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October Hired Workers Increase 8 Percent, Wage Rates Increase 6 Percent From Previous Year

Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 841,000 for the reference week of October 11-17, 2015, up 8 percent from the October 2014 reference week. There were 872,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 12-18, 2015, up 4 percent from the July 2014 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$12.82 per hour during the October 2015 reference week, up 6 percent from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$12.11 per hour, up 5 percent from a year earlier. Livestock workers earned \$12.02, up 6 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$12.09 per hour, was up 5 percent from October 2014. Hired laborers worked an average of 41.7 hours during the October 2015 reference week, compared with 41.3 hours a year earlier.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$12.47 per hour during the July 2015 reference week, up 4 percent from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$11.73 per hour, up 3 percent. Livestock workers earned \$11.80 per hour, up 5 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$11.75 per hour, was up 4 percent from July 2014. Hired laborers worked an average of 41.0 hours during the July 2015 reference week, compared with 40.5 hours a year earlier.

The 2015 U.S. all hired worker annual average wage rate was \$12.54 per hour, up 4 percent from the 2014 annual average wage. The 2015 U.S. field worker annual average wage rate was \$11.72 per hour, up 4 percent from the 2014 annual average. The 2015 U.S. annual average combined wage for field and livestock workers was \$11.74, up 4 percent from the 2014 annual average of \$11.29 per hour.

October Reference Week

For the October 2015 reference week, the largest increases in the number of hired workers from the previous year occurred in the Corn Belt I (Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio), Corn Belt II (Iowa and Missouri), and Southeast (Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina) regions. Corn Belt I saw the largest increase, with 42 percent more workers on the region's farms.

The largest percentage decreases in the number of hired workers from the previous year occurred in the Appalachian I (North Carolina and Virginia), Florida, and Southern Plains (Oklahoma and Texas) regions. The Southern Plains region saw the largest decrease, with 18 percent less workers during the reference week.

Average wage rates increased from the previous year, in nearly all regions. The largest percentage increases in average wage rates for all hired workers occurred in the Corn Belt I, Florida, Mountain III (Arizona and New Mexico), and Southern Plains regions.

July Reference Week

For the July 2015 reference week, the largest percentage increases in the number of hired workers from the previous year occurred in the Corn Belt II (Iowa and Missouri), Delta (Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi), and Lake (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) regions. The Corn Belt II region saw the biggest increase, with 32 percent more workers on the region's farms.

The largest percentage decreases in the number of hired workers from the previous year occurred in the Florida, Pacific (Oregon and Washington), and Southern Plains (Oklahoma and Texas) regions. The Pacific region saw the largest decrease, with 12 percent less workers during the reference week.

Average wage rates increased from the previous year, in nearly all regions The largest percentage increases in average wage rates for all hired workers occurred in the Corn Belt I (Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio), Florida, Mountain III (Arizona and New Mexico), Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania), and Southern Plains regions.

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Hired Workers and Wage Rates – United States

Farm employment	July 6-12, 2014	October 12-18, 2014	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015	July 12-18, 2015	October 11-17, 2015
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Hired workers 150 days or more	583 255 838	561 221 782	458 91 549	545 142 687	626 246 872	610 231 841
Hours worked by hired workers	(hours per week) 40.5	(hours per week) 41.3	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week) 41.0	(hours per week) 41.7
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Wage rate ¹	44.00	44.40	44.50	44.40	44.75	40.00
Field and livestock combined	11.33 11.36	11.46 11.52	11.52 11.40	11.43 11.36	11.75 11.73	12.09 12.11
Livestock		11.29	11.69	11.58	11.80	12.11
All hired workers	11.96	12.12	12.53	12.28	12.47	12.82

Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: October 11-17, 2015 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

	Hired					
Region ¹	Number	Expected to	Expected to be employed			
Region	of workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	of hours worked		
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)		
Northeast I	49 39	36 29	13 10	40.8 43.2		
Appalachian I	41 31	25 17	16 14	41.3 40.4		
SoutheastFlorida	33 37	25 32	8 5	37.9 40.1		
Lake	73	46	27	41.5		
Cornbelt I	54 34	33 22	21 12	39.4 41.0		
Delta	35	26	9	42.5		
Northern Plains	40	29	11	41.0		
Southern Plains	45	35	10	35.4		
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	28 18 20	22 14 17	6 4 3	45.8 44.4 48.8		
Pacific	80 177	48 148	32 29	41.7 44.1		
Hawaii	7	6	1	37.2		
United States	841	610	231	41.7		

¹ Region map on page 26.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: October 11-17, 2015

-	-	Wage rates for		
Region ¹	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I Northeast II	12.25 12.15	12.24 11.48	12.25 11.90	12.97 12.67
Appalachian I Appalachian II	10.65 11.34	11.13 10.96	10.75 11.25	11.35 11.91
SoutheastFlorida	10.72 10.75	11.34 11.50	10.85 10.83	11.22 12.10
Lake	12.53	12.20	12.40	13.28
Cornbelt II	12.63 12.82	11.68 12.48	12.45 12.70	13.12 13.03
Delta	10.57	10.89	10.65	10.95
Northern Plains	14.59	13.86	14.30	14.72
Southern Plains	10.91	11.25	11.10	11.87
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	11.79 11.49 11.05	11.59 10.64 11.86	11.70 11.15 11.35	11.98 11.70 11.95
Pacific California	14.12 11.85	12.41 13.15	14.00 12.05	14.39 13.16
Hawaii	12.70	14.70	12.85	14.68
United States	12.11	12.02	12.09	12.82

¹ Region map on page 26.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: July 12-18, 2015 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

	Hired					
Region ¹	Number	Expected to	Expected to be employed			
region	of workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	of hours worked		
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)		
Northeast I	50 50	38 30	12 20	40.6 40.7		
Appalachian I Appalachian II	48 30	31 19	17 11	42.0 37.2		
SoutheastFlorida	30 32	23 31	7 1	40.0 40.7		
Lake	80	49	31	38.3		
Cornbelt I	43 25	31 21	12 4	37.4 39.6		
Delta	34	26	8	40.5		
Northern Plains	37	27	10	39.6		
Southern Plains	55	36	19	34.5		
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	27 21 19	21 15 16	6 6 3	47.7 45.0 46.8		
Pacific California	104 180	57 149	47 31	42.3 43.6		
Hawaii	7	6	1	37.5		
United States	872	626	246	41.0		

¹ Region map on page 26.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker - Region and United States: July 12-18, 2015

		Type of worker				
Region ¹	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	Wage rates for all hired workers		
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)		
Northeast I Northeast II	11.81 11.54	11.38 11.39	11.65 11.50	12.41 12.13		
Appalachian IAppalachian II	10.23 10.97	10.95 10.72	10.35 10.90	10.85 11.57		
SoutheastFlorida	10.53 10.65	11.15 11.55	10.65 10.76	11.05 12.21		
Lake	11.76	11.61	11.70	12.56		
Cornbelt I	12.08 12.27	11.95 12.68	12.05 12.45	13.07 12.89		
Delta	10.67	11.01	10.75	11.11		
Northern Plains	13.66	13.31	13.50	13.96		
Southern Plains	10.77	11.32	11.05	11.64		
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	11.95 11.12 11.26	11.41 10.56 11.72	11.70 10.90 11.45	11.93 11.38 12.19		
Pacific California	12.62 12.05	12.30 13.10	12.60 12.20	12.97 13.25		
Hawaii	12.50	14.95	12.69	14.51		
United States	11.73	11.80	11.75	12.47		

¹ Region map on page 26.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: April 12-18, 2015 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

	Hired					
Region ¹	Number	Expected to	Expected to be employed			
	of workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	of hours worked		
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)		
Northeast I	31 35	26 27	5 8	39.8 39.0		
Appalachian I	33 26	26 16	7 10	39.8 32.0		
Southeast	27 39	20 32	7 7	39.0 41.5		
Lake	47	36	11	37.1		
Cornbelt I	36 25	27 19	9	36.5 37.0		
Delta	25	22	3	37.2		
Northern Plains	35	26	9	39.3		
Southern Plains	53	40	13	40.2		
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	27 15 18	23 11 17	4 4 1	43.1 42.8 46.8		
PacificCalifornia	50 159	37 135	13 24	41.1 42.0		
Hawaii	6	5	1	36.7		
United States	687	545	142	39.9		

¹ Region map on page 26.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: April 12-18, 2015

			Wage rates for	
Region ¹	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	11.40 11.56	11.06 11.39	11.25 11.50	12.39 12.34
Appalachian IAppalachian II	10.88 10.82	11.11 9.84	10.95 10.30	11.72 11.35
SoutheastFlorida	10.43 10.40	10.07 11.75	10.30 10.51	10.92 11.27
Lake	11.85	12.03	11.95	12.67
Cornbelt I	11.98 10.92	11.33 11.79	11.75 11.30	12.86 12.08
Delta	10.52	10.46	10.50	10.86
Northern Plains	14.13	13.09	13.50	14.08
Southern Plains	11.27	11.15	11.20	11.48
Mountain I	11.65 11.14 10.08	12.12 11.36 12.42	11.90 11.25 11.05	12.37 12.10 12.03
Pacific	11.46 11.60	12.01 11.95	11.55 11.65	12.27 12.81
Hawaii	12.30	14.15	12.50	14.18
United States	11.36	11.58	11.43	12.28

¹ Region map on page 26.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: January 11-17, 2015 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

	Hired					
Region ¹	Number	Expected to	Expected to be employed			
	of workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	of hours worked		
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)		
Northeast I	23 22	20 20	3 2	40.6 39.9		
Appalachian I	23 20	20 12	3 8	35.7 32.1		
Southeast	21 44	17 32	4 12	37.0 39.0		
Lake	36	31	5	36.5		
Cornbelt I	23 21	20 18	3 3	37.4 36.6		
Delta	17	16	1	34.4		
Northern Plains	28	25	3	41.4		
Southern Plains	45	34	11	40.5		
Mountain II	18 11 19	17 9 17	1 2 2	41.1 42.6 47.5		
Pacific	40 132	31 114	9 18	39.9 40.3		
Hawaii	6	5	1	36.3		
United States	549	458	91	39.2		

¹ Region map on page 26.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: January 11-17, 2015

	_	Type of worker		Wage rates for
Region ¹	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I Northeast II	11.87 12.64	11.15 11.23	11.45 11.85	12.67 12.97
Appalachian IAppalachian II	11.13 10.82	11.56 10.48	11.30 10.65	12.28 11.80
SoutheastFlorida	10.80 10.65	9.89 11.65	10.45 10.74	11.18 11.59
Lake	12.50	11.86	12.00	12.87
Cornbelt I	12.33 11.47	11.06 12.04	11.55 11.80	12.79 12.68
Delta	11.29	10.55	11.00	11.59
Northern Plains	14.58	13.41	13.80	14.54
Southern Plains	11.60	11.04	11.25	11.54
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	12.28 11.52 10.16	11.54 12.73 12.29	11.70 12.30 10.95	12.41 13.21 11.87
Pacific California	11.48 11.30	12.45 12.30	11.65 11.48	12.55 12.90
Hawaii	12.30	13.80	12.47	14.27
United States	11.40	11.69	11.52	12.53

¹ Region map on page 26.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: October 12-18, 2014

	Hired					
Region ¹	Number	Expected to	Expected to be employed			
region	of workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	of hours worked		
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)		
Northeast I	45 34	32 23	13 11	41.0 37.9		
Appalachian I	43 28	28 19	15 9	41.7 37.8		
Southeast	24 40	19 33	5 7	40.4 38.3		
Lake	63	42	21	38.5		
Cornbelt I	38 25	24 17	14 8	37.8 37.5		
Delta	28	20	8	39.3		
Northern Plains	36	27	9	43.5		
Southern Plains	55	42	13	38.6		
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	28 18 20	21 14 17	7 4 3	46.2 46.0 48.6		
Pacific	81 169	44 133	37 36	39.5 45.1		
Hawaii	7	6	1	37.6		
United States	782	561	221	41.3		

¹ Region map on page 26.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker - Region and United States: October 12-18, 2014

		Type of worker		Wage rates for
Region ¹	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I Northeast II	11.77 11.27	10.74 11.20	11.45 11.25	12.09 11.88
Appalachian IAppalachian II	10.32 10.42	10.45 10.83	10.35 10.55	10.87 11.11
SoutheastFlorida	9.93 10.25	10.76 10.45	10.10 10.28	10.82 11.00
Lake	12.09	11.35	11.75	12.24
Cornbelt I	11.82 12.24	11.19 12.12	11.65 12.20	12.08 13.07
Delta	10.34	9.94	10.25	10.50
Northern Plains	14.55	13.17	14.05	14.52
Southern Plains	10.61	10.48	10.55	10.91
Mountain I	11.43 11.01 9.67	10.85 11.10 11.21	11.15 11.05 10.15	11.66 11.68 10.98
Pacific California	13.04 11.45	12.55 12.05	13.00 11.56	13.42 12.54
Hawaii	12.30	13.95	12.46	15.04
United States	11.52	11.29	11.46	12.12

¹ Region map on page 26.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: July 6-12, 2014 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

		Hired									
Region ¹	Number	Expected to	Expected to be employed								
	of workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	of hours worked							
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)							
Northeast I Northeast II	47 44	36 25	11 19	39.7 38.9							
Appalachian I Appalachian II	46 31	28 22	18 9	39.8 35.4							
SoutheastFlorida	27 36	19 31	8 5	39.7 38.8							
Lake	61	43	18	38.4							
Cornbelt I	35 19	23 15	12 4	37.5 38.2							
Delta	27	18	9	39.3							
Northern Plains	36	27	9	40.9							
Southern Plains	59	42	17	37.0							
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	28 20 20	22 14 17	6 6 3	44.8 45.9 43.9							
Pacific California	118 177	52 143	66 34	40.2 43.9							
Hawaii	7	6	1	37.7							
United States	838	583	255	40.5							

¹ Region map on page 26.

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Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: July 6-12, 2014

Excludes agricultural service	•	Type of worker		Waga rates for
Region ¹	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	Wage rates for all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	11.60 10.52	10.73 11.17	11.30 10.70	12.04 11.25
Appalachian IAppalachian II	10.09 9.99	10.33 11.07	10.15 10.35	10.69 10.99
SoutheastFlorida	9.80 10.05	10.86 10.65	10.00 10.13	10.68 11.03
Lake	11.30	11.40	11.35	11.87
Cornbelt I	11.39 11.77	11.27 11.84	11.35 11.80	11.92 13.01
Delta	10.20	9.99	10.15	10.47
Northern Plains	14.09	12.99	13.65	14.09
Southern Plains	10.15	10.35	10.25	10.74
Mountain I	11.53 11.00 9.91	11.03 10.99 11.25	11.30 11.00 10.35	11.74 11.49 11.25
Pacific California	12.70 11.50	12.78 11.90	12.70 11.57	13.03 12.42
Hawaii	12.35	13.75	12.48	14.96
United States	11.36	11.26	11.33	11.96

¹ Region map on page 26.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm - Region and 48 States: October 11-17, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	12.40 10.18 10.44 13.01 12.99 10.30 14.52 11.79 12.35 13.25	12.11 11.89 10.72 12.09 11.49 10.38 16.09 10.35 11.14	12.03 10.33 11.53 12.43 12.43 11.53 13.64 11.28 11.54	12.09 10.96 10.84 12.40 12.55 10.65 14.30 11.10 11.45
48 States ⁶	12.30	12.06	12.03	12.09

¹ Region map on page 26.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: July 12-18, 2015

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	12.15	11.43	11.65	11.57
Appalachian ³	10.51	10.52	10.59	10.54
Southeast and Florida	10.21	10.56	11.58	10.71
Lake	12.31	11.59	11.61	11.70
Cornbelt 4	12.67	11.19	12.50	12.21
Delta	9.81	11.44	11.31	10.75
Northern Plains	14.27	13.91	12.95	13.50
Southern Plains	12.10	10.36	11.18	11.05
Mountain 5	12.18	11.46	11.20	11.39
Pacific and California	12.21	12.31	12.64	12.35
48 States ⁶	11.87	11.71	11.74	11.74

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii

¹ Region map on page 27. ² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm - Region and 48 States: October 12-18, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	11.92 10.27 10.14 14.04 12.32 10.62 14.20 12.57 12.66 13.19	11.35 10.39 10.13 11.39 11.21 9.80 14.65 10.44 9.95 11.94	11.37 10.57 10.55 11.47 11.62 10.09 13.80 10.12 11.13	11.37 10.42 10.21 11.75 11.86 10.25 14.05 10.55 10.81 11.99
48 States ⁶	12.15	11.32	11.35	11.46

¹ Region map on page 26.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: July 6-12, 2014

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	11.46	10.91	11.11	11.01
Appalachian ³	9.88	10.35	10.37	10.22
Southeast and Florida	10.18	9.88	10.70	10.07
Lake	13.36	10.47	11.59	11.35
Cornbelt 4	12.11	10.52	11.65	11.50
Delta	10.25	10.13	9.94	10.15
Northern Plains	13.41	15.02	13.71	13.65
Southern Plains	11.39	10.35	9.95	10.25
Mountain 5	12.26	10.16	11.22	10.95
Pacific and California	11.69	12.04	11.89	12.01
48 States ⁶	11.44	11.36	11.23	11.33

¹ Region map on page 26.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.
 Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region and 48 States: October 11-17, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Pagion 1			Gross value	sales-\$1,000			All
Region ¹	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ² Appalachian ³ Southeast and Florida Lake Cornbelt ⁴ Delta Northern Plains Southern Plains Mountain ⁵	10.50 10.16 10.58 9.97 11.92 12.37 12.38 10.99 11.31	9.98 11.02 12.18 10.98 11.37 8.63 11.50 11.28 11.11	11.95 10.65 10.25 11.25 12.32 10.56 12.56 11.42 12.08	11.84 10.54 11.00 10.95 12.62 9.82 15.03 (D) 11.96	12.97 9.52 12.44 12.92 13.22 9.59 13.38 11.31	13.30 12.59 11.97 14.08 13.46 10.98 16.35 11.64 12.08	12.83 11.59 11.70 13.28 13.08 10.95 14.72 11.87 11.90
Pacific and California	14.13	12.47	13.30	12.84	13.25	13.68	13.53
48 States ⁶	11.60	11.54	11.90	12.28	12.42	13.24	12.81

⁽D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region and 48 States: July 12-18, 2015

Pagion 1	Gross value sales-\$1,000						
Region ¹	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	9.89	10.25	10.72	11.60	13.07	12.52	12.27
Appalachian ³	10.58	12.86	11.13	10.73	9.71	11.41	11.11
Southeast and Florida	11.65	12.30	9.94	10.58	12.41	11.88	11.65
Lake	9.80	10.22	10.64	11.19	11.23	13.52	12.56
Cornbelt ⁴	10.32	10.34	13.51	11.54	12.98	13.62	13.00
Delta	12.28	13.48	10.44	9.37	9.57	11.00	11.11
Northern Plains	13.55	11.59	10.98	14.34	12.03	16.20	13.96
Southern Plains	10.87	11.37	11.44	14.82	12.04	11.34	11.64
Mountain 5	10.93	10.95	11.17	11.43	10.52	12.24	11.84
Pacific and California	13.36	12.49	13.49	12.34	13.24	13.21	13.15
48 States ⁶	11.48	11.78	11.78	11.81	12.16	12.83	12.46

¹ Region map on page 26.

¹ Region map on page 26.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm - Region and 48 States: October 12-18, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹			Gross value	sales-\$1,000			All
Region	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	farms
	(dollars per hour)						
Northeast ²	11.91	11.87	11.79	10.61	11.31	12.50	12.00
Appalachian ³	9.92	10.76	10.77	11.27	10.22	11.30	10.96
Southeast and Florida	9.61	12.03	11.26	10.12	10.89	11.11	10.93
Lake	9.95	11.27	9.97	12.34	12.66	12.43	12.24
Cornbelt ⁴	11.99	12.49	11.77	12.01	12.49	12.63	12.47
Delta	9.69	9.39	11.11	10.24	9.52	10.72	10.50
Northern Plains	10.80	14.66	13.47	14.42	15.68	14.42	14.52
Southern Plains	10.15	10.86	10.18	10.52	13.53	11.46	10.91
Mountain ⁵	11.24	9.70	11.23	12.20	12.75	11.25	11.45
Pacific and California	10.33	12.35	12.77	12.53	13.38	12.80	12.80
48 States ⁶	10.30	12.03	11.54	11.93	12.33	12.33	12.09

¹ Region map on page 26.

All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm - Region and 48 States: July 6-12, 2014

Pagion 1	Gross value sales-\$1,000						
Region ¹	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	11.41	11.73	11.40	10.68	11.30	12.04	11.66
Appalachian ³	9.54	9.69	11.37	10.83	10.41	11.24	10.80
Southeast and Florida	10.40	11.29	10.74	9.93	10.97	11.02	10.88
Lake	10.18	10.79	9.64	12.05	12.16	12.16	11.87
Cornbelt ⁴	12.14	12.42	11.77	11.65	12.27	12.50	12.31
Delta	8.73	9.60	11.69	10.61	9.38	10.70	10.47
Northern Plains	11.27	15.18	10.60	10.97	16.12	14.73	14.09
Southern Plains	9.69	11.07	10.10	11.16	12.21	11.55	10.74
Mountain ⁵	11.39	9.73	11.30	12.01	12.34	11.38	11.52
Pacific and California	10.80	11.59	12.67	12.90	12.59	12.69	12.65
48 States ⁶	10.09	11.50	11.36	11.76	12.01	12.26	11.95

¹ Region map on page 26.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II. ³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Field and Livestock Workers by Type of Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers, Alaska and Hawaii]

Type of farm	July 6-12, 2014	October 12-18, 2014	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015	July 12-18, 2015	October 11-17, 2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Field crops Other crops Livestock, dairy, and poultry		15 51 34	9 47 44	11 51 38	13 55 32	15 54 31

Hired Workers by Economic Class of Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers, Alaska and Hawaii]

Gross value of sales	July 6-12, 2014	October 12-18, 2014	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015	July 12-18, 2015	October 11-17, 2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Less than \$50,000	8	9 4 7 9 12 59	9 5 6 9 12 59	8 7 7 10 12 56	8 5 9 8 12 58	7 5 8 8 12 60

Hired Workers by Number of Workers on Farm

Number of workers on farm	July 6-12, 2014	October 12-18, 2014	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015	July 12-18, 2015	October 11-17, 2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
1 worker	11	11	12	11	10	10
2 workers	7	8	9	9	8	8
3-6 workers	17	18	17	18	18	18
7-10 workers	7	8	8	8	8	9
11-20 workers	12	12	11	10	11	10
21-50 workers	14	14	13	14	12	12
51 or more workers	32	29	30	30	33	33

Hired Workers by Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) System

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Title	SOC code	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015	July 12-18, 2015	October 11-17, 2015
		(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Graders and sorters, agricultural products Agricultural equipment operators¹ Farmworkers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals Agricultural workers, all other Packers and packagers, hand	(45-2041)	(D)	(D)	10	14
	(45-2091)	78	106	152	157
	(45-2092)	184	276	404	358
	(45-2093)	185	200	194	195
	(45-2099)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
	(53-7064)	(D)	(D)	16	20
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers First-line supervisors of farming, fishing workers	(11-9013)	21	21	24	24
	(45-1011)	15	17	22	22

⁽D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Includes only crop farm workers.

Wages by Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) System

Title	SOC code	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015	July 12-18, 2015	October 11-17, 2015
		(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Graders and sorters, agricultural products Agricultural equipment operators ¹ Farmworkers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals Agricultural workers, all other Packers and packagers, hand	(45-2041)	(D)	(D)	10.90	10.80
	(45-2091)	12.05	12:20	12.40	12.45
	(45-2092)	11.15	11.05	11.50	12.05
	(45-2093)	11.70	11.60	11.80	12.05
	(45-2099)	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)
	(53-7064)	(D)	(D)	11.35	11.00
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers First-line supervisors of farming, fishing workers	(11-9013)	21.55	21.00	21.10	21.10
	(45-1011)	20.10	19.70	20.00	20.00

⁽D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Includes only crop farm workers.

Annual Average Number of Hired Workers and Hours Worked - Region and United States: 2014 and 2015

United States	Hired wor	rkers	Hours worked			
and region ¹	2014	2015	2014	2015		
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)		
Northeast I	37.8	38.3	40.7	40.5		
Northeast II	34.5	36.5	37.6	40.8		
Appalachian I	34.3	36.3	39.8	40.3		
Appalachian II	23.3	26.8	35.9	35.9		
Southeast	24.5	27.8	38.6	38.6		
Florida	43.3	38.0	38.9	40.3		
Lake	54.8	59.0	37.6	38.8		
Cornbelt I	31.8	39.0	38.7	37.9		
Cornbelt II	19.5	26.3	35.7	38.8		
Delta	26.3	27.8	38.5	39.5		
Northern Plains	33.5	35.0	41.1	40.3		
Southern Plains	50.5	49.5	37.7	37.6		
Mountain I	24.5	25.0	44.8	44.7		
Mountain II	16.5	16.3	46.2	43.9		
Mountain III	17.0	19.0	47.7	47.5		
Pacific	73.8	68.5	40.5	41.6		
California	160.0	162.0	42.8	42.7		
Hawaii	7.0	6.5	37.6	37.0		
United States ²	712.5	737.3	40.3	40.6		

¹ Region map on page 26. ² Excludes Alaska.

Annual Average Wage Rates - Region and United States: 2014 and 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers. Annual rates are averages of the published wage rates for each survey week weighted by the number of hours worked during the week]

United States	All hired		Field		Field and livestock	
and region ¹	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I(CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT)	12.15	12.63	11.57	11.90	11.26	11.74
Northeast II(DE, MD, NJ, PA)	12.00	12.45	11.20	11.82	11.29	11.66
Appalachian I(NC, VA)	10.98	11.39	10.32	10.58	10.32	10.72
Appalachian II(KY, TN, WV)	10.99	11.67	10.04	11.07	10.28	10.85
Southeast(AL, GA, SC)	10.76	11.09	9.91	10.61	10.00	10.59
Florida	11.18	11.76	10.14	10.61	10.19	10.70
Lake(MI, MN, WI)	12.18	12.86	11.73	12.11	11.56	12.02
Cornbelt I(IL, IN, OH)	12.30	13.00	11.88	12.32	11.61	12.07
Cornbelt II(IA, MO)	13.69	12.71	12.60	12.10	12.62	12.17
Delta(AR, LA, MS)	10.45	11.07	10.25	10.67	10.18	10.69
Northern Plains	14.15	14.33	14.10	14.22	13.59	13.80
Southern Plains(OK, TX)	10.85	11.62	10.20	11.12	10.35	11.15
Mountain I(ID, MT, WY)	11.79	12.14	11.36	11.84	11.14	11.75
Mountain II(CO, NV, UT)	11.85	11.93	11.00	11.28	11.37	11.27
Mountain III(AZ, NM)	11.33	12.01	10.09	10.64	10.54	11.20
Pacific(OR, WA)	12.96	13.20	12.44	12.73	12.42	12.69
California	12.36 15.45	13.05 14.43	11.22 12.85	11.75 12.46	11.33 12.98	11.89 12.64
United States ²	12.07	12.54	11.29	11.72	11.29	11.74

¹ Region map on page 26. ² Excludes Alaska.



Region States

Northeast I Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire,

New York, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Northeast II Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania.

Appalachian I North Carolina, Virginia.

Appalachian II Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia.
Southeast Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina.
Lake Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin.

Cornbelt I Illinois, Indiana, Ohio.
Cornbelt II Iowa, Missouri.

Delta Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi.

Northern Plains Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota.

Southern Plains Oklahoma, Texas.

Mountain I Idaho, Montana, Wyoming.

Mountain II Colorado, Nevada, Utah.

Mountain III Arizona, New Mexico.

Pacific Oregon, Washington.

Farm Labor Definitions

The following definitions are provided to assist in interpreting statistics published in Farm Labor reports. To ensure consistency in data collection, the questionnaires and instruction manual used by the interviewers provide more in-depth explanations of these terms.

Farm or Ranch: A place that sells, or would normally sell, at least \$1,000 worth of agricultural products during the year.

Agricultural Work: Work done on a farm or ranch in connection with the production of agricultural products, including nursery and greenhouse products and animal specialties such as fur farms or apiaries. Also included is work done off the farm to handle farm related business, such as trips to buy feed or deliver products to local market.

Hired Worker: Anyone, other than an agricultural service worker, who was paid for at least one hour of agricultural work on a farm or ranch. Worker type is determined by what the employee was primarily hired to do, not necessarily what work was done during the survey week. Types of workers include:

Field Workers: Employees engaged in planting, tending and harvesting crops including operation of farm machinery on crop farms. The Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) codes and titles associated with field workers are 45-2041: Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products; 45-2091: Agricultural Equipment Operators; 45-2092: Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery and Greenhouse; 45-2099: Agricultural Workers, All Other; 53-7064: Packers and Packagers, Hand.

Livestock Workers: Employees tending livestock, milking cows or caring for poultry, including operation of farm machinery on livestock or poultry operations. SOC codes and titles associated with livestock workers are 45-2041: Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products; 45-2093: Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals; 45-2099: Agricultural Workers, All Other; 53-7064: Packers and Packagers, Hand.

Supervisors: Hired managers, range foremen, crew leaders, etc. SOC codes and titles associated with supervisors are 11-9013: Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers; 45-1011: First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers.

Other Workers: Employees engaged in agricultural work not included in the other three categories. Bookkeepers and pilots are examples. SOC codes and titles associated with other workers include but are not limited to 45-2011: Agricultural Inspectors; 45-2021: Animal Breeders; 37-2012: Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation.

For more information on the applicable Standard Occupational Classification codes, see "Crosswalk from National Agricultural Statistics Service Farm Labor Survey to the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification System" at the "Surveys and Programs" page for Farm Labor, on the NASS website (http://www.nass.usda.gov).

Methods of Pay: All wage rates are calculated based on total wages paid and total hours worked during the survey reference week. Wages paid other than hourly (bi-weekly, monthly, etc.) are converted to an hourly basis prior to summarization. Wages paid by piece rate (per quantity of produce picked, etc.) are also converted to an hourly basis.

Perquisites: Benefits, such as cash bonuses, housing, or meals, provided to an employee in addition to pay are included in perquisites. Wage rates published in this release do not include the value of these benefits.

Term of Employment: The length of time during the year the farm operator expects to employ those workers who were on the payroll during the survey week.

Agricultural Service: Any farm-related service performed on a farm or ranch on a contract or fee basis. This primarily includes activities performed by contract workers on fruit, vegetable, or berry operations. It also includes custom work, veterinarian work, artificial insemination, sheep shearing, milk testing, or any other farm-related activity performed on a

farm or ranch on a "fee per service" basis. The agricultural services component has been discontinued from the Farm Labor Survey.

Contract Labor: Contract workers are paid by a crew leader, contractor, buyer, processor, cooperative, or other person who has an oral or written agreement with a farmer/rancher. Pruning, thinning, weeding or harvesting of fruit, vegetable or berry crops are examples. A machine is not a part of the service activity provided by the contractor. The Farm Labor Survey excludes measures of contract labor.

Custom Work: Work performed by machines and labor hired as a unit. Hay baling, combining, corn or cotton picking, spraying, fertilizing, and laser leveling are examples of custom work when the equipment is included in the service activity. The Farm Labor Survey excludes measures of custom labor.

Type of Farm (or Ranch): An operation is classified in the farm type which accounts for the largest portion of the total gross value of sales for its agricultural production.

Types of farms broken out in this publication are:

Field Crops: A farm producing wheat, rice, corn, soybeans, barley, dry beans, rye, sorghum, cotton, popcorn, tobacco, or other such crops.

Other Crops: A farm producing vegetables, melons, berry crops, grapes, tree nuts, citrus fruits, deciduous tree fruits, avocados, dates, figs, olives, nursery, or greenhouse crops. This category also includes farms producing potatoes, sugar crops, hay, peanuts, hops, mint, and maple syrup.

Livestock or Poultry: A farm producing cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, milk, chickens, eggs, turkeys, or animal specialties such as furs, fish, honey, etc.

Gross Value of Sales: This includes all income during a year from the sale of crops, livestock, dairy, poultry, or other related agricultural products, including the landlord's share and the value of products produced under contract. When commodities are placed under CCC loan, they are considered sold.

Survey Methodology

Survey Procedures: The NASS Farm Labor Survey is conducted semi-annually in April and October, in all surveyed states except California. During the April data collection, data for both January and April reference weeks are collected. During the October data collection, data for both July and October reference weeks are collected. The quarterly reference week is the Sunday to Saturday period which includes the 12th day of the month. For California, collection of these data is currently conducted on a quarterly basis, as part of the California Employment Development Department monthly labor program.

The target population for the Farm Labor Survey program is all farms and ranches with \$1,000 or more in agricultural sales (or potential sales). An optimal sample is selected in each state with a U.S. sample size of about 13,000.

The Farm Labor Survey is a multiple frame survey, incorporating samples from both the NASS list and area frames to ensure adequate coverage.

Farms on the list frame are sampled through a hierarchical stratified design, with strata based on measures of size. Those operations with associated control data indicating peak numbers of workers are stratified based on these values, and those expected to employ large numbers of workers (higher peak number values) are selected with the greatest frequency. Farms on the list frame which do not have peak worker control data are stratified and sampled based on farm value of sales. Farms stratified by farm value of sales are selected at a lower frequency.

In order to provide coverage of farms not currently part of the NASS list frame, a second sample is drawn consisting of segments of land selected from the NASS area frame. The area frame contains all land in the state and, as such, is complete. The land is stratified according to intensity of agriculture using satellite imagery. The land in each stratum is divided into segments of roughly one square mile. Segments are optimally allocated and sampled to effectively measure crops and livestock. The sampled segments are fully enumerated in June. All farms and ranches found operating tracts in these segments are checked to see if they are included in the list frame hired labor population. The farms and ranches that are not included in the list frame labor population, called nonoverlap tracts, are sampled for the Farm Labor Survey so that the target population is completely represented. The area frame component is enumerated during each semi-annual data collection period along with the list sample.

Most respondents are first contacted through self-administered mailed questionnaires, which can be completed either by hand or securely online. All manually completed survey questionnaires are returned to the NASS National Operations Center, where they are visually reviewed and key entered. Nonresponse follow-up is completed either by computer-assisted telephone interviews conducted from NASS Data Collection Centers, or in person by an enumerator.

Throughout the data collection process, steps are taken to minimize the impact of nonsampling errors such as reporting, recording, and editing errors. These steps include questionnaire testing, comprehensive interviewer training, validation, and verification of processing systems, application of detailed computer edits, and evaluation of the data via the analysis tools.

Nonresponse adjustment is necessary to account for producers who refuse to participate in the survey, cannot be located during the data collection period, or who submit incomplete reports. These nonrespondents must be accounted for if accurate estimates of farm labor are to be made. For the Farm Labor Survey, nonrespondents are accounted for by adjusting the weights of the respondents. The adjustment occurs by stratum as all strata represent homogeneous groupings of similar sized farms. The adjustment is performed by individual item on the questionnaire so adjustments for item nonresponse (partial reports) and unit nonresponse (refusals and inaccessibles) are done in a single calculation.

For estimation of data items, point estimates called direct expansions are calculated by multiplying the reported value by the final adjusted weight (initial sampling weight adjusted for nonresponse) and summing to a stratum total. A variance estimate is also computed at the stratum level. The nonoverlap tracts are treated as an additional stratum. Totals and variances are additive across strata to form state level point estimates.

Ratio estimates are also computed for many items. For example, wage rates are calculated as the ratio of total wages to total hours worked. Ratio estimates use the reweighted estimator described above for the numerator and denominator direct expansions. Both the numerator and denominator must be usable in order for that record to be used in the ratio estimator.

The number of hired workers, average hours worked, average wage rate data, and all associated sub-items are summarized from the dataset. Because an identical data collection instrument (questionnaire) and follow-up interview are used for all states, as well as identical editing, analysis, and summarization processes, state data can be summarized and regional and national survey point estimates computed. For estimation purposes, point estimates are adopted as survey indications for all data items. The summary results provide multiple direct and ratio indications for each data series being estimated. The results also provide information used to assess the performance of the current survey and evaluate the quality of the survey indications. NASS Regional Field Offices interpret the survey indications and submit state level recommendations for all member states to NASS headquarters, providing justification in cases where recommendations deviate from summary indications, as well other state specific comments and justifications. NASS headquarters completes the regional and U.S. level summaries, which utilize the same estimators and produce the same indications as the state level summaries.

For the final step in the estimation process, NASS assembles a panel of statisticians to serve as the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB) for the Farm Labor Survey. The Farm Labor ASB reviews the U.S. level, regional, and state level survey indications and establishes all final, official estimates for the Farm Labor Survey program. Since larger sample sizes yield more precise results, the ASB employs the "top-down" approach by determining the U.S. level estimates first and reconciling the state recommendations to the U.S. and regional numbers for all estimates including number of hired workers, average hours worked, average wage rates, and associated sub-items. As part of the semi-annual process, the ASB also considers revised recommendations and issues revisions of previously published estimates where appropriate. Additionally, the ASB reviews the annual average estimates for the November publication, which are summarized from the final regional and U.S. level estimates for each of the four quarters. Through examining indications across states and regions, re-examining outliers, and considering state level recommendations and comments, the ASB is able to establish all final estimates according to both local conditions and regional and national conditions and trends.

Revision Policy: Farm labor statistics are subject to revision semi-annually and annually. Revisions must be supported by additional data that directly affect the level of the estimate. Worker numbers and wage rates for July and October 2014, and April, 2015, were subject to revision with this report.

For More Information

For more information on the Farm Labor Survey methodology and quality measures, see "Farm Labor Survey Methodology and Quality Measures" on the NASS website (http://www.nass.usda.gov).

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Environmental, Economics, and Demographics Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov.

Troy Joshua, Chief, Environmental, Economics, and Demographics Branch
Tony Dorn, Head, Economics Section
Rachel Antzak – Cash Receipts, Land Values
Scott Shimmin, Head, Environmental and Demographics Section
Stephanie Brennan – Field Crops Chemical Use(202) 690-0392Natasha Bruton – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports(202) 720-7644Ryan Cowen – Farms, Land in Farms, Census(202) 690-3233Doug Farmer – Vegetable Chemical Use(202) 720-7492Ginger Harris – Census of Agriculture(502) 582-5293Steve Peterson – Farms, Land in Farms, Census(202) 720-5581Miste Salmon – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports(202) 690-3226Theresa Varner – Farm Labor, Chemical Use(202) 690-2284

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: http://www.nass.usda.gov
- ➤ Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit http://www.nass.usda.gov and click on "National" or "State" in upper right corner above "search" box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.

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