



Ka 'Oihana Mahi'ai

## Market Analysis and News Branch

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

## Statistics on Lettuce Imports State of Hawai'i, 2016 to 2022

The majority of lettuce consumed in Hawai'i is imported from the continental United States. In 2022, imports accounted for 90% of all lettuce available for local consumption. Hawai'i's lettuce imports have steadily decreased over the years, from 45.3 million pounds in 2016 to 32.8 million pounds in 2022. This decline can be attributed to a decrease in per capita lettuce consumption, from 31.3 pounds in 2016 to 23.0 pounds in 2022. Additionally, Hawai'i's de-facto population, which includes visitors, slightly decreased from 1,611,051 in 2016 to 1,597,575 in 2022. As a result, total lettuce consumption in Hawai'i has declined from 50.4 million pounds in 2016 to 36.8 million pounds in 2022.

Local lettuce production in Hawai'i increased by 25% from a low of 3.2 million pounds in 2020 to 4.0 million pounds in 2022<sup>1</sup>. This growth in local production also contributed to the lowest volume of lettuce imported into Hawai'i since 2016, estimated at 32.8 million pounds, accounting for 89.1% of all lettuce that was available for consumption in 2022. The top lettuce producing states in the United States, ranked by harvested acreage, were California (274,198 acres), Arizona (65,072 acres), and Florida (11,713 acres) in 2022.

Year <sup>1</sup>	<b>Consumption</b> <b>Availability</b> <b>U.S. Per Capita</b> (Pounds)	Consumption Availability in Hawaiʻi <sup>2, 3</sup> (Million pounds)	<b>Production in</b> Hawai'i (Million pounds)	Imports to Hawaiʻi (Million pounds)	Import Proportion (Percent)
2016	31.3	50.45	4.2	45.3	91.65
2017	30.3	49.0 <sup>5</sup>	4.0	44.2	91.8 <sup>5</sup>
2018	24.3 <sup>5</sup>	39.7 <sup>5</sup>	3.74	35.3	$88.8^{5}$
2019	$25.1^5$	41.0 <sup>5</sup>	3.5	36.6	91.4 <sup>5</sup>
2020	25.9 <sup>5</sup>	38.4 <sup>5</sup>	3.2	35.3	91.7 <sup>5</sup>
2021	23.1	36.2	3.3	32.9	90.9
2022	23.0	36.8	4.0	32.8	89.1

<sup>1</sup> Sourced from USDA-ERS and USDA-NASS, various years.

<sup>2</sup> Consumption availability is the sum of production and imports to Hawai'i.

<sup>3</sup> Based on annual consumption availability of lettuce (U.S per capita).

<sup>4</sup> Estimated.

<sup>5</sup> Revised (USDA-ERS & DBEDT).

<sup>1</sup> USDA-NASS (2023). Pacific Region – Hawai'i, Vegetable and Melon Crops Report, 2022. Available at: <u>https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\_by\_State/Hawaii/Publications/Vegetables/2023/202302vegrv.pdf</u>

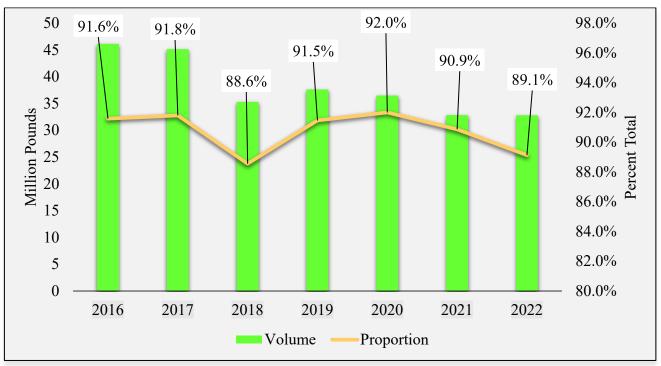


Chart 1: Hawai'i Lettuce Imports by Volume and Proportion, 2016-2022

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