

FARM LABOR

The 2010 Agricultural Labor Survey was conducted quarterly (January, April, July, and October) by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. The purpose of the survey was to determine the types and number of farm workers employed and wages paid. Agricultural work is any activity performed on a farm in connection with the production of agricultural products. The survey reference week was always the Sunday through Saturday period that included the 12th day of the month.

Farm employment and wage rate statistics were used by federal, State, and local government agencies, farm organizations, and employers for many purposes, including planning, recruitment and placement of workers, and policy-making.

The agricultural wage rate was a component of the Parity Index and was used in the establishment of minimum wage rates for domestic and foreign agricultural workers.

Data were published in the quarterly Farm Labor release issued the third Friday of February, May, August, and November. Data was summarized at the regional and U.S. levels for number of hired workers, number of agricultural services workers, and the average number of hours worked weekly. The quarterly releases summarized average hourly wages for all hired workers, field workers, livestock workers, and field & livestock workers combined. The November release provided annual average hourly wage rates for New England as a region, and other States individually.

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR: Hired Workers on Farms, Hours Worked per Week, and Wage Rates, Northeast I, 2006 – 2010¹

Year and Survey Week		Hired Workers on Farms ²			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			
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
2009	Jan 11-17	26	22	4	41.3	10.66	10.03	10.25	10.91
	Apr 12-18	32	26	6	41.1	10.65	9.92	10.35	11.17
	Jul 12-18	37	24	13	38.5	10.32	9.86	10.15	10.92
	Oct 11-17	41	28	13	38.5	9.96	9.93	9.95	10.41
2010	Jan 10-16	21	18	3	37.2	10.30	10.56	10.45	11.45
	Apr 11-17	36	29	7	40.4	10.43	9.89	10.25	10.87
	Jul 11-17	38	25	13	43.7	9.81	9.59	9.73	10.35
	Oct 10-16	39	27	12	44.3	10.95	10.10	10.65	11.17

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

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

² Excludes agricultural service workers.

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR: Wage Rates, by Type of Farm and Economic Class, Northeast, 2006 – 2010¹

Year and Survey Week		Field and Livestock Workers Combined By Type of Farm				All Hired Workers ² By Economic Class of Farm				
						Gross Value of Sales in \$1,000's				All Farms
		Field Crops	Other Crops	Livestock and Poultry	All Farms	<\$50	\$50-99	\$100-249	\$250-499	
Dollars per Hour										
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	(D)	9.66	10.67	10.38
	Oct 7-13	(D)	9.89	9.48	9.76	10.42	9.70	10.18	9.40	10.50
2008	Jan 6-12	(D)	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	(D)	(D)	9.71	10.11	10.66
2009	Jan 11-17	(D)	10.63	9.94	10.27	13.20	8.85	9.39	10.50	11.12
	Apr 12-18	12.03	10.54	9.66	10.20	9.86	8.62	9.91	10.06	11.14
	Jul 12-18	10.99	9.97	9.57	9.89	10.68	8.08	8.61	10.44	10.55
	Oct 11-17	(D)	10.12	9.73	10.00	11.17	9.60	9.04	10.38	10.64
2010	Jan 10-16	(D)	11.05	10.33	10.65	(D)	9.28	9.39	10.49	11.75
	Apr 11-17	10.78	10.27	9.79	10.13	10.30	8.59	10.69	10.19	10.74
	Jul 11-17	9.62	9.75	10.41	9.97	11.99	10.13	9.58	9.60	10.70
	Oct 10-16	10.43	10.95	(D)	10.95	(D)	9.83	9.26	10.22	11.59

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

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

¹ Northeast includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

² Excludes agricultural service workers.

ANNUAL FARM LABOR: Annual Average Hired Workers on Farms, Hours Worked per Week, and Wage Rates, New England and Northeast I, 2006 – 2010

Region	Hired Workers	Hours Worked During Week	Wage Rates by Type of Hired Worker ^{1 2}		
			All Hired	Field	Field and Livestock
	1,000	Number	Dollars per Hour		
New England³					
2006	(NA)	(NA)	10.80	9.90	9.79
2007	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
2008	(NA)	(NA)	11.55	10.91	10.64
2009	(NA)	(NA)	11.09	10.51	10.32
2010	(NA)	(NA)	11.44	10.64	10.64
Northeast I⁴					
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
2009	34.0	39.6	10.83	10.32	10.16
2010	33.5	42.0	10.89	10.39	10.25

(NA) Not Available.

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers.

² Annual 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 data collected for January, April, July, and October.

³ New England includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

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