



## SEASONAL FARM LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

JULY 2003



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Report available online at Workforce Explorer-Industry  
<http://www.workforceexplorer.com>

JULY 2003

## 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

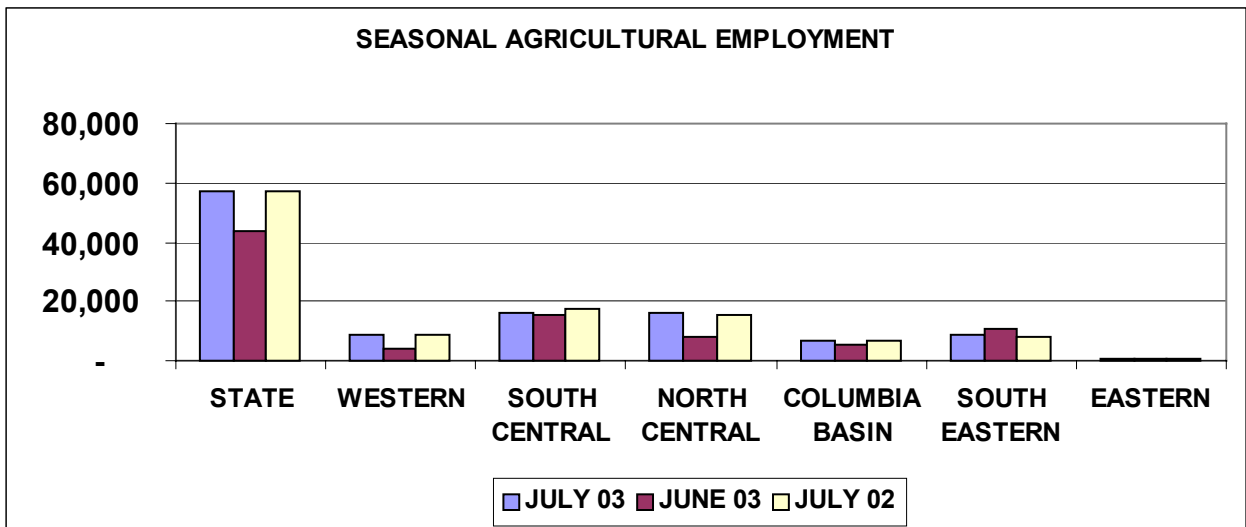
**Area 6** = Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Whitman

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

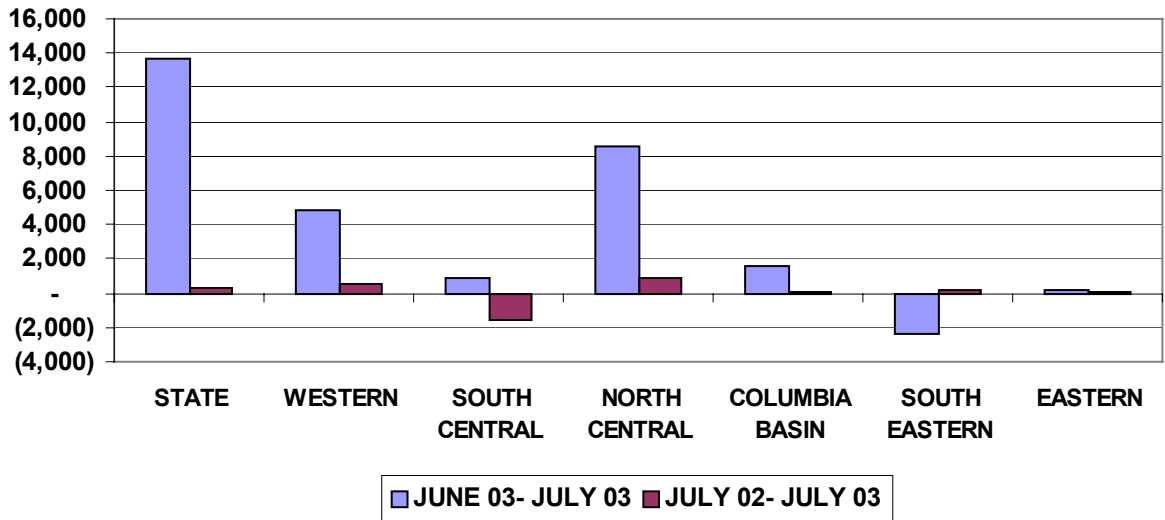
All parties in the Washington Apple Commission lawsuit have signed a settlement agreement and hope to get a judge's approval before fall harvest. If approved, the agreement would allow a greatly reduced Apple Commission to continue. The Commission would continue collecting a mandatory 3.5 cents per box of apples from growers, down from 25 cents. It could spend money on non-speech related activities such as research, education and lobbying. Welcome Sauer, seventh president of the Commission resigned and left the job on July 31. His management skills and \$176,000 annual salary wouldn't be needed if the scaled-back Commission is approved. Other fruit companies have already hired a few of the Commission's former marketing executives.

The Washington State Fruit Commission is predicting a bumper sweet cherry crop this year. The Commission predicts the state will produce 72,000 tons of sweet cherries for the fresh market this year, less than 2001's record 80,300 tons but up from last year's 63,000 tons. The state's total sweet cherry crop, including those bound for food processing, is expected to be 96,900 tons this year, compared with 102,200 tons in 2001 and 82,300 tons last year. Washington is the nation's top cherry-producing state, with its 2001 crop valued at \$144 million, according to the latest data from the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

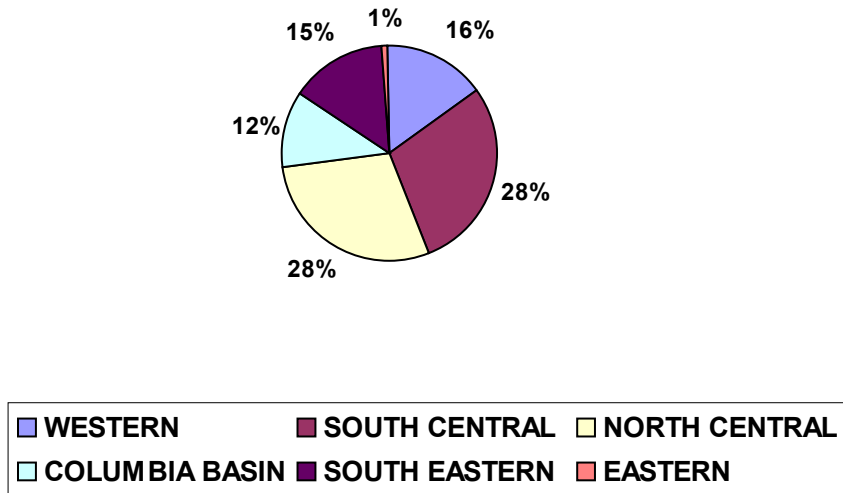
	<b>SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT</b>							
				<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>		
	<u>JULY 03</u>	<u>JUNE 03</u>	<u>JULY 02</u>	<u>JUNE 03- JULY 03</u>	<u>JULY 02- JULY 03</u>	<u>JUNE 03- JULY 03</u>	<u>JULY 02- JULY 03</u>	
<b>STATE</b>	57,220	43,537	56,970	13,683	250	31.4%	0.4%	
<b>WESTERN</b>	8,967	4,074	8,411	4,893	556	120.1%	6.6%	
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	16,214	15,330	17,731	884	(1,517)	5.8%	-8.6%	
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>	16,365	7,765	15,446	8,600	919	110.8%	5.9%	
<b>COLUMBIA BASIN</b>	6,642	5,065	6,582	1,577	60	31.1%	0.9%	
<b>SOUTH EASTERN</b>	8,502	10,922	8,360	(2,420)	142	-22.2%	1.7%	
<b>EASTERN</b>	530	381	440	149	90	39.1%	20.5%	



### CHANGE IN AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



### SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT JULY 2003



## STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

**Statewide** seasonal employment increased by 0.4% from July 2002 to July 2003. However, seasonal employment statewide grew by 31.4% from June 2003 to July 2003. The crop activity exhibiting the highest gain in employment from July 2002 to July 2003 was raspberry work (444). Apple work had the greatest decline in employment (-401) for that same time period. Cherry work added the most workers (5,017) from June 2003 to July 2003. During that same time period, asparagus work shed the greatest number of jobs (-4,670). The statewide weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2003 was \$7.29 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
CROP	JULY 03	JUNE 03	JULY 02	JUNE 03- JULY 03	JULY 02- JULY 03	JUNE 03- JULY 03	JULY 02- JULY 03
Apples	20,104	15,234	20,505	4,870	(401)	32.0%	-2.0%
Asparagus	395	5,065	434	(4,670)	(39)	-92.2%	-9.0%
Blueberry	240	0	175	240	65	0.0%	37.1%
Bulb	565	228	395	337	170	147.8%	43.0%
Cherries	17,658	12,641	17,697	5,017	(39)	39.7%	-0.2%
Cucumbers	266	84	107	182	159	216.7%	148.6%
Grapes	1,471	1,173	1,386	298	85	25.4%	6.1%
Hop	180	294	362	(114)	(182)	-38.8%	-50.3%
Misc Vegetables	2,399	816	2,151	1,583	248	194.0%	11.5%
Nursery	941	1,858	1,338	(917)	(397)	-49.4%	-29.7%
Onion	1,058	714	1,216	344	(158)	48.2%	-13.0%
Other Seasonal	1,951	1,605	2,077	346	(126)	21.6%	-6.1%
Other Tree Fruit	893	391	992	502	(99)	128.4%	-10.0%
Pears	721	485	735	236	(14)	48.7%	-1.9%
Potato	1,488	1,111	1,127	377	361	33.9%	32.0%
Raspberry	2,811	347	2,367	2,464	444	710.1%	18.8%
Strawberry	3,760	1,379	3,589	2,381	171	172.7%	4.8%
Wheat/Grain	324	112	317	212	7	189.3%	2.2%

\*\*Crop detail may not add due to rounding

**Western (Area 1)** over-the-year seasonal employment increased by 6.6% from July 2002 to July 2003. This was contrasted by an increase in seasonal employment of 120.1% from June 2003 to July 2003. Raspberry work was the crop activity rising the most (444) in employment from July 2002 to July 2003. Nursery work experienced the largest downturn (-307) in employment for that same time period. Raspberry work also posted the largest upturn in employment (2,464) from June 2003 to July 2003. Nursery work shrunk by the greatest amount (-726) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2003 in Area 1 was \$7.18 per hour. (See pages 14 –16 for Area 1 detail)

<b>AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**</b>							
<b>WESTERN</b>				<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>	
	<b>JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03</b>	<b>JULY 02</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>
<b>CROP</b>							
Blueberry	240	0	175	240	65	0.0%	37.1%
Bulb	565	228	395	337	170	147.8%	43.0%
Cucumbers	266	84	107	182	159	216.7%	148.6%
Misc Vegetables	419	238	703	181	(284)	76.1%	-40.4%
Nursery	772	1498	1079	(726)	(307)	-48.5%	-28.5%
Other Seasonal	265	43	153	222	112	516.3%	73.2%
Potato	76	163	55	(87)	21	-53.4%	38.2%
Raspberry	2811	347	2367	2,464	444	710.1%	18.8%
Rhubarb	182	165	70	17	112	10.3%	160.0%
Strawberry	3374	1309	3307	2,065	67	157.8%	2.0%

\*\*Crop detail may not add due to rounding

**South Central (Area 2)** seasonal employment contracted by 8.6% from July 2002 to July 2003. This was contrasted by an increase of 5.8% from June 2003 to July 2003. Potato work was the crop activity experiencing the largest growth (78) in employment from July 2002 to July 2003. Apple work fell by (-717) the largest amount for that same time period. The largest over-the-month growth in employment from June 2003 to July 2003 was apple work (1,164). Asparagus work displayed the greatest loss in employment (-982) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2003 in Area 2 was \$7.33 per hour. (See pages 17 - 19 for Area 2 detail)

<b>AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**</b>							
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>				<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>	
	<b>JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03</b>	<b>JULY 02</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>
<b>CROP</b>							
Apples	6470	5306	7187	1,164	(717)	21.9%	-10.0%
Asparagus	383	1365	310	(982)	73	-71.9%	23.5%
Cherries	6470	6284	6983	186	(513)	3.0%	-7.3%
Grapes	516	645	590	(129)	(74)	-20.0%	-12.5%
Hop	167	260	336	(93)	(169)	-35.8%	-50.3%
Misc Vegetables	549	277	524	272	25	98.2%	4.8%
Onion	78	311	99	(233)	(21)	-74.9%	-21.2%
Other Seasonal	380	515	395	(135)	(15)	-26.2%	-3.8%
Other Tree Fruit	376	285	446	91	(70)	31.9%	-15.7%
Pears	502	71	615	431	(113)	607.0%	-18.4%
Potato	324	7	246	317	78	4528.6%	31.7%

\*\*Crop detail may not add due to rounding

**North Central (Area 3)** seasonal employment exhibited an over-the-year net gain of 5.9% from July 2002 to July 2003. This was contrasted by a strong recovery of 110.8% in employment in July 2003 over June 2003. The crop activity gaining the largest amount of employment from July 2002 to July 2003 was cherry work (2,584). Apple work lagged by the largest amount (-1,310) for that same time period. Cherry work also added the most employment (4,952) from June 2003 to July 2003. Pear work had the largest decline in employment (-168) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2003 in Area 3 was \$7.40 per hour. (See pages 20 and 21 for Area 3 detail)

<b>AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**</b>							
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>				<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>	
	<b>JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03</b>	<b>JULY 02</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>
<b>CROP</b>							
Apples	7060	3206	8370	3,854	(1,310)	120.2%	-15.7%
Cherries	8930	3978	6346	4,952	2,584	124.5%	40.7%
Other Seasonal	54	171	231	(117)	(177)	-68.4%	-76.6%
Other Tree Fruit	172	94	379	78	(207)	83.0%	-54.6%
Pears	151	319	120	(168)	31	-52.7%	25.8%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

**Columbia Basin (Area 4)** seasonal employment crept up 0.9% from July 2002 to July 2003. This was contrasted by a gain of 31.1% in employment from June 2003 to July 2003. Apple work displayed the greatest upturn (509) in employment from July 2002 to July 2003. Cherry work experienced the largest downturn (-745) in employment during that same time period. Cherry work expanded the most (1,415) in employment from June 2003 to July 2003. Apple work netted the largest over-the-month loss (-218) in employment during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2003 in Area 4 was \$7.40 per hour. (See pages 22 - 24 for Area 4 detail)

<b>AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**</b>							
<b>COLUMBIA BASIN</b>				<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>	
	<b>JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03</b>	<b>JULY 02</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>
<b>CROP</b>							
Apples	3068	3286	2559	(218)	509	-6.6%	19.9%
Asparagus	12	104	31	(92)	(19)	-88.5%	-61.3%
Cherries	1606	155	2351	1,451	(745)	936.1%	-31.7%
Mint	6	147	22	(141)	(16)	-95.9%	-72.7%
Misc Vegetables	250	68	273	182	(23)	267.6%	-8.4%
Nursery	97	252	175	(155)	(78)	-61.5%	-44.6%
Onion	131	73	156	58	(25)	79.5%	-16.0%
Other Seasonal	652	361	441	291	211	80.6%	47.8%
Other Tree Fruit	127	0	0	127	127	0.0%	0.0%
Pears	68	95	0	(27)	68	-28.4%	0.0%
Potato	553	514	496	39	57	7.6%	11.5%
Wheat/Grain	72	10	78	62	(6)	620.0%	-7.7%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

**South Eastern (Area 5)** seasonal employment grew by only 1.7% from July 2002 to July 2003. However, July 2003 employment declined by 22.2% over June 2003. Apple work rose by the greatest amount (1,117) from July 2002 to July 2003. Cherry work decreased the most (-1,365) in employment during that same time period. Miscellaneous vegetables work ramped up by the largest amount (931) of employment from June 2003 to July 2003. Asparagus work had the weakest demand (-3,596) for employment for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2003 in Area 5 was \$7.15 per hour. (See pages 25 - 27 for Area 5 detail)

<b>AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**</b>							
<b>SOUTH EASTERN</b>			<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>		
<b>CROP</b>	<b>JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03</b>	<b>JULY 02</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>
Apples	3506	3436	2389	70	1,117	2.0%	46.8%
Asparagus	0	3596	93	(3,596)	(93)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Cherries	652	2224	2017	(1,572)	(1,365)	-70.7%	-67.7%
Grapes	955	528	796	427	159	80.9%	20.0%
Hop	13	34	26	(21)	(13)	-61.8%	-50.0%
Misc Vegetables	999	68	581	931	418	1369.1%	71.9%
Nursery	6	3	19	3	(13)	100.0%	-68.4%
Onion	849	330	961	519	(112)	157.3%	-11.7%
Other Seasonal	318	169	617	149	(299)	88.2%	-48.5%
Other Tree Fruit	218	12	167	206	51	1716.7%	30.5%
Potato	535	427	330	108	205	25.3%	62.1%
Strawberry	386	70	282	316	104	451.4%	36.9%
Wheat/Grain	65	25	82	40	(17)	160.0%	-20.7%

\*\*Crop detail may not add due to rounding

**Eastern (Area 6)** seasonal employment expanded by 20.5% from July 2002 to July 2003. Seasonal employment also grew by 39.1% in July 2003 over June 2003. Nursery work posted the largest increase (122) in employment from July 2002 to July 2003. Other seasonal work registered the greatest downturn (152) in employment during that same time period. Wheat/grain work registered the greatest gain in employment (199) from June 2003 to July 2003. Other seasonal work lost the most jobs (-133) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2003 in Area 6 was \$8.68 per hour. (See pages 28 and 29 for Area 6 detail)

<b>AREA 6 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**</b>							
<b>EASTERN</b>			<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>		
<b>CROP</b>	<b>JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03</b>	<b>JULY 02</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>	<b>JUNE 03- JULY 03</b>	<b>JULY 02- JULY 03</b>
Nursery	187	105	65	82	122	78.1%	187.7%
Other Seasonal	66	199	218	(133)	(152)	-66.8%	-69.7%
Wheat/Grain	276	77	157	199	119	258.4%	75.8%

\*\*Crop detail may not add due to rounding



## 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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**  
**JULY 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: 8,967 (4,927 local, 1,178 intrastate, 2,650 interstate, 212 unknown)

Strawberry Harvester . . . . .	3,074	\$ 7.01/hr	or \$ 0.14 - \$ 0.19/lb
Raspberry Sorter/Grader/Packer . . . . .	1,295	\$ 7.15/hr	
Raspberry Harvester . . . . .	840	\$ 7.14/hr	
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer . . . . .	506	\$ 7.01/hr	

**SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)**

Estimated seasonal workforce: 16,214 (13,660 local, 455 intrastate, 1,297 interstate, 802 unknown)

Apple Hand Thinner . . . . .	4,451	\$ 7.27/hr	or \$ 0.30 - \$ 1.50/tree
Cherry Harvester . . . . .	3,128	\$ 8.41/hr	or \$ 4.00 - \$ 5.50/box
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer . . . . .	1,918	\$ 7.01/hr	
Cherry Worker . . . . .	1,142	\$ 7.01/hr	

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 16,365 (13,373 local, 795 intrastate, 2,141 interstate, 56 unknown)

Cherry Harvester . . . . .	6,775	\$ 7.03/hr	or \$ 3.25 - \$ 5.00/lug
Apple Hand Thinner . . . . .	5,893	\$ 7.07/hr	or \$ 0.20 - \$ 1.50/tree
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer . . . . .	1,823	\$ 7.60/hr	
Apple Harvester . . . . .	419	Not Available	

**COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)**

Estimated seasonal workforce: 6,642 (5,451 local, 5 intrastate, 328 interstate, 858 unknown)

Apple Hand Thinner . . . . .	2,623	\$ 7.09/hr	
Cherry Harvester . . . . .	1,521	Not Available	
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer . . . . .	414	\$ 7.26/hr	
Apple Trainer . . . . .	230	\$ 7.22/hr	

**SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)**

Estimated seasonal workforce: 8,502 (7,630 local, 14 intrastate, 830 interstate, 28 unknown)

Apple Hand Thinner . . . . .	1,681	\$ 7.15/hr	
Apple Pruner . . . . .	1,288	\$ 7.01/hr	
Carrot Sorter/Grader/Packer . . . . .	649	\$ 7.04/hr	
Cherry Harvester . . . . .	624	\$ 7.50/hr	

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 530 (405 local, 25 intrastate, 50 interstate, 50 unknown)

Wheat Worker . . . . .	47	\$ 8.50/hr	
Wheat Chemical Applicator . . . . .	35	\$ 7.50/hr	
Misc Field Crops Worker . . . . .	35	\$ 8.00/hr	
Wheat Vehicle Operator . . . . .	35	\$ 9.00/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

JULY 2003

TABLE 1

JULY 2003

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

Agricultural Reporting Area	Local	Intra-state	Inter-state	Unknown	Area Total
1. Western	4,927	1,178	2,650	212	8,967
2. South Central	13,660	455	1,297	802	16,214
3. North Central	13,373	795	2,141	56	16,365
4. Columbia Basin	5,451	5	328	858	6,642
5. South Eastern	7,630	14	830	28	8,502
6. Eastern	405	25	50	50	530
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>45,446</b>	<b>2,474</b>	<b>7,297</b>	<b>2,007</b>	<b>57,220</b>
<b>% State Total</b>	<b>79.4%</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>96%</b>

# DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2003

State: WASHINGTON

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

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## SECTION A. (see attachments)

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### SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers ..... 8,967
    - a. Local ..... 4,927
    - b. Intrastate migratory ..... 1,178
    - c. Interstate migratory ..... 2,650
    - d. Unknown ..... 212
  
  2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
    - a. Intrastate: Kennewick, Mabton, Mount Vernon, Pasco, Seattle, Spokane, Sunnyside, Toppenish, Yakima
    - b. Interstate: California, Florida, Oregon, Texas
    - c. Foreign: Mexico
- 

### SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The July 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 7,796.
  
  2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
    - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:

Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Sweet corn growers continued with heavy irrigation schedules to replenish soil moisture. Raspberry and blueberry harvest was at its peak. Greenhouse tomatoes continued to report both excellent yields and fruit quality. Spinach harvest began earlier than normal due to drought conditions. Squash harvest was underway.
  
    - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.18 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for strawberry harvester, bulbs sorter/grader/packer, cucumber harvester, strawberry sorter/grader/packer, nursery harvester, blackberry harvester, nursery irrigator, bulbs harvester, cabbage harvester, cauliflower weeder, potato sorter/grader/packer, raspberry weeder, nursery weeder, cucumber weeder, lettuce harvester, pumpkin weeder and general farm worker to \$14.00 for blueberry vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$0.14 to \$0.19 per pound for strawberry picking. Housing was limited.
  
    - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:

The labor force was estimated at 55.0% local, 13.1% intrastate, 29.5% interstate and 2.4% unknown.
  
    - 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: JULY 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		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL 8,967	* = piece rate
Strawberry Harvester	3,074	\$ 7.01 or * \$ 0.14 - \$ 0.19 per lb
Raspberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	1,295	\$ 7.15
Raspberry Harvester	840	\$ 7.14
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	506	\$ 7.01
Raspberry Mechanized Harvester	501	\$ 7.13
Cucumber Harvester	263	\$ 7.01
Broccoli Harvester	231	Not Available
Blueberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	188	\$ 8.13
Strawberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	188	\$ 7.01
Rhubarb Harvester	182	\$ 7.07
Nursery Cultivator	172	\$ 7.46
Nursery Harvester	129	\$ 7.01
Nursery Worker	120	\$ 7.67
Nursery Planter	120	\$ 7.12
Blackberry Harvester	93	\$ 7.01
Misc Berries Harvester	77	Not Available
Raspberry Worker	76	\$ 7.10
Nursery Vehicle Operator	73	\$10.50
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	69	\$ 8.30
Strawberry Worker	67	\$ 7.76
Nursery Irrigator	64	\$ 7.01
Bulbs Harvester	59	\$ 7.01
Cabbage Harvester	48	\$ 7.01
Cauliflower Weeder	46	\$ 7.01
Raspberry Vehicle Operator	46	\$ 7.75
Misc Squash Harvester	41	\$ 7.63
Blackberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	38	\$ 7.55
Misc Field Crops Harvester	37	\$ 8.58
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	33	\$ 7.01
Strawberry Vehicle Operator	26	\$ 7.58
Raspberry Weeder	26	\$ 7.01
Nursery Weeder	21	\$ 7.01
Blueberry Harvester	19	Not Available
Cranberry Harvester	18	\$ 7.50
Potato Tractor Operator	18	\$ 9.93
Potato Weeder	16	\$ 7.17

Area 1 (continued)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: JULY 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)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	* = piece rate
Raspberry Manager	13	\$12.17
Misc Vegetables Weeder	13	\$ 7.40
Strawberry Manager	13	\$ 8.70
Blueberry Worker	11	\$12.25
Carrot Weeder	10	\$ 7.75
Raspberry Forklift Driver	8	\$ 7.50
Blueberry Pruner	8	\$ 7.50
Potato Worker	7	\$ 8.00
Strawberry Forklift Driver	6	\$ 7.50
Blueberry Vehicle Operator	6	\$14.00
Blueberry Forklift Driver	6	\$ 9.00
Cucumber Weeder	5	\$ 7.01
Beets Harvester	5	\$ 7.40
Misc Vegetables Worker	5	\$13.00
Nursery Tractor Operator	4	\$ 9.30
Lettuce Harvester	3	\$ 7.01
Cauliflower Irrigator	3	\$ 7.50
Pumpkin Weeder	3	\$ 7.01
Raspberry Loader	3	\$ 7.50
Misc Vegetables Tractor Operator	3	\$ 7.50
Misc Vegetables Harvester	3	\$ 7.50
Cucumber Tractor Operator	3	\$10.00
Raspberry Irrigator	3	\$ 7.50
Potato Irrigator	2	\$ 8.00
General Farm Worker	2	\$ 7.01
Blueberry Manager	2	\$10.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
 PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 ..... \$ 7.18/hr (weighted average)



DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area Name: SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat, Yakima)

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers 16,214
a. Local 13,660
b. Intrastate migratory 455
c. Interstate migratory 1,297
d. Unknown 802
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
a. Intrastate: Mattawa, Pasco, Sunnyside, Wenatchee, Yakima
b. Interstate: California, Oregon
c. Foreign: Mexico

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The July 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 15,512.
2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Average temperatures ranged from 6 to 16 degrees above normal with no precipitation. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported. The cherry harvest was winding down. Peach and nectarine harvest continued very well. Apples and pears have struggled with very hot weather. Hay production has been exceptional.
b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.33 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for cherry sorter/grader/packer, cherry worker, potato sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous field crops weeder, apple weeder, peach hand thinner, pear irrigator, peach proper, nectarine worker, miscellaneous squash weeder, hops worker, general farm irrigator, grapes weeder, asparagus weeder and mint tractor operator to \$15.00 for hops mechanic. Typical piece rates were: \$0.30 to \$1.50 per tree for apple thinning to \$4.00 to \$5.50 per box for cherry picking. Housing was limited; workers provided their own transportation.
c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 84.2% local, 2.9% intrastate, 8.0% interstate and unknown 4.9%.
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: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

**Area 2: SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL 16,214</b>	<b>* = piece rate</b>
Apple Hand Thinner	4,451	\$ 7.27 or * \$ 0.30 - \$ 1.50 per tree
Cherry Harvester	3,128	\$ 8.41 or * \$ 4.00 - \$ 5.50 per box
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	1,918	\$ 7.01
Cherry Worker	1,142	\$ 7.01
Apple Trainer	558	\$ 7.04
Apple Pruner	510	\$ 7.04
Asparagus Harvester	376	Not Available
Pear Hand Thinner	340	\$ 7.18
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	324	\$ 7.01
Apple Harvester	320	Not Available
Apricot Harvester	277	\$ 7.33
Grapes Hand Thinner	226	\$ 7.26
Cherry Vehicle Operator	220	\$ 9.25
Misc Field Crops Weeder	209	\$ 7.01
Cucumber Harvester	186	\$10.00
Cucumber Sorter/Grader/Packer	186	\$ 7.50
Grapes Trainer	175	\$ 7.27
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	154	\$ 7.08
Apple Weeder	146	\$ 7.01
Pear Harvester	127	Not Available
Apple Chemical Applicator	125	\$ 7.97
Apple Irrigator	117	\$ 7.94
Hops Weeder	115	\$ 7.04
Sweet Corn Sorter/Grader/Packer	111	\$ 7.25
Misc Onion Weeder	74	\$ 7.25
Cherry Forklift Driver	55	\$ 8.00
Silage Irrigator	54	\$ 8.50
Peach Hand Thinner	43	\$ 7.01
Grapes Suckering Worker	39	\$ 7.10
Pear Irrigator	35	\$ 7.01
Mint Harvester	32	\$ 8.00
Apple Worker	29	\$ 7.50
Apple Vehicle Operator	28	\$12.00
Peach Propper	28	\$ 7.01
Nectarine Worker	28	\$ 7.01
Hops Tractor Operator	28	\$ 8.00

Area 2 (continued)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

**Area 2: SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>* = piece rate</b>
Misc Squash Weeder	26	\$ 7.01
Misc Peppers Weeder	26	\$ 7.25
Grapes Worker	23	\$ 7.42
Grapes Irrigator	22	\$ 8.13
Apple Tractor Operator	21	\$ 8.07
Grapes Chemical Applicator	21	\$ 8.63
Misc Field Crops Irrigator	14	\$ 7.88
Hops Worker	14	\$ 7.01
Misc Field Crops Tractor Operator	14	\$ 9.20
Apple Manager	11	\$ 8.00
Mint Worker	11	\$ 7.25
Wheat Worker	11	Not Available
Alfalfa Irrigator	11	\$ 8.00
General Farm Irrigator	11	\$ 7.01
Misc Field Crops Manager	10	\$ 8.32
Grapes Weeder	10	\$ 7.01
Asparagus Weeder	7	\$ 7.01
Misc Peppers Irrigator	7	\$ 8.00
Cherry Tractor Operator	7	\$12.00
Hops Irrigator	7	\$ 8.00
Misc Onion Irrigator	4	\$ 8.00
Cucumber Irrigator	4	\$ 8.00
Mint Tractor Operator	3	\$ 7.01
Hops Mechanic	3	\$15.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 ..... \$ 7.33/hr (weighted average)

# DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

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

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## SECTION A. (see attachments)

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### SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

- |    |                                             |        |
|----|---------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. | Total domestic seasonal hired workers ..... | 16,365 |
| a. | Local .....                                 | 13,373 |
| b. | Intrastate migratory .....                  | 795    |
| c. | Interstate migratory .....                  | 2,141  |
| d. | Unknown .....                               | 56     |
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
- a. Intrastate: Chelan, Chelan Falls, Forks, Kennewick, Malett, Mattawa, Okanogan, Olympia, Omak, Orondo, Pasco, Schawana, Seattle, Spokane, Sunnyside, Tacoma, Wapato, Wenatchee, Yakima
  - b. Interstate: Arizona, California, Florida, Nevada, Oregon, Texas
  - c. Foreign: Mexico, Philippines

---

### SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The July 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 10,716.
2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
- a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Cherry harvest was almost complete but will with late varieties at higher elevations until about August 10. Pears and apples continued to develop well, despite hot weather. Irrigation continued to be the key orchard operation. Most of the alfalfa hay has been cut. Winter wheat harvest began. Spring wheat and barley crop continued to decline due to the hot, dry weather.
  - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.40 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for apple proper, apple worker, apple pruner, apple planter, apple grafter, pear worker and potato irrigator to \$22.00 for horse and equines trainer. Typical piece rates were: \$0.20 to \$1.50 per tree for apple thinning to \$3.25 to \$5.00 per lug for cherry picking. 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 81.7% local, 4.9% intrastate, 13.1% interstate and 0.3% unknown.
  - 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: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

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

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL 16,365</b>	<b>* = piece rate</b>
Cherry Harvester	6,775	\$ 7.03 or * \$ 3.25 - \$ 5.00 per lug
Apple Hand Thinner	5,893	\$ 7.07
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	1,823	\$ 7.60
Apple Harvester	419	Not Available
Cherry Worker	193	\$ 7.61
Apple Propper	192	\$ 7.01
Pear Hand Thinner	145	\$ 7.47
Apple Trainer	134	\$ 7.24
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	125	\$ 7.14
Apple Worker	93	\$ 7.01
Cherry Manager	77	\$ 8.80
Apple Pruner	76	\$ 7.01
Apple Planter	58	\$ 7.01
Apple Grafter	52	\$ 7.01
Apple Irrigator	47	\$ 7.31
Apricot Sorter/Grader/Packer	42	\$ 7.74
Apple Chemical Applicator	35	\$ 7.83
Apple Manager	35	\$ 9.67
Cherry Forklift Driver	33	\$ 8.21
Apple Mechanic	23	\$ 7.25
Cherry Tractor Operator	23	\$ 9.00
Horse and Equines Worker	9	\$10.67
Wheat Tractor Operator	9	\$ 7.83
Misc Hay Mechanized Harvester	9	\$10.00
Misc Hay Irrigator	9	\$ 8.25
Grass Seed Irrigator	6	\$ 9.00
Cherry Vehicle Operator	6	\$ 9.00
Pear Worker	6	\$ 7.01
Apricot Worker	3	\$ 7.74
Potato Irrigator	3	\$ 7.01
Misc Hay Preparation	3	\$11.00
Horse and Equines Trainer	3	\$22.00
Apple Weeder	3	\$ 8.00
Sweet Corn Tractor Operator	3	\$ 8.50
Apricot Forklift Driver	2	\$ 8.27

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 ..... \$ 7.40/hr (weighted average)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

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

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SECTION A. (see attachments)

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SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers .....	6,642
a. Local .....	5,451
b. Intrastate migratory .....	5
c. Interstate migratory .....	328
d. Unknown .....	858
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Wenatchee	
b. Interstate: California	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

---

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The July 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,581.
2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
  - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Radish seed was being swathed. Sweet corn harvest continued. Cherry harvest was completed. Apple hand thinning continued. Seed pea harvest was well underway or nearly complete. Mint harvest continued. Peppermint harvest was 75% complete. Winter wheat harvest was in full swing as only 15% was complete. Yields have been reported as mostly good or above the 10 year average.
  - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.40 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for miscellaneous field crops, nursery weeder, nursery suckering worker, miscellaneous grain and seed crops weeder, beans weeder, grass seed weeder, mint weeder, miscellaneous vegetables irrigator, miscellaneous onion worker, potato loader, nursery trainer, potato weeder and nursery tractor operator to miscellaneous onion worker. No piece rates were reported. 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 82.1% local, 0.1% intrastate, 4.9% interstate and 12.9% unknown.
  - 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: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

**Area 4: COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL 6,642</b>	* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	2,623	\$ 7.09
Cherry Harvester	1,521	Not Available
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	414	\$ 7.26
Apple Trainer	230	\$ 7.22
Misc Field Crops Weeder	178	\$ 7.01
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	127	\$ 7.03
Misc Onion Weeder	117	\$ 7.14
Sweet Corn Weeder	99	\$ 7.44
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	89	\$ 8.74
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	89	\$ 9.02
Apple Pruner	69	\$ 7.17
Pear Hand Thinner	68	Not Available
Misc Hay Mechanized Harvester	56	\$ 9.36
Misc Vegetables Weeder	53	\$ 7.25
Apple Planter	51	\$ 7.13
Cherry Vehicle Operator	51	\$10.00
Nursery Weeder	50	\$ 7.01
Apple Grafter	43	\$ 7.13
Potato Tractor Operator	39	\$ 8.52
Nursery Suckering Worker	36	\$ 7.01
Cherry Tractor Operator	34	\$ 9.00
Grass Seed Mechanized Harvester	34	\$10.00
Wheat Worker	34	\$ 8.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Weeder	26	\$ 7.01
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	21	\$ 7.50
Carrot Weeder	21	\$ 7.22
Beans Weeder	21	\$ 7.01
General Farm Worker	21	\$ 7.75
Grass Seed Weeder	21	\$ 7.01
Contract Misc Custom Mechanized Harvester	19	\$ 8.50
Potato Forklift Driver	19	\$ 7.42
Potato Cultivator	18	\$ 9.00
Alfalfa Vehicle Operator	18	\$ 8.00
Apple Worker	17	\$ 7.50
Apple Irrigator	17	\$ 7.50
Misc Field Crops Combine Driver	17	\$ 7.00

Area 4 (continued)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

**Area 4: COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>* = piece rate</b>
Sweet Corn Harvester	17	\$ 7.50
Potato Vehicle Operator	17	\$ 8.25
Potato Worker	15	\$ 8.25
Wheat Vehicle Operator	14	\$10.00
Potato Mechanic	13	\$ 8.25
Asparagus Weeder	12	\$ 7.34
Potato Irrigator	11	\$ 8.56
Grass Seed Combine Driver	11	\$ 8.00
Mint Weeder	10	\$ 7.01
Apple Chemical Applicator	9	\$ 7.75
Apple Mechanic	9	\$ 8.50
Wheat Combine Driver	8	\$10.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	8	\$10.00
Sweet Corn Cultivator	8	\$10.25
Misc Vegetables Irrigator	8	\$ 7.01
Misc Onion Irrigator	8	\$ 8.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Combine Driver	8	\$ 8.00
Wheat Weeder	8	\$ 7.50
Sweet Corn Preparation	6	\$ 7.75
Sweet Corn Irrigator	6	\$ 7.75
Misc Field Crops Worker	6	\$ 8.50
Mint Vehicle Operator	6	\$ 8.00
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Vehicle Operator	6	\$ 9.25
Misc Onion Worker	6	\$11.50
Potato Mechanized Harvester	5	\$10.50
Potato Loader	5	\$ 7.01
Potato Manager	5	\$13.75
General Farm Irrigator	5	\$10.00
General Farm Manager	5	\$10.50
General Farm Chemical Applicator	5	\$10.00
Nursery Trainer	5	\$ 7.01
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Mechanized Harvester	4	\$10.00
Nursery Worker	4	\$ 8.20
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Cultivator	3	\$ 8.50
Potato Weeder	3	\$ 7.01
Nursery Tractor Operator	2	\$ 7.01

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS

EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG

PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 ..... \$ 7.40/hr (weighted average)



# DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

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

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## SECTION A. (see attachments)

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### SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

- |                                                |       |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers ..... | 8,502 |
| a. Local .....                                 | 7,630 |
| b. Intrastate migratory .....                  | 14    |
| c. Interstate migratory .....                  | 830   |
| d. Unknown .....                               | 28    |
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
- a. Intrastate: College Place, Enunclaw
  - b. Interstate: Californai, Oregon, Texas
  - c. Foreign: Mexico

---

### SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The July 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 9,723.
2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
- a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. The cherry harvest was nearly complete. Apricots and early peaches were being harvested. Onions were being harvested. Wheat harvest also began. The second cutting of alfalfa was complete. Hot, dry weather prevailed, and irrigators were having a hard time keeping up. The winter wheat crop looked good. Most spring crops were seeing low yields.
  - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.15 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for miscellaneous onion sorter/grader/packer, grapes suckering worker, strawberry sorter/grader/packer, apple cultivator, miscellaneous field crops weeder, pumpkin weeder, miscellaneous field crops irrigator, field corn harvester, pumpkin irrigator, peach suckering worker, apple harvester, hops weeder, strawberry weeder, strawberry irrigator, strawberry vehicle operator, nectarine suckering worker, peach sorter/grader/packer and miscellaneous hay irrigator to \$11.33 for wheat vehicle operator. No piece rates were reported. 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 89.7% local, 0.2% intrastate, 9.8% interstate and 0.3% unknown.
  - 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: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

**Area 5: SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL 8,502</b>	<b>* = piece rate</b>
Apple Hand Thinner	1,681	\$ 7.15
Apple Pruner	1,288	\$ 7.01
Carrot Sorter/Grader/Packer	649	\$ 7.04
Cherry Harvester	624	\$ 7.50
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	432	\$ 7.04
Grapes Trainer	431	\$ 7.02
Apple Suckering Worker	335	\$ 7.10
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	312	\$ 7.01
Walla Walla Sweets Harvester	304	Not Available
Strawberry Harvester	240	Not Available
Misc Onion Harvester	219	Not Available
Grapes Suckering Worker	197	\$ 7.01
Apricot Harvester	182	Not Available
Grapes Pruner	179	\$ 7.23
Grapes Hand Thinner	145	\$ 7.03
Carrot Weeder	131	\$ 7.02
Strawberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	113	\$ 7.01
Apple Cultivator	94	\$ 7.01
Misc Vegetables Worker	67	\$ 7.95
Misc Field Crops Weeder	56	\$ 7.01
Chicken Eggs Worker	52	\$ 7.50
Apple Trainer	49	\$ 7.03
Potato Mechanized Harvester	45	\$ 7.78
Pumpkin Weeder	43	\$ 7.01
Apple Chemical Applicator	40	\$ 8.31
Beans Weeder	34	\$ 8.00
Misc Squash Weeder	31	Not Available
Misc Field Crops Irrigator	30	\$ 7.01
Alfalfa Irrigator	28	\$ 8.43
General Farm Worker	24	\$ 7.62
Field Corn Harvester	24	\$ 7.01
Potato Fertilizer Applicator	23	\$ 7.25
Grass Seed Weeder	21	\$ 7.10
Pumpkin Irrigator	21	\$ 7.01
Potato Worker	20	\$ 8.66
Cherry Tractor Operator	19	\$ 7.57

Area 5 (continued)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: JULY 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

**Area 5: SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	* = piece rate
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	19	\$ 8.40
Wheat Vehicle Operator	19	\$11.33
Wheat Tractor Operator	19	\$ 9.50
Wheat Worker	19	\$ 7.52
Alfalfa Weeder	17	\$ 8.50
Peach Suckering Worker	17	\$ 7.01
Grass Seed Mechanized Harvester	17	\$ 7.05
Apple Harvester	16	\$ 7.01
Field Corn Irrigator	15	\$ 7.25
Hops Weeder	13	\$ 7.01
Strawberry Weeder	11	\$ 7.01
Strawberry Irrigator	11	\$ 7.01
Strawberry Vehicle Operator	11	\$ 7.01
Nectarine Suckering Worker	10	\$ 7.01
Peach Sorter/Grader/Packer	9	\$ 7.01
Misc Hay Irrigator	9	\$ 7.01
Misc Onion Worker	8	\$ 7.70
Potato Irrigator	7	\$ 7.33
Potato Tractor Operator	7	\$ 9.83
Wheat Combine Driver	6	Not Available
Cherry Weeder	6	\$ 7.25
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	6	\$ 9.50
Sweet Corn Cultivator	6	Not Available
Carrot Manager	5	\$ 9.50
Carrot Irrigator	4	\$ 7.25
Nursery Mechanized Harvester	4	\$10.00
Grapes Worker	3	\$ 9.85
Sweet Corn Irrigator	3	\$ 7.50
Apple Tractor Operator	3	\$ 9.83
Sweet Corn Tractor Operator	3	\$ 9.83
Misc Onion Tractor Operator	3	\$ 9.83
Misc Onion Irrigator	3	\$ 7.50
Cherry Worker	3	\$ 8.58
Nursery Worker	2	\$ 8.50
Carrot Tractor Operator	2	Not Available
Wheat Irrigator	2	\$ 8.00
Potato Vehicle Operator	2	\$11.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 ..... \$ 7.15/hr (weighted average)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: AUGUST 2003

State: WASHINGTON

Area Name: **EASTERN** (Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman)

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SECTION A. (see attachments)

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SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers .....	530
a. Local .....	405
b. Intrastate migratory .....	25
c. Interstate migratory .....	50
d. Unknown .....	50
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Pomeroy, Cheney	
b. Interstate: Arizona, Oregon	
c. Foreign: Mexico, Bosnia	

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SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The August estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 1,730.
  2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
    - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Winter wheat harvest was complete in most areas with yields about average. Spring crop yields were slightly below average due to hot weather. Rain was needed for planting of fall crops. Third cutting of alfalfa hay was well underway.
    - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in August averaged \$8.68 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for nursery loader, nursery planter and nursery sorter/grader/packer to \$12.50 for nursery mechanic . No piece rates were reported. Housing was limited. Workers provided their own transportation.
    - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:  
The labor force was estimated to be 76.2% local, 4.8% intrastate, 9.5% interstate and 9.5% unknown. The labor supply was comprised of neighbors, family, and some college and high school age students. There were no H-2A workers.
    - 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: JULY 2003

State: WASHINGTON

**Area 6: EASTERN (Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman Counties)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	TOTAL 530	* = piece rate
Wheat Worker	47	\$ 8.50
Wheat Chemical Applicator	35	\$ 7.50
Misc Field Crops Worker	35	\$ 8.00
Wheat Vehicle Operator	35	\$ 9.00
Lentil Chemical Applicator	35	\$ 7.50
Misc Hay Worker	35	\$ 8.00
Raspberry Harvester	26	\$ 7.50
Lentil Mechanized Harvester	23	\$ 9.00
Alfalfa Irrigator	23	\$ 7.75
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Worker	23	\$ 9.63
Wheat Combine Driver	23	\$12.00
Wheat Mechanized Harvester	23	\$ 9.75
Nursery Pruner	15	\$ 8.00
Misc Hay Irrigator	12	\$ 8.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Combine Driver	12	\$11.50
Barley Irrigator	12	\$ 8.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Mechanic	12	\$10.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	12	\$12.00
Grass Seed Irrigator	12	\$ 8.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Irrigator	12	\$ 8.50
Wheat Weeder	12	\$10.00
Nursery Vehicle Operator	11	\$10.70
Nursery Loader	7	\$ 7.01
Nursery Worker	7	\$ 7.50
Misc Squash Harvester	7	\$10.00
Misc Squash Irrigator	7	\$ 9.00
Nursery Mechanic	4	\$12.50
Nursery Planter	4	\$ 7.01
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	4	\$ 7.01
Sweet Corn Irrigator	4	\$ 9.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
 PRODUCERS IN EASTERN AREA 6 ..... \$ 8.68/hr (weighted average)