



Farm Labor

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Hired Workers and Wage Rates Both Up 3 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 1.29 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of October 10-16, 1999, up 3 percent from a year ago. There were 989,000 workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 296,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 12 percent of the October hired workforce compared to 11 percent last year.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$7.83 per hour during the October 1999 survey week, up 23 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$7.31 per hour, up 16 cents from last October. Livestock workers earned \$7.43 per hour compared with \$7.28 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate was up 16 cents from last year.

Number of hours worked averaged 42.5 hours for hired workers during the survey week compared with 42.7 hours a year ago.

The largest increases in number of hired farm workers over last year occurred in Florida, Northern Plains (North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas), Corn Belt I (Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio), and Lake (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) regions. In Florida, harvesting of field crops and planting of vegetables were active before Hurricane Irene arrived at the end of the survey week. Favorable weather conditions during the survey week in the Northern Plains, Corn Belt I, and Lake regions allowed farmers and ranchers to harvest crops, plant winter wheat, till soils, move cattle from summer pastures, and haul hay in preparation for winter.

The largest declines in number of hired farm workers from a year ago were in California, Southeast (Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina), and Mountain III (Arizona and New Mexico) regions. Rainfall over most of the Southeast region during the survey week slowed harvest of crops. In California, worker numbers returned to more normal levels as compared to last year. Additional workers were needed last October to harvest late developing crops caused by the El Nino weather pattern. Cotton harvest in Mountain III continued behind last year's pace due to a late start in the spring.

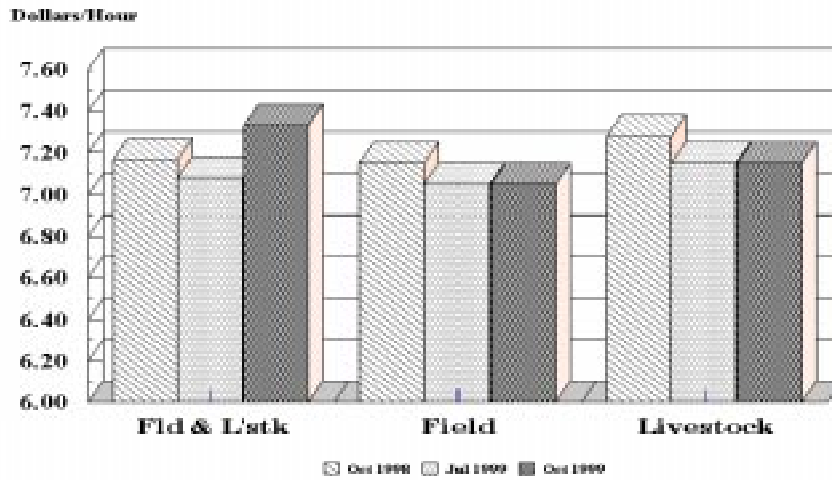
The 1999 annual averages for the Nation's self employed, unpaid, and hired workers were 1.56 million, 490,000, and 929,000, respectively. The self employed, unpaid, and hired worker annual averages were up from last year at 5, 6, and 6 percent, respectively.

The 1999 U.S. hired worker annual average wage rate was \$7.77, up 4 percent from the 1998 annual average wage rate of \$7.47. The Field and Livestock worker combined annual average wage rate was \$7.22, up 3 percent from last year's annual average wage rate of \$6.98.

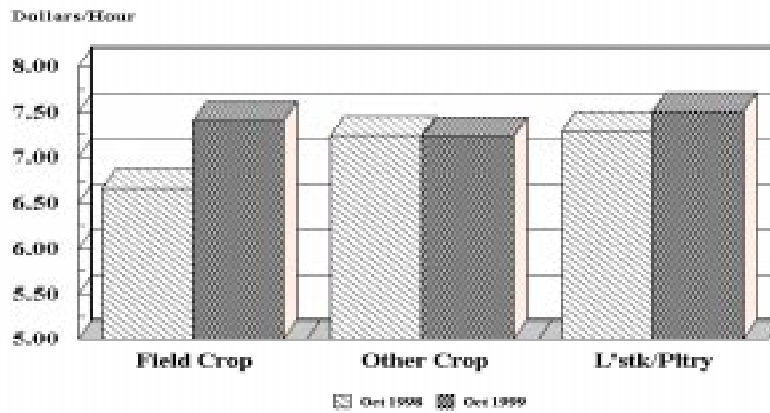
Revisions:

The July 1999 hired workers estimates were revised for the U.S. and California. These revisions were based on additional information received in California as part of the ongoing Federal-State cooperative program.

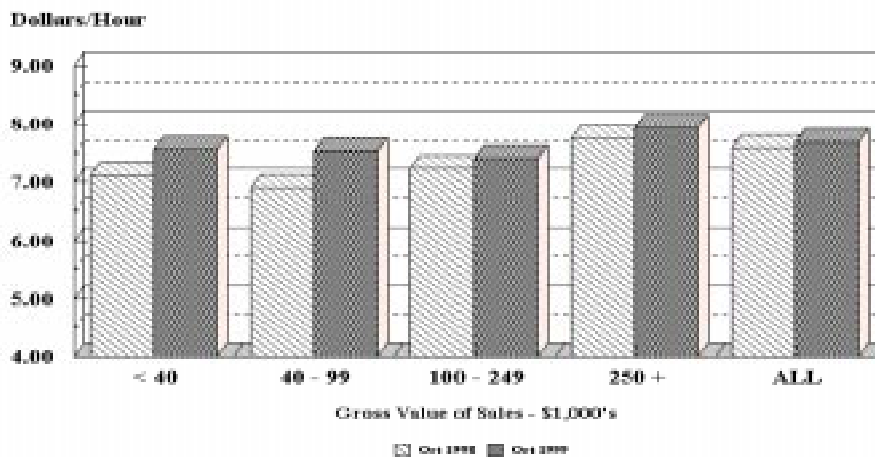
U.S. Wage Rates by Type of Worker



Wage Rate of Field & Livestock Workers By Type of Farm



Wage Rates of All Hired Workers by Economic Class of Farm



**Farm Labor: Employment and Wage Rates, United States,
October 10-16, 1999, with Comparisons ¹**

Farm Employment	October 11-17, 1998	July 11-17, 1999	October 10-16, 1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Hired Workers	983	*1,155	989
150 Days or More	696	*760	665
149 Days or Less	287	395	324
Agricultural Services Workers Working on Farms	263	319	296
Hired Farm & Service Workers	1,246	*1,474	1,285
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Migrant Workers Percent of Hired Farm & Service Workers	11.0	*12.4	12.0
	<i>Hours per Week</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>
Hours Worked Hired	42.7	*40.5	42.5
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
Wage Rates for All Hired Workers ^{2 3}	7.60	7.58	7.83
Type of Worker			
Field & Livestock Combined	7.17	*7.08	7.33
Field	7.15	7.05	7.31
Livestock	7.28	*7.22	7.43

* Revised.

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.

**Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Region
and United States, October 10-16, 1999¹**

U.S. and Region ²	Hired			
	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		Number of Hours Worked
		150 Days or More	149 Days or Less	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>
Northeast I	44	31	13	39.7
Northeast II	37	29	8	39.5
Appalachian I	43	30	13	37.8
Appalachian II	31	14	17	32.7
Southeast	31	21	10	35.6
FL	58	47	11	38.8
Lake	72	49	23	38.9
Cornbelt I	65	41	24	35.8
Cornbelt II	26	18	8	43.1
Delta	41	27	14	44.7
Northern Plains	56	41	15	54.2
Southern Plains	52	39	13	39.2
Mountain I	30	19	11	47.1
Mountain II	25	20	5	46.5
Mountain III	22	19	3	44.9
Pacific	87	42	45	41.5
CA	261	171	90	46.7
HI	8	7	1	36.9
US ³	989	665	324	42.5

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Region map on page 13.

³ Excludes AK.

**Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers
by Region and United States, October 10-16, 1999 ¹**

U.S. and Region ²	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & Lvstk Combined	
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
Northeast I	8.21	7.58	7.99	8.43
Northeast II	7.22	6.60	7.00	7.55
Appalachian I	6.88	7.45	7.03	7.48
Appalachian II	6.01	7.14	6.43	6.94
Southeast	6.63	7.10	6.78	6.95
FL	7.05	7.00	7.04	8.05
Lake	8.42	7.71	8.18	8.64
Cornbelt I	7.65	7.17	7.57	8.27
Cornbelt II	7.85	7.86	7.85	8.17
Delta	6.14	7.02	6.28	6.59
Northern Plains	7.59	7.54	7.58	7.83
Southern Plains	6.48	7.29	6.74	7.24
Mountain I	7.06	7.40	7.17	7.36
Mountain II	6.79	7.00	6.90	7.23
Mountain III	6.51	7.40	6.69	7.12
Pacific	8.02	7.89	8.00	8.35
CA	7.25	8.03	7.30	7.86
HI ⁴	9.21		9.24	10.91
US ³	7.31	7.43	7.33	7.83

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Region map on page 13.

³ Excludes AK.

⁴ Insufficient data for livestock.

**Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Region
and United States, July 11-17, 1999 ¹**

U.S. and Region ²	Hired			
	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		Number of Hours Worked
		150 Days or More	149 Days or Less	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>
Northeast I	48	31	17	36.9
Northeast II	49	31	18	40.8
Appalachian I	61	39	22	32.3
Appalachian II	40	21	19	33.9
Southeast	40	24	16	*37.4
FL	45	40	5	*39.7
Lake	88	46	42	36.7
Cornbelt I	68	34	34	34.4
Cornbelt II	30	21	9	34.4
Delta	45	33	12	36.5
Northern Plains	54	40	14	44.2
Southern Plains	60	39	21	40.3
Mountain I	31	21	10	44.6
Mountain II	31	23	8	42.5
Mountain III	19	15	4	47.2
Pacific	116	54	62	37.5
CA	*322	*241	81	*46.9
HI	8	7	1	37.4
US ³	*1,155	*760	395	*40.5

* Revised.

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Region map on page 13.

³ Excludes AK.

**Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Worker and All Hired Workers
By Region and United States, July 11-17, 1999 ¹**

U.S. and Region ²	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & Lvstk Combined	
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
Northeast I	7.87	6.69	7.47	7.86
Northeast II	7.17	6.45	6.98	7.34
Appalachian I	6.53	7.62	6.75	7.08
Appalachian II	6.25	6.57	6.37	6.89
Southeast	6.44	*6.58	6.47	*6.80
FL	7.25	7.30	7.26	*8.32
Lake	7.35	7.15	7.29	7.73
Cornbelt I	7.54	7.39	7.52	8.03
Cornbelt II	7.22	8.07	7.58	7.90
Delta	6.55	6.89	6.62	6.99
Northern Plains	7.32	7.63	7.37	7.73
Southern Plains	6.23	6.40	6.26	6.60
Mountain I	6.17	6.97	6.43	6.61
Mountain II	6.47	7.09	6.73	7.26
Mountain III	6.52	6.68	6.56	7.17
Pacific	7.22	8.02	7.29	7.81
CA	7.15	*8.05	*7.22	7.77
HI ⁴	9.51		9.53	10.88
US ³	7.05	*7.22	*7.08	7.58

* Revised.

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Region map on page 13.

³ Excludes AK.

⁴ Insufficient data for livestock.

**Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Region
and United States, October 11-17, 1998¹**

U.S. and Region ²	Hired			
	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		Number of Hours Worked
		150 Days or More ³	149 Days or Less ³	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>
Northeast I	43	31	12	39.6
Northeast II	32	24	8	38.4
Appalachian I	44	27	17	37.5
Appalachian II	27	12	15	31.5
Southeast	38	30	8	38.6
FL	47	42	5	43.0
Lake	59	38	21	39.6
Cornbelt I	53	34	19	39.6
Cornbelt II	28	20	8	38.6
Delta	40	29	11	49.2
Northern Plains	33	21	12	39.7
Southern Plains	53	37	16	39.0
Mountain I	33	21	12	48.3
Mountain II	23	19	4	47.0
Mountain III	25	21	4	46.8
Pacific	85	41	44	37.2
CA	312	242	70	47.7
HI	8	7	1	36.6
US ³	983	696	287	42.7

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Region map on page 13.

³ Excludes AK.

**Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Worker and All Hired Workers
By Region and United States, October 11-17, 1998 ¹**

U.S. and Region ²	Type of Worker			Wage Rates for All Hired Workers
	Field	Livestock	Field & Lvstk Combined	
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
Northeast I	7.52	6.90	7.32	7.82
Northeast II	7.11	6.74	6.98	7.59
Appalachian I	6.60	7.38	6.73	7.08
Appalachian II	6.23	6.92	6.40	6.73
Southeast	6.46	6.45	6.46	6.63
FL	7.10	7.30	7.13	7.82
Lake	8.23	7.40	7.99	8.45
Cornbelt I	7.43	7.76	7.49	7.90
Cornbelt II	7.23	8.20	7.56	8.03
Delta	5.85	7.07	6.05	6.48
Northern Plains	7.65	6.03	7.24	7.57
Southern Plains	6.14	6.58	6.28	6.77
Mountain I	6.89	6.72	6.85	7.03
Mountain II	6.37	7.33	6.82	7.32
Mountain III	6.55	6.33	6.52	7.00
Pacific	7.76	8.76	7.86	8.25
CA	7.29	7.99	7.34	7.75
HI ⁴	9.20		9.17	10.65
US ³	7.15	7.28	7.17	7.60

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Region map on page 13.

³ Excludes AK.

⁴ Insufficient data for livestock.

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

Region ²	October 11-17, 1998				October 10-16, 1999			
	Field Crops	Other Crops	L'stk & Poultry	All Farms	Field Crops	Other Crops	L'stk & Poultry	All Farms
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
Northeast	7.49	7.15	6.75	7.05	8.21	7.78	7.05	7.52
Appalachian	6.42	7.08	7.18	6.83	6.36	6.72	7.18	6.79
Southeast	6.32	6.80	7.18	6.88	7.38	6.86	7.19	6.95
Lake	7.21	8.53	7.68	7.99	3/	8.22	7.84	8.18
Cornbelt	7.00	7.53	8.26	7.61	7.87	7.77	7.16	7.67
Delta	5.55	6.52	6.92	6.05	6.28	5.96	6.95	6.28
Northern Plains	7.45	7.58	6.84	7.24	7.72	8.01	7.36	7.58
Southern Plains	6.30	5.99	6.50	6.28	6.29	6.84	7.02	6.74
Mountain	6.47	6.63	6.94	6.71	6.88	6.52	7.32	6.92
Pacific	7.94	7.75	8.41	7.93	7.90	7.33	8.51	7.46
48 States	6.66	7.24	7.30	7.17	7.40	7.23	7.51	7.33

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

Region ²	October 11-17, 1998					October 10-16, 1999				
	Gross Value Sales-\$1000's				All Farms	Gross Value Sales-\$1000's				All Farms
	<40	40-99	100-249	250+		<40	40-99	100-249	250+	
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	
N. East	6.53	6.85	6.20	8.68	7.72	3/	7.21	7.51	8.26	8.03
Appal.	6.17	6.22	7.02	7.46	6.96	3/	6.24	6.24	7.51	7.27
S. East	6.64	7.40	7.73	7.29	7.32	6.99	7.45	7.40	7.78	7.69
Lake	3/	3/	8.69	8.38	8.45	7.06	3/	6.89	8.71	8.64
Cornbelt	8.14	6.16	8.13	8.11	7.94	7.91	7.18	7.61	8.67	8.24
Delta	6.98	6.05	5.46	6.84	6.48	7.00	6.94	6.49	6.59	6.59
N. Plains	3/	6.95	7.11	7.82	7.57	6.52	6.57	7.70	8.08	7.83
S. Plains	7.06	6.56	6.59	6.80	6.77	6.42	7.57	7.23	7.58	7.24
Mountain	6.45	6.72	7.23	7.11	7.10	6.61	7.58	6.17	7.38	7.25
Pacific	7.50	7.75	7.59	7.88	7.84	8.71	7.72	7.94	7.98	7.97
48 States	7.12	6.90	7.24	7.75	7.60	7.56	7.54	7.42	7.94	7.70

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 2 3}**

Type of Farm	October 11-17, 1998	July 11-17, 1999	October 10-16, 1999
	<i>Percent of Field and Livestock Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Field and Livestock Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Field and Livestock Workers</i>
Field Crops	14	17	15
Other Crops	62	55	57
Livestock, Dairy, & Poultry	24	28	28
	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Hired Workers: Distribution by Economic
Class of Farm, 48 States^{1 3}**

Gross Value of Sales	October 11-17, 1998	July 11-17, 1999	October 10-16, 1999
	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>
Less than \$40,000	10	13	11
\$40,000-\$99,999	8	8	7
\$100,000-\$249,999	15	17	13
\$250,000 and over	67	62	69
	100.0	100.0	100.0

Hired Workers: Distribution by Category, United States,^{1 3}

	October 11-17, 1998	July 11-17, 1999	October 10-16, 1999
	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>
Employed on Farms Hiring			
1 Worker	9	9	10
2 Workers	9	11	9
3-6 Workers	20	18	18
7-10 Workers	9	9	8
At least 11 Workers	53	53	55
	100.0	100.0	100.0

¹ 48 States, excluding AK and HI.

² Field and Livestock Workers combined.

³ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

Agricultural Services

Crew leaders and custom crews provided 296,000 workers for the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 1999. Service workers in California numbered 112,000 this October compared with 95,000 last year. Florida's number of service workers was 5,000, compared to 6,000 last year.

The average wage received by agricultural service workers in California and Florida were \$7.96 and \$8.65 per hour, respectively. Comparable wages in October 1998 were \$7.00 in California and \$8.05 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 ²			Wage Rates ^{2 3}		
	Oct 1998	Jul 1999	Oct 1999	Oct 1998	Jul 1999	Oct 1999	Oct 1998	Jul 1999	Oct 1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Hours</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
CA	95.0	120.0	112.0	39.5	*37.1	36.0	7.00	*7.68	7.96
FL	6.0	3.0	5.0	30.0	45.0	32.0	8.05	8.85	8.65
US	263.0	319.0	296.0						

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.

Migrant Workers: Percent of all Hired Workers, United States, By Quarter (Includes Agricultural Service Workers), 1996-99 ¹

Year	Jan	Apr	Jul	Oct
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
1996	5.7	7.5	13.1	11.1
1997	9.5	6.3	10.8	11.2
1998	7.3	6.6	13.7	11.0
1999	6.0	8.7	*12.4	12.0

* Revised.

¹ Definition "Migrant Worker" is a farm worker whose employment required travel that prevented the farm worker from returning to his/her permanent place of residence the same day.

**Workers: Annual Average Number and Hours Worked
By Region, State, and United States, 1998-99^{1 4}**

State and Region ²	Number						Hours Worked	
	Self Employed		Unpaid		Hired		Hired Workers	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>
NY	31.0	26.5	13.0	7.0	20.5	21.5	39.7	38.7
Northeast I	56.8	52.8	20.5	15.0	40.0	40.5	38.9	38.0
PA	46.5	41.3	30.5	23.3	17.7	20.7	39.7	38.4
Northeast II	64.7	59.4	35.1	28.6	32.0	37.0	39.5	40.5
NC	39.8	43.3	9.1	10.2	27.5	27.1	35.6	36.0
VA	30.0	39.0	8.2	7.8	11.4	13.0	37.4	33.4
Appalachian I	69.8	82.3	17.3	18.0	38.9	40.0	36.1	35.2
Appalachian II	140.8	139.3	32.2	34.0	29.0	30.5	*30.1	32.0
Southeast	73.8	74.5	14.6	15.8	37.3	33.0	38.7	37.4
FL	25.5	29.5	5.8	5.8	50.0	53.0	40.6	39.7
MI	36.8	34.3	8.0	11.0	23.8	25.1	38.6	38.8
MN	67.8	65.5	22.8	23.3	16.6	21.7	36.4	38.4
WI	54.0	57.0	31.5	23.5	17.4	17.5	32.2	33.9
Lake	158.5	156.8	62.3	57.8	57.8	64.3	36.0	37.3
Cornbelt I	152.8	157.3	48.6	47.3	45.5	51.0	36.1	34.8
Cornbelt II	138.8	144.3	37.0	48.0	28.5	24.0	34.2	36.7
Delta	70.0	79.8	17.3	22.5	34.5	35.5	42.3	39.2
Northern Plains	127.0	140.8	52.3	58.4	38.0	40.5	41.3	45.6
OK	61.0	61.8	18.8	18.0	13.3	11.4	40.3	37.0
TX	172.8	197.8	27.8	41.0	43.3	41.4	40.6	39.0
Southern Plains	233.8	259.5	46.5	59.0	56.5	52.8	40.6	38.6
Mountain I	36.4	43.0	14.3	18.5	25.8	24.3	44.2	45.6
Mountain II	31.0	32.5	9.8	9.9	21.6	22.3	41.7	43.4
AZ	5.2	3.0	10.8	11.0	15.8	13.5	45.6	45.7
NM	9.0	9.8	12.5	13.5	5.0	5.8	43.5	43.0
Mountain III	14.2	12.8	23.3	24.5	20.8	19.3	45.1	44.9
OR	30.0	33.3	5.5	9.0	24.8	30.4	40.3	40.7
WA	23.0	20.8	6.0	4.5	45.2	46.1	39.5	37.7
Pacific	53.0	54.0	11.5	13.5	70.0	76.5	39.8	38.9
CA	36.5	37.0	11.5	12.5	246.0	277.3	44.1	44.1
HI	3.0	3.2	1.0	1.1	7.5	7.5	36.0	37.1
US ³	1,486.1	1,558.4	460.5	490.0	879.5	929.0	40.3	40.3

* Revised.

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Region map on page 16.

³ Excludes AK.

⁴ Annual averages for workers and hours worked for hired workers for selected States, Regions, and the U.S. is based on data collected from the January, April, July, and October quarterly surveys.

**Hired Workers: Annual Average Wage Rates
By Region and United States, 1998-99^{1 4}**

	All Hired		Field		Field & Livestock	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
Northeast I	7.63	8.12	7.65	8.08	7.18	7.68
Northeast II	7.40	7.60	7.07	7.40	6.84	7.04
Appalachian I	6.90	7.39	6.41	6.84	6.54	6.98
Appalachian II	6.56	6.86	6.29	6.07	6.28	6.39
Southeast	6.58	7.00	6.35	6.60	6.30	6.72
FL	7.91	8.21	7.11	7.26	7.13	7.25
Lake	7.87	8.19	7.53	7.89	7.34	7.65
Cornbelt I	8.02	8.23	7.43	7.65	7.53	7.62
Cornbelt II	7.61	8.07	7.14	7.50	7.17	7.76
Delta	6.61	6.85	6.05	6.40	6.21	6.50
Northern Plains	7.57	7.80	7.30	7.52	7.12	7.49
Southern Plains	6.68	6.97	6.21	6.38	6.25	6.49
Mountain I	6.71	7.02	6.49	6.64	6.48	6.79
Mountain II	7.26	7.60	6.42	6.83	6.73	7.04
Mountain III	6.97	7.28	6.39	6.61	6.42	6.74
Pacific	7.87	8.14	7.18	7.54	7.34	7.64
CA	7.71	7.88	7.13	7.18	7.23	7.27
HI	10.41	10.87	8.99	9.38	8.97	9.38
US ³	7.47	7.77	6.97	7.19	6.98	7.22

¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

² Region map on page 16.

³ Excludes AK.

⁴ 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 from the January, April, July, and October quarterly surveys.

**Hired Workers: Annual Average Wage Rates
By State, 1998-99^{1 2}**

	All Hired		Field		Field & Livestock	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
AL	6.20	7.19	5.84	6.82	5.86	6.89
AZ	7.08	7.29	6.46	6.64	6.51	6.71
AR	6.51	6.88	5.89	6.47	6.01	6.59
CA	7.71	7.88	7.13	7.18	7.23	7.27
CO	7.39	7.65	6.50	6.94	6.78	7.01
DE	8.24	8.03	7.50	7.10	7.48	7.09
FL	7.91	8.21	7.11	7.26	7.13	7.25
GA	6.93	7.14	6.64	6.63	6.61	6.84
HI	10.41	10.87	8.99	9.38	8.97	9.38
ID	6.98	7.19	6.62	6.79	6.80	7.01
IL	8.03	8.25	7.62	7.95	7.57	7.73
IN	8.37	8.67	7.21	7.56	7.69	7.73
IA	8.32	8.67	7.69	8.37	7.81	8.34
KS	8.07	8.08	7.54	7.51	7.52	7.64
KY	6.58	7.12	6.11	5.97	6.26	6.49
LA	6.46	6.48	6.33	6.35	6.38	6.35
MD	7.56	7.63	7.15	7.53	6.82	7.05
MI	7.87	8.21	7.39	7.44	7.39	7.37
MN	8.68	8.53	8.10	8.67	8.01	8.26
MS	6.86	7.16	5.97	6.37	6.35	6.56
MO	6.71	7.33	6.42	6.86	6.39	7.07
MT	6.42	6.95	6.43	6.52	6.20	6.56
NE	7.45	7.73	7.24	7.57	7.00	7.54
NV	6.90	7.08	6.29	6.53	6.47	6.57
NJ	7.94	8.15	7.05	7.46	7.15	7.50
NM	6.60	7.29	6.05	6.49	6.11	6.81
NY	7.10	7.80	7.25	7.87	6.93	7.49
NC	6.89	7.18	6.43	6.70	6.53	6.79
ND	7.85	7.80	7.70	7.81	7.67	7.77
OH	7.56	7.82	7.37	7.53	7.33	7.51
OK	7.47	7.10	6.86	6.51	6.77	6.55
OR	8.08	8.32	7.29	7.73	7.29	7.74
PA	7.07	7.21	7.01	7.24	6.68	6.68
SC	6.29	6.60	6.18	6.36	6.14	6.37
SD	6.57	7.33	6.31	7.14	6.06	6.87
TN	6.52	6.46	6.51	6.01	6.30	6.17
TX	6.44	6.93	6.01	6.35	6.10	6.48
UT	7.07	7.66	6.22	6.59	6.73	7.12
VA	6.94	7.88	6.37	7.42	6.55	7.51
WA	7.76	8.01	7.13	7.43	7.37	7.57
WV	6.60	7.14	6.25	6.81	6.28	6.75
WI	7.02	7.58	7.35	7.33	6.76	7.26
WY	6.25	6.43	5.91	5.85	5.75	6.13
Oth Sts ³	8.22	8.68	8.08	8.36	7.46	8.06
US ⁴	7.47	7.77	6.97	7.19	6.98	7.22

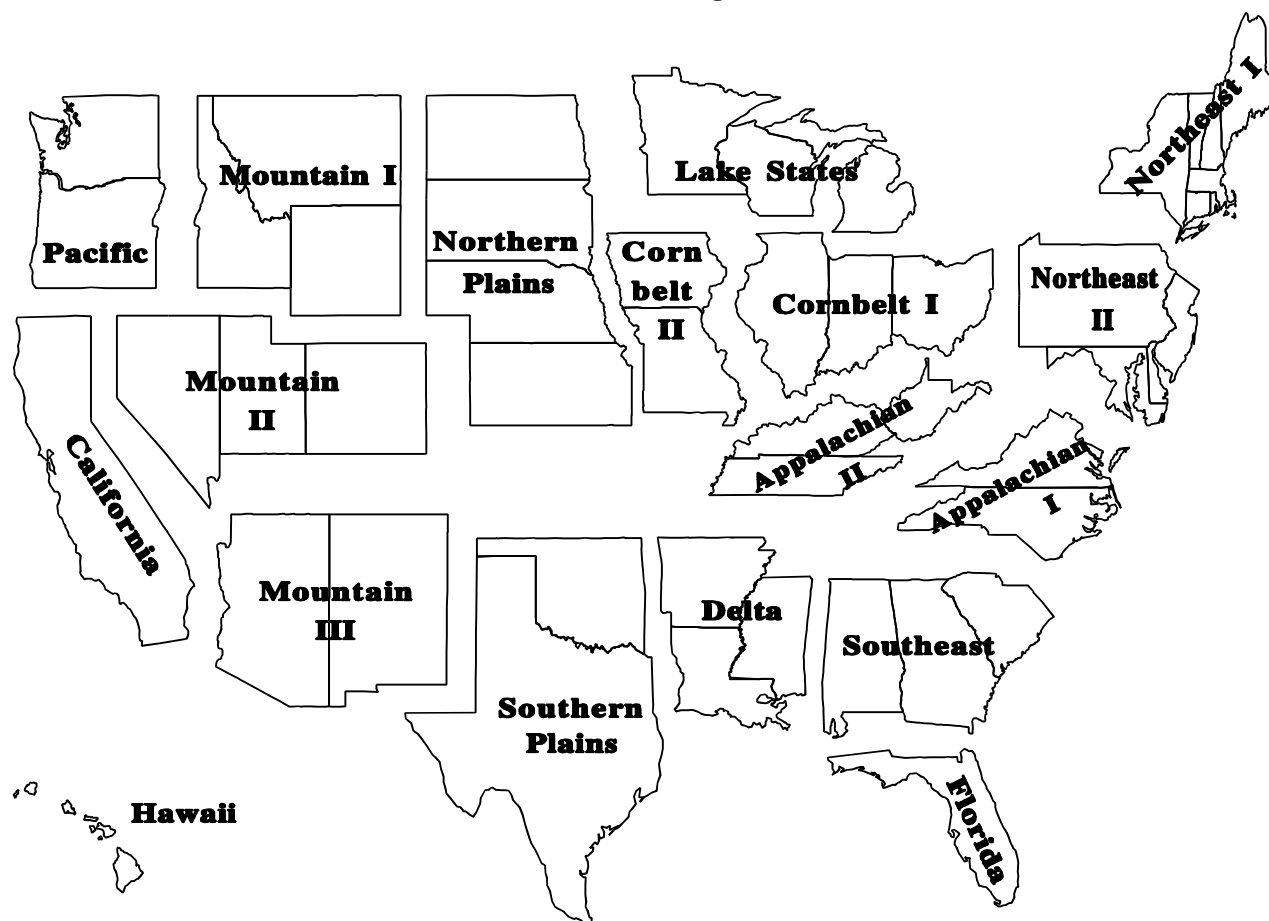
¹ Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

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 from the January, April, July, and October quarterly surveys..

³ Includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

⁴ Excludes AK.

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.

Reliability of Farm Labor Estimates

Survey Procedures: These data were collected by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) during the last two weeks of October 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 an area sampling frame. 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 NASS list of farms; those not found on the list are included in the labor survey sample to represent all farms. 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 October 10-16, 1999.

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 hired workers at the U.S. level was 5.5 percent. The relative sampling error for the number of hired workers generally ranged between 10 and 28 percent at the regional level. The U.S. all hired farm worker wage rate had a relative sampling error of 1.5 percent. The relative sampling error was 1.6 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 levels. Relative sampling errors for wage rates published by type of farm and economic class of farm ranged between 2 and 17 percent at the regional level.

Nonsampling errors can occur in a complete census 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 editing, 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 July 1999 and October 1998 were subject to revision with this report. Revisions were made and previous data are reprinted in this report for your information.

Annual Average Wage Rates: Included with this report are the annual average wage rates for 1998 and 1999. Annual rates are the averages of the wage rates for each survey week weighted by the total number of hours worked during the week. The survey weeks include the 12th of the month for January, April, July, and October. Combining data for the four survey weeks provides a large enough sample to permit publication of some wages at the State level. Annual average wage rates for both 1998 and 1999 are published at the State, regional and U.S. level for the all hired wage rate, the field worker wage rate, and the combined field and livestock worker wage rate. For 1999, the relative sampling error, at the U.S. level, was 1.1 percent for the all hired worker wage rate. The relative sampling error was 1.1 percent for the combined field and livestock worker wage rate. The relative sampling error for all hired farm worker and combined field and livestock worker wage rates generally ranged between 2 and 6 percent at the regional level and 2 to 11 percent at the State level.

The February 18th report will have information for the survey week of January 9-15, 2000. The report will include the number of All Hired Workers, Average Hours Worked by Hired Workers and the All Hired Worker Wage Rates at regional and U.S. levels. The wage rate for field, livestock, and combined field and livestock workers will also be available for the regional and U.S. levels. The number of Agricultural Service Workers and corresponding wage rates will be published for Florida and California.

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The next "Farm Labor" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on February 18, 2000.

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