
Farm Labor



National
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United States
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Agriculture

Agricultural
Statistics
Board

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FARM WAGES AVERAGED \$5.54 FOR APRIL

A total of 2.96 million persons worked on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 8-14, 1990 according to the Agricultural Statistics Board. The work force was comprised of 1.50 million self-employed farm operators, 427,000 unpaid workers, and 833,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Rounding out the total were 203,000 agricultural service employees doing work on farms and ranches during the survey week.

The all hired farm worker wage rate for the April 1990 survey week averaged \$5.54 per hour, up 19 cents from a year earlier. Workers paid on an hourly basis earned \$5.23 per hour compared with \$5.06 last April. Wage rates for field and livestock workers were \$5.20 and \$4.94, respectively. During April 1989, field workers made \$5.14 while livestock workers averaged \$4.71 per hour.

During the current survey week, self-employed persons worked an average of 35.8 hours, 3.8 fewer hours than in the comparable week in 1989. Unpaid workers, who worked 15 hours or more during the week, put in 33.0 hours compared with 34.1 hours a year earlier. Hired workers spent an average of 39.8 hours doing agricultural work, down 0.4 hour from April of last year.

Benefits, such as housing and meals, were provided to 44 percent of the hired workers during the survey week. Last year 47 percent of the work force received benefits in addition to cash wages. This year, 7 percent of the workers received both housing and meals, and another 15 percent received housing but no meals.

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* The next issue of this report will be published *
* August 13, 1990. *

FARM ACTIVITIES DURING SURVEY WEEK

Widespread rains during the week of April 8-14, 1990 slowed fieldwork in the Cornbelt, Delta, and Southeast. There were about 3 days suitable for fieldwork in these areas. Summer-like weather dominated west of the Rockies where above normal temperatures and little or no precipitation occurred. Spring wheat seeding was 15 percent complete, 4 points ahead of the 5-year average. South Dakota producers seeded over a third of their crop during the week. Cotton planting was 16 percent complete, equal to the 5-year average. Plantings of corn, grain sorghum, and peanuts were getting underway in some of the major producing States. Early variety peach harvest began in Georgia. Spring vegetable harvest increased in Florida. Artichoke, asparagus, broccoli, and cauliflower harvests were active in California.

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

Changes in farm labor survey procedures were made in July 1989 which increased coverage of farms with annual gross value of sales less than \$10,000. This increased the number of self-employed farm operators. The change had minimal effect on number of hired workers which are mostly employed by larger farms.

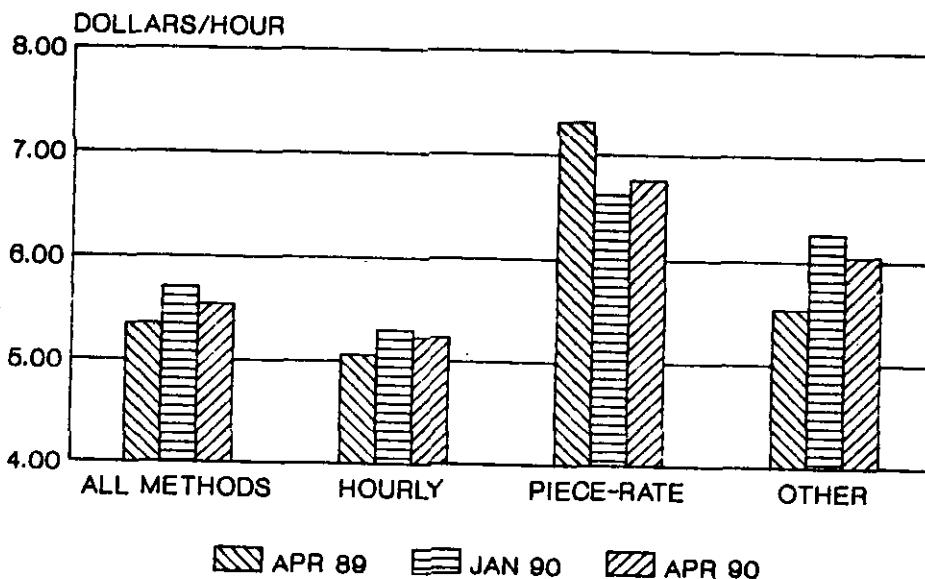
The estimates of agricultural labor are based on multiple frame probability surveys. The surveys utilize two sampling frames -- a list frame and an area frame. The list sample is a stratified random sample of producers likely to have hired farm workers. A probability sample from the area frame is used to estimate for any employers not on the list. The multiple frame approach assures all employers are represented by the combined samples.

Standard error, or relative sampling error, is a statistical measure of the variation that occurs by chance because of sampling. The true value is expected to be within the range of two standard errors below to two standard errors above the survey indication nineteen times out of twenty.

At the U.S. level, the number of all non-salaried workers had a relative sampling error of 2.2 percent. Relative errors for hired workers generally ranged between 10 and 20 percent at the regional level. The all hired farm worker wage rate had a relative sampling error of 3.4 percent at the U.S. level. The relative sampling error for hourly paid workers was 4.6 percent and was 3.9 percent for the combined field and livestock worker wage rate.

Relative sampling errors for wage rates published by type of farm and economic class of farm generally ranged between 5.0 and 10.0 percent at the regional level.

U.S. WAGE RATES BY METHOD OF PAY



FARM LABOR: EMPLOYMENT, WAGE RATES AND INDEXES, UNITED STATES

FARM EMPLOYMENT	: APR 9-15, : 1989	: JAN 7-13, : 1990	: APR 8-14, : 1990
		THOUSANDS	
FARM WORKERS	2,607	*2,447	2,761
SELF-EMPLOYED	1,354	1,430	1,501
UNPAID	423	322	427
HIRED	830	* 695	833
EXPECTED TO BE EMPLOYED			
150 DAYS OR MORE	620	553	637
149 DAYS OR LESS	210	* 142	196
AGRICULTURAL SERVICES WORKERS WORKING ON FARMS	198	143	203
TOTAL FARM & SERVICE WORKERS	2,805	2,590	2,964
INDEX - 1977=100			
ALL FARM WORKERS	69	76	72
HIRED WORKERS	74	* 83	75
		DOLLARS PER HOUR	
FARM WAGE RATES 1/ 2/			
ALL HIRED FARM WORKERS	5.35	5.70	5.54
METHOD OF PAY			
HOURLY	5.06	5.30	5.23
PIECE-RATE	7.31	6.63	6.76
OTHER	5.54	6.26	6.05
TYPE OF WORKER			
FIELD & LIVESTOCK COMBINED	5.00	5.18	5.11
FIELD	5.14	5.34	5.20
LIVESTOCK	4.71	4.99	4.94
SUPERVISORY	7.99	9.13	8.94
OTHER	7.26	7.42	7.40
INDEX - 1977=100			
ALL HIRED FARM WORKERS	187	193	194

* REVISED

1/ BENEFITS, SUCH AS HOUSING AND MEALS, ARE PROVIDED SOME WORKERS BUT THE VALUES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE WAGE RATES.

2/ EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

WORKERS ON FARMS, APRIL 8-14, 1990 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	102	44	19	39	30	9
NORTHEAST II	128	64	28	36	30	6
APPALACHIAN I	122	68	16	38	23	15
APPALACHIAN II	210	150	26	34	22	12
SOUTHEAST	160	85	14	61	44	17
FLORIDA	76	16	3	57	50	7
LAKE	294	168	62	64	47	17
CORNBELT I	275	168	51	56	41	15
CORNBELT II	215	145	33	37	25	12
DELTA	137	75	12	50	42	8
NORTHERN PLAINS	223	149	43	31	25	6
SOUTHERN PLAINS	266	170	40	56	48	8
MOUNTAIN I	74	38	15	21	15	6
MOUNTAIN II	54	25	7	22	18	4
MOUNTAIN III	50	11	23	16	14	2
PACIFIC	145	69	20	56	35	21
CALIFORNIA	218	54	14	150	120	30
HAWAII	12	2	1	9	8	1
U. S.	2761	1501	427	833	637	196

HOURS WORKED PER WEEK AND WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS,
APRIL 8-14, 1990 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	HOURS WORKED			WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS
	SELF- EMPLOYED	UNPAID	HIRED	
	HOURS			
NORTHEAST I	46.0	34.8	38.2	5.56
NORTHEAST II	41.2	32.6	39.7	5.49
APPALACHIAN I	33.4	30.0	35.5	4.76
APPALACHIAN II	21.7	30.6	34.9	4.64
SOUTHEAST	27.3	34.2	35.8	4.90
FLORIDA	26.5	31.5	36.5	5.91
LAKE	46.6	38.2	37.8	5.38
CORNBELT I	34.4	29.0	37.1	5.56
CORNBELT II	40.7	34.3	31.1	5.10
DELTA	26.2	32.6	38.1	4.52
NORTHERN PLAINS	47.4	35.3	46.0	5.39
SOUTHERN PLAINS	29.1	28.7	43.4	5.12
MOUNTAIN I	52.5	41.2	49.4	4.84
MOUNTAIN II	45.6	31.4	43.0	5.40
MOUNTAIN III	36.0	32.3	50.8	5.23
PACIFIC	29.6	28.2	41.2	5.79
CALIFORNIA	32.3	32.7	43.8	6.45
HAWAII	33.5	31.0	37.8	8.65
U. S.	35.8	33.0	39.8	5.54

WAGE RATES FOR HIRED WORKERS, APRIL 8-14, 1990 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	TYPE OF WORKER					METHOD OF PAY		
	FIELD	LIVESTOCK	LIVESTOCK	VISORY	OTHER	HOURLY	PIECE RATE	OTHER
DOLLARS PER HOUR								
NORTHEAST I	5.75	4.94	5.31	7.57	7.63	5.58	3/	5.52
NORTHEAST II	5.45	3.85	4.98	8.59	7.11	5.37	3/	5.70
APPALACHIAN I	4.47	4.54	4.49	9.79	3/	4.39	3/	5.69
APPALACHIAN II	4.33	4.48	4.42	8.24	3/	4.55	3/	4.87
SOUTHEAST	4.31	5.02	4.52	10.01	3/	4.69	3/	5.58
FLORIDA	5.44	4.79	5.33	10.29	8.21	5.32	6.77	7.19
LAKE	5.38	4.84	5.01	7.74	7.30	5.08	3/	5.74
CORNBELT I	4.65	5.21	4.79	9.72	6.97	4.86	3/	7.25
CORNBELT II	5.22	4.77	5.01	6.42	5.55	5.22	3/	4.87
DELTA	4.53	4.02	4.34	7.01	3/	4.59	3/	4.43
NORTHERN PLAINS	5.34	4.74	4.97	8.41	6.46	5.55	4.81	5.27
SOUTHERN PLAINS	4.74	4.87	4.81	7.27	5.89	4.91	3/	5.39
MOUNTAIN I	5.00	4.34	4.71	6.48	3/	5.10	3/	4.62
MOUNTAIN II	5.28	4.93	5.05	7.75	3/	5.39	3/	5.36
MOUNTAIN III	4.74	4.88	4.81	7.75	6.61	4.85	5.85	5.68
PACIFIC	5.28	6.40	5.47	8.36	3/	5.50	6.20	6.69
CALIFORNIA	5.71	6.50	5.85	10.75	9.32	5.71	7.33	8.75
HAWAII	7.98	3/	7.92	12.98	8.36	8.00	3/	12.01
U. S.	5.20	4.94	5.11	8.94	7.40	5.23	6.76	6.05

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: 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, JANUARY 7-13, 1990 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	97	42	14	41	35	6
NORTHEAST II	106	54	21	31	24	7
APPALACHIAN I	108	71	13	24	20	4
APPALACHIAN II	197	142	16	39	24	15
SOUTHEAST	136	81	12	43	37	6
FLORIDA	* 90	19	6	* 65	50	* 15
LAKE	275	165	59	51	46	5
CORNBELT I	222	156	32	34	28	6
CORNBELT II	187	142	24	21	17	4
DELTA	114	71	11	32	28	4
NORTHERN PLAINS	191	134	28	29	23	6
SOUTHERN PLAINS	250	170	32	48	39	9
MOUNTAIN I	59	35	9	15	13	2
MOUNTAIN II	41	19	5	17	14	3
MOUNTAIN III	49	11	24	14	12	2
PACIFIC	108	65	7	36	28	8
CALIFORNIA	205	51	8	146	107	39
HAWAII	12	2	1	9	8	1
U. S.	*2447	1430	322	*695	553	*142

HOURS WORKED PER WEEK AND WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS,
JANUARY 7-13, 1990 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	HOURS WORKED			WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS
	SELF- EMPLOYED	UNPAID	HIRED	
HOURS				
DOLLARS PER HOUR				
NORTHEAST I	39.7	39.3	40.4	5.58
NORTHEAST II	38.7	34.3	43.1	4.59
APPALACHIAN I	25.4	30.1	39.3	4.75
APPALACHIAN II	22.0	28.7	31.6	4.79
SOUTHEAST	23.1	32.9	37.3	4.91
FLORIDA	30.9	34.6	35.1	5.94
LAKE	41.8	35.8	35.8	5.33
CORNBELT I	29.5	30.1	32.8	5.64
CORNBELT II	36.1	31.6	32.5	5.61
DELTA	22.0	31.8	35.7	5.18
NORTHERN PLAINS	34.4	33.9	41.4	5.89
SOUTHERN PLAINS	27.1	27.2	40.4	5.25
MOUNTAIN I	32.3	29.3	42.6	4.91
MOUNTAIN II	38.7	33.1	38.6	5.40
MOUNTAIN III	33.7	29.3	46.4	5.51
PACIFIC	21.4	29.4	37.8	6.69
CALIFORNIA	28.7	36.7	39.3	6.57
HAWAII	33.5	31.0	37.8	8.50
U. S.	30.6	32.3	37.9	5.70

WAGE RATES FOR HIRED WORKERS, JANUARY 7-13, 1990 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	TYPE OF WORKER					METHOD OF PAY		
	FIELD	LIVESTOCK	LIVESTOCK	VISORY	OTHER	HOURLY	PIECE RATE	OTHER
DOLLARS PER HOUR								
NORTHEAST I	6.04	4.32	5.04	8.00	8.09	5.60	3/	5.48
NORTHEAST II	4.66	3.93	4.19	6.95	6.35	5.10	3/	4.09
APPALACHIAN I	4.44	4.54	4.51	6.62	3/	4.56	3/	4.95
APPALACHIAN II	4.19	4.61	4.44	8.33	6.58	4.40	5.67	6.13
SOUTHEAST	4.10	5.02	4.41	10.23	6.04	4.48	3/	6.24
FLORIDA	5.19	5.57	5.22	10.66	9.00	5.20	6.21	8.63
LAKE	6.65	4.48	4.93	8.30	8.33	5.65	3/	4.81
CORNBELT I	5.45	4.86	5.16	7.86	6.54	5.34	3/	6.33
CORNBELT II	5.14	5.24	5.21	8.61	3/	4.97	3/	6.40
DELTA	4.91	4.22	4.54	8.07	3/	4.58	8.43	5.61
NORTHERN PLAINS	5.30	5.72	5.64	8.01	6.21	5.64	3/	6.04
SOUTHERN PLAINS	4.56	4.69	4.63	9.23	6.17	4.54	3/	5.76
MOUNTAIN I	5.04	4.68	4.73	5.71	4.70	4.94	3/	4.90
MOUNTAIN II	4.90	5.16	5.07	7.01	3/	4.74	3/	5.85
MOUNTAIN III	4.96	5.20	5.04	8.92	7.87	4.99	3/	6.15
PACIFIC	6.09	6.44	6.19	9.82	7.54	6.16	7.14	7.62
CALIFORNIA	5.73	6.60	5.91	11.25	9.28	5.79	6.65	8.64
HAWAII	7.72	3/	7.68	13.57	8.72	7.77	7.26	12.52
U. S.	5.34	4.99	5.18	9.13	7.42	5.30	6.63	6.26

* 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: 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, APRIL 9-15, 1989 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	92	36	15	41	32	9
NORTHEAST II	132	64	35	33	29	4
APPALACHIAN I	96	49	15	32	21	11
APPALACHIAN II	165	108	24	33	18	15
SOUTHEAST	114	52	11	51	37	14
FLORIDA	74	19	4	51	40	11
LAKE	284	161	65	58	45	13
CORNBELT I	249	152	41	56	41	15
CORNBELT II	214	137	39	38	29	9
DELTA	129	74	14	41	34	7
NORTHERN PLAINS:	232	139	51	42	36	6
SOUTHERN PLAINS:	258	163	37	58	45	13
MOUNTAIN I	86	46	15	25	18	7
MOUNTAIN II	64	28	10	26	20	6
MOUNTAIN III	50	12	23	15	13	2
PACIFIC	128	60	11	57	36	21
CALIFORNIA	227	52	12	163	117	46
HAWAII	13	2	1	10	9	1
U. S.	2607	1354	423	830	620	210

HOURS WORKED PER WEEK AND WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS,
APRIL 9-15, 1989 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	HOURS WORKED			WAGE RATES FOR ALL HIRED WORKERS
	SELF- EMPLOYED	UNPAID	HIRED	
	HOURS			DOLLARS PER HOUR
NORTHEAST I	53.6	35.9	41.0	5.23
NORTHEAST II	43.1	35.5	41.4	5.52
APPALACHIAN I	28.6	27.8	35.4	4.71
APPALACHIAN II	28.6	32.0	37.2	4.76
SOUTHEAST	32.7	33.3	33.5	4.37
FLORIDA	25.8	28.7	34.3	5.74
LAKE	49.0	34.6	35.3	4.53
CORNBELT I	36.9	34.3	36.9	5.40
CORNBELT II	46.2	33.4	35.4	5.02
DELTA	36.8	37.1	46.6	3.96
NORTHERN PLAINS:	50.7	37.4	43.6	5.31
SOUTHERN PLAINS:	30.8	30.6	39.7	4.96
MOUNTAIN I	44.4	36.6	49.8	4.35
MOUNTAIN II	46.7	34.2	48.7	5.04
MOUNTAIN III	28.8	30.2	48.6	5.33
PACIFIC	34.8	36.4	38.1	5.52
CALIFORNIA	34.6	37.6	44.5	6.48
HAWAII	30.2	24.6	37.6	8.13
U. S.	39.6	34.1	40.2	5.35

WAGE RATES FOR HIRED WORKERS, APRIL 9-15, 1989 1/

STATE AND REGION 2/	TYPE OF WORKER					METHOD OF PAY		
	FIELD	LIVESTOCK	LIVESTOCK	VISORY	OTHER	HOURLY	PIECE RATE	OTHER
DOLLARS PER HOUR								
NORTHEAST I	5.62	4.28	4.88	7.84	3/	5.45	3/	4.94
NORTHEAST II	5.37	4.77	5.17	8.01	7.17	5.47	6.12	5.51
APPALACHIAN I	4.25	4.41	4.30	8.35	3/	4.38	4.33	5.37
APPALACHIAN II	4.21	4.76	4.47	8.64	5.99	4.70	3/	4.97
SOUTHEAST	4.10	4.22	4.13	6.90	6.62	4.30	4.47	4.52
FLORIDA	5.30	5.02	5.24	8.82	7.35	5.16	6.16	6.71
LAKE	4.80	4.03	4.26	7.14	3/	4.99	3/	4.07
CORNBELT I	5.05	5.06	5.05	7.99	3/	5.03	3/	5.98
CORNBELT II	4.50	5.38	4.86	7.55	3/	4.67	3/	5.67
DELTA	3.95	3.49	3.85	5.61	3/	3.81	3/	4.44
NORTHERN PLAINS	5.13	4.88	5.02	7.23	3/	5.12	3/	5.51
SOUTHERN PLAINS	4.46	4.78	4.62	7.30	3/	4.79	3/	5.07
MOUNTAIN I	4.44	3.74	4.16	5.40	3/	4.64	3/	4.19
MOUNTAIN II	4.60	4.61	4.60	6.40	3/	5.11	3/	4.92
MOUNTAIN III	4.82	5.03	4.90	7.44	7.19	4.63	3/	6.71
PACIFIC	5.15	5.86	5.25	8.47	6.07	5.13	6.24	7.06
CALIFORNIA	5.96	6.40	6.00	10.40	8.50	5.64	7.92	8.62
HAWAII	7.71	3/	7.55	11.84	7.66	7.53	3/	10.81
U. S.	5.14	4.71	5.00	7.99	7.26	5.06	7.31	5.54

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: 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.

WAGE RATES OF FIELD AND LIVESTOCK WORKERS, BY TYPE OF FARM

REGIONS 2/	APRIL 9-15, 1989				APRIL 8-14, 1990			
	FIELD: CROPS:	OTHER: CROPS:	L'STK &: POULTRY:	ALL: FARMS:	FIELD: CROPS:	OTHER: CROPS:	L'STK &: POULTRY:	ALL: FARMS:
	DOLLARS PER HOUR							
NORTHEAST	5.02	5.97	4.12	5.01	6.01	5.85	4.35	5.15
APPALACHIAN	3.98	4.17	4.72	4.39	4.23	4.86	4.58	4.46
SOUTHEAST	3.90	5.06	4.55	4.67	4.12	5.23	4.75	4.90
LAKE	5.54	5.36	3.93	4.26	5.90	5.40	4.81	5.01
CORNBELT	4.84	4.53	5.25	4.97	5.55	4.38	4.85	4.87
DELTA	3.83	3.88	3.91	3.85	4.58	5.70	3.94	4.34
NORTHERN PLAINS	5.21	5.31	4.71	5.02	5.07	3/	4.91	4.97
SOUTHERN PLAINS	4.21	5.48	4.76	4.62	4.67	5.20	4.80	4.81
MOUNTAIN	4.44	4.75	4.45	4.48	4.81	5.68	4.70	4.85
PACIFIC	5.56	5.79	6.24	5.82	5.46	5.66	6.28	5.75
48 STATES	4.54	5.51	4.67	4.97	4.89	5.43	4.88	5.08

1/ FIELD AND LIVESTOCK WORKERS COMBINED. EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

WAGE RATES OF ALL HIRED WORKERS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM 1/

REGIONS 2/	APRIL 9-15, 1989				APRIL 8-14, 1990			
	GROSS VALUE SALES-\$1000's		ALL		GROSS VALUE SALES-\$1000's		ALL	
	<40:	40-99:	100-249:	250+: FARMS:	<40:	40-99:	100-249:	250+: FARMS:
	DOLLARS PER HOUR							
N. EAST	4.46	4.21	4.52	6.38	5.36	4.06	4.94	4.41
APPAL.	4.48	4.67	4.50	4.94	4.74	4.07	4.13	4.37
S. EAST	3.82	5.14	4.60	5.49	5.07	5.00	4.51	4.88
LAKE	3.49	3.48	4.28	5.51	4.53	7.07	6.16	4.42
CORNBELT	4.54	4.33	4.71	5.89	5.25	4.38	4.42	4.95
DELTA	4.88	3.48	3.84	4.08	3.96	4.33	3.87	4.29
N. PLAINS	5.31	5.02	4.64	5.95	5.31	3/	3.92	5.12
S. PLAINS	4.45	5.07	4.80	5.19	4.96	4.33	5.08	5.18
MOUNT	6.98	4.06	4.21	4.53	4.82	6.31	4.48	4.47
PACIFIC	5.35	5.70	5.56	6.46	6.24	8.94	5.89	6.05
48 STATES	5.02	4.53	4.62	5.80	5.32	5.33	4.86	4.80

1/ EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

2/ REGIONS CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING STATES.

NORTHEAST: CT, DE, MD, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT.

APPALACHIAN: KY, NC, TN, VA, WV.

SOUTHEAST: AL, FL, GA, SC.

LAKE: MI, MN, WI.

CORNBELT: IA, IL, IN, MO, OH.

DELTA: AR, LA, MS.

NORTHERN PLAINS: KS, NE, ND, SD.

SOUTHERN PLAINS: OK, TX.

MOUNTAIN: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY.

PACIFIC: CA, OR, WA.

48 STATES: ALL STATES, EXCLUDING AK AND HI.

3/ INSUFFICIENT DATA.

DISTRIBUTION OF FIELD AND LIVESTOCK WORKERS, BY TYPE OF FARM, 48 STATES 1/

TYPE OF FARM	APR 9-15, 1989	JAN 7-13, 1990	APR 8-14, 1990
	PERCENT OF FIELD AND LIVESTOCK WORKERS 2/		
FIELD CROPS	23	19	24
OTHER CROPS	42	36	37
LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, & POULTRY	35	45	39
	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ 48 STATES, EXCLUDING ALASKA AND HAWAII.

2/ FIELD AND LIVESTOCK WORKERS COMBINED. EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

DISTRIBUTION OF HIRED WORKERS, BY ECONOMIC CLASS OF FARM, 48 STATES 1/

GROSS VALUE OF SALES	APR 9-15, 1989	JAN 7-13, 1990	APR 8-14, 1990
	PERCENT OF HIRED WORKERS 2/		
LESS THAN \$40,000	17	11	10
\$40,000-\$99,999	12	15	17
\$100,000-\$249,999	21	19	18
\$250,000 AND OVER	50	55	55
	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ 48 STATES, EXCLUDING ALASKA AND HAWAII.

2/ EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

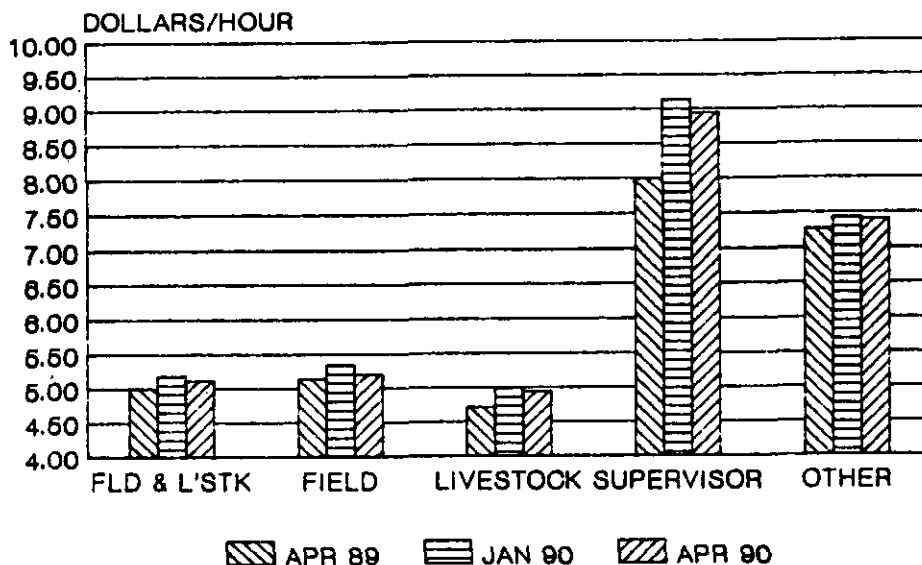
DISTRIBUTION OF HIRED WORKERS ON FARMS, UNITED STATES 1/

CATEGORY	APR 9-15, 1989	JAN 7-13, 1990	APR 8-14, 1990
PERCENT OF HIRED WORKERS			
EMPLOYED ON FARMS HIRING:			
1 WORKER	17	16	17
2 WORKERS	12	14	12
3-6 WORKERS	24	26	24
7-10 WORKERS	8	9	9
11 AND OVER WORKERS	39	35	38
	100.0	100.0	100.0
PAYMENT METHOD:			
HOURLY	67	64	68
PIECE-RATE	6	5	5
OTHER METHODS	27	31	27
	100.0	100.0	100.0
BENEFITS: 2/			
HOUSING AND MEALS	8	7	7
HOUSING (NO MEALS)	14	16	15
MEALS (NO HOUSING)	7	3	4
BONUS	5	6	5
OTHER BENEFITS	13	14	13
WAGES ONLY	53	54	56
	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ EXCLUDES AGRICULTURAL SERVICE WORKERS.

2/ BENEFITS ARE IN PRIORITY FROM HIGHEST TO LOWEST. EACH WORKER IS COUNTED ONE TIME IN THE HIGHEST CATEGORY, EVEN THOUGH BENEFITS IN A LOWER CATEGORY MAY BE RECEIVED. HOUSING AND MEALS IS COMPARABLE TO ROOM AND BOARD USED IN PREVIOUS REPORTS. OTHER BENEFITS INCLUDE TRANSPORTATION, LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE, UTILITIES, ETC.

U.S. WAGE RATES BY TYPE OF WORKER



AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

Crew leaders and custom crews provided 203,000 workers for the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 8-14, 1990. Service workers in California numbered 48,000 compared with 25,000 during the April 1989 survey week. Florida's number decreased to 10,000 this year from 13,000 service workers last April.

The average wages received by agricultural service workers in California and Florida were \$6.59 and \$5.93 per hour, respectively. Comparable wages in April 1989 were \$6.45 in California and \$6.24 in Florida.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES: WORKERS, HOURS WORKED, AND WAGE RATES 1/

ITEM	APR 9-15, 1989			JAN 7-13, 1990			APR 8-14, 1990		
	CALIF	FLA	US	CALIF	FLA	US	CALIF	FLA	US
	THOUSANDS								
NUMBER OF WORKERS WORKING ON FARMS	25.0	13.0	198.0	45.0	10.0	143.0	48.0	10.0	203.0
	HOURS 2/								
HOURS WORKED	36.3	32.3	-	34.6	36.8	-	36.9	31.0	-
	DOLLARS PER HOUR 2/								
WAGE RATES 3/	6.45	6.24	-	6.20	6.23	-	6.59	5.93	-
METHOD OF PAY									
HOURLY	5.39	5.24	-	5.63	*5.10	-	5.85	5.14	-
PIECE-RATE	7.75	6.39	-	6.65	*6.26	-	7.88	6.17	-
TYPE OF WORK									
FIELD	6.00	5.87	-	5.86	5.80	-	6.35	5.61	-

* REVISED.
 1/ DATA 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/ BENEFITS, SUCH AS HOUSING AND MEALS, ARE PROVIDED SOME WORKERS BUT THE VALUES ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE WAGE RATES.

FARM LABOR DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are provided to assist in interpreting statistics published in this report. To insure consistency in data collection, the questionnaires and instruction manual used by the interviewers provide more in-depth explanations of these terms.

FARM OR RANCH: Places that sell, or would normally sell, at least \$1000 worth of agricultural products during the year.

AGRICULTURAL WORK: Work done on a farm or ranch 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 farm related business, such as trips to buy feed or deliver products to local market.

SELF-EMPLOYED WORKER: A farm or ranch operator or partner who did at least one hour of unpaid agricultural work on a farm or ranch during the survey week.

UNPAID WORKER: Anyone, other than a self-employed worker, who did at least 15 hours of unpaid agricultural work on a farm or ranch during the survey week.

HIRED WORKER: Anyone, other than an agricultural service worker, who was paid for at least one hour of agricultural work on a farm or ranch. Worker type is determined by what the employee was primarily hired to do, not necessarily what work was done during the survey week. Type of workers include:

Field Workers: Employees engaged in planting, tending and harvesting crops including operation of farm machinery on crop farms.

Livestock Workers: Employees tending livestock, milking cows or caring for poultry, including operation of farm machinery on livestock or poultry operations.

Supervisors: Hired managers, range foremen, crew leaders, etc.

Other Workers: Employees engaged in agricultural work not included in the other three categories. Bookkeepers and pilots are examples.

METHODS OF PAY: Wage rates are calculated based on total wages and hours worked during the survey week. Definitions for the three categories are:

Hourly Wages: Pay based on hours actually worked.

Piece-rate Wages: Pay determined by multiplying the units produced (boxes, crates, bales, etc.) by the rate per unit.

Other Pay Methods: All other methods of calculating pay, such as straight salary, regardless of hours worked.

FARM LABOR DEFINITIONS - CONTINUED

PERQUISITES: Benefits, such as a cash bonus, housing, or meals, provided to an employee in addition to pay are included in perquisites. Wage rates published in this release do not include the value of these benefits.

TERM OF EMPLOYMENT: The length of time during the year the farm operator expects to employ those workers who were on the payroll during the survey week.

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE: Agricultural work performed on a farm or ranch if the provider of the service is paid on a contract basis for materials, equipment, or labor.

TYPE OF FARM (OR RANCH): An operation is classified in the farm type which accounts for 50 percent or more of the total value of sales for its agriculture production. The three types of farms are:

Field Crops: A farm primarily engaged in the production of: wheat, rice, corn, soybeans, barley, dry beans, rye, sorghum, cotton, popcorn, tobacco, potatoes, sugar crops, hay, peanuts, hops, mint, or other such crops.

Other Crops: A farm primarily engaged in the production of: vegetables, melons, berry crops, grapes, tree nuts, citrus fruits, deciduous tree fruits, avocados, dates, figs, olives, nursery, or greenhouse crops.

Livestock or Poultry: An operation primarily engaged in production of: cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, milk, chickens, eggs, turkeys, or animal specialties such as furs, fish, honey, etc.

GROSS VALUE OF SALES: Gross value includes all income during a year from the sale of crops, livestock, dairy, poultry, or other related agricultural products, including the landlord's share. When commodities are placed under CCC loan, they are considered as sold.

