



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Southern Region News Release
Farm Labor



Cooperating with the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Georgia Department of Agriculture, and South Carolina Department of Agriculture
 Southern Regional Field Office · 355 East Hancock Avenue, Suite 100 · Athens, GA 30601 · (706) 546-2236
www.nass.usda.gov

May 18, 2018

Media Contact: Jim Ewing

There were 30,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Southeast Region (Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina) during the reference week of April 8-14, 2018, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Farm Labor Report*. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$11.23 per hour. The number of hours worked averaged 39.3 for hired workers during the reference week, down 1.8 hours from the reference week in April 2017.

In Florida, workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 38,000 for the April 8-14, 2018 reference week. They were paid an average wage rate of \$11.89 and worked an average of 40.8 hours during the April 2018 reference week.

During the reference week of January 7-13, 2018, there were 20,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Southeast Region. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$11.86 per hour during the January 2018 reference week. The number of hours worked averaged 38.4 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 37.9 hours in January 2017.

There were 37,000 workers hired directly by farms in Florida during the January 2018 reference week. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$11.64 per hour, down from \$12.17 per hour in January 2017. The numbers of hours worked averaged 40.3 for hired workers during the reference week.

Hired Workers and Wage Rates — Florida, Southeast, and United States: 2017 and 2018

	Florida			Southeast ¹			United States		
	April 2017	January 2018	April 2018	April 2017	January 2018	April 2018	April 2017	January 2018	April 2018
Hired workers on farms 1,000 workers	45	37	38	38	20	30	673	534	648
Hours worked by hired workers hrs/wk	39.1	40.3	40.8	41.1	38.4	39.3	40.4	38.0	40.2
Field\$/hr	11.10	10.80	11.20	10.55	10.74	10.35	12.22	12.84	12.72
Livestock\$/hr	12.45	10.80	12.20	11.21	11.33	11.03	12.53	12.89	12.78
Field & Livestock\$/hr	11.20	10.80	11.25	10.75	10.95	10.55	12.32	12.86	12.74
All hired workers\$/hr	12.31	11.64	11.89	11.33	11.86	11.23	13.23	14.08	13.72

¹ Southeast Region includes Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina
 Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.
 Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service - *Farm Labor*, May 2018

Wage Rate by Type of Worker and Number of Workers — Florida: 2016-2018

