



SEASONAL FARM LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

JANUARY 2003



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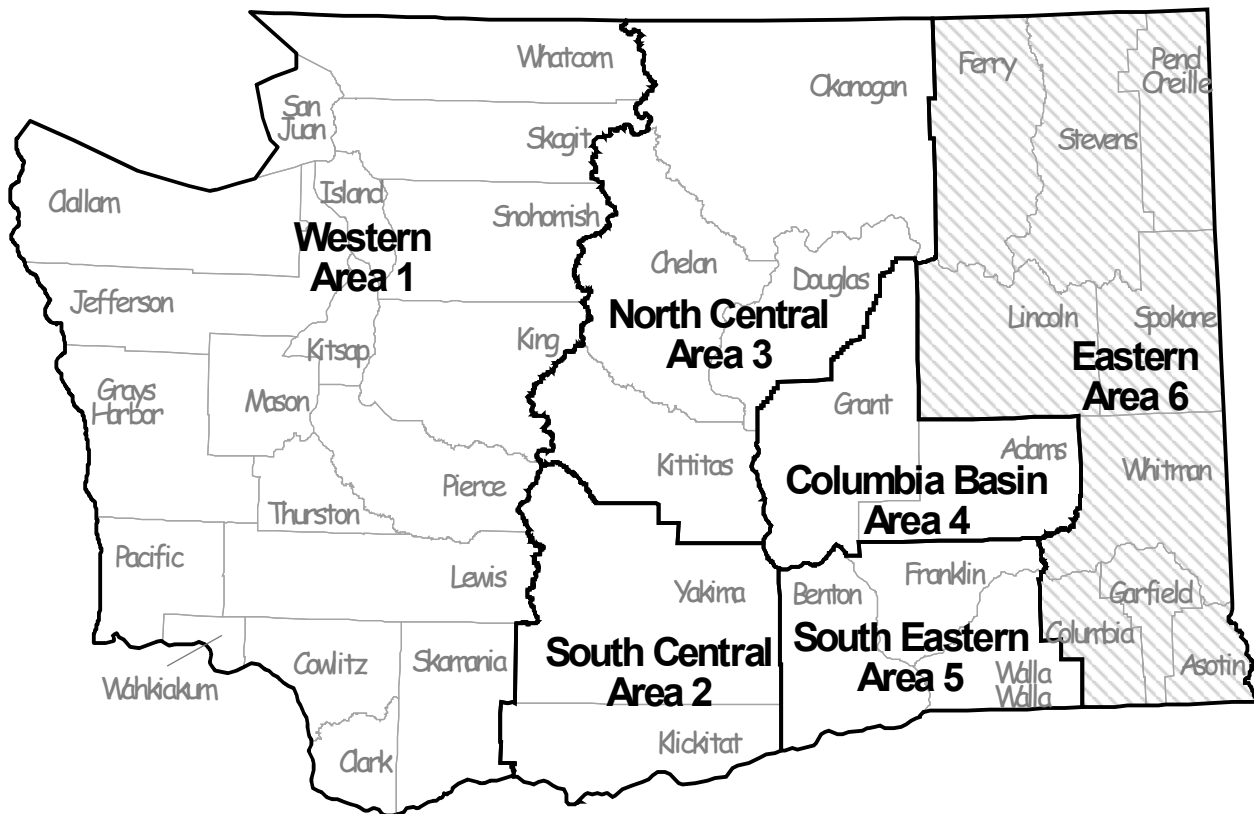
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Information Center toll free: 1-800 215-1617

Report available online at Workforce Explorer-Industry:

<http://www.workforceexplorer.com>

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

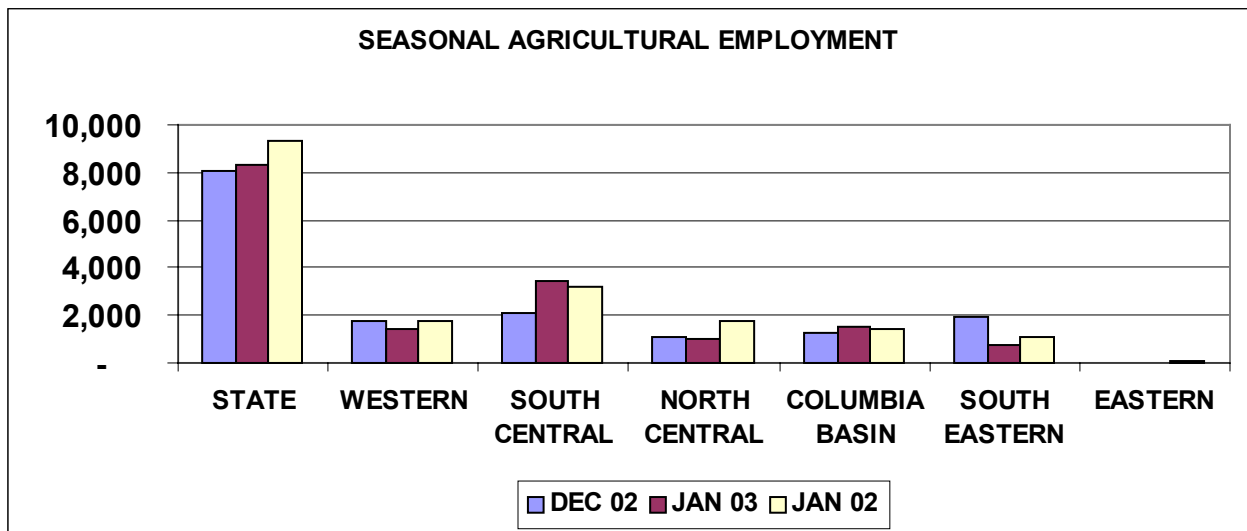
Area 5 = Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla

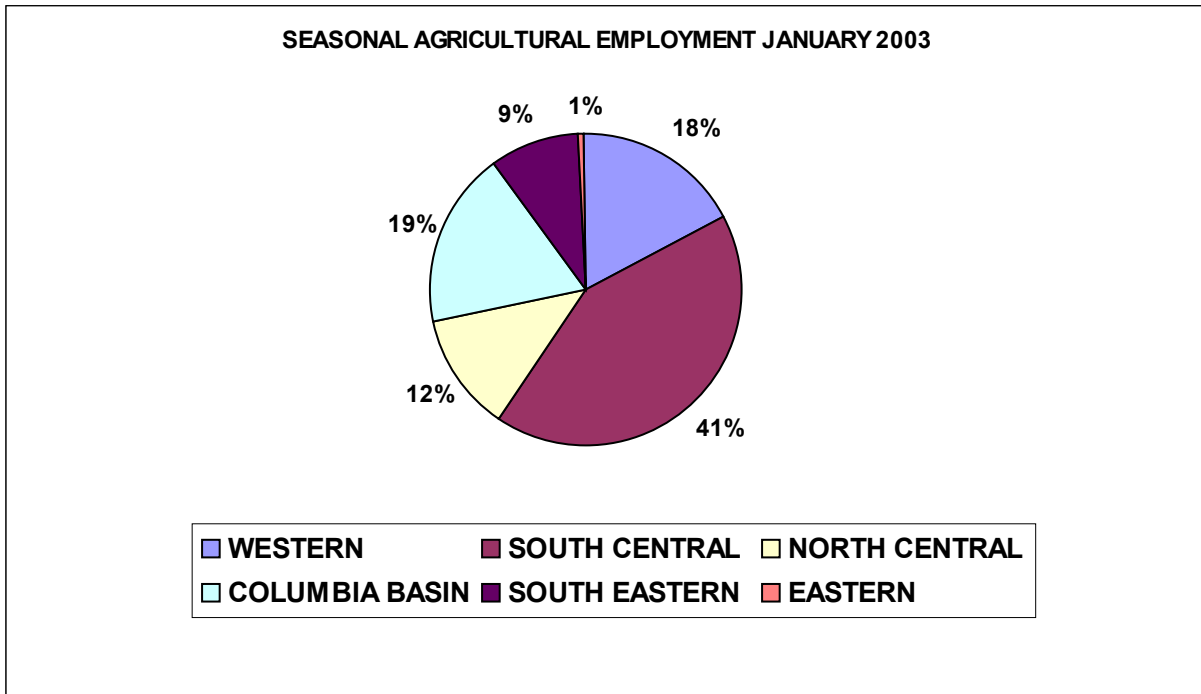
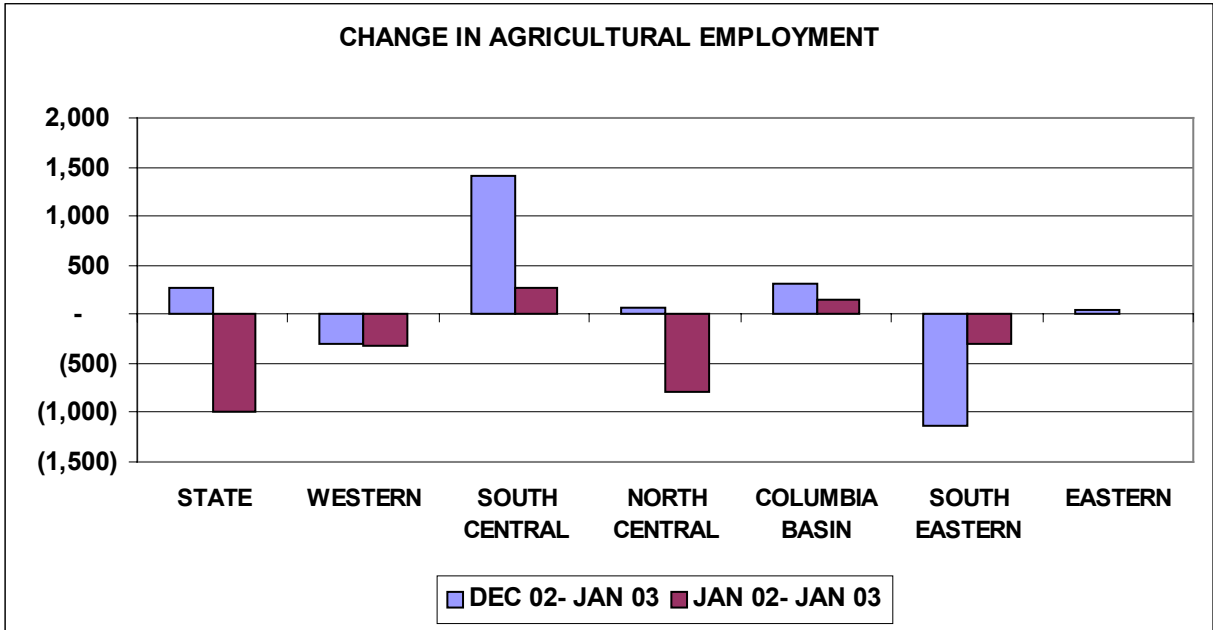
Area 6 = Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Whitman

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2002 brought a slower rate of decline in seasonal agricultural workers, 5.9%, as compared to the 12.4 % decrease in 2001. Apple work, in contrast to recent trends, was one of the few bright spots with a 5.0% increase over the previous year. Some of the main culprits in the decline of seasonal workers in 2002 were cherry work (-11.0%), pear work (-35.1%), grape work (-25.1%), other seasonal work (-20.4%) and nursery work (-9.5%). Weather conditions contributed to a 3.4% uptick in December 2002 seasonal agricultural employment over December 2001. Apple pruning led the way with a 3.4% increase over the previous year. Total agricultural employment, after decreasing 1.7% in 2001, declined 2.9% in 2002.

	SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT						
	JAN 03	DEC 02	JAN 02	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03	DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03
STATE	8,310	8,045	9,296	265	(986)	3.3%	-10.6%
WESTERN	1,463	1,760	1,782	(297)	(319)	-16.9%	-17.9%
SOUTH CENTRAL	3,462	2,060	3,190	1,402	272	68.1%	8.5%
NORTH CENTRAL	1,013	1,076	1,804	(63)	(791)	-5.9%	-43.8%
COLUMBIA BASIN	1,552	1,245	1,395	307	157	24.7%	11.3%
SOUTH EASTERN	778	1,902	1,080	(1,124)	(302)	-59.1%	-28.0%
EASTERN	42	2	45	40	(3)	2000.0%	-6.7%





STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment decreased 10.6% from January 2002 to January 2003. However, seasonal employment increased statewide by 3.3% from December 2002 to January 2003. The crop activity exhibiting the highest gain in employment from January 2002 to January 2003 was other cherry work (160). Apple work had the greatest decline in employment (-475) for that same time period. However, apple work added the most workers from December 2002 to January 2003, an increase of 589. During that same time period, potato work shed the greatest number of jobs (-314). The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2003, statewide, was \$7.49 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
STATE CROP	JAN 03	DEC 02	JAN 02	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03	DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03
Apples	4,350	3,761	4,825	589	(475)	15.7%	-9.8%
Blueberry	28	11	37	17	(9)	154.5%	-24.3%
Bulb	55	100	60	(45)	(5)	-45.0%	-8.3%
Cherries	421	160	261	261	160	163.1%	61.3%
Grapes	703	689	800	14	(97)	2.0%	-12.1%
Hop	4	3	25	1	(21)	33.3%	-84.0%
Misc Vegetables	19	231	111	(212)	(92)	-91.8%	-82.9%
Nursery	880	846	917	34	(37)	4.0%	-4.0%
Onion	500	537	499	(37)	1	-6.9%	0.2%
Other Seasonal	153	260	440	(107)	(287)	-41.2%	-65.2%
Other Tree Fruit	165	24	60	141	105	587.5%	175.0%
Pears	444	401	313	43	131	10.7%	41.9%
Potato	305	619	365	(314)	(60)	-50.7%	-16.4%
Raspberry	266	389	583	(123)	(317)	-31.6%	-54.4%
Wheat/Grain	19	14	0	5	19	35.7%	0.0%

Western (Area 1) over-the-year seasonal employment declined 17.9% from January 2002 to January 2003. Seasonal employment also fell by 16.9% from December 2002 to January 2003. Potato work was the crop activity rising the most (25) in employment from January 2002 to January 2003. Raspberry work experienced the largest downturn (-317) in employment for that same time period. Nursery work posted the largest upturn in employment (56) from December 2002 to January 2003. Potato work shrunk by the greatest amount (-175) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2003 in Area 1 was \$7.14 per hour. (See pages 14 and 15 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
WESTERN CROP	JAN 03	DEC 02	JAN 02	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03	DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03
Blueberry	28	11	37	17	(9)	154.5%	-24.3%
Bulb	55	100	60	(45)	(5)	-45.0%	-8.3%
Misc Vegetables	10	29	2	(19)	8	-65.5%	400.0%
Nursery	809	753	817	56	(8)	7.4%	-1.0%
Other Seasonal	10	20	6	(10)	4	-50.0%	66.7%
Potato	283	458	258	(175)	25	-38.2%	9.7%
Raspberry	266	389	583	(123)	(317)	-31.6%	-54.4%
Rhubarb	-	-	19	-	(19)	0.0%	0.0%

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment expanded by 8.5% from January 2002 to January 2003. This was exceeded by an increase of 68.1% from December 2002 to January 2003. Cherry work was the crop activity experiencing the largest growth (160) in employment from January 2002 to January 2003. Grape work fell by (-74) the largest amount for that same time period. The largest over-the-month growth in employment from December 2002 to January 2003 was apple work (1,111). Other seasonal work displayed the greatest loss in employment (-25) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2003 in Area 2 was \$8.11 per hour. (See pages 16 and 17 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH CENTRAL CROP	JAN 03	DEC 02	JAN 02	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03	DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03
Apples	2348	1237	2220	1,111	128	89.8%	5.8%
Cherries	238	44	78	194	160	440.9%	205.1%
Grapes	464	395	538	69	(74)	17.5%	-13.8%
Hop	0	3	15	(3)	(15)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Misc Vegetables	9	24	0	(15)	9	-62.5%	0.0%
Other Seasonal	8	33	11	(25)	(3)	-75.8%	-27.3%
Other Tree Fruit	73	8	55	65	18	812.5%	32.7%
Pears	322	316	273	6	49	1.9%	17.9%

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment exhibited an over-the-year net loss of 43.8% from January 2002 to January 2003. January 2003 showed a smaller downturn of 5.9% in employment from December 2002. The crop activity gaining the largest amount of employment from January 2002 to January 2003 was other tree fruit work (33). Apple work employment lagged by the largest amount (-801) for that same time period. Cherry work added the most employment (34) from December 2002 to January 2003. Apple work had the largest decline in employment (-83) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2003 in Area 3 was \$7.44 per hour. (See pages 18 and 19 for Area 3 detail)

AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT								
NORTH CENTRAL	CROP	JAN 03	DEC 02	JAN 02	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
					DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03	DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03
	Apples	862	945	1663	(83)	(801)	-8.8%	-48.2%
	Cherries	67	33	84	34	(17)	103.0%	-20.2%
	Other Seasonal	8	47	27	(39)	(19)	-83.0%	-70.4%
	Other Tree Fruit	36	4	3	32	33	800.0%	1100.0%
	Pears	41	47	27	(6)	14	-12.8%	51.9%

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment gained 11.3% from January 2002 to January 2003. This was echoed by a larger increase of 24.7% in employment from December 2002 to January 2003. Apple work displayed the greatest upturn (173) in employment from January 2002 to January 2003. Onion work experienced the largest downturn (-397) in employment during that same time period. Apple work expanded the most (239) in employment from December 2002 to January 2003. Cherry work netted the largest over-the-month loss (-29) in employment during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2003 in Area 4 was \$7.17 per hour. (See pages 20 and 21 for Area 4 detail)

AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT								
COLUMBIA BASIN	CROP	JAN 03	DEC 02	JAN 02	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
					DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03	DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03
	Apples	925	686	752	239	173	34.8%	23.0%
	Cherries	18	47	6	(29)	12	-61.7%	200.0%
	Mint	86	4	5	82	81	2050.0%	1620.0%
	Misc Vegetables	22	42	3	(20)	19	-47.6%	633.3%
	Nursery	0	6	98	(6)	(98)	-100.0%	-100.0%
	Onion	3	1	400	2	(397)	200.0%	-99.3%
	Other Seasonal	68	85	11	(17)	57	-20.0%	518.2%
	Pears	0	0	13	-	(13)	0.0%	-100.0%
	Potato	0	0	107	-	(107)	0.0%	-100.0%

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment contracted by 28.0% from January 2002 to January 2003. January 2003 employment also lagged by 59.1% from December 2002. Other tree fruit work employment rose by the greatest amount (54) from January 2002 to January 2003. Other seasonal work decreased the most (-326) in employment during that same time period. Other seasonal work propelled up by the largest amount (337) of employment from December 2002 to January 2003. This was contrasted by apple work employment scaling back by the greatest amount (-678) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2003 in Area 5 was \$7.40 per hour. (See pages 22 and 23 for Area 5 detail)

AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH EASTERN CROP	JAN 03	DEC 02	JAN 02	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03	DEC 02- JAN 03	JAN 02- JAN 03
Apples	215	893	190	(678)	25	-75.9%	13.2%
Cherries	98	36	93	62	5	172.2%	5.4%
Grapes	239	294	262	(55)	(23)	-18.7%	-8.8%
Hop	4	0	10	4	(6)	0.0%	-60.0%
Misc Vegetables	0	178	87	(178)	(87)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Nursery	0	6	0	(6)	-	-100.0%	0.0%
Onion	146	200	99	(54)	47	-27.0%	47.5%
Other Seasonal	11	150	337	(139)	(326)	-92.7%	-96.7%
Other Tree Fruit	56	12	2	44	54	366.7%	2700.0%
Potato	0	119	0	(119)	-	-100.0%	0.0%
Wheat/Grain	9	14	0	(5)	9	-35.7%	0.0%

Eastern (Area 6) Seasonal employment did not meet the criterion of 500 employees and therefore is not published for the month of January.

Methodology

The "Agricultural Workforce Report" uses data from the monthly Seasonal Farm Labor Survey. This is a survey of 600 agricultural growers in the state. They report monthly the number of total and seasonal workers by crop, activity, and wage. Both hourly and piece rates are used. "Seasonal " workers for the purpose of the survey are those working less than 150 days per year. The state is grouped into six areas based on agricultural economic similarity. The tables and charts presented compare the seasonal agricultural employment for the state and the six areas for the current month, previous month and year ago. Percentage increases as well as raw numbers are given. The weighted monthly wage for seasonal employment is given for the state and the six areas. Each crop activity having significant employment is noted as a percentage change for previous month and year ago. The crops having the highest gain and highest decline in employment are highlighted in the narrative. The Farm Labor Abstract is also included. This contains the top four crop activities by employment and wage for each of the six areas. Piece rates are given in addition to hourly wages when available and disclosable. Some variation in the reporting of the seasonal data can be attributed to the requirement that employment be reported in the pay period including the 12th of the month. Due to the fact that the timing of a given crop's harvest and other activities can be affected by weather and other conditions, periods of peak employment do not always fit precisely within this reporting period. This can lead to some variation of estimated employment by crop when comparing activity in similar time periods. The report is used by economists, growers' associations, educators, state agencies, labor unions and outreach workers.

Related Ag Links:

Click on <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wa> for Washington crop harvest and weather information.

Click on <http://www.usda.gov/oce/oce/labor-affairs/whatsnew.htm> for What's New in Agricultural Employment.

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

FARM LABOR ABSTRACT
JANUARY 2003

A mid-month survey of farm labor employment and wages is 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: 1,463 (1,430 local, 9 intrastate, 24 interstate)

Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	632	\$ 7.06/hr
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	275	\$ 7.01/hr
Raspberry Pruner	238	\$ 7.00/hr
Nursery Harvester	82	\$ 7.01/hr

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,462 (2,060 local, 148 intrastate, 1,254 interstate)

Apple Pruner	2,152	\$ 8.31/hr	or \$ 0.25 - \$ 9.00/tree
Grapes Pruner	399	\$ 7.31/hr	or \$ 0.12 - \$ 0.25/vine
Pear Pruner	322	\$ 7.20/hr	or \$ 0.30 - \$ 9.00/tree
Cherry Pruner	238	\$ 8.29/hr	or \$ 0.50 - \$ 2.60/tree

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 1,013 (1,009 local, 2 intrastate, 2 interstate)

Apple Pruner	819	\$ 7.12/hr
Cherry Pruner	67	\$ 8.22/hr
Pear Pruner	41	\$ 7.61/hr
Apple Trainer	22	\$ 7.25/hr

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 1,552 (1,422 local, 0 intrastate, 130 interstate)

Apple Pruner	878	\$ 7.21/hr	or \$ 0.50 - \$ 1.50/tree
Misc Onion/Sorter/Grader/Packer	334	\$ 7.16/hr	
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	85	\$ 7.01/hr	
Pear Pruner	81	\$ 7.25/hr	

SOUTHEAST (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 778 (778 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate)

Apple Pruner	212	\$ 7.14/hr	or \$ 0.35 - \$ 3.50/tree
Grapes Pruner	192	\$ 7.02/hr	or \$ 0.22 - \$ 0.26/vine
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	146	\$ 7.63/hr	
Cherry Pruner	98	\$ 7.60/hr	

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 42 (42 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate)

General Farm Planter	20	\$10.00/hr
Wheat Worker	10	\$10.00/hr
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Mechanic	10	\$ 8.00/hr
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	3	\$ 7.01/hr

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas Harvest Periods

Washington State crop harvest timetables are listed below by agricultural areas. The dates may vary considerably due to weather or other conditions.

Note that the five area groupings in the following five timeline charts do not directly match with the six agricultural area groupings that are used in the Seasonal Farm Labor Survey data used in this report.

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Okanogan and Wenatchee Crop Areas											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Apples												
Cherries												
Pears												
Golden Delicious												
Red Delicious												

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Bellingham and Mount Vernon Crop Areas											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Flowers												
Cucumbers												
Broccoli												
Cauliflower												
Spinach												
Blueberries												
Raspberries												
Strawberries												

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Tri-Cities and Walla Walla Crop Areas											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Asparagus												
Apples												
Cherries												
Apricots												
Peaches												
Pears												
Onions												
Strawberries												

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Bingen, Sunnyside and Yakima Areas											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Asparagus												
Apples												
Cherries												
Peaches												
Pears												
Grapes												
Hops												
Vegetables												

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Moses Lake Crop Area											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Asparagus												
Apples												
Cherries												
Peaches												
Potatoes												

SEASONAL FARM LABOR SURVEY
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE DETAIL BY CROP ACTIVITY

JANUARY 2003

TABLE 1

JANUARY 2003

**In-Season Farm Labor Report, Washington State
 Estimated Number of Domestic Seasonal Hired Workers
 by Place of Origin**

Agricultural Reporting Area	Local	Intra-state	Inter-state	Area Total
1. Western	1,430	9	24	1,463
2. South Central	2,060	148	1,254	3,462
3. North Central	1,009	2	2	1,013
4. Columbia Basin	1,422	0	130	1,552
5. Southeastern	778	0	0	778
6. Eastern	42	0	0	42
=====				
State Totals	6,740	159	1,411	8,310
% State Total	81.1%	1.9%	17.0%	100%

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2003

Area Name: **WESTERN** (Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, State: WASHINGTON
Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum, Whatcom)

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers	1,463
a. Local	1,430
b. Intrastate migratory	9
c. Interstate migratory	24
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Sunnyside	
b. Interstate: Oregon	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
 The January 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 6,553.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Sinking milk prices have forced 28 dairies out of business in the last year. A year ago milk prices were \$17 per 100 pounds of milk. The current price is \$10.86 per 100 pounds of milk. Primary agricultural activities were nursery harvest and warehouse work, potato warehouse work and raspberry pruning.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.14 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.00 for raspberry pruner to \$20.00 for miscellaneous vegetables worker. No piece rates were reported. Housing was limited.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated at 97.7% local, 0.6% intrastate and 1.7% interstate.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
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DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 1: WESTERN (Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, Lewis, King, Kitsap, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum, and Whatcom Counties)

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY	EMPLOYMENT	WAGES
CROP ACTIVITY (1)	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS (2)	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS (3)
	TOTAL 1,463	* = piece rate
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	632	\$ 7.06
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	275	\$ 7.01
Raspberry Pruner	238	\$ 7.00
Nursery Harvester	82	\$ 7.01
Nursery Planter	59	\$ 7.32
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	36	\$ 7.01
Blueberry Pruner	28	\$ 8.00
Bulbs Harvester	19	\$ 7.01
Raspberry Trainer	19	Not Available
Nursery Weeder	18	\$ 7.01
Nursery Worker	10	\$ 8.14
Misc Vegetables Worker	10	\$20.00
Potato Worker	8	\$ 7.01
Misc Field Crops Weeder	6	\$ 8.00
Raspberry Chemical Applicator	6	\$ 6.90
Nursery Mechanized Harvester	5	\$ 9.25
Misc Hay Tractor Operator	4	\$ 9.00
Raspberry Worker	3	\$ 7.01
Nursery Vehicle Operator	3	\$10.50
AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1		
		\$ 7.14/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Area Name: **SOUTH CENTRAL** (Klickitat, Yakima)

Period: JANUARY 2003

State: WASHINGTON

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers	3,462
a. Local	2,060
b. Intrastate migratory	148
c. Interstate migratory	1,254
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Sunnyside, Wenatchee	
b. Interstate: California, Oregon	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The January 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 10,454.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Primary agricultural activities were apple, grapes, pear and cherry pruning.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$8.11 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for grapes trainer to \$12.00 for apple vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$0.25 to \$9.00 per tree for apple pruning, \$0.12 to \$0.25 per vine for grapes pruning, \$0.30 to \$9.00 per tree for pear pruning and \$0.50 to \$2.60 per tree for cherry pruning. Housing was limited; workers provided their own transportation.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 59.5% local, 4.3% intrastate, and 36.2% interstate.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
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DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 2: SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY	EMPLOYMENT	WAGES
CROP ACTIVITY (1)	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS (2)	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS (3)
	TOTAL 3,462	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	2,152	\$ 8.31 or * \$ 0.25 - \$ 9.00/tree
Grapes Pruner	399	\$ 7.32 or * \$ 0.12 - \$ 0.25/vine
Pear Pruner	322	\$ 7.20 or * \$ 0.30 - \$ 9.00/tree
Cherry Pruner	238	\$ 8.29 or * \$ 0.50 - \$ 2.60/tree
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	169	\$ 7.29
Grapes Trainer	57	\$ 7.01
Nectarine Pruner	28	Not Available
Peach Pruner	28	Not Available
Apricot Pruner	17	Not Available
Apple Vehicle Operator	10	\$12.00
Misc Squash Sorter/Grader/Packer	9	\$ 7.50
Misc Field Crops Worker	8	\$ 8.00
Grapes Worker	8	\$ 7.75
Apple Forklift Driver	7	\$ 8.16
Apple Worker	7	\$ 9.14
Apple Trainer	3	\$ 9.00
<p>AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 8.11/hr (weighted average)</p>		

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Area Name: **NORTH CENTRAL** (Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, and Okanogan)

Period: JANUARY 2003
State: WASHINGTON

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1.	Total domestic seasonal hired workers	1,013
a.	Local	1,009
b.	Intrastate migratory	2
c.	Interstate migratory	2
2.	Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a.	Intrastate: Yakima	
b.	Interstate: None	
c.	Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The January 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 6,186.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Primary agricultural activities were apple, cherry and pear pruning. A few growers reported a labor surplus.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.44 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for miscellaneous fruit trees pruner, grafter, worker and sorter/grader/packer to \$9.50 for apple manager. No piece rates were reported. Housing was very limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 99.6% local, 0.2% intrastate and 0.2% interstate.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
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DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2003

State: WASHINGTON

Area 3: NORTH CENTRAL (Chelan, Kittitas, Douglas and Okanogan Counties)

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY	EMPLOYMENT	WAGES
CROP ACTIVITY (1)	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS (2)	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS (3)
	TOTAL 1,013	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	819	\$ 7.12
Cherry Pruner	67	\$ 8.22
Pear Pruner	41	\$ 7.61
Apple Trainer	22	\$ 7.25
Misc Fruit Trees Sorter/Grader/Packer	20	\$ 7.01
Apple Mechanic	9	\$ 7.25
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	8	\$ 7.01
Potato Worker	8	\$ 9.00
Apple Manager	4	\$ 9.50
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	4	\$ 7.13
Misc Fruit Trees Grafter	4	\$ 7.01
Misc Fruit Trees Pruner	4	\$ 7.01
Apple Weeder	2	\$ 7.25
Apple Forklift Driver	2	\$ 8.05
AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.44/hr (weighted average)		

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Area Name: **COLUMBIA BASIN** (Adams and Grant)

Period: JANUARY 2003

State: WASHINGTON

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers	1,552
a. Local	1,422
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	130
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: None	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The January 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 4,875.

2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:

a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:

Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, miscellaneous onion warehouse work, miscellaneous grain and seed crops warehouse work and pear pruning.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.17 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for miscellaneous grain & seed crops sorter/grader/packer, nursery sorter/grader/packer, cherry pruner, cherry weeder and nursery worker to \$11.00 for potato vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$0.50 to \$1.50 per tree for apple pruning. Low cost housing was limited and in short supply. Transportation was provided by the workers.

c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:

The labor force was estimated to be 91.6% local, 0.0% intrastate and 8.4% interstate.

d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 4: COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY	EMPLOYMENT	WAGES
CROP ACTIVITY (1)	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS (2)	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS (3)
	TOTAL 1,552	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	878	\$ 7.21 or * \$ 0.50 - \$ 1.50/tree
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	334	\$ 7.16
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	85	\$ 7.01
Pear Pruner	81	\$ 7.25
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	64	\$ 7.01
Apple Trainer	35	\$ 7.05
Potato Mechanic	16	\$ 8.00
Cherry Pruner	13	\$ 7.01
Misc Onion Forklift Driver	10	\$ 7.50
Apple Worker	8	\$ 7.25
Misc Onion Worker	7	\$ 7.50
Cherry Weeder	5	\$ 7.01
Nursery Worker	4	\$ 7.01
Apple Mechanic	4	\$ 8.00
Misc Onion Loader	3	\$ 7.50
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	3	\$ 7.25
Potato Vehicle Operator	3	\$11.00
General Farm Worker	1	\$ 7.50
<p>AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 7.17/hr (weighted average)</p>		

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Area Name: **SOUTHEASTERN** (Benton, Franklin, & Walla Walla)

Period: JANUARY 2003

State: WASHINGTON

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers	778
a. Local	778
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	0
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: None	
c. Foreign: None	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The January 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,070.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Wheat farmers are benefiting from the highest wheat prices in 5 years. Prices peaked in October at \$4.20 per bushel. This was largely due to U.S. production being down by 17% from 2001. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, grapes pruning cherry pruning and miscellaneous onion warehouse work.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.40 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for grapes trainer, grapes planter and hops trainer to \$15.00 for wheat vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$0.22 to \$0.26 per vine for grapes pruning and \$0.35 to \$3.50 per tree for apple pruning. Housing was limited; transportation was provided by the workers.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 100.0% local, 0.0% intrastate and 0.0% interstate.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
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DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 5: SOUTHEASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY	EMPLOYMENT	WAGES
CROP ACTIVITY (1)	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS (2)	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS (3)
	TOTAL 778	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	212	\$ 7.14 or * \$ 0.35 - \$ 3.50/tree
Grapes Pruner	192	\$ 7.02 or * \$ 0.22 - \$ 0.26/vine
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	146	\$ 7.63
Cherry Pruner	98	\$ 7.60
Misc Fruit Trees Pruner	56	Not Available
Grapes Worker	27	\$ 8.13
Grapes Trainer	10	\$ 7.01
Grapes Planter	10	\$ 7.01
Alfalfa Mechanic	10	\$ 8.50
Wheat Vehicle Operator	9	\$15.00
Hops Trainer	4	\$ 7.01
Apple Trainer	3	\$ 7.25
General Farm Worker	1	\$12.00
AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG PRODUCERS IN SOUTHEASTERN AREA 5 \$ 7.40/hr (weighted average)		