



USDA, NASS, Hawaii Field Office

Hawaii

Agricultural Labor

In cooperation with:



Agricultural Development Division

March 17, 2006

Number of workers down 3 percent from year ago

Hawaii's agricultural hired work force totaled 7,100 during the January 8-14, 2006 survey week, down 3 percent from a year ago, but up 4 percent from the previous survey week of October 9-15, 2005. The diversified agricultural sector accounted for 76 percent of the total hired force with 5,400 workers. The sugarcane industry employed 650 farm workers (does not include mill workers) during the survey week, unchanged from the previous survey week. Farm workers in the pineapple industry decreased 5 percent from the previous quarter to 1,050 (does not include cannery workers).

Average wage rate up 4 percent

The average wage paid to all hired workers during the January survey period was \$11.95 an hour (see table on next page), 43 cents more than January 2005. The combined average wage for field and livestock workers was \$10.27 an hour, 29 cents above a year ago.

Farms employing from 1 to 9 workers paid an average of \$10.82 per hour for all hired workers, while the combined average wage for field and livestock workers was \$9.73 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
2005				
January.....	7,300	550	1,150	5,600
April	6,800	700	1,050	5,050
July	7,000	700	1,100	5,200
October.....	6,800	650	1,100	5,100
Annual average	7,000	700	1,100	5,200
2006				
January.....	7,100	650	1,050	5,400
April.....				
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.

Mark E. Hudson, Director
Steve Gunn, Deputy Director

Nils Morita and Ron Nakamura, Research Statistician
Karen Lee, Statistical Assistant

Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers for Hawaii, California, and United States, January 8-14, 2006 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>							
January 9-15, 2005	10.75	11.52	9.82	9.78	9.35	9.98	8.86	8.90
January 8-14, 2006	10.82	11.95	10.36	10.11	9.73	10.27	9.29	9.19

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers.

^{2/} Excludes Alaska.

U.S. hired workers up 3 percent from a year ago

There were 796,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of January 8-14, 2006, up 3 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 616,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 180,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.11 per hour during the January 2006 reference week, up 33 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.15 per hour, up 44

cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$9.25 per hour compared with \$9.20 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.19 per hour, was up 29 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 38.2 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 3 percent from a year ago. ■

Source: *Farm Labor*, February 17, 2006, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture.