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# Farm Labor



Agricultural  
Statistics  
Board

National Agricultural  
Statistics Service

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Washington, D.C. 20250

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RELEASED: May 20, 1986  
3:00 P.M. ET

## NUMBER OF HIRED WORKERS DOWN - WAGE RATES HIGHER

During the week of April 6-12, 1986, there were 2.9 million people working on farms and ranches in the United States, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board. This included 910,000 workers hired directly by farm operators and 184,000 agricultural service employees working on farms. The count of workers was down 4.4 percent (135,000) from April 1985 and 7.7 percent (241,000) below October 1985. Unpaid workers who worked 15 hours or more and self-employed farm operators accounted for the remaining 1.8 million workers, 5.5 percent (106,000) below April 1985 and 6.9 percent (133,000) below October 1985.

The wage rate for all workers hired directly by farm operators was \$4.71 per hour, 20 cents above April last year. Workers paid on an hourly basis averaged \$4.52, compared with \$4.36 in April 1985. Wage rates for other categories of workers were (with April 1985 comparisons): field \$4.58 (\$4.51); livestock \$4.26 (\$3.91), and piece-rate \$6.18 (\$5.61).

Self-employed farm operators worked an average of 43.6 hours during the survey week, 0.6 hour less than the comparable week in 1985. Other unpaid workers averaged 34.7 hours for the week, down 1.0 hour from last year. Hired workers averaged 38.8 hours, 1.3 hours fewer than last April.

## PERQUISITES AND OTHER BENEFITS

Perquisites such as meals, housing or motor vehicles in addition to cash wages were provided to 46 percent of the April hired workers. Housing was furnished to 13 percent of the labor force. In April 1985, 47 percent of the workers received some type of perquisite.

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\* AGENCY NAME CHANGE \*  
\* \*  
\* The Statistical Reporting Service staff has been active during the past \*  
\* 3 years examining virtually every aspect of its work. One phase dealt \*  
\* with the Agency's identity within the agricultural and statistical com- \*  
\* munities. As a result of this study, the name of the Statistical Re- \*  
\* porting Service has been changed to National Agricultural Statistics \*  
\* Service. This name more accurately reflects the purpose of the Agency, \*  
\* its broad agricultural focus, and the service aspect of its responsi- \*  
\* bility. In line with this change, the Agency's Crop Reporting Board \*  
\* has been renamed the Agricultural Statistics Board to better describe \*  
\* the scope of its output. \*  
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## FARM ACTIVITIES DURING SURVEY WEEK

Winter-like storms slowed small grain seeding in the Dakota's and Rocky Mountain States, but provided much needed moisture. Soil moisture was generally adequate except in some southeastern States where it was critically short. Seedbed preparation and fertilizer application were active in the Corn Belt States. Corn planting was underway in 8 States stretching as far north as Ohio and Illinois. Planting of cotton and sorghum was slightly ahead of normal. Spring vegetable harvest increased rapidly in southwest areas of Florida. Lettuce harvest was heavy in California's central San Joaquin Valley.

## SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

The estimates of agricultural labor are based on multiple frame probability surveys. The surveys utilize two sampling frames -- a list frame of agricultural producers and an area frame. The list sample is a stratified random sample containing employers likely to have hired workers.

The area frame contains all land units in the Nation. A probability sample from the area frame would provide an unbiased estimate for agricultural workers on farms. However, the area frame is a less efficient sampling frame because a large number of workers are hired by a small proportion of farm operators. Therefore, the area frame is used to estimate for the incompleteness in the list. The multiple frame sampling approach utilizes the desirable attributes of both frames. Estimates based on a sample differ somewhat from data that would have been obtained if a complete enumeration had been taken. These differences result from sampling variability. In addition, survey estimates are subject to non-sampling errors. Enumerator training, questionnaire design and testing, and a uniform comprehensive check and review process minimize non-sampling errors.

Standard errors and relative sampling errors are statistical measures of the variation that occur by chance because of sampling of the population. The true value is expected to be within the range of one standard error below to one standard error above the survey indication in two out of three cases.

At the U.S. level, the number of self-employed and other unpaid workers and the number of hired workers had relative sampling errors of 2.4 and 4.2 percent, respectively. Relative errors at the regional level for hired workers generally ranged between 10 to 20 percent.

FARM LABOR: EMPLOYMENT, WAGE RATES AND INDEXES, UNITED STATES,  
APRIL 6-12, 1986, WITH COMPARISONS

ITEM	FARM EMPLOYMENT		
	APR 7-13, 1985	OCT 6-12, 1985	APR 6-12, 1986
	THOUSANDS		
TOTAL WORKERS	2,821	2,956	2,718
SELF-EMPLOYED	1,413	1,362	1,337
UNPAID	501	579	471
HIRED	907	1,015	910
EXPECTED TO BE EMPLOYED			
150 DAYS OR MORE	659	617	684
149 DAYS OR LESS	248	398	226
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES WORKERS WORKING ON FARMS	216	187	184
	(1910-14=100)		
INDEXES-SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
TOTAL	22	21	22
HIRED	29	26	29
	(1977=100)		
TOTAL HIRED	74	71	73
	81	75	82

ITEM	FARM WAGE RATES 1/ 2/		
	APR 7-13, 1985	OCT 6-12, 1985	APR 6-12, 1986
	DOLLARS PER HOUR		
ALL HIRED FARM WORKERS	*4.51	4.56	4.71
METHOD OF PAY			
HOURLY	*4.36	4.41	4.52
PIECE-RATE	5.61	5.51	6.18
OTHER	*4.61	4.62	4.92
TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED			
FIELD & LIVESTOCK COMBINED	*4.26	4.40	4.46
FIELD	*4.51	4.47	4.58
LIVESTOCK	*3.91	4.24	4.26
SUPERVISORY	6.96	7.07	7.24
OTHER	4.56	4.51	4.80
	(1910-14=100)		
INDEXES-SEASONALLY ADJUSTED			
ALL HIRED FARM WORKERS	*3,002	2,862	3,131
	(1977=100)		
ALL HIRED FARM WORKERS	158	150	164

\* REVISED. 1/ PERQUISITES SUCH AS ROOM AND BOARD, HOUSING, ETC., ARE PROVIDED SOME WORKERS, BUT THE VALUES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE WAGE RATES.  
2/ EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

WORKERS ON FARMS, BY STATES AND REGIONS, APRIL 6-12, 1986 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	ALL FARM WORKERS	SELF- EMPLOYED	UNPAID	HIRED		
				NUMBER OF WORKERS	EXPECTED TO BE EMPLOYED 150 DAYS OR MORE	149 DAYS OR LESS
THOUSANDS						
NORTHEAST I	120	45	24	51	40	11
NORTHEAST II	119	47	27	45	36	9
APPALACHIA I	122	64	14	44	29	15
APPALACHIA II	135	85	22	28	19	9
SOUTHEAST	123	61	16	46	32	14
FLORIDA	81	16	3	62	55	7
LAKE	333	179	76	78	60	18
CORNBELT I	279	156	45	78	60	18
CORNBELT II	234	140	54	40	23	17
DELTA	136	71	19	46	36	10
NORTH PLAINS	259	156	61	42	31	11
SOUTH PLAINS	278	160	40	78	53	25
MOUNTAIN I	86	37	21	28	21	7
MOUNTAIN II	65	28	10	27	21	6
MOUNTAIN III	44	10	16	18	14	4
PACIFIC	87	37	11	39	27	12
CALIFORNIA	206	43	11	152	120	32
HAWAII	11	2	1	8	7	1
U. S.	2718	1337	471	910	684	226

HOURS WORKED PER WEEK AND WAGE RATES BY STATES AND REGIONS,  
APRIL 6-12, 1986 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	HOURS WORKED			WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS
	SELF- EMPLOYED	UNPAID	HIRED	
HOURS				
DOLLARS PER HOUR				
NORTHEAST I	57.4	36.5	39.7	4.44
NORTHEAST II	47.0	35.7	40.5	4.36
APPALACHIA I	36.0	34.3	36.1	4.26
APPALACHIA II	31.6	28.3	33.0	4.25
SOUTHEAST	35.8	34.1	36.9	3.68
FLORIDA	38.8	31.2	36.5	5.39
LAKE	49.8	33.6	34.3	3.94
CORNBELT I	45.0	32.6	36.2	4.76
CORNBELT II	48.1	33.7	34.0	4.15
DELTA	36.2	33.7	39.1	4.08
NORTH PLAINS	50.9	39.7	41.8	4.99
SOUTH PLAINS	35.8	32.5	36.0	4.62
MOUNTAIN I	57.5	41.6	51.3	4.14
MOUNTAIN II	46.1	39.5	41.7	5.36
MOUNTAIN III	36.4	34.5	46.5	4.93
PACIFIC	39.3	38.0	38.6	5.08
CALIFORNIA	34.2	26.6	43.4	5.61
HAWAII	27.8	32.3	34.7	7.22
U. S.	43.6	34.7	38.8	4.71

WAGE RATES FOR HIRED WORKERS, BY STATES AND REGIONS, APRIL 6-12, 1986 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	TYPE OF WORK					METHOD OF PAY		
	FIELD	LIVESTOCK	LIVESTOCK	VISORY	OTHER	HOURLY	PIECE RATE	OTHER
	DOLLARS PER HOUR							
NORTHEAST I	4.60	3.77	4.11	6.62	4.93	4.62	3/	4.18
NORTHEAST II	4.27	3.64	4.05	7.12	4.45	4.36	4.86	4.28
APPALACHIAN I	3.90	4.23	4.01	7.43	4.04	4.05	3/	5.10
APPALACHIAN II	3.92	4.24	4.04	3/	4.73	4.06	5.41	4.52
SOUTHEAST	3.30	4.10	3.51	6.39	3.48	3.71	3/	3.62
FLORIDA	5.11	4.52	5.00	7.78	5.71	4.52	7.03	6.28
LAKE	4.24	3.37	3.62	3/	4.96	4.03	3/	3.65
CORNBELT I	4.45	4.63	4.56	6.48	4.70	4.66	3/	5.11
CORNBELT II	3.90	3.85	3.88	3/	4.49	4.17	3/	4.07
DELTA	3.68	4.44	3.99	6.33	3.91	3.85	3/	4.61
NORTHERN PLAINS	4.97	4.49	4.74	3/	5.30	4.62	3/	5.09
SOUTHERN PLAINS	4.68	4.58	4.65	3/	4.10	4.48	3/	5.02
MOUNTAIN I	4.32	3.57	3.79	5.44	4.36	4.49	3/	3.80
MOUNTAIN II	4.46	5.46	5.07	7.66	6.04	5.60	3/	5.11
MOUNTAIN III	4.73	4.29	4.59	6.89	5.10	4.52	6.15	5.72
PACIFIC	4.70	5.27	4.80	3/	5.90	4.77	3/	6.19
CALIFORNIA	5.04	5.66	5.13	8.75	6.65	5.07	6.60	7.50
HAWAII	6.39	3/	6.36	10.26	3/	6.84	3/	3/
U. S.	4.58	4.26	4.46	7.24	4.80	4.52	6.18	4.92

1/ EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

2/ REGIONS CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING:

NORTHEAST I: CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT.

NORTHEAST II: DE, MD, NJ, PA.

APPALACHIAN I: NC, VA.

APPALACHIAN II: KY, TN, WV.

SOUTHEAST I: AL, GA, SC.

LAKE: MI, MN, WI.

CORNBELT I: IL, IN, OH.

CORNBELT II: IA, MO.

DELTA: AR, LA, MS.

NORTHERN PLAINS: KS, NE, ND, SD.

SOUTHERN PLAINS: OK, TX.

MOUNTAIN I: ID, MT, WY.

MOUNTAIN II: CO, NV, UT.

MOUNTAIN III: AZ, NM.

PACIFIC: OR, WA.

3/ INSUFFICIENT DATA.

WORKERS ON FARMS, BY STATES AND REGIONS, OCTOBER 6-12, 1985 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	ALL FARM WORKERS	SELF- EMPLOYED	UNPAID	HIRED		
				NUMBER OF WORKERS	EXPECTED TO BE EMPLOYED 150 DAYS OR MORE	149 DAYS OR LESS
THOUSANDS						
NORTHEAST I	137	51	25	61	38	23
NORTHEAST II	120	48	29	43	35	8
APPALACHIA I	158	76	18	64	38	26
APPALACHIA II	163	87	37	39	14	25
SOUTHEAST	129	55	19	55	33	22
FLORIDA	54	10	3	41	34	7
LAKE	415	198	118	99	53	46
CORNBELT I	313	160	75	78	44	34
CORNBELT II	235	147	48	40	24	16
DELTA	166	72	30	64	39	25
NORTH PLAINS	266	154	69	43	28	15
SOUTH PLAINS	243	142	39	62	44	18
MOUNTAIN I	71	34	10	27	15	12
MOUNTAIN II	66	30	16	20	17	3
MOUNTAIN III	47	12	17	18	14	4
PACIFIC	102	36	12	54	21	33
CALIFORNIA	257	48	13	196	116	80
HAWAII	14	2	1	11	10	1
U. S.	2956	1362	579	1015	617	398

HOURS WORKED PER WEEK AND WAGE RATES BY STATES AND REGIONS,  
OCTOBER 6-12, 1985 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	HOURS WORKED			WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS
	SELF- EMPLOYED	UNPAID	HIRED	
HOURS				DOLLARS PER HOUR
NORTHEAST I	58.3	41.2	40.1	4.16
NORTHEAST II	55.7	39.7	45.5	4.35
APPALACHIA I	32.5	28.6	31.5	4.35
APPALACHIA II	36.2	31.3	28.8	4.04
SOUTHEAST	38.0	31.9	33.6	3.68
FLORIDA	43.8	33.7	36.8	5.05
LAKE	54.6	34.5	35.9	4.22
CORNBELT I	50.9	36.4	41.3	4.44
CORNBELT II	44.5	39.4	34.8	4.35
DELTA	37.3	29.4	49.0	3.86
NORTH PLAINS	48.4	38.4	36.8	4.58
SOUTH PLAINS	33.3	30.0	38.0	4.71
MOUNTAIN I	49.9	48.4	49.0	4.03
MOUNTAIN II	45.1	41.4	43.8	4.59
MOUNTAIN III	37.7	30.0	40.3	4.78
PACIFIC	38.8	39.4	42.3	5.06
CALIFORNIA	36.3	31.2	40.9	5.51
HAWAII	27.5	27.5	38.9	7.46
U. S.	47.9	38.6	38.6	4.56

WAGE RATES FOR HIRED WORKERS, BY STATES AND REGIONS, OCTOBER 6-12, 1985 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	TYPE OF WORK					METHOD OF PAY		
	FIELD	LIVESTOCK	LIVESTOCK	VISORY	OTHER	HOURLY	PIECE	OTHER
DOLLARS PER HOUR								
NORTHEAST I	4.15	3.76	4.02	6.32	4.22	4.13	5.29	3.98
NORTHEAST II	4.37	3.81	4.16	6.78	4.65	4.40	4.25	4.30
APPALACHIAN I	4.17	4.15	4.16	7.80	4.16	4.06	3/	4.96
APPALACHIAN II	3.99	3.88	3.96	3/	4.00	3.92	5.51	4.04
SOUTHEAST	3.37	3.86	3.61	5.33	3.72	3.54	3/	3.77
FLORIDA	4.27	4.56	4.35	8.22	5.79	4.57	4.73	6.87
LAKE	3.99	3.84	3.92	6.03	4.77	4.24	4.64	4.08
CORNBELT I	4.24	4.61	4.38	6.69	4.16	4.61	4.48	4.13
CORNBELT II	4.58	3.95	4.31	3/	4.23	4.40	3/	4.16
DELTA	3.76	4.46	3.95	5.71	3.60	3.86	3/	3.88
NORTHERN PLAINS	4.63	4.60	4.62	3/	4.43	4.62	3/	4.50
SOUTHERN PLAINS	4.20	4.43	4.36	6.84	4.74	4.48	3/	5.03
MOUNTAIN I	3.88	3.56	3.73	5.55	4.28	4.09	3/	3.94
MOUNTAIN II	4.32	4.40	4.36	6.26	3/	4.61	3/	4.65
MOUNTAIN III	4.90	4.44	4.69	6.53	4.57	4.59	3/	5.09
PACIFIC	4.88	5.49	4.94	6.56	5.18	4.83	5.37	5.34
CALIFORNIA	5.16	5.60	5.21	7.94	5.82	4.86	6.66	7.10
HAWAII	6.68	3/	6.62	11.22	3/	7.01	3/	3/
U. S.	4.47	4.24	4.40	7.07	4.51	4.41	5.51	4.62

1/ EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

2/ REGIONS CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING:

NORTHEAST I: CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT.

NORTHEAST II: DE, MD, NJ, PA.

APPALACHIAN I: NC, VA.

APPALACHIAN II: KY, TN, WV.

SOUTHEAST I: AL, GA, SC.

LAKE: MI, MN, WI.

CORNBELT I: IL, IN, OH.

CORNBELT II: IA, MO.

DELTA: AR, LA, MS.

NORTHERN PLAINS: KS, NE, ND, SD.

SOUTHERN PLAINS: OK, TX.

MOUNTAIN I: ID, MT, WY.

MOUNTAIN II: CO, NV, UT.

MOUNTAIN III: AZ, NM.

PACIFIC: OR, WA.

3/ INSUFFICIENT DATA.

WORKERS ON FARMS, BY STATES AND REGIONS, APRIL 7-13, 1985 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	ALL FARM WORKERS	SELF- EMPLOYED	UNPAID	HIRED		
				NUMBER OF WORKERS	EXPECTED TO BE EMPLOYED 150 DAYS OR MORE	149 DAYS OR LESS
THOUSANDS						
NORTHEAST I	129	50	28	51	35	16
NORTHEAST II	128	53	34	41	32	9
APPALACHIA I	136	68	22	46	29	17
APPALACHIA II	177	118	28	31	13	18
SOUTHEAST	120	59	17	44	27	17
FLORIDA	104	19	3	82	57	25
LAKE	348	187	86	75	55	20
CORNBELT I	245	156	42	47	33	14
CORNBELT II	273	172	62	39	28	11
DELTA	126	61	16	49	37	12
NORTH PLAINS	234	147	52	35	27	8
SOUTH PLAINS	272	151	36	85	69	16
MOUNTAIN I	81	40	18	23	17	6
MOUNTAIN II	66	34	15	17	13	4
MOUNTAIN III	47	8	19	20	16	4
PACIFIC	105	40	13	52	32	20
CALIFORNIA	217	48	9	160	130	30
HAWAII	13	2	1	10	9	1
U. S.	2821	1413	501	907	659	248

HOURS WORKED PER WEEK AND WAGE RATES BY STATES AND REGIONS,  
APRIL 7-13, 1985 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	HOURS WORKED			WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS
	SELF- EMPLOYED	UNPAID	HIRED	
HOURS				
DOLLARS PER HOUR				
NORTHEAST I	55.7	40.0	41.1	4.00
NORTHEAST II	45.7	34.7	39.6	*4.20
APPALACHIA I	37.0	32.7	33.9	3.84
APPALACHIA II	30.7	27.4	27.0	3.90
SOUTHEAST	34.7	35.1	33.3	3.51
FLORIDA	36.2	34.1	37.2	4.84
LAKE	52.0	35.3	36.6	3.92
CORNBELT I	42.7	34.1	33.8	4.42
CORNBELT II	45.5	36.2	39.4	4.08
DELTA	40.0	37.7	46.0	3.93
NORTH PLAINS	53.0	41.0	45.2	4.79
SOUTH PLAINS	38.2	37.2	41.4	4.39
MOUNTAIN I	55.8	37.8	50.2	3.98
MOUNTAIN II	50.4	30.3	45.1	4.54
MOUNTAIN III	45.1	34.8	47.1	4.41
PACIFIC	48.3	34.6	41.9	4.93
CALIFORNIA	38.2	35.1	44.1	5.57
HAWAII	30.4	30.5	38.6	7.63
U. S.	44.2	35.7	40.1	*4.51



WAGE RATES FOR HIRED WORKERS, BY STATES AND REGIONS, APRIL 7-13, 1985 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	TYPE OF WORK					METHOD OF PAY		
	FIELD	LIVESTOCK	LIVESTOCK	SUPERVISORY	OTHER	HOURLY	PIECE RATE	OTHER
DOLLARS PER HOUR								
NORTHEAST I	4.19	3.33	3.62	5.99	5.03	4.29	4.42	3.66
NORTHEAST II	*4.20	*3.54	*3.91	7.05	5.18	*4.14	3/	*4.29
APPALACHIAN I	3.73	3.93	3.81	5.14	3.68	3.64	3/	4.48
APPALACHIAN II	3.65	4.13	3.88	3/	3.76	3.77	3/	4.33
SOUTHEAST	3.18	3.85	3.44	5.76	3.39	3.58	3/	3.38
FLORIDA	4.28	4.49	4.30	8.21	5.13	4.76	4.74	5.29
LAKE	4.66	3.33	3.63	6.88	4.71	3.93	5.87	3.78
CORNBELT I	4.20	4.26	4.23	7.72	4.28	4.34	3/	4.67
CORNBELT II	4.04	3.94	3.97	3/	4.06	4.10	3/	3.99
DELTA	3.86	3.89	3.87	5.92	3.75	3.82	3/	4.32
NORTHERN PLAINS	4.89	4.23	4.53	6.71	5.03	4.74	3/	4.86
SOUTHERN PLAINS	4.11	3.92	4.04	6.48	4.62	4.45	3/	4.21
MOUNTAIN I	3/	3.58	3.63	4.90	4.29	3.87	3/	4.10
MOUNTAIN II	3/	4.47	4.32	5.68	4.73	4.29	3/	4.93
MOUNTAIN III	4.15	4.15	4.15	6.14	4.75	4.25	3/	4.54
PACIFIC	4.78	4.69	4.75	6.26	5.37	4.75	5.64	5.50
CALIFORNIA	5.31	4.81	5.22	8.09	6.22	4.91	6.92	6.66
HAWAII	6.72	3/	6.66	10.97	3/	7.21	3/	3/
U. S.	*4.51	*3.91	*4.26	6.96	4.56	*4.36	5.61	*4.61

\* REVISED

1/ EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

2/ REGIONS CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING:

NORTHEAST I: CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT.

NORTHEAST II: DE, MD, NJ, PA.

APPALACHIAN I: NC, VA.

APPALACHIAN II: KY, TN, WV.

SOUTHEAST I: AL, GA, SC.

LAKE: MI, MN, WI.

CORNBELT I: IL, IN, OH.

CORNBELT II: IA, MO.

DELTA: AR, LA, MS.

NORTHERN PLAINS: KS, NE, ND, SD.

SOUTHERN PLAINS: OK, TX.

MOUNTAIN I: ID, MT, WY.

MOUNTAIN II: CO, NV, UT.

MOUNTAIN III: AZ, NM.

PACIFIC: OR, WA.

3/ INSUFFICIENT DATA.

HIRED WORKERS ON FARMS, UNITED STATES, APRIL 1986,  
WITH COMPARISONS 1/

NUMBER	APR 7-13, 1985	OCT 6-12, 1985	APR 6-12, 1986
	PERCENT OF HIRED WORKERS		
SIZE OF WORK FORCE			
1 WORKER	19	17	2/
2 WORKERS	14	13	2/
3-6 WORKERS	24	23	2/
7-10 WORKERS	6	9	2/
11 AND OVER WORKERS	37	38	2/
	100.0	100.0	
PAYMENT METHOD			
HOURLY	69	66	72
PIECE-RATE	8	10	6
OTHER METHODS	23	24	22
	100.0	100.0	100.0
PERQUISITES			
WAGES ONLY	53	60	54
BONUS	3	3	5
ROOM AND BOARD	7	7	7
HOUSING	17	14	13
MEALS OR FOOD	6	5	4
OTHER PERQUISITES	14	11	17
	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

2/ DATA ARE NOT AVAILABLE, BUT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE JULY FARM LABOR REPORT TO BE ISSUED ON AUGUST 19, 1986.

## AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

Crew leaders and custom crews provided 184,000 workers for the Nation's farms during the week of April 6-12, 1986. Compared with the comparable week a year earlier, there were 14.8 percent fewer service workers working on farms this year. The number of service workers in California (46,000) was higher than the corresponding total a year ago. Vegetable harvest was more active. Service workers on Florida farms totaled 13,000, down 3,000 from April 1985.

Average hourly wages for workers furnished by agricultural service firms in California and Florida were \$6.96 and \$5.04 per hour, respectively. Comparable wage rates for the April 1985 survey period were \$5.74 in California and \$5.49 in Florida.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES: WORKERS, HOURS WORKED, AND WAGE RATES WITH COMPARISONS,  
CALIFORNIA, FLORIDA, AND UNITED STATES, APRIL 6-12, 1986 1/

ITEM	APR 1985			OCT 1985			APR 1986		
	CALIF:	FLA	U S	CALIF:	FLA	U S	CALIF:	FLA	U S
	THOUSANDS								
NUMBER OF WORKERS WORKING ON FARMS:	28	16	216	43	5.8	187	46	13	184
	HOURS 2/								
HOURS WORKED	36.5	33.8	-	36.9	33.7	-	39.3	35.9	-
	DOLLARS PER HOUR 2/								
WAGE RATES 3/	5.74	5.49	-	6.68	5.42	-	6.96	5.04	-
METHOD OF PAY									
HOURLY	4.90	4.81	-	5.80	4.75	-	6.51	4.48	-
PIECE-RATE	6.89	5.21	-	6.67	4.88	-	7.07	4.99	-
TYPE OF WORK									
FIELD	5.06	4.95	-	5.93	4.78	-	6.49	4.57	-

1/ DATA IN THIS TABLE ARE FOR AGRICULTURAL SERVICES PERFORMED ON THE FARM BY CUSTOM SERVICE UNITS SUCH AS CREW LEADERS OR CUSTOM CREWS. THESE STATISTICS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE STATE-REGIONAL TABLES. 2/ UNITED STATES DATA NOT AVAILABLE. 3/ PERQUISITES SUCH AS ROOM AND BOARD, HOUSING, ETC., ARE PROVIDED SOME WORKERS BUT THE VALUES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE WAGE RATES.

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