

Ag Report

In cooperation with

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United States Wage Rates Up 4 Percent

There were 1,332,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of July 10-16, 2005, up 2 percent from a year ago. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$9.39 per hour during the July 2005 reference week, up 35 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.62 per hour, up 28 cents from last July. Livestock workers earned \$9.25 per hour compared with \$8.74 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.78 per hour, was up 35 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 4 percent from a year ago.

Farm Labor: Employment and Wage Rates, United States
July 10-16, 2005 with Comparisons ¹

Farm Employment	July 11-17, 2004	April 10-16, 2005	July 10-16, 2005
	1,000		
Hired Workers	961	753 *	930
150 Days or More	637	600 *	656
149 Days or Less	324	153 *	274
Agricultural Services			
Workers Working on Farms	343	247 *	402
Hired Farm & Service Workers	1,304	1000 *	1,332
	Hours Per Week		
Hours Worked, Hired Workers	39.2	39.9 *	40.6
	Dollars Per Hour		
Wage Rate for			
All Hired Workers ^{2,3}	9.04	9.35 *	9.39
Field & Livestock Combined	8.43	8.72 *	8.78
Field	8.34	8.56 *	8.62
Livestock	8.74	9.14 *	9.25

* Revised.

¹ Excludes AK.

² Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to 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, July 10-16, 2005 ¹**

United States and Region	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock Combined	
Dollars Per Hour				
Northeast I	8.88	9.55	9.11	9.70
Northeast II	8.71	9.37	8.90	9.79
Appalachian I	8.44	8.53	8.46	9.03
Appalachian II	8.46	8.19	8.30	8.68
Southeast	8.39	8.85	8.51	8.91
Florida	8.75	9.15	8.81	9.70
Lake	8.66	9.52	8.97	9.66
Cornbelt I	9.20	8.77	9.10	9.56
Cornbelt II	8.86	9.14	9.05	9.56
Delta	7.59	7.80	7.65	7.85
Northern Plains	8.15	9.49	8.60	9.05
Southern Plains	8.07	9.06	8.50	9.27
Mountain I	8.39	8.51	8.44	8.79
Mountain II	8.62	8.49	8.58	9.20
Mountain III	7.90	8.11	7.98	8.53
Pacific	8.60	10.67	8.80	9.21
California	8.78	10.60	9.01	9.69
Hawaii ²	10.00		10.05	11.76
United States ³	8.62	9.25	8.78	9.39

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Insufficient data for livestock.

³ Excludes AK.

**Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Selected States, Region
and United States, July 10-16, 2005 ¹**

United States and Region	Hired			Number of Hours Worked
	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		
		150 Days or More	149 Days of Less	
1,000				Hours Per Week
Southeast	44	30	14	37.5
Florida	41	39	2	41.3
Delta	24	19	5	38.0
Northern Plains	45	26	19	42.2
Southern Plains	63	47	16	36.5
Pacific	109	50	59	39.3
California	200	156	44	45.5
Hawaii	7	6	1	40.0
United States ²	930	656	274	40.6

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Excludes AK.

Balance Sheet of the US Farming Sector, 2001-2003 and Forecast 2004-2005

Category	2001	2002	2003	2004F	2005F
Million Dollars					
Farm assets	1,255,926	1,304,049	1,378,757	1,452,900	1,504,500
Real estate	996,242	1,045,655	1,111,777	1,178,500	1,231,500
Livestock and poultry 1/	78,536	75,621	78,540	78,600	74,800
Machinery and motor vehicles 2/	92,804	93,582	95,944	98,800	101,800
Crops stored 3/	25,239	23,114	24,429	25,800	23,500
Purchased inputs	4,212	5,632	5,627	5,700	5,800
Financial assets	58,893	60,445	62,440	65,500	67,100
Total farm debt 4/	185,703	193,312	197,998	205,900	213,300
Real estate	96,008	103,356	107,981	113,600	119,500
Farm Credit System	32,855	37,815	40,095	42,400	
Farm Service Agency	3,347	3,181	2,848	2,600	
Commercial banks	31,082	33,060	35,126	37,900	
Life insurance companies	11,205	11,421	11,597	11,800	
Individuals and others	17,519	17,880	18,316	18,900	
Nonreal estate	89,695	89,955	90,017	92,300	93,800
Farm Credit System	19,229	19,735	20,097	21,000	
Farm Service Agency	4,151	3,973	3,807	3,400	
Commercial banks	45,025	44,344	43,539	44,400	
Individuals and others	21,289	21,903	22,574	23,500	
Farm equity	1,070,224	1,110,738	1,180,759	1,247,000	1,291,200
Selected ratios:	Percent				
Debt-to-equity	17.4	17.4	16.8	16.5	16.5
Debt-to-asset	14.8	14.8	14.4	14.2	14.2

Note: F = forecast & P = preliminary. Numbers may not add due to rounding. Balance sheet is as of December 31.

¹ Excludes horses, mules, and broilers.

² Includes only farm share of value for trucks and automobiles.

³ All non-CCC crops held on farms plus the value above loan rate for crops held under CCC.

⁴ Excludes debt for nonfarm purposes.

Feeder Livestock: Prices Paid, United States, July 2005 with Comparisons

Item	Unit	2004	2005	
		July	June	July
Dollars				
Feeders and Stockers				
Cattle and Calves	Cwt	117.80	118.50	115.90
Feeder Pigs	Cwt	100.00	128.00	106.00

Chicken Eggs in Incubators, by Region and United States, August 1, 2004-2005

State	Broiler-type			Egg-type		
	2004	2005	2005/2004	2004	2005	2005/2004
	1,000 Pounds		Percent	1,000 Pounds		Percent
North Atlantic	12,767	12,691	99	4,778	5,577	117
East North Central	9,259	9,131	99	7,261	7,154	99
West North Central	23,723	24,246	102	6,292	7,479	119
South Atlantic	236,833	237,807	100	3,681	3,911	106
South Central	355,606	352,679	99	4,149	6,444	155
West	25,303	26,158	103	5,361	4,740	88
United States	663,491	662,712	100	31,522	35,305	112

July Layers and Egg Production, by Selected States and United States, 2004-2005

State	All Layers on Hand ¹		Table Eggs		Hatching Eggs	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000		Million		Million	
Alabama	9,548	9,220	39	37	139	138
Arkansas	15,225	14,414	107	97	189	191
Florida	11,622	11,080	249	242	10	8
Georgia	20,076	18,919	251	224	174	176
Mississippi	6,825	6,855	41	38	95	102
North Carolina	10,817	10,932	79	80	133	138
Oklahoma	4,064	3,882	44	43	35	34
South Carolina	5,246	5,037	95	81	22	22
Virginia	3,193	3,325	29	37	33	37
United States	342,479	340,184	6,455	6,441	1,102	1,120

¹ Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.

July Broiler-Type Chicks Hatched, by Selected States and United States, 2004-2005

State	July			January-July		
	2004	2005	2005/2004	2004	2005	2005/2004
	1,000		Percent	1,000		Percent
Alabama	113,711	116,103	102	767,552	778,913	101
Arkansas	115,416	112,224	97	789,707	784,070	99
Florida	4,987	5,068	102	34,187	34,012	99
Georgia	122,912	121,744	99	834,396	843,091	101
Kentucky	26,607	25,826	97	177,197	178,969	101
Mississippi	74,656	72,443	97	500,482	496,347	99
North Carolina	67,288	66,046	98	461,854	465,197	101
Texas	56,341	56,825	101	380,571	387,213	102
United States	806,658	807,654	100	5,472,694	5,559,923	102

United States Catfish: Sales, Average Price and Ending Inventory, July 2004-2005

Item	Sales Volume		Average Price		Ending Inventory	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Pounds		Dollars Per Pound		1,000 Pounds	
Fresh						
Whole Fish	2,875	2,686	1.57	1.58	162	146
Fillets ¹	5,559	4,714	2.73	2.84	540	482
Other ²	1,181	1,097	1.62	1.72	130	117
Total Fresh	9,615	8,497	2.25	2.30	832	745
Frozen						
Whole Fish	1,100	1,021	1.95	2.00	1,060	739
Fillets ¹	9,836	9,563	2.65	2.70	6,610	8,019
Other ²	4,072	4,648	1.50	1.45	3,377	3,364
Total Frozen	15,008	15,232	2.29	2.27	11,047	12,122
Total Fresh & Frozen	24,623	23,729	2.27	2.28	11,879	12,867

¹ Includes regular, shank, and strip fillets; excludes any breaded products.

² Includes all products not already reported including weight of breading and added ingredients.

United States Farm-Raised Catfish: Quantity Processed, Prices Paid to Producers by Major Processors, and United States Imports, 2004-2005

Month	Round Weight Processed				Price Paid Pound ¹		Imports of Catfish ²	
	Monthly		Cumulative		2004	2005	2004	2005
	2004	2005	2004	2005				
	1,000 Pounds				Dollars		1,000 Pounds	
January	53,849	53,856	53,849	53,856	.668	.725	215	1,383
February	54,173	51,720	108,022	105,576	.703	.731	204	1,230
March	60,272	57,117	168,294	162,693	.723	.733	295	1,161
April	53,896	50,306	222,190	212,999	.728	.725	328	2,198
May	52,324	51,552	274,514	264,551	.720	.722	248	2,695
June	50,155	49,626	324,669	314,177	.689	.721	270	2,538
July	51,055	47,241	375,724	361,418	.682	.723	123	
August	53,295		429,019		.683		1,637	
September	51,329		480,348		.683		1,801	
October	52,396		532,744		.695		1,104	
November	49,536		582,280		.689		1,579	
December	48,170		630,450		.690		1,420	

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. Includes Ictalurus, Pangasius and Siluriformes catfish. Data furnished by U.S. Bureau of Census.

Cropland Rented for Cash: Average Cash Rent per Acre,
by Selected States, 2001-2005

State	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Dollars					
Arkansas	67.00	69.00	71.00	75.00	76.00
Irrigated	78.00	80.00	78.00	86.00	86.00
Non-Irrigated	48.00	53.00	55.00	59.00	58.00
Georgia	55.00	55.00	56.00	58.00	58.00
Irrigated	103.00	103.00	105.00	110.00	115.00
Non-Irrigated	38.00	39.00	40.00	42.00	41.00
Louisiana	62.00	62.00	62.00	66.00	66.00
Irrigated	74.00	73.00	68.00	76.00	70.00
Non-Irrigated	56.00	57.00	59.00	62.00	62.00
Mississippi	62.00	62.00	63.00	66.00	69.00
Irrigated	79.00	79.00	78.00	85.00	96.00
Non-Irrigated	54.00	54.00	56.00	58.00	60.00
Missouri					
Non-Irrigated	65.00	66.00	70.00	76.00	79.00
Oklahoma					
Non-Irrigated	27.00	27.00	27.50	30.00	29.00
Texas	27.00	27.00	27.30	29.80	29.70
Irrigated	53.00	53.00	55.00	56.00	57.50
Non-Irrigated	21.00	21.00	21.00	23.70	23.00

Pasture Rented for Cash: Average Cash Rent per Acre,
by Selected States, 2001-2005

State	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Dollars					
Alabama	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00 *	17.50
Florida	15.00	16.00	17.00	17.50	18.50
Georgia	23.00	23.00	23.00	24.00	22.00
Louisiana	16.00	16.00	15.00	15.50	16.50
Mississippi	16.00	17.00	16.00	16.50	16.50
Missouri	22.50	23.00	23.50	26.00	27.00
North Carolina	22.00	21.50	22.00	23.00	25.00
Oklahoma	8.30	8.50	8.50	9.00	9.00
Tennessee	18.00	17.00	17.50	19.00	18.00
Texas	7.20	7.40	7.80	7.80	8.30
Virginia	16.50	16.00	16.50	17.50	20.00

Use of Internet, by Selected States and United States, 2001, 2003 and 2005

State	Farms					
	Purchase Agricultural Inputs Over Internet ¹			Conduct Agricultural Marketing Activities Over Internet ²		
	2001	2003	2005	2001	2003	2005
	Percent					
Alabama	5	6	7	3	5	6
Arkansas	6	6	5	5	5	5
Georgia	2	7	4	3	4	4
Kentucky	2	3	7	2	3	5
Louisiana	7	7	4	3	3	6
Mississippi	3	4	6	3	4	4
Missouri	3	5	6	7	7	8
Oklahoma	1	6	8	7	5	6
South Carolina	7	7	9	6	6	6
Tennessee	3	5	6	4	6	5
Texas	6	8	8	7	7	7
Virginia ³	9	8	14	5	9	8
United States ⁴	6	8	9	6	8	9

¹ Agricultural inputs include seed, fertilizer, chemicals, veterinarian supplies, feed, machinery, replacement parts, farm supplies, office equipment, etc.

² Agricultural marketing activities include direct sales of commodities, on-line crop and livestock auctions, on-line market advisory services, commodity price tracking, etc.

³ Includes DE, MD, VA, and WV.

⁴ Excludes AK and HI.

Primary Method of Internet Access, by Selected States and United States, 2005

State	Dialup	DSL	Cable	Satellite	Wireless	Unknown Other/
	Percent					
Alabama	84	3	12	*	*	1
Arkansas	70	22	4	2	*	2
Georgia	71	13	8	1	1	6
Kentucky	62	15	5	3	3	12
Louisiana	63	21	7	2	2	5
Mississippi	79	8	*	3	*	9
Missouri	75	11	2	6	1	6
Oklahoma	67	14	3	6	4	7
South Carolina	76	11	5	7		*
Tennessee	71	8	9	2	*	10
Texas	73	13	4	4	3	4
Virginia ¹	79	5	4	1	1	10
United States ²	69	13	6	4	3	5

¹ Includes DE, MD, VA, and WV.

² Excludes AK and HI.

Commercial Red Meat Production, by Selected States and United States,
July 2005 with Comparisons ¹

State	July 2004	June 2005	July 2005	July 2005 as Percent of ²	
				July 2004	June 2005
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Alabama	2.6	2.4	2.3	87	93
Arkansas	4.6	4.9	4.1	89	83
Florida	4.6	5.2	4.7	101	90
Georgia	13.5	14.0	11.3	84	81
Kentucky	39.6	35.5	33.8	85	95
Louisiana	1.0	0.9	0.8	78	87
Mississippi	22.5	23.1	20.2	90	87
Missouri	36.2	39.0	36.3	100	93
North Carolina	151.5	175.6	162.3	107	92
Oklahoma	80.0	91.7	79.8	100	87
South Carolina	19.1	20.3	18.1	95	89
Tennessee	16.3	16.9	13.2	81	78
Texas	399.1	429.1	392.8	98	92
United States	3,707.9	3,963.0*	3,615.9	98	91

¹ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

² Percentages based on unrounded data.

* Revised.