

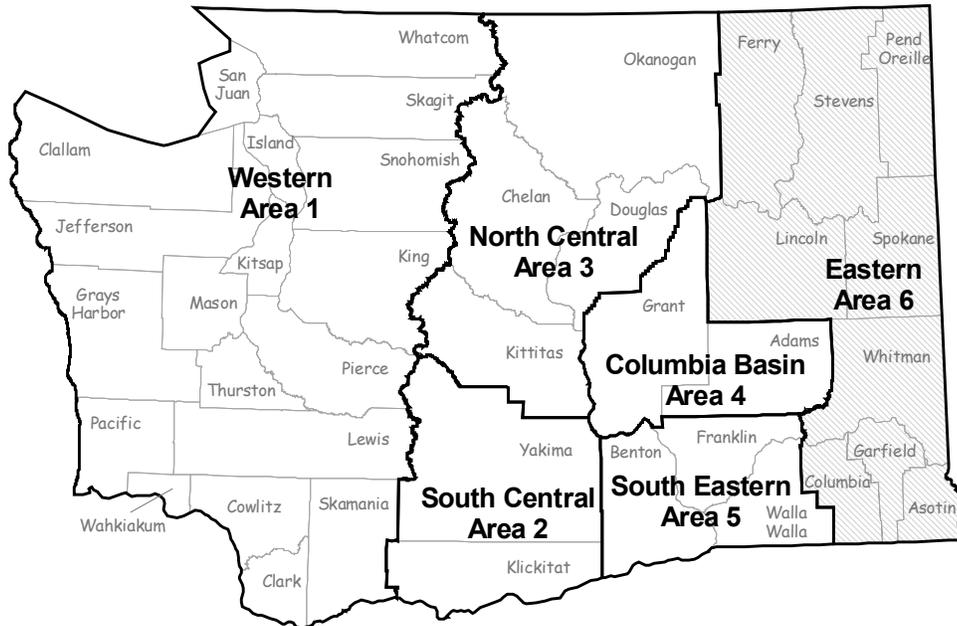


THE AGRICULTURAL WORKFORCE REPORT

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JUNE 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

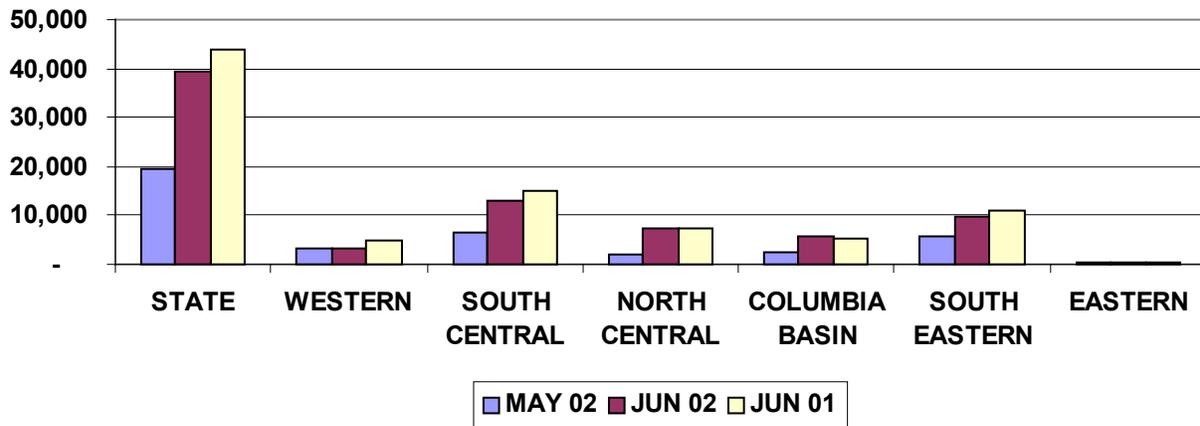
Area 5 = Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla

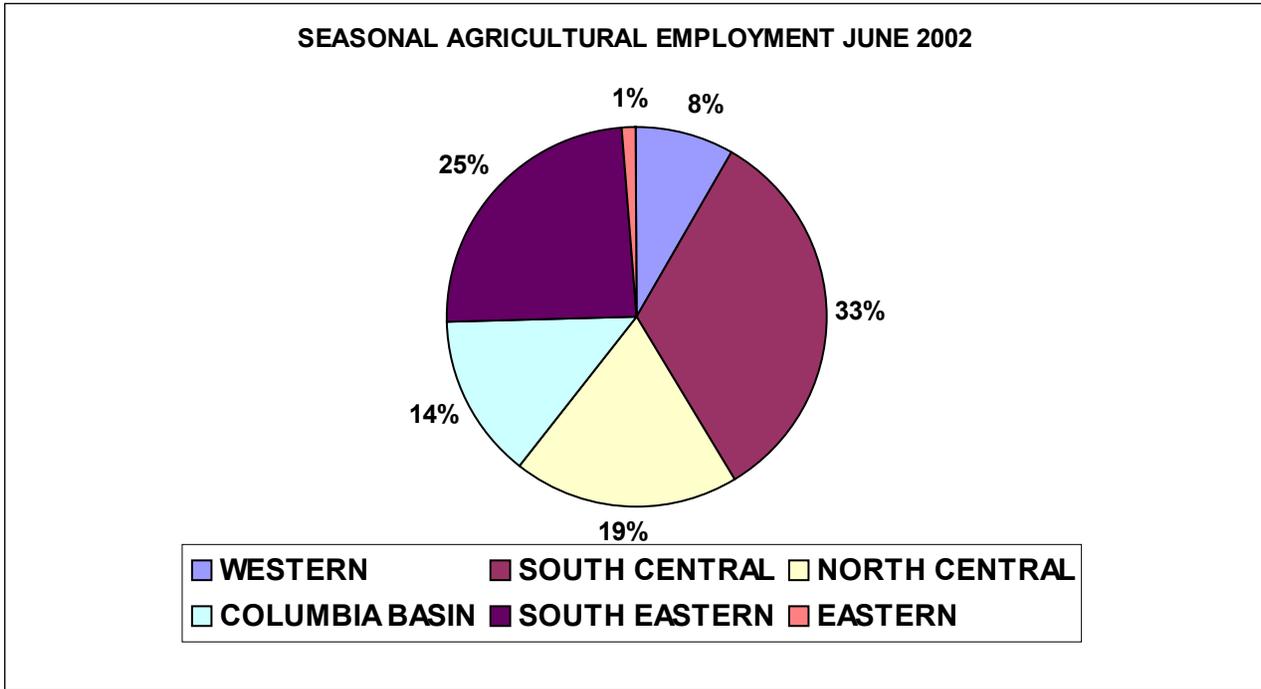
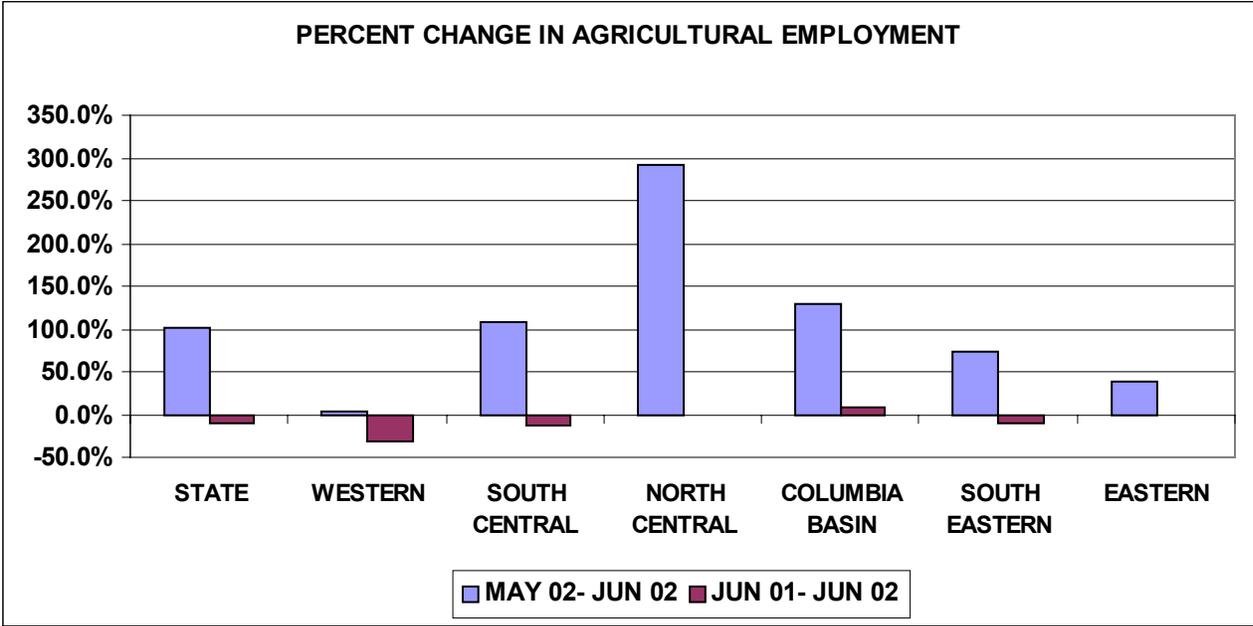
Area 6 = Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Whitman

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

	JUN 02	MAY 02	JUN 01	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				MAY 02- JUN 02	JUN 01- JUN 02	MAY 02- JUN 02	JUN 01- JUN 02
STATE	39,458	19,682	43,976	19,776	-4518	100.5%	-10.3%
WESTERN	3,284	3,162	4,803	122	-1519	3.9%	-31.6%
SOUTH CENTRAL	13,102	6,315	15,162	6,787	-2060	107.5%	-13.6%
NORTH CENTRAL	7,479	1,914	7,515	5,565	-36	290.8%	-0.5%
COLUMBIA BASIN	5,504	2,395	5,135	3,109	-369	129.8%	-7.2%
SOUTH EASTERN	9,669	5,593	10,936	4,076	-1267	72.9%	-11.6%
EASTERN	420	303	420	117	0	38.6%	0.0%

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT





Statewide seasonal employment decreased 10.3% from June 2001 to June 2002. However, seasonal employment increased 100.5%, statewide, from May 2002 to June 2002. The crop activity increasing the most in employment from June 2001 to June 2002 was blueberry work 606.7%. The crop activity declining the most in employment for that same time period was strawberry work -83.0%. The crop activity adding the most employment from May 2002 to June 2002 was onion work 3,420.0%. The crop activity losing the most employment for that same time period was hop work -45.0%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2002, statewide was \$7.22 per hour.

CROP	STATEWIDE SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT	
	PERCENT CHANGE	
	<u>May '02 - Jun '02</u>	<u>Jun '01 - Jun '02</u>
Apples	289.6	-10.9
Asparagus	-21.4	-10.5
Blueberry	57.0	606.7
Bulb	25.6	103.1
Cherries	2,571.3	-3.9
Cucumber	140.0	300.0
Grapes	5.1	-29.3
Hop	-45.0	-15.4
Misc Vegetables	135.0	45.7
Nursery	-26.0	-3.2
Onion	3,420.0	51.4
Other Seasonal	35.6	-63.0
Other Tree Fruit	279.1	97.0
Pears	152.3	-33.0
Potato	0.7	132.8
Raspberry	-6.4	-36.2
Strawberry	233.7	-83.0
Wheat/Grain	295.5	4.8

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment declined 31.6% from June 2001 to June 2002. Seasonal employment increased 3.9% from May 2002 to June 2002. The crop activity rising the most in employment from June 2001 to June 2002 was blueberry work 606.7%. The crop activity experiencing the largest downturn in employment for that same time period was strawberry work -82.6%. The crop activity posting the largest upturn in employment from May 2002 to June 2002 was strawberry work 233.7%. The crop activity showing the largest downturn during that same time period was nursery work -29.6%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2002 in Area 1 was \$7.32 per hour.

AREA 1 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT		
PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	May '02 - Jun '02	Jun '01 - Jun '02
Blueberry	3.9	606.7
Bulb	25.6	103.1
Cucumber	140.0	300.0
Misc Vegetables	111.9	166.3
Nursery	-29.6	-0.1
Other Seasonal	92.1	-79.1
Potato	-13.4	79.6
Raspberry	-6.4	-36.2
Rhubarb	83.9	9.6
Strawberry	233.7	-82.6

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment contracted by 13.6% from June 2001 to June 2002. Conversely, it expanded by 107.5% in June 2002 over May 2002. The crop activity exhibiting an increase in employment from June 2001 to June 2002 was other tree fruit work 77.1%. The crop activity falling the most in employment for that same time period was potato work -100.0%. The crop activity experiencing the largest growth in employment from May 2002 to June 2002 was onion work 6,533.3%. The crop activity showing the largest downturn in employment for that same time period was miscellaneous vegetables work -95.8%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2002 in Area 2 was \$7.16 per hour.

AREA 2 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT		
PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	May '02 - Jun '02	Jun '01 - Jun '02
Apples	275.8	-23.6
Asparagus	-13.3	
Cherries	1,793.6	4.4
Grapes	5.9	-55.7
Hop	-44.4	-4.5
Misc Vegetables	-95.8	-91.6
Onion	6,533.3	65.8
Other Seasonal	32.7	-19.8
Other Tree Fruit	808.7	77.1
Pears	328.8	-48.1
Potato		-100.0

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment slowed by 0.5% from June 2001 to June 2002. June 2002 employment showed a net gain of 290.8% in employment from May 2002. The crop activity gaining the most employment from June 2001 to June 2002 was other tree fruit 361.8%. The crop activity lagging the most in employment for that same

time period was other seasonal work -22.3%. The crop activity adding the most employment from May 2002 to June 2002 was cherry work 14,960.0%. The crop activity netting the largest over-the-month loss for that same time period was pear work -23.8%. The weighted seasonal average for hourly paid farm workers for June 2002 in Area 3 was \$7.25 per hour.

AREA 3 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT		
PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	<u>May '02 - Jun '02</u>	<u>Jun '01 - Jun '02</u>
Apples	229.7	-8.7
Cherries	14,960.0	36.2
Other Seasonal	122.4	-22.3
Other Tree Fruit	265.8	361.8
Pears	-23.8	26.2

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment exhibited a drop of 7.2% from June 2001 to June 2002. This was contrasted with an increase of 129.8% in employment from May 2002 to June 2002. The crop activity displaying the largest upturn in employment from June 2001 to June 2002 was onion work 1,008.6%. The crop activity experiencing the greatest downturn in employment for that same time period was mint work -91.5%. The crop activity expanding the most in employment from May 2002 to June 2002 was onion work 5,442.9%. The crop activity contracting by the largest amount of employment for that same time period was other tree fruit work -100.0%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2002 in Area 4 was \$7.15 per hour.

AREA 4 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT		
PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	<u>May '02 - Jun '02</u>	<u>Jun '01 - Jun '02</u>
Apples	266.7	11.8
Asparagus	8.9	91.5
Cherries	94.7	-84.8
Mint	4.6	-91.5
Misc Vegetables	110.8	235.9
Nursery	20.9	-27.6
Onion	5,442.9	1,008.6
Other Seasonal	-4.4	-65.1
Other Tree Fruit	-100.0	
Pears		4.0
Potato	-51.6	-8.1
Wheat/Grain		90.9

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment contracted by 11.6% in June 2002 from June 2001. June 2002 posted an increase of 72.9% over May 2002. The crop activity rising the most in employment from June 2001 to June 2002 was potato work 476.6%. The crop activity falling by the largest amount of employment for that same time period was strawberry work -100.0%. The crop activity adding the most employment from May 2002 to June 2002 was cherry work 12,208.3%. The crop activity scaling back the most during that same time period was other tree fruit -95.9%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2002 in Area 5 was \$7.24 per hour.

CROP	AREA 5 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT	
	PERCENT CHANGE	
	<u>May '02 - Jun '02</u>	<u>Jun '01 - Jun '02</u>
Apples	735.2	-10.9
Asparagus		-23.5
Cherries	12,208.3	-21.4
Grapes	4.6	15.3
Hop	-60.0	-82.6
Misc Vegetables	1,930.4	47.6
Nursery	-35.9	325.0
Onion	1,782.6	-41.5
Other Seasonal	47.1	-63.3
Other Tree Fruit	-95.9	
Potato	68.1	476.6
Strawberry		-100.0
Wheat/Grain	-50.0	-88.9

Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment was flat with 0.0% change in June 2002 from June 2001. June 2002 seasonal employment grew by 38.6% over May 2002. The crop activity increasing the most in employment from June 2001 to June 2002 was wheat/grain work 27.2%. The crop activity contracting the most in employment for that same time period was other seasonal work -56.6%. The crop activity growing by the largest amount of employment from May 2002 to June 2002 was wheat/grain work 333.3%. The crop activity declining by the greatest employment for that same time period was nursery work -31.6%. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2002 in Area 6 was \$7.53 per hour.

CROP	AREA 6 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT	
	PERCENT CHANGE	
	<u>May '02 - Jun '02</u>	<u>Jun '01 - Jun '02</u>
Nursery	-31.6	0.7
Other Seasonal	7.5	-56.6
Wheat/Grain	333.3	27.2

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

FARM LABOR ABSTRACT
JUNE 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: 3,284 (3,109 local, 0 intrastate, 175 interstate)

Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	686	\$ 6.97/hr
Nursery Planter	306	\$ 7.06/hr
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	235	\$ 6.90/hr
Nursery Worker	183	\$ 8.76/hr

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 13,102 (11,329 local, 186 intrastate, 1,587 interstate)

Apple Hand Thinner	3,763	\$ 7.13/hr or \$ 0.25 - \$ 9.50/tree
Asparagus Harvester	2,144	\$ 6.91/hr or \$ 0.17 - \$ 0.25/lb
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	1,700	\$ 6.90/hr
Cherry Harvester	1,611	\$ 3.75 - \$ 4.75/box

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 7,479 (6,617 local, 222 intrastate, 640 interstate)

Apple Hand Thinner	5,011	\$ 6.93/hr or \$ 0.30 - \$ 2.00/tree
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	1,371	\$ 7.73/hr
Apple Chemical Applicator	138	\$ 7.37/hr
Apple Trainer	127	\$ 7.09/hr

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 5,504 (4,850 local, 294 intrastate, 360 interstate)

Apple Hand Thinner	2,667	\$ 6.97/hr
Asparagus Harvester	489	\$ 7.00/hr
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	407	\$ 6.90/hr
Misc Onion Weeder	296	\$ 6.95/hr

SOUTHEAST (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 9,669 (8,340 local, 330 intrastate, 999 interstate)

Asparagus Harvester	2,561	\$ 6.90/hr or \$ 0.15 - \$ 0.25/lb
Apple Hand Thinner	1,733	\$ 7.06/hr
Cherry Harvester	1,391	\$ 4.00 - \$ 5.00/box
Apple Pruner	737	\$ 6.90/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 420 (273 local, 0 intrastate, 147 interstate)

Wheat Weeder	162	\$ 7.00/hr
Nursery Planter	48	\$ 6.95/hr
Wheat Tractor Operator	36	\$ 8.25/hr
Nursery Worker	25	\$ 7.62/hr