

FARM LABOR

In April 2011 Agency budget constraints prevented USDA NASS from conducting the Farm Labor Survey because the data in all Farm Labor Surveys are tied to a specific reference week, the period of Sunday through Saturday including the 12th of the month, it was not possible to conduct this survey at a later time. The Farm Labor Survey has been funded by the Department of Labor (DOL) since July 2011.

The purpose of this survey is to determine the types and number of farm workers employed and wages paid. Agricultural work is defined as work done on a farm 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 the farm related business, such as trips to buy feed or deliver products to local market.

Regional and national data for hired workers, hours worked and wage rates at U.S. level are published semi-annually. In 2012, two quarters of farm labor data were published in May and November. The May publication included January and April data while November publication includes July and October data. Estimates were made January, April, July and October for the reference week of each month. Annual average wage rates, hired workers and hours worked by region are published in November.

Farm employment and wage statistics are used by a variety of 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 is a component of the Parity Index and is used in the establishment of minimum wage rates for domestic and foreign agricultural workers

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR: Hired Workers on Farms, Hours Worked per Week, and Wage Rates, Northeast I, 2009 – 2013¹

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			
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
2011	Jan 9 – 15	28	25	3	41.1	10.75	10.28	10.45	11.25
	Apr 10 – 16 *	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	Jul 10 – 16	38	28	10	41.3	10.63	9.83	10.35	11.00
	Oct 9 – 15	40	30	10	41.8	11.36	11.18	11.30	11.84
2012	Jan 8 – 14	21	19	2	41.3	11.62	10.48	11.00	11.65
	Apr 8 – 14	30	23	7	41.9	11.52	10.30	11.05	11.70
	Jul 8 – 14	50	30	20	40.9	10.91	10.49	10.80	11.21
	Oct 7 – 13	47	31	16	41.0	10.99	10.66	10.90	11.38
2013	Jan 6 – 12	23	21	2	41.0	11.69	11.46	11.55	12.45
	Apr 7 – 13	35	27	8	40.0	11.41	11.38	11.40	12.40
	Jul 7 – 13	55	39	16	38.2	11.12	10.74	11.00	11.72
	Oct 6 – 12	54	39	15	41.0	11.36	10.74	11.20	11.72

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

(NA) Not Available.

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, 2009 – 2013 ¹

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										
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
2011	Jan 9 – 15	9.73	10.92	11.71	10.85	(D)	11.00	10.32	9.58	11.87
	Apr 10 – 16 *	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
	Jul 10 – 16	9.42	10.38	10.09	10.21	11.11	9.65	8.82	10.06	10.98
	Oct 9 – 15	9.75	10.85	10.92	10.79	(D)	9.62	12.16	11.54	11.53
2012	Jan 8 – 14	14.94	11.00	10.18	10.72	14.67	7.60	11.46	10.31	11.76
	Apr 8 – 14	13.70	10.61	10.05	10.55	13.70	7.76	11.36	9.84	11.41
	Jul 8 – 14	12.12	10.58	11.45	10.88	11.25	9.80	9.67	10.22	11.33
	Oct 7 – 13	12.82	11.08	11.22	11.21	11.56	11.27	10.23	10.34	11.74
2013	Jan 6 – 12	12.55	11.03	11.52	11.38	15.22	14.62	10.53	13.55	12.53
	Apr 7 – 13	10.72	11.05	11.70	11.35	15.49	14.13	10.32	12.15	12.42
	Jul 7 – 13	12.62	10.72	10.74	10.88	12.16	10.38	11.89	12.71	11.59
	Oct 6 – 12	13.49	11.00	10.91	11.14	11.94	10.85	11.99	11.61	11.79

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

(NA) Not Available.

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

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

² Excludes agricultural service workers.

ANNUAL FARM LABOR: Annual Average Hired Workers on Farms, Hours Worked, and Wage Rates, New England and Northeast I, 2009 – 2013

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		
Northeast I ⁴					
2009	34.0	39.6	10.83	10.32	10.16
2010	33.5	42.0	10.89	10.39	10.25
2011*	35.3	41.0	11.20	10.75	10.56
2012	37.0	41.2	11.43	11.12	10.91
2013	41.8	39.9	11.97	11.32	11.22

* Due to budget constraints, NASS did not conduct the April 2011 Agricultural Labor Survey, which provides the data for the report.

(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.