

Farm Labor

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Special Note

Starting in 2020, NASS has incorporated statistical modeling to improve the precision of the estimates. Additional details on the survey and methodology may be found on page 25 of this report.

April Hired Workers Up 9 Percent; Wage Rate Increased 2 Percent from Previous Year

There were 688,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 12-18, 2020, up 9 percent from the April 2019 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 568,000 during the week of January 12-18, 2020, up 14 percent from the January 2019 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$15.07 per hour during the April 2020 reference week, up 2 percent from the April 2019 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$14.19 per hour, up 3 percent. Livestock workers earned \$14.10 per hour, up 4 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$14.16 per hour, was up 3 percent from the 2019 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.3 hours during the April 2020 reference week, down 1 percent from the hours worked during the April 2019 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$15.28 per hour during the January 2020 reference week, up 2 percent from the January 2019 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$14.18 per hour, up 3 percent, while livestock workers earned \$14.22 per hour, up 3 percent from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$14.20 per hour, was up 3 percent from the January 2019 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.2 hours during the January 2020 reference week, up 2 percent from the hours worked during the January 2019 reference week.

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Hired Workers and Gross Wage Rates - United States

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Farm employment	January 6-12, 2019	April 7-13, 2019	July 7-13, 2019	October 6-12, 2019	January 12-18, 2020	April 12-18, 2020
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Hired workers						
150 days or more	425	510	594	603	495	578
149 days or less	74	119	208	206	73	110
Total	499	629	802	809	568	688
	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)	(hours per week)
Hours worked by hired workers	39.3	40.7	41.7	42.5	40.2	40.3
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Gross wage rates ¹	,	,			, , ,	
Field and livestock combined	13.78	13.73	14.08	14.21	14.20	14.16
Field	13.77	13.80	14.19	14.38	14.18	14.19
Livestock	13.80	13.61	13.79	13.77	14.22	14.10
All hired workers	14.96	14.71	14.91	15.02	15.28	15.07

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

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Regions and United States: April 12-18, 2020 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

	Hired					
Regions ¹ and United States	Number of	Expected to b	Expected to be employed			
Officed States	workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	hours worked		
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)		
Northeast I	28 25	23 22	5 3	40.5 39.4		
Appalachian IAppalachian II	31 22	25 20	6 2	38.8 39.2		
Southeast	30 38	26 32	4 6	38.4 40.7		
Lake	53	43	10	41.6		
Cornbelt I	36 29	32 23	4 6	39.9 37.9		
Delta	28	22	6	41.7		
Northern Plains	42	38	4	41.5		
Southern Plains	61	51	10	39.2		
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	25 18 17	21 16 16	4 2 1	44.3 42.9 47.5		
Pacific California	58 143	39 126	19 17	41.6 38.9		
Hawaii	4	3	1	33.5		
United States	688	578	110	40.3		

¹ Region map on page 22.

Gross Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Regions and United States: April 12-18, 2020 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Regions ¹ and		Carre was a sates for		
United States	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	Gross wage rates for all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	15.39	14.29	14.85	16.00
Northeast II	14.64	13.42	14.20	15.24
Appalachian I	13.12	13.06	13.10	13.65
Appalachian II	12.65	13.05	12.85	13.47
Southeast	11.51	11.13	11.40	11.79
Florida	11.65	11.80	11.67	12.52
Lake	14.56	14.62	14.60	15.26
Cornbelt I	15.77	13.95	15.25	15.78
Cornbelt II	15.18	15.50	15.35	15.79
Delta	11.84	11.86	11.85	12.23
Northern Plains	15.89	14.59	15.20	15.93
Southern Plains	11.91	12.73	12.35	12.79
Mountain I	13.74	14.21	14.00	14.83
Mountain II	14.28	14.95	14.65	15.16
Mountain III	13.08	13.93	13.45	14.17
Pacific	15.06	14.95	15.05	15.88
California	15.60	16.35	15.76	17.48
Hawaii	14.90	17.95	15.29	16.87
United States	14.19	14.10	14.16	15.07

¹ Region map on page 22.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Regions and United States: January 12-18, 2020 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

	Hired				
Regions ¹ and United States	Number of	Expected to	Expected to be employed		
Officed States	workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	hours worked	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)	
Northeast I	21 20	18 18	3 2	41.6 38.9	
Appalachian IAppalachian II	24 18	20 17	4 1	38.3 38.9	
Southeast	23 39	21 30	2 9	37.3 40.9	
Lake	44	38	6	41.0	
Cornbelt I	28 25	26 21	2 4	36.9 37.2	
Delta	20	17	3	37.6	
Northern Plains	35	33	2	40.9	
Southern Plains	55	47	8	39.1	
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	18 15 18	17 14 16	1 1 2	42.7 43.5 47.5	
Pacific California	39 121	32 107	7 14	36.9 42.0	
Hawaii	5	3	2	33.8	
United States	568	495	73	40.2	

¹ Region map on page 22.

Gross Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Regions and United States: January 12-18, 2020 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Regions ¹ and	•	0		
United States	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	Gross wage rates for all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast II	15.19 14.87	14.30 13.43	14.65 14.20	16.10 15.46
Appalachian IAppalachian II	13.02 12.64	13.11 12.90	13.05 12.80	13.79 13.50
SoutheastFlorida	11.83 11.65	10.84 11.80	11.50 11.67	11.99 12.46
Lake	15.22	14.65	14.80	15.55
Cornbelt I	16.29 15.61	14.19 15.37	15.50 15.45	16.17 15.98
Delta	12.24	11.89	12.10	12.57
Northern Plains	16.83	14.63	15.55	16.41
Southern Plains	12.31	12.93	12.65	13.12
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	14.46 14.79 13.00	14.44 15.48 13.97	14.45 15.25 13.40	15.40 15.86 14.06
Pacific California	15.36 15.15	15.30 16.05	15.35 15.40	16.61 17.33
Hawaii	14.60	17.55	14.88	16.38
United States	14.18	14.22	14.20	15.28

¹ Region map on page 22.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Regions and United States: October 6-12, 2019 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

	Hired				
Regions ¹ and United States	Number of	Expected to b	Expected to be employed		
Officed States	workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	hours worked	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)	
Northeast I	38 34	27 27	11 7	41.8 40.0	
Appalachian IAppalachian II	41 29	31 22	10 7	39.5 40.7	
Southeast	26 31	20 24	6 7	40.3 41.6	
Lake	68	51	17	41.0	
Cornbelt I	42 26	28 18	14 8	37.6 38.3	
Delta	32	24	8	46.9	
Northern Plains	43	33	10	43.4	
Southern Plains	49	36	13	40.2	
Mountain I	30 21 19	22 16 16	8 5 3	46.9 41.8 48.4	
Pacific	108 168	65 140	43 28	44.0 44.7	
Hawaii	4	3	1	36.0	
United States	809	603	206	42.5	

¹ Region map on page 22.

Gross Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Regions and United States: October 6-12, 2019 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Deviewel and	-	Type of worker		0
Regions ¹ and United States	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	Gross wage rates for all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	14.54 13.69	13.46 12.80	14.20 13.50	15.13 14.81
Appalachian I Appalachian II	12.70 12.25	12.95 12.09	12.75 12.20	13.29 12.78
Southeast	11.68 11.95	11.75 11.95	11.70 11.95	12.31 13.27
Lake	15.57	14.58	15.00	15.64
Cornbelt I	15.03 14.45	13.83 14.68	14.75 14.55	15.39 15.10
Delta	11.14	12.20	11.35	11.74
Northern Plains	16.41	13.76	15.40	15.87
Southern Plains	12.61	12.76	12.70	13.33
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	13.09 14.47 12.63	13.93 14.27 13.28	13.45 14.40 12.90	14.07 15.02 13.53
Pacific California	16.56 14.75	15.20 15.10	16.45 14.80	16.87 16.15
Hawaii	14.35	15.80	14.53	16.37
United States	14.38	13.77	14.21	15.02

¹ Region map on page 22.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Regions and United States: July 7-13, 2019 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

	Hired					
Regions ¹ and United States	Number of	Expected to b	Expected to be employed			
Officed States	workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	hours worked		
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)		
Northeast I	36 40	26 28	10 12	39.8 40.2		
Appalachian IAppalachian II	41 29	31 21	10 8	39.2 38.0		
Southeast	27 28	20 23	7 5	40.4 41.0		
Lake	66	50	16	40.5		
Cornbelt I	39 23	28 17	11 6	35.9 37.2		
Delta	30	23	7	44.0		
Northern Plains	37	29	8	42.2		
Southern Plains	43	35	8	40.6		
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	28 21 17	22 16 16	6 5 1	46.7 44.7 46.7		
PacificCalifornia	119 174	58 148	61 26	43.3 43.7		
Hawaii	4	3	1	35.9		
United States	802	594	208	41.7		

¹ Region map on page 22.

Gross Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Regions and United States: July 7-13, 2019 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Danis no 1 and		Type of worker		0
Regions ¹ and United States	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	Gross wage rates for all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	14.34 12.87	13.69 12.50	14.10 12.80	15.17 14.12
Appalachian I	12.70 12.11	12.98 12.22	12.75 12.15	13.33 12.77
Southeast	11.43 12.00	11.75 12.25	11.50 12.05	12.06 13.13
Lake	14.39	14.41	14.40	15.05
Cornbelt I	14.15 14.15	13.96 14.58	14.10 14.35	14.97 15.08
Delta	11.49	12.23	11.65	12.03
Northern Plains	15.90	13.81	15.00	15.61
Southern Plains	12.67	12.93	12.80	13.41
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	13.61 13.83 12.04	13.47 14.24 13.45	13.55 13.95 12.70	14.17 14.52 13.43
Pacific California	15.97 15.00	15.05 15.00	15.90 15.00	16.26 16.35
Hawaii	14.35	16.10	14.63	16.46
United States	14.19	13.79	14.08	14.91

¹ Region map on page 22.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Regions and United States: April 7-13, 2019 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

	Hired				
Regions ¹ and United States	Number of	Expected to I	Expected to be employed		
Officed States	workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	hours worked	
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)	
Northeast I	32 28	27 21	5 7	39.9 39.6	
Appalachian I Appalachian II	26 18	22 14	4 4	39.3 38.4	
Southeast	28 40	22 30	6 10	38.5 40.2	
Lake	49	41	8	39.8	
Cornbelt I	35 24	27 20	8 4	36.9 37.1	
Delta	28	20	8	40.7	
Northern Plains	30	26	4	42.9	
Southern Plains	45	32	13	38.8	
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	27 14 14	21 11 13	6 3 1	44.1 43.9 45.2	
Pacific California	47 139	36 123	11 16	41.5 43.0	
Hawaii	5	4	1	35.2	
United States	629	510	119	40.7	

¹ Region map on page 22.

Gross Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Regions and United States: April 7-13, 2019 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Decisional and	-	Type of worker		Creas was notes for
Regions ¹ and United States	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	Gross wage rates for all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	14.98 13.55	14.02 13.40	14.50 13.50	15.61 14.63
Appalachian IAppalachian II	12.65 12.49	11.81 13.21	12.40 12.85	13.02 13.80
SoutheastFlorida	12.13 11.65	11.01 11.00	11.85 11.54	12.51 12.08
Lake	14.61	13.51	13.90	14.47
Cornbelt I	14.46 14.35	14.27 14.97	14.40 14.70	15.27 15.39
Delta	12.37	12.07	12.30	12.61
Northern Plains	16.13	13.42	14.60	15.58
Southern Plains	12.01	13.05	12.60	13.50
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	13.24 14.08 12.31	13.98 14.28 13.94	13.65 14.20 13.00	14.74 14.95 13.73
Pacific	14.76 14.65	14.65 14.90	14.75 14.70	15.72 16.17
Hawaii	15.15	16.40	15.29	16.92
United States	13.80	13.61	13.73	14.71

¹ Region map on page 22.

Number of Workers and Hours Worked – Regions and United States: January 6-12, 2019 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

		Hir	ed	
Regions ¹ and United States	Number of	Expected to b	e employed	Number of
Officed States	workers	150 days or more	149 days or less	hours worked
	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(hours per week)
Northeast I	24 20	21 16	3 4	39.6 37.7
Appalachian IAppalachian II	18 15	16 12	2 3	36.2 38.3
Southeast	19 34	16 28	3 6	38.5 40.5
Lake	41	35	6	38.4
Cornbelt I	23 20	20 17	3 3	36.4 34.9
Delta	19	13	6	38.1
Northern Plains	25	23	2	42.9
Southern Plains	35	29	6	39.2
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	18 11 13	17 10 12	1 1 1	41.9 43.5 44.7
Pacific California	35 124	27 109	8 15	38.2 40.2
Hawaii	5	4	1	36.9
United States	499	425	74	39.3

¹ Region map on page 22.

Gross Wage Rates by Type of Worker – Regions and United States: January 6-12, 2019 [Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Decional and		Type of worker		Oreas was rates for
Regions ¹ and United States	Field	Livestock	Field and livestock combined	Gross wage rates for all hired workers
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast I	15.26 14.38	14.00 13.61	14.45 14.00	15.86 15.40
Appalachian IAppalachian II	13.21 12.45	11.96 13.06	12.70 12.80	13.70 13.91
Southeast	11.89 11.50	11.75 11.00	11.85 11.41	12.77 12.06
Lake	14.61	13.72	13.95	14.65
Cornbelt I	15.41 14.50	14.51 14.87	15.00 14.75	16.18 15.55
Delta	12.60	11.90	12.40	12.89
Northern Plains	16.64	13.42	14.70	15.79
Southern Plains	11.71	13.18	12.55	13.68
Mountain I Mountain II Mountain III	13.93 14.93 12.51	14.09 14.60 13.86	14.05 14.70 13.10	15.24 15.66 13.85
Pacific California	14.73 14.25	14.87 15.15	14.75 14.45	15.98 16.08
Hawaii	14.90	16.45	15.07	16.62
United States	13.77	13.80	13.78	14.96

¹ Region map on page 22.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Gross Wage Rates by Type of Farm - Regions and 48 States: April 12-18, 2020

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Regions ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	16.42	15.09	13.75	14.54
Appalachian ³	13.65	12.82	12.93	13.00
Southeast and Florida	10.95	11.74	11.21	11.55
Lake	14.77	13.60	14.97	14.60
Cornbelt 4	15.96	14.55	15.13	15.29
Delta	11.89	12.04	11.67	11.85
Northern Plains	16.03	14.92	14.66	15.20
Southern Plains	13.19	11.26	12.62	12.35
Mountain ⁵	14.14	13.51	14.38	14.02
Pacific and California	16.01	15.39	16.01	15.54
48 States ⁶	14.45	14.07	14.15	14.15

¹ Region map on page 22.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Gross Wage Rates by Type of Farm - Regions and 48 States: January 12-18, 2020

Regions ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	16.80	15.00	13.89	14.43
Appalachian ³	13.69	12.63	12.96	12.94
Southeast and Florida	11.20	11.74	11.33	11.61
Lake	14.71	14.04	14.98	14.80
Cornbelt 4	16.44	14.87	15.04	15.48
Delta	12.36	12.26	11.79	12.10
Northern Plains	16.86	15.79	14.55	15.55
Southern Plains	13.04	12.18	12.73	12.65
Mountain 5	14.49	13.54	14.70	14.28
Pacific and California	15.99	15.17	15.87	15.39
48 States ⁶	14.93	13.90	14.26	14.19

¹ Region map on page 22.

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

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 Gross Wage Rates by Type of Farm - Regions and 48 States: April 7-13, 2019

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Regions ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	13.66	14.13	13.97	14.03
Appalachian ³	12.80	12.59	12.49	12.58
Southeast and Florida	11.87	12.02	11.01	11.66
Lake	15.42	14.52	13.49	13.90
Cornbelt ⁴	15.41	13.31	14.62	14.52
Delta	12.66	11.66	12.02	12.30
Northern Plains	17.06	13.25	13.19	14.60
Southern Plains	13.52	11.81	12.76	12.60
Mountain ⁵	14.59	12.95	13.96	13.62
Pacific and California	14.26	14.70	14.80	14.71
48 States ⁶	14.42	13.78	13.45	13.72

¹ Region map on page 22.

Combined Field and Livestock Worker Gross Wage Rates by Type of Farm - Regions and 48 States: January 6-12, 2019

Regions ¹	Field crops	Other crops	Livestock and poultry	All farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	14.29	14.70	14.01	14.25
Appalachian ³	13.13	13.39	12.28	12.75
Southeast and Florida	12.06	12.11	10.66	11.56
Lake	16.70	14.51	13.66	13.95
Cornbelt ⁴	15.29	13.78	14.90	14.88
Delta	12.97	11.91	11.86	12.40
Northern Plains	17.58	14.61	12.98	14.70
Southern Plains	12.67	11.92	12.82	12.55
Mountain 5	15.74	13.45	13.98	13.91
Pacific and California	15.53	14.44	14.69	14.51
48 States ⁶	15.00	13.80	13.48	13.76

¹ Region map on page 22.

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.

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 Gross Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm - Regions and 48 States: April 12-18, 2020

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Dogiono ¹			Gross value	sales-\$1,000			All
Regions ¹	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	farms
	(dollars per hour)						
Northeast ²	15.61	13.19	16.39	13.58	14.90	16.11	15.65
Appalachian ³	12.58	12.16	12.85	13.29	12.69	14.10	13.57
Southeast and Florida	10.65	11.77	11.39	11.40	11.47	12.61	12.21
Lake	14.36	(S)	14.37	13.26	14.66	15.70	15.26
Cornbelt 4	12.68	14.31	13.74	15.06	14.53	16.75	15.78
Delta	11.43	(S)	12.56	12.06	12.15	12.61	12.23
Northern Plains	(S)	(S)	14.16	12.88	14.78	16.61	15.93
Southern Plains	12.84	13.27	10.54	13.48	12.86	13.26	12.79
Mountain ⁵	14.89	14.17	15.38	12.94	15.65	14.76	14.73
Pacific and California	16.90	16.33	17.54	15.93	16.75	17.09	17.00
48 States ⁶	13.97	13.47	14.01	13.71	14.65	15.60	15.06

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

Region map on page 22.

All Hired Worker Gross Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm - Regions and 48 States: January 12-18, 2020

Regions ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						All
Regions	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	16.04	14.06	16.46	13.23	15.01	16.23	15.80
Appalachian ³	12.78	12.18	13.18	13.85	12.78	14.10	13.66
Southeast and Florida	11.38	11.26	11.25	12.26	12.02	12.53	12.30
Lake	15.01	12.84	15.28	14.00	15.18	15.76	15.55
Cornbelt ⁴	13.00	15.02	13.53	14.95	14.86	16.95	16.08
Delta	12.02	(S)	13.01	12.31	12.13	13.26	12.57
Northern Plains	(S)	(S)	14.87	13.61	15.46	16.86	16.41
Southern Plains	13.23	13.17	12.81	13.33	12.97	13.12	13.12
Mountain 5	16.20	14.69	16.45	13.62	16.25	14.83	15.03
Pacific and California	17.48	17.33	15.96	17.01	16.70	17.30	17.17
48 States ⁶	14.15	13.91	14.31	14.30	14.92	15.70	15.27

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

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.

Region map on page 22.

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 Gross Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm - Regions and 48 States: April 7-13, 2019

[Excludes agricultural service workers]

Regions ¹			Gross value	sales-\$1,000			All
Regions	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	farms
	(dollars per hour)						
Northeast ²	13.92	17.29	14.81	14.68	13.92	15.58	15.15
Appalachian 3	11.45	10.88	11.94	12.41	13.44	14.17	13.30
Southeast and Florida	11.18	10.56	10.94	12.39	12.41	12.96	12.25
Lake	11.42	10.49	11.57	14.40	13.42	14.88	14.47
Cornbelt 4	13.58	11.49	13.31	14.37	15.28	16.15	15.32
Delta	12.37	11.87	12.23	14.24	12.33	12.18	12.61
Northern Plains	12.07	12.18	13.44	12.34	(S)	15.99	15.58
Southern Plains	11.66	15.47	14.63	12.73	14.35	13.77	13.50
Mountain ⁵	(S)	15.76	14.22	12.83	14.64	14.39	14.53
Pacific and California	15.55	14.52	15.33	16.46	15.89	16.16	16.06
48 States ⁶	13.10	12.75	13.61	14.12	14.79	15.16	14.70

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

Region map on page 22.

All Hired Worker Gross Wage Rates by Economic Class of Farm - Regions and 48 States: January 6-12, 2019

Regions ¹	Gross value sales-\$1,000						
Regions	<50	50-99	100-249	250-499	500-999	1,000+	farms
	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Northeast ²	14.79	15.01	15.67	14.64	14.14	16.21	15.66
Appalachian ³	11.47	12.45	12.12	12.70	13.61	14.94	13.80
Southeast and Florida	(S)	10.79	11.65	12.78	12.27	13.30	12.31
Lake	12.29	11.36	11.57	13.12	13.44	15.04	14.65
Cornbelt 4	15.61	13.68	13.24	14.67	14.87	16.89	15.89
Delta	12.40	11.67	13.05	13.14	12.85	12.88	12.89
Northern Plains	10.43	11.23	13.32	12.80	(S)	16.33	15.79
Southern Plains	14.11	14.47	14.16	13.03	15.32	13.25	13.68
Mountain ⁵	13.48	(S)	(S)	13.20	15.31	14.89	14.91
Pacific and California	13.19	15.28	15.67	16.79	16.21	16.14	16.06
48 States ⁶	12.30	13.28	14.13	14.32	15.11	15.41	14.94

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

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 III, and Mountain IIII.

⁶ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii.

Region map on page 22.

² Includes Northeast I and Northeast II.

Includes Appalachian I and Appalachian II.
 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 6-12, 2019	April 7-13, 2019	July 7-13, 2019	October 6-12, 2019	January 12-18, 2020	April 12-18, 2020
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Field crops Other crops Livestock, dairy, and poultry		12 50 38	12 57 31	14 55 31	13 43 44	14 48 38

Hired Workers by Economic Class of Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers, Alaska, and Hawaii]

Gross value of sales	January 6-12,	April 7-13,	July 7-13,	October 6-12,	January 12-18,	April 12-18,
	2019	2019	2019	2019	2020	2020
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Less than \$50,000	8	9	8	8	7	7
\$50,000-\$99,999	4	5	4	3	4	4
\$100,000-\$249,999	7	8	8	8	8	10
\$250,000-\$499,999	9	8	8	8	8	8
\$500,000-\$999,999	12	12	11	11	11	11
\$1,000,000 and over	60	58	61	62	62	60

Hired Workers by Number of Workers on Farm

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

[Likeliudes agricultural service work	ers ariu Alaskaj					
Number of workers on farm	January 6-12, 2019			October 6-12, 2019	January 12-18, 2020	April 12-18, 2020
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
1 worker	11	11	8	9	10	8
2 workers	11	9	7	7	10	10
3-6 workers	16	18	16	16	18	18
7-10 workers	8	7	8	7	8	8
11-20 workers	11	11	10	10	11	13
21-50 workers	15	15	14	15	15	14
51 or more workers	28	29	37	36	28	29

Hired Workers by Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) System

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Title	SOC code	January 6-12, 2019	April 7-13, 2019	January 12-18, 2020	April 12-18, 2020
		(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Graders and sorters, agricultural products Agricultural equipment operators Farmworkers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals Agricultural workers, all other Packers and packagers, hand	(45-2091) (45-2092) (45-2093) (45-2099)	10 75 168 146 10 13	11 107 244 163 13	6 97 194 176 11	6 127 269 181 13
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managers		21 18	22 19	22 16	23 17

Gross Wages by Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) System

[Excludes agricultural service workers and Alaska]

Title	SOC code	January 6-12, 2019	April 7-13, 2019	January 12-18, 2020	April 12-18, 2020
		(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)
Graders and sorters, agricultural products Agricultural equipment operators Farmworkers, crop, nursery, and greenhouse Farmworkers, farm, ranch, and aquacultural animals Agricultural workers, all other Packers and packagers, hand	(45-2092) (45-2093) (45-2099)	12.90 14.65 13.60 13.55 14.60 13.25	12.85 14.50 13.55 13.50 14.30 14.10	13.20 15.00 14.00 14.10 13.55 14.20	13.95 14.90 13.90 14.00 13.85 14.00
Farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural managersFirst-line supervisors of farming, fishing workers	(11-9013) (45-1011)	25.05 21.95	25.15 21.40	25.25 22.75	24.65 22.55



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.

Gross Wage Rate: Gross wages are the total amount paid to workers before taxes and other deductions; the rate is per hour. The worker's share of social security and unemployment insurance is included, but the employer's share is excluded. Gross wages may include in-kind payments (e.g., agricultural product like a side of beef, bushels of grain, etc.) provided in lieu of wages for work done. The value of perquisites is excluded from gross wages.

Base Wage Rate: Base wages are gross wages less regularly-paid bonuses, overtime pay, or other incentive pay; the rate is per hour. For employees receiving incentive pay such as piece rate pay or commissions, base wages are the minimum amount guaranteed.

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 Agricultural (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. Beginning with the July and October 2019 survey, the sample size was increased to approximately 38,000 operations to accommodate program expansion. 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. Nonresponse to the mail and online request is followed-up by telephone enumeration. All manually completed survey questionnaires are returned to the NASS National Operations Center, where they are visually reviewed and key entered.

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.

Estimating Procedures: 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 review the state level indications and submit state level comments documenting state specific concerns to NASS headquarters. NASS headquarters completes the regional and national level summaries, which utilize the same estimators and produce the same indications as the state level summaries.

All estimates are set at NASS headquarters. Starting in 2020, model-based estimates of hired workers, average hours worked, average wage rates, and the associated sub-items are produced to support NASS estimation processes. Statistical models are mathematical equations that relate quantities of interest (in this case, number of workers, hours, and wage rates) to a set of important input factors. The models used by NASS relate the direct expansions obtained from the current Farm Labor Survey to previous year, same quarter official estimates. This modeling approach improves the precision of the resulting estimates. In particular, estimates in publication cells derived from few reports become more precise than estimates derived from survey alone.

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 both the modeled and 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, regional, and national 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 indications 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 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 2019 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.

Herman Ellison, Chief, Environmental, Economics, and Demographics Branch	. (202) 720-6146
Bruce Boess, Head, Economics Section	. (202) 720-4447
Eric Barnes – Cash Receipts, Farm Computer Use, Land Values, Prices, Prices Indexes, Parity Prices. Stephanie Brennan – Farm Production Expenditures Kuan Chen – Prices, Prices Indexes, Parity Prices Doug Farmer – Chemical Use Michael Mathison – Cash Rents, Farms, Land in Farms, Grazing Fees	. (202) 690-0392 . (202) 690-3347 . (202) 690-3229
Theresa Varner – Farm Labor	. (202) 690-3231

Access to NASS Reports

For your convenience, you may access NASS reports and products the following ways:

- All reports are available electronically, at no cost, on the NASS web site: 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 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.
- Cornell's Mann Library has launched a new website housing NASS's and other agency's archived reports. The new website, https://usda.library.cornell.edu. All email subscriptions containing reports will be sent from the new website, https://usda.library.cornell.edu. To continue receiving the reports via e-mail, you will have to go to the new website, create a new account and re-subscribe to the reports. If you need instructions to set up an account or subscribe, they are located at: https://usda.library.cornell.edu/help.. You should whitelist notifications@usda-esmis.library.cornell.edu in your email client to avoid the emails going into spam/junk folders.

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@usda.gov.

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