



# Hawaii Agricultural Labor

National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

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In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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## Number of Hired Agricultural Workers Remains Stable

Hawaii's hired agricultural workforce totaled 6,400 workers during the January 6-12, 2008 survey week. Comparisons to a year ago are not available because the January 2007 survey was not conducted. Pineapple and sugarcane workers totaled 1,150 workers (does not include mill or cannery workers) during the January 6-12, 2008 survey week, unchanged from the survey week in October 2007.

### Total farm workforce

Hawaii's total farm workforce is estimated at 10,500 during the survey week of January 6-12, 2008. This was down 4 percent from October 2007. Declines in the number of self-employed farm operations (down 6 percent) and unpaid workers (down 18 percent) accounted for the entire drop from October 2007.

### Average wage rate down 1 percent

The average wage paid to all hired workers during the survey week of January 6-12, 2008 is estimated at \$13.04 per hour. This was down 15 cents per hour compared to October 2007. The combined average wage for field and livestock workers is estimated at \$10.92 per hour, down 21 cents from October 2007.

Hawaii farms employing from 1 to 9 workers paid an average of \$11.46 per hour for all hired workers, while the combined average wage for field and livestock workers was \$10.22 an hour. ■

**FARM LABOR:** Number of workers on farms, quarterly and annual averages, State of Hawaii, 2007 and 2008 <sup>1/</sup>

Quarter	Total Farm Workforce	Number of Farm Workers by Type				
		Self-employed Farm Operators <sup>2/</sup>	Unpaid Workers <sup>2/ 3/</sup>	Hired Workers		
				Total	Sugarcane and Pineapple <sup>4/</sup>	Other
<b>2007</b>						
January <sup>5/</sup>	--	--	--	--	--	--
April	--	--	--	6,600	1,200	5,400
July	10,500	3,300	900	6,300	1,200	5,100
October	10,900	3,400	1,100	6,400	1,150	5,250
Annual average	--	--	--	6,500	--	--
<b>2008</b>						
January	10,500	3,200	900	6,400	1,150	5,250
April						
July						
October						
Annual average						

-- Not estimated.

<sup>1/</sup> Estimates for each quarter are based on a survey week that includes the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Annual averages are based on quarterly estimates.

<sup>2/</sup> Self-employed and unpaid worker estimates were discontinued from July 2002 to April 2007 due to a change in the national labor statistics program.

<sup>3/</sup> Unpaid workers include family members and others working 15 or more hours per week.

<sup>4/</sup> Data combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>5/</sup> The January 2007 Farm Labor Survey was not conducted.

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**Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers for Hawaii, California, and United States, January 6-12, 2008 with Comparison. <sup>1/</sup>**

Quarter	All Hired Farm Workers				Field and Livestock Workers			
	Hawaii		California	United States <sup>2/</sup>	Hawaii		California	United States <sup>2/</sup>
	Farms With 1-9 Workers	All Farms			Farms With 1-9 Workers	All Farms		
January 7-13, 2007 <sup>3/</sup>								
January 6-12, 2008	11.46	13.04	11.37	10.77	10.22	10.92	10.25	9.87

*Dollars per hour*

<sup>1/</sup> Excludes agricultural service workers.

<sup>2/</sup> Excludes Alaska.

<sup>3/</sup> The January 2007 Farm Labor Survey was not conducted.

**U.S. hired workers total 778 thousand, U.S. wage at \$10.77**

There were 778,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of January 6-12, 2008. Of these hired workers, 599,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 179,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.77 per hour during the January 2008 reference week. Field workers received an average of

\$9.64 per hour, while livestock workers earned \$10.19 per hour. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate was \$9.87 per hour.

The number of hours worked averaged 38.4 hours for hired workers during the survey week.■

Source: *Farm Labor*, February 15, 2008, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture.