



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 workers down 3 percent

Hawaii's agricultural hired work force totaled 6,600 during the April 8-14 2007 survey week, down 3 percent from a year ago. Diversified agricultural workers accounted for 82 percent of all farm labor and at 5,400 workers, it was up 2 percent from April 2006. Pineapple and sugarcane workers were combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations and totaled 1,200 workers (does not include mill or cannery workers) during the April 8-14 2007 survey week, down 20 percent from April 2006.

Average wage rate up 7 percent

The average wage paid to all hired workers during the April survey period was a record-high \$12.85 per hour, 89 cents higher than April 2006. The combined average wage for field and livestock workers also reached a new record high at \$10.77 per hour, up 84 cents from April 2006.

Farms employing from 1 to 9 workers paid an average of \$11.24 per hour for all hired workers, while the combined average wage for field and livestock workers was \$9.92 an hour. ■

Hourly wage rates page 2

Hourly wage rates by type of worker and size of farm, Hawaii, California, and U.S. averages.

U.S. hired workers..... page 2

Latest estimates and news on the U.S. agricultural work force.

**Hired workers on farms
State of Hawaii, quarterly and annual averages ^{1/}**

Quarter	Number of hired workers			
	Total	Sugarcane	Pineapple	Other
2006				
January.....	7,100	650	1,050	5,400
April	6,800	600	900	5,300
July	7,000	650	1,000	5,350
October.....	7,000	650	950	5,400
Annual average	7,000	600	1,000	5,400
2007				
January ^{2/}				
April.....	6,600	1,200	^{3/}	5,400
July				
October				
Annual average				

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

^{2/} The January 2007 Farm Labor Survey was not conducted.

^{3/} Data not shown separately to avoid disclosure of individual operations but combined with sugarcane.

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Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers for Hawaii, California, and United States, April 8-14, 2007 with Comparison. ^{1/}

Quarter	All Hired Farm Workers				Field and Livestock Workers			
	Hawaii		California	United States ^{2/}	Hawaii		California	United States ^{2/}
	Farms With 1-9 Workers	All Farms			Farms With 1-9 Workers	All Farms		
<i>Dollars per hour</i>								
April 9-15, 2006	10.30	11.96	10.18	9.78	9.16	9.93	9.21	9.06
April 8-14, 2007	11.24	12.85	10.63	10.17	9.92	10.77	9.80	9.41

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers.

^{2/} Excludes Alaska.

U.S. hired workers unchanged from a year ago

There were 961,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 8-14, 2007, unchanged from a year ago. A large increase in California was enough to offset the large declines in hired workers in most other regions, resulting in a net change of zero from last April. Of these hired workers, 720,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 241,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.17 per hour during the April 2007 reference week, up 39 cents from a year earlier. Field

workers received an average of \$9.35 per hour, up 40 cents from last April, while livestock workers earned \$9.55 per hour compared with \$9.31 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.41 per hour, was up 35 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 40.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week, down fractionally from a year ago. ■

Source: *Farm Labor*, May 18, 2007, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture.