April Hired Workers Up 3 Percent; Wage Rate Increased 8 Percent from Previous Year

There were 630,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 10-16, 2022, up 3 percent from the April 2021 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 507,000 during the week of January 9-15, 2022, up slightly from the January 2021 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of $17.22 per hour during the April 2022 reference week, up 8 percent from the April 2021 reference week. Field workers received an average of $16.50 per hour, up 9 percent. Livestock workers earned $15.82 per hour, up 7 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at $16.27 per hour, was up 8 percent from the 2021 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 39.7 hours during the April 2022 reference week, down 3 percent from the hours worked during the April 2021 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of $17.63 per hour during the January 2022 reference week, up slightly from the January 2021 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 360,000 during the week of January 9-15, 2022. All hired workers worked an average of 39.3 hours during the January 2022 reference week, down 2 percent from the hours worked during the January 2021 reference week. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of $17.32 per hour during the April 2022 reference week, down 3 percent from the April 2021 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 507,000 during the week of January 9-15, 2022, up slightly from the January 2021 reference week.

Northeast Region I (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont)

There were 22,000 workers hired directly by farms during the week of January 9-15, 2022. All hired workers worked an average of 38.4 hours during the survey week. The average wage rate for all hired workers was $17.93 per hour. Field workers earned an average of $17.59 per hour and livestock workers averaged $16.09 per hour. Field & livestock workers combined earned an average of $16.82 per hour.

There were 32,000 workers hired directly by farms during the week of April 10-16, 2022. All hired workers worked an average of 37.1 hours during the survey week. The average wage rate for all hired workers was $18.28 per hour. Field workers earned an average of $17.91 per hour and livestock workers averaged $16.36 per hour. Field & livestock workers combined earned an average of $17.32 per hour.

Northeast Region II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania)

There were 21,000 workers hired directly by farms during the week of January 9-15, 2022. All hired workers worked an average of 36.9 hours during the survey week. The average wage rate for all hired workers was $18.21 per hour. Field workers earned an average of $17.76 per hour and livestock workers averaged $15.42 per hour. Field & livestock workers combined earned an average of $16.83 per hour.

There were 26,000 workers hired directly by farms during the week of April 10-16, 2022. All hired workers worked an average of 37.7 hours during the survey week. The average wage rate for all hired workers was $17.59 per hour. Field workers earned an average of $16.92 per hour and livestock workers averaged $15.08 per hour. Field & livestock workers combined earned an average of $16.37 per hour.

For the complete “Farm Labor” report, go to: https://usda.library.cornell.edu/concern/publications/t920fw89s
The Farm Labor report and all other NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov

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