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## Hired Workers Up 4 Percent, Wage Rates Up 2 Percent From a Year Ago

There were 1,157,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 2010, up 4 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 826,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 331,000 workers.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.13 per hour during the October 2010 reference week, up 20 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.49 per hour, up 27 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$10.27 per hour compared with \$10.28 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.43 per hour, was up 19 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.7 for hired workers during the survey week, up 7 percent from a year ago.

The largest increases in the number of hired workers from last year occurred in California, and in the Corn Belt I (Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio), Appalachian I (North Carolina and Virginia), and Northern Plains (Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota) regions. Above normal winter precipitation in California allowed more acreage to be cropped due to increased availability of irrigation water. Therefore, more hired workers were needed. In the remaining three regions, weather conditions were virtually ideal compared with last year's excessively wet reference week. This caused increased demand for field workers as the corn and soybean harvests progressed rapidly.

The largest decreases in the number of hired workers from last year occurred in the Southeast (Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina), Pacific (Oregon and Washington), and Southern Plains (Oklahoma and Texas) regions. Abnormally dry conditions in the Southeast and Southern Plains regions slowed small grain seeding and reduced the demand for hired workers. In the Pacific region, above normal rains kept pasture grasses plentiful and lessened the need for livestock movement. This led to fewer workers being required.

Hired worker wage rates were generally above a year ago in most regions. The largest increases occurred in the Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania), Northeast I (New England and New York), Corn Belt II (Iowa and Missouri), and Lake (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) regions. In the two Northeast regions, the higher wages were due to strong demand from the nursery and greenhouse industry. The higher wages in the Corn Belt II region were due to strong demand for skilled workers to help with the grain harvest. In the Lake region, the higher wages were due to more salaried workers working fewer hours which pushed the average wage up.

The 2010 U.S. all hired worker annual average wage rate was \$10.95 per hour, up 1 percent from the 2009 annual average wage rate of \$10.83 per hour. The U.S. field worker annual average wage rate was \$10.19 per hour, up 12 cents from last year's annual average. The field and livestock combined annual average wage rate at the U.S. level was \$10.22 per hour, up 1 percent from last year's annual average wage rate of \$10.12 per hour.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Revisions have been made to workers, hours, and wages for California and the U.S. for the July 2008 through April 2010 time period. These revisions are published in Quick Stats 2.0 accessible via the NASS website at <http://www.nass.usda.gov>. For direct access to Quick Stats, go to the following link via your web browser: <http://quickstats.nass.usda.gov>. Further explanation of these revisions is provided on page 22 of this publication.



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## Hired Workers and Wage Rates - United States

[Excludes Alaska]

Farm employment	October 11-17, 2009	July 11-17, 2010	October 10-16, 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Hired workers			
150 days or more .....	605	627	588
149 days or less .....	224	258	238
Total .....	829	885	826
Agricultural services			
Workers working on farms .....	285	360	331
Hired farm and service workers .....	1,114	1,245	1,157
	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)
Hours worked by hired workers .....	39.0	40.7	41.7
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Wage rate			
Field and livestock combined .....	10.24	10.11	10.43
Field .....	10.22	10.09	10.49
Livestock .....	10.28	10.15	10.27
All hired workers <sup>1 2</sup> .....	10.93	10.79	11.13

<sup>1</sup> Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes agricultural service workers.

## Number of Workers and Hours Worked - Regions and United States: October 10-16, 2010

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

United States and region <sup>1</sup>	Hired			
	Number of workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked
		150 days or more	149 days or less	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)
Northeast I .....	39	27	12	44.3
Northeast II .....	37	28	9	41.9
Appalachian I .....	35	23	12	39.9
Appalachian II .....	22	14	8	39.1
Southeast .....	24	16	8	38.0
Florida .....	43	37	6	39.0
Lake .....	67	46	21	37.5
Cornbelt I .....	56	29	27	38.3
Cornbelt II .....	29	20	9	37.8
Delta .....	33	20	13	43.4
Northern Plains .....	38	27	11	44.8
Southern Plains .....	52	43	9	42.0
Mountain I .....	22	17	5	45.2
Mountain II .....	19	15	4	42.0
Mountain III .....	17	15	2	47.1
Pacific .....	94	49	45	41.2
California .....	192	156	36	44.3
Hawaii .....	7	6	1	37.0
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	826	588	238	41.7

<sup>1</sup> Region map on page 19.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Alaska.

## Wage Rates by Type of Worker - Regions and United States: October 10-16, 2010

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

United States and region <sup>1</sup>	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I .....	10.95	10.10	10.65	11.17
Northeast II .....	11.84	10.17	11.30	12.05
Appalachian I .....	9.01	9.99	9.24	9.70
Appalachian II .....	9.87	9.72	9.80	10.60
Southeast .....	8.72	9.75	9.05	9.78
Florida .....	9.79	9.05	9.65	11.00
Lake .....	11.58	10.06	11.05	11.88
Cornbelt I .....	11.19	10.48	10.95	11.54
Cornbelt II .....	11.62	11.02	11.40	11.60
Delta .....	8.55	8.85	8.64	9.07
Northern Plains .....	12.26	10.79	11.70	11.93
Southern Plains .....	9.68	10.01	9.85	10.30
Mountain I .....	10.11	9.66	9.90	10.60
Mountain II .....	10.91	11.01	10.95	11.95
Mountain III .....	9.43	10.07	9.75	10.45
Pacific .....	10.95	10.97	10.95	11.59
California .....	10.20	11.20	10.34	11.18
Hawaii .....	12.00	14.30	12.16	14.38
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	10.49	10.27	10.43	11.13

<sup>1</sup> Region map on page 19.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Alaska.

## Number of Workers and Hours Worked - Regions and United States: July 11-17, 2010

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

United States and region <sup>1</sup>	Hired			
	Number of workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked
		150 days or more	149 days or less	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)
Northeast I .....	38	25	13	43.7
Northeast II .....	37	25	12	39.2
Appalachian I .....	44	27	17	39.9
Appalachian II .....	24	13	11	35.4
Southeast .....	36	27	9	38.9
Florida .....	35	28	7	37.7
Lake .....	64	42	22	34.4
Corbelt I .....	50	34	16	37.4
Corbelt II .....	33	21	12	31.9
Delta .....	29	18	11	38.3
Northern Plains .....	46	36	10	43.7
Southern Plains .....	53	44	9	44.0
Mountain I .....	27	19	8	42.3
Mountain II .....	24	18	6	44.1
Mountain III .....	19	16	3	44.6
Pacific .....	120	65	55	42.5
California .....	200	164	36	43.4
Hawaii .....	6	5	1	37.8
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	885	627	258	40.7

<sup>1</sup> Region map on page 19.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Alaska.



## Wage Rates by Type of Worker - Regions and United States: July 11-17, 2010

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

United States and region <sup>1</sup>	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I .....	9.81	9.59	9.73	10.35
Northeast II .....	10.55	9.09	10.26	11.10
Appalachian I .....	8.77	9.07	8.82	9.40
Appalachian II .....	8.23	9.82	8.85	9.62
Southeast .....	9.12	9.69	9.30	9.97
Florida .....	9.40	9.40	9.40	10.68
Lake .....	11.09	9.47	10.45	11.10
Cornbelt I .....	10.57	11.17	10.75	11.20
Cornbelt II .....	10.51	11.45	10.95	11.20
Delta .....	9.02	8.96	9.00	9.34
Northern Plains .....	11.74	11.20	11.50	11.80
Southern Plains .....	8.98	9.54	9.20	9.90
Mountain I .....	9.95	9.39	9.70	10.32
Mountain II .....	9.61	8.99	9.40	10.05
Mountain III .....	9.70	9.69	9.70	10.50
Pacific .....	10.65	11.89	10.75	11.27
California .....	10.10	11.10	10.23	11.12
Hawaii .....	12.00	14.20	12.19	14.41
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	10.09	10.15	10.11	10.79

<sup>1</sup> Region map on page 19.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Alaska.

## Number of Workers and Hours Worked - Regions and United States: October 11-17, 2009

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

United States and region <sup>1</sup>	Hired			
	Number of workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked
		150 days or more	149 days or less	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)
Northeast I .....	41	28	13	38.5
Northeast II .....	37	28	9	41.0
Appalachian I .....	31	21	10	37.1
Appalachian II .....	24	14	10	37.1
Southeast .....	32	23	9	35.0
Florida .....	46	41	5	38.6
Lake .....	67	46	21	38.0
Cornbelt I .....	47	29	18	33.6
Cornbelt II .....	30	20	10	31.1
Delta .....	33	26	7	38.0
Northern Plains .....	34	25	9	41.0
Southern Plains .....	56	44	12	39.0
Mountain I .....	25	20	5	45.0
Mountain II .....	22	18	4	41.3
Mountain III .....	20	18	2	44.9
Pacific .....	99	55	44	38.0
California .....	179	144	35	41.6
Hawaii .....	6	5	1	36.7
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	829	605	224	39.0

<sup>1</sup> Region map on page 19.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Alaska.

## Wage Rates by Type of Worker - Regions and United States: October 11-17, 2009

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

United States and region <sup>1</sup>	Type of worker			Wage rates for all hired workers
	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I .....	9.96	9.93	9.95	10.41
Northeast II .....	10.28	9.50	10.05	10.88
Appalachian I .....	8.67	9.15	8.85	9.55
Appalachian II .....	9.85	10.38	10.10	11.05
Southeast .....	8.87	9.33	9.00	9.53
Florida .....	9.30	10.10	9.40	10.65
Lake .....	11.03	10.10	10.65	11.24
Cornbelt I .....	11.30	10.51	11.00	11.17
Cornbelt II .....	10.46	11.23	10.75	10.85
Delta .....	8.86	9.16	8.95	9.50
Northern Plains .....	11.77	10.23	11.20	11.80
Southern Plains .....	9.17	10.64	9.85	10.17
Mountain I .....	10.45	8.89	9.70	10.05
Mountain II .....	11.01	11.70	11.25	11.55
Mountain III .....	9.10	10.06	9.50	10.30
Pacific .....	11.07	10.42	11.00	11.82
California .....	10.14	11.28	10.35	11.26
Hawaii .....	11.55	13.40	11.69	13.60
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	10.22	10.28	10.24	10.93

<sup>1</sup> Region map on page 19.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Alaska.

## Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm - Regions and 48 States: October 11-17, 2009

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region <sup>1</sup>	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast .....	(D)	10.12	9.73	10.00
Appalachian .....	9.81	8.89	9.33	9.39
Southeast .....	10.21	9.07	9.70	9.24
Lake .....	11.87	10.71	10.12	10.65
Cornbelt .....	11.41	10.10	10.69	10.91
Delta .....	8.46	9.94	9.22	8.95
Northern Plains .....	11.51	(D)	10.20	11.20
Southern Plains .....	9.08	8.82	10.63	9.85
Mountain .....	9.90	9.58	9.83	10.12
Pacific .....	10.90	10.58	10.69	10.62
48 States .....	10.65	10.14	10.16	10.24

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> Regions consist of the following States:

Northeast: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Appalachian: Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia.

Southeast: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina.

Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin.

Cornbelt: Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio.

Delta: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi.

Northern Plains: Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota.

Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas.

Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming.

Pacific: California, Oregon, Washington.

48 States: All States, excluding Alaska and Hawaii.

## Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm - Regions and 48 States: October 10-16, 2010

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region <sup>1</sup>	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast .....	10.43	10.95	(D)	10.95
Appalachian .....	9.07	9.48	9.87	9.45
Southeast .....	(D)	9.63	9.27	9.43
Lake .....	(D)	10.94	10.03	11.05
Cornbelt .....	11.80	10.51	10.38	11.11
Delta .....	8.91	8.70	9.18	8.64
Northern Plains .....	11.94	(D)	11.26	11.70
Southern Plains .....	9.19	10.18	10.03	9.85
Mountain .....	9.57	10.53	10.04	10.17
Pacific .....	11.56	10.35	11.50	10.53
48 States .....	10.72	10.34	10.53	10.43

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> Regions consist of the following States:

Northeast: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Appalachian: Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia.

Southeast: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina.

Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin.

Cornbelt: Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio.

Delta: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi.

Northern Plains: Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota.

Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas.

Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming.

Pacific: California, Oregon, Washington.

48 States: All States, excluding Alaska and Hawaii.

## All Hired Worker Wage Rates, by Economic Class of Farm - Regions and 48 States: October 11-17, 2009

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region <sup>1</sup>	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms
	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast .....	11.17	9.60	9.04	10.38	10.44	11.20	10.64
Appalachian .....	9.08	8.92	(D)	8.64	8.55	10.75	10.20
Southeast .....	10.40	10.30	9.09	9.74	10.22	10.38	10.22
Lake .....	10.53	8.73	9.54	9.94	10.70	12.37	11.24
Cornbelt .....	9.98	10.18	11.25	10.49	10.62	11.87	11.05
Delta .....	8.39	(D)	9.41	10.79	9.52	9.26	9.50
Northern Plains .....	(D)	9.78	9.96	10.50	11.40	13.17	11.80
Southern Plains .....	9.44	9.77	10.78	(D)	9.98	10.12	10.17
Mountain .....	10.72	(D)	10.55	10.18	11.75	10.25	10.59
Pacific .....	10.96	10.93	10.41	12.22	11.76	11.44	11.46
48 States .....	9.94	10.94	10.53	11.17	10.74	11.18	10.90

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> Regions consist of the following States:

Northeast: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Appalachian: Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia.

Southeast: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina.

Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin.

Cornbelt: Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio.

Delta: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi.

Northern Plains: Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota.

Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas.

Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming.

Pacific: California, Oregon, Washington.

48 States: All States, excluding Alaska and Hawaii.

## All Hired Worker Wage Rates, by Economic Class of Farm - Regions and 48 States: October 10-16, 2010

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region <sup>1</sup>	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms
	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast .....	(D)	9.83	9.26	10.22	10.16	12.34	11.59
Appalachian .....	9.68	9.57	8.64	9.48	10.42	10.89	10.04
Southeast .....	8.45	9.49	10.39	9.58	10.63	10.96	10.57
Lake .....	10.03	(D)	11.96	12.01	12.44	11.88	11.88
Cornbelt .....	8.65	11.58	12.53	10.49	11.29	12.60	11.56
Delta .....	7.14	8.59	9.03	10.45	10.56	9.44	9.07
Northern Plains .....	(D)	10.63	10.26	12.40	11.01	12.76	11.93
Southern Plains .....	9.40	8.03	10.04	9.40	10.50	11.15	10.30
Mountain .....	11.55	9.47	10.56	10.50	12.30	11.10	10.97
Pacific .....	11.48	12.51	10.96	11.17	11.79	11.27	11.31
48 States .....	11.20	10.43	10.82	10.60	11.35	11.47	11.11

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

<sup>1</sup> Regions consist of the following States:

Northeast: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont.

Appalachian: Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia.

Southeast: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina.

Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin.

Cornbelt: Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio.

Delta: Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi.

Northern Plains: Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota.

Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas.

Mountain: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming.

Pacific: California, Oregon, Washington.

48 States: All States, excluding Alaska and Hawaii.

## Field and Livestock Workers by Type of Farm

[Excluding Alaska and Hawaii. Excludes agricultural service workers]

Type of farm	October 11-17, 2009	July 11-17, 2010	October 10-16, 2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Field crops .....	15	13	17
Other crops .....	54	58	53
Livestock, dairy, and poultry .....	31	29	30

## Hired Workers by Economic Class of Farm

[Excluding Alaska and Hawaii. Excludes agricultural service workers]

Gross value of sales	October 11-17, 2009	July 11-17, 2010	October 10-16, 2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Less than \$50,000 .....	9	11	9
\$50,000-\$99,999 .....	5	5	4
\$100,000-\$249,999 .....	11	9	10
\$250,000-\$499,999 .....	11	12	12
\$500,000-\$999,999 .....	14	13	13
\$1,000,000 and over .....	50	50	52

## Hired Workers by Number of Workers on Farm

[Excluding Alaska and Hawaii. Excludes agricultural service workers]

Number of workers on farm	October 11-17, 2009	July 11-17, 2010	October 10-16, 2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Employed on farms hiring			
1 worker .....	9	9	9
2 workers .....	9	8	9
3-6 workers .....	19	16	16
7-10 workers .....	9	7	8
11-20 workers .....	11	12	12
21-50 workers .....	14	13	13
51 or more workers .....	29	35	33

## Agricultural Services

Agricultural service operations provided 331,000 workers for the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 2010. Agricultural service workers in California numbered 144,000 this October, up 20 percent from last year. Florida's number of agricultural service workers was 3,000, unchanged from last year.

The average wages received by agricultural service workers in California and Florida were \$11.10 and \$12.20 per hour, respectively. Comparable wages in October 2009 were \$10.75 per hour in California and \$11.35 per hour in Florida.

### Number of Agricultural Service Workers, Hours Worked, and Wage Rates - California, Florida, and United States

[Data are for agricultural services performed on the farm by custom service units. These statistics are not included in the State-Regional tables]

State	Number of workers working on farms			Hours worked			Wage rates <sup>1</sup>		
	October 2009	July 2010	October 2010	October 2009	July 2010	October 2010	October 2009	July 2010	October 2010
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours)	(hours)	(hours)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
California .....	120.0	140.0	144.0	36.1	34.5	38.2	10.75	10.75	11.10
Florida .....	3.0	2.0	3.0	44.0	46.0	46.0	11.35	11.95	12.20
United States .....	285.0	360.0	331.0	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

(NA) Not available.

<sup>1</sup> Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

## Annual Average Number of Hired Workers and Hours Worked - Regions and United States: 2009 and 2010

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

United States and region <sup>1</sup>	Hired workers		Hours worked	
	2009 (1,000)	2010 (1,000)	2009 (hours per week)	2010 (hours per week)
Northeast I .....	34.0	33.5	39.6	42.0
Northeast II .....	29.5	32.5	38.9	39.8
Appalachian I .....	30.3	33.8	37.2	39.0
Appalachian II .....	22.8	22.8	35.0	34.9
Southeast .....	34.5	28.5	38.6	37.1
Florida .....	41.5	44.0	38.1	37.7
Lake .....	60.5	59.8	36.6	35.9
Cornbelt I .....	40.3	45.8	35.7	36.0
Cornbelt II .....	25.0	28.0	32.5	35.5
Delta .....	31.8	32.3	36.1	39.3
Northern Plains .....	30.0	33.3	39.8	43.0
Southern Plains .....	61.0	53.8	39.9	40.3
Mountain I .....	22.3	22.5	42.3	43.1
Mountain II .....	19.0	19.8	41.0	42.3
Mountain III .....	19.5	18.3	46.3	45.5
Pacific .....	82.3	82.8	38.8	41.1
California .....	164.5	170.0	43.2	43.0
Hawaii .....	6.0	6.3	37.2	36.7
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	754.5	767.3	39.4	40.1

<sup>1</sup> Region map on page 19.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Alaska.



## Annual Average Wage Rates - Regions and United States: 2009 and 2010

[Excludes agricultural service workers. Annual rates are averages of the published wage rates for each survey week weighted by the number of hours worked during the week]

United States and region <sup>1</sup>	All hired		Field		Field and livestock	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I ..... (CT, ME, MA, NH, NY, RI, VT)	10.83	10.89	10.32	10.39	10.16	10.25
Northeast II ..... (DE, MD, NJ, PA)	10.79	11.42	10.23	11.05	9.94	10.60
Appalachian I ..... (NC, VA)	10.22	9.91	9.40	9.13	9.59	9.30
Appalachian II ..... (KY, TN, WV)	10.59	10.32	9.40	9.19	9.71	9.48
Southeast ..... (AL, GA, SC)	9.48	9.69	9.02	8.94	9.11	9.12
Florida .....	10.42	10.67	9.15	9.46	9.20	9.50
Lake ..... (MI, MN, WI)	11.22	11.37	10.82	11.23	10.57	10.62
Cornbelt I ..... (IL, IN, OH)	11.09	11.44	10.63	11.03	10.51	10.84
Cornbelt II ..... (IA, MO)	11.22	11.18	10.64	10.96	10.86	11.03
Delta ..... (AR, LA, MS)	9.60	9.52	9.05	8.96	9.10	8.97
Northern Plains ..... (KS, NE, ND, SD)	11.08	11.83	11.01	12.01	10.66	11.52
Southern Plains ..... (OK, TX)	10.30	10.12	9.48	9.30	9.78	9.65
Mountain I ..... (ID, MT, WY)	10.36	10.49	10.22	10.03	9.90	9.90
Mountain II ..... (CO, NV, UT)	10.72	11.30	10.28	10.41	10.06	10.48
Mountain III ..... (AZ, NM)	10.45	10.32	9.40	9.15	9.71	9.60
Pacific ..... (OR, WA)	11.56	11.31	10.84	10.52	10.85	10.60
California .....	11.14	11.24	10.04	10.14	10.26	10.31
Hawaii .....	13.40	14.24	11.28	11.85	11.45	12.01
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	10.83	10.95	10.07	10.19	10.12	10.22

<sup>1</sup> Region map on page 19.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Alaska.

## Annual Average Wage Rates By State: 2009 and 2010

[Excludes agricultural service workers. 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]

State	All hired		Field		Field and livestock	
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Alabama .....	9.69	10.01	9.55	9.47	9.42	9.43
Arizona .....	10.55	10.25	9.41	8.95	9.66	9.31
Arkansas .....	9.45	9.40	8.94	8.89	9.10	9.05
California .....	11.14	11.24	10.04	10.14	10.26	10.31
Colorado .....	10.88	11.30	10.56	10.33	10.17	10.45
Delaware .....	11.58	10.65	10.80	9.29	10.93	9.53
Florida .....	10.42	10.67	9.15	9.46	9.20	9.50
Georgia .....	9.40	9.72	8.90	9.00	9.04	9.13
Hawaii .....	13.40	14.24	11.28	11.85	11.45	12.01
Idaho .....	10.34	10.47	10.08	9.97	9.86	9.90
Illinois .....	11.23	11.43	10.86	11.08	10.67	10.99
Indiana .....	11.85	12.04	11.22	11.58	11.17	11.30
Iowa .....	11.32	11.46	11.03	11.59	11.11	11.41
Kansas .....	11.07	11.94	10.47	11.40	10.55	11.48
Kentucky .....	10.90	10.84	9.44	9.57	9.71	9.77
Louisiana .....	9.83	9.49	9.32	9.09	9.31	8.88
Maryland .....	11.07	11.76	10.76	10.75	9.74	10.31
Michigan .....	11.02	11.09	10.10	10.32	10.25	10.25
Minnesota .....	11.89	11.90	11.83	12.68	11.30	11.38
Mississippi .....	9.40	9.70	8.56	8.82	8.72	9.04
Missouri .....	11.08	10.80	10.24	10.28	10.54	10.56
Montana .....	10.48	10.64	10.52	10.22	10.05	10.00
Nebraska .....	10.88	11.89	11.11	12.53	10.63	11.63
Nevada .....	10.21	11.35	9.35	10.01	9.49	10.50
New Jersey .....	11.26	11.75	10.19	10.82	10.29	10.78
New Mexico .....	10.25	10.43	9.40	9.77	9.81	10.05
New York .....	10.66	10.50	10.18	10.18	10.06	9.98
North Carolina .....	10.06	9.57	9.24	8.76	9.46	8.93
North Dakota .....	11.85	12.65	12.03	12.91	11.60	12.54
Ohio .....	10.41	10.97	10.04	10.51	9.89	10.32
Oklahoma .....	10.58	10.10	9.24	9.52	9.54	9.52
Oregon .....	11.61	11.69	10.67	10.56	10.65	10.63
Pennsylvania .....	10.38	11.26	10.13	11.32	9.71	10.62
South Carolina .....	9.50	9.20	8.86	8.34	8.94	8.71
South Dakota .....	10.87	10.80	10.71	10.65	10.14	10.44
Tennessee .....	10.31	9.79	9.44	8.98	9.82	9.24
Texas .....	10.25	10.13	9.50	9.26	9.82	9.68
Utah .....	10.59	11.31	10.04	10.81	10.05	10.54
Virginia .....	10.47	10.41	9.78	9.77	9.81	9.82
Washington .....	11.53	11.10	10.92	10.50	10.95	10.59
West Virginia .....	9.44	9.73	8.72	8.76	8.65	8.87
Wisconsin .....	10.93	11.24	11.23	11.53	10.35	10.39
Wyoming .....	10.23	10.31	10.49	10.02	9.83	9.74
Other States <sup>1</sup> .....	11.09	11.44	10.51	10.64	10.32	10.64
United States <sup>2</sup> .....	10.83	10.95	10.07	10.19	10.12	10.22

<sup>1</sup> Includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

<sup>2</sup> Excludes Alaska.

# Farm Labor Regions



USDA/NASS

## Region

## States

Northeast I	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont.
Northeast II	Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania.
Appalachian I	North Carolina, Virginia.
Appalachian II	Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia.
Southeast	Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina.
Lake	Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin.
Cornbelt I	Illinois, Indiana, Ohio.
Cornbelt II	Iowa, Missouri.
Delta	Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi.
Northern Plains	Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota.
Southern Plains	Oklahoma, Texas.
Mountain I	Idaho, Montana, Wyoming.
Mountain II	Colorado, Nevada, Utah.
Mountain III	Arizona, New Mexico.
Pacific	Oregon, Washington.

## Farm Labor Definitions

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

**Farm or Ranch:** A place that sells, or would normally sell, at least \$1,000 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.

**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:** All wage rates are calculated based on total wages paid and total hours worked during the survey reference week. Wages paid other than hourly (bi-weekly, monthly, etc.) are converted to an hourly basis prior to summarization. Wages paid by piece rate (per quantity of produce picked, etc.) are also converted to an hourly basis.

**Perquisites:** Benefits, such as 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:** Any farm-related service performed on a farm or ranch on a contract or fee basis. This primarily includes activities performed by contract workers on fruit, vegetable, or berry operations. It also includes custom work (see below), veterinarian work, artificial insemination, sheep shearing, milk testing, or any other farm-related activity performed on a farm or ranch on a “fee per service” basis rather than hourly.

**Contract Labor:** Contract workers are paid by a crew leader, contractor, buyer, processor, cooperative, or other person who has an oral or written agreement with a farmer/rancher. Pruning, thinning, weeding or harvesting of fruit, vegetable or berry crops are examples. A machine is not a part of the service activity provided by the contractor.

**Custom Work:** Work performed by machines and labor hired as a unit. Hay baling, combining, corn or cotton picking, spraying, fertilizing, and laser leveling are examples of custom work when the equipment is included in the service activity.

**Type of Farm (or Ranch):** An operation is classified in the farm type which accounts for the largest portion of the total gross value of sales for its agricultural production.

**Types of farms broken out in this publication are:**

**Field Crops:** A farm producing wheat, rice, corn, soybeans, barley, dry beans, rye, sorghum, cotton, popcorn, tobacco, or other such crops.

**Other Crops:** A farm producing vegetables, melons, berry crops, grapes, tree nuts, citrus fruits, deciduous tree fruits, avocados, dates, figs, olives, nursery, or greenhouse crops. This category also includes farms producing potatoes, sugar crops, hay, peanuts, hops, mint, and maple syrup.

**Livestock or Poultry:** A farm producing cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, milk, chickens, eggs, turkeys, or animal specialties such as furs, fish, honey, etc.

**Gross Value of Sales:** This includes all income during a year from the sale of crops, livestock, dairy, poultry, or other related agricultural products, including the landlord's share and the value of products produced under contract. When commodities are placed under CCC loan, they are considered as sold.

## Survey Methodology

**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, 2010.

**Reliability:** Two types of errors, sampling and non-sampling, are always present in an estimate based on a sample survey. Both types affect the "accuracy" 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 5 percent. The relative sampling error for the number of hired workers generally ranged between 10 and 20 percent at the regional level. The U.S. all hired farm worker wage rate had a relative sampling error of 0.7 percent. The relative sampling error was 0.7 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 5 percent at the regional levels. Relative sampling errors for wage rates published by type of farm and economic class of farm generally ranged between 2 and 17 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 following quarter that the information is published and 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 2010 and October 2009 were subject to revision with this report.

**Special Note on Revisions:** The Labor Surveys conducted in California from July 2008 through April 2010 did not contain any sample units from the size group containing farms with 250-499 workers. Since the data in all Farm Labor Surveys is tied to a specific reference week, it was not possible to collect this survey data at a later time. In lieu of survey data, these estimates were modeled using historical data and time series analysis. Ten years of California quarterly estimates from July 1998 through April 2008 were used to model estimates of workers, hours worked, and wages. These estimates were then combined with survey data collected in California to set the revised quarterly estimates for the eight quarters affected.

For further information on the methodology which was used to generate the revised estimates, please paste this link into your web browser: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Education\\_and\\_Outreach/Research\\_Reports/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Education_and_Outreach/Research_Reports/index.asp). Then, select the link to the report titled "January 2007 Labor Estimates Methodology." The modeling methodology used above was similar to that which was used for the January 2007 estimates.

## Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in the Environmental and Demographics Section of the Environmental, Economics, and Demographics Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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Doug Farmer – Fruit Chemical Usage, Vegetable Chemical Usage.....	(202) 720-7492
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- Printed reports may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) by calling toll-free (800) 999-6779, or (703) 605-6220 if calling from outside the United States or Canada. Accepted methods of payment are Visa, MasterCard, check, or money order.

For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Agricultural Statistics Hotline at (800) 727-9540, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. ET, or e-mail: [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

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