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LAKE REGION HIRED WORKERS UP BY 10,000 FROM JULY 2006

Lake Region: There were 78,000 hired workers on Lake Region (Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin) farms the week of July 8-14, 2007, up 10,000 from a year ago, according to the USDA, NASS, Minnesota Field Office. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$10.26 per hour during the July 2007 survey week, up by 4 cents from July 2006. Field workers received an average of \$9.52 per hour, a 15 cent increase from a year ago. Livestock workers earned \$9.33 per hour compared with \$9.72 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock Workers combined wage rate at \$9.44 per hour was down 6 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.2 for hired workers during the survey week compared with 38.4 hours a year ago.

United States: There were 1,205,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 8-14, 2007, up 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 847,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 358,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.04 per hour during the July 2007 reference week, up 32 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.31 per hour, up 38 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$9.80 per hour compared with \$9.49 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.44 per hour, was up 37 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago.

WORKERS ON FARMS, HOURS WORKED PER WEEK, AND WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS, LAKE REGION AND UNITED STATES, JULY 2007

	Lake Region 1/		United States 2/	
	July 9-15 2006	July 8-14 2007	July 9-15 2006	July 8-14 2007
	1,000 Workers			
Workers on Farms All Hired Workers	68	78	1,196	1,205
	Hours Per Week			
Hours Worked All Hired Workers	38.4	40.2	41.0	41.6
	Dollars Per Hour			
Workers By Work Type				
Field	9.37	9.52	8.93	9.31
Livestock	9.72	9.33	9.49	9.80
Field & Livestock	9.50	9.44	9.07	9.44
All Workers	10.22	10.26	9.72	10.04

1/ Lake Region = Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Excludes agricultural service workers.

2/ Excludes Alaska.