

## FARM LABOR

The quarterly Agricultural Labor Survey provides regional and national estimates of farm workers, hours worked, and wage rates by type of worker. These figures are used to compute national wage indexes and establish labor laws and regulations. All states, except Alaska, are included in the quarterly survey. Agricultural work is any activity performed on a farm in connection with the production of agricultural products. The survey reference week is always the Sunday through Saturday period that includes the 12th day of the month. Annual rates are averages of the published wage rates for each survey week weighted by the total number of hours worked during the week. The survey results are published for 15 regions, California, Florida and Hawaii. New England is included as part of Northeast I region, which includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New

York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Farm employment and wage statistics are used by Federal, State, and local government agencies, educational institutions, farm organizations, and employers of agricultural labor. Having reliable information on the number of agricultural laborers working in perishable commodities aids in determining the number of replenishment workers that can be admitted into the United States to offset any domestic shortage, which is required by the Immigration and Reform Control Act of 1986. The data collected from the Agricultural Labor Survey is also used to establish minimum wage rates for domestic and foreign agricultural workers. The Department of Commerce uses data on hired agricultural workers to compute income components of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the farm sector, and banks and lending institutions use the data to establish loan policies.

### QUARTERLY FARM LABOR: Hired Workers on Farms, Hours Worked per Week, and Wage Rates, Northeast I, 2001 – 2008 <sup>1</sup>

Year and Survey Week		Hired Workers on Farms <sup>2</sup>			Hours Worked During The Week	Wage Rates by Type of Hired Worker			
		Total	150 Days or More	149 Days or Less		Field	Livestock	Field and Livestock	All Hired
		1,000 Workers			Hours	Dollars per Hour			
2001	Jan 7-13	28	26	2	39.6	8.42	7.45	7.86	9.06
	Apr 8-14	41	33	8	38.8	8.28	7.92	8.11	8.98
	Jul 8-14	52	37	15	39.9	8.12	7.19	7.79	8.26
	Oct 7-13	48	35	13	40.7	8.24	7.50	8.03	8.79
2002	Jan 6-12	33	31	2	40.0	9.58	7.80	8.69	9.46
	Apr 7-13	44	38	6	40.6	8.35	8.56	8.42	9.14
	Jul 7-13	44	30	14	37.8	8.41	7.90	8.25	9.12
	Oct 6-12	50	36	14	41.2	9.16	7.70	8.76	9.36
2003	Jan 12-18	32	29	3	37.3	10.02	8.36	9.12	10.03
	Apr 6-12	39	31	8	38.4	9.76	8.55	9.27	10.24
	Jul 6-12	53	39	14	40.2	8.77	8.10	8.54	9.54
	Oct 12-18	40	28	12	39.7	9.62	8.64	9.33	10.12
2004	Jan 11-17	20	18	2	38.8	9.72	8.56	9.10	10.10
	Apr 11-17	37	29	8	39.1	9.47	8.81	9.18	10.35
	Jul 11-17	43	32	11	39.9	9.31	8.14	8.89	9.72
	Oct 10-16	45	33	12	36.8	9.37	8.64	9.10	9.81
2005	Jan 9-15	23	20	3	36.6	9.47	9.17	9.32	10.37
	Apr 10-16	34	28	6	38.6	9.01	8.51	8.83	9.47
	Jul 10-16	46	35	11	40.0	8.88	9.55	9.11	9.70
	Oct 9-15	38	29	9	40.1	9.42	9.42	9.42	10.19
2006	Jan 8-14	23	22	1	38.1	10.42	8.80	9.56	11.04
	Apr 9-15	34	28	6	43.1	9.71	9.54	9.65	10.49
	Jul 9-15	36	24	12	39.1	9.28	9.57	9.38	9.95
	Oct 8-14	37	27	10	40.9	9.80	8.62	9.42	10.20
2007	Jan 7-13 *								
	Apr 8-14	30	25	5	42.4	10.10	9.59	9.90	10.77
	Jul 8-14	39	25	14	41.6	9.58	9.37	9.51	10.00
	Oct 7-13	34	23	11	39.8	9.96	9.22	9.70	10.35
2008	Jan 6-12	23	21	2	41.5	11.59	10.02	10.60	11.60
	Apr 6-12	36	27	9	43.2	10.19	9.97	10.10	11.00
	Jul 6-12	37	24	13	38.0	9.68	9.89	9.75	10.50
	Oct 12-18	42	28	14	42.1	10.66	10.08	10.45	10.95

<sup>1</sup> Northeast I includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes agricultural service workers.

\* Due to budget constraints, NASS did not conduct the January Agricultural Labor Survey, which provides the data for the report.

**QUARTERLY FARM LABOR: Wage Rates, by Type of Farm and by Economic Class of Farm  
Northeast, 2001 – 2008<sup>1</sup>**

Year and Survey Week		Field and Livestock Workers Combined By Type of Farm				All Hired Workers <sup>2</sup> By Economic Class of Farm				
		Field Crops	Other Crops	Livestock and Poultry	All Farms	Gross Value of Sales in \$1,000's				All Farms
						<\$50	\$50-99	\$100-249	\$250-499	
Dollars per Hour										
2001	Jan 7-13	*	7.98	7.32	7.71	7.82	7.79	7.46	9.35	8.76
	Apr 8-14	6.93	7.94	7.85	7.86	7.41	7.51	8.81	9.01	8.72
	Jul 8-14	7.81	7.83	7.35	7.65	7.89	8.03	7.26	8.58	8.25
	Oct 7-13	6.67	8.06	7.03	7.63	8.40	7.63	7.66	8.57	8.38
2002	Jan 6-12	9.13	9.32	7.37	8.32	9.63	7.75	8.66	9.32	9.17
	Apr 7-13	8.63	8.44	7.72	8.11	7.81	7.85	7.53	9.51	8.99
	Jul 7-13	7.86	8.19	7.57	7.96	8.47	6.75	7.39	8.74	8.70
	Oct 6-12	9.06	9.03	7.93	8.66	8.15	7.51	8.65	8.64	9.33
2003	Jan 12-18	*	9.63	8.30	9.00	*	7.60	9.74	9.22	9.95
	Apr 6-12	*	9.25	8.52	8.99	8.76	8.93	*	9.30	9.99
	Jul 6-12	8.26	8.45	8.30	8.40	8.73	7.63	8.30	8.06	9.26
	Oct 12-18	*	9.26	8.59	9.03	9.54	*	8.77	9.42	9.88
2004	Jan 11-17	8.71	9.04	8.55	8.77	9.51	7.66	8.59	10.13	9.70
	Apr 11-17	*	8.82	8.96	8.97	10.56	9.79	9.53	9.04	9.85
	Jul 11-17	9.14	8.33	8.56	8.45	9.69	8.86	8.42	9.57	9.24
	Oct 10-16	9.65	9.01	8.80	8.98	*	8.46	8.30	8.75	9.71
2005	Jan 9-15	8.92	9.99	8.44	9.03	10.48	9.36	6.87	8.80	10.07
	Apr 10-16	8.57	9.48	8.23	8.93	9.41	9.10	8.04	8.85	9.55
	Jul 10-16	9.28	8.66	9.45	9.01	10.31	8.68	7.59	8.64	9.75
	Oct 9-15	9.57	9.26	9.12	9.25	10.90	*	8.67	8.35	10.09
2006	Jan 8-14	10.22	10.17	8.21	9.42	9.13	8.47	7.31	9.17	10.79
	Apr 9-15	9.63	10.18	9.20	9.84	10.61	9.46	7.90	9.89	10.60
	Jul 9-15	8.87	9.41	9.07	9.28	9.58	7.45	8.49	8.68	9.92
	Oct 8-14	9.48	9.53	8.50	9.13	8.20	9.95	8.33	9.58	9.92
2007	Jan 7-13 *									
	Apr 8-14	10.01	10.29	9.34	9.85	12.25	10.75	8.11	10.14	10.66
	Jul 8-14	9.16	9.54	9.77	9.62	9.77	*	9.66	10.67	10.38
	Oct 7-13	*	9.89	9.48	9.76	10.42	9.70	10.18	9.40	10.50
2008	Jan 6-12	*	10.85	9.62	10.12	10.50	9.71	10.54	10.53	11.47
	Apr 6-12	10.73	9.97	9.56	9.81	9.42	10.89	9.66	9.81	10.58
	Jul 6-12	10.46	9.68	9.33	9.62	10.00	9.72	9.43	9.89	10.30
	Oct 12-18	10.36	10.02	10.13	10.09	*	*	9.71	10.11	10.66

<sup>1</sup> Northeast I includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes agricultural service workers.

\* Insufficient data.

\*\* Due to budget constraints, NASS did not conduct the January Agricultural Labor Survey, which provides the data for the report.

**ANNUAL FARM LABOR: Annual Average Hired Workers on Farms and Hours Worked per Week by Type of Worker,  
New England and Northeast I, 2001 – 2008**

Region	Hired Workers	Hours Worked During Week	Wage Rates by Type of Hired Worker <sup>1 2</sup>		
			All Hired	Field	Field and Livestock
	1,000	Number	Dollars per Hour		
<b>New England<sup>3</sup></b>					
2001	*	*	9.34	8.69	8.40
2002	*	*	9.95	9.19	8.98
2003	*	*	10.40	9.52	9.31
2004	*	*	10.64	9.56	9.37
2005	*	*	10.40	9.46	9.51
2006	*	*	10.80	9.90	9.79
2007	*	*	*	*	*
2008	*	*	11.55	10.91	10.64
<b>Northeast I<sup>4</sup></b>					
2001	42.3	39.8	8.72	8.23	7.94
2002	42.7	39.9	9.26	8.82	8.53
2003	41.0	39.0	9.93	9.40	9.01
2004	36.2	38.5	9.96	9.41	9.05
2005	35.3	39.1	9.88	9.14	9.17
2006	32.5	40.5	10.35	9.70	9.50
2007	31.5	40.7	10.49	9.92	9.70
2008	34.5	41.2	10.96	10.35	10.20

<sup>1</sup> Excludes agricultural service workers.

<sup>2</sup> Annual wage rates are averages of the published wage rates for each survey week, weighted by the number of hours worked during the week. The annual average for all States, Regions, and the U.S. is based on modeled data for January and survey data for April, July, and October.

<sup>3</sup> New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

<sup>4</sup> Northeast I includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

\* Insufficient data.