



Hawaii Farm Facts

September 2010



In cooperation with



Number of Hired Workers Nearly Unchanged

Hawaii's hired agricultural workforce totaled 6,250 workers during the July 11-17, 2010 survey week, down 1 percent from April's survey week, but up 2 percent from last July. Number of hired sugarcane and pineapple workers increased by 50, while all other hired workers decreased by 100 people from April.

Weather conditions were fair for agriculture during the survey week. Low trades resulted in muggy conditions and a lack of windward trade showers led to persisting abnormally dry and drought conditions throughout the State. Two record low temperatures were set which slightly slowed crop progress, but overall no adverse conditions prevented work throughout the week.

Hawaii's total farm workforce is estimated at 11,100 during the survey week of July 11-17, 2010. This was up 3 percent from April 2010 and up 7 percent from July 2009. The number of self-employed operators totaled 4,000 during July 2010's survey week, up 11 percent from the previous survey period in April and up 18 percent from July a year ago.

The average wage paid to all hired workers during the survey week of July 11-17, 2010 was estimated at \$14.41 per hour, up 3 percent from April and July a year ago.

Hawaii farms having 1 to 9 hired workers paid an average of \$12.24 per hour; down 3 percent compared to April's average wage and down 2 percent from July 2009. The combined average wage for field and livestock workers was \$11.27 an hour. This was down 1 percent from both April 2010 and from July 2009. ■

Inside this issue:

Labor	1-2
Farm Financial Indicators	3
Sugar	4
U.S. Sugarbeets.....	5

FARM LABOR: Number of Workers on Farms, Quarterly and Annual Averages, State of Hawaii, 2009 and 2010¹

Quarter	Total Farm Workforce	Number of Farm Workers by Type				
		Self-employed Farm Operators	Unpaid Workers ²	Hired Workers		
				Total	Sugarcane and Pineapple ³	Other
2009						
January	10,500	3,500	1,000	6,000	900	5,100
April	10,300	3,300	900	6,100	900	5,200
July	10,400	3,400	900	6,100	900	5,200
October	11,150	3,650	1,100	6,400	850	5,550
Annual average	10,600	3,500	1,000	6,200	900	5,300
2010						
January	11,200	3,800	1,100	6,300	750	5,550
April	10,800	3,600	900	6,300	750	5,550
July	11,100	4,000	850	6,250	800	5,450
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 Unpaid workers include family members and others working 15 or more hours per week. ³ Data combined to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

Labor: U.S. Hired Workers Down 1 Percent from a Year Ago

There were 1,244,000 hired workers on the Nation’s farms and ranches during the week of July 11-17, 2010, down 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 894,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 350,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.82 per hour during the July 2010 reference week, up 16 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.12 per hour, up 8 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$10.19 per hour compared with \$10.05 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.14 per hour, was up 10 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 41.0 for hired workers during the survey week, up 3 percent from a year ago. ■

Source: Farm Labor, August 19, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

FARM LABOR: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers for Hawaii, California, and United States, July 11-17, 2010 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>								
July 12-18, 2009	12.50	13.97	11.08	10.66	11.40	11.81	10.30	10.04
July 11-17, 2010	12.24	14.41	11.21	10.82	11.27	12.19	10.34	10.14

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers. ² Excludes Alaska.

