

Labor Force and Earnings

This section presents statistics on the size and composition of the labor force, employment by age, sex, occupation, and industry, and wage rates, payrolls, and hours of workers.

The number of employed persons doubled between 1940 and 1969, reaching 360,000 in April of the latter year. Agricultural employment fell from 55,000 to 14,000 during this period, while nonagricultural workers (excluding armed forces) rose from 99,000 to 290,000.

The unemployment rate averaged 2.7 percent in 1969, with county levels ranging from 2.6 to 3.6 percent. The labor force contains above-average proportions of younger persons and women: a recent survey reported that 47 percent of all females 17 years of age or more were either employed or seeking work. By occupation, one out of six civilian workers is classified as professional or technical.

Activities with especially large numbers of employees include government (69,000 in 1969, half of them in Federal jobs), services (48,000), retail trade (45,000), and manufacturing (24,000).

Wages and salary levels are high: the average annual earnings of private wage and salary workers under the Hawaii Employment Security Law reached \$5,852 in 1968 (twice the 1952 average), and in some categories exceeded \$9,000. Average weekly hours ranged from 34.0 (for hotels) to 43.6 (for communications and utilities).

Principal sources for these data are the decennial reports of the U.S. Bureau of the Census, monthly and annual tabulations by the Hawaii State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, annual surveys by the Hawaii Employers Council, and occasional sample surveys by public and private agencies. Statistics for the nation as a whole are published in Section 8 of the *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1969*.

Table 53. -- POPULATION 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER AND EMPLOYMENT,
BY SEX AND ACTIVITY: 1878 TO 1969

Year ¹	Popula- tion 14 and over ²	Employment					
		Total	Sex		Activity		
			Male	Female	Agricul- ture ³	Civilian non-ag.	Armed forces
1878	41,719	24,795	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1884	58,055	39,541	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1890	66,472	41,073	38,930	2,143	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1896	78,819	55,294	51,705	3,589	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1900	121,044	90,172	84,047	6,125	57,125	32,802	245
1910	137,727	100,900	89,719	11,181	56,122	43,170	1,608
1920	169,164	111,613	97,439	14,174	56,087	51,160	4,366
1930	241,782	154,086	136,400	17,686	63,478	74,317	16,291
1940	301,686	180,796	145,659	35,137	54,629	99,167	27,000
1950	351,375	190,427	143,544	46,883	31,806	135,765	22,856
1960	426,495	256,637	183,459	73,178	15,982	193,388	47,267
1969	553,000	360,050	(NA)	(NA)	14,450	290,150	55,450

NA Not available.

1. Census dates, 1878-1960; April 1969.

2. 15 and over for dates before 1900.

3. Includes forestry and fisheries.

Source: Robert C. Schmitt, Demographic Statistics of Hawaii: 1778-1965 (University of Hawaii Press, 1968), pp. 73, 77, and 127; U. S. Census of Population: 1960, Final Report PC (1) - 13C, tables 53 and 62; Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Labor Force Estimates, April 12, 1969; Hawaii Department of Planning and Economic Development, April 1969 estimate of armed forces and population 14 and over derived from Statistical Report 68 (September 12, 1969), p. 3; and U. S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 437 (January 16, 1970), pp. 7 and 11.

Table 54. -- LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES, BY COUNTY: ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1958 TO 1969

Geographic area and year	Civilian labor force	Civilian employment	Labor disputes	Unemployment	
				Number	Percent
The State:					
1958	211,540	201,370	3,090	7,080	3.4
1959	222,980	216,140	--	6,840	3.1
1960	235,140	228,050	--	7,090	3.0
1961	242,850	232,910	--	9,940	4.1
1962	246,180	234,420	160	11,600	4.7
1963	250,880	238,630	230	12,020	4.8
1964	257,630	247,560	20	10,050	3.9
1965	269,020	259,680	90	9,250	3.4
1966	281,880	272,730	30	9,120	3.2
1967	293,400	282,940	260	10,200	3.5
1968	305,480	295,730	870	8,880	2.9
1969	325,600	316,000	800	8,800	2.7
Oahu:					
1959	172,800	167,540	--	5,260	3.0
1969	264,400	257,400	100	6,800	2.6
Hawaii County:					
1959	22,190	21,590	--	600	2.7
1969	27,500	26,400	200	800	3.1
Maui County:					
1959	16,420	15,830	--	590	3.6
1969	20,600	19,700	200	700	3.6
Kauai County:					
1959	11,570	11,180	--	390	3.4
1969	13,100	12,500	200	400	3.3

Source: Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Labor Force Estimates (monthly and annual).

Table 55. -- EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BY AGE AND SEX, FOR OAHU, 1965, AND
THE NEIGHBOR ISLANDS, 1967
(Excludes persons living in institutions or barracks)

Island, sex, and age	Total	In labor force			Not in labor force	Status not reported	
		Total	Armed forces	Employed civilians			Unem- ployed
OAHU ¹							
Male, 17 and over.....	173,160	152,945	28,015	122,005	2,925	20,215	--
17 to 24 years	30,550	22,620	4,485	16,835	1,300	7,930	--
25 to 44 years	82,030	81,120	22,230	58,110	780	910	--
45 to 64 years	48,620	45,825	1,300	43,875	650	2,795	--
65 years and over	11,960	3,380	--	3,185	195	8,580	--
Female, 17 and over	178,425	84,110	--	80,015	4,095	94,315	--
17 to 24 years	39,845	19,305	--	17,550	1,755	20,540	--
25 to 44 years	84,565	41,340	--	39,845	1,495	43,225	--
45 to 64 years	41,860	22,165	--	21,385	780	19,695	--
65 years and over	12,155	1,300	--	1,235	65	10,855	--
NEIGHBOR ISLANDS ²							
Male, 17 and over ³	43,508	32,886	--	32,098	788	8,340	2,282
17 to 44 years	20,035	16,420	--	15,800	619	2,343	1,272
45 to 64 years	17,627	15,249	--	15,102	147	1,812	565
65 years and over	5,680	1,051	--	1,030	21	4,185	444
Female, 17 and over ³	41,299	19,202	--	18,620	582	19,141	2,956
17 to 44 years	22,643	12,318	--	11,850	468	8,707	1,619
45 to 64 years	13,294	6,383	--	6,302	82	6,274	636
65 years and over	5,132	420	--	387	33	4,044	668

1. For 12-month period ended November 30, 1965.

2. For Fall 1967.

3. Includes 166 males and 231 females not reporting age.

Source: Hawaii Department of Planning and Economic Development, Statistical Reports 40 (July 29, 1966), pp. 3-4 and underlying data, and 58 (May 17, 1968), p. 10.

Table 56. -- OCCUPATION, BY SEX, FOR OAHU, 1965, AND THE NEIGHBOR ISLANDS, 1967
(Excludes persons living in institutions or barracks)

Occupation	Oahu: Dec. 1964 to Nov. 1965		Neighbor Islands: Fall 1967	
	Male ¹	Female	Male	Female
Civilian employees	122,200	80,015	32,098	18,620
Professional, technical	20,020	14,170	3,335	2,593
Farmers, farm managers	1,105	650	1,480	248
Managers, officials, proprietors	18,460	4,940	4,655	1,948
Clerical workers	9,620	26,195	1,370	3,468
Sales workers	7,345	7,020	733	1,276
Craftsmen, foremen	27,235	650	4,261	175
Operatives	15,665	8,320	4,079	1,214
Service workers	9,750	16,835	2,208	3,858
Farm laborers, foremen	1,235	390	5,771	1,380
Laborers, except farm	11,375	455	3,618	1,221
Not reported	390	390	586	1,239

1. For technical reasons adds to slightly different total than distribution by age in table 55.

Source: Hawaii Department of Planning and Economic Development, Statistical Reports 40 (July 29, 1966), p. 5 and underlying data, and 58 (May 17, 1968), p. 11.

Table 57. -- EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES, BY INDUSTRY, BY GEOGRAPHIC
AREA: ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1958 TO 1968

Industry	1958	1963	1968				
			State	Oahu	Hawaii County	Maui County	Kauai County
Employed	201,370	238,630	295,730	238,740	25,660	18,870	12,460
Contract construction	12,660	15,050	18,720	16,190	1,210	860	470
Food processing	15,380	15,880	13,120	7,440	2,450	1,880	1,440
Sugar	(NA)	(NA)	5,210	1,170	1,890	950	1,200
Pineapple	(NA)	(NA)	4,480	3,570	--	780	120
Other	(NA)	(NA)	3,430	2,700	470	150	120
Other manufacturing	7,210	9,150	10,600	9,490	560	370	180
Transportation			12,730	10,820	800	630	480
Communication	12,960	15,370	5,250	4,470			
Utilities			2,430	1,910	460	330	510
Wholesale trade	10,510	12,760	14,200	12,330	1,230	380	260
Retail trade	26,130	33,280	45,150	38,430	3,050	2,190	1,470
Finance, ins., real est. ..	7,360	11,040	14,730	13,600	570	390	170
Hotels	3,660	5,240	10,550	6,340	1,850	1,270	1,090
Other services, misc.	21,980	28,970	37,710	33,650	1,650	1,380	1,030
National defense ¹	18,350	18,420	23,120	23,110	10	--	--
Other Federal government ..	7,210	9,490	11,970	11,320	260	180	210
State government	13,700	16,430	24,420	19,850	2,270	1,390	920
Local government	7,710	8,550	9,840	6,640	1,470	1,080	650
Agricult	12,270	12,690	12,130	2,880	2,900	4,150	2,190
Sugar	6,830	7,330	6,490	1,110	1,970	1,560	1,850
Pineapple	4,120	3,890	3,390	1,120	--	2,160	100
Other	1,320	1,470	2,250	650	930	430	240
Other non-agric. ²	18,540	21,990	25,080	19,070	2,890	1,960	1,160
Other agricultural ²	5,740	4,320	3,980	1,200	2,120	430	230

NA Not available.

1. Civilians only.

2. Self-employed workers, unpaid family workers.

Source: Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Labor Force Estimates (monthly and annual).

Table 58. -- PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS COVERED BY THE HAWAII EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW: 1952 TO 1968

Year	Covered employment	Average annual wage (\$)	Total wages (\$1,000)	Year	Covered employment	Average annual wage (\$)	Total wages (\$1,000)
1952	98,477	2,935	289,054	1961	153,170	4,190	641,796
1953	100,996	2,985	301,491	1962	154,297	4,332	668,355
1954	99,292	3,046	302,431	1963	157,798	4,478	706,637
1955	102,787	3,118	320,476	1964	163,464	4,737	774,313
1956	107,267	3,196	342,863	1965	171,468	4,939	846,892
1957	111,474	3,392	378,108	1966	181,160	5,149	932,709
1958	114,167	3,620	413,317	1967	186,810	5,364	1,002,002
1959	139,550	3,690	514,993	1968	195,415	5,852	1,143,641
1960	148,607	4,067	604,400				
Island and industry				Covered employment	Average annual wage (\$)	Total wages (\$1,000)	
Islands, 1968: ¹							
Oahu				154,047	6,025	928,150	
Hawaii				14,112	5,163	72,857	
Maui				9,414	5,111	48,115	
Kauai				7,446	5,049	37,597	
Molokai and Lanai				585	4,054	2,372	
Industries, 1968:							
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries				11,605	5,453	63,279	
Mining (quarrying)				34	8,890	302	
Contract construction				18,916	8,946	169,225	
Manufacturing				24,048	6,310	151,739	
Transportation				12,739	7,248	92,328	
Communications				5,353	8,822	47,225	
Electric, gas and sanitary services				2,369	8,911	21,110	
Wholesale trade				14,390	7,060	101,594	
Retail trade				45,053	4,043	182,130	
Finance, insurance, real estate				14,269	6,439	91,878	
Services				46,599	4,778	222,659	
Nonclassifiable establishments				40	4,307	172,263	

1. Excludes workers and payroll not allocatable by island.

Source: Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Employment and Payrolls in Hawaii (annual).

Table 59. -- WAGE AND SALARY RATES FOR SELECTED OCCUPATIONS: 1841 TO 1969

Occupation and year ¹	Annual salary (dollars)	Occupation and year	Monthly salary (dollars)	Occupation and year	Daily wage (dollars ⁴)
Chief executive: ²		Policeman, Honolulu:		Sugar workers:	
1844	6,000	1843	3.50	1841-44	0.125
1860	16,000	1847	6.00	1854	0.11-0.25
1872	22,500	1861	20.00	1863	0.31-0.38
1888 ³	57,588	1873-77	20-22	1888-90	0.60-0.86
1898	12,000	1888	30	1902 ⁵	0.64
1900	5,000	1903	60	1910 ⁵	0.70
1910	7,000	1904	75	1915 ⁵	0.74
1921	10,000	1932	135	1929	1.82
1949	15,000	1940	158	1939	1.88
1956	19,000	1950	245	1947	7.63
1959	25,000	1960	444	1956	10.73
1962	27,500	1966	504	1965 ⁶	18.40
1965	33,500	1969	555	1969 ⁶	21.62
1969	38,182				

1. Selected years before 1900; thereafter, year each level was authorized.
2. King to 1893; President, 1893-1899; Governor, 1900 forward.
3. Includes \$20,000 for privy purse and \$37,588 revenue from rental of Crown lands.
4. Housing, hospitalization, and sometimes food were included as workers' perquisites before World War II.
5. Field hands only. Mill laborers received somewhat higher wages.
6. Cash earnings only. Value of fringe benefits was \$6.50 per day in 1965 and \$8.40 per day in 1969.

Source: Robert C. Schmitt, "Statistics on Income in Hawaii, 1825-1966," Hawaii Historical Review, Vol. II, No. 7, April 1967, pp. 358-372; Session Laws of Hawaii 1969, Act 127; Honolulu Police Department, records; Hawaii Sugar Planters Association, records. Sugar workers wages expressed on a weekly or monthly basis have been converted to a daily equivalent based on 6 working days per week and 26 per month.

Table 60. -- HOURS AND EARNINGS IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES: 1961 AND 1968

Industry	Average weekly earnings (dollars)		Average weekly hours		Average hourly earnings	
	1961	1968	1961	1968	1961	1968
Contract construction	118.34	193.45	38.8	39.4	3.05	4.91
Manufacturing	72.39	112.68	38.3	40.1	1.89	2.81
Commun., utilities	106.30	157.83	41.2	43.6	2.58	3.62
Trades ¹	65.64	83.20	35.1	34.1	1.87	2.44
Finance	84.03	99.65	--	--	--	--
Hotels	55.27	76.16	32.9	34.0	1.68	2.24
Laundries	46.25	70.10	37.6	38.1	1.23	1.84

1. Wholesale and retail, excluding eating and drinking places.

Source: Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, records.

Table 61. -- AVERAGE PAY RATES FOR SELECTED JOB CLASSIFICATIONS IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY: 1953 TO 1969

Survey date	Monthly rates (dollars)				Hourly rates (dollars)		
	Junior typist	Clerk-stenographer	Secretary	Civil engineer (entry)	Laborer (heavy)	Hi-lift operator	Auto mechanic
1953	193	247	317	405	1.15	1.36	1.72
1961	244	318	373	481	1.53	1.89	2.37
1968	327	423	487	668	2.16	2.88	3.32
1969	357	450	522	768	2.37	3.15	3.53

Source: Hawaii Employers Council, Research Department, Pay Rates in Hawaii (annual).