

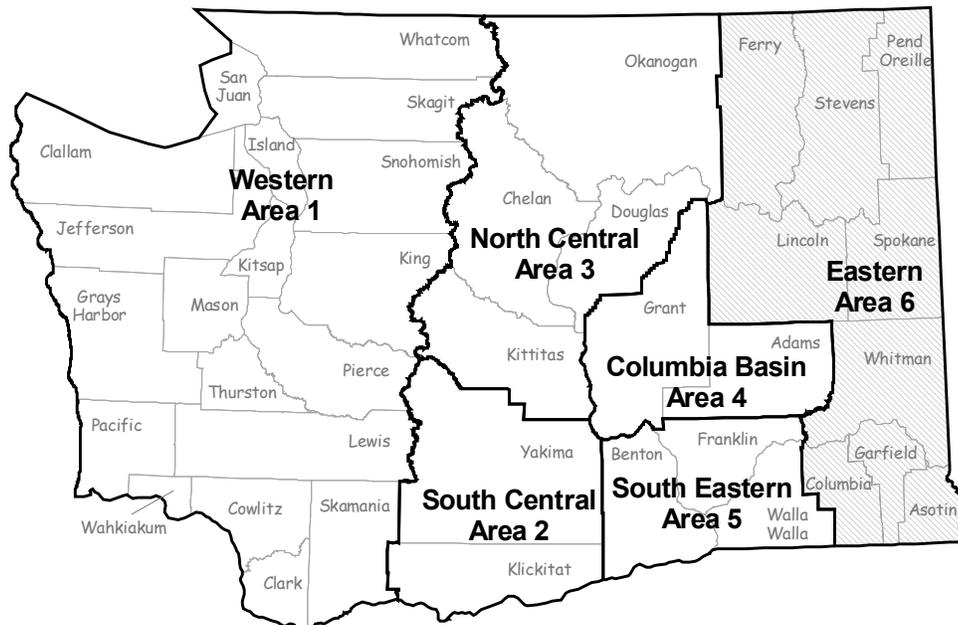


THE AGRICULTURAL WORKFORCE REPORT

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JULY 2002

Agricultural Reporting Areas in Washington State



Counties Within Agricultural Reporting Areas

Area 1 = Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum, Whatcom

Area 2 = Klickitat, Yakima

Area 3 = Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Okanogan

Area 4 = Adams, Grant

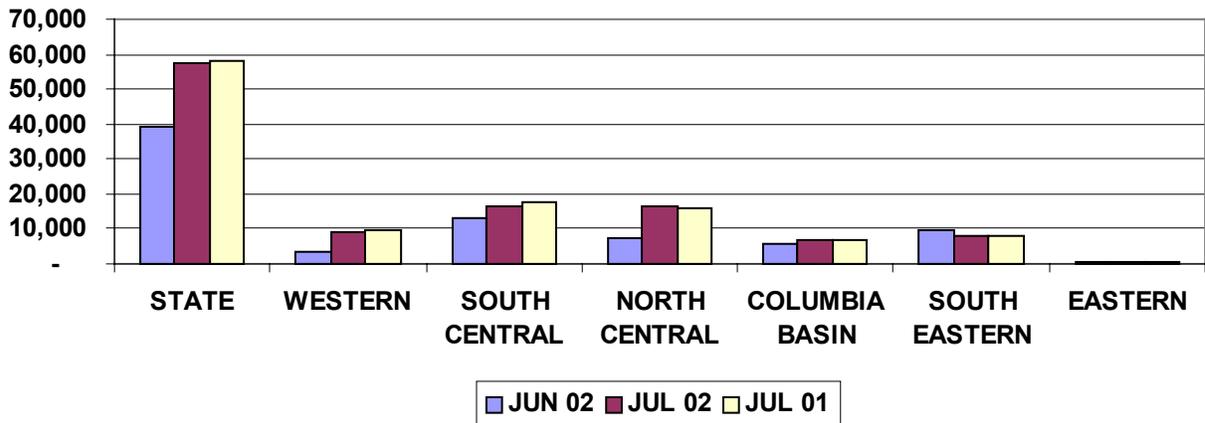
Area 5 = Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla

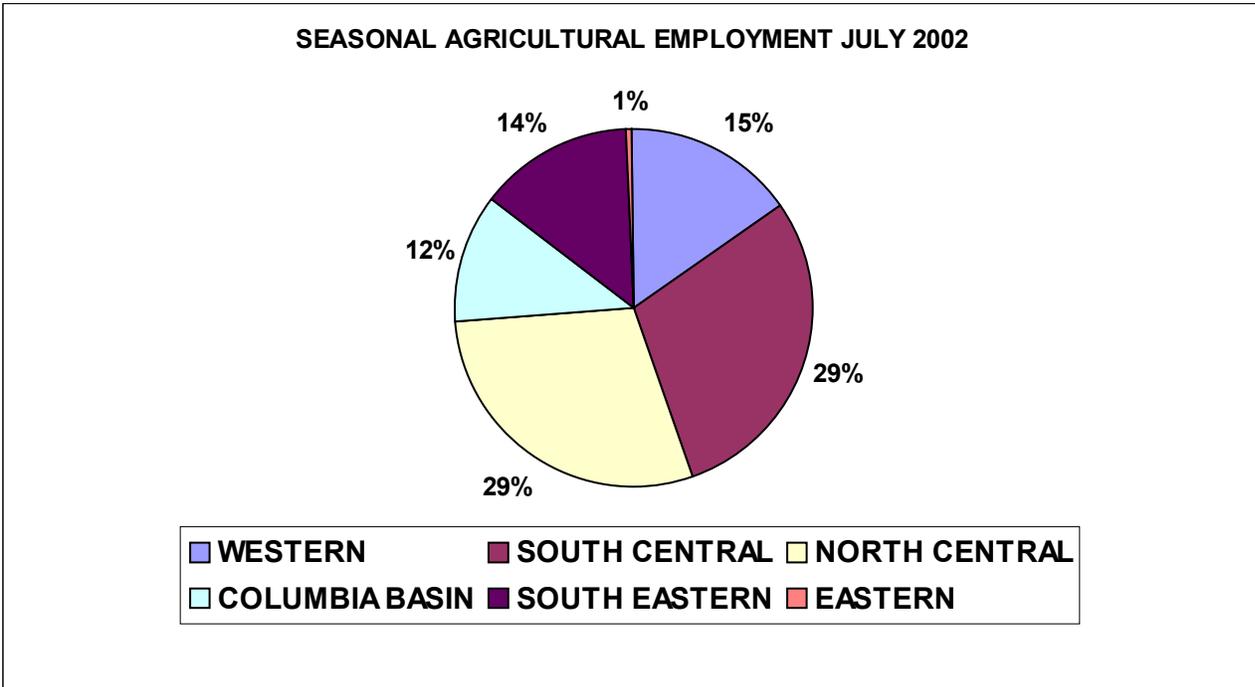
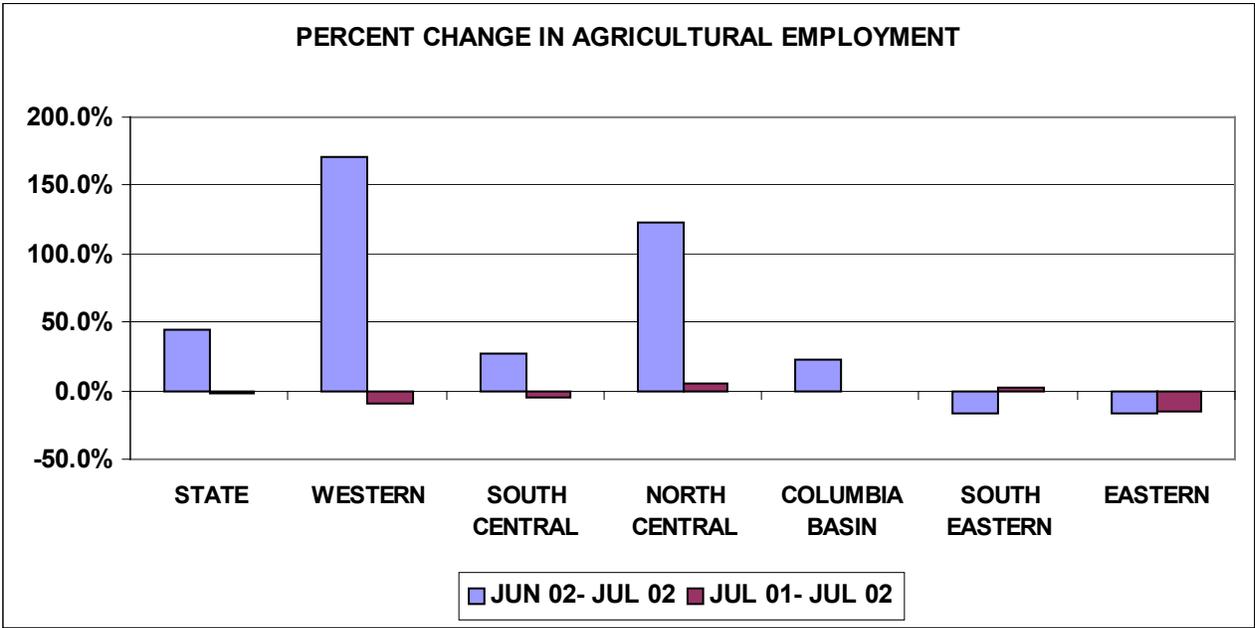
Area 6 = Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Whitman

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

	JUL 02	JUN 02	JUL 01	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				JUN 02- JUL 02	JUL 01- JUL 02	JUN 02- JUL 02	JUL 01- JUL 02
STATE	57,305	39,458	58,218	17,847	(913)	45.2%	-1.6%
WESTERN	8,882	3,284	9,776	5,598	(894)	170.5%	-9.1%
SOUTH CENTRAL	16,613	13,102	17,414	3,511	(801)	26.8%	-4.6%
NORTH CENTRAL	16,634	7,479	15,841	9,155	793	122.4%	5.0%
COLUMBIA BASIN	6,777	5,504	6,847	1,273	(70)	23.1%	-1.0%
SOUTH EASTERN	8,046	9,669	7,922	(1,623)	124	-16.8%	1.6%
EASTERN	353	420	418	(67)	(65)	-16.0%	-15.6%

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT





Statewide seasonal employment decreased 1.6% from July 2001 to July 2002. However, seasonal employment increased 45.2%, statewide, from June 2002 to July 2002. The crop activity expanding the most in employment from July 2001 to July 2002 was strawberry work 136.5%. The crop activity contracting the most in employment during that same time period was blueberry work -71.2%. The crop activity adding the most employees from June 2002 to July 2002 was strawberry work 1,204.7%. The crop activity losing the most employees during that same time period was blueberry work -33.5%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2002, statewide was \$7.19 per hour.

CROP	STATEWIDE SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT	
	PERCENT CHANGE	
	<u>Jun '02 - Jul '02</u>	<u>Jul '01 - Jul '02</u>
Apples	33.4	28.5
Asparagus	-93.4	7.5
Blueberry	-33.5	-71.2
Bulb	35.8	-1.1
Cherries	158.8	-20.0
Cucumber	291.7	-15.6
Grapes	2.1	-31.8
Hop	-58.3	-33.9
Misc Vegetables	14.5	1.3
Nursery	-30.6	-27.6
Onion	-5.3	-22.8
Other Seasonal	125.2	-13.4
Other Tree Fruit	-1.1	23.7
Pears	35.2	-15.3
Potato	36.8	115.8
Raspberry	749.8	-44.3
Strawberry	1,204.7	136.5
Wheat/Grain	23.4	-28.1

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment declined 9.1% from July 2001 to July 2002. Seasonal employment increased 170.5% from June 2002 to July 2002. The crop activity rising the most in employment from July 2001 to July 2002 was potato work 181.3%. The crop activity shrinking the most in employment for that same time period was blueberry work -71.2%. The crop activity posting the largest upturn in employment from June 2002 to July 2002 was strawberry work 1,105.1%. The crop activity experiencing the largest downturn during that same time period was blueberry work -33.5%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2002 in Area 1 was \$7.14 per hour.

CROP	AREA 1 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT	
	PERCENT CHANGE	
	Jun '02 - Jul '02	Jul '01 - Jul '02
Blueberry	-33.5	-71.2
Bulb	35.8	-1.1
Cucumber	291.7	-15.6
Misc Vegetables	24.1	21.7
Nursery	-29.3	-28.4
Other Seasonal	56.2	-66.6
Potato	-7.2	181.3
Raspberry	749.8	-44.3
Rhubarb		-44.6
Strawberry	1,105.1	139.8

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment contracted by 4.6% from July 2001 to July 2002. Conversely, it expanded by 26.8% in July 2002 over June 2002. The crop activity increasing the most in employment from July 2001 to July 2002 was other seasonal work 97.7%. The crop activity decreasing the most in employment for that same time period was grape work -53.5%. The crop activity rising the most in employment from June 2002 to July 2002 was miscellaneous vegetables 3,607.7%. The crop activity falling the most in employment during that same time period was asparagus work -87.6%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2002 in Area 2 was \$7.19 per hour.

CROP	AREA 2 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT	
	PERCENT CHANGE	
	Jun '02 - Jul '02	Jul '01 - Jul '02
Apples	56.2	16.1
Asparagus	-87.6	-16.8
Cherries	75.9	-11.8
Grapes	13.4	-53.5
Hop	-60.7	-35.6
Misc Vegetables	3,607.7	9.8
Onion	-55.8	-4.4
Other Seasonal	65.5	97.7
Other Tree Fruit	-50.2	-32.4
Pears	94.3	-16.7
Potato		15.5

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment netted a gain of 5.0% from July 2001 to July 2002. July 2002 employment also gained 122.4% in employment over June 2002. The crop activity gaining the most employment from July 2001 to July 2002 was cherry work 342.7%. The crop activity having the smallest increase in employment for that

same time period was apple work 63.7%. The crop activity adding the most employment from June 2002 to July 2002 was other seasonal work 222.1%. The crop activity showing the largest downturn in employment for that same time period was cherry work -36.4%. The weighted seasonal average for hourly paid farm workers for July 2002 in Area 3 was \$7.24 per hour.

AREA 3 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	<u>Jun '02 - Jul '02</u>	<u>Jul '01 - Jul '02</u>
Apples	84.6	63.7
Cherries	-36.4	342.7
Other Seasonal	222.1	92.3
Other Tree Fruit	125.8	161.8
Pears	7.5	67.5

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment exhibited a drop of 1.0% from July 2001 to July 2002. This was contrasted by an increase of 23.1% in employment from June 2002 to July 2002. The crop activity displaying the largest upturn in employment from July 2001 to July 2002 was potato work 106.8%. The crop activity experiencing the largest downturn during that same time period was miscellaneous vegetables work -91.9%. The crop activity expanding the most in employment from June 2002 to July 2002 was cherry work 3,108.1%. The crop activity contracting the most in employment for that same time period was asparagus work -93.8%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2002 in Area 4 was \$7.19 per hour.

AREA 4 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	<u>Jun '02 - Jul '02</u>	<u>Jul '01 - Jul '02</u>
Apples	-16.1	-0.5
Asparagus	-93.8	
Cherries	3,108.1	4.4
Mint	47.8	-91.9
Misc Vegetables	40.0	-6.2
Nursery	-16.4	-30.0
Onion	-74.6	38.7
Other Seasonal	98.3	-5.7
Potato	196.3	106.8
Wheat/Grain	266.7	-42.5

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment posted an increase of 1.6% in July 2002 from July 2001. July 2002 employment contracted by 16.8% from June 2002. The crop activity gaining the most employment from July 2001 to July 2002 was potato work 288.3%. The crop activity shrinking the most in employment for that same time period was wheat/grain work -53.2%. The crop activity adding the most employees from June 2002 to July 2002 was other tree fruit 3,875.0%. The crop activity netting the largest over-the-month loss during that same time period was asparagus work -98.2%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2002 in Area 5 was \$7.18 per hour.

AREA 5 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	<u>Jun '02 - Jul '02</u>	<u>Jul '01 - Jul '02</u>
Apples	-13.3	-18.0
Asparagus	-98.2	
Cherries	22.2	17.9
Grapes	-5.3	7.1
Hop	25.0	-7.4
Misc Vegetables	-31.3	-5.9
Nursery	-35.3	214.3
Onion	142.3	-29.8
Other Seasonal	348.4	55.1
Other Tree Fruit	3,875.0	
Potato	-40.8	288.3
Strawberry		102.6
Wheat/Grain	983.3	-53.2

Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment decreased by 15.6% in July 2002 from July 2001. Similarly, July 2002 seasonal employment also shrunk by 16.0% over June 2002. The crop activity increasing the most in employment from July 2001 to July 2002 was wheat/grain work 2.9%. The crop activity decreasing by the largest employment for that same time period was nursery work -31.6%. The crop activity expanding the most in employment from June 2002 to July 2002 was other seasonal work 181.4%. The crop activity contracting by the largest amount for that same time period was nursery work -63.6%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2002 in Area 6 was \$7.76 per hour.

AREA 6 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	<u>Jun '02 - Jul '02</u>	<u>Jul '01 - Jul '02</u>
Nursery	-63.6	-31.6
Other Seasonal	181.4	-27.5
Wheat/Grain	-23.1	2.9

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT
Washington State Employment Security, Labor Market and Economic Analysis

FARM LABOR ABSTRACT
JULY 2002

A mid-month survey of farm labor employment and wages was conducted by the Washington State Employment Security Department. At least five percent of all growers are surveyed for employment data about seasonal workers, type of crop, work activity, wages and their residence. Based on that data, the Washington Employment Security Department develops estimates on the size of the workforce, average wages for each crop activity, and whether workers commute, live within the state or come in from another state. These data are reported for each agricultural area identified as having similar farm labor characteristics and a significant supply/demand for seasonal hired workforce.

WESTERN (Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum and Whatcom Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 8,881 (6,716 local, 333 intrastate, 1,831 interstate)

Strawberry Harvester	2,798	\$ 6.90/hr	or \$ 0.14 - \$ 0.21/lb
Raspberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	980	\$ 7.11/hr	
Raspberry Harvester	974	\$ 6.90/hr	
Strawberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	683	\$ 6.90/hr	

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 16,613 (14,658 local, 551 intrastate, 1,404 interstate)

Apple Hand Thinner	5,953	\$ 7.02/hr	or \$ 0.10 - \$ 5.00/tree
Cherry Harvester	3,989	\$ 7.88/hr	or \$ 4.00 - \$ 7.50/box
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	2,136	\$ 6.92/hr	
Pear Hand Thinner	422	\$ 6.90/hr	

NORTH CENTRAL (Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas and Okanogan Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 16,634 (14,178 local, 608 intrastate, 1,848 interstate)

Apple Hand Thinner	8,422	\$ 6.95/hr	or \$ 0.25 - \$ 2.75/tree
Cherry Harvester	4,414	\$ 6.93/hr	or \$ 4.00 - \$ 5.00/lug
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	2,055	\$ 7.60/hr	
Apricot Harvester	363	\$ 8.00/hr	

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 6,777 (6,358 local, 0 intrastate, 419 interstate)

Apple Hand Thinner	2,458	\$ 6.98/hr	or \$ 0.25 - \$ 1.50/tree
Cherry Harvester	2,298	\$ 7.38/hr	or \$ 4.25 - \$ 5.00/box
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	422	\$ 6.90/hr	
Misc Onion Weeder	170	\$ 7.05/hr	

SOUTHEAST (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 8,046 (5,805 local, 178 intrastate, 2,063 interstate)

Apple Hand Thinner	2,122	\$ 7.02/hr	
Cherry Harvester	1,747	\$ 6.92/hr	or \$ 44.00 - \$ 55.00/bin
Chicken Eggs Worker	370	\$ 7.50/hr	
Walla Walla Sweets Harvester	362	Not Available	

EASTERN (Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 353 (290 local, 0 intrastate, 63 interstate)

Wheat Vehicle Operator	60	\$ 9.00/hr	
Wheat Weeder	45	\$ 7.00/hr	
Wheat Combine Driver	30	Not Available	
Lentil Combine Driver	30	\$ 8.00/hr	