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## Hired Workers Down 5 Percent, Wage Rates up 4 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 1.19 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches the week of October 6-12, 2002, down 5 percent from a year ago. There were 935 thousand workers hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 250 thousand workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$8.93 per hour during the October 2002 survey week, up 34 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.30 per hour, up 29 cents from last October. Livestock workers earned \$8.44 per hour compared with \$8.39 a year earlier. The Field and Livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.33 was up 24 cents from last year.

The number of hours worked averaged 40.4 hours for hired workers during the survey week compared with 41.7 hours a year ago.

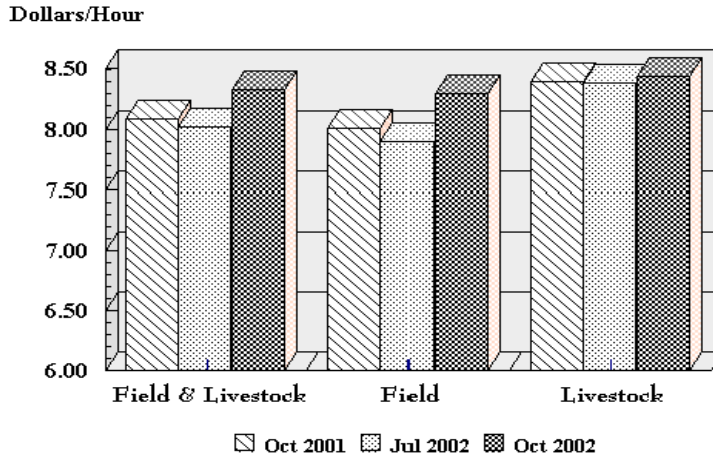
The largest decreases in number of hired farm workers from a year ago were in the Corn Belt II (Iowa and Missouri), Corn Belt I (Illinois, Indiana and Ohio), Pacific (Oregon and Washington), Lake (Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin) and Southern Plains (Texas and Oklahoma) regions. Over much of the Corn Belt, summer drought conditions and untimely rains impacted crop development and fall harvest. Corn Belt producers were just getting fall harvest underway during the survey week and hired fewer workers for longer hours. Cold temperatures in the Pacific region slowed the apple and grape harvests, curtailing the need for field laborers. Rain and wet soils in the eastern Lake region and most of the Southern Plains delayed harvest of most field crops, necessitating fewer workers.

The largest increases in number of hired farm workers over last year occurred in the Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee and West Virginia) region, Florida and the Mountain I (Idaho, Montana and Wyoming) region. In the Appalachian II region, more workers were employed by nurseries and greenhouses as they geared up for the holidays, and fruit harvest was in full swing in the eastern part of the region. In Florida, citrus fruit harvest was accelerating, causing the need for more workers. In the Mountain I region, harvested acres were up for most field crops, which led to an increased need for workers to complete harvest, and conditions were ideal for most of the reference week.

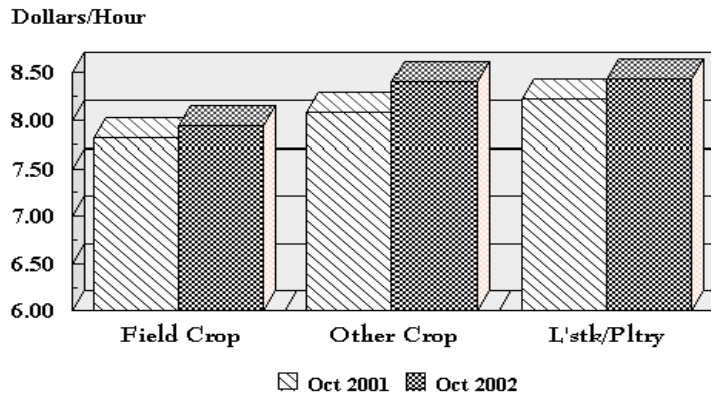
Hired farm worker wage rates were above a year ago in 12 of the 18 regions. The largest increases occurred in the Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania), California, Mountain II (Colorado, Nevada and Utah), Northern Plains (Kansas, Nebraska, North and South Dakota) and Delta (Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi) regions. The higher wage rates in the Northeast II region were attributed to more salaried workers working fewer hours and a higher percentage of nursery workers. California's wage rate increased due to the normal seasonal shift to more full-time, higher paid employees. In the Mountain II region, winter wheat planting and fall crop harvest were nearly complete, decreasing the need for seasonal, lower paid workers. In the Northern Plains, farming operations continue to hire and maintain experienced, full-time workers. Wet conditions in the Delta led to fewer hours worked, thus increasing the average hourly wage for salaried workers. There was also a higher percentage of catfish workers in Mississippi.

Regions showing the largest declines in the hired farm worker wage rates were the Corn Belt I, Southern Plains and Pacific regions. Declining hired wage rates in the Corn Belt I region were attributed to salaried employees that worked more hours during grain harvest, which lowered the average hourly rate. Calving and lambing seasons in the Southern Plains region led to more hours worked for salaried employees, lowering the hourly wage. Fruit harvest in the Pacific region was hampered by sub-freezing temperatures. Fewer higher paid fruit pickers lowered the overall average wage rate for the region.

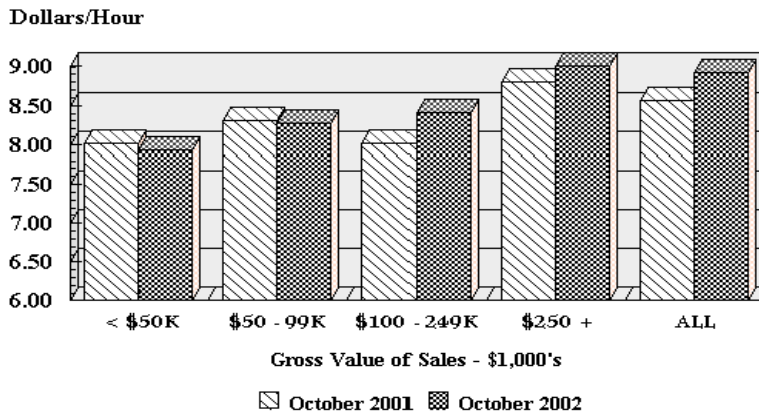
## U.S. Wage Rates by Type of Worker



## 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 6-12, 2002, with Comparisons <sup>1</sup>**

Farm Employment	October 7-13, 2001	July 7-13, 2002	October 6-12, 2002
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
Hired Workers	991	*1,006	935
150 Days or More	708	*723	681
149 Days or Less	283	283	254
Agricultural Services Workers Working on Farms	262	256	250
Hired Farm & Service Workers	1,253	*1,262	1,185
	<i>Hours per Week</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>
Hours Worked Hired	41.7	*40.0	40.4
	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
Wage Rate for All Hired Workers <sup>2 3</sup>	8.59	*8.57	8.93
Field & Livestock Combined	8.09	8.02	8.33
Field	8.01	*7.90	8.30
Livestock	8.39	*8.38	8.44

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes AK.

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

<sup>3</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

**Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Region  
and United States, October 6-12, 2002 <sup>1</sup>**

U.S. and Region <sup>2</sup>	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	50	36	14	41.2
Northeast II	41	34	7	36.4
Appalachian I	42	25	17	33.1
Appalachian II	36	17	19	30.3
Southeast	33	21	12	36.4
FL	57	51	6	38.9
Lake	64	41	23	34.7
Cornbelt I	42	25	17	38.7
Cornbelt II	25	13	12	34.7
Delta	38	29	9	38.9
Northern Plains	34	25	9	43.8
Southern Plains	58	46	12	41.7
Mountain I	30	21	9	45.1
Mountain II	16	10	6	35.7
Mountain III	19	16	3	45.7
Pacific	77	46	31	39.2
CA	265	218	47	45.5
HI	8	7	1	37.9
US <sup>3</sup>	935	681	254	40.4

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> Region map on page 16.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes AK.

**Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers  
by Region and United States, October 6-12, 2002 <sup>1</sup>**

U.S. and Region <sup>2</sup>	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	9.16	7.70	8.76	9.36
Northeast II	8.61	8.17	8.51	9.29
Appalachian I	7.57	8.00	7.70	8.21
Appalachian II	7.13	7.46	7.21	7.50
Southeast	7.30	8.25	7.56	8.18
FL	7.50	8.60	7.72	8.67
Lake	9.28	9.11	9.21	9.73
Cornbelt I	8.49	8.89	8.54	8.90
Cornbelt II	8.69	8.30	8.59	8.81
Delta	7.12	7.72	7.27	7.77
Northern Plains	9.01	9.03	9.02	9.32
Southern Plains	7.05	7.32	7.18	7.57
Mountain I	7.84	7.95	7.89	8.13
Mountain II	8.31	8.79	8.50	8.79
Mountain III	7.07	8.24	7.42	8.25
Pacific	8.91	9.36	8.99	9.47
CA	8.51	9.42	8.62	9.35
HI <sup>4</sup>	9.25		9.32	11.02
US <sup>3</sup>	8.30	8.44	8.33	8.93

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> Region map on page 16.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes AK.

<sup>4</sup> Insufficient data for livestock.

**Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Region  
and United States, July 7-13, 2002 <sup>1</sup>**

U.S. and Region <sup>2</sup>	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	30	14	37.8
Northeast II	46	33	13	42.5
Appalachian I	60	39	21	36.5
Appalachian II	32	16	16	29.6
Southeast	34	22	12	33.7
FL	43	38	5	37.5
Lake	62	44	18	34.8
Cornbelt I	54	33	21	31.7
Cornbelt II	30	18	12	32.1
Delta	37	26	11	36.9
Northern Plains	39	28	11	41.8
Southern Plains	74	55	19	39.7
Mountain I	30	22	8	48.3
Mountain II	19	13	6	41.6
Mountain III	17	14	3	42.8
Pacific	98	56	42	39.0
CA	*280	*230	50	*46.0
HI	7	6	1	38.0
US <sup>3</sup>	*1,006	*723	283	*40.0

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> Region map on page 16.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes AK.

**Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Worker and All Hired Workers  
by Region and United States, July 7-13, 2002 <sup>1</sup>**

U.S. and Region <sup>2</sup>	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	8.41	7.90	8.25	9.12
Northeast II	7.87	7.18	7.74	8.35
Appalachian I	7.61	7.91	7.68	8.32
Appalachian II	7.22	7.64	7.36	7.75
Southeast	7.11	8.90	7.50	8.01
FL	7.25	7.80	7.38	8.48
Lake	7.85	7.85	7.85	8.33
Cornbelt I	8.08	9.07	8.36	9.13
Cornbelt II	8.42	10.72	8.94	9.20
Delta	6.70	7.10	6.80	7.07
Northern Plains	8.32	8.57	8.41	8.72
Southern Plains	7.06	7.23	7.14	7.53
Mountain I	7.12	7.74	7.42	7.62
Mountain II	7.23	7.35	7.27	7.82
Mountain III	7.15	8.11	7.43	8.03
Pacific	8.32	10.65	8.86	9.36
CA	*8.18	*9.65	*8.32	*8.87
HI <sup>4</sup>	9.65		9.67	11.29
US <sup>3</sup>	*7.90	*8.38	8.02	*8.57

\* Revised.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> Region map on page 16.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes AK.

<sup>4</sup> Insufficient data for livestock.

**Hired Workers: Number and Hours Worked by Region  
and United States, October 7-13, 2001<sup>1</sup>**

U.S. and Region <sup>2</sup>	Hired			
	Number of Workers	Expected to be Employed		Number of Hours Worked
		150 Days or More <sup>3</sup>	149 Days or Less <sup>3</sup>	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>
Northeast I	48	35	13	40.7
Northeast II	45	35	10	44.2
Appalachian I	40	24	16	35.2
Appalachian II	29	17	12	38.8
Southeast	37	27	10	38.1
FL	51	44	7	41.8
Lake	74	42	32	40.7
Cornbelt I	57	43	14	36.2
Cornbelt II	41	25	16	34.4
Delta	43	31	12	43.0
Northern Plains	41	26	15	41.0
Southern Plains	68	54	14	40.0
Mountain I	27	20	7	42.4
Mountain II	21	13	8	43.5
Mountain III	17	14	3	46.6
Pacific	89	51	38	39.4
CA	255	200	55	46.7
HI	8	7	1	37.6
US <sup>3</sup>	991	708	283	41.7

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> Region map on page 16.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes AK.



**Hired Workers: Wage Rates for Type of Worker and All Hired Workers  
by Region and United States, October 7-13, 2001 <sup>1</sup>**

U.S. and Region <sup>2</sup>	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	8.24	7.50	8.03	8.79
Northeast II	7.21	7.33	7.24	7.97
Appalachian I	7.52	8.57	7.80	8.26
Appalachian II	7.04	7.77	7.33	7.59
Southeast	7.61	7.28	7.56	8.07
FL	7.70	8.00	7.74	8.84
Lake	9.14	8.59	8.97	9.21
Cornbelt I	8.84	9.29	8.91	9.53
Cornbelt II	8.06	9.26	8.52	8.78
Delta	6.83	7.37	6.91	7.13
Northern Plains	8.37	8.46	8.40	8.68
Southern Plains	7.16	7.97	7.52	8.01
Mountain I	6.99	7.70	7.31	7.72
Mountain II	7.65	8.09	7.78	8.08
Mountain III	6.87	8.13	7.25	7.85
Pacific	9.34	9.87	9.39	9.70
CA	7.91	9.56	8.04	8.57
HI <sup>4</sup>	9.32		9.39	10.78
US <sup>3</sup>	8.01	8.39	8.09	8.59

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> Region map on page 16.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes AK.

<sup>4</sup> Insufficient data for livestock.

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

Region <sup>2</sup>	October 7-13, 2001				October 6-12, 2002			
	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	6.67	8.06	7.03	7.63	( <sup>3</sup> )	8.89	8.19	8.66
Appalachian	6.94	7.67	7.96	7.59	7.20	8.10	8.04	7.48
Southeast	6.88	7.64	8.10	7.67	7.74	7.35	8.60	7.66
Lake	( <sup>3</sup> )	8.64	8.71	8.97	8.61	9.27	9.14	9.21
Cornbelt	8.60	8.77	8.86	8.74	8.77	8.20	8.45	8.56
Delta	6.83	6.74	7.44	6.91	6.77	7.64	8.02	7.27
Northern Plains	7.70	( <sup>3</sup> )	8.44	8.40	9.01	9.25	8.90	9.02
Southern Plains	6.82	6.98	7.98	7.52	6.72	7.40	7.17	7.18
Mountain	7.13	7.24	7.71	7.44	8.32	7.85	7.83	7.89
Pacific	8.19	8.26	9.63	8.37	8.14	8.59	9.30	8.69
48 States	7.82	8.08	8.23	8.08	7.95	8.41	8.43	8.33

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

Region <sup>2</sup>	October 7-13, 2001					October 6-12, 2002				
	Gross Value Sales-\$1,000's				All Farms	Gross Value Sales-\$1,000's				All Farms
	<50	50-99	100-249	250+		<50	50-99	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>	<i>Dollars per Hour</i>
N. East	8.40	7.63	7.66	8.57	8.38	8.09	7.85	8.52	9.79	9.33
Appal.	7.54	6.90	7.09	8.36	7.96	7.70	6.01	7.83	8.74	7.90
S. East	8.22	( <sup>3</sup> )	7.95	8.70	8.53	8.20	( <sup>3</sup> )	8.16	8.54	8.50
Lake	( <sup>3</sup> )	7.92	7.75	9.70	9.21	9.53	8.01	9.48	9.83	9.73
Cornbelt	7.82	7.68	8.81	9.62	9.23	7.91	9.18	8.59	9.01	8.87
Delta	( <sup>3</sup> )	6.81	6.72	7.15	7.13	7.37	6.98	7.50	8.19	7.77
N. Plains	8.34	6.81	7.77	9.28	8.68	8.20	( <sup>3</sup> )	9.15	9.40	9.32
S. Plains	8.58	7.46	8.08	7.91	8.01	( <sup>3</sup> )	8.17	7.03	8.23	7.57
Mountain	8.05	7.06	8.36	7.85	7.87	9.27	7.92	8.68	8.09	8.30
Pacific	7.65	10.23	8.80	8.97	8.85	8.89	8.70	8.94	9.46	9.37
48 States	8.02	8.31	8.01	8.80	8.56	7.93	8.28	8.40	9.22	8.92

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> Insufficient data.

**Field and Livestock Workers: Distribution  
by Type of Farm, 48 States<sup>1 2 3</sup>**

Type of Farm	October 7-13, 2001	July 7-13, 2002	October 6-12, 2002
	<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	15	14	14
Other Crops	57	52	57
Livestock, Dairy, & Poultry	28	34	29
	100	100	100

**Hired Workers: Distribution by Economic  
Class of Farm, 48 States<sup>1 3</sup>**

Gross Value of Sales	October 7-13, 2001	July 7-13, 2002	October 6-12, 2002
	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>
Less than \$50,000 <sup>4</sup>	13	16	11
\$50,000-\$99,999 <sup>5</sup>	8	7	4
\$100,000-\$249,999	14	13	13
\$250,000 and over	65	64	72

**Hired Workers: Distribution by Category, United States,<sup>1 3</sup>**

Category	October 7-13, 2001	July 7-13, 2002	October 6-12, 2002
	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>	<i>Percent of Hired Workers</i>
Employed on Farms Hiring			
1 Worker	10	9	7
2 Workers	9	10	13
3-6 Workers	19	20	17
7-10 Workers	9	12	9
At least 11 Workers	53	49	54
	100	100	100

<sup>1</sup> 48 States, excluding AK and HI.

<sup>2</sup> Field and Livestock Workers combined.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>4</sup> Sales category changed from "Less than \$40,000" to "Less than \$50,000" beginning July 2002.

<sup>5</sup> Sales category changed from "\$40,000 - \$99,999" to "\$50,000 - \$99,999" beginning July 2002.

## Agricultural Services

Crew leaders and custom crews provided 250,000 workers for the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 6-12, 2002. Service workers in California numbered 100,000 this October, down 7 percent from last year. Florida's number of service workers was 5,000, unchanged from last year.

The average wages received by agricultural service workers in California and Florida were \$8.80 and \$9.00 per hour, respectively. Comparable wages in October 2001 were \$8.63 in California and \$8.70 in Florida.

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

State	Number of Workers Working on Farms			Hours Worked <sup>2</sup>			Wage Rates <sup>2 3</sup>		
	Oct 2001	Jul 2002	Oct 2002	Oct 2001	Jul 2002	Oct 2002	Oct 2001	Jul 2002	Oct 2002
	<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	107.0	102.0	100.0	35.7	37.2	38.5	8.63	9.00	8.80
FL	5.0	4.0	5.0	34.0	42.5	31.5	8.70	9.25	9.00
US	262.0	256.0	250.0						

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> United States data not available.

<sup>3</sup> Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

**Hired Workers: Annual Average Number and Hours Worked  
By Region and United States, 2001-02 <sup>1</sup>**

State and Region <sup>2</sup>	Hired Workers		Hours Worked	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>	<i>Hours per Week</i>
Northeast I	42.3	42.7	39.8	39.9
Northeast II	40.3	41.2	40.6	38.2
Appalachian I	38.0	41.7	36.4	36.0
Appalachian II	30.5	29.0	34.4	31.8
Southeast	31.5	34.0	38.8	38.0
FL	54.3	53.5	40.0	38.5
Lake	57.8	54.7	37.7	34.8
Cornbelt I	52.8	42.2	35.0	35.5
Cornbelt II	26.3	26.5	35.8	33.1
Delta	32.8	32.2	42.0	36.8
Northern Plains	37.0	34.5	40.3	42.7
Southern Plains	73.8	63.2	38.7	40.5
Mountain I	25.8	26.5	44.5	43.6
Mountain II	23.0	19.2	42.9	37.2
Mountain III	18.8	18.5	46.1	45.6
Pacific	72.5	73.0	39.0	38.1
CA	209.0	244.0	42.8	44.5
HI	7.3	7.5	36.9	37.1
US <sup>3</sup>	873.3	884.5	39.9	39.8

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> Region map on page 16.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes AK.

**Hired Workers: Annual Average Wage Rates  
By Region and United States, 2001-02<sup>1 4</sup>**

U.S. and Region <sup>2</sup>	All Hired		Field		Field & Livestock	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<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	8.72	9.26	8.23	8.82	7.94	8.53
Northeast II	8.23	8.79	7.54	8.26	7.46	7.97
Appalachian I	7.97	8.39	7.36	7.57	7.53	7.75
Appalachian II	7.35	7.54	6.82	7.02	7.07	7.20
Southeast	7.80	8.03	7.26	7.28	7.28	7.49
FL	8.54	8.69	7.66	7.71	7.69	7.78
Lake	9.06	9.40	8.78	8.99	8.57	8.70
Cornbelt I	9.14	9.21	8.22	8.44	8.38	8.65
Cornbelt II	8.63	9.26	7.99	8.41	8.33	8.91
Delta	7.12	7.53	6.74	7.07	6.77	7.13
Northern Plains	8.70	9.06	8.22	8.57	8.24	8.53
Southern Plains	7.74	7.76	7.01	7.17	7.28	7.29
Mountain I	7.79	7.96	7.13	7.53	7.43	7.70
Mountain II	8.23	8.64	7.47	7.93	7.62	8.07
Mountain III	7.77	8.23	6.88	7.33	7.12	7.61
Pacific	9.06	9.30	8.52	8.42	8.60	8.71
CA	8.67	9.13	7.89	8.31	8.02	8.44
HI	10.83	11.07	9.26	9.40	9.29	9.42
US <sup>3</sup>	8.45	8.80	7.78	8.11	7.86	8.17

<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> Region map on page 16.

<sup>3</sup> Excludes AK.

<sup>4</sup> 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 for January, April, July, and October.

**Hired Workers: Annual Average Wage Rates  
By State, 2001-02<sup>1,2</sup>**

State	All Hired		Field		Field & Livestock	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	<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	7.61	7.92	6.81	7.08	6.81	7.18
AZ	7.58	8.04	6.84	7.32	6.88	7.35
AR	7.20	7.56	6.88	7.41	6.85	7.35
CA	8.67	9.13	7.89	8.31	8.02	8.44
CO	8.22	8.57	7.57	7.90	7.61	8.07
DE	8.41	9.02	7.57	7.80	7.76	8.00
FL	8.54	8.69	7.66	7.71	7.69	7.78
GA	8.42	8.53	7.96	8.00	7.87	8.06
HI	10.83	11.07	9.26	9.40	9.29	9.42
ID	7.95	8.05	7.14	7.50	7.66	7.87
IL	9.01	9.67	8.29	8.63	8.35	8.94
IN	9.80	9.19	8.66	8.92	8.81	8.76
IA	8.98	9.67	8.24	8.47	8.59	9.30
KS	8.87	9.63	8.05	8.85	8.18	8.64
KY	7.48	7.50	6.70	6.76	7.07	7.10
LA	6.84	7.47	6.61	7.10	6.64	7.08
MD	8.92	9.58	8.30	8.85	8.00	8.50
MI	8.96	9.62	8.15	8.62	8.18	8.66
MN	9.53	9.73	9.90	9.76	9.26	9.12
MS	7.27	7.55	6.66	6.56	6.79	6.89
MO	8.19	8.68	7.78	8.35	8.01	8.33
MT	7.62	7.95	7.38	7.86	7.15	7.56
NE	8.51	8.62	7.80	8.05	8.17	8.34
NV	7.62	8.14	6.90	7.44	7.07	7.52
NJ	8.55	8.98	7.65	8.07	7.69	8.10
NM	8.18	8.61	7.09	7.41	7.64	8.16
NY	8.22	8.68	7.80	8.47	7.59	8.17
NC	7.82	8.31	7.34	7.52	7.39	7.64
ND	9.27	9.22	9.17	9.28	9.07	9.16
OH	8.37	8.70	7.53	7.68	7.89	8.23
OK	8.40	8.19	7.40	7.53	7.61	7.52
OR	9.10	9.15	8.56	8.37	8.56	8.48
PA	7.93	8.50	7.30	8.24	7.22	7.77
SC	6.85	7.39	6.55	6.50	6.70	6.96
SD	8.21	8.66	8.16	8.11	7.81	8.22
TN	7.29	7.60	6.99	7.34	7.09	7.32
TX	7.51	7.67	6.89	7.11	7.17	7.24
UT	8.51	9.14	7.22	8.47	7.88	8.42
VA	8.41	8.58	7.44	7.71	7.94	7.98
WA	9.02	9.43	8.50	8.47	8.63	8.90
WV	7.10	7.45	6.36	6.78	7.01	7.17
WI	8.67	8.79	8.74	9.03	8.33	8.35
WY	7.20	7.55	6.57	7.05	6.57	6.96
Oth Sts <sup>3</sup>	9.34	9.95	8.69	9.19	8.40	8.98
US <sup>4</sup>	8.45	8.80	7.78	8.11	7.86	8.17

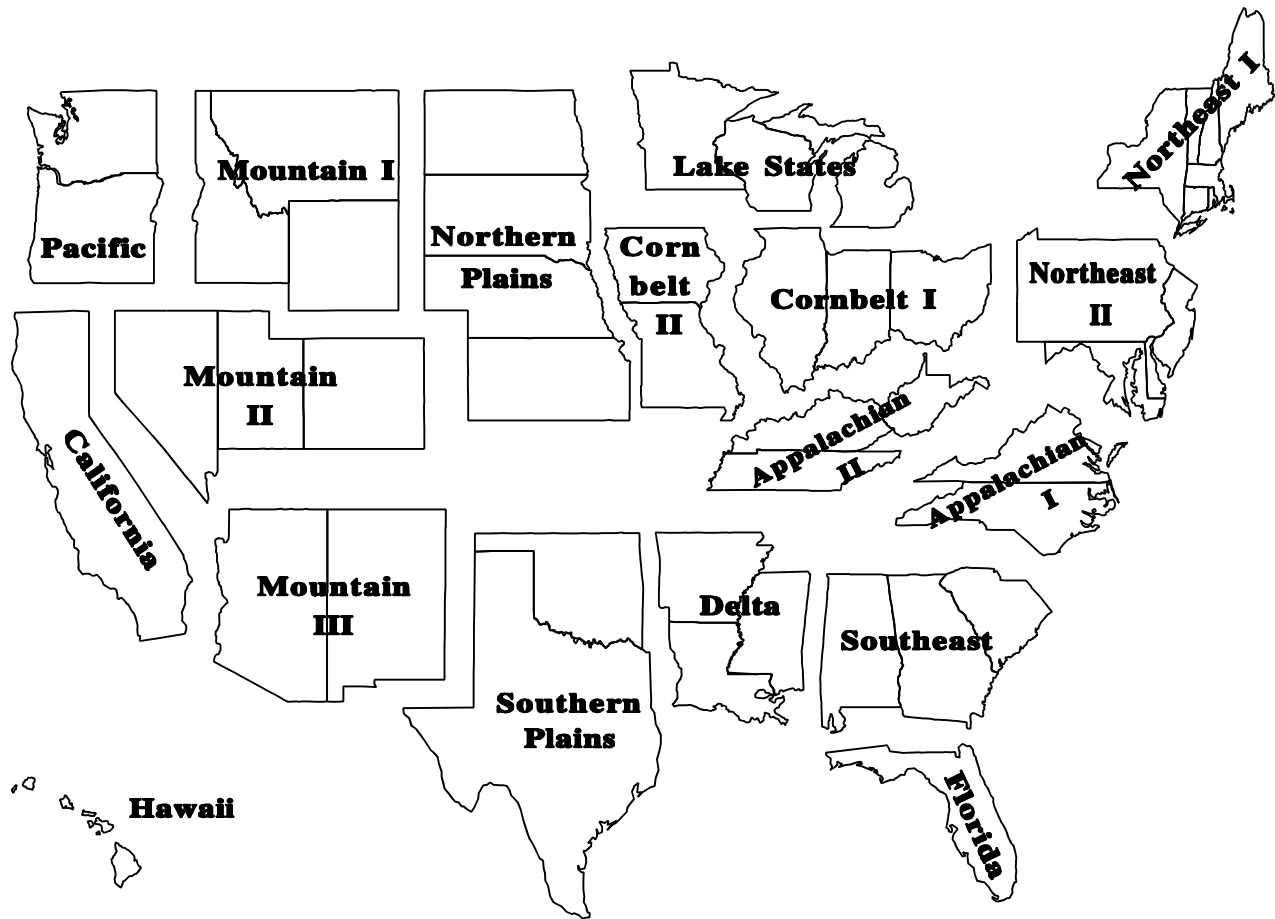
<sup>1</sup> Excludes Agricultural Service Workers.

<sup>2</sup> 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 for January.

<sup>3</sup> Includes CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT.

<sup>4</sup> 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 6-12, 2002.

**Reliability:** Two types of errors, sampling and non-sampling, 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 is normally less than 3 percent. The relative sampling error for the number of hired workers generally ranged between 8 and 21 percent at the regional level. The U.S. all hired farm worker wage rate had a relative sampling error of 0.9 percent. The relative sampling error was 0.8 percent for the combined field and livestock worker wage rate. Relative sampling errors for the all hired farm worker wage rate generally ranged between 1 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 1 and 19 percent at the regional level.

Non-sampling 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 non-sampling 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 October 2001 and July 2002 were subject to revision with this report. Revisions were made and previous data are reprinted in this report for your information.

**Next Farm Labor Publication Date:** The February 21st report will have information for the survey week of January 12-18, 2003. The report will include the number of All Hired Workers, Average Hours Worked by Hired Workers and the All Hired Worker Wage Rates at the regional and U.S. levels. The wage rate for field, livestock, and combined field and livestock workers will also be available at the regional and U.S. level. The number of Agricultural Service Workers and the corresponding wage rates will be published for California and Florida.

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The next "Farm Labor" report will be released at 3 p.m. ET on February 21, 2003.

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