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April Hired Workers Down Slightly, Wage Rates Increase 2 Percent From Previous Year

There were 687,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 12-18, 2015, down less than 1 percent from the April 2014 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 549,000 during the week of January 11-17, 2015, up 2 percent from the January 2014 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$12.27 per hour during the April 2015 reference week, up 2 percent from the April 2014 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$11.34 per hour, an increase of 3 percent. Livestock workers earned \$11.58 per hour, up 2 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$11.42 per hour, was up 3 percent from the 2014 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 39.9 hours during the April 2015 reference week, compared with 40.1 hours worked during the April 2014 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$12.53 per hour during the January 2015 reference week, up 2 percent from the January 2014 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$11.40 per hour, up 3 percent, while livestock workers earned \$11.69 per hour, up 3 percent from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$11.52 per hour, was up 3 percent from the January 2014 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 39.2 hours during the January 2015 reference week, compared with 38.9 hours worked during the January 2014 reference week.

April Reference Week

For the April 2015 reference week, the largest percentage increases in the number of hired workers from the 2014 reference week occurred in the Appalachian I (North Carolina and Virginia), Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia), and Mountain III (Arizona and New Mexico) regions. The Mountain III region saw the largest increase, with 38 percent more workers on the region's farms.

The largest percentage decreases in the number of hired workers from the 2014 reference week occurred in Florida, Hawaii, and the Northeast I (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont) region. Florida saw the biggest decline, with workers down 22 percent from the 2014 reference week.

The largest percentage increases in average wage rates for all hired workers occurred in the Delta (Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi), Mountain I (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), and Southern Plains (Oklahoma and Texas) regions.

January Reference Week

For the January 2015 reference week, the largest percentage increases in the number of hired workers from the January 2014 reference week occurred in the Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia), Cornbelt II (Iowa and Missouri), and Mountain III (Arizona and New Mexico) regions. The Cornbelt II region saw the largest increase, with 62 percent more workers on the region's farms.

The largest percentage decreases in the number of hired workers from the 2014 reference week occurred in Hawaii, and the Delta (Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi), and Lake (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) regions. The Delta region saw the biggest decline, employing 23 percent less workers during the 2015 reference week.

The largest percentage increases in average wage rates for all hired workers occurred in the Appalachian I (North Carolina and Virginia), Appalachian II, and Delta regions.

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Hired Workers and Wage Rates – United States

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Farm employment	January 12-18, 2014	April 6-12, 2014	July 6-12, 2014	October 12-18, 2014	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Hired workers						
150 days or more	459	558	583	561	458	545
149 days or less	81	132	255	221	91	142
Total	540	690	838	782	549	687
	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)
Hours worked by hired workers	38.9	40.1	40.5	41.3	39.2	39.9
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Wage rate ¹						
Field and livestock combined	11.20	11.12	11.33	11.46	11.52	11.42
Field	11.10	11.02	11.36	11.52	11.40	11.34
Livestock	11.36	11.35	11.26	11.29	11.69	11.58
All hired workers	12.23	12.01	11.96	12.12	12.53	12.27

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

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: April 12-18, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	31	26	5	39.8
Northeast II	35	27	8	39.0
Appalachian I	33	26	7	39.8
Appalachian II	26	16	10	32.0
Southeast	27	20	7	39.0
Florida	39	32	7	41.5
Lake	47	36	11	37.1
Cornbelt I	36	27	9	36.5
Cornbelt II	25	19	6	37.0
Delta	25	22	3	37.2
Northern Plains	35	26	9	39.3
Southern Plains	53	40	13	40.2
Mountain I	27	23	4	43.1
Mountain II	15	11	4	42.8
Mountain III	18	17	1	46.8
Pacific	50	37	13	41.1
California	159	135	24	42.0
Hawaii	6	5	1	36.7
United States	687	545	142	39.9

¹ Region map on page 23.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: April 12-18, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	11.40	11.06	11.25	12.39
Northeast II	11.56	11.39	11.50	12.34
Appalachian I	10.88	11.11	10.95	11.72
Appalachian II	10.82	9.84	10.30	11.35
Southeast	10.43	10.07	10.30	10.92
Florida	10.40	11.75	10.51	11.27
Lake	11.24	12.03	11.68	12.43
Cornbelt I	11.98	11.33	11.75	12.86
Cornbelt II	10.92	11.79	11.30	12.08
Delta	10.52	10.46	10.50	10.86
Northern Plains	14.13	13.09	13.50	14.08
Southern Plains	11.27	11.15	11.20	11.48
Mountain I	11.65	12.12	11.90	12.37
Mountain II	11.14	11.36	11.25	12.10
Mountain III	10.08	12.42	11.05	12.03
Pacific	11.46	12.01	11.55	12.27
California	11.60	11.95	11.65	12.81
Hawaii	12.30	14.15	12.50	14.18
United States	11.34	11.58	11.42	12.27

¹ Region map on page 23.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: January 11-17, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	23	20	3	40.6
Northeast II	22	20	2	39.9
Appalachian I	23	20	3	35.7
Appalachian II	20	12	8	32.1
Southeast	21	17	4	37.0
Florida	44	32	12	39.0
Lake	36	31	5	36.5
Cornbelt I	23	20	3	37.4
Cornbelt II	21	18	3	36.6
Delta	17	16	1	34.4
Northern Plains	28	25	3	41.4
Southern Plains	45	34	11	40.5
Mountain I	18	17	1	41.1
Mountain II	11	9	2	42.6
Mountain III	19	17	2	47.5
Pacific	40	31	9	39.9
California	132	114	18	40.3
Hawaii	6	5	1	36.3
United States	549	458	91	39.2

¹ Region map on page 23.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: January 11-17, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	11.87	11.15	11.45	12.67
Northeast II	12.64	11.23	11.85	12.97
Appalachian I	11.13	11.56	11.30	12.28
Appalachian II	10.82	10.48	10.65	11.80
Southeast	10.80	9.89	10.45	11.18
Florida	10.65	11.65	10.74	11.59
Lake	12.50	11.86	12.00	12.87
Cornbelt I	12.33	11.06	11.55	12.79
Cornbelt II	11.47	12.04	11.80	12.68
Delta	11.29	10.55	11.00	11.59
Northern Plains	14.58	13.41	13.80	14.54
Southern Plains	11.60	11.04	11.25	11.54
Mountain I	12.28	11.54	11.70	12.41
Mountain II	11.52	12.73	12.30	13.21
Mountain III	10.16	12.29	10.95	11.87
Pacific	11.48	12.45	11.65	12.55
California	11.30	12.30	11.48	12.90
Hawaii	12.30	13.80	12.47	14.27
United States	11.40	11.69	11.52	12.53

¹ Region map on page 23.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: October 12-18, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	45	32	13	41.0
Northeast II	34	23	11	37.9
Appalachian I	43	28	15	41.7
Appalachian II	28	19	9	37.8
Southeast	24	19	5	40.4
Florida	40	33	7	38.3
Lake	63	42	21	38.5
Cornbelt I	38	24	14	37.8
Cornbelt II	25	17	8	37.5
Delta	28	20	8	39.3
Northern Plains	36	27	9	43.5
Southern Plains	55	42	13	38.6
Mountain I	28	21	7	46.2
Mountain II	18	14	4	46.0
Mountain III	20	17	3	48.6
Pacific	81	44	37	39.5
California	169	133	36	45.1
Hawaii	7	6	1	37.6
United States	782	561	221	41.3

¹ Region map on page 23.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: October 12-18, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	11.77	10.74	11.45	12.09
Northeast II	11.27	11.20	11.25	11.88
Appalachian I	10.32	10.45	10.35	10.87
Appalachian II	10.42	10.83	10.55	11.11
Southeast	9.93	10.76	10.10	10.82
Florida	10.25	10.45	10.28	11.00
Lake	12.09	11.35	11.75	12.24
Cornbelt I	11.82	11.19	11.65	12.08
Cornbelt II	12.24	12.12	12.20	13.07
Delta	10.34	9.94	10.25	10.50
Northern Plains	14.55	13.17	14.05	14.52
Southern Plains	10.61	10.48	10.55	10.91
Mountain I	11.43	10.85	11.15	11.66
Mountain II	11.01	11.10	11.05	11.68
Mountain III	9.67	11.21	10.15	10.98
Pacific	13.04	12.55	13.00	13.42
California	11.45	12.05	11.56	12.54
Hawaii	12.30	13.95	12.46	15.04
United States	11.52	11.29	11.46	12.12

¹ Region map on page 23.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: July 6-12, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	47	36	11	39.7
Northeast II	44	25	19	38.9
Appalachian I	46	28	18	39.8
Appalachian II	31	22	9	35.4
Southeast	27	19	8	39.7
Florida	36	31	5	38.8
Lake	61	43	18	38.4
Corbelt I	35	23	12	37.5
Corbelt II	19	15	4	38.2
Delta	27	18	9	39.3
Northern Plains	36	27	9	40.9
Southern Plains	59	42	17	37.0
Mountain I	28	22	6	44.8
Mountain II	20	14	6	45.9
Mountain III	20	17	3	43.9
Pacific	118	52	66	40.2
California	177	143	34	43.9
Hawaii	7	6	1	37.7
United States	838	583	255	40.5

¹ Region map on page 23.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: July 6-12, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	11.60	10.73	11.30	12.04
Northeast II	10.52	11.17	10.70	11.25
Appalachian I	10.09	10.33	10.15	10.69
Appalachian II	9.99	11.07	10.35	10.99
Southeast	9.80	10.86	10.00	10.68
Florida	10.05	10.65	10.13	11.03
Lake	11.30	11.40	11.35	11.87
Cornbelt I	11.39	11.27	11.35	11.92
Cornbelt II	11.77	11.84	11.80	13.01
Delta	10.20	9.99	10.15	10.47
Northern Plains	14.09	12.99	13.65	14.09
Southern Plains	10.15	10.35	10.25	10.74
Mountain I	11.53	11.03	11.30	11.74
Mountain II	11.00	10.99	11.00	11.49
Mountain III	9.91	11.25	10.35	11.25
Pacific	12.70	12.78	12.70	13.03
California	11.50	11.90	11.57	12.42
Hawaii	12.35	13.75	12.48	14.96
United States	11.36	11.26	11.33	11.96

¹ Region map on page 23.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: April 6-12, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	36	30	6	41.8
Northeast II	35	28	7	36.8
Appalachian I	27	24	3	40.1
Appalachian II	20	15	5	36.6
Southeast	28	23	5	38.4
Florida	50	39	11	39.2
Lake	53	40	13	36.9
Cornbelt I	32	26	6	39.8
Cornbelt II	21	15	6	31.8
Delta	28	24	4	38.9
Northern Plains	34	28	6	39.7
Southern Plains	49	37	12	37.7
Mountain I	24	20	4	46.1
Mountain II	16	12	4	47.7
Mountain III	13	12	1	50.3
Pacific	54	39	15	43.3
California	163	140	23	41.0
Hawaii	7	6	1	37.6
United States	690	558	132	40.1

¹ Region map on page 23.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: April 6-12, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	11.28	10.96	11.15	12.20
Northeast II	11.59	12.10	11.75	12.55
Appalachian I	10.59	10.13	10.45	11.30
Appalachian II	9.86	10.30	10.10	11.02
Southeast	9.82	9.64	9.78	10.50
Florida	10.10	10.65	10.16	11.28
Lake	11.42	11.57	11.50	12.23
Cornbelt I	12.34	11.08	11.80	12.59
Cornbelt II	13.22	13.41	13.30	14.25
Delta	10.12	9.85	10.05	10.30
Northern Plains	13.43	12.82	13.15	13.84
Southern Plains	9.75	10.58	10.10	10.66
Mountain I	11.11	10.82	10.95	11.68
Mountain II	10.86	12.12	11.58	11.91
Mountain III	10.30	11.95	10.90	11.66
Pacific	11.45	12.05	11.55	12.29
California	11.00	11.70	11.09	12.28
Hawaii	13.30	14.65	13.42	15.85
United States	11.02	11.35	11.12	12.01

¹ Region map on page 23.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: January 12-18, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	23	21	2	40.3
Northeast II	25	21	4	36.2
Appalachian I	21	19	2	35.5
Appalachian II	14	8	6	31.9
Southeast	19	18	1	35.2
Florida	47	38	9	39.0
Lake	42	36	6	36.1
Cornbelt I	22	20	2	40.8
Cornbelt II	13	11	2	34.8
Delta	22	19	3	36.0
Northern Plains	28	26	2	40.2
Southern Plains	39	31	8	37.4
Mountain I	18	17	1	41.0
Mountain II	12	10	2	44.8
Mountain III	15	14	1	49.4
Pacific	42	33	9	39.5
California	131	111	20	40.5
Hawaii	7	6	1	37.3
United States	540	459	81	38.9

¹ Region map on page 23.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: January 12-18, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	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	11.46	10.62	10.95	12.38
Northeast II	12.09	11.64	11.90	12.80
Appalachian I	10.64	10.33	10.50	11.52
Appalachian II	9.18	10.38	9.75	10.68
Southeast	10.30	9.99	10.20	11.23
Florida	10.15	10.50	10.20	11.33
Lake	12.43	11.34	11.65	12.52
Cornbelt I	12.52	11.16	11.70	12.82
Cornbelt II	14.78	13.37	13.90	15.25
Delta	10.40	10.13	10.30	10.56
Northern Plains	14.15	12.60	13.35	14.07
Southern Plains	10.29	10.70	10.50	11.15
Mountain I	11.17	11.14	11.15	12.29
Mountain II	11.42	12.41	12.20	12.62
Mountain III	10.67	11.54	10.95	11.60
Pacific	11.66	12.06	11.75	12.83
California	10.75	11.80	10.92	12.13
Hawaii	13.45	14.55	13.55	15.96
United States	11.10	11.36	11.20	12.23

¹ Region map on page 23.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: April 12-18, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	12.86	11.46	11.20	11.38
Appalachian ³	11.62	10.48	10.60	10.70
Southeast and Florida	10.99	10.38	10.42	10.43
Lake	12.78	10.82	11.74	11.68
Cornbelt ⁴	11.92	11.04	11.61	11.56
Delta	10.33	10.40	10.80	10.50
Northern Plains	14.97	12.18	13.19	13.50
Southern Plains	11.81	11.77	10.96	11.20
Mountain ⁵	10.84	10.87	12.04	11.47
Pacific and California	12.66	11.52	11.99	11.63
48 States ⁶	12.02	11.15	11.58	11.41

¹ Region map on page 23.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: January 11-17, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	12.13	12.41	11.22	11.64
Appalachian ³	11.05	10.44	11.35	11.02
Southeast and Florida	12.43	10.59	10.51	10.65
Lake	13.41	11.61	11.90	12.00
Cornbelt ⁴	11.81	11.51	11.63	11.67
Delta	11.19	11.07	10.81	11.00
Northern Plains	15.67	14.13	13.49	13.80
Southern Plains	11.63	12.01	11.04	11.25
Mountain ⁵	10.30	10.59	12.16	11.50
Pacific and California	13.56	11.27	12.34	11.52
48 States ⁶	12.16	11.13	11.78	11.51

¹ Region map on page 23.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: April 6-12, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	14.10	11.23	11.46	11.43
Appalachian ³	10.26	10.46	10.19	10.31
Southeast and Florida	10.09	10.07	9.76	10.02
Lake	12.70	11.25	11.42	11.50
Cornbelt ⁴	13.85	11.94	11.48	12.32
Delta	10.31	9.60	9.99	10.05
Northern Plains	13.60	12.54	12.93	13.15
Southern Plains	10.67	8.98	10.83	10.10
Mountain ⁵	11.73	10.53	11.26	11.13
Pacific and California	12.69	11.09	11.79	11.21
48 States ⁶	12.06	10.86	11.20	11.11

¹ Region map on page 23.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: January 12-18, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	12.48	12.11	10.82	11.43
Appalachian ³	9.84	10.53	10.19	10.22
Southeast and Florida	10.30	10.28	9.85	10.20
Lake	13.69	12.45	11.24	11.65
Cornbelt ⁴	14.22	12.30	11.61	12.46
Delta	10.85	9.37	10.23	10.30
Northern Plains	14.23	12.89	12.64	13.35
Southern Plains	10.75	10.11	10.68	10.50
Mountain ⁵	11.58	10.71	11.54	11.35
Pacific and California	13.04	10.96	11.93	11.12
48 States ⁶	12.34	10.95	11.19	11.20

¹ Region map on page 23.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region and 48 States: April 12-18, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms (dollars per hour)
	<50 (dollars per hour)	50-99 (dollars per hour)	100-249 (dollars per hour)	250-499 (dollars per hour)	500-999 (dollars per hour)	1,000+ (dollars per hour)	
Northeast ²	10.92	10.34	11.98	11.17	11.22	13.04	12.36
Appalachian ³	10.13	10.32	11.48	10.26	11.45	12.20	11.58
Southeast and Florida	11.12	11.85	11.27	10.71	11.01	11.17	11.13
Lake	10.48	11.25	11.61	11.50	12.77	12.81	12.43
Cornbelt ⁴	10.07	12.84	11.00	11.94	11.83	13.24	12.54
Delta	10.45	10.48	11.79	9.59	10.64	11.12	10.86
Northern Plains	9.18	15.46	10.32	12.58	13.10	14.67	14.08
Southern Plains	10.66	13.04	11.08	12.72	10.02	11.92	11.48
Mountain ⁵	18.33	10.10	9.72	13.33	11.21	12.11	12.20
Pacific and California	11.61	12.15	13.30	13.23	12.53	12.69	12.68
48 States ⁶	11.30	11.70	11.64	11.99	11.84	12.59	12.25

¹ Region map on page 23.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region and 48 States: January 11-17, 2015

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms (dollars per hour)
	<50 (dollars per hour)	50-99 (dollars per hour)	100-249 (dollars per hour)	250-499 (dollars per hour)	500-999 (dollars per hour)	1,000+ (dollars per hour)	
Northeast ²	11.01	11.42	13.37	11.89	11.06	13.35	12.82
Appalachian ³	10.97	10.16	11.56	11.09	11.79	12.71	12.07
Southeast and Florida	11.41	11.21	11.18	11.16	11.17	11.56	11.46
Lake	10.97	10.12	11.26	11.98	14.01	13.08	12.87
Cornbelt ⁴	10.13	11.52	10.03	12.05	11.71	13.76	12.74
Delta	11.17	10.95	12.87	9.80	11.84	11.71	11.59
Northern Plains	9.30	19.67	10.38	12.88	14.47	14.95	14.54
Southern Plains	10.59	12.15	11.71	12.54	10.50	11.97	11.54
Mountain ⁵	17.51	11.09	9.91	13.84	11.88	11.95	12.36
Pacific and California	10.75	12.93	13.35	12.86	12.59	12.89	12.82
48 States ⁶	11.40	12.08	12.01	12.28	12.20	12.81	12.51

¹ Region map on page 23.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region and 48 States: April 6-12, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms (dollars per hour)
	<50 (dollars per hour)	50-99 (dollars per hour)	100-249 (dollars per hour)	250-499 (dollars per hour)	500-999 (dollars per hour)	1,000+ (dollars per hour)	
Northeast ²	13.04	10.68	12.34	11.70	12.11	12.43	12.36
Appalachian ³	9.14	9.65	12.03	11.70	9.80	11.51	11.19
Southeast and Florida	9.66	9.97	10.25	11.40	10.31	11.21	11.00
Lake	9.91	10.20	9.21	11.32	13.84	12.62	12.23
Cornbelt ⁴	13.46	12.00	11.54	11.57	13.97	13.42	13.16
Delta	9.07	10.49	11.31	9.87	10.27	10.42	10.30
Northern Plains	12.48	14.11	11.14	11.53	15.32	14.88	13.84
Southern Plains	11.25	10.70	9.83	10.67	10.61	10.80	10.66
Mountain ⁵	9.06	11.85	12.23	10.64	11.98	11.90	11.74
Pacific and California	11.37	14.03	11.42	11.79	11.85	12.36	12.28
48 States ⁶	11.53	11.73	11.21	11.33	11.93	12.27	11.97

¹ Region map on page 23.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

All Hired Worker Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm – Region and 48 States: January 12-18, 2014

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Region ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All farms (dollars per hour)
	<50 (dollars per hour)	50-99 (dollars per hour)	100-249 (dollars per hour)	250-499 (dollars per hour)	500-999 (dollars per hour)	1,000+ (dollars per hour)	
Northeast ²	12.22	11.94	12.27	12.42	11.40	13.00	12.59
Appalachian ³	9.33	9.69	10.98	12.25	9.90	11.85	11.21
Southeast and Florida	10.06	10.00	10.19	12.12	10.24	11.52	11.30
Lake	9.65	10.02	7.79	11.32	14.61	12.91	12.52
Cornbelt ⁴	16.97	10.42	14.23	9.69	16.42	14.02	13.63
Delta	9.74	10.72	9.76	10.54	10.47	10.86	10.56
Northern Plains	10.37	14.50	10.93	12.17	15.16	15.23	14.07
Southern Plains	10.99	11.44	11.85	11.18	10.58	10.99	11.15
Mountain ⁵	7.94	12.02	11.47	12.62	13.65	12.03	12.12
Pacific and California	11.55	11.48	11.67	11.09	12.65	12.40	12.30
48 States ⁶	11.09	11.28	11.36	11.60	12.28	12.52	12.18

¹ Region map on page 23.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

³ Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.

⁴ Includes Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II.

⁵ Includes Mountain I, Mountain II and Mountain III.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Field and Livestock Workers by Type of Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers, Alaska and Hawaii]

Type of farm	January 12-18, 2014	April 6-12, 2014	July 6-12, 2014	October 12-18, 2014	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Field crops	12	12	13	15	9	11
Other crops	51	55	55	51	47	51
Livestock, dairy, and poultry	37	33	32	34	44	38

Hired Workers by Economic Class of Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers, Alaska and Hawaii]

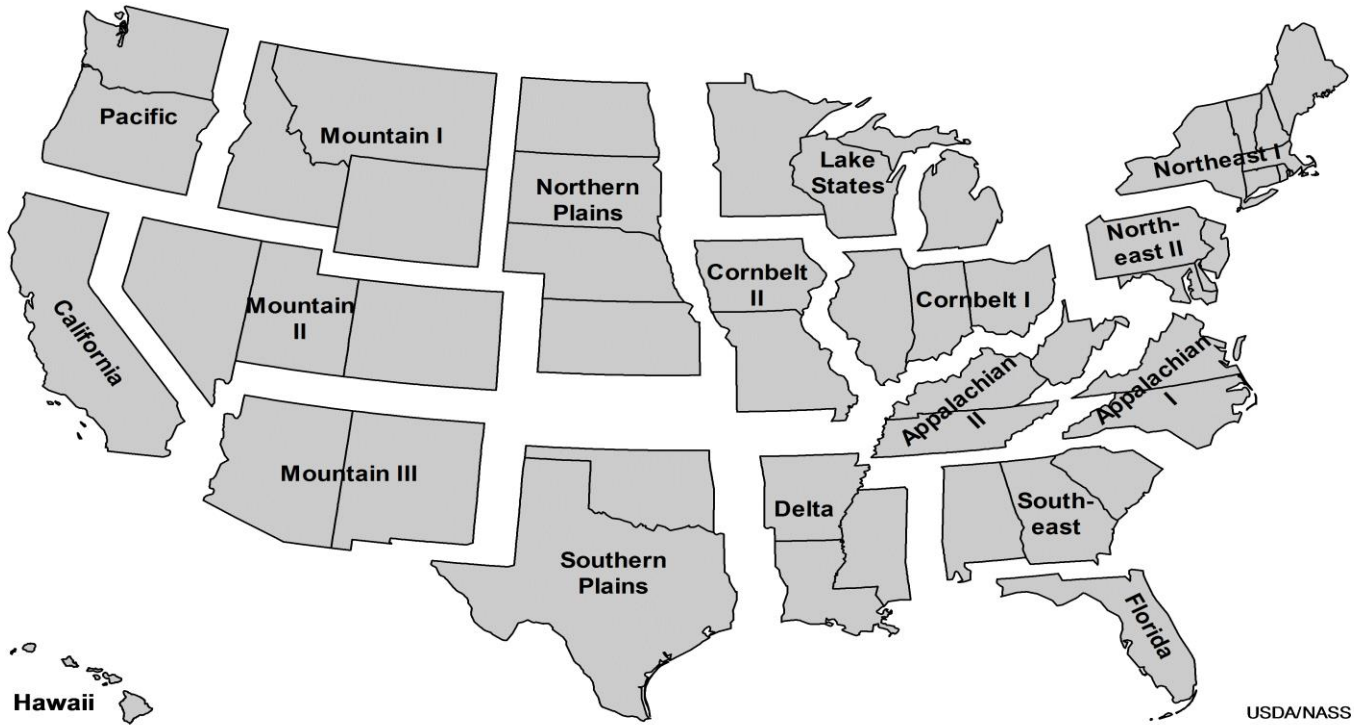
Gross value of sales	January 12-18, 2014	April 6-12, 2014	July 6-12, 2014	October 12-18, 2014	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Less than \$50,000	6	7	9	9	9	8
\$50,000-\$99,999	2	2	4	4	5	7
\$100,000-\$249,999	10	11	8	7	6	7
\$250,000-\$499,999	7	8	9	9	9	10
\$500,000-\$999,999	10	10	12	12	12	12
\$1,000,000 and over	65	62	58	59	59	56

Hired Workers by Number of Workers on Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Number of workers on farm	January 12-18, 2014	April 6-12, 2014	July 6-12, 2014	October 12-18, 2014	January 11-17, 2015	April 12-18, 2015
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
1 worker	10	8	11	11	12	11
2 workers	10	9	7	8	9	9
3-6 workers	17	18	17	18	17	18
7-10 workers	8	7	7	8	8	8
11-20 workers	11	13	12	12	11	10
21-50 workers	12	13	14	14	13	14
51 or more workers	32	32	32	29	30	30

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 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. Types of workers include:

Field Workers: Employees engaged in planting, tending and harvesting crops including operation of farm machinery on crop farms. The Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) codes and titles associated with field workers are 45-2041: Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products; 45-2091: Agricultural Equipment Operators; 45-2092: Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery and Greenhouse; 45-2099: Agricultural Workers, All Other; 53-7064: Packers and Packagers, Hand.

Livestock Workers: Employees tending livestock, milking cows or caring for poultry, including operation of farm machinery on livestock or poultry operations. SOC codes and titles associated with livestock workers are 45-2041: Graders and Sorters, Agricultural Products; 45-2093: Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals; 45-2099: Agricultural Workers, All Other; 53-7064: Packers and Packagers, Hand.

Supervisors: Hired managers, range foremen, crew leaders, etc. SOC codes and titles associated with supervisors are 11-9013: Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers; 45-1011: First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers.

Other Workers: Employees engaged in agricultural work not included in the other three categories. Bookkeepers and pilots are examples. SOC codes and titles associated with other workers include but are not limited to 45-2011: Agricultural Inspectors; 45-2021: Animal Breeders; 37-2012: Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation.

For more information on the applicable Standard Occupational Classification codes, see “Crosswalk from National Agricultural Statistics Service Farm Labor Survey to the 2010 Standard Occupational Classification System” at the “Surveys and Programs” page for Farm Labor, on the NASS website (<http://www.nass.usda.gov>).

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, 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. The agricultural services component has been discontinued from the Farm Labor Survey.

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. The Farm Labor Survey excludes measures of contract labor.

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. The Farm Labor Survey excludes measures of custom labor.

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 sold.

Survey Methodology

Survey Procedures: The NASS Farm Labor Survey is conducted semi-annually in April and October, in all surveyed states except California. During the April data collection, data for both January and April reference weeks are collected. During the October data collection, data for both July and October reference weeks are collected. The quarterly reference week is the Sunday to Saturday period which includes the 12th day of the month. For California, collection of these data is currently conducted on a quarterly basis, as part of the California Employment Development Department monthly labor program.

The target population for the Farm Labor Survey program is all farms and ranches with \$1,000 or more in agricultural sales (or potential sales). An optimal sample is selected in each state with a U.S. sample size of about 13,000.

The Farm Labor Survey is a multiple frame survey, incorporating samples from both the NASS list and area frames to ensure adequate coverage.

Farms on the list frame are sampled through a hierarchical stratified design, with strata based on measures of size. Those operations with associated control data indicating peak numbers of workers are stratified based on these values, and those expected to employ large numbers of workers (higher peak number values) are selected with the greatest frequency. Farms on the list frame which do not have peak worker control data are stratified and sampled based on farm value of sales. Farms stratified by farm value of sales are selected at a lower frequency.

In order to provide coverage of farms not currently part of the NASS list frame, a second sample is drawn consisting of segments of land selected from the NASS area frame. The area frame contains all land in the state and, as such, is complete. The land is stratified according to intensity of agriculture using satellite imagery. The land in each stratum is divided into segments of roughly one square mile. Segments are optimally allocated and sampled to effectively measure crops and livestock. The sampled segments are fully enumerated in June. All farms and ranches found operating tracts in these segments are checked to see if they are included in the list frame hired labor population. The farms and ranches that are not included in the list frame labor population, called nonoverlap tracts, are sampled for the Farm Labor Survey so that the target population is completely represented. The area frame component is enumerated during each semi-annual data collection period along with the list sample.

Most respondents are first contacted through self-administered mailed questionnaires, which can be completed either by hand or securely online. All manually completed survey questionnaires are returned to the NASS National Operations Center, where they are visually reviewed and key entered. Nonresponse follow-up is completed either by computer-assisted telephone interviews conducted from NASS Data Collection Centers, or in person by an enumerator.

Throughout the data collection process, steps are taken to minimize the impact of nonsampling errors such as reporting, recording, and editing errors. These steps include questionnaire testing, comprehensive interviewer training, validation, and verification of processing systems, application of detailed computer edits, and evaluation of the data via the analysis tools.

Nonresponse adjustment is necessary to account for producers who refuse to participate in the survey, cannot be located during the data collection period, or who submit incomplete reports. These nonrespondents must be accounted for if accurate estimates of farm labor are to be made. For the Farm Labor Survey, nonrespondents are accounted for by adjusting the weights of the respondents. The adjustment occurs by stratum as all strata represent homogeneous groupings of similar sized farms. The adjustment is performed by individual item on the questionnaire so adjustments for item nonresponse (partial reports) and unit nonresponse (refusals and inaccessibles) are done in a single calculation.

For estimation of data items, point estimates called direct expansions are calculated by multiplying the reported value by the final adjusted weight (initial sampling weight adjusted for nonresponse) and summing to a stratum total. A variance estimate is also computed at the stratum level. The nonoverlap tracts are treated as an additional stratum. Totals and variances are additive across strata to form state level point estimates.

Ratio estimates are also computed for many items. For example, wage rates are calculated as the ratio of total wages to total hours worked. Ratio estimates use the reweighted estimator described above for the numerator and denominator direct expansions. Both the numerator and denominator must be usable in order for that record to be used in the ratio estimator.

The number of hired workers, average hours worked, average wage rate data, and all associated sub-items are summarized from the dataset. Because an identical data collection instrument (questionnaire) and follow-up interview are used for all states, as well as identical editing, analysis, and summarization processes, state data can be summarized and regional and national survey point estimates computed. For estimation purposes, point estimates are adopted as survey indications for all data items. The summary results provide multiple direct and ratio indications for each data series being estimated. The results also provide information used to assess the performance of the current survey and evaluate the quality of the survey indications. NASS Regional Field Offices interpret the survey indications and submit state level recommendations for all member states to NASS headquarters, providing justification in cases where recommendations deviate from summary indications, as well other state specific comments and justifications. NASS headquarters completes the regional and U.S. level summaries, which utilize the same estimators and produce the same indications as the state level summaries.

For the final step in the estimation process, NASS assembles a panel of statisticians to serve as the Agricultural Statistics Board (ASB) for the Farm Labor Survey. The Farm Labor ASB reviews the U.S. level, regional, and state level survey indications and establishes all final, official estimates for the Farm Labor Survey program. Since larger sample sizes yield more precise results, the ASB employs the “top-down” approach by determining the U.S. level estimates first and reconciling the state recommendations to the U.S. and regional numbers for all estimates including number of hired workers, average hours worked, average wage rates, and associated sub-items. As part of the semi-annual process, the ASB also considers revised recommendations and issues revisions of previously published estimates where appropriate. Additionally, the ASB reviews the annual average estimates for the November publication, which are summarized from the final regional and U.S. level estimates for each of the four quarters. Through examining indications across states and regions, re-examining outliers, and considering state level recommendations and comments, the ASB is able to establish all final estimates according to both local conditions and regional and national conditions and trends.

Revision Policy: Farm labor statistics are subject to revision semi-annually and annually. Revisions must be supported by additional data that directly affect the level of the estimate. Worker numbers and wage rates for January, April, and October 2014 were subject to revision with this report.

For More Information

For more information on the Farm Labor Survey methodology and quality measures, see “Farm Labor Survey Methodology and Quality Measures” on the NASS website (<http://www.nass.usda.gov>).

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity statisticians in 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.

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Rachel Antzak – Cash Receipts, Land Values	(202) 720-5446
Tynasha Boomer – Production Expenditures	(202) 720-9168
Daryl Brinkman – Prices Received, Prices Received Indexes, Parity Prices	(202) 720-8844
Kuan Chen – Prices, Prices Research	(202) 690-3347
Liana Cuffman – Tenure, Ownership and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL)	(202) 720-2250
Greg Gholson – Prices, Prices Research, Prices Received Indexes, Parity Prices.....	(202) 690-1348
Joe Hagedorn – Cash Rents, Grazing Fees, TOTAL	(202) 690-3231
Michael Mathison – Farm Expenditures.....	(202) 720-3243
Judy McDermott – Prices Paid, Prices Paid Indexes	(202) 690-3229
Scott Shimmin, Head, Environmental and Demographics Section.....	(202) 720-0684
Stephanie Brennan – Field Crops Chemical Use	(202) 690-0392
David Colwell – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports.....	(202) 690-3233
Doug Farmer – Vegetable Chemical Use	(202) 720-7492
Ginger Harris – Census of Agriculture	(502) 582-5293
Steve Peterson – Farms, Land in Farms, Census	(202) 720-5581
Jackie Ross – Census of Agriculture	(202) 720-7644
Miste Salmon – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports	(202) 690-3226
Theresa Varner – Farm Labor, Chemical Use	(202) 690-2284

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- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: <http://www.nass.usda.gov>
- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit <http://www.nass.usda.gov> and in the “Follow NASS” box under “Receive reports by Email,” click on “National” or “State” to select the reports you would like to receive.

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.

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