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April Hired Workers Down 4 Percent, Wage Rate Increases 4 Percent from Previous Year

There were 648,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 8-14, 2018, down 4 percent from the April 2017 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 534,000 during the week of January 7-13, 2018, up slightly from the January 2017 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$13.72 per hour during the April 2018 reference week, up 4 percent from the April 2017 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$12.72 per hour, an increase of 4 percent. Livestock workers earned \$12.78 per hour, up 2 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$12.74 per hour, was up 3 percent from the 2017 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.2 hours during the April 2018 reference week, down slightly from the hours worked during the April 2017 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$14.08 per hour during the January 2018 reference week, up 5 percent from the January 2017 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$12.84 per hour, up 6 percent, while livestock workers earned \$12.89 per hour, up 2 percent from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$12.86 per hour, was up 4 percent from the January 2017 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 38.0 hours during the January 2018 reference week, equaling the hours worked during the January 2017 reference week.

April Reference Week

For the April 2018 reference week, the largest percentage increases in the number of hired workers from the 2017 reference week occurred in the Cornbelt I (Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio), Cornbelt II (Iowa and Missouri), and Northeast I (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont), regions. The Cornbelt I and Cornbelt II regions saw the largest increases, each with 17 percent more workers on regional farms.

The largest percentage decreases in the number of hired workers from the 2017 reference week occurred in the Appalachian II (Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia), Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania), and Southeast (Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina) regions. Appalachian II saw the biggest decline, with workers down 25 percent from the 2017 reference week.

The largest percentage increases in average wage rates for all hired workers occurred in the Mountain I (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming), Mountain II (Colorado, Nevada, and Utah), and Mountain III (Arizona and New Mexico) regions.

January Reference Week

For the January 2018 reference week, the largest percentage increases in the number of hired workers from the 2017 reference week occurred in the Hawaii, Mountain II (Colorado, Nevada, and Utah), and Northeast I (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont) regions. The Northeast I region saw the largest increase, with 40 percent more workers on the region's farms.

The largest percentage decreases in the number of hired workers from the 2017 reference week occurred in the Florida, Northeast II (Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania), and Southeast (Alabama, Georgia, and

South Carolina) regions. The Southeast region saw the biggest decline, with workers down 35 percent from the 2017 reference week.

The largest percentage increases in average wage rates for all hired workers occurred in the California, Mountain II, and Mountain III (Arizona and New Mexico) regions.

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Hired Workers and Wage Rates – United States

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Farm employment	January 8-14, 2017	April 9-15, 2017	July 9-15, 2017	October 8-14, 2017	January 7-13, 2018	April 8-14, 2018
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Hired workers						
150 days or more	450	536	631	618	449	517
149 days or less	83	137	248	222	85	131
Total	533	673	879	840	534	648
Hours worked by hired workers	(hours per week) 38.0	(hours per week) 40.4	(hours per week) 41.4	(hours per week) 41.6	(hours per week) 38.0	(hours per week) 40.2
Wage rate ¹	(dollars per hour)					
Field and livestock combined	12.35	12.32	12.47	12.66	12.86	12.74
Field	12.15	12.22	12.57	12.83	12.84	12.72
Livestock	12.66	12.53	12.21	12.22	12.89	12.78
All hired workers	13.43	13.23	13.23	13.42	14.08	13.72

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 8-14, 2018

[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	35	30	5	39.7
Northeast II	33	26	7	36.5
Appalachian I	24	20	4	40.9
Appalachian II	18	15	3	40.1
Southeast	30	22	8	39.3
Florida	38	27	11	40.8
Lake	43	34	9	39.0
Cornbelt I	42	33	9	36.9
Cornbelt II	21	16	5	31.7
Delta	32	20	12	41.9
Northern Plains	32	26	6	41.0
Southern Plains	44	33	11	37.8
Mountain I	26	20	6	42.3
Mountain II	15	12	3	43.3
Mountain III	16	14	2	47.7
Pacific	53	41	12	41.3
California	140	123	17	42.3
Hawaii	6	5	1	33.7
United States	648	517	131	40.2

¹ Region map on page 24.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: April 8-14, 2018

[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	13.44	13.03	13.25	14.46
Northeast II	13.37	12.68	13.10	13.89
Appalachian I	11.87	11.80	11.85	12.69
Appalachian II	11.56	11.64	11.60	12.69
Southeast	10.35	11.03	10.55	11.23
Florida	11.20	12.20	11.25	11.89
Lake	12.28	12.41	12.35	13.02
Cornbelt I	12.49	13.20	12.75	13.71
Cornbelt II	12.74	13.43	13.05	13.64
Delta	11.30	10.91	11.15	11.62
Northern Plains	14.52	13.47	14.00	14.70
Southern Plains	11.40	12.13	11.75	12.26
Mountain I	13.16	13.02	13.10	13.84
Mountain II	12.08	13.59	13.05	14.13
Mountain III	11.77	12.09	11.90	13.13
Pacific	14.16	14.10	14.15	14.97
California	13.45	14.15	13.58	15.10
Hawaii	14.55	15.70	14.77	16.71
United States	12.72	12.78	12.74	13.72

¹ Region map on page 24.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: January 7-13, 2018

[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	28	25	3	39.9
Northeast II	27	22	5	35.0
Appalachian I	19	16	3	37.5
Appalachian II	17	14	3	36.6
Southeast	20	18	2	38.4
Florida	37	28	9	40.3
Lake	35	30	5	37.7
Corbelt I	31	27	4	34.2
Corbelt II	16	13	3	32.8
Delta	19	13	6	38.1
Northern Plains	25	22	3	41.4
Southern Plains	40	31	9	37.3
Mountain I	17	15	2	36.9
Mountain II	13	12	1	44.2
Mountain III	17	14	3	44.3
Pacific	37	30	7	38.2
California	129	113	16	37.9
Hawaii	7	6	1	32.8
United States	534	449	85	38.0

¹ Region map on page 24.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: January 7-13, 2018

[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	14.00	13.12	13.45	14.70
Northeast II	13.57	12.88	13.25	14.19
Appalachian I	12.49	11.57	12.15	13.30
Appalachian II	11.68	11.53	11.60	12.89
Southeast	10.74	11.33	10.95	11.86
Florida	10.80	10.80	10.80	11.64
Lake	12.18	12.35	12.30	13.06
Cornbelt I	13.09	13.20	13.15	14.29
Cornbelt II	13.37	13.08	13.20	13.85
Delta	12.35	10.83	11.50	12.23
Northern Plains	14.76	13.47	14.05	14.82
Southern Plains	11.68	12.48	12.05	12.65
Mountain I	13.18	13.14	13.15	14.54
Mountain II	12.16	13.93	13.40	14.57
Mountain III	12.04	12.33	12.15	13.31
Pacific	14.06	14.23	14.10	15.31
California	13.55	14.40	13.73	15.61
Hawaii	14.35	15.40	14.52	16.20
United States	12.84	12.89	12.86	14.08

¹ Region map on page 24.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: October 8-14, 2017

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Hired				Number of hours worked (hours per week)
	Number of workers (1,000)	Expected to be employed (1,000)			
		150 days or more	149 days or less		
Northeast I	45	32	13	44.2	
Northeast II	45	37	8	40.4	
Appalachian I	39	27	12	39.6	
Appalachian II	30	21	9	39.1	
Southeast	38	29	9	38.5	
Florida	30	27	3	40.8	
Lake	55	36	19	38.1	
Cornbelt I	47	32	15	37.1	
Cornbelt II	29	17	12	35.8	
Delta	38	23	15	46.1	
Northern Plains	40	32	8	45.8	
Southern Plains	56	39	17	37.4	
Mountain I	36	28	8	44.3	
Mountain II	27	23	4	44.2	
Mountain III	20	18	2	45.3	
Pacific	93	54	39	43.2	
California	166	138	28	43.8	
Hawaii	6	5	1	37.2	
United States	840	618	222	41.6	

¹ Region map on page 24.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: October 8-14, 2017

[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	13.49	12.33	13.05	13.82
Northeast II	12.91	11.01	12.30	13.08
Appalachian I	11.61	11.04	11.50	11.96
Appalachian II	11.23	10.91	11.10	11.84
Southeast	11.04	11.55	11.15	11.73
Florida	11.30	11.80	11.39	13.00
Lake	13.87	13.55	13.75	14.45
Cornbelt I	12.95	12.64	12.85	13.42
Cornbelt II	13.83	12.95	13.55	14.04
Delta	10.49	11.07	10.60	11.02
Northern Plains	14.93	12.76	14.00	14.53
Southern Plains	11.59	11.87	11.75	12.32
Mountain I	11.50	11.19	11.35	12.00
Mountain II	10.17	10.91	10.45	11.25
Mountain III	10.28	10.33	10.30	10.97
Pacific	14.76	14.13	14.70	15.08
California	13.25	14.10	13.37	14.59
Hawaii	14.20	16.65	14.51	16.22
United States	12.83	12.22	12.66	13.42

¹ Region map on page 24.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: July 9-15, 2017

[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	44	33	11	41.9
Northeast II	52	36	16	42.2
Appalachian I	42	26	16	39.9
Appalachian II	28	20	8	38.1
Southeast	39	29	10	39.4
Florida	27	23	4	39.1
Lake	62	37	25	34.4
Cornbelt I	44	32	12	34.3
Cornbelt II	23	16	7	37.4
Delta	34	21	13	43.9
Northern Plains	36	30	6	44.4
Southern Plains	59	41	18	36.8
Mountain I	38	29	9	46.5
Mountain II	30	23	7	46.0
Mountain III	19	16	3	44.6
Pacific	118	64	54	43.6
California	178	150	28	44.1
Hawaii	6	5	1	36.8
United States	879	631	248	41.4

¹ Region map on page 24.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: July 9-15, 2017

[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	12.77	12.35	12.60	13.49
Northeast II	12.20	11.02	11.85	12.47
Appalachian I	11.19	10.99	11.15	11.59
Appalachian II	11.14	10.91	11.05	11.87
Southeast	10.78	11.26	10.90	11.47
Florida	11.40	12.25	11.58	13.38
Lake	12.47	13.28	12.80	13.63
Cornbelt I	12.59	13.05	12.75	13.40
Cornbelt II	13.49	13.26	13.40	13.98
Delta	10.43	11.21	10.60	11.09
Northern Plains	13.83	12.89	13.40	13.94
Southern Plains	11.58	11.61	11.60	12.16
Mountain I	11.18	11.22	11.20	11.74
Mountain II	9.79	10.74	10.15	10.90
Mountain III	10.08	9.84	10.00	10.80
Pacific	14.39	13.83	14.35	14.69
California	13.25	14.20	13.39	14.58
Hawaii	14.45	16.90	14.76	16.46
United States	12.57	12.21	12.47	13.23

¹ Region map on page 24.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: April 9-15, 2017

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Hired				Number of hours worked (hours per week)
	Number of workers (1,000)	Expected to be employed (1,000)			
		150 days or more	149 days or less		
Northeast I	32	28	4		39.5
Northeast II	40	33	7		38.3
Appalachian I	24	20	4		41.3
Appalachian II	24	17	7		36.7
Southeast	38	31	7		41.1
Florida	45	36	9		39.1
Lake	46	35	11		38.7
Cornbelt I	36	26	10		36.0
Cornbelt II	18	14	4		37.2
Delta	30	21	9		44.9
Northern Plains	32	27	5		40.2
Southern Plains	45	32	13		34.0
Mountain I	27	21	6		43.3
Mountain II	14	12	2		45.3
Mountain III	17	15	2		42.5
Pacific	53	39	14		41.4
California	146	124	22		43.3
Hawaii	6	5	1		36.1
United States	673	536	137		40.4

¹ Region map on page 24.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: April 9-15, 2017

[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	13.43	12.02	12.90	13.96
Northeast II	12.09	11.85	12.00	12.98
Appalachian I	11.69	11.71	11.70	12.53
Appalachian II	11.49	11.40	11.45	12.17
Southeast	10.55	11.21	10.75	11.33
Florida	11.10	12.45	11.20	12.31
Lake	12.58	12.83	12.70	13.35
Cornbelt I	13.17	13.25	13.20	14.04
Cornbelt II	12.60	13.95	13.15	13.41
Delta	10.73	11.03	10.80	11.10
Northern Plains	14.81	12.47	13.55	14.02
Southern Plains	11.54	12.87	12.20	12.95
Mountain I	11.60	12.59	12.05	12.74
Mountain II	11.48	11.62	11.55	12.29
Mountain III	10.62	11.04	10.75	11.44
Pacific	12.87	14.37	13.05	13.89
California	12.80	13.55	12.96	14.29
Hawaii	14.00	16.90	14.24	16.65
United States	12.22	12.53	12.32	13.23

¹ Region map on page 24.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Region and United States: January 8-14, 2017

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Region ¹	Hired				Number of hours worked (hours per week)
	Number of workers (1,000)	Expected to be employed (1,000)		Number of hours worked (hours per week)	
		150 days or more	149 days or less		
Northeast I	20	18	2	42.3	
Northeast II	31	25	6	33.8	
Appalachian I	18	16	2	37.7	
Appalachian II	19	13	6	32.9	
Southeast	31	28	3	37.9	
Florida	45	34	11	39.4	
Lake	36	31	5	39.0	
Corbelt I	29	22	7	36.6	
Corbelt II	15	12	3	35.3	
Delta	17	14	3	37.4	
Northern Plains	27	24	3	38.4	
Southern Plains	36	29	7	33.5	
Mountain I	15	14	1	43.9	
Mountain II	11	10	1	44.4	
Mountain III	17	14	3	41.4	
Pacific	35	31	4	37.0	
California	125	110	15	39.2	
Hawaii	6	5	1	36.1	
United States	533	450	83	38.0	

¹ Region map on page 24.

Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Region and United States: January 8-14, 2017

[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	13.80	11.65	12.70	13.95
Northeast II	12.53	11.66	12.10	13.39
Appalachian I	12.19	11.35	11.85	13.01
Appalachian II	10.86	11.63	11.25	12.26
Southeast	11.03	11.08	11.05	11.70
Florida	11.05	12.35	11.15	12.17
Lake	12.98	12.78	12.85	13.60
Cornbelt I	12.76	13.29	13.00	13.92
Cornbelt II	13.08	13.92	13.55	13.82
Delta	11.30	11.16	11.25	11.72
Northern Plains	14.76	12.77	13.50	14.13
Southern Plains	11.31	12.93	12.20	13.02
Mountain I	12.00	12.97	12.75	13.75
Mountain II	11.49	11.91	11.75	12.55
Mountain III	10.85	10.99	10.90	11.72
Pacific	12.69	14.69	13.05	14.36
California	12.45	13.95	12.82	14.32
Hawaii	13.65	16.60	13.89	16.32
United States	12.15	12.66	12.35	13.43

¹ Region map on page 24.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Wage Rates by Type of Farm – Region and 48 States: April 8-14, 2018

[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	14.61	13.02	13.22	13.18
Appalachian ³	11.38	11.78	11.79	11.74
Southeast and Florida	10.33	10.95	11.18	10.95
Lake	15.25	12.32	12.15	12.35
Cornbelt ⁴	13.76	11.70	13.44	12.84
Delta	11.78	10.95	10.79	11.15
Northern Plains	15.44	13.17	13.27	14.00
Southern Plains	13.07	10.85	12.09	11.75
Mountain ⁵	12.37	12.49	12.92	12.72
Pacific and California	13.84	13.64	14.06	13.74
48 States ⁶	13.24	12.64	12.72	12.72

¹ Region map on page 24.

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 7-13, 2018

[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	14.79	13.45	13.19	13.36
Appalachian ³	11.68	12.32	11.59	11.89
Southeast and Florida	10.56	10.81	11.11	10.85
Lake	14.37	12.37	12.18	12.30
Cornbelt ⁴	14.32	11.80	13.14	13.17
Delta	13.23	10.88	10.74	11.50
Northern Plains	15.70	12.78	13.40	14.05
Southern Plains	14.24	11.11	12.35	12.05
Mountain ⁵	13.39	11.64	13.23	12.82
Pacific and California	14.57	13.71	14.13	13.81
48 States ⁶	13.89	12.68	12.84	12.84

¹ Region map on page 24.

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 9-15, 2017

[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	12.38	12.80	11.93	12.40
Appalachian ³	11.98	11.57	11.36	11.58
Southeast and Florida	11.03	10.89	11.34	10.98
Lake	14.87	12.28	12.51	12.70
Cornbelt ⁴	14.14	11.16	13.42	13.18
Delta	10.75	10.56	11.14	10.80
Northern Plains	16.58	11.77	12.34	13.55
Southern Plains	11.76	11.14	13.04	12.20
Mountain ⁵	12.03	11.05	11.98	11.55
Pacific and California	13.60	12.83	13.55	12.98
48 States ⁶	12.85	12.10	12.46	12.30

¹ Region map on page 24.

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 8-14, 2017

[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	12.69	13.52	11.63	12.37
Appalachian ³	11.77	11.68	11.38	11.55
Southeast and Florida	13.62	10.90	11.23	11.11
Lake	15.36	12.76	12.38	12.85
Cornbelt ⁴	13.36	11.39	13.57	13.19
Delta	11.45	10.90	11.27	11.25
Northern Plains	16.40	10.32	12.65	13.50
Southern Plains	11.57	10.78	13.04	12.20
Mountain ⁵	11.87	11.15	12.10	11.76
Pacific and California	14.53	12.49	14.05	12.87
48 States ⁶	13.48	11.93	12.54	12.33

¹ Region map on page 24.

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 8-14, 2018

[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	(S)	(S)	13.41	13.89	11.19	14.28	14.20
Appalachian ³	11.25	12.63	12.09	13.17	11.50	13.25	12.69
Southeast and Florida	11.60	9.94	10.95	11.93	12.35	11.56	11.60
Lake	(S)	10.62	10.28	10.64	11.26	14.09	13.02
Cornbelt ⁴	14.39	12.96	11.24	11.59	13.85	14.41	13.69
Delta	10.93	12.72	12.47	11.40	11.04	11.88	11.62
Northern Plains	11.92	12.13	14.77	12.44	12.98	15.67	14.70
Southern Plains	12.91	10.98	11.59	13.16	11.47	12.07	12.26
Mountain ⁵	12.99	(S)	10.92	15.75	12.85	13.69	13.70
Pacific and California	(S)	14.50	14.63	15.60	15.07	14.98	15.06
48 States ⁶	14.17	13.25	12.72	13.30	12.84	14.01	13.69

(S) Insufficient number of reports to establish an estimate.

¹ Region map on page 24.

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 7-13, 2018

[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	(S)	(S)	13.80	14.56	11.68	14.40	14.47
Appalachian ³	11.57	11.46	11.46	14.20	11.53	13.86	13.11
Southeast and Florida	11.42	9.89	11.30	11.50	12.71	11.66	11.71
Lake	(S)	10.70	10.03	10.92	11.11	14.50	13.06
Cornbelt ⁴	14.55	13.81	11.63	11.17	13.99	15.33	14.14
Delta	10.55	12.21	13.23	11.84	11.64	12.91	12.23
Northern Plains	10.92	12.39	15.24	12.44	13.03	15.69	14.82
Southern Plains	12.29	12.71	12.63	13.29	11.31	12.59	12.65
Mountain ⁵	13.58	(S)	12.64	15.37	12.60	14.07	14.08
Pacific and California	(S)	(S)	14.39	15.27	14.60	15.73	15.54
48 States ⁶	13.95	14.33	12.98	13.20	12.87	14.54	14.05

(S) Insufficient number of reports to establish an estimate.

¹ Region map on page 24.

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 9-15, 2017

[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	14.57	14.98	11.39	11.78	12.15	14.04	13.42
Appalachian ³	10.58	10.94	11.68	11.58	11.23	13.64	12.36
Southeast and Florida	10.91	10.03	12.10	10.25	11.74	12.18	11.85
Lake	13.70	(S)	10.41	11.75	12.92	13.99	13.35
Cornbelt ⁴	10.85	12.81	13.21	11.84	14.22	14.72	13.83
Delta	11.04	11.37	11.25	11.19	11.06	11.06	11.10
Northern Plains	14.50	10.45	13.75	13.32	14.94	14.38	14.02
Southern Plains	13.80	12.05	12.59	11.05	13.30	13.11	12.95
Mountain ⁵	(S)	13.63	10.75	11.80	11.68	12.61	12.26
Pacific and California	14.32	14.59	13.58	13.07	13.78	14.33	14.19
48 States ⁶	12.54	12.73	12.35	11.92	12.79	13.65	13.20

(S) Insufficient number of reports to establish an estimate.

¹ Region map on page 24.

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 8-14, 2017

[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	15.07	13.44	10.70	11.18	13.23	14.58	13.64
Appalachian ³	11.28	11.80	10.93	11.95	11.18	13.86	12.65
Southeast and Florida	10.57	10.06	11.33	9.78	12.05	12.47	11.98
Lake	12.70	(S)	10.44	11.92	14.43	14.12	13.60
Cornbelt ⁴	10.80	13.97	11.23	11.96	14.73	15.41	13.89
Delta	11.93	12.55	11.78	10.91	11.40	11.89	11.72
Northern Plains	13.91	10.30	14.30	13.69	15.10	14.11	14.13
Southern Plains	13.97	12.41	12.16	10.97	13.33	13.24	13.02
Mountain ⁵	(S)	(S)	11.56	12.97	12.14	12.76	12.66
Pacific and California	14.71	13.95	12.92	13.44	14.11	14.49	14.33
48 States ⁶	12.72	12.95	11.90	11.96	13.32	13.90	13.40

(S) Insufficient number of reports to establish an estimate.

¹ Region map on page 24.

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 8-14, 2017	April 9-15, 2017	July 9-15, 2017	October 8-14, 2017	January 7-13, 2018	April 8-14, 2018
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Field crops	12	13	14	16	9	10
Other crops	50	54	55	53	50	54
Livestock, dairy, and poultry	38	33	31	31	41	36

Hired Workers by Economic Class of Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers, Alaska and Hawaii]

Gross value of sales	January 8-14, 2017	April 9-15, 2017	July 9-15, 2017	October 8-14, 2017	January 7-13, 2018	April 8-14, 2018
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Less than \$50,000	7	7	8	7	8	7
\$50,000-\$99,999	4	5	6	5	4	4
\$100,000-\$249,999	8	7	10	8	6	7
\$250,000-\$499,999	9	9	9	9	12	12
\$500,000-\$999,999	11	13	12	14	11	11
\$1,000,000 and over	61	59	55	57	59	59

Hired Workers by Number of Workers on Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Number of workers on farm	January 8-14, 2017	April 9-15, 2017	July 9-15, 2017	October 8-14, 2017	January 7-13, 2018	April 8-14, 2018
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
1 worker	11	10	8	9	10	10
2 workers	10	10	9	10	10	9
3-6 workers	17	17	17	17	15	15
7-10 workers	8	7	9	8	10	9
11-20 workers	10	11	11	11	12	11
21-50 workers	15	15	13	12	12	13
51 or more workers	29	30	33	33	31	33

Hired Workers by Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) System

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

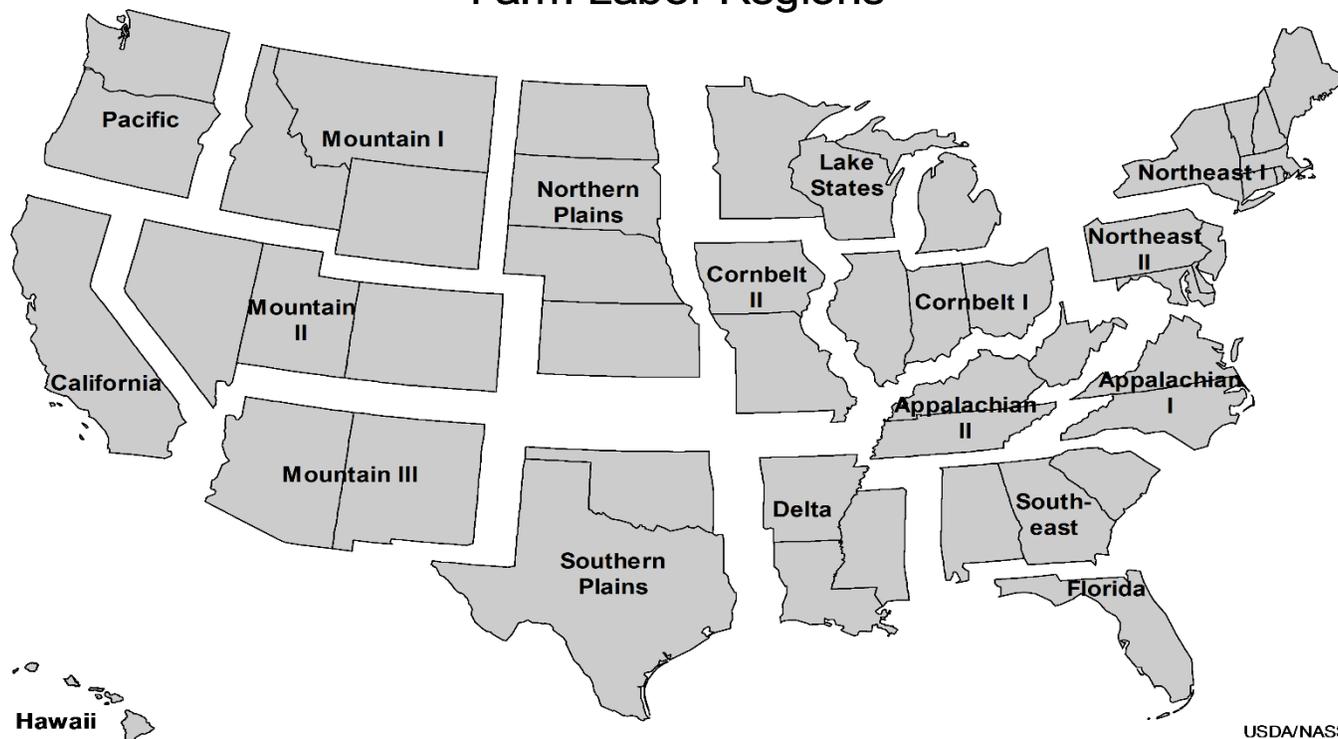
Title	SOC code	January 8-14, 2017	April 9-15, 2017	January 7-13, 2018	April 8-14, 2018
		(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Graders and sorters, agricultural products	(45-2041)	12	14	11	14
Agricultural equipment operators	(45-2091)	83	116	66	96
Farmworkers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse	(45-2092)	191	273	200	263
Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals	(45-2093)	146	159	155	167
Agricultural workers, all other	(45-2099)	13	14	13	14
Packers and packagers, hand	(53-7064)	14	17	13	15
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers	(11-9013)	20	20	21	21
First-line supervisors of farming, fishing workers	(45-1011)	16	18	17	19

Wages by Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) System

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Title	SOC code	January 8-14, 2017	April 9-15, 2017	January 7-13, 2018	April 8-14, 2018
		(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Graders and sorters, agricultural products	(45-2041)	12.00	12.35	12.20	12.75
Agricultural equipment operators	(45-2091)	12.70	12.60	13.55	13.35
Farmworkers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse	(45-2092)	12.15	12.10	12.70	12.55
Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals	(45-2093)	12.55	12.40	12.85	12.65
Agricultural workers, all other	(45-2099)	13.30	13.65	13.25	13.00
Packers and packagers, hand	(53-7064)	11.00	11.75	11.65	11.80
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers	(11-9013)	23.15	22.60	24.00	23.00
First-line supervisors of farming, fishing workers	(45-1011)	20.35	20.10	21.40	20.90

Farm Labor Regions



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: The target population unit for the Farm Labor Survey, which is any place with \$1,000 or more in annual agricultural sales (or potential sales).

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 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 operations which meet the definition of a farm or ranch. An optimal sample is selected in each state with a national sample size of about 14,000. In April 2018, a slightly reduced sample size was utilized to accommodate a parallel research initiative. 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 national 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 national 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 national level estimates first and reconciling the state recommendations to the national 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 national 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 and April 2017, and October 2017, 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. Email inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov.

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Tony Dorn, Head, Economics Section.....	(202) 690-3223
Rachel Antzak – Cash Receipts, Land Values	(202) 720-5446
Daryl Brinkman – Prices Received, Prices Received Indexes, Parity Prices	(202) 720-8844
Kuan Chen – Prices, Prices Research.....	(202) 690-3347
Ryan Cowen – Farms, Land in Farms, Cash Rents, Grazing Fees	(202) 720-2250
Liana Cuffman – Prices Paid, Prices Paid Indexes.....	(202) 690-3229
Stephen Habets – Farm Expenditures.....	(202) 720-9168
Ben Johnson – Database and Application Development.....	(202) 690-3225
Michael Mathison – Farm Expenditures	(202) 720-3243
Theresa Varner – Farm Labor	(202) 690-3231
Scott Shimmin, Head, Environmental and Demographics Section.....	(202) 720-0684
Stephanie Brennan – Field Crops Chemical Use, Census of Agriculture	(202) 690-0392
Natasha Bruton – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports.....	(202) 720-7644
David Colwell – Current Agricultural Industrial Reports	(202) 690-3226
Doug Farmer – Vegetable Chemical Use.....	(202) 720-7492
Joe Hagedorn – Census of Agriculture.....	(202) 690-2284
Virginia Harris – Census of Agriculture.....	(502) 582-5257
Dominique Sims – Census of Agriculture.....	(202) 720-5581

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- Both national and state specific reports are available via a free e-mail subscription. To set-up this free subscription, visit www.nass.usda.gov and click on “National” or “State” in upper right corner above “search” box to create an account and select the reports you would like to receive.

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