



December 2010

Number of Hired Agricultural Workers Up 6 Percent

In cooperation with



Hawaii's hired agricultural workforce totaled 6,600 workers during the October 10-16, 2010 survey week, up 6 percent from July's revised survey week estimate, and 3 percent from October 2009. Number of hired sugarcane and pineapple workers remained unchanged, while all other hired workers increased by 400 people from July.

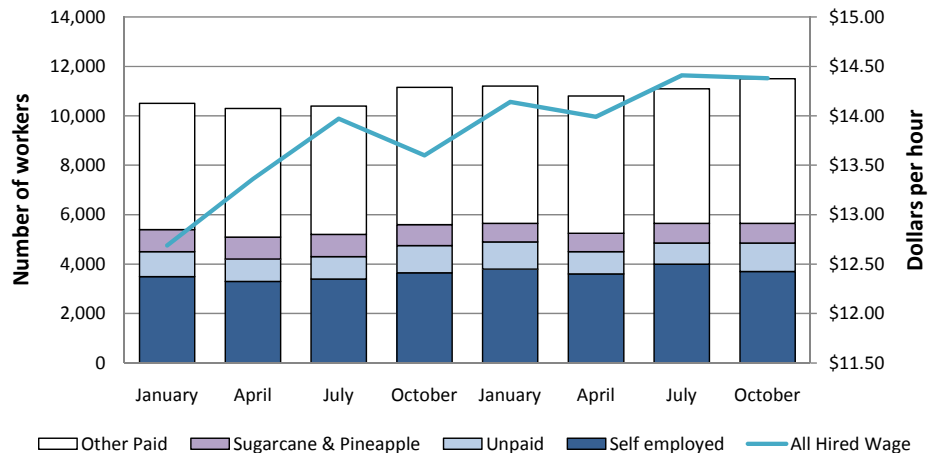
Hawaii's total farm workforce was estimated at 11,500 during the survey week of October 10-16, 2010. This was an increase of 4 percent from July 2010 and a 3 percent increase from October 2009.

Inside this issue:

Ag Labor	1-2
U.S. Sugarcane	3

The number of self-employed operators totaled 3,700 during October 2010's survey week, down 8 percent from the previous survey period in July, but up 1 percent from October a year ago.

Number of Workers by Class and 'All Hired' Wage Rate, State of Hawaii, 2009-2010



Average wage rate increases

The average wage paid to all hired workers during the survey week of October 10-16, 2010 was estimated at \$14.38 per hour, down less than 1 percent from July, while up 6 percent from October a year ago.

Hawaii farms having 1 to 9 hired workers paid an average of \$11.90 per hour; down 3 percent compared to July's average wage but up 7 percent from last October's revised average wage. The combined average wage for field and livestock workers was \$11.03 an hour. This was down 2 percent from July 2010, although up 7 percent from the revised October 2009 wage. ■

Farm Labor: U.S. Hired Workers Up 4 Percent From A Year Ago

There were 1,157,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 2010, up 4 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 826,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 331,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.13 per hour during the October 2010 reference week, up 20 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.49 per hour, up

27 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.27 per hour compared with \$10.28 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.43 per hour, was up 19 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 41.7 for hired workers during the survey week, up 7 percent from a year ago. ■

Source: *Farm Labor*, November 18, 2010, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

FARM LABOR: Number of Workers on Farms, Quarterly and Annual Averages, State of Hawaii, 2009 and 2010 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
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	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

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.

FARM LABOR: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers for Hawaii, California, and United States, October 10-16, 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		

Dollars per hour

October 11-17, 2009	11.15	13.60	11.26	10.93	10.30	11.69	10.35	10.24
October 10-16, 2010	11.90	14.38	11.18	11.13	11.03	12.16	10.34	10.43

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers. ² Excludes Alaska.

U.S. Sugarcane:



Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast at 29.4 million tons, up fractionally from the November 1 forecast but down 3 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 876,200 acres for sugar and seed in 2010, unchanged from last month but up 2,300 acres from last year. In Texas, area harvested for sugar and seed is expected to total 52,000 acres. If realized, this will be a record high for the State. Conversely, producers in Hawaii are expected to harvest 17,200 acres for sugar and seed and if realized, will be a record low for the State. Expected yield is forecast at 33.5 tons per acre, unchanged from the November 1 forecast but down 1.3 tons from 2009.

In Louisiana, sugarcane harvest was advancing ahead of both last year and the 5-year average pace. Elsewhere, sugarcane harvest remained active in the Florida Everglades under mostly ideal weather conditions. ■

SUGARCANE FOR SUGAR AND SEED: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production, by State and United States, 2009 and Forecasted December 1, 2010

State	Area harvested		Yield ¹			Production ¹	
	2009	2010	2009	2010		2009	2010
				Nov 1	Dec 1		
	----- 1,000 acres -----		----- Tons -----			----- 1,000 tons -----	
For sugar:							
Florida	370.0	374.0	35.9	NA	36.7	13,283	13,726
Hawaii	20.3	15.7	65.6	NA	76.3	1,332	1,198
Louisiana	390.0	380.0	32.2	NA	29.0	12,558	11,020
Texas	36.7	49.0	36.0	NA	33.0	1,321	1,617
U.S.	817.0	818.7	34.9	NA	33.7	28,494	27,561
For seed:							
Florida	17.0	18.0	38.6	NA	37.2	656	670
Hawaii	1.9	1.5	26.3	NA	30.0	50	45
Louisiana	35.0	35.0	32.2	NA	29.0	1,127	1,015
Texas	3.0	3.0	35.0	NA	33.0	105	99
U.S.	56.9	57.5	34.1	NA	31.8	1,938	1,829
For sugar & seed:							
Florida	387.0	392.0	36.0	36.7	36.7	13,939	14,396
Hawaii	22.2	17.2	62.3	72.2	72.3	1,382	1,243
Louisiana	425.0	415.0	32.2	29.0	29.0	13,685	12,035
Texas	39.7	52.0	35.9	33.0	33.0	1,426	1,716
U.S.	873.9	876.2	34.8	33.5	33.5	30,432	29,390

¹ Net tons. NA = Not available.

Revision Policy: Published estimates in this release may include revisions to previously published estimates. Revisions to previous estimates are made to improve year to year and item to item relationships. Estimates for the previous year are subject to revision when current estimates are made. The revisions are primarily based on additional survey data. Estimates will also be reviewed after data from the five-year Census of Agriculture are available. No revisions will be made after that date. If you have any questions regarding estimates or revision policies, please call Director Mark Hudson at (808) 973-2907.