

Ag Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Highlights

- Wage rates for all workers in the United States during the April 6-12, 2008, period increased 40 cents per hour from the same period a year earlier.
- There were 80 active gins in Mississippi during 2007, down 9 gins from the previous year.
- Coahoma County produced more running bales during 2007 than any other County in Mississippi and ranked number 25 among all counties in the United States.

Farm Labor: Employment and Wage Rates, United States,
April 6-12, 2008, with comparisons ¹

Farm Employment	April 8-14, 2007	January 6-12, 2008	April 6-12, 2008
		1,000	
Hired Workers	736	594 *	700
150 Days or More	596	506 *	563
149 Days or Less	143	88	137
Agricultural Services			
Workers Working on Farms	253	179	219
		Hours per Week	
Hired Farm & Service Workers	989	773 *	919
Hours Worked			
Hired	40.7	38.4	41.0
		Dollars per Hour	
Wage Rate for			
All Hired Workers ^{2,3}	10.20	10.81 *	10.60
Type or Worker			
Field & Livestock Combined	9.42	9.88 *	9.87
Field	9.35	9.67 *	9.65
Livestock	9.59	10.18 *	10.32

* 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 Selected Regions and United States, April 8-14, 2007 and April 6-12, 2008 ¹**

United States and Region	Type of Worker						Wage Rates for All Hired Workers	
	Field		Livestock		Field & Livestock Combined		Apr 8-14, 2007	Apr 6-12, 2008
	Apr 8-14, 2007	Apr 6-12, 2008	Apr 8-14, 2007	Apr 6-12, 2008	Apr 8-14, 2007	Apr 6-12, 2008		
Dollars per Hour								
Northeast II	10.34	9.71	8.56	8.77	9.80	9.42	10.55	10.00
Appalachian I	8.46	9.34	9.22	9.54	8.75	9.40	9.32	9.98
Appalachian II	8.64	8.87	9.07	10.07	8.81	9.44	9.77	10.05
Southeast	8.00	8.93	9.04	8.81	8.20	8.90	8.83	9.66
Florida	9.20	9.32	9.00	9.59	9.17	9.35	10.01	10.25
Cornbelt I	9.86	10.32	9.16	10.73	9.45	10.45	10.17	11.43
Delta	8.54	8.77	8.00	8.84	8.40	8.80	8.80	9.45
Southern Plains	8.35	8.51	9.41	9.74	8.80	9.05	9.22	9.72
Mountain II	9.16	9.33	9.75	9.81	9.45	9.55	9.97	10.05
Pacific	9.39	9.14	9.70	11.34	9.45	9.41	10.24	10.00
California	9.62	10.00	10.90	11.50	9.82	10.26	10.71	11.14
Hawaii ²	10.60	10.80			10.77	10.91	12.85	13.28
United States ³	9.35	9.65	9.35	10.32	9.42	9.87	10.20	10.60

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Insufficient data for livestock.

³ Excludes Alaska.

**Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Selected Regions
and United States, April 8-14, 2007 and April 6-12, 2008 ¹**

United States and Region	Hired							
	Number of Workers		Expected to be Employed				Number of Hours Worked	
			150 Days or More		149 Days or Less			
	Apr 8-14, 2007	Apr 6-12, 2008	Apr 8-14, 2007	Apr 6-12, 2008	Apr 8-14, 2007	Apr 6-12, 2008	Apr 8-14, 2007	Apr 6-12, 2008
1,000								
Hours per Week								
Appalachian I	20	27	16	21	4	6	36.5	38.5
Appalachian II	22	29	14	19	8	10	33.8	33.5
Southeast	33	25	25	19	8	6	37.4	37.2
Florida	55	51	46	45	9	6	39.2	41.5
Delta	31	21	24	18	7	3	38.0	36.9
Southern Plains	50	45	38	35	12	10	37.9	42.1
United States ²	736	700	593	563	143	137	40.7	41.0

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Excludes Alaska.

Region: Northeast II – DE, MD, NJ, PA; Appalachian I – NC, VA; Appalachian II – KY, TN, WV; Southeast – AL, GA, SC; Cornbelt I – IL, IN, OH; Mountain II – CO, NV, UT; Delta – AR, LA, MS; Southern Plains – OK, TX; Pacific – OR, WA.

United States Catfish: Average Prices and Ending Inventory, April 2007-2008

Item	Sales Volume		Average Price ¹		Ending Inventory	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000 Pounds		Dollars Per Pound		1,000 Pounds	
Fresh						
Whole Fish	2,631	3,181	1.75	1.55	142	211
Fillets	4,001	4,184	3.27	3.03	240	524
Other	809	790	1.80	1.60	57	91
Total Fresh	7,441	8,155	2.57	2.31	439	826
Frozen						
Whole Fish	944	1,176	2.23	2.06	1,077	1,368
Fillets ¹	7,566	8,341	3.09	2.88	12,719	7,017
Other ²	3,225	4,168	1.46	1.58	3,680	2,196
Total Frozen	11,735	13,685	2.57	2.41	17,476	10,581
Total Fresh & Frozen	19,176	21,840	2.57	2.38	17,915	11,407

¹ Gross value f.o.b. plant.

United States Farm-Raised Catfish: Quantity Processed and Prices Paid to Producers by Major Processors, 2007-2008

Month	Round Weight Processed				Price Paid Pound ¹	
	Monthly		Cumulative		2007	2008
	2007	2008	2007	2008		
	1,000 Pounds				Dollars	
January	46,957	45,992	46,079	45,992	.837	.658
February	44,083	47,634	90,162	93,626	.838	.688
March ²	45,477	47,908	135,639	141,534	.838	.743
April	37,954	46,215	173,593	187,749	.841	.752
May	38,867		212,460		.840	
June	37,275		249,735		.817	
July	39,168		288,903		.762	
August	42,626		331,529		.731	
September	39,519		371,048		.697	
October	45,890		416,938		.682	
November	40,307		457,245		.666	
December	39,001		496,246		.650	

¹ Quantity processed by major processors and the prices received for fish delivered to the processing plant's 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 Revised 2008 only.

Farm-Raised Catfish: Imports and Exports, United States, 2007-2008

Month	Imports ¹				Exports ¹			
	Ictalurus spp.		Total ²		Fresh		Frozen	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
1,000 Pounds								
January	4,381	2,944	12,056	9,666	69.7	134.6	0.0	23.1
February	3,030	2,575	7,582	9,603	69.1	71.6	29.9	0.0
March	2,101	2,040	6,430	7,884	252.8	106.3	14.3	11.9
April	1,139		5,097		73.5		0.0	
May	1,394		5,434		51.8		5.1	
June	388		5,469		69.3		24.3	
July	401		5,718		117.2		0.0	
August	80		8,839		77.6		0.0	
September	607		6,741		99.0		43.2	
October	1,061		7,111		126.3		11.8	
November	1,199		7,248		97.4		0.0	
December	1,678		6,880		92.3		5.7	

¹ Data furnished by the U.S. Census Bureau.

² Includes freshwater imports for consumption of Ictalurus spp., Pangasius spp., and other catfish of the order Siluriformes.

Catfish Feed: Tons Delivered for Foodsize Fish,
Mississippi and United States, 2007-2008

Month	Mississippi		Percent of Previous Year	United States		Percent of Previous Year
	2007	2008		2007	2008	
	Tons		Percent	Tons		Percent
January	1,045	825	79	4,500	3,316	74
February	2,146	1,462	68	6,058	5,182	86
March	16,944	6,590	39	38,718	16,491	43
April	19,217	18,222	95	40,998	38,143	93
May	49,837			102,859		
June	62,580			127,246		
July	65,230			133,478		
August	65,099			135,806		
September	63,635			126,105		
October	36,018			73,196		
November	8,855			21,830		
December	1,645			7,209		

Chicken Eggs in Incubators, by Region and United States, May 1, 2007-2008

Region	Broiler-type			Egg-type		
	2007	2008	2007/2008	2007	2008	2007/2008
	1,000		Percent	1,000		Percent
North Atlantic	12,148	12,883	106	6,265	5,246	84
East North Central	11,084	12,425	112	6,831	8,459	124
West North Central	30,071	29,746	99	8,903	9,138	103
South Atlantic	252,344	243,720	97	4,630	4,958	107
South Central	347,709	340,953	98	5,015	6,264	125
West	26,440	25,488	96	4,304	5,578	130
United States	679,796	665,215	98	35,948	39,643	110

April Layers and Egg Production, by Selected States and United States, 2007-2008

State	All Layers on Hand ¹		Table Eggs ²		Hatching Eggs ²	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
	1,000			Million Eggs		
Alabama	9,248	9,436	27	28	147	147
Arkansas	14,439	13,894	102	81	176	182
Florida	10,315	10,460	219	213	10	8
Georgia	19,593	18,940	218	199	182	181
Mississippi	6,515	6,250	36	33	88	87
North Carolina	12,075	12,700	101	120	139	137
South Carolina	4,851	4,491	73	73	22	22
Virginia	3,252	3,182	32	28	33	34
United States	345,578	341,159	6,367	6,278	1,105	1,106

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

² Data by type of flock not shown for some States to avoid disclosing individual operations, data included in US totals.

April Broiler-type Chicks Hatched, by Selected States and United States, 2007-2008

State	During April			January-April		
	2007	2008	2008/2007	2007	2008	2008/2007
	1,000		Percent	1,000		Percent
Alabama	112,044	113,553	101	439,464	459,069	104
Arkansas	100,668	97,978	97	397,488	403,166	101
Florida	4,990	5,038	101	19,566	20,040	102
Georgia	123,523	120,937	98	485,571	494,907	102
Mississippi	69,012	69,021	100	269,220	275,506	102
North Carolina	70,018	70,044	100	272,159	283,811	104
South Carolina	18,814	19,423	103	76,043	78,244	103
Virginia	23,119	22,680	98	89,480	90,442	101
United States	799,293	797,481	100	3,126,788	3,223,443	103

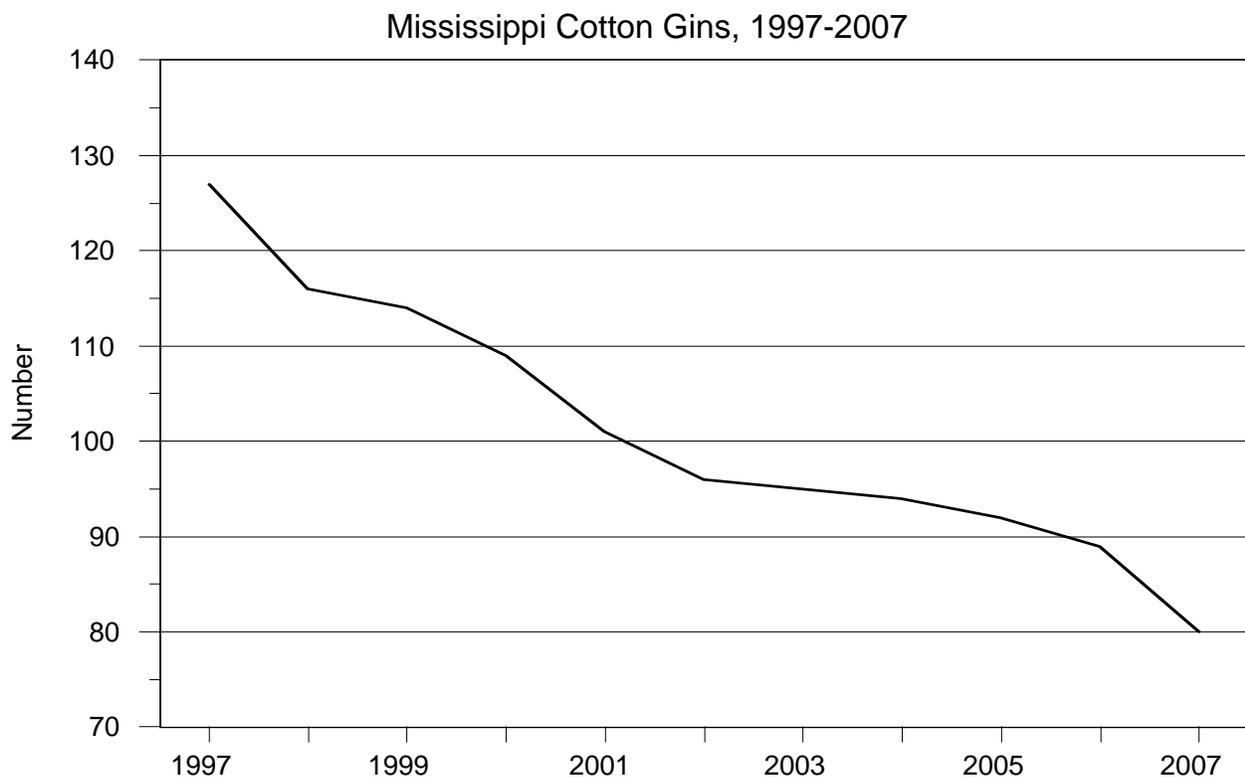
Mississippi Number of Active Gins, Average Bale Weight, and Rank by
County in United States Crop Years 2006-2007

County and State	Number of Active Gins		Average Weight Per Running Baled Ginned		Rank by Running Bales Produced	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Number		Pounds		Rank	
Adam	0	0	0.0	0.0	261	282
Alcorn	0	0	0.0	0.0	455	---
Attala	0	0	0.0	0.0	355	333
Benton	1	1	491.0	495.2	384	470
Bolivar	8	8	487.6	487.4	29	40
Calhoun	3	3	491.8	495.8	181	149
Carroll	2	1	497.8	498.9	81	182
Chickasaw	0	0	0.0	0.0	334	369
Choctaw	0	0	0.0	0.0	494	473
Claiborne	0	0	0.0	0.0	296	359
Clay	0	0	0.0	0.0	456	465
Coahoma	7	6	489.4	489.0	24	25
Copiah	0	0	0.0	0.0	509	---
Covington	0	0	0.0	0.0	482	480
Desoto	2	2	488.5	487.7	232	245
George	0	0	0.0	0.0	400	383
Grenada	0	0	0.0	0.0	267	249
Hinds	1	1	490.0	490.0	223	233
Holmes	3	3	493.4	490.3	50	80
Humphreys	3	3	485.0	489.3	46	65
Issaquena	0	0	0.0	0.0	168	155
Itawamba	0	0	0.0	0.0	391	314
Jackson	0	0	0.0	0.0	321	342
Jefferson	1	1	500.0	500.0	360	283
Jones	0	0	0.0	0.0	529	---
Lafayette	1	1	486.0	488.4	341	318
Lamar	0	0	0.0	0.0	418	---
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0.0	517	---
Leake	0	0	0.0	0.0	505	---
Lee	1	1	500.0	497.0	284	251
Leflore	9	8	497.4	497.2	25	35
Lowndes	0	0	0.0	0.0	352	300
Madison	1	1	492.4	489.4	244	310
Marshall	0	0	0.0	0.0	442	---
Monroe	2	2	496.7	497.5	311	348
Montgomery	1	1	489.0	496.1	248	224
Noxubee	0	0	0.0	0.0	310	286
Oktibbeha	0	0	0.0	0.0	---	---
Panola	3	3	494.0	499.4	116	187
Pontotoc	1	1	480.0	483.3	369	347
Prentiss	0	0	0.0	0.0	337	---

**Mississippi Number of Active Gins, Average Bale Weight, and Rank by
County in United States, Crop Years 2006-2007—Cont.**

County and State	Number of Active Gins		Average Weight Per Running Baled Ginned		Rank by Running Bales Produced	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	Number		Pounds		Rank	
Quitman	3	3	491.3	482.6	87	122
Rankin	0	0	0.0	0.0	385	441
Scott	0	0	0.0	0.0	506	---
Sharkey	5	4	492.7	493.4	78	82
Sunflower	6	5	490.3	483.2	36	90
Tallahatchie	4	3	488.4	484.4	63	63
Tate	0	0	0.0	0.0	240	239
Tippah	0	0	0.0	0.0	388	433
Tishomingo	0	0	0.0	0.0	459	429
Tunica	3	3	491.1	493.4	47	53
Union	0	0	0.0	0.0	411	---
Warren	1	1	487.0	495.2	194	307
Washington	8	6	494.4	490.8	18	58
Webster	1	1	486.0	482.9	236	200
Yalobusha	1	1	489.4	490.0	281	270
Yazoo	7	6	495.7	494.0	49	69
Mississippi	89	80	491.9	491.1		

--- No running bales produced.



Mississippi and United States Price Highlights, May 2008 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	May 2007 Entire Month		April 2008 Entire Month		May 2008 Mid Month	
		MS	US	MS	US	MS	US
Dollars							
Corn	bu	---	3.49	---	5.15	---	5.12
Cotton, Upland	lb	.426	.440	.560	.621	.560 ¹	.607 ¹
Sorghum, grain	cwt	---	6.49	---	9.30	---	9.18
Soybeans	bu	7.06	7.12	13.10	12.00	7.00	12.30
Winter Wheat	bu	---	4.77	---	9.61	---	7.76
Rice, Rough	cwt	---	10.00	---	14.60	---	15.00
All Milk	cwt	---	18.00	---	18.00	---	18.20
Fluid	cwt	---	18.00	---	18.00	---	18.20
Manufacturing	cwt	---	17.60	---	17.70	---	18.50
All Beef Cattle	cwt	---	92.80	---	86.60	---	90.50
Cows	cwt	---	51.70	---	50.50	---	53.10
Calves	cwt	---	124.00	---	116.00	---	116.00
Steers & Heifers	cwt	---	98.10	---	91.60	---	95.40
All Hogs	cwt	---	53.10	---	44.10	---	54.10
Barrows & Gilts	cwt	---	53.90	---	45.30	---	55.50
Sows	cwt	---	34.10	---	17.20	---	23.00
Broilers, Live	lb	---	.470	---	.460	---	.480
Market Eggs	doz	.620 ²	.618 ²	.890 ²	.884 ²	.700 ²	.698

--- Estimates not made.

¹ Based on sales during the first half of the month.

² Mid-month.