

Farm Labor, 2006

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Pennsylvania farmers voluntarily participate in quarterly agricultural labor surveys in January, April, July, and October. These surveys provide data concerning the number of hired farm workers, hours worked, and wage rates. The survey reference week is the seven-day period (Sunday through Saturday) which includes the 12th day of the month. Results for Pennsylvania are published as part of Northeast Region II, which includes Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey.

24,000 in January to a high of 49,000 in July. The average hours worked during the survey week by all hired workers varied from 38.0 hours in October 2006 to 40.2 hours in April 2006.

In 2006, all hired workers earned between \$9.65 per hour in October to \$10.75 per hour in April. During the same period, field workers' hourly wage rates ranged between \$9.17 in October to \$10.54 in April. In contrast, livestock workers' hourly wage rates ranged from \$7.79 in January to \$9.03 in July.

The total number of workers hired by farm operators in the Northeast II Region during 2006 ranged between a low of

Northeast II: Hired Farm Labor, Quarterly, 2002-2006^{1 2 3}

Year & Survey Week	All Hired Workers				Wage Rates by Type of Worker			
	Total	Expected to be Employed		Hours Worked During the Week	Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock	All Hired Workers
		150 Days or More	149 Days or Less					
	<i>1,000 Workers</i>			<i>Hours</i>	<i>Dollars Per Hour</i>			
2002								
January 6-12	33	29	4	38.1	8.71	6.88	7.95	8.87
April 7-13	45	35	10	35.7	8.20	7.01	7.78	8.83
July 7-13	46	33	13	42.5	7.87	7.18	7.74	8.35
October 6-12	41	34	7	36.4	8.61	8.17	8.51	9.29
2003								
January 12-18	23	19	4	37.2	9.16	8.34	8.83	9.83
April 6-12	30	23	7	39.3	8.75	8.20	8.63	9.68
July 6-12	45	33	12	40.5	8.18	8.56	8.25	8.93
October 12-18	34	26	8	38.5	8.79	8.27	8.66	9.59
2004								
January 11-17	19	16	3	37.2	8.79	7.73	8.38	9.26
April 11-17	31	25	6	39.3	8.68	8.87	8.73	9.25
July 11-17	52	35	17	37.2	7.90	8.79	8.09	8.81
October 10-16	35	28	7	41.2	8.84	8.90	8.85	9.59
2005								
January 9-15	18	14	4	33.7	8.47	8.76	8.62	9.66
April 10-16	26	22	4	39.8	9.24	8.62	9.05	9.65
July 10-16	50	40	10	39.1	8.71	9.37	8.90	9.79
October 9-15	39	32	7	39.6	9.21	8.62	9.09	10.00
2006								
January 8-14	24	21	3	38.1	9.89	7.79	9.29	10.56
April 9-15	25	20	5	40.2	10.54	8.80	10.10	10.75
July 9-15	49	30	19	39.8	9.26	9.03	9.20	9.90
October 8-14	42	31	11	38.0	9.17	7.91	8.86	9.65

¹ Northeast II Region includes DE, MD, NJ, and PA. ² Hired workers include field, livestock, supervisory, and other workers. ³ Farm labor excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

Northeast II: Annual Average Wage Rates for Hired Workers, 2002-2006^{1 2}

Year	All Hired	Field	Field and Livestock
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>		
2002	8.84	8.35	8.00
2003	9.51	8.72	8.59
2004	9.23	8.55	8.51
2005	9.78	8.91	8.92
2006	10.22	9.72	9.36

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers. ² Annual rates are averages of the published wage rates for each survey week weighted by the number of hours worked during the week. The annual average for all States, Regions, and the U.S. is based on data collected for January, April, July, and October.