

Farm Labor, 2009

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For more detailed data, see the Census of Agriculture found at www.agcensus.usda.gov

Pennsylvania farmers voluntarily participate in quarterly agricultural labor surveys in January, April, July and October. These surveys provide data concerning the number of hired farm workers, hours worked, and wage rates. The survey reference week is the seven-day period (Sunday through Saturday) which includes the 12th day of the month. Results for Pennsylvania are published as part of Northeast Region II, which includes Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey.

The total number of workers hired by farm operators in the Northeast II Region during 2009 ranged between a low of

21,000 in January to a high of 37,000 in October. The average hours worked during the survey week by all hired workers varied from 37.0 hours in January 2009 to 41.0 hours in October 2009.

In 2009, all hired workers earned between \$10.20 per hour in July to \$11.40 per hour in January. During the same period, field workers' hourly wage rates ranged between \$9.83 in July to \$10.80 in January. In contrast, livestock workers' hourly wage rates ranged from \$8.86 in April to \$9.69 in January.

Northeast II: Hired Farm Labor, Quarterly, 2005-2009 ^{1 2 3}

Year & Survey Week	All Hired Workers				Wage Rates by Type of Worker			
	Total	Expected to be Employed		Hours Worked During the Week	Field	Livestock	Field & Livestock	All Hired Workers
		150 Days or More	149 Days or Less					
(1,000 workers)	(1,000 workers)	(1,000 workers)	(hours)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	
2005								
January 9-15	18	14	4	33.7	8.47	8.76	8.62	9.66
April 10-16	26	22	4	39.8	9.24	8.62	9.05	9.65
July 10-16	50	40	10	39.1	8.71	9.37	8.90	9.79
October 9-15	39	32	7	39.6	9.21	8.62	9.09	10.00
2006								
January 8-14	24	21	3	38.1	9.89	7.79	9.29	10.56
April 9-15	25	20	5	40.2	10.54	8.80	10.10	10.75
July 9-15	49	30	19	39.8	9.26	9.03	9.20	9.90
October 8-14	42	31	11	38.0	9.17	7.91	8.86	9.65
2007								
January 8-14 ⁴	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
April 8-14	33	25	8	37.1	10.34	8.56	9.80	10.55
July 8-14	36	26	10	42.0	9.62	10.04	9.74	10.78
October 7-13	38	30	8	41.8	9.81	9.86	9.82	10.63
2008								
January 6-12	20	18	2	38.4	10.06	8.90	9.50	11.31
April 6-12	31	24	7	35.8	9.71	8.77	9.42	10.00
July 6-12	35	20	15	41.5	9.66	8.68	9.50	10.10
October 12-18	33	21	12	36.8	9.67	9.24	9.57	10.25
2009								
January 11-17	21	19	2	37.0	10.80	9.69	10.30	11.40
April 12-18	22	18	4	36.6	10.60	8.86	9.95	11.10
July 12-18	38	27	11	39.1	9.83	9.09	9.65	10.20
October 11-17	37	28	9	41.0	10.28	9.50	10.05	10.88

¹ Northeast II Region includes DE, MD, NJ, and PA. ² Hired workers include field, livestock, supervisory, and other workers. ³ Farm labor excludes Agricultural Service Workers. ⁴ No Farm Labor Survey was conducted in January 2007.

Northeast II: Annual Average Wage Rates for Hired Workers, 2005-2009 ^{1 2}

Year	All Hired	Field	Field and Livestock
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
2005	9.81	8.97	8.96
2006	10.09	9.58	9.29
2007	10.62	9.88	9.70
2008	10.32	9.72	9.50
2009	10.79	10.23	9.94

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.