VERMONT ECONOMIC AND TRAVEL INDICATORS

FEBRUARY 2004

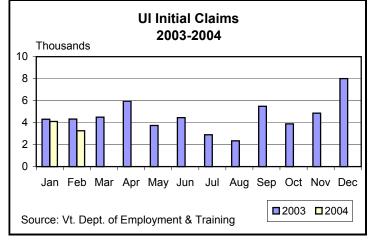
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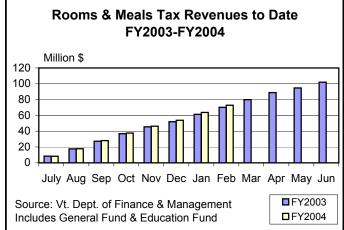
| LABOR MARKET & BUSINESS ACTIVITY | CURRENT MONTH | LAST <u>MONTH</u> | YEAR <u>AGO</u> L | % CHANGE AST MONTH | % CHANGE LAST YEAR |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Employment (NonFarm,S.A.,Thousand) | 299.2 | 300.1 | 298.1 | -0.3% | 0.4% |
| Avg. Weekly Hours (Manufacturing) | 40.1 | 40.1 | 39.9 | 0.0% | 0.5% |
| Unemployment Rate (S. A. %) | 3.7 | 3.8 | 4.3 | -2.6% | -14.0% |
| U.I. Initial Claims | 3261 | 4102 | 4321 | -20.5% | -24.5% |
| U.I. Exhaustees | 373 | 415 | 610 | -10.1% | -38.9% |
| DET Jobs Filled (last 12 months) | 2,838 | 2,868 | NA | -1.0% | NA |
| Passenger Car Registrations | 28,867 | 24,888 | 27,179 | 16.0% | 6.2% |
| Total Current Car Registrations | 408,036 | 407,940 | 400,217 | 0.0% | 2.0% |
| Total Current Pick-Up Truck Reg. | 121,186 | 121,168 | 117,796 | 0.0% | 2.9% |
| Bank Deposits - Survey (\$Million) ** | 4,976 | 4,994 | 4,864 | -0.4% | 2.3% |
| New Business Incorporations * | 81 | 126 | 94 | -35.7% | -13.8% |
| Airport Enplanements (B.I.A.) | 49,395 | 44,936 | 40,973 | 9.9% | 20.6% |

* Includes "closed" corporations.
** Bank Deposits adjusted to include 1 additional bank (2003-2004).

| | CURRENT | FISCAL YR | FYTD | % CHANGE | % CHANGE |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|
| STATE TAX REVENUES (\$Million) | MONTH | TO DATE | LAST YEAR | LAST YEAR | LAST FYTD |
| | | | | | |
| General Fund | 47.9 | 616.5 | 573.5 | -2.1% | 7.5% |
| Personal Income | 1.9 | 285.5 | 272.0 | -68.1% | 5.0% |
| Sales & Use | 19.4 | 173.3 | 154.6 | 15.7% | 12.1% |
| Rooms & Meals | 7.4 | 59.3 | 57.2 | 1.5% | 3.7% |
| Corporate Income | 0.6 | 17.1 | 8.1 | -452.7% | 109.4% |
| Property Transfer* | 1.3 | 8.1 | 7.1 | 106.2% | 13.3% |
| Other** | 3.2 | 37.9 | 34.5 | 22.1% | 9.9% |
| Transportation Fund | 14.1 | 131.7 | 127.4 | -12.6% | 3.4% |
| Gasoline | 3.4 | 35.9 | 36.6 | -31.9% | -2.0% |
| Purchase and Use | 4.9 | 44.1 | 40.8 | 3.8% | 8.1% |
| Motor Vehicle Fees | 3.7 | 31.3 | 30.3 | -3.9% | 3.4% |
| Other | 1.2 | 9.7 | 9.3 | -15.0% | 3.7% |
| Education Fund | 7.3 | 116.2 | 96.6 | NA | 19.4% |

*FYTD Adjusted for Transfers to Trust Funds. ** Reflects the allocation of all Cigarette Tax revenues to the Health Care Trust Fund, effective 7/1/00. ***Legislature changed amount of tax committed to General Fund.





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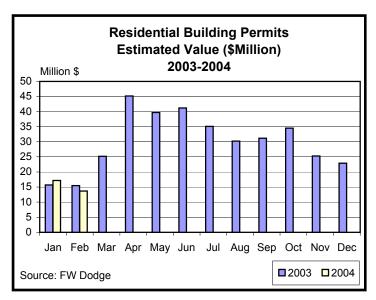
| CONSTRUCTION | CURRENT MONTH | YEAR TO DATE | YEAR AGO | YR. TO DATE | YR. TO DATE <u>% CHANGE</u> |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Residential Building Permits | | | | | |
| Housing Units | 99 | 257 | 119 | 232 | 10.8% |
| Estimated Value (\$Thousand) | 13,679 | 30,684 | 15,517 | 30,627 | 0.2% |
| | | | | ., | ., |
| | CURRENT | LAST | YEAR | % CHANGE | % CHANGE |
| | <u>MONTH</u> | <u>MONTH</u> | <u>AGO I</u> | <u> AST MONTH</u> | LAST YEAR |
| Construction Emp. (S.A.,Thousand) | 15.8 | 15.7 | 14.7 | 0.6% | 7.5% |
| | | | | | |
| | CURRENT | LAST | YEAR | % CHANGE | % CHANGE |
| TRAVEL & TOURISM | CURRENT MONTH | LAST <u>MONTH</u> | | % CHANGE AST MONTH | % CHANGE LAST YEAR |
| TRAVEL & TOURISM Leisure & Hospitality Emp. (S.A.,Thousand) * | | | | | |
| | <u>MONTH</u> | <u>MONTH</u> | <u>AGO I</u> | <u>AST MONTH</u> | LAST YEAR |
| Leisure & Hospitality Emp. (S.A.,Thousand) * | MONTH 32.6 | <u>MONTH</u> 32.8 | AGO I | -0.6% | LAST YEAR -0.9% |
| Leisure & Hospitality Emp. (S.A.,Thousand) * Selected Traffic Volume | MONTH 32.6 | <u>MONTH</u> 32.8 | AGO I | -0.6% | LAST YEAR -0.9% |
| Leisure & Hospitality Emp. (S.A.,Thousand) * Selected Traffic Volume Motels & Hotels Survey ** (Preliminary) | 32.6 85,919 | 32.8 78,468 | AGO ! 32.9 83,107 | -0.6% 9.5% | -0.9% 3.4% |
| Leisure & Hospitality Emp. (S.A.,Thousand) * Selected Traffic Volume Motels & Hotels Survey ** (Preliminary) Occupancy Rate (%) | 32.6 85,919 | 32.8 78,468 | AGO ! 32.9 83,107 | -0.6% 9.5% | -0.9% 3.4% |
| Leisure & Hospitality Emp. (S.A.,Thousand) * Selected Traffic Volume Motels & Hotels Survey ** (Preliminary) Occupancy Rate (%) Welcome Center Counts | 32.6 85,919 51.3 | 32.8 78,468 43.4 | 32.9 83,107 NA | -0.6% 9.5% 18.4% | -0.9% 3.4% NA |

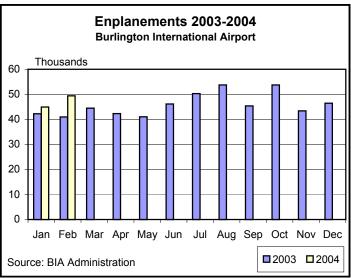
^{*} Now NAICS based and includes sectors 71 (arts, ent., & rec.) & 72 (accomodations & food srvs). Not comparable to previous reported data.

^{**}Motels & Hotels occupancy rate data is based on a survey of properties conducted by the Vermont Department of Tourism & Marketing.

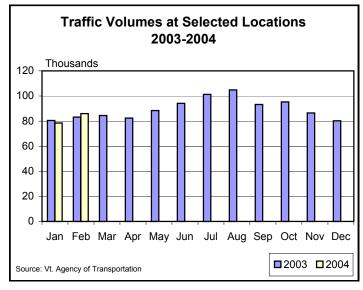
| SEASONAL INDICATORS | CURRENT MONTH | SEASON TO DATE | YEAR S <u>AGO</u> | SEASON T.D. S YEAR AGO | SEASON T.D. <u>% CHANGE</u> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Attendance Surveys | | | | | |
| State Parks (Day Use) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| State Campgrounds (Campers) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Private Campgrounds (Occup. Rate, %) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Travel Attr. & Museums (Summer) | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Travel Attr. & Museums (Yr Rd) * | 41,059 | 74,710 | 37,896 | 60,355 | 23.8% |

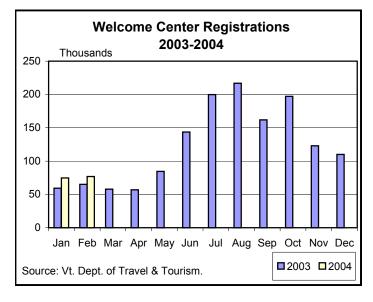
^{*} Based on DET survey of 9 Attractions

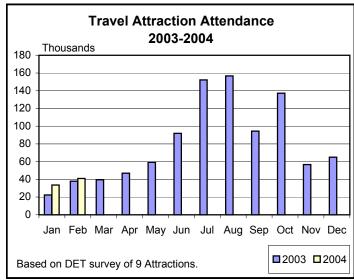












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| Rooms & Meals Business Receipts | CY 4th Qtr (Oct-Dec) * 2003 | CY 3rd Qtr (Jul-Sep) * 2003 | CY 4th Qtr (Oct-Dec) <u>2002</u> | % Change <u>Last Quarter</u> | % Change <u>Last Year</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Taxable Room Rentals (\$Thousand) | 78,536 | 93,906 | 74,396 | -16.4% | 5.6% |
| Taxable Meals Sales (\$Thousand) | 161,890 | 188,256 | 157,128 | -14.0% | 3.0% |
| Taxable Beverage Sales (\$Thousand) | 28,232 | 31,084 | 27,897 | -9.2% | 1.2% |

^{*} Numbers are preliminary.

Vermont <u>DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING</u>

ECONOMIC AND TRAVEL INDICATORS

Vermont Economic and Travel Indicators is published by the Labor Market Information Section of the VT Department of Employment & Training. Vermont Economic and Travel Indicators can be found on our Labor Market Information website: www.vtLmi.info

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Data sources for this publication are: U.S. Dept. of Commerce; F.W. Dodge & Co.; Burlington Airport Administration; Vt. Departments of Employment & Training, Finance & Management, Forests, Parks & Recreation, Taxes, Motor Vehicles, Tourism & Marketing, Vt. Agency of Transportation; Secretary of State's Office; Vt. Division for Historic Preservation; University of Vermont.

NOTE: Survey data for comparison only; Not intended as statewide estimates.

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^{**} All Business Receipts are for the Calendar Year (CY).