



# Immediate Release

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## NORTHERN MOUNTAIN REGION AG WAGE DOWN 15 CENTS FROM 2010

**WYOMING:** The annual average wage rate for all hired labor in the Northern Mountain Region farms and ranches in 2011 was \$10.45 per hour, according to Steve Gunn with the Wyoming Field Office of USDA NASS. The average wage was down 15 cents from the 2010 average of \$10.60 per hour. The annual average wage rate for field workers was \$10.38 in 2011, compared with \$10.11 in 2010. The combined wage rate for field and livestock workers, excluding supervisors and other workers was \$10.25 in 2011, up 35 cents from the 2010 average of \$9.90 per hour. There was an average of 29,000 hired workers during 2011, up 7,000 workers from 2010. The average number of hours worked by all hired labor in 2011 was 50.7 hours per week, compared with 45.2 hours per week a year earlier.

**UNITED STATES:** There were 1,141,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 9-15, 2011, down 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 828,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 313,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.15 per hour during the October 2011 reference week, up 2 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.54 per hour, up 5 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.67 per hour compared with \$10.28 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.57 per hour, was up 14 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 for hired workers during the survey week, down fractionally from a year ago.

**Farm Wage Rates by Type of Worker,  
Regions and U.S., October 9-15, 2011 1/**

Region	Hired Workers			
	Type of Worker			
	Field	Lvstk	Fld & Lvstk Combined	All Hired Workers
Dollars per hour				
Mntn I 2/	10.38	10.08	10.25	10.45
Mntn II 3/	10.90	10.22	10.60	11.36
No Plns 4/	12.58	10.61	11.85	12.13
U.S. 5/	10.54	10.67	10.57	11.15

1/ Excludes Ag Service Workers  
2/ Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming  
3/ Colorado, Nevada and Utah

4/ Kansas, Nebraska, North &  
South Dakota  
5/ Excludes Alaska