



Hawaii

Agricultural Labor

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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All-Farm and Small Farm Wages Increase

Hawaii's hired agricultural workforce totaled 7,000 workers during the July 10-16, 2011 survey week, up 1 percent from January 2011, and up 13 percent from July of last year. Due to budgetary constraints, the April 2011 Agricultural Labor Survey was cancelled. Number of hired sugarcane and pineapple workers was the same for July 2011 compared to January 2011 and was up 50 workers from July 2010. All other (diversified agriculture) hired workers increased by 100 compared to the January 2011 estimate and increased by 750 from the July 2010 level.

Weather conditions were ideal for agricultural activities as scattered showers did not disrupt planting, cultivating, spraying, and harvesting activities. The National Drought Monitor rated 40 percent of the state not being in some form of drought condition. The bulk of the drought was rated for Maui and Hawaii Counties.

Total farm workforce

Hawaii's total farm workforce was estimated at 12,200 during the survey week of July 10-16, 2011. This was an increase of 10 percent from July 2010. The number of self-employed operators totaled 4,100 during July 2011's survey reference week, up 3 percent from the previous year's survey. Unpaid labor workers were estimated at 1,100, up 22 percent or 200 more workers from July 2010.

Average wage rate increases

The average wage paid to all hired workers during the survey week of July 10-16, 2011 was estimated at \$14.91 per hour, up \$0.50 from July a year ago.

Hawaii farms having 1 to 9 hired workers paid an average of \$14.42 per hour; up 18 percent from July 2010. The combined average wage for field and livestock workers on operations with 1 to 9 hired workers was \$12.14 an hour. This was up 8 percent from the July 2010 wage. ■

FARM LABOR: Number of Workers on Farms, Quarterly and Annual Averages, State of Hawaii, 2010 and 2011 ^{1/}

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
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	900	6,200	800	5,400
October	11,500	3,700	1,200	6,600	800	5,800
Annual average	11,200	3,800	1,000	6,400	800	5,600
2011						
January	12,300	4,500	900	6,900	850	6,050
April ^{4/}						
July	12,200	4,100	1,100	7,000	850	6,150
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.

^{4/} The April 2011 Farm Labor Survey was not conducted.

Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers for Hawaii, California, and United States, July 10-16, 2011 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 11-17, 2010	12.24	14.41	11.12	10.79	11.27	12.19	10.23	10.11
July 10-16, 2011	14.42	14.91	10.80	10.90	12.14	12.76	10.10	10.25

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers.

^{2/} Excludes Alaska.

U.S. Hired Workers Down 5 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 1,186,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 10-16, 2011, down 5 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 836,000 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 \$10.90 per hour during the July 2011 reference week, up 11 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.24 per hour, up

15 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$10.28 per hour compared with \$10.15 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.25 per hour, was up 14 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 41.3 for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago. ■

Source: *Farm Labor*, August 18, 2011, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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