <https://mauicountyvirtualjobfair.com/>**

The Maui County Virtual Job Fair website was created to offer employers and qualified prospective employees a way to connect virtually. Employers can post job opportunities, and job seekers can:

- Use a search function to find jobs
- Explore certification training
- Seek long-term career path opportunities.

### **3. [www.mauiamericanjobcenter.com](http://www.mauiamericanjobcenter.com)**

The American Job Center is your One-Stop-Shop dedicated to providing free services to job seekers and employers, including job search assistance, personal career planning services, training opportunities, HireNet Hawaii support and a library resource center.

### **4. <https://www.mauicounty.gov/2370/COVID-19-Coronavirus-Information>**

Maui County's latest COVID-19 Coronavirus Information

### **5. County of Maui COVID-19 Call Center**

The call center normal business hours are from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The phone number is [\(808\) 270-7855](tel:8082707855).

## About The Office of Economic Development

Thank you very much for your understanding and continued support of Maui County's Office of Economic Development. We are honored to work with you every day for the community. To be of further assistance, we have added your email address to the Office of Economic Development email list. You will receive various information on Maui's economy, seminars and programs that might be beneficial to your programs/businesses.

This link explains the Office of Economic Development's role in the community : <http://www.mauicounty.gov/141/Office-Of-Economic-Development> Please contact us if there are any business issues or concerns our office and our colleagues can help you with.

Aloha!

Tokie Ogawa  
Business Development Specialist

Office of Economic Development

[2200 Main Street, Suite 305](#)

[Wailuku, HI 96793](#)

direct: 808-270-7415