

SECTION 10

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 1970, reaching 335,000 in the latter year. Agricultural employment fell from 55,000 to 17,000 during this period, while nonagricultural workers (excluding armed forces) rose from 99,000 to 291,000.

The unemployment rate averaged 3.6 percent in 1970, with county levels ranging from 3.3 to 5.2 percent. The labor force contains above-average proportions of younger persons and women: a recent survey reported that 45 percent of all females 17 years of age or more were either employed or seeking work. By occupation, one out of seven civilian workers is classified as professional or technical. Activities with especially large numbers of employees include government (74,000 in 1970, almost half of them in Federal jobs), services (57,000), retail and wholesale trade (69,000), and manufacturing (25,000).

Wage and salary levels are high: the average annual earnings of private wage and salary workers under the Hawaii Employment Security Law reached \$6,375 in 1969 (twice the 1956 average), and in some categories exceeded \$9,000. Average weekly hours ranged from 31.9 (for hotels) to 43.1 (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: 1970*.

Table 66.—WORKING-AGE POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT: 1872 TO 1970

Year	Working-age population ¹	Employment, including armed forces					
		Total	By sex		By military status and activity		
			Male	Female	Civilians		Armed forces
					Agric, forestry, fisheries	Other activities	
1872	41,097	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
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
1970 ²	523,055	393,235	(NA)	(NA)	16,650	320,500	56,085

NA not available.

¹Population 15 and over before 1900, 14 and over for 1900-1960, and 16 and over for 1970.

²Employment data are preliminary estimates.

Source: Robert C. Schmitt, *Demographic Statistics of Hawaii: 1778-1965* (University of Hawaii Press, 1968), pp. 73, 77, and 127; U.S. Bureau of the Census, *U.S. Census of Population: 1960*, Final Report PC (1)-13C, tables 53 and 62, and *1970 Census of Population*, PC(V2)-13, p. 3; Hawaii State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, *Labor Force Estimates, April 12, 1970*; Hawaii State Department of Planning and Economic Development, *Statistical Report 72* (April 30, 1970), p. 3.

Table 67.—LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES: ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1940 TO 1970

Year	Civilian labor force	Civilian employment	Workers in labor disputes	Unemployment	
				Number	Percent
1940	162,763	155,531	(NA)	7,232	4.4
1941	179,568	173,068	(NA)	6,500	3.6
1942	215,885	213,455	(NA)	2,430	1.1
1943	218,501	216,615	(NA)	1,886	0.9
1944	214,522	212,922	(NA)	1,600	0.7
1945	210,368	208,868	(NA)	1,500	0.7
1946	190,297	188,165	(NA)	2,132	1.1
1947	191,695	188,742	(NA)	2,953	1.5
1948	193,467	184,020	(NA)	9,447	4.9
1949	194,776	173,340	(NA)	21,436	11.0
1950	187,773	170,075	(NA)	17,698	9.4
1951	191,678	183,129	271	8,278	4.3
1952	194,067	185,639	6	8,422	4.3
1953	196,142	186,437	163	9,542	4.9
1954	197,376	185,514	103	11,759	6.0
1955	199,276	189,291	61	9,924	5.0
1956	204,082	195,075	—	9,007	4.4
1957	207,564	199,831	—	7,733	3.7
1958 ¹	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	306,780	297,030	870	8,880	2.9
1969	325,560	315,990	750	8,820	2.7
1970	347,570	334,590	520	12,460	3.6
ISLANDS: 1970					
Oahu	282,700	272,870	30	9,800	3.5
Hawaii	30,120	28,870	260	990	3.3
Maui	18,560	17,510	90	960	5.2
Kauai	13,260	12,580	130	550	4.1
Molokai, Lanai	2,930	2,770	—	160	5.6

NA Not available

¹Data for 1958 and later years are only approximately comparable to data for 1940 to 1957.

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

Table 68—EMPLOYMENT STATUS, BY AGE AND SEX, FOR OAHU, 1964-1967, AND THE NEIGHBOR ISLAND, 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			Unemployed
OAHU¹							
Male, 17 and over	154,120	134,040	23,300	108,420	2,320	20,080	480
17 to 24 years	29,400	21,080	4,700	15,580	800	8,320	260
25 to 44 years	70,560	69,400	16,980	51,580	840	1,160	140
45 to 64 years	43,800	40,660	1,620	38,440	600	3,140	60
65 years and over	10,360	2,900	—	2,820	80	7,460	20
Female, 17 and over	161,240	72,340	120	69,780	2,440	88,900	300
17 to 24 years	36,360	15,660	40	14,500	1,120	20,700	120
25 to 44 years	74,340	36,740	40	35,800	900	37,600	140
45 to 64 years	38,820	18,960	40	18,520	400	19,860	40
65 years and over	11,720	980	—	960	20	10,740	—
NEIGHBOR ISLANDS²							
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

¹For 36-month period ended March 31, 1967.

²For Fall 1967.

³Includes 166 males and 231 females not reporting age.

Source: Hawaii Dept. of Planning and Economic Development, Statistical Report 58 (May 17, 1968), p. 10; Hawaii State Department of Health, Hawaii Health Surveillance Program survey, special tabulation.

Table 69.—OCCUPATION, BY SEX, FOR OAHU, 1964-1967, AND THE NEIGHBOR ISLANDS, 1967

(Excludes persons living in institutions or barracks)

Occupation	Oahu: April 1964 to March 1967		Neighbor Islands: Fall 1967	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Civilian employees	108,420	69,780	32,098	18,620
Professional, technical	16,060	11,780	3,335	2,593
Farmers, farm managers	920	440	1,480	248
Managers, officials, proprietors	16,640	4,620	4,655	1,948
Clerical workers	9,060	24,620	1,370	3,468
Sales workers	6,380	6,400	733	1,276
Craftsmen, foremen	25,780	740	4,261	175
Operators	13,860	7,480	4,079	1,214
Service workers	8,680	12,960	2,208	3,858
Farm laborers, foremen	1,520	340	5,771	1,380
Laborers, except farm	9,520	400	3,618	1,221
Not reported	—	—	586	1,239

Source: Hawaii Dept. of Planning and Economic Development, Statistical Report 58 (May 17, 1968), p. 11; Hawaii State Department of Health, Hawaii Health Surveillance Program survey, special tabulation.

Table 70.—EMPLOYMENT, BY INDUSTRY: ANNUAL AVERAGES, 1960 AND 1970

Industry	1960: State total	1970, by island (revised preliminary)					
		State total	Oahu	Hawaii	Maui	Kauai	Lanai, Molokai
Total employment	228,050	334,590	272,870	28,870	17,510	12,580	2,770
Contract construction	17,600	25,230	22,290	1,500	1,000	420	20
Manufacturing	25,770	25,000	18,230	2,960	2,180	1,610	20
Durable goods	3,410	4,850	4,410	150	230	60	10
Non-durable goods	22,360	20,150	13,820	2,820	1,950	1,550	20
Transp., commun., utilities	14,780	23,860	20,310	1,380	1,000	1,050	130
Trade	42,720	68,760	58,880	5,010	2,830	1,880	150
Finance, insur., real estate	9,240	18,040	16,430	900	410	240	60
Services and miscell.	29,310	56,850	48,170	3,730	2,760	2,010	180
Government	49,510	73,740	64,440	4,370	2,440	2,060	430
Federal	27,010	33,420	32,550	360	180	300	40
State	14,620	30,660	24,600	2,960	1,630	1,150	320
Local	7,880	9,660	7,290	1,060	630	600	80
Agriculture	13,790	12,170	2,960	3,610	2,290	1,680	1,630
Non-agr. self-employed ¹	19,930	26,310	19,870	3,120	1,950	1,290	80
Agric. self-employed ¹	5,400	4,630	1,290	2,290	650	340	70

¹Includes unpaid family workers and (in non-agricultural category) domestics.

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

Table 71.—PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLLS COVERED BY THE HAWAII EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW: 1952 TO 1969

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	1969	213,594	6,375	1,361,576
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	

¹Excludes workers and payroll not allocatable by island.

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

Table 72.—WAGE AND SALARY RATES FOR SPECIFIED OCCUPATIONS: 1841 TO 1971

Occupation and year	Annual salary (dollars)	Occupation and year	Monthly salary (dollars)	Occupation and year	Daily wage (dollars)
Chief executive: ¹		Policeman: ²		Sugar workers: ³	
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 ⁴	57,588	1873-77	20-22	1888-90	0.60-0.86
1898	12,000	1888	30	1902	0.64
1900	5,000	1903	60	1910	0.70
1910	7,000	1904	75	1915	0.74
1921	10,000	1932	135	1929	1.82
1949	15,000	1940	158	1935	1.70
1956	19,000	1950	245	1941	2.48
1959	25,000	1960	444	1946	5.28
1962	27,500	1966	504	1947	7.63
1965	33,500	1969	555	1957	11.20
1969	38,182	1971	612	1969	23.26
1970	42,000				

¹King to 1893; President, 1893-1899; Governor, 1900 to present. For selected years before 1900; thereafter for each year in which a change was authorized.

²Beginning salary for Honolulu policemen. For selected years.

³Data for 1902-1915 refer to field workers only. Data for 1935 and succeeding years are averages for non-supervisory employees in the industry. Data refer to cash wages only and do not include value of "employee benefits" (\$9.76 a day in 1969) or various workers' prerequisites (housing, hospitalization, and sometimes food) provided prior to December 1946.

⁴Includes \$20,000 for privy purse and \$37,588 revenue from rental of Crown lands.

Source: Robert C. Schmitt, "Statistics on Income in Hawaii, 1825-1966," *Hawaii Historical Review, Selected Readings* (Hawaiian Historical Society, 1969), pp.274-292; Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, *HSPA Sugar Manual* (1970), p. 6; *Session Laws of Hawaii 1969*, Act 127; Honolulu Police Department, records. Sugar workers' daily wages for 1863-1929 computed from weekly or monthly data, assuming six working days per week or 26 per month.

Table 73.—HOURS AND EARNINGS IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES: 1961 AND 1969

Industry	Average weekly earnings (dollars)		Average weekly hours		Average hourly earnings (dollars)	
	1961	1969	1961	1969	1961	1969
Contract construction	118.34	213.44	38.8	40.5	3.05	5.27
Manufacturing	72.39	119.59	38.3	39.6	1.89	3.02
Communications, utilities	106.30	160.76	41.2	43.1	2.58	3.73
Trades ¹	65.64	89.23	35.1	33.8	1.87	2.64
Finance	84.03	106.47	—	—	—	—
Hotels	55.27	75.60	32.9	31.9	1.68	2.37
Laundries	46.25	69.78	37.6	35.6	1.23	1.96

¹Wholesale and retail, excluding eating and drinking places.
Source: Hawaii Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations, records.

Table 74.—AVERAGE PAY RATES FOR SELECTED JOB CLASSIFICATIONS IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY: 1953 TO 1970

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	372	474	547	866	2.50	3.46	3.79

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