



Ag Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

Phone: 601-965-4575
Facsimile: 601-965-5622
www.nass.usda.gov/ms/
nass-ms@nass.usda.gov/

Volume 03-10

Released: June 4, 2003

Featured Statistics:

Farm Labor	2
Rice County Estimates	3
Poultry	4
Catfish Processing	5
Agricultural Related Injuries	6
Red Meat Production	6
Floriculture	7
Price Highlights	8

United States Wage Rates Up 4 Percent

There were 938,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of April 6-12, 2003, down 13 percent from a year ago. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$9.16 per hour during the April 2003 survey week, up 33 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.40 per hour, up 34 cents from last April. Livestock workers earned \$8.75 per hour compared with \$8.43 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.49, was up 34 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.1 hours for hired workers during the survey week compared with 40.2 hours a year ago.

Farm Labor: Employment and Wage Rates, United States
April 6-12, 2003 with Comparisons ¹

Farm Employment	April 7-13, 2002	January 12-18, 2003	April 6-12, 2003
		1,000	
Hired Workers	890	*729	781
150 Days or More	722	*614	619
149 Days or Less	168	115	162
Agricultural Services			
Workers Working on Farms	189	160	157
Hired Farm & Service Workers	1,079	*889	938
		Hours Per Week	
Hours Worked, Hired Workers	40.2	*37.7	40.1
		Dollars Per Hour	
Wage Rate for			
All Hired Workers ^{2,3}	8.83	*9.34	9.16
Field & Livestock Combined	8.15	8.50	8.49
Field	8.06	*8.30	8.40
Livestock	8.43	*8.90	8.75

* Revised.

¹ Excludes Alaska.

² Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

³ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

**Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers
by Region and United States, April 6-12, 2003 ¹**

United States and Region	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock Combined	
Dollars Per Hour				
Northeast I	9.76	8.55	9.27	10.24
Northeast II	8.75	8.20	8.63	9.68
Appalachian I	8.18	8.37	8.24	8.77
Appalachian II	7.32	7.24	7.28	7.64
Southeast	7.58	8.78	8.07	8.71
Florida	8.05	8.10	8.06	8.86
Lake	9.31	9.20	9.26	9.90
Cornbelt I	9.29	9.32	9.30	9.99
Cornbelt II	9.94	10.00	9.97	10.71
Delta	7.20	7.54	7.25	7.63
Northern Plains	9.08	9.28	9.16	9.46
Southern Plains	7.62	7.98	7.75	8.31
Mountain I	7.63	7.68	7.66	7.93
Mountain II	8.32	8.86	8.60	9.43
Mountain III	7.10	8.24	7.52	7.93
Pacific	8.82	9.28	8.90	9.34
California	8.33	10.15	8.48	9.22
Hawaii ³	9.58		9.63	11.50
United States ²	8.40	8.75	8.49	9.16

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Excludes AK.

³ Insufficient data for livestock.

**All Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Selected Region
and United States, April 6-12, 2003 ¹**

United States and Region	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		Number of Hours Worked
		150 Days or More	149 Days of Less	
		1,000		Hours Per Week
Southeast	27	21	6	37.0
Florida	53	42	11	38.3
Delta	31	25	6	43.1
Northern Plains	28	22	6	41.1
Southern Plains	49	38	11	40.7
Pacific	52	43	9	40.3
California	220	185	35	43.1
Hawaii	7	6	1	35.6
United States ²	781	619	162	40.1

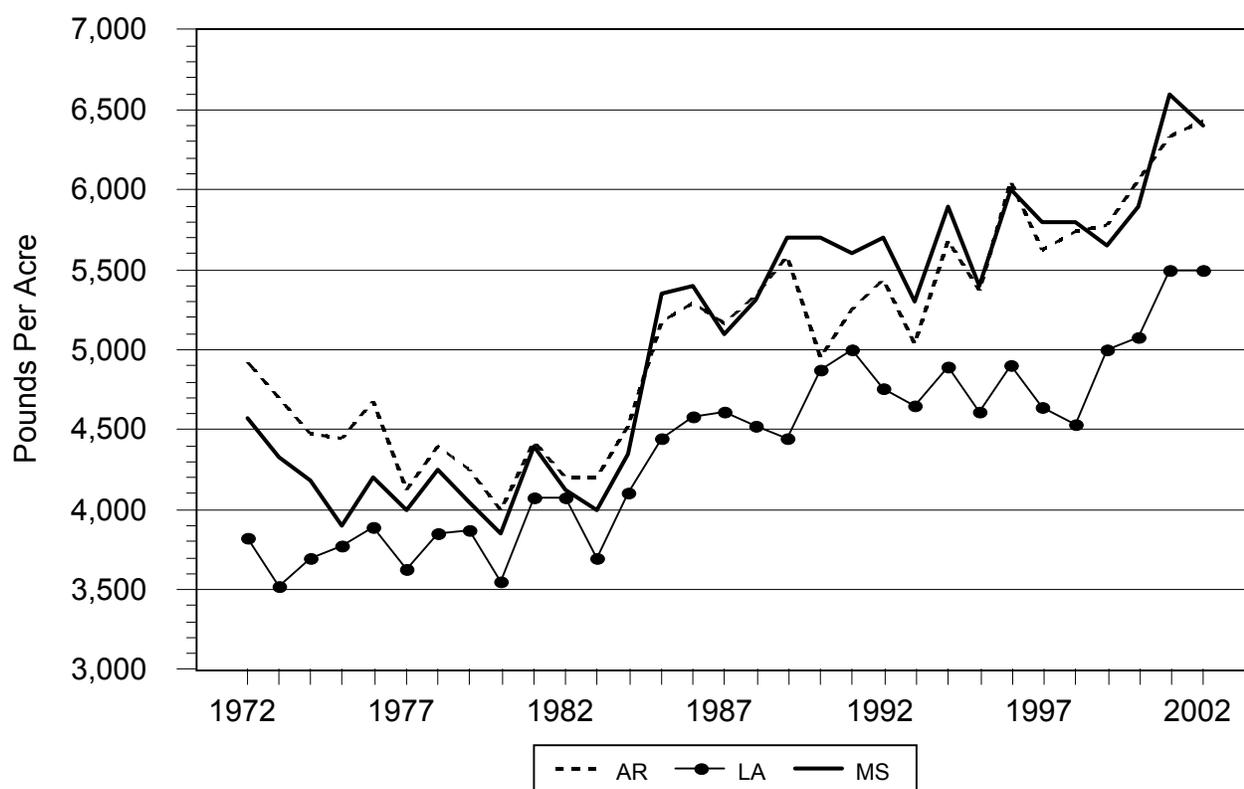
¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Excludes AK.

Rice County Estimates, 2001 - 2002

County	Planted		Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	Acres				Pounds		Cwt.	
Bolivar	79,500	79,500	79,400	79,100	6,533	6,483	5,187,000	5,128,000
Coahoma	18,400	19,500	18,300	19,400	6,432	6,407	1,177,000	1,243,000
Quitman	14,400	13,200	13,600	12,900	6,191	5,953	842,000	768,000
Tallahatchie	15,800	15,700	15,600	14,900	6,295	5,826	982,000	868,000
Tunica	23,400	20,100	23,200	20,100	6,358	6,318	1,475,000	1,270,000
District 10	151,500	148,000	150,100	146,400	6,438	6,337	9,663,000	9,277,000
District 20	6,000	5,300	6,000	5,300	5,917	6,208	355,000	329,000
Humphreys	4,500	3,500	4,500	3,500	6,422	6,371	289,000	223,000
Leflore	21,200	20,800	21,000	20,700	6,786	6,425	1,425,000	1,330,000
Sharkey	3,600	5,000	3,600	5,000	7,000	7,120	252,000	356,000
Sunflower	35,700	37,300	35,500	37,100	6,349	6,261	2,254,000	2,323,000
Washington	29,300	30,000	29,100	29,900	6,887	6,739	2,004,000	2,015,000
Other Counties	1,500	3,600	1,500	3,600	6,267	6,750	94,000	243,000
District 40	95,800	100,200	95,200	99,800	6,637	6,503	6,318,000	6,490,000
Other Districts	1,700	1,500	1,700	1,500	6,412	6,400	109,000	96,000
State Total	255,000	255,000	253,000	253,000	6,500	6,400	16,445,000	16,192,000

Long Grain Rice Yield: Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, 1972 - 2002



Chicken Eggs in Incubators, by Region and United States, May 1, 2002 - 2003

State	Broiler-Type			Egg-type		
	2002	2003	2003/2002	2002	2003	2003/2002
	1,000 Pounds		Percent	1,000 Pounds		Percent
North Atlantic	12,407	11,913	96	5,007	4,319	86
East North Central	7,939	8,220	104	7,278	8,426	116
West North Central	22,632	23,654	105	7,675	8,774	114
South Atlantic	242,553	238,944	99	4,949	2,809	57
South Central	341,000	338,337	99	5,366	5,568	104
West	25,907	24,942	96	5,712	4,914	86
United States	652,438	646,010	99	35,987	34,810	97

April Layers and Egg Production, by Selected States and United States

State	All Layers on Hand		Table Eggs ¹		Hatching Eggs ¹	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000		Million		Million	
Alabama	10,198	9,739	52	49	138	133
Arkansas	15,255	15,790	102	100	182	188
Florida	10,551	10,577	209	220	12	9
Georgia	20,438	20,516	240	247	175	172
Mississippi	6,790	6,806	40	42	90	90
North Carolina	11,320	10,948	73	76	137	132
Oklahoma	4,213	4,149	45	45	34	33
South Carolina	5,333	5,421	94	96	19	19
Virginia	3,311	3,278	30	24	35	39
United States	336,776	335,807	6,016	6,046	1,089	1,083

¹ Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched, by Selected States and United States April 2002 - 2003

State	April			January-April		
	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002	2002	2003	2003 as % of 2002
	1,000		Percent	1,000		Percent
Alabama	104,539	102,088	98	417,749	400,377	96
Arkansas	107,781	106,918	99	431,352	431,654	100
Florida	8,267	5,668	69	33,071	22,547	68
Georgia	111,694	112,495	101	443,808	442,076	100
Kentucky	23,171	23,573	102	92,167	93,825	102
Mississippi	68,376	69,272	101	271,686	273,920	101
North Carolina	68,429	67,214	98	268,643	260,099	97
Texas	55,612	52,510	94	219,928	210,357	96
United States	765,415	761,145	99	3,036,792	2,990,344	98

United States Catfish: Sales, Average Price and Ending Inventory, April 2002 - 2003

Item	Sales Volume		Average Price		Ending Inventory	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	1,000 Pounds		Dollars Per Pound		1,000 Pounds	
Fresh						
Whole Fish	3,373	3,643	1.34	1.37	131	362
Fillets ¹	5,236	5,700	2.51	2.49	411	445
Other ²	1,356	1,458	1.51	1.53	105	117
Total Fresh	9,965	10,801	1.98	1.98	647	924
Frozen						
Whole Fish	1,383	1,271	1.80	1.84	999	1,749
Fillets ¹	10,337	10,062	2.37	2.46	6,735	5,382
Other ²	3,338	4,001	1.62	1.64	1,943	2,770
Total Frozen	15,058	15,334	2.15	2.19	9,677	9,901
Total Fresh & Frozen	25,023	26,135	2.08	2.11	10,324	10,825

¹ Includes all products not already reported including weight of breading and added ingredients.

² Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded products.

United States Farm-Raised Catfish: Quantity Processed and Prices Paid to Producers by Major Processors, and United States Imports, 2002 - 2003

Month	Round Weight Processed				Average Price Paid to Producers ¹		Imports of Catfish ²	
	Monthly		Cumulative		2002	2003	2002	2003
	2002	2003	2002	2003				
	1,000 Pounds				Dollars Per Pound		(000) Pounds	
January	52,551	55,523	52,551	55,523	.549	.529	1,037	1,322
February	52,856	55,461	105,407	110,984	.555	.544	1,048	260
March	58,340	65,007	163,747	175,991	.565	.585	414	332
April	50,694	57,105	214,441	233,096	.561	.630	618	
May	52,902		267,343		.574		1,491	
June	49,450		316,793		.588		982	
July	52,363		369,156		.590		957	
August	54,383		423,539		.582		632	
September	53,366		476,905		.576		670	
October	56,576		533,481		.568		572	
November	50,072		583,553		.560		874	
December	47,048		630,601		.544		906	

¹ Price for fish delivered to processing plant door. Price includes charges for any services provided by the processing plant, such as seining and hauling, but does not include adjustments based on year-end settlements.

² Pounds of frozen boneless fillets. Data furnished by U.S. Bureau of Census.

United States Agricultural-Related Injuries to Youth Under 20 Years Old On Minority-Operated Farms in 2000

Minority Group ¹	Working & Non-Working Youth					
	Total Farms ²	Total Population ³	Total Youth per Farm	Total Injuries ⁴	Injuries per 1,000 Youth	Injuries per 1,000 Farms
Asian	8,731	46,465	5.3	50	1.1	5.7
Black	18,451	147,573	8.0	102	0.7	5.5
Native American	10,638	127,947	12.0	266	2.1	25.0
Other	9,838	94,103	9.6	112	1.2	11.4
Total	47,658	416,088	8.7	530	1.3	11.1
Hispanic	27,717	287,870	10.4	366	1.3	13.2

Minority Group ¹	Working Youth Only				
	Population ⁵	Working Youth per Farm	Total Work Injuries	Injuries per 1,000 Youth	Injuries per 1,000 Farms
Asian	5,315	0.6	13	2.4	1.5
Black	8,693	0.5	43	4.9	2.3
Native American	12,359	1.2	98	7.9	9.2
Other	8,158	0.8	46	5.6	4.7
Total	34,525	0.7	200	5.8	4.2
Hispanic	22,850	0.8	140	6.1	5.1

¹ Operators of "Hispanic" descent could also have potentially been reported under any of the listed racial groups.
² "Number of Farms" operated by individuals in the listed Minority Group, based on the 1997 Census of Agriculture.
³ Total youth population on minority-operated farms, including hired youth, visitors and relatives, whether Working or Non-Working.
⁴ Includes Work-Related and Non-Work-Related injuries.
⁵ Total Working Youth on Minority-operated farms, including relatives.

Commercial Red Meat Production, by Selected States and United States April 2003 with Comparisons

State	April 2002	March 2003	April 2003	April 2003 as Percent of ²	
				April 2002	March 2003
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Alabama	4.4	3.6	3.6	81	100
Arkansas	5.3	6.2	4.7	88	76
Georgia	22.8	20.7	23.6	104	114
Louisiana	1.3	1.3	1.3	100	99
Mississippi	24.0	24.0	26.3	110	110
Missouri	39.9	35.2	39.0	98	111
Tennessee	17.8	19.6	18.9	106	97
Texas	405.0	369.2	401.0	99	109
United States	3,901.8	*3,705.1	3,845.5	99	104

* Revised.
¹ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.
² Percentages based on unrounded data.

Mississippi Potted Poinsettias: Producers, Sales, Price and Value, 1994 - 2002

Year	Number of Producers	Quantity Sold			Wholesale Price		Value of All Sales at Wholesale
		Less Than 5 Inch	5 Inch or More	Total	Less Than 5 Inch	5 Inch or More	
		1,000 Pots			Dollars		1,000 Dollars
1994	17	15	208	223	2.26	4.29	926
1995	20	11	226	237	2.31	4.46	1,033
1996	19	55	275	330	2.28	4.03	1,234
1997	22	33	320	353	2.24	4.86	1,629
1998	21	22	283	305	2.13	4.93	1,442
1999	26	32	379	411	2.08	4.02	1,590
2000	16	19	206	225	2.48	5.15	1,108
2001	19	16	238	254	2.43	4.99	1,227
2002	19	43	196	239	2.36	5.18	1,117

Mississippi Bedding Impatiens: Producers, Sales, Price and Value, 1994 - 2002

Year	Number of Producers	Quantity Sold	Wholesale Price	Value of Sales at Wholesale
		1,000 Flats	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
1994	12	21	7.43	156
1995	17	36	7.59	273
1996	12	45	6.94	312
1997	19	112	7.62	853
1998	18	70	7.62	533
1999	15	54	7.24	391
2000	16	52	8.64	449
2001	17	35	8.60	301
2002	15	61	8.55	522

Bedding Petunias: Producers, Sales, Price and Value, 1994 - 2002

Year	Number of Producers	Quantity Sold	Wholesale Price	Value of All Sales at Wholesale
		1,000 Flats	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
1994	13	25	7.52	188
1995	16	34	6.90	235
1996	13	42	6.93	291
1997	20	104	8.74	909
1998	19	57	8.92	508
1999	19	58	8.46	491
2000	15	49	7.95	390
2001	16	56	8.30	465
2002	15	41	8.94	367

Mississippi and United States Price Highlights, April 2003 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	May 2002 Entire Month		April 2003 Entire Month		May 2003 Mid-Month	
		MS	US	MS	US	MS	US
Dollars							
Corn	bu	---	1.93	---	2.34	---	2.44
Cotton, Upland	lb	.259	.267	.437	.450	.437	.466
Sorghum, grain	cwt	---	3.17	---	3.96	---	4.01
Soybeans	bu	4.76	4.64	5.95	5.82	6.32	6.19
Winter Wheat	bu	---	2.73	---	3.19	---	3.32
Rice, Rough	cwt	---	3.98	---	4.33	---	4.51
All Milk	cwt	---	12.10	---	11.00	---	11.10
Fluid	cwt	---	12.10	---	11.10	---	11.10
Manufacturing	cwt	---	11.10	---	9.90	---	10.00
All Beef Cattle	cwt	---	65.10	---	74.60	---	74.90
Cows	cwt	---	39.80	---	40.20	---	41.10
Calves	cwt	---	99.50	---	99.10	---	99.30
Steers & Heifers	cwt	---	68.10	---	78.80	---	79.00
All Hogs	cwt	---	33.20	---	34.80	---	40.60
Barrows & Gilts	cwt	---	33.60	---	35.30	---	41.10
Sows	cwt	---	23.50	---	26.00	---	29.20
Broilers, Live	lb	---	.300	---	.310	---	.330
Market Eggs	doz	.350 ¹	301 ¹	.470 ¹	.520 ¹	.310	.397

--- Estimates not made.

¹ Mid-month prices.