

Farm Labor



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Washington, D.C.

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April All Hired Wage Rate Higher

There were 2.91 million people working on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 7-13, 1996. Self-employed farm operators accounted for 1.46 million of the total, along with 455,000 unpaid workers, and 780,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 207,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$6.76 per hour during the April 1996 survey week, up 27 cents from a year earlier. Workers paid on an hourly basis earned \$6.44 per hour compared with \$6.20 last April. Field workers received an average of \$6.31 per hour, up 26 cents. Livestock workers earned \$6.22 per hour compared with \$5.88 a year earlier.

Self-employed farm operators worked an average of 35.1 hours, compared to 35.0 hours in the comparable week in 1995. Unpaid workers averaged 31.7 hours, compared to 29.8 hours last year. Hired employees worked 40.7 hours during the week, the same as last year.

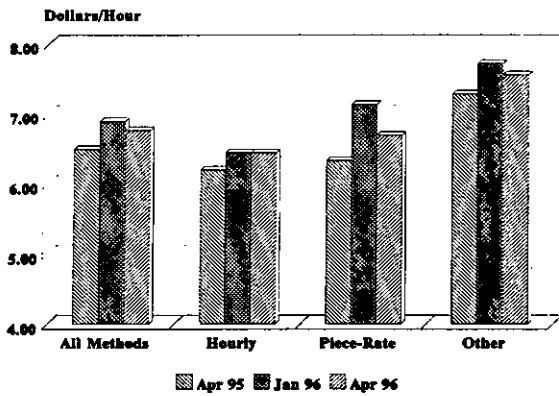
Benefits were provided for 383,000 hired workers. Farm operators provided housing for 130,000, meals for 53,000, bonuses for 99,000, health insurance for 206,000, transportation for 61,000, and other benefits for 214,000 hired workers.

During the survey week of April 7-13 dryness continued in Texas' northern panhandle. Rains fell over parts of Kansas and heavy rains and cool weather delayed fieldwork in the Delta. Heavy snow blanketed the Northeast. By week's end, snowfall became widespread in the Lake States. Dry, warm weather in much of the Northwest provided over 5 days suitable for fieldwork. In California, ground preparation for planting corn, cotton, and safflower continued in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys. Small grains were irrigated and treated for weeds. Thinning of stone fruit progressed. Navel orange picking was nearly completed. Florida farmers were planting peanuts and making preparations for spring planted crops. Valencia harvest was very active while other citrus harvest was winding down. With warm, windy conditions in Texas, corn, soybean, and grain sorghum planting was underway. Vegetable harvest continued in the Rio Grande Valley.

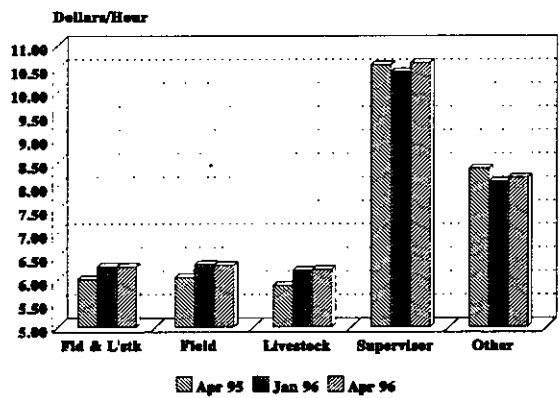
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A Farm Labor Survey program reduction will impact the published data series effective August 13, 1996; refer to page 21 for details.

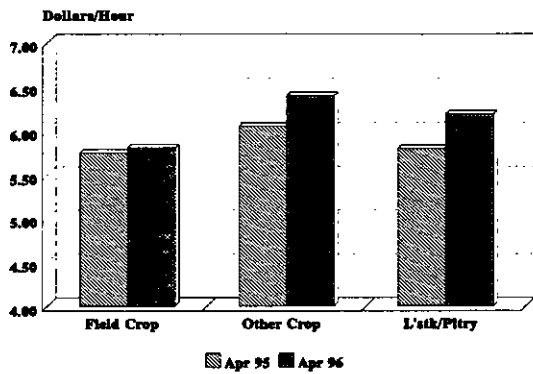
U.S. Wage Rates by Method of Pay



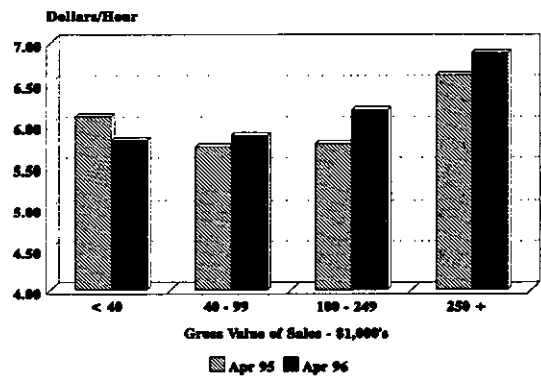
U.S. Wage Rates by Type of Worker



Wage Rate of Field & L'stk Wkrs Combined By Type of Farm



Wage Rates of All Hired Workers by Economic Class of Farm



Farm Labor: Employment and Wage Rates, United States,
April 7-13, 1996, with Comparisons 1/

Farm Employment	April 9-15, 1995	January 7-13, 1996	April 7-13, 1996
		1,000	
Farm Workers	2,643	2,347	2,699
Self-Employed	1,435	1,401	1,464
Unpaid	386	348	455
Hired	822	598	780
Expected to be Employed			
150 Days or More	605	496	599
149 Days or Less	217	102	181
Agricultural Services			
Workers Working on Farms	214	115	207
Total Farm & Service Workers	2,857	2,462	2,906
		Hours per Week	
Hours Worked			
Self-Employed	35.0	28.7	35.1
Unpaid	29.8	27.7	31.7
Hired	40.7	39.1	40.7
		Dollars per Hour	
Wage Rates for			
All Hired Workers 2/ 3/	6.49	6.89	6.76
Method of Pay			
Hourly	6.20	6.44	6.44
Piece-Rate	6.33	7.14	6.69
Other	7.29	7.72	7.56
Type of Worker			
Field & Livestock Combined	6.01	6.28	6.28
Field	6.05	6.33	6.31
Livestock	5.88	6.20	6.22
Supervisory	10.58	10.42	10.62
Other	8.37	8.09	8.18

1/ Excludes AK.

2/ Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

3/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

Workers on Farms: Number by Region, State,
and United States, April 7-13, 1996 1/

State and Region 2/	All Farm Workers	Self- Employed 3/	Unpaid 3/	Hired		
				Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed 150 Days or More 3/	149 Days or Less 3/
				1,000		
NY	57			19		
Other 4/	34			14		
Northeast I	91	42	16	33	27	6
PA	82			23		
Other 4/	33			12		
Northeast II	115	56	24	35	30	5
NC	75			22		
VA	57			16		
Appalachian I	132	76	18	38	27	11
Appalachian II	168	122	26	20	13	7
Southeast	101	56	13	32	23	9
FL	82	25	7	50	43	7
MI	64			18		
MN	99			13		
WI	111			28		
Lake	274	159	56	59	44	15
Cornbelt I	264	177	44	43	35	8
Cornbelt II	212	147	38	27	20	7
Delta	131	69	18	44	32	12
Northern Plains	224	131	57	36	28	8
OK	80			14		
TX	264			50		
Southern Plains	344	226	54	64	48	16
Mountain I	78	38	13	27	21	6
Mountain II	50	25	10	15	11	4
AZ	27			14		
NM	28			5		
Mountain III	55	13	23	19	16	3
OR	73			21		
WA	54			25		
Pacific	127	54	27	46	30	16
CA	240	45	10	185	145	40
HI	11	3	1	7	6	1
US 5/	2,699	1,464	455	780	599	181

- 1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.
2/ Region map on page 17.
3/ Published at regional and U.S. level only.
4/ Other States in the same region.
5/ Excludes AK.

Workers on Farms: Hours Worked and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
by Region, State, and United States, April 7-13, 1996 1/

State and Region 2/	Hours Worked			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Self- Employed 3/	Unpaid 3/	Hired	
	Hours per Week			Dollars per Hour
NY			42.1	6.91
Other 4/			39.0	7.80
Northeast I	41.8	28.9	40.8	7.27
PA			38.0	6.29
Other 4/			39.2	7.74
Northeast II	41.3	30.7	38.4	6.78
NC			35.7	6.00
VA			40.0	6.07
Appalachian I	30.9	34.2	37.5	6.03
Appalachian II	26.2	26.1	33.6	6.29
Southeast	32.5	31.1	37.2	5.96
FL	32.0	34.5	38.5	7.05
MI			34.8	7.10
MN			36.6	8.26
WI			37.9	6.42
Lake	37.8	33.9	36.7	7.02
Cornbelt I	34.1	32.6	37.2	7.14
Cornbelt II	34.2	28.8	34.7	6.89
Delta	31.2	29.8	41.8	5.65
Northern Plains	48.4	33.4	40.5	6.51
OK			31.0	6.00
TX			44.6	6.18
Southern Plains	29.8	26.5	41.6	6.12
Mountain I	46.3	37.1	48.9	5.78
Mountain II	43.6	32.2	43.3	6.53
AZ			50.0	6.50
NM			46.9	5.89
Mountain III	35.1	32.1	49.2	6.34
OR			39.1	7.32
WA			42.0	7.53
Pacific	32.8	37.1	40.7	7.44
CA	36.7	40.3	43.9	7.14
HI	30.5	24.5	37.5	10.13
US 5/	35.1	31.7	40.7	6.76

- 1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.
2/ Region map on page 17.
3/ Published at regional and U.S. level only.
4/ Other States in the same region.
5/ Excludes AK.

Hired Workers: Wage Rates by Region, State,
and United States, April 7-13, 1996 1/

State and Region 2/	Type of Worker 5/					Method of Pay 6/		
	:Field	:Livestock	:Livestock	:Super- visory	:Other	:Hourly	: Piece Rate	: Other
Dollars per Hour								
NY	: 7.12		6.72			6.88		
Other 4/	: 7.85		7.24			7.85		
Northeast I	: 7.47	6.20	6.93	9.49	7.54	7.27	7.25	7.28
PA	: 6.46		5.76			6.56		
Other 4/	: 6.86		6.84			7.14		
Northeast II	: 6.62	5.31	6.11	10.42	8.37	6.79	7.22	6.72
NC	: 5.52		5.76			5.69		
VA	: 5.70		5.80			5.88		
Appalachian I	: 5.60	6.21	5.78	8.98	7.25	5.78	3/	6.96
Appalachian II	: 5.84	5.75	5.80	11.69	7.29	5.71	3/	8.03
Southeast	: 5.52	5.63	5.56	10.09	9.32	5.86	5.84	6.18
FL	: 6.12	7.10	6.27	13.05	9.35	6.35	6.50	10.65
MI	: 6.85		6.87			6.85		
MN	: 8.20		8.13			8.15		
WI	: 6.10		5.78			6.09		
Lake	: 6.78	6.39	6.56	10.48	8.40	6.77	8.75	7.41
Cornbelt I	: 6.57	6.76	6.61	10.52	8.07	6.64	3/	8.35
Cornbelt II	: 6.47	7.00	6.67	9.76	6.38	6.43	3/	7.35
Delta	: 5.38	5.74	5.46	8.43	6.20	5.45	5.01	6.18
Northern Plains	: 6.76	5.79	6.32	7.60	6.90	6.50	3/	6.51
OK	: 5.50		5.57			5.70		
TX	: 5.32		5.37			5.82		
Southern Plains	: 5.38	5.53	5.45	9.11	6.73	5.79	5.05	6.62
Mountain I	: 5.54	5.29	5.42	8.28	5.38	5.69	5.03	5.90
Mountain II	: 5.60	5.88	5.73	10.37	8.55	6.24	4.18	7.38
AZ	: 5.65		5.79			6.00		
NM	: 5.72		5.59			5.88		
Mountain III	: 5.67	6.03	5.74	11.39	9.98	5.97	5.59	7.51
OR	: 6.75		6.71			6.80		
WA	: 6.89		6.99			6.93		
Pacific	: 6.83	7.22	6.87	11.65	10.60	6.87	8.14	10.88
CA	: 6.53	7.50	6.64	12.58	10.51	6.69	6.93	9.99
HI	: 8.79	3/	8.76	16.45	3/	9.04	3/	14.83
US 5/	: 6.31	6.22	6.28	10.62	8.18	6.44	6.69	7.56

1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

2/ Region map on page 17.

3/ Insufficient data.

4/ Other States in the same region.

5/ Livestock, Supervisory, and Other published at regional and U.S. level only.

6/ Piece Rate and Other published at regional and U.S. level only.

7/ Excludes AK.

Workers on Farms: Number by Region, State, and United States,
January 7-13, 1996 1/

State and Region 2/	All Farm Workers	Self- Employed 3/	Unpaid 3/	Hired		
				Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed 150 Days or More 3/	Expected to be Employed 149 Days or Less 3/
				1,000		
NY	57			15		
Other 4/ Northeast I	29			13		
	86	48	10	28	24	4
PA	66			13		
Other 4/ Northeast II	25			8		
	91	50	20	21	19	2
NC	62			15		
VA	45			8		
Appalachian I	107	68	16	23	20	3
Appalachian II	151	115	20	16	9	7
Southeast	91	62	7	22	19	3
FL	77	24	6	47	40	7
MI	52			13		
MN	83			9		
WI	97			18		
Lake	232	149	43	40	33	7
Cornbelt I	229	163	32	34	30	4
Cornbelt II	207	151	30	26	20	6
Delta	107	68	18	21	18	3
Northern Plains:	189	123	39	27	23	4
OK	76			10		
TX	239			37		
Southern Plains:	315	219	49	47	40	7
Mountain I	59	31	7	21	20	1
Mountain II	39	22	6	11	10	1
AZ	30			13		
NM	28			5		
Mountain III	58	16	24	18	14	4
OR	52			17		
WA	41			20		
Pacific	93	46	10	37	28	9
CA	205	43	10	152	123	29
HI	11	3	1	7	6	1
US 5/	2,347	1,401	348	598	496	102

- 1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.
2/ Region map on page 17.
3/ Published at regional and U.S. level only.
4/ Other States in the same region.
5/ Excludes AK.

Workers on Farms: Hours Worked and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers,
by Region, State, and United States, January 7-13, 1996 1/

State and Region 2/	Hours Worked			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Self- Employed 3/	Unpaid 3/	Hired	
	Hours per Week			Dollars per Hour
NY			41.5	6.99
Other 4/			39.0	7.30
Northeast I	37.5	33.0	40.3	7.12
PA			44.0	6.12
Other 4/			32.3	7.94
Northeast II	37.0	28.4	39.5	6.76
NC			37.7	6.69
VA			43.0	6.07
Appalachian I	26.8	27.9	39.5	6.51
Appalachian II	20.3	26.5	30.4	5.94
Southeast	22.5	25.1	34.9	6.60
FL	24.5	26.5	39.0	7.43
MI			34.7	6.95
MN			30.8	8.15
WI			34.8	6.10
Lake	36.8	28.8	33.9	6.80
Cornbelt I	28.0	31.0	33.7	7.27
Cornbelt II	30.3	23.3	32.5	6.33
Delta	25.9	35.4	33.8	6.43
Northern Plains	35.1	29.1	39.7	7.20
OK			34.0	6.65
TX			43.0	6.07
Southern Plains	25.0	23.6	41.1	6.17
Mountain I	26.6	32.6	39.8	6.61
Mountain II	29.9	26.4	38.3	7.09
AZ			43.0	6.70
NM			47.7	5.91
Mountain III	33.0	26.3	44.3	6.43
OR			37.3	7.32
WA			37.0	7.57
Pacific	19.3	25.5	37.1	7.46
CA	29.7	28.3	43.8	6.95
HI	28.6	31.4	36.5	9.63
US 5/	28.7	27.7	39.1	6.89

- 1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.
2/ Region map on page 17.
3/ Published at regional and U.S. level only.
4/ Other States in the same region.
5/ Excludes AK.

Hired Workers: Wage Rates by Region, State, and United States,
January 7-13, 1996 1/

State and Region 2/	Type of Worker 5/					Method of Pay 6/		
	Field	Livestock	Livestock	Field & Supervisory	Other	Hourly	Piece Rate	Other
Dollars per Hour								
NY	6.95		6.06			7.06		
Other 4/	8.20		6.67			7.80		
Northeast I	7.53	5.63	6.30	10.11	7.73	7.38	3/	6.81
PA	6.11		5.44			6.77		
Other 4/	7.42		6.93			7.75		
Northeast II	6.53	5.54	6.04	8.45	7.39	7.19	3/	6.46
NC	6.00		6.28			6.34		
VA	5.90		5.77			6.00		
Appalachian I	5.97	6.20	6.13	10.22	7.60	6.24	3/	7.16
Appalachian II	5.41	5.93	5.62	10.17	7.38	5.70	3/	6.92
Southeast	6.00	6.13	6.04	9.64	9.05	6.18	3/	7.35
FL	6.40	6.25	6.38	12.65	11.00	6.45	6.70	10.60
MI	6.75		6.45			7.00		
MN	7.55		6.93			7.35		
WI	7.09		5.34			6.41		
Lake	6.97	5.68	5.97	10.81	8.25	6.82	3/	6.80
Cornbelt I	7.15	6.47	6.81	10.85	7.08	6.91	3/	7.82
Cornbelt II	5.89	6.23	6.10	8.87	5.96	6.10	3/	6.67
Delta	6.04	5.92	5.97	9.25	6.96	5.64	3/	7.27
Northern Plains	7.46	6.59	6.79	9.22	7.14	6.99	3/	7.34
OK	6.00		5.78			6.30		
TX	5.22		5.56			5.62		
Southern Plains	5.31	5.89	5.59	10.27	6.48	5.73	3/	6.69
Mountain I	6.75	6.31	6.42	7.31	6.25	6.08	6.50	6.80
Mountain II	6.80	6.29	6.49	8.93	9.17	6.74	3/	7.43
AZ	5.55		5.73			5.80		
NM	4.95		5.26			5.87		
Mountain III	5.42	5.90	5.57	10.62	8.52	5.81	3/	7.59
OR	6.66		6.59			6.70		
WA	7.14		7.29			7.09		
Pacific	6.95	7.26	7.00	10.75	9.33	6.90	7.83	9.21
CA	6.25	7.21	6.35	11.70	10.67	6.35	7.14	10.18
HI	8.34	3/	8.34	15.17	3/	8.67	3/	13.93
US 7/	6.33	6.20	6.28	10.42	8.09	6.44	7.14	7.72

1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

2/ Region map on page 17.

3/ Insufficient data.

4/ Other States in the same region.

5/ Livestock, Supervisory, and Other published at regional and U.S. level only.

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and United States, April 9-15, 1995 1/

State and Region 2/	All Farm Workers	Self- Employed 3/	Unpaid 3/	Hired		
				Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed 150 Days or More 3/	Expected to be Employed 149 Days or Less 3/
				1,000		
NY	50			17		
Other 4/	49			25		
Northeast I	99	41	16	42	35	7
PA	75			21		
Other 4/	36			12		
Northeast II	111	56	22	33	26	7
NC	84			29		
VA	54			15		
Appalachian I	138	76	18	44	30	14
Appalachian II	177	115	32	30	16	14
Southeast	113	59	12	42	30	12
FL	72	19	3	50	43	7
MI	70			29		
MN	89			11		
WI	118			24		
Lake	277	160	53	64	46	18
Cornbelt I	242	166	30	46	36	10
Cornbelt II	206	143	30	33	26	7
Delta	133	84	16	33	25	8
Northern Plains	196	133	40	23	19	4
OK	74			9		
TX	243			45		
Southern Plains	317	219	44	54	44	10
Mountain I	68	32	17	19	16	3
Mountain II	47	25	9	13	11	2
AZ	27			13		
NM	30			6		
Mountain III	57	14	24	19	16	3
OR	58			19		
WA	61			37		
Pacific	119	50	13	56	37	19
CA	260	40	6	214	143	71
HI	11	3	1	7	6	1
US 5/	2,643	1,435	386	822	605	217

- 1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.
2/ Region map on page 17.
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Workers on Farms: Hours Worked and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
by Region, State, and United States, April 9-15, 1995 1/

State and Region 2/	Hours Worked 3/			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Self- Employed	Unpaid	Hired	
	Hours per Week			Dollars per Hour
NY			42.0	6.45
Other 4/ Northeast I	44.8	32.7	40.2	7.55 7.08
PA			41.0	6.06
Other 4/ Northeast II	38.3	34.2	41.1	7.07 6.44
NC			33.7	5.95
VA			41.0	6.27
Appalachian I	31.3	33.2	36.2	6.08
Appalachian II	27.2	25.8	36.4	5.75
Southeast	30.3	29.5	40.3	5.57
FL	27.0	29.0	38.0	7.86
MI			42.6	6.86
MN			37.5	7.65
WI			36.9	6.70
Lake	41.5	29.3	39.6	6.93
Cornbelt I	31.4	29.8	37.2	6.67
Cornbelt II	33.2	26.9	37.7	6.05
Delta	32.6	25.2	38.8	5.62
Northern Plains	43.9	37.5	41.1	6.22
OK			37.0	6.50
TX			41.3	5.71
Southern Plains	33.7	25.0	40.6	5.82
Mountain I	46.3	32.3	46.5	5.71
Mountain II	38.1	29.5	41.3	6.20
AZ			42.0	6.41
NM			45.6	6.43
Mountain III	31.1	27.6	43.1	6.42
OR			39.6	6.88
WA			38.0	7.03
Pacific	31.4	29.6	38.5	6.98
CA	31.5	34.7	44.8	6.55
HI	30.4	29.1	36.5	10.02
US 5/	35.0	29.8	40.7	6.49

1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

2/ Region map on page 17.

3/ Self employed and unpaid published at regional and U.S. level only.

4/ Other States in the same region.

5/ Excludes AK.

Hired Workers: Wage Rates by Region, State,
and United States, April 9-15, 1995 1/

State and Region 2/	Type of Worker 5/					Method of Pay 6/		
	Field	Livestock	Livestock	Super- visory	Other	Hourly	Piece Rate	Other
Dollars per Hour								
NY	6.76		5.95			6.95		
Other 4/	7.00		6.60			7.50		
Northeast I	6.90	5.71	6.30	10.13	8.67	7.29	3/	6.65
PA	6.19		5.67			6.18		
Other 4/	6.91		6.69			7.04		
Northeast II	6.53	5.30	6.06	9.53	8.13	6.56	3/	6.22
NC	5.37		5.58			5.75		
VA	5.85		5.89			6.10		
Appalachian I	5.54	6.17	5.69	9.04	7.54	5.87	3/	6.61
Appalachian II	5.68	5.48	5.61	3/	7.89	5.92	3/	5.26
Southeast	5.16	5.56	5.24	9.69	6.94	5.31	4.70	6.14
FL	7.05	6.20	6.97	12.70	11.65	7.25	7.50	10.90
MI	6.41		6.41			6.48		
MN	8.34		7.26			7.80		
WI	7.05		5.73			6.90		
Lake	6.70	5.79	6.28	10.78	8.45	6.76	3/	7.23
Cornbelt I	6.25	5.94	6.19	9.81	6.99	6.40	3/	7.46
Cornbelt II	6.16	5.63	5.77	8.70	6.50	5.69	3/	7.15
Delta	5.23	5.84	5.41	9.18	6.28	5.33	3/	6.28
Northern Plains	6.63	5.66	6.12	3/	3/	6.37	3/	6.07
OK	5.95		5.86			6.00		
TX	5.38		5.49			5.57		
Southern Plains	5.44	5.67	5.54	8.44	6.64	5.63	3/	6.00
Mountain I	5.61	5.38	5.51	3/	6.18	5.60	3/	5.77
Mountain II	5.65	5.53	5.58	8.27	3/	5.47	3/	6.91
AZ	5.75		5.86			6.00		
NM	5.55		6.21			5.60		
Mountain III	5.71	6.53	5.98	10.13	3/	5.94	3/	7.19
OR	6.30		6.35			6.23		
WA	6.43		6.56			6.62		
Pacific	6.39	7.37	6.49	10.79	9.23	6.50	3/	9.53
CA	5.94	7.25	6.03	12.76	9.62	6.00	6.21	10.81
HI	8.75	3/	8.73	15.40	3/	9.00	3/	14.16
US 7/	6.05	5.88	6.01	10.58	8.37	6.20	6.33	7.29

1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

2/ Region map on page 17.

3/ Insufficient data.

4/ Other States in the same region

5/ Livestock, Supervisory, and Other published at regional and U. S. level only.

6/ Piece Rate and Other published at regional and U. S. level only.

7/ Excludes AK.

Field and Livestock Workers Combined: Wage Rates,
by Type of Farm, by Region and 48 States 1/

Region 2/	April 9-15, 1995				April 7-13, 1996			
	:Field :Crops	:Other :Crops	:L'stk & :Poultry	: All : Farms	: Field : Crops	:Other :Crops	:L'stk & :Poultry	: All : Farms
	Dollars per Hour							
Northeast	5.85	6.82	5.74	6.18	6.60	7.34	5.74	6.51
Appalachian	5.17	5.87	5.81	5.66	5.48	5.73	6.07	5.78
Southeast	4.80	5.68	4.95	5.37	4.63	5.41	5.51	5.29
Lake	7.16	6.60	5.71	6.28	5.85	7.35	6.44	6.56
Cornbelt	6.36	6.26	5.70	6.01	6.44	6.21	7.36	6.63
Delta	5.23	5.35	5.79	5.41	5.38	5.03	5.75	5.46
Northern Plains	6.39	6.90	5.80	6.12	6.89	5.49	6.12	6.32
Southern Plains	5.47	5.60	5.57	5.54	5.47	5.09	5.56	5.45
Mountain	5.75	6.08	5.45	5.70	5.65	5.83	5.43	5.59
Pacific	6.39	5.97	7.12	6.11	6.29	6.64	7.29	6.68
48 States	5.75	6.05	5.80	5.91	5.81	6.40	6.19	6.19

All Hired Workers: Wage Rates, by Economic Class of Farm
by Region and 48 States 1/

Region 2/	April 9-15, 1995				April 7-13, 1996					
	: Gross Value Sales-\$1000's : <40	:40-99	:100-249	:250+ : Farms	: Gross Value Sales-\$1000's : <40	:40-99	:100-249	: 250+ : Farms		
	Dollars per Hour									
N. East	8.03	6.08	5.82	7.37	6.79	5.62	5.67	5.74	7.84	7.02
Appal.	5.36	5.12	5.70	6.32	5.94	5.86	5.75	6.54	6.20	6.11
S. East	4.79	4.28	4.70	5.98	5.65	4.96	5.06	5.56	5.70	5.62
Lake	5.47	5.79	5.59	7.45	6.93	4.84	6.03	6.65	7.31	7.02
Cornbelt	5.45	5.88	6.12	7.12	6.41	6.55	5.65	6.90	7.28	7.05
Delta	5.61	5.42	5.25	5.84	5.62	5.42	5.60	5.51	5.75	5.65
N. Plains:	5.35	4.74	5.88	6.80	6.22	5.22	7.07	5.24	7.10	6.51
S. Plains:	7.07	5.63	5.32	5.91	5.82	5.07	6.76	6.59	6.21	6.12
Mountain	5.78	6.58	5.88	6.10	6.08	6.38	5.50	5.76	6.28	6.12
Pacific	7.29	6.59	6.67	6.61	6.63	7.11	6.65	7.07	7.23	7.20
48 States:	6.10	5.73	5.77	6.60	6.47	5.81	5.87	6.18	6.87	6.73

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.

Field and Livestock Workers: Distribution
by Type of Farm, 48 States 1/

Type of Farm	April 9-15, 1995	January 7-13, 1996	April 7-13, 1996
	Percent of Field and Livestock Workers 2/ 3/		
Field Crops	19	19	23
Other Crops	52	46	47
Livestock, Dairy, & Poultry	29	35	30
	100.0	100.0	100.0

Hired Workers: Distribution by Economic
Class of Farm, 48 States 1/

Gross Value of Sales	April 9-15, 1995	January 7-13, 1996	April 7-13, 1996
	Percent of Hired Workers 3/		
Less than \$40,000	10	9	9
\$40,000-\$99,999	8	8	9
\$100,000-\$249,999	18	16	17
\$250,000 and over	64	67	65
	100.0	100.0	100.0

- 1/ 48 States, excluding AK and HI.
 2/ Field and Livestock Workers combined.
 3/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

Hired Workers: Distribution by Category, United States,
April 7-13 1/ 2/

	April 9-15, 1995	January 7-13, 1996	April 7-13, 1996
Percent of Hired Workers			
Employed on Farms Hiring			
1 Worker	12	14	14
2 Workers	10	11	11
3-6 Workers	17	24	21
7-10 Workers	9	9	11
At least 11 Workers	52	42	43
	100.0	100.0	100.0
Payment Method			
Hourly	69	63	70
Piece-Rate	8	7	6
Other Methods	23	30	24
	100.0	100.0	100.0

- 1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.
- 2/ Excludes AK.
- 3/ 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.

Hired Workers: Receiving Benefits, Distribution
by Category, United States, April 7-13 1/ 2/

	April 9-15, 1995		January 7-13, 1996		April 7-13, 1996	
	Number	Pct	Number	Pct	Number	Pct
	1,000		1,000		1,000	
Benefits 3/						
Housing	124	15	102	17	130	17
Meals	48	6	36	6	53	7
Bonus	81	10	78	13	99	13
Health Insurance	188	23	173	29	206	27
Transportation	55	7	48	8	61	8
Other Benefits	188	23	191	32	214	28
Wages Only	450	55	269	45	397	52

- 1/ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.
- 2/ Excludes AK.
- 3/ All benefits received by hired workers are accounted for in each category. Other benefits include life insurance, utilities, pension, or retirement benefits, etc.

Agricultural Services

Crew leaders and custom crews provided 207,000 workers for the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 7-13, 1996. Service workers in California numbered 63,000 compared with 91,000 during the April 1995 survey week. Florida's number of service workers was 10,500, compared to 10,000 last year.

The average wages received by agricultural service workers in California and Florida were \$6.58 and \$7.68 per hour, respectively. Comparable wages in April 1995 were \$6.39 in California and \$7.58 in Florida.

Agricultural Service Workers: Number, Hours Worked, and Wage Rates,
for California, Florida, and United States 1/

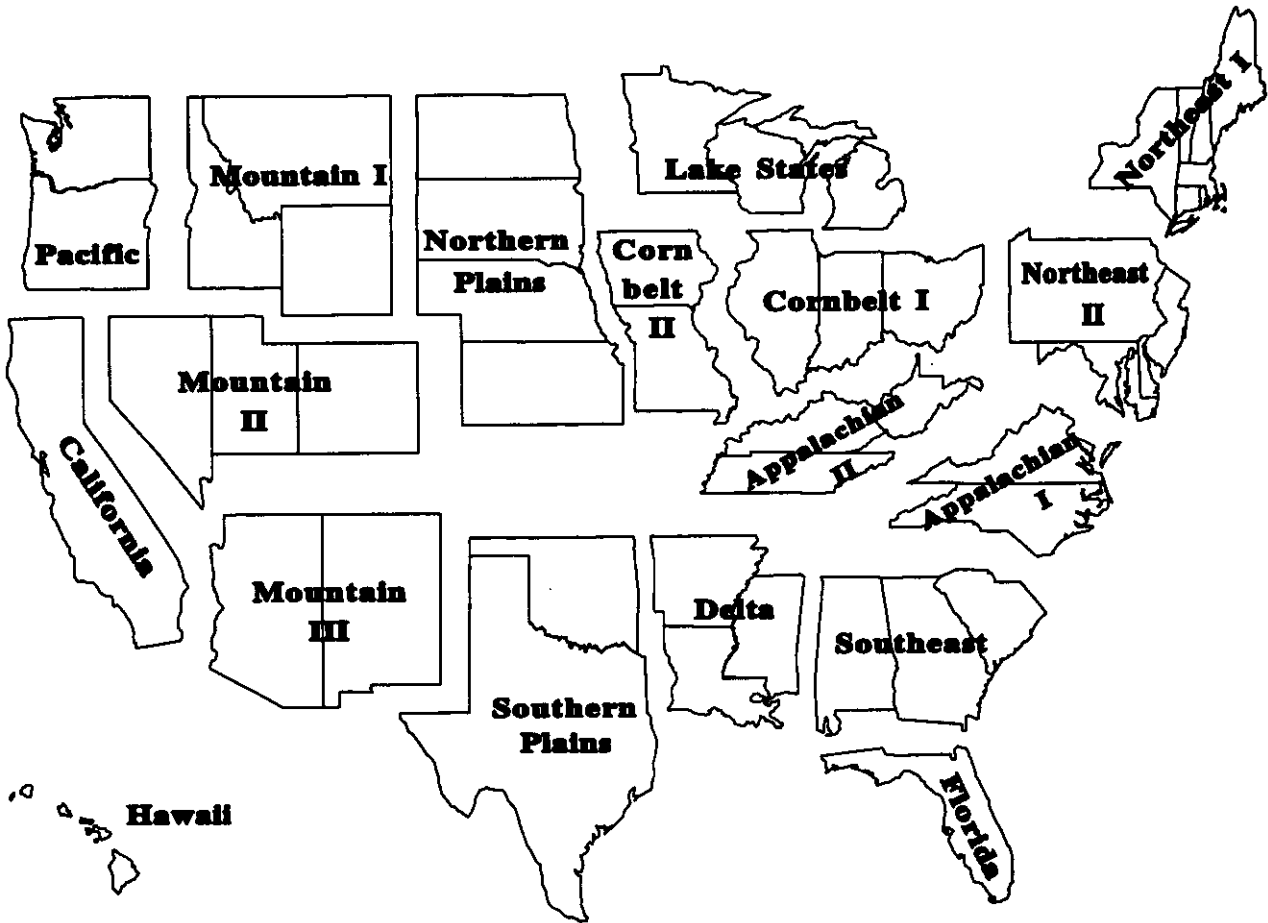
State:	Number of Workers Working on Farms			Hours Worked			Wage Rates 3/			
	Apr 1995	Jan 1996	Apr 1996	Apr 1995	Jan 1996	Apr 1996	Apr 1995	Jan 1996	Apr 1996	
	----- 1,000 -----			----- Hours 2/ -----			----- Dollars per Hour 2/ -----			
CA	91.0	51.0	63.0	31.9	39.1	38.2	6.39	6.39	6.58	
FL	10.0	15.0	10.5	35.0	33.0	31.5	7.58	8.35	7.68	
US	214.0	115.0	207.0							
	Method of Pay						Type of Work			
	Hourly		Piece-Rate		Field					
	Apr 1995	Jan 1996	Apr 1996	Apr 1995	Jan 1996	Apr 1996	Apr 1995	Jan 1996	Apr 1996	
	----- Dollars per Hours 2/ -----									
CA	5.83	6.02	5.95	7.50	6.85	8.51	6.02	6.13	6.29	
FL	6.70	7.00	7.03	7.75	8.45	7.50	7.02	7.75	7.10	

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 Regions



Region

States

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.

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.

Definitions - continued

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

Perquisites: Benefits, such as a cash bonuses, 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 the largest portion 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.

Reliability of Farm Labor Estimates

Survey Procedures: These data were collected by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) during the last two weeks of April using sampling procedures to ensure every employer of agricultural workers had a chance of being selected.

Two samples of farm operators are selected. First, NASS maintains a list of farms that hire farm workers. Farms on this list are classified by size and type. Those expected to employ large numbers of workers are selected with greater frequency than those hiring few or no workers. A second sample consists of segments of land scientifically selected from aerial photography. Each June, highly trained interviewers locate each selected land segment and identify every farm operating land within the sample segment's boundaries. The names of farms found in these area segments are matched against the list of farms; those not found on the list are included in the labor survey sample to represent all farms not on the NASS list. This methodology is known as multiple frame sampling, with an area sample used to measure the incompleteness of the list. Additionally, a list of agricultural service firms was sampled in California and Florida. The survey reference week was April 7-13, 1996.

Reliability: Two types of errors, sampling and nonsampling, are possible in an estimate based on a sample survey. Both types affect the "precision" of the estimates.

Sampling error occurs because a complete census is not taken. The sampling error measures the variation in estimates from the average of all possible samples. An estimate of 100 with a sampling error of 1 would mean that chances are 19 out of 20 that the estimates from all possible samples averaged together would be between 98 and 102; which is the survey estimate, plus or minus two times the sampling error. The sampling error expressed as a percent of the estimate is called the relative sampling error. The relative sampling error for number of all non-salaried workers at the U.S. level was 3.1 percent and 3.3 percent for all hired workers. The relative sampling error for number of hired workers generally ranged between 7 and 20 percent at the regional and published State level. The U.S. all hired farm worker wage rate had a relative sampling error of 1.2 percent. The relative sampling error was 1.4 percent for hourly paid workers and 1.3 percent for the combined field and livestock worker wage rate. Relative sampling errors for the all hired farm worker wage rate generally ranged between 2 and 7 percent at the regional and published State levels. Relative sampling errors for wage rates published by type of farm and economic class of farm ranged between 2 and 8 percent at the regional level. The relative sampling errors for hired workers benefits ranged between 5 and 9 percent.

Nonsampling errors can occur in complete censuses as well as in sample surveys. They are caused by the inability to obtain correct information from each operation sampled, differences in interpreting questions or definitions, and mistakes in coding or processing the data. Special efforts are taken at each step of the survey to minimize nonsampling errors.

Revision Policy: Farm labor information is subject to revision the next time the information is published or the year after the original publication date. The basis for revision must be supported by additional data that directly affect the level of the estimate. Worker numbers and wage rates for April 1995 and January 1996 were subject to revision with this report. No revisions were made but previous data are reprinted in this report for your information.

Beginning in January 1995, the criteria for publishing livestock, supervisor, and other wage rates was changed to a wage rate weight greater than 2 percent and a relative sampling error below 10 percent. Also, worker and wage rate indexes were discontinued after the October 1994 publication. A 1990-92=100 all hired wage rate index is published in the quarterly Agriculture Prices release beginning in 1995.

The next "Farm Labor" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on August 13, 1996.

The August 13th report will have information for the survey week of July 7-13, 1996. The report will include the number of all hired workers, average hours worked by hired workers, and the all hired worker wage rates for California, Florida, and Hawaii along with regional and U.S. level information. Wage rates for field and livestock workers will be available for the three States described above and at the regional and U.S. level. Wage rates by type of farm and economic class of farm will be available at the regional and U.S. level. The number of agricultural service workers and corresponding wage rates, including a field worker wage rate, will be published for California and Florida.

A Farm Labor Survey program reduction will impact the published data series effective August 13. Self employed and unpaid worker data for the U.S., regions, and selected States will be published annually rather than quarterly. The number of hired workers, hours worked, and hired worker wage rates for major States (except California, Florida, and Hawaii) will be published annually instead of quarterly. Wage rates for supervisory, other type of worker, hourly, piece rate, and other method of pay categories will be discontinued. Farm worker benefits data will be collected and published on a periodic basis. The annual labor estimates and a new data series on U.S. migrant workers will be published in the November 13, 1996 Farm Labor Release.

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