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October Hired Workers and Wage Rates Increase Over 5 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 906,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 8-14, 2012, up nearly 9 percent from the July 2011 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 872,000 for the reference week of October 7-13, 2012, up more than 5 percent from the October 2011 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.36 per hour during the July 2012 reference week, up nearly 4 percent from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.71 per hour, up more than 4 percent, while livestock workers earned \$10.89 per hour compared with \$10.29 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.75 per hour, was up 47 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 40.4 for hired workers during the reference week, down a little over 2 percent from July 2011.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.76 per hour during the October 2012 reference week, up over 5 percent from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$11.22 per hour, up over 6 percent from a year earlier. Livestock workers earned \$10.83, up 16 cents. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$11.13 per hour, was up 56 cents from a year earlier. The number of hours worked averaged 41.5 for hired workers during the reference week, nearly the same as hours worked in October 2011.

July Reference Week

For the July reference week, the largest percentage increases in the number of hired workers from last year occurred in the Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania) region followed by the Cornbelt I (Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio) region. Good field conditions and continuing increases in principal field crop acreage prompted increased demand across many farm types in Northeast II, while drought conditions in Cornbelt I led to both early silage harvest and supplemental feeding of livestock in some areas.

The largest percentage decreases in the number of hired workers from last year occurred in the Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia) region followed by the Cornbelt II (Iowa and Missouri) region. Wet conditions prevailed in Appalachian II and fewer workers were in the field during the reference week this year. In Cornbelt II, the drought conditions led to decreased labor demand for field crop and hay operations.

Hired worker wage rates were above the previous year rates in the majority of regions. The largest increases occurred in the Northern Plains (Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota) region followed by the Cornbelt I region. Increases in the wage rate for field and livestock workers, plus a slight increase in the proportion of supervisory and other workers, was seen in both regions.

October Reference Week

For the October reference week, the largest percentage increases in the number of hired workers from last year occurred in the Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia) region followed by the Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania) region. Strong demand for tobacco, field crop, and livestock workers was seen in Appalachian II and increased demand in Northeast II across many farm types.

The largest percentage decreases in the number of hired workers from last year occurred in the Corn Belt II (Iowa and Missouri) region followed by California. In Cornbelt II, early harvest of principle crops meant less workers in the field during the reference week this year and California saw decreases in hired worker demand from primarily nurseries and fruit and nut operations.

Hired worker wage rates were above the previous year rates in the majority of regions. The largest increases occurred in the Pacific (Oregon and Washington) region followed by the Mountain III (Arizona and New Mexico) region. The field and livestock worker wage was up substantially in the Pacific region. Increases in the wage rate for field and livestock workers, plus a slight increase in the proportion of supervisory and other workers, were seen in the Mountain III region.

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Hired Workers and Wage Rates – United States

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Farm employment	July 10-16, 2011	October 9-15, 2011	January 8-14, 2012	April 8-14, 2012	July 8-14, 2012	October 7-13, 2012
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Hired workers						
150 days or more	603	590	489	580	626	610
149 days or less	231	238	86	168	280	262
Total	834	828	575	748	906	872
	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)
Hours worked by hired workers ...	41.2	41.6	39.6	39.2	40.4	41.5
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Wage rate ¹						
Field and livestock combined ..						
Field	10.28	10.57	10.58	10.62	10.75	11.13
Livestock	10.27	10.54	10.39	10.50	10.71	11.22
All hired workers	10.29	10.67	10.96	10.95	10.89	10.83
	10.93	11.15	11.52	11.41	11.36	11.76

¹ Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: October 7-13, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Hired				Number of hours worked (hours per week)
	Number of workers (1,000)	Expected to be employed (1,000)			
		150 days or more	149 days or less		
Northeast I	47	31	16		41.0
Northeast II	48	38	10		37.8
Appalachian I	36	21	15		39.6
Appalachian II	30	19	11		37.9
Southeast	29	22	7		37.0
Florida	47	39	8		37.6
Lake	72	41	31		37.2
Cornbelt I	65	43	22		37.9
Cornbelt II	29	20	9		36.2
Delta	30	17	13		41.0
Northern Plains	43	33	10		43.9
Southern Plains	54	39	15		39.1
Mountain I	30	20	10		53.6
Mountain II	19	15	4		39.9
Mountain III	21	18	3		47.0
Pacific	103	59	44		43.7
California	162	129	33		46.5
Hawaii	7	6	1		35.5
United States	872	610	262		41.5

¹ Region map on page 25.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: October 7-13, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	10.99	10.66	10.90	11.38
Northeast II	11.48	11.83	11.55	12.13
Appalachian I	9.57	10.04	9.70	10.08
Appalachian II	10.48	10.55	10.50	10.98
Southeast	10.03	9.52	9.90	10.41
Florida	9.25	9.90	9.32	10.24
Lake	12.06	10.68	11.50	12.01
Cornbelt I	11.67	11.61	11.65	12.45
Cornbelt II	11.87	10.84	11.50	12.09
Delta	9.45	9.46	9.45	9.79
Northern Plains	13.71	11.44	12.90	13.10
Southern Plains	10.06	11.40	10.60	11.38
Mountain I	10.03	9.47	9.85	10.17
Mountain II	10.74	10.12	10.45	11.63
Mountain III	9.55	11.13	10.10	11.06
Pacific	13.49	11.41	13.30	13.59
California	10.70	11.50	10.80	11.73
Hawaii	12.75	13.90	12.85	15.17
United States	11.22	10.83	11.13	11.76

¹ Region map on page 25.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: July 8-14, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Hired			
	Number of workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked
		150 days or more	149 days or less	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)
Northeast I	50	30	20	40.9
Northeast II	60	40	20	37.7
Appalachian I	39	23	16	40.2
Appalachian II	27	19	8	36.1
Southeast	30	22	8	36.6
Florida	39	35	4	39.0
Lake	68	39	29	35.0
Cornbelt I	56	43	13	37.4
Cornbelt II	30	21	9	37.6
Delta	28	16	12	37.8
Northern Plains	43	32	11	39.9
Southern Plains	57	38	19	37.3
Mountain I	29	21	8	48.5
Mountain II	22	15	7	40.3
Mountain III	18	16	2	43.8
Pacific	127	64	63	42.6
California	176	146	30	44.6
Hawaii	7	6	1	35.1
United States	906	626	280	40.4

¹ Region map on page 25.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: July 8-14, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	10.91	10.49	10.80	11.21
Northeast II	10.71	12.21	10.95	11.44
Appalachian I	9.28	10.65	9.60	9.92
Appalachian II	10.66	10.64	10.65	11.33
Southeast	9.72	9.87	9.75	10.23
Florida	9.28	9.50	9.30	10.47
Lake	10.42	10.48	10.45	11.07
Cornbelt I	11.01	11.64	11.20	12.15
Cornbelt II	11.58	10.41	11.10	11.57
Delta	9.17	9.80	9.35	9.63
Northern Plains	12.40	11.66	12.10	12.49
Southern Plains	9.95	11.29	10.60	11.15
Mountain I	9.76	9.38	9.60	9.87
Mountain II	10.12	9.83	10.00	10.81
Mountain III	10.02	10.78	10.35	11.31
Pacific	11.66	12.15	11.70	12.10
California	10.75	11.55	10.85	11.61
Hawaii	12.85	13.40	12.90	15.27
United States	10.71	10.89	10.75	11.36

¹ Region map on page 25.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: April 8-14, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Hired				Number of hours worked (hours per week)
	Number of workers (1,000)	Expected to be employed (1,000)		Number of hours worked (hours per week)	
		150 days or more	149 days or less		
Northeast I	30	23	7	41.9	
Northeast II	35	26	9	39.3	
Appalachian I	28	22	6	41.7	
Appalachian II	29	17	12	32.4	
Southeast	36	26	10	36.4	
Florida	55	41	14	36.5	
Lake	57	42	15	35.6	
Cornbelt I	44	35	9	37.3	
Cornbelt II	24	19	5	32.6	
Delta	23	18	5	39.4	
Northern Plains	33	26	7	41.1	
Southern Plains	58	40	18	40.9	
Mountain I	29	24	5	38.4	
Mountain II	19	13	6	42.4	
Mountain III	20	18	2	50.7	
Pacific	66	48	18	42.3	
California	156	137	19	39.8	
Hawaii	6	5	1	37.5	
United States	748	580	168	39.2	

¹ Region map on page 25.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: April 8-14, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	11.52	10.30	11.05	11.70
Northeast II	10.19	9.84	10.10	11.14
Appalachian I	9.57	9.80	9.62	10.09
Appalachian II	8.80	8.76	8.78	9.64
Southeast	9.61	9.91	9.67	10.13
Florida	10.60	10.35	10.58	11.56
Lake	11.71	11.59	11.66	12.55
Cornbelt I	11.81	12.59	12.10	12.54
Cornbelt II	11.94	11.60	11.80	12.21
Delta	9.41	10.38	9.62	10.27
Northern Plains	12.29	11.18	11.90	12.83
Southern Plains	9.40	10.00	9.55	10.05
Mountain I	10.74	10.60	10.65	11.23
Mountain II	9.60	9.82	9.67	10.97
Mountain III	9.07	10.07	9.22	9.79
Pacific	10.85	12.62	11.04	11.67
California	10.55	11.85	10.83	11.81
Hawaii	12.35	14.80	12.65	15.26
United States	10.50	10.95	10.62	11.41

¹ Region map on page 25.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: January 8-14, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Hired				Number of hours worked (hours per week)
	Number of workers (1,000)	Expected to be employed (1,000)			
		150 days or more	149 days or less		
Northeast I	21	19	2	41.3	
Northeast II	25	21	4	34.8	
Appalachian I	19	17	2	39.4	
Appalachian II	19	15	4	36.7	
Southeast	26	20	6	36.1	
Florida	50	41	9	38.5	
Lake	39	35	4	34.5	
Cornbelt I	31	29	2	37.9	
Cornbelt II	17	16	1	36.5	
Delta	16	14	2	36.0	
Northern Plains	25	22	3	41.5	
Southern Plains	47	37	10	37.8	
Mountain I	19	18	1	44.3	
Mountain II	14	12	2	41.5	
Mountain III	19	18	1	48.0	
Pacific	47	38	9	38.9	
California	135	112	23	42.8	
Hawaii	6	5	1	37.1	
United States	575	489	86	39.6	

¹ Region map on page 25.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: January 8-14, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	11.62	10.48	11.00	11.65
Northeast II	10.50	10.25	10.42	11.86
Appalachian I	9.76	10.18	9.91	10.56
Appalachian II	8.46	9.06	8.79	9.77
Southeast	9.64	10.49	9.81	10.53
Florida	10.35	10.65	10.37	11.43
Lake	12.99	11.47	11.95	13.12
Cornbelt I	12.16	12.42	12.30	13.05
Cornbelt II	11.90	10.93	11.30	11.50
Delta	9.33	10.48	9.74	10.67
Northern Plains	13.34	10.92	12.15	13.05
Southern Plains	9.75	10.36	9.95	10.75
Mountain I	9.81	10.15	10.05	10.90
Mountain II	10.70	9.95	10.31	11.89
Mountain III	9.06	10.70	9.37	10.05
Pacific	10.73	12.58	11.00	11.85
California	10.08	11.75	10.42	11.38
Hawaii	12.20	15.30	12.45	15.05
United States	10.39	10.96	10.58	11.52

¹ Region map on page 25.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: October 9-15, 2011

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Hired				Number of hours worked (hours per week)
	Number of workers (1,000)	Expected to be employed (1,000)			
		150 days or more	149 days or less		
Northeast I	40	30	10	41.8	
Northeast II	36	26	10	39.0	
Appalachian I	39	28	11	41.3	
Appalachian II	20	11	9	35.7	
Southeast	29	19	10	33.8	
Florida	41	34	7	37.3	
Lake	77	46	31	40.8	
Corbelt I	50	31	19	39.5	
Corbelt II	33	20	13	38.3	
Delta	31	22	9	44.7	
Northern Plains	39	30	9	43.8	
Southern Plains	45	37	8	41.0	
Mountain I	29	21	8	50.7	
Mountain II	18	14	4	41.1	
Mountain III	19	16	3	49.1	
Pacific	90	49	41	41.4	
California	185	150	35	43.6	
Hawaii	7	6	1	38.0	
United States	828	590	238	41.6	

¹ Region map on page 25.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: October 9-15, 2011

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	11.36	11.18	11.30	11.84
Northeast II	10.04	10.43	10.15	11.16
Appalachian I	9.54	10.50	9.70	10.10
Appalachian II	9.44	9.58	9.50	10.43
Southeast	9.87	9.09	9.65	10.10
Florida	9.25	10.20	9.35	10.56
Lake	11.59	10.71	11.30	11.83
Cornbelt I	11.15	11.01	11.10	11.38
Cornbelt II	12.07	10.60	11.50	11.66
Delta	9.12	9.68	9.20	9.64
Northern Plains	12.58	10.61	11.85	12.13
Southern Plains	9.53	11.03	10.10	10.78
Mountain I	10.38	10.08	10.25	10.45
Mountain II	10.90	10.22	10.60	11.36
Mountain III	8.77	10.55	9.50	10.10
Pacific	11.42	11.78	11.45	12.04
California	10.15	11.20	10.30	10.96
Hawaii	12.55	13.60	12.65	14.83
United States	10.54	10.67	10.57	11.15

¹ Region map on page 25.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: July 10-16, 2011

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Hired			
	Number of workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked
		150 days or more	149 days or less	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)
Northeast I	38	28	10	41.3
Northeast II	33	21	12	39.2
Appalachian I	41	31	10	42.8
Appalachian II	32	19	13	34.0
Southeast	31	22	9	39.4
Florida	40	37	3	40.3
Lake	74	50	24	36.7
Cornbelt I	41	29	12	34.4
Cornbelt II	33	25	8	37.1
Delta	25	18	7	39.5
Northern Plains	37	27	10	45.2
Southern Plains	51	40	11	40.0
Mountain I	28	21	7	44.5
Mountain II	19	16	3	46.0
Mountain III	16	15	1	46.8
Pacific	111	56	55	42.5
California	177	142	35	44.7
Hawaii	7	6	1	38.0
United States	834	603	231	41.2

¹ Region map on page 25.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: July 10-16, 2011

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	10.63	9.83	10.35	11.00
Northeast II	9.93	10.46	10.05	10.95
Appalachian I	9.20	9.89	9.35	9.85
Appalachian II	9.49	9.51	9.50	10.50
Southeast	9.18	8.72	9.05	9.70
Florida	9.90	10.20	9.95	12.15
Lake	10.33	10.24	10.30	10.75
Cornbelt I	10.66	10.63	10.65	11.15
Cornbelt II	12.25	11.43	12.00	12.15
Delta	9.24	10.27	9.50	9.85
Northern Plains	11.04	10.96	11.00	11.20
Southern Plains	10.14	10.25	10.20	10.60
Mountain I	10.18	9.91	10.05	10.25
Mountain II	9.77	9.19	9.55	10.55
Mountain III	9.89	10.65	10.20	11.10
Pacific	10.82	10.56	10.80	11.28
California	10.10	10.90	10.20	10.90
Hawaii	12.70	13.25	12.76	14.91
United States	10.27	10.29	10.28	10.93

¹ Region map on page 25.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: October 7-13, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast	12.82	11.08	11.22	11.21
Appalachian	10.17	10.06	9.94	10.06
Southeast and Florida	11.21	9.27	9.89	9.55
Lake	13.37	11.56	10.81	11.50
Cornbelt	12.17	11.20	11.02	11.60
Delta	9.64	9.05	9.42	9.45
Northern Plains	13.72	15.15	11.12	12.90
Southern Plains	9.13	10.09	11.17	10.60
Mountain	10.10	10.20	9.95	10.10
Pacific and California	11.93	11.78	11.35	11.74
48 States ²	11.75	11.15	10.71	11.13

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: July 8-14, 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast	12.12	10.58	11.45	10.88
Appalachian	10.27	9.69	10.11	10.00
Southeast and Florida	10.37	9.30	9.64	9.50
Lake	11.84	9.90	10.61	10.45
Cornbelt	12.40	9.94	10.80	11.16
Delta	9.52	8.95	9.30	9.35
Northern Plains	13.20	10.02	11.40	12.10
Southern Plains	10.20	9.51	11.29	10.60
Mountain	9.39	10.01	10.05	9.97
Pacific and California	10.51	11.20	11.47	11.20
48 States ²	11.21	10.65	10.72	10.75

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: October 9-15, 2011

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast	9.75	10.85	10.92	10.79
Appalachian	9.64	9.24	10.26	9.64
Southeast and Florida	(D)	9.31	9.67	9.47
Lake	12.56	10.91	11.15	11.30
Cornbelt	12.35	10.01	10.84	11.26
Delta	9.35	8.84	9.54	9.20
Northern Plains	13.23	10.76	10.51	11.85
Southern Plains	10.04	8.86	11.12	10.10
Mountain	10.18	9.57	10.33	10.09
Pacific and California	12.45	10.50	11.10	10.66
48 States ²	11.34	10.22	10.71	10.57

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: July 10-16, 2011

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast	9.42	10.38	10.09	10.21
Appalachian	9.14	9.48	9.54	9.41
Southeast and Florida	9.43	9.58	9.42	9.53
Lake	11.22	10.16	10.22	10.30
Cornbelt	12.25	10.24	11.35	11.29
Delta	8.99	9.91	10.33	9.50
Northern Plains	11.42	11.20	10.63	11.00
Southern Plains	(D)	9.20	10.32	10.20
Mountain	9.02	9.85	10.16	9.94
Pacific and California	11.58	10.30	10.31	10.36
48 States ²	10.68	10.14	10.24	10.25

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

**All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region
and 48 States: October 7-13, 2012**

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms
	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast	11.56	11.27	10.23	10.34	11.36	12.15	11.74
Appalachian	11.57	10.89	10.97	10.88	8.82	10.88	10.48
Southeast and Florida	10.85	12.02	9.80	10.23	10.54	10.15	10.30
Lake	10.80	10.05	11.21	11.14	13.63	11.80	12.01
Cornbelt	10.69	9.72	12.14	10.87	12.01	13.24	12.34
Delta	10.23	9.35	10.10	8.91	9.55	9.94	9.79
Northern Plains	9.82	10.40	10.92	13.09	13.52	13.67	13.10
Southern Plains	10.58	11.79	13.84	12.17	12.05	11.05	11.38
Mountain	11.58	13.48	9.14	10.83	9.64	10.93	10.76
Pacific and California	12.31	13.06	12.72	13.16	12.90	12.30	12.43
48 States ²	10.89	11.37	11.43	11.58	11.79	11.93	11.74

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

**All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region
and 48 States: July 8-14, 2012**

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms
	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast	11.25	9.80	9.67	10.22	11.48	11.81	11.33
Appalachian	12.26	11.54	10.92	10.56	9.16	10.59	10.46
Southeast and Florida	11.00	10.84	9.42	9.66	9.73	10.45	10.37
Lake	11.06	9.68	10.07	10.28	12.33	11.08	11.07
Cornbelt	13.80	8.09	11.55	11.22	11.38	12.66	11.95
Delta	8.95	10.70	9.18	10.35	10.01	9.92	9.63
Northern Plains	9.94	10.77	10.95	13.63	11.88	13.29	12.49
Southern Plains	10.51	11.09	13.01	11.44	11.76	10.95	11.15
Mountain	11.02	13.63	8.69	10.81	9.17	10.78	10.51
Pacific and California	11.27	12.88	13.04	12.71	12.26	11.56	11.81
48 States ²	10.75	10.80	11.12	11.61	11.23	11.50	11.34

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

**All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region
and 48 States: October 9-15, 2011**

Region ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms (dollars per hour)
	<50 (dollars per hour)	50-99 (dollars per hour)	100-249 (dollars per hour)	250-499 (dollars per hour)	500-999 (dollars per hour)	1,000+ (dollars per hour)	
Northeast	(D)	9.62	12.16	11.54	12.47	11.44	11.53
Appalachian	8.20	9.98	9.31	9.96	10.68	10.70	10.20
Southeast and Florida	8.71	9.85	9.62	12.62	9.80	10.83	10.38
Lake	11.05	10.32	10.52	10.81	11.59	12.47	11.83
Cornbelt	11.59	10.18	12.72	10.35	11.08	12.45	11.49
Delta	(D)	9.53	8.88	8.91	9.40	10.01	9.64
Northern Plains	9.85	(D)	10.34	10.92	12.28	12.78	12.13
Southern Plains	9.60	(D)	10.30	10.96	9.97	10.77	10.78
Mountain	8.54	10.68	10.63	13.70	11.00	10.97	10.56
Pacific and California	10.71	12.10	11.28	11.91	11.72	11.17	11.30
48 States ²	9.81	10.41	10.89	11.27	11.38	11.37	11.12

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

**All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region
and 48 States: July 10-16, 2011**

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms (dollars per hour)
	<50 (dollars per hour)	50-99 (dollars per hour)	100-249 (dollars per hour)	250-499 (dollars per hour)	500-999 (dollars per hour)	1,000+ (dollars per hour)	
Northeast	11.11	9.65	8.82	10.06	11.30	11.62	10.98
Appalachian	9.30	9.50	9.45	10.96	10.24	10.45	10.10
Southeast and Florida	9.72	10.56	9.38	11.29	9.61	11.77	11.09
Lake	11.15	9.62	10.01	9.41	10.27	11.43	10.75
Cornbelt	11.15	8.58	(D)	10.98	11.75	12.30	11.61
Delta	9.86	11.23	9.73	9.69	10.47	9.62	9.85
Northern Plains	8.49	10.55	9.75	9.58	11.75	11.82	11.20
Southern Plains	9.79	10.29	10.45	11.80	11.27	10.38	10.60
Mountain	8.59	(D)	(D)	9.92	10.06	11.10	10.56
Pacific and California	10.69	11.07	11.13	11.52	10.65	11.00	10.98
48 States ²	10.23	9.78	10.51	10.78	10.78	11.22	10.87

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Field and Livestock Workers by Type of Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers, Alaska and Hawaii]

Type of farm	July 10-16, 2011	October 9-15, 2011	January 8-14, 2012	April 8-14, 2012	July 8-14, 2012	October 7-13, 2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Field crops	13	16	13	14	14	16
Other crops	58	56	53	58	56	55
Livestock, dairy, and poultry	29	28	34	28	30	29

Hired Workers by Economic Class of Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers, Alaska and Hawaii]

Gross value of sales	July 10-16, 2011	October 9-15, 2011	January 8-14, 2012	April 8-14, 2012	July 8-14, 2012	October 7-13, 2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Less than \$50,000	12	8	9	10	11	10
\$50,000-\$99,999	5	5	5	5	5	4
\$100,000-\$249,999	10	9	8	8	8	8
\$250,000-\$499,999	10	11	8	9	9	8
\$500,000-\$999,999	13	13	14	13	12	13
\$1,000,000 and over	50	54	56	55	55	57

Hired Workers by Number of Workers on Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Gross value of sales	July 10-16, 2011	October 9-15, 2011	January 8-14, 2012	April 8-14, 2012	July 8-14, 2012	October 7-13, 2012
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Employed on farms hiring						
1 worker	9	8	11	9	10	11
2 workers	9	9	10	10	7	7
3-6 workers	19	16	19	20	18	18
7-10 workers	8	9	8	8	9	9
11-20 workers	11	13	9	8	11	12
21-50 workers	14	15	14	13	14	13
51 or more workers	30	30	29	32	31	30

Annual Average Number of Hired Workers and Hours Worked - Region and United States: 2011 and 2012

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

United States and region ¹	Hired workers		Hours worked	
	2011 (1,000)	2012 (1,000)	2011 (hours per week)	2012 (hours per week)
Northeast I	35.3	37.0	41.0	41.2
Northeast II	31.3	42.0	39.1	37.6
Appalachian I	32.5	30.5	40.6	40.2
Appalachian II	24.3	26.3	34.9	35.7
Southeast	29.3	30.3	37.5	36.5
Florida	43.5	47.8	38.2	37.8
Lake	63.5	59.0	38.4	35.7
Cornbelt I	40.0	49.0	36.4	37.6
Cornbelt II	26.5	25.0	38.2	35.8
Delta	29.0	24.3	41.4	38.9
Northern Plains	36.0	36.0	42.5	41.6
Southern Plains	49.8	54.0	40.0	38.8
Mountain I	25.0	26.8	45.4	46.4
Mountain II	18.0	18.5	43.0	41.0
Mountain III	17.8	19.5	45.7	47.5
Pacific	79.8	85.8	40.8	42.4
California	160.5	157.3	43.9	43.5
Hawaii	7.0	6.5	37.9	36.2
United States ²	748.8	775.3	40.8	40.3

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska.

Annual Average Wage Rates - Region and United States: 2011 and 2012

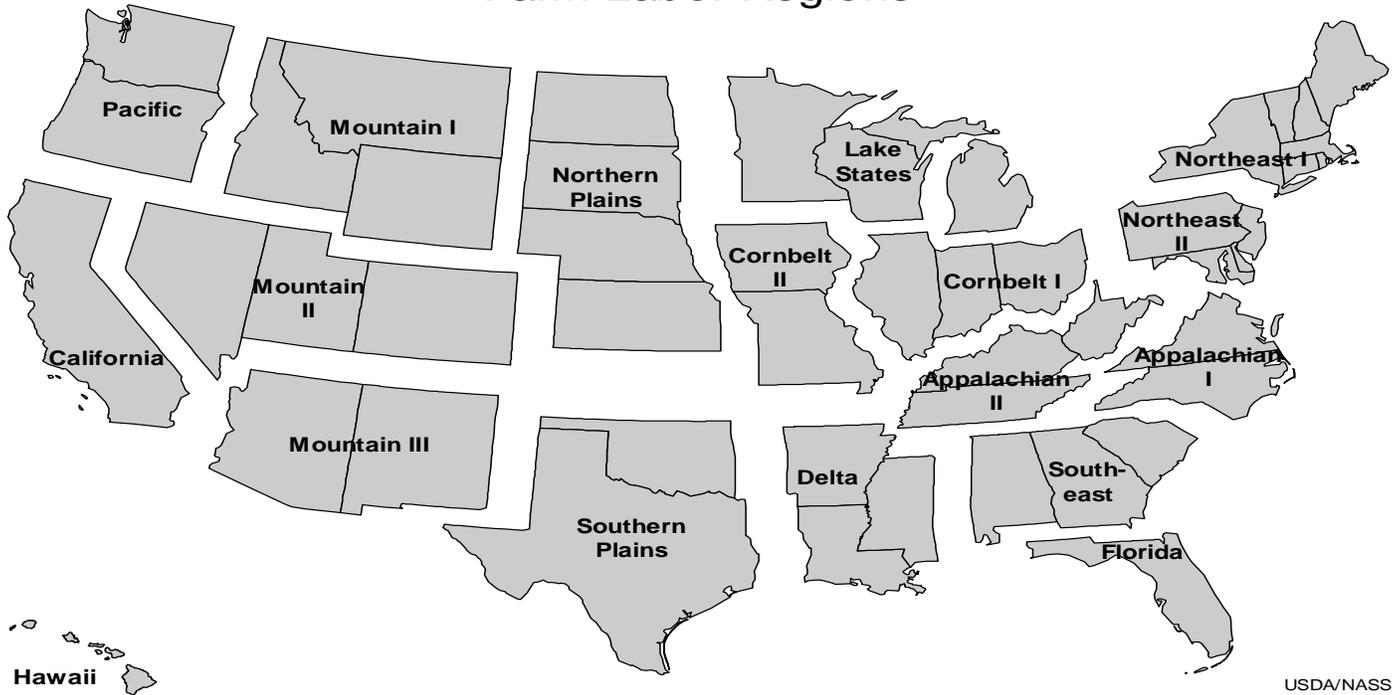
[Excludes agricultural service workers. Annual rates are averages of the published wage rates for each survey week weighted by the number of hours worked during the week]

United States and region ¹	All hired		Field		Field and livestock	
	2011 (dollars per hour)	2012 (dollars per hour)	2011 (dollars per hour)	2012 (dollars per hour)	2011 (dollars per hour)	2012 (dollars per hour)
Northeast I (CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT)	11.20	11.43	10.75	11.12	10.56	10.91
Northeast II (DE, MD, NJ, PA)	11.34	11.63	10.49	10.81	10.34	10.87
Appalachian I (NC, VA)	10.26	10.10	9.54	9.50	9.70	9.68
Appalachian II (KY, TN, WV)	10.24	10.51	9.32	9.90	9.38	9.80
Southeast (AL, GA, SC)	9.97	10.31	9.31	9.74	9.39	9.78
Florida	10.92	10.97	9.46	9.96	9.54	9.97
Lake (MI, MN, WI)	11.40	12.05	11.09	11.55	10.78	11.30
Cornbelt I (IL, IN, OH)	11.68	12.48	11.18	11.56	11.10	11.74
Cornbelt II (IA, MO)	11.67	11.85	11.84	11.80	11.50	11.41
Delta (AR, LA, MS)	9.80	9.99	9.27	9.34	9.30	9.50
Northern Plains (KS, NE, ND, SD)	11.97	12.86	12.04	12.96	11.61	12.33
Southern Plains (OK, TX)	10.43	10.81	9.57	9.75	9.88	10.18
Mountain I (ID, MT, WY)	10.55	10.45	10.26	10.04	10.19	9.99
Mountain II (CO, NV, UT)	11.46	11.26	10.50	10.19	10.43	10.08
Mountain III (AZ, NM)	10.71	10.52	9.45	9.33	9.94	9.73
Pacific (OR, WA)	11.58	12.45	10.87	11.98	10.92	12.00
California	11.04	11.64	10.10	10.56	10.24	10.74
Hawaii	14.36	15.19	12.14	12.56	12.26	12.72
United States ²	11.07	11.52	10.33	10.76	10.36	10.80

¹ Region map on page 25.

² Excludes Alaska.

Farm Labor Regions



USDA/NASS

Region

States

Northeast I	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont.
Northeast II	Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania.
Appalachian I	North Carolina, Virginia.
Appalachian II	Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia.
Southeast	Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina.
Lake	Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin.
Cornbelt I	Illinois, Indiana, Ohio.
Cornbelt II	Iowa, Missouri.
Delta	Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi.
Northern Plains	Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota.
Southern Plains	Oklahoma, Texas.
Mountain I	Idaho, Montana, Wyoming.
Mountain II	Colorado, Nevada, Utah.
Mountain III	Arizona, New Mexico.
Pacific	Oregon, Washington.

Farm Labor Definitions

The following definitions are provided to assist in interpreting statistics published in quarterly Farm Labor reports. To ensure consistency in data collection, the questionnaires and instruction manual used by the interviewers provide more in-depth explanations of these terms.

Farm or Ranch: A place that sells, or would normally sell, at least \$1,000 worth of agricultural products during the year.

Agricultural Work: Work done on a farm or ranch in connection with the production of agricultural products, including nursery and greenhouse products and animal specialties such as fur farms or apiaries. Also included is work done off the farm to handle farm related business, such as trips to buy feed or deliver products to local market.

Hired Worker: Anyone, other than an agricultural service worker, who was paid for at least one hour of agricultural work on a farm or ranch. Worker type is determined by what the employee was primarily hired to do, not necessarily what work was done during the survey week. Type of workers include:

Field Workers: Employees engaged in planting, tending and harvesting crops including operation of farm machinery on crop farms.

Livestock Workers: Employees tending livestock, milking cows or caring for poultry, including operation of farm machinery on livestock or poultry operations.

Supervisors: Hired managers, range foremen, crew leaders, etc.

Other Workers: Employees engaged in agricultural work not included in the other three categories. Bookkeepers and pilots are examples.

Methods of Pay: All wage rates are calculated based on total wages paid and total hours worked during the survey reference week. Wages paid other than hourly (bi-weekly, monthly, etc.) are converted to an hourly basis prior to summarization. Wages paid by piece rate (per quantity of produce picked, etc.) are also converted to an hourly basis.

Perquisites: Benefits, such as cash bonuses, housing, or meals, provided to an employee in addition to pay are included in perquisites. Wage rates published in this release do not include the value of these benefits.

Term of Employment: The length of time during the year the farm operator expects to employ those workers who were on the payroll during the survey week.

Agricultural Service: Any farm-related service performed on a farm or ranch on a contract or fee basis. This primarily includes activities performed by contract workers on fruit, vegetable, or berry operations. It also includes custom work (see below), veterinarian work, artificial insemination, sheep shearing, milk testing, or any other farm-related activity performed on a farm or ranch on a "fee per service" basis rather than hourly.

Contract Labor: Contract workers are paid by a crew leader, contractor, buyer, processor, cooperative, or other person who has an oral or written agreement with a farmer/rancher. Pruning, thinning, weeding or harvesting of fruit, vegetable or berry crops are examples. A machine is not a part of the service activity provided by the contractor.

Custom Work: Work performed by machines and labor hired as a unit. Hay baling, combining, corn or cotton picking, spraying, fertilizing, and laser leveling are examples of custom work when the equipment is included in the service activity.

Type of Farm (or Ranch): An operation is classified in the farm type which accounts for the largest portion of the total gross value of sales for its agricultural production.

Types of farms broken out in this publication are:

Field Crops: A farm producing wheat, rice, corn, soybeans, barley, dry beans, rye, sorghum, cotton, popcorn, tobacco, or other such crops.

Other Crops: A farm producing vegetables, melons, berry crops, grapes, tree nuts, citrus fruits, deciduous tree fruits, avocados, dates, figs, olives, nursery, or greenhouse crops. This category also includes farms producing potatoes, sugar crops, hay, peanuts, hops, mint, and maple syrup.

Livestock or Poultry: A farm producing cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, milk, chickens, eggs, turkeys, or animal specialties such as furs, fish, honey, etc.

Gross Value of Sales: This includes all income during a year from the sale of crops, livestock, dairy, poultry, or other related agricultural products, including the landlord's share and the value of products produced under contract. When commodities are placed under CCC loan, they are considered as sold.

Survey Methodology

Survey Procedures: These July and October data were collected by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) during the last two weeks of October using sampling procedures to ensure every employer of agricultural workers had a chance of being selected.

Two samples of farm operators are selected. First, NASS maintains a list of farms that hire farm workers. Farms on this list are classified by size and type. Those expected to employ large numbers of workers are selected with greater frequency than those hiring few or no workers. A second sample consists of segments of land scientifically selected from an area sampling frame. Each June, highly trained interviewers locate each selected land segment and identify every farm operating land within the sample segment's boundaries. The names of farms found in these area segments are matched against the NASS list of farms; those not found on the list are included in the Labor survey sample to represent all farms. This methodology is known as multiple frame sampling, with an area sample used to measure the incompleteness of the list.

Reliability: Two types of errors, sampling and non-sampling, are always present in an estimate based on a sample survey. Both types affect the "accuracy" of the estimates.

Sampling error occurs because a complete census is not taken. The sampling error measures the variation in estimates from the average of all possible samples. An estimate of 100 with a sampling error of 1 would mean that chances are 19 out of 20 that the estimates from all possible samples averaged together would be between 98 and 102; which is the survey estimate, plus or minus two times the sampling error. The sampling error expressed as a percent of the estimate is called the relative sampling error. The relative sampling error for number of hired workers at the U.S. level is normally less than 5 percent. The relative sampling error for the number of hired workers is normally less than 20 percent at the regional level. The U.S. all hired farm worker wage rate had a relative sampling error less than 1.0 percent for both July and October 2012. The relative sampling error was also less than 1.0 percent for the combined field and livestock worker wage rate, for both quarters. Relative sampling errors for the all hired farm worker wage rate are normally less than 5 percent at the regional levels. Relative sampling errors for wage rates published by type of farm and economic class of farm are normally less than 20 percent at the regional level.

Non-sampling errors can occur in a complete census as well as in sample surveys. They are caused by the inability to obtain correct information from each operation sampled, differences in interpreting questions or definitions, and mistakes in editing, coding or processing the data. Special efforts are taken at each step of the survey to minimize non-sampling errors.

Revision Policy: Farm labor statistics are subject to revision semi-annually and annually. The basis for revision must be supported by additional data that directly affect the level of the estimate. Worker numbers and wage rates for January 2012 and April 2012 were subject to revision with this report.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Environmental and Demographics Section of the Environmental, Economics, and Demographics Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov.

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Liana Cuffman – Census of Agriculture	(202) 690-0392
Doug Farmer – Census of Agriculture	(202) 720-7492
Erik Gerlach – Chemical Usage.....	(202) 720-5581
Jackie Ross – Census of Agriculture.....	(202) 720-7644
Theresa Varner – Farm Labor	(202) 690-2284

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: nass@nass.usda.gov.

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