

Ka 'Oihana Mahi'ai

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In Cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service, Pacific Region

Farm Labor Statistics State of Hawai'i, First Half 2025

Hawai'i's hired agricultural workforce remained consistent at 5,000 workers in the first half of 2025.¹ Both the number of hours worked per hired worker and gross wage rates paid to all hired workers in the two reference weeks increased to near record highs since 2022. Hawai'i agribusinesses recruited 296 guest workers through H-2A visas in the first half of the U.S. fiscal year 2025, reflecting a 32% increase from the 225 workers in the same period of the previous year. The gross wage rate at the high-end range for guest workers was \$3.38 an hour lower, marking a 14% difference compared to wages paid for all hired farm workers.² The distribution for locally employed H-2A workers was as follows: apiculture (40), livestock (20), and general farm workers (236).

Table 1: Farm Labor, Hours Worked, and Gross Wage Rate by Reference Week and Year, Hawai'i, 2022-2025¹

Reference Week and Year	Count of All Hired Workers	Number of Hours Worked (Hours per Week)	Gross Wage Rate (Dollars per Hour)
April 6-12, 2025	5,000	37.2	\$23.46
January 12-18, 2025	5,000	37.3	\$22.95
October 6-12, 2024	5,000	35.7	\$21.87
July 7-13, 2024	5,000	35.3	\$21.73
April 7-13, 2024	5,000	36.6	\$22.26
January 7-13, 2024	5,000	36.0	\$22.05
October 8-14, 2023	5,000	36.3	\$20.83
July 9-15, 2023	5,000	36.2	\$20.82
April 9-15, 2023	5,000	35.9	\$20.44
January 8-14, 2023	5,000	35.3	\$20.29
October 9-15, 2022	6,000	35.0	\$19.53
July 10-16, 2022	5,000	34.9	\$19.24
April 10-16, 2022	5,000	35.3	\$18.95
January 9-15, 2022	5,000	35.7	\$18.82

Source: USDA-NASS, *Pacific Region – Labor*, 2021-2025.

¹ Data in 2025 is for the first half of U.S. Federal Fiscal Year 2025 (October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025).

¹ USDA-NASS, *Pacific Region – Labor*, May 22, 2025.

² U.S. Department of Labor. *Performance Data*, 2020-2025. Available at: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/foreign-labor/performance>.

Table 2: H-2A Visa Farm Labor and Gross Wage Rate, Hawai'i, 2010-2025

Fiscal Year	Count of H-2A Visa Workers ^{2, 3}	Proportion of U.S. Total (Percent)	Gross Wage Rate Range ⁴ (Dollars per Hour)
2025 ¹	296	0.21	18.74 – 20.08
2024	465	0.15	17.25 – 18.74
2023	340	0.11	16.54 – 17.25
2022	268	0.09	15.56 – 16.54
2021	211	0.08	14.90 – 16.10
2020	135	0.06	14.73 – 14.90
2019	102	0.05	14.37 – 14.73
2018	106	0.05	13.14 – 14.37
2017	73	0.05	12.64 – 13.14
2016	50	0.04	12.64 – 12.98
2015	39	0.04	12.91 – 12.98
2014	38	0.04	12.91
2013	69	0.09	12.26 – 12.72
2012	114	0.17	12.01 – 12.26
2011	195	0.35	11.45 – 12.01
2010	70	0.13	10.86 – 11.45

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, *Performance Data*, 2010-2025.

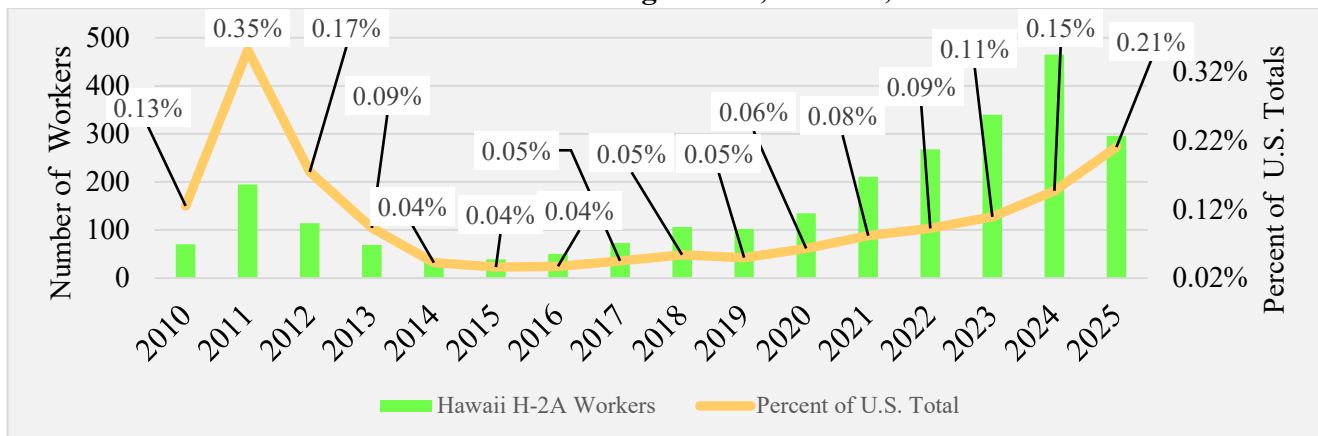
¹ Data in 2025 is for the first half of U.S. Federal Fiscal Year 2025 (October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025).

² Included in count of “All Hired Workers” in the previous table.

³ H-2A visa program has no statutory limit within a fiscal year, 231,854 workers were petitioned, 218,523 were certified by the Department of Labor (certified rate was 94% in the first half of Fiscal Year 2025). The visa approval rate dropped to 64% in the same period (140,431 H-2A visas were issued), which is the lowest visa approval rate since FY 2017. Available at: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/foreign-labor/performance> (Accessed 05.21.2025). Monthly Nonimmigrant Visa Issuance Statistics at U.S. Department of State. Available at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/visa-law0/visa-statistics/nonimmigrant-visa-statistics/monthly-nonimmigrant-visa-issuances.html> (Accessed 05.21.2025).

⁴ Wage rates compiled on an hourly basis only.

Chart 1: H-2A Visa Farm Labor and Percentage Share, Hawai'i, 2010-2025¹



¹ Data in 2025 is for the first half of U.S. Federal Fiscal Year 2025 (October 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025).

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