



SEASONAL FARM LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

JUNE 2003



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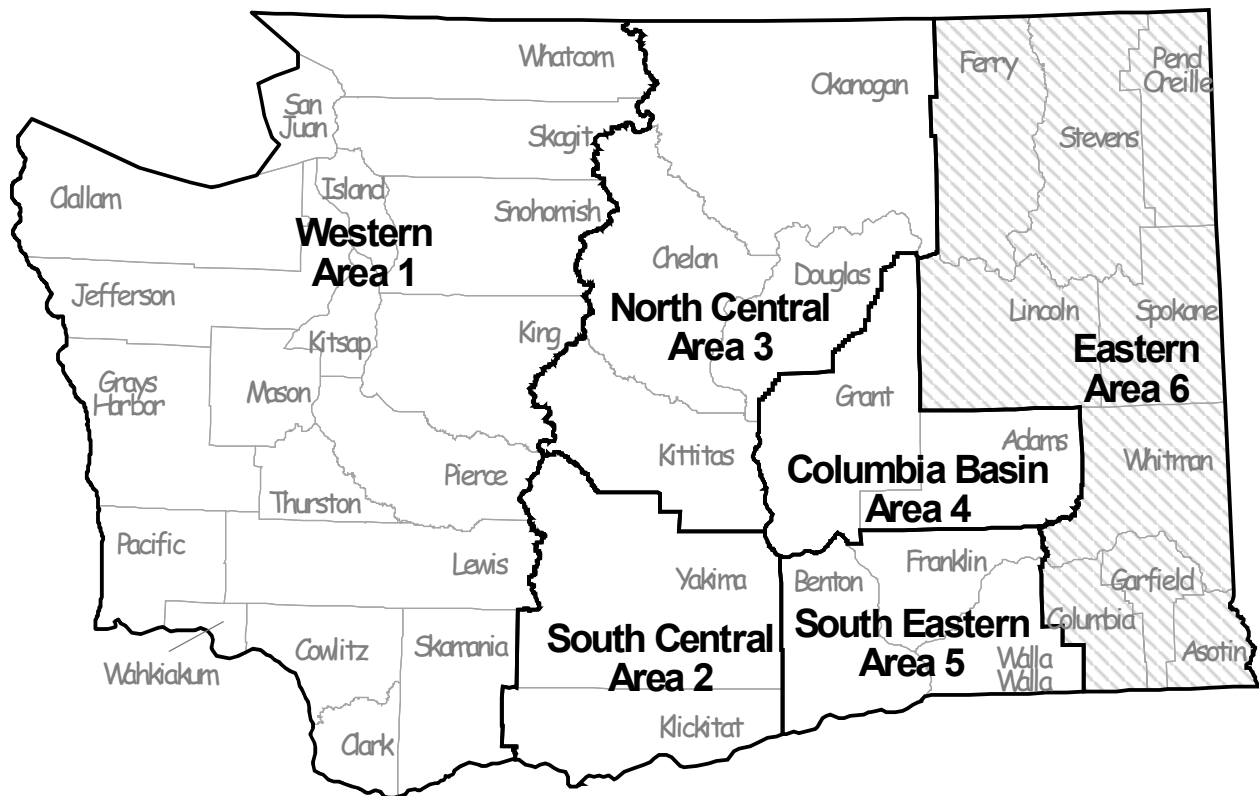
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Report available online at Workforce Explorer-Industry
<http://www.workforceexplorer.com>

JUNE 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

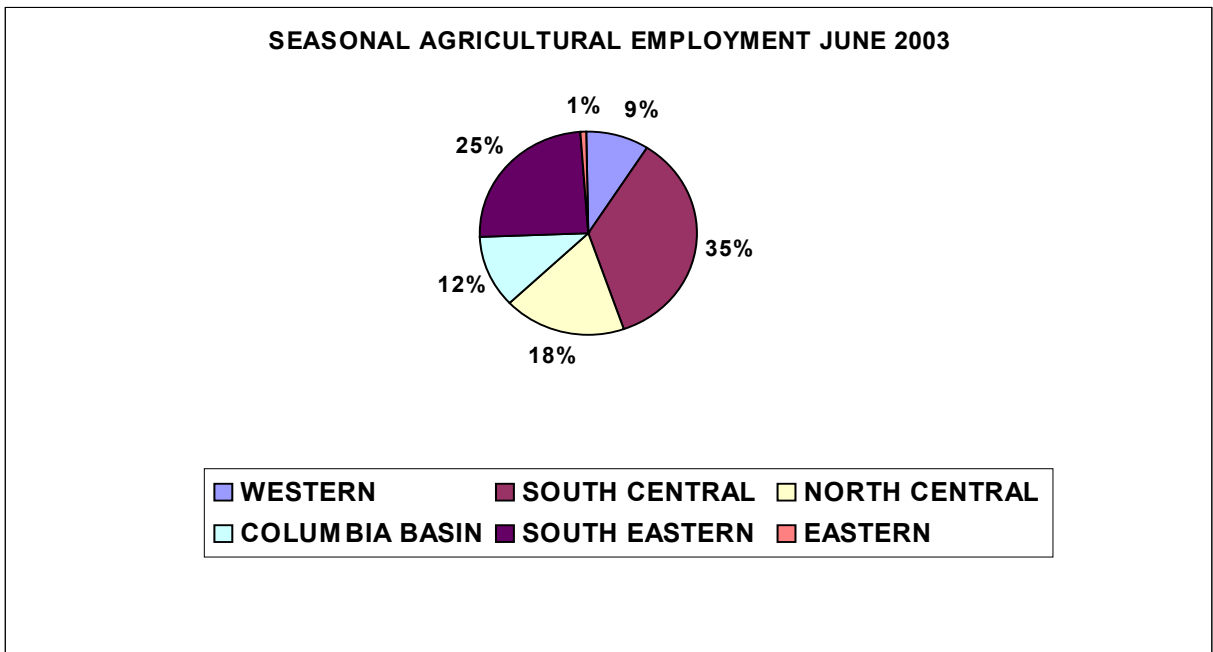
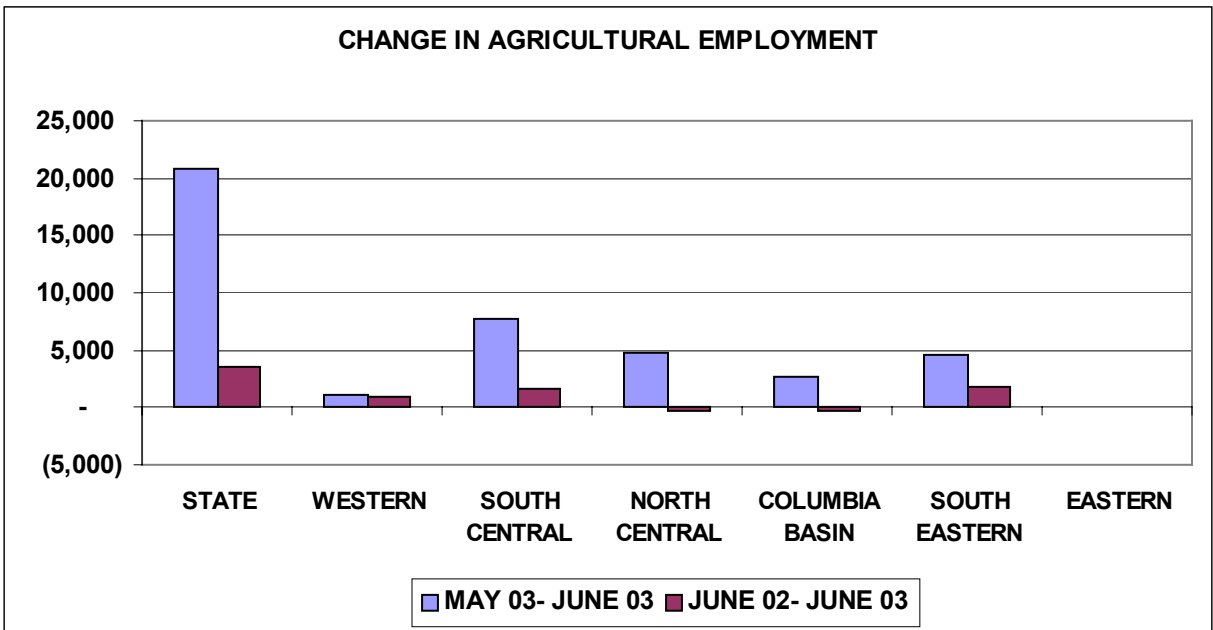
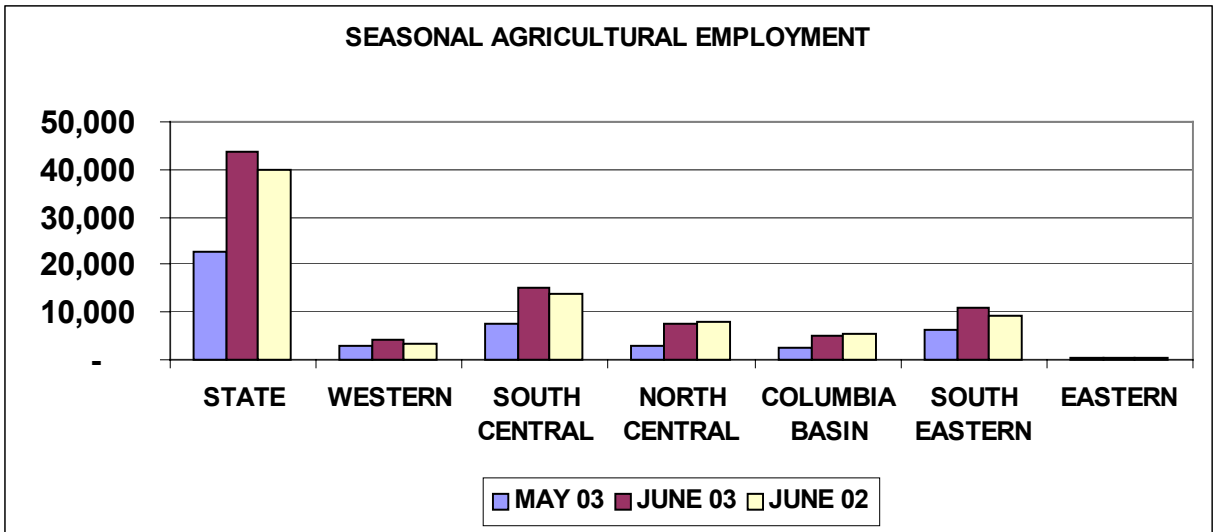
Area 5 = Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the time period from 1910-1914 to 1998, Farm Prices fell 50% when compared to Non-Farm Prices. This is with government price supports. In most industries, continuous increases in technology and output would be most welcome. The agricultural industry, however, confronts a long-term problem. Simply put, there's a limit to the amount of food people want to eat. This constraint on the demand for agricultural output is reflected in the relatively inelastic demand for food. Consumers don't increase their food purchase very much when farm prices fall. Therefore, the price elasticity of food demand is low. As a consequence, abundant harvests can lead to sharply lower prices and a decline in food revenue. The income elasticity of food demand is also low. The income elasticity of demand for food refers to the responsiveness of food demand to changes in income. Since 1929, per capita income has risen 180 percent. But per capita food consumption has increased only 85 percent. Therefore neither lower prices nor higher incomes significantly increase the quantity of food demanded. Price supports have always been the primary focus of U.S. farm policy. As early as 1926, Congress declared that farm products should sell at a fair price. By "fair," Congress meant a price higher than the market equilibrium. This price floor creates a market surplus. In the long run, the increasing ability of U.S. agriculture to produce food must be reconciled with very slow growth of U.S. demand for food. Over time, this implies that farm prices will fall, relative to nonfarm prices. That is exactly what has happened. Between the years 1910-1914 and 1998, the ratio of farm prices to nonfarm prices fell 50 percent. In the absence of government price-support programs and foreign demand for U.S. farm products, farm prices would have fallen still further. The long-term downtrend in farm prices is only one of the major problems confronting U.S. agriculture. The second major problem is short-run in nature. Prices of farm products are subject to abrupt short-term swings. If the weather is good, harvests are abundant. Abundant harvests imply a severe drop in prices, however, particularly when food demand is relatively price-inelastic. On the other hand, a late or early freeze, a drought, or an infestation by disease or insect pests can reduce harvests substantially and push prices sharply higher.

| SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | <u>JUNE 03</u> | <u>MAY 03</u> | <u>JUNE 02</u> | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
| | | | | <u>MAY 03- JUNE 03</u> | <u>JUNE 02- JUNE 03</u> | <u>MAY 03- JUNE 03</u> | <u>JUNE 02- JUNE 03</u> |
| STATE | 43,537 | 22,662 | 39,968 | 20,875 | 3,569 | 92.1% | 8.9% |
| WESTERN | 4,074 | 2,917 | 3,207 | 1,157 | 867 | 39.7% | 27.0% |
| SOUTH CENTRAL | 15,330 | 7,589 | 13,680 | 7,741 | 1,650 | 102.0% | 12.1% |
| NORTH CENTRAL | 7,765 | 3,060 | 8,138 | 4,705 | (373) | 153.8% | -4.6% |
| COLUMBIA BASIN | 5,065 | 2,412 | 5,401 | 2,653 | (336) | 110.0% | -6.2% |
| SOUTH EASTERN | 10,922 | 6,337 | 9,191 | 4,585 | 1,731 | 72.4% | 18.8% |
| EASTERN | 381 | 347 | 351 | 34 | 30 | 9.8% | 8.5% |



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment expanded 8.9% from June 2002 to June 2003. Seasonal employment also increased statewide by 92.1% from May 2003 to June 2003. The crop activity growing the most in employment from June 2002 to June 2003 was cherry work (6,007). Onion work contracted by the largest employment (-910) for that same time period. Cherry work added the most workers (12,394) from May 2003 to June 2003. During that same time period, asparagus work shed the greatest number of jobs (-3,049). The statewide weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2003 was \$7.34 per hour.

| STATE | CHANGE | | | PERCENT CHANGE | | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | JUNE 03 | MAY 03 | JUNE 02 | MAY 03- JUNE 03 | JUNE 02- JUNE 03 | MAY 03- JUNE 03 | JUNE 02- JUNE 03 |
| CROP | <u>JUNE 03</u> | <u>MAY 03</u> | <u>JUNE 02</u> | <u>MAY 03- JUNE 03</u> | <u>JUNE 02- JUNE 03</u> | <u>MAY 03- JUNE 03</u> | <u>JUNE 02- JUNE 03</u> |
| Apples | 15,234 | 6,038 | 16,113 | 9,196 | (879) | 152.3% | -5.5% |
| Asparagus | 5,065 | 8,114 | 5,501 | (3,049) | (436) | -37.6% | -7.9% |
| Blueberry | 0 | 16 | 203 | (16) | (203) | -100.0% | -100.0% |
| Bulb | 228 | 221 | 272 | 7 | (44) | 3.2% | -16.2% |
| Cherries | 12,641 | 247 | 6,634 | 12,394 | 6,007 | 5017.8% | 90.5% |
| Cucumbers | 84 | 0 | 30 | 84 | 54 | 0.0% | 180.0% |
| Grapes | 1,173 | 1,208 | 1,341 | (35) | (168) | -2.9% | -12.5% |
| Hop | 294 | 819 | 701 | (525) | (407) | -64.1% | -58.1% |
| Misc Vegetables | 816 | 560 | 1,303 | 256 | (487) | 45.7% | -37.4% |
| Nursery | 1,858 | 2,093 | 1,784 | (235) | 74 | -11.2% | 4.1% |
| Onion | 714 | 69 | 1,624 | 645 | (910) | 934.8% | -56.0% |
| Other Seasonal | 1,605 | 1,403 | 981 | 202 | 624 | 14.4% | 63.6% |
| Other Tree Fruit | 391 | 161 | 1,097 | 230 | (706) | 142.9% | -64.4% |
| Pears | 485 | 216 | 552 | 269 | (67) | 124.5% | -12.1% |
| Potato | 1,111 | 1,095 | 988 | 16 | 123 | 1.5% | 12.4% |
| Raspberry | 347 | 251 | 259 | 96 | 88 | 38.2% | 34.0% |
| Strawberry | 1,379 | 22 | 407 | 1,357 | 972 | 6168.2% | 238.8% |
| Wheat/Grain | 112 | 126 | 178 | (14) | (66) | -11.1% | -37.1% |

** Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) over-the-year seasonal employment grew by 27.0% from June 2002 to June 2003. This was bettered by an increase in seasonal employment of 39.7% from May 2003 to June 2003. Strawberry work was the crop activity that rose the most (1,012) in employment from June 2002 to June 2003. Blueberry work experienced the greatest decrease (-203) in employment for that same time period. Strawberry work posted the largest upturn in employment (1,300) from May 2003 to June 2003. Nursery work weakened by the greatest amount (-245) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2003 in Area 1 was \$7.88 per hour. (See pages 14 - 16 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**

| WESTERN CROP | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| | <u>JUNE 03</u> | <u>MAY 03</u> | <u>JUNE 02</u> | MAY 03- <u>JUNE 03</u> | JUNE 02- <u>JUNE 03</u> | MAY 03- <u>JUNE 03</u> | JUNE 02- <u>JUNE 03</u> |
| | Blueberry | 0 | 16 | 203 | (16) | (203) | -100.0% |
| Bulb | 228 | 221 | 272 | 7 | (44) | 3.2% | -16.2% |
| Cucumbers | 84 | 0 | 30 | 84 | 54 | 0.0% | 180.0% |
| Misc Vegetables | 238 | 261 | 342 | (23) | (104) | -8.8% | -30.4% |
| Nursery | 1498 | 1743 | 1415 | (245) | 83 | -14.1% | 5.9% |
| Other Seasonal | 43 | 90 | 122 | (47) | (79) | -52.2% | -64.8% |
| Potato | 163 | 150 | 101 | 13 | 62 | 8.7% | 61.4% |
| Raspberry | 347 | 251 | 259 | 96 | 88 | 38.2% | 34.0% |
| Rhubarb | 165 | 173 | 166 | (8) | (1) | -4.6% | -0.6% |
| Strawberry | 1309 | 9 | 297 | 1,300 | 1,012 | 0.0% | 340.7% |

** Crop detail may not add due to rounding

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment gained 12.1% from June 2002 to June 2003. This was surpassed by an increase of 102.0% from May 2003 to June 2003. Cherry work was the crop activity expanding by the greatest amount (2,688) of employment from June 2002 to June 2003. Asparagus contracted by (-902), the largest amount for that same time period. Cherry work added the largest employment (6,099) from May 2003 to June 2003. Asparagus work posted the greatest loss of employment (-1,967) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2003 in Area 2 was \$7.29 per hour. (See pages 17 - 19 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**

| SOUTH CENTRAL CROP | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| | <u>JUNE 03</u> | <u>MAY 03</u> | <u>JUNE 02</u> | MAY 03- <u>JUNE 03</u> | JUNE 02- <u>JUNE 03</u> | MAY 03- <u>JUNE 03</u> | JUNE 02- <u>JUNE 03</u> |
| | Apples | 5306 | 2065 | 4886 | 3,241 | 420 | 156.9% |
| Asparagus | 1365 | 3332 | 2267 | (1,967) | (902) | -59.0% | -39.8% |
| Cherries | 6284 | 185 | 3596 | 6,099 | 2,688 | 3296.8% | 74.7% |
| Grapes | 645 | 497 | 570 | 148 | 75 | 29.8% | 13.2% |
| Hop | 260 | 710 | 682 | (450) | (422) | -63.4% | -61.9% |
| Misc Vegetables | 277 | 0 | 12 | 277 | 265 | 0.0% | 2208.3% |
| Onion | 311 | 0 | 189 | 0 | 122 | 0.0% | 64.6% |
| Other Seasonal | 515 | 567 | 214 | (52) | 301 | -9.2% | 140.7% |
| Other Tree Fruit | 285 | 41 | 938 | 244 | (653) | 595.1% | -69.6% |
| Pears | 71 | 195 | 326 | (124) | (255) | -63.6% | -78.2% |
| Potato | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 | 0.0% | 0.0% |

** Crop detail may not add due to rounding

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment slowed by 4.6% from June 2002 to June 2003. This was contrasted by a strong recovery of 153.8% in employment in June 2003 over May 2003. The crop activity posting the greatest gain in employment from June 2002 to June 2003 was cherry work (2,451). Apple work employment fell behind by the largest amount (-2,996) for that same time period. Cherry work rose by the most employment (3,961) from May 2003 to June 2003. Other tree fruit work exhibited the largest downturn in employment (-66) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2003 in Area 3 was \$7.34 per hour. (See pages 20 – 22 for Area 3 detail)

| AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT** | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| NORTH CENTRAL | | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
| | JUNE 03 | MAY 03 | JUNE 02 | MAY 03- JUNE 03 | JUNE 02- JUNE 03 | MAY 03- JUNE 03 | JUNE 02- JUNE 03 | |
| CROP | | | | | | | | |
| Apples | 3206 | 2892 | 6202 | 314 | (2,996) | 10.9% | -48.3% | |
| Cherries | 3978 | 17 | 1527 | 3,961 | 2,451 | 23300.0% | 160.5% | |
| Other Seasonal | 171 | 96 | 166 | 75 | 5 | 78.1% | 3.0% | |
| Other Tree Fruit | 94 | 28 | 155 | 66 | (61) | 235.7% | -39.4% | |
| Pears | 319 | 21 | 88 | 298 | 231 | 1419.0% | 262.5% | |
| ** Crop detail may not add due to rounding | | | | | | | | |

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment experienced a loss of 6.2% from June 2002 to June 2003. This was contrasted by a gain of 110.0% in employment from May 2003 to June 2003. Apple work netted the greatest over-the-year gain (512) in employment from June 2002 to June 2003. Onion work posted the largest decline (-727) in employment during that same time period. Apple work advanced the most (2,572) in employment from May 2003 to June 2003. Asparagus work experienced the weakest demand (-336) in employment during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2003 in Area 4 was \$7.27 per hour. (See pages 23 - 25 for Area 4 detail)

| AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT** | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| COLUMBIA BASIN | | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
| | JUNE 03 | MAY 03 | JUNE 02 | MAY 03- JUNE 03 | JUNE 02- JUNE 03 | MAY 03- JUNE 03 | JUNE 02- JUNE 03 | |
| CROP | | | | | | | | |
| Apples | 3286 | 714 | 2774 | 2,572 | 512 | 360.2% | 18.5% | |
| Asparagus | 104 | 440 | 504 | (336) | (400) | -76.4% | -79.4% | |
| Cherries | 155 | 17 | 66 | 138 | 89 | 811.8% | 134.8% | |
| Mint | 147 | 137 | 86 | 10 | 61 | 7.3% | 70.9% | |
| Misc Vegetables | 68 | 24 | 217 | 44 | (149) | 183.3% | -68.7% | |
| Nursery | 252 | 186 | 204 | 66 | 48 | 35.5% | 23.5% | |
| Onion | 73 | 69 | 800 | 4 | (727) | 5.8% | -90.9% | |
| Other Seasonal | 361 | 251 | 225 | 110 | 136 | 43.8% | 60.4% | |
| Other Tree Fruit | 0 | 60 | 0 | (60) | 0 | -100.0% | 0.0% | |
| Pears | 95 | 0 | 138 | 0 | (43) | 0.0% | -31.2% | |
| Potato | 514 | 511 | 368 | 3 | 146 | 0.6% | 39.7% | |
| Wheat/Grain | 10 | 9 | 19 | 1 | (9) | 11.1% | -47.4% | |
| ** Crop detail may not add due to rounding | | | | | | | | |

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment grew by 18.8% from June 2002 to June 2003. June 2003 employment boomed ahead by 72.4% over May 2003. Apple work employment posted the largest increase in employment (1,185) from June 2002 to June 2003. Miscellaneous vegetables work scaled back by the greatest (-498) employment during that same time period. Apple work charged up by the largest amount (3,069) of employment from May 2003 to June 2003. This was contrasted by asparagus work employment weakening by the greatest amount (-746) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for June 2003 in Area 5 was \$7.16 per hour. (See pages 26 - 28 for Area 5 detail)

| AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT** | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| SOUTH EASTERN | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
| | JUNE 03 | MAY 03 | JUNE 02 | MAY 03- JUNE 03 | JUNE 02- JUNE 03 | MAY 03- JUNE 03 | JUNE 02- JUNE 03 |
| CROP | | | | | | | |
| Apples | 3436 | 367 | 2251 | 3,069 | 1,185 | 836.2% | 52.6% |
| Asparagus | 3596 | 4342 | 2730 | (746) | 866 | -17.2% | 31.7% |
| Cherries | 2224 | 28 | 1445 | 2,196 | 779 | 7842.9% | 53.9% |
| Grapes | 528 | 711 | 771 | (183) | 0 | -25.7% | 0.0% |
| Hop | 34 | 109 | 19 | (75) | 15 | -68.8% | 78.9% |
| Misc Vegetables | 68 | 102 | 566 | (34) | (498) | -33.3% | -88.0% |
| Nursery | 3 | 8 | 20 | (5) | (17) | -62.5% | -85.0% |
| Onion | 330 | 0 | 635 | 330 | (305) | 0.0% | -48.0% |
| Other Seasonal | 169 | 176 | 114 | (7) | 55 | -4.0% | 48.2% |
| Other Tree Fruit | 12 | 32 | 4 | (20) | 8 | -62.5% | 200.0% |
| Potato | 427 | 434 | 519 | (7) | (92) | -1.6% | -17.7% |
| Strawberry | 70 | 13 | 110 | 57 | (40) | 438.5% | -36.4% |
| Wheat/Grain | 25 | 11 | 7 | 14 | 18 | 127.3% | 257.1% |
| ** Crop detail may not add due to rounding | | | | | | | |

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

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 JUNE 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: 4,074 (1,498 local, 25 intrastate, 292 interstate, 2,259 unknown)

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|------------|--------------------------|
| Strawberry Harvester | 1,293 | \$ 7.01/hr | or \$ 0.13½ - \$ 0.19/lb |
| Nursery Harvester | 515 | \$ 9.52/hr | |
| Nursery Planter | 335 | \$ 7.10/hr | |
| Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer | 248 | \$ 7.39/hr | |

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 15,330 (13,034 local, 37 intrastate, 1,319 interstate, 940 unknown)

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Apple Hand Thinner | 5,066 | \$ 7.39/hr | or \$ 0.20 - \$ 3.50/tree |
| Cherry Harvester | 3,933 | \$ 7.50/hr | or \$ 3.50 - \$ 7.50/box |
| Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer | 1,923 | \$ 7.01/hr | |
| Asparagus Harvester | 1,353 | \$ 0.18 - \$ 0.25/lb | |

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 7,765 (6,228 local, 272 intrastate, 1,244 interstate, 21 unknown)

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|------------|--|
| Cherry Harvester | 3,617 | \$ 7.01/hr | |
| Apple Hand Thinner | 2,759 | \$ 7.08/hr | |
| Pear Hand Thinner | 304 | \$ 7.16/hr | |
| Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer | 242 | \$ 7.72/hr | |

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 5,065 (4,421 local, 0 intrastate, 103 interstate, 541 unknown)

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|------------|---------------------------|
| Apple Hand Thinner | 2,727 | \$ 7.08/hr | or \$ 0.20 - \$ 0.80/tree |
| Apple Trainer | 417 | \$ 7.14/hr | |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer | 335 | \$ 7.07/hr | |
| Nursery Worker | 159 | \$ 7.04/hr | |

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 10,922 (7,217 local, 0 intrastate, 2,075 interstate, 1,630 unknown)

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|------------|---------------------------|
| Asparagus Harvester | 3,586 | \$ 7.01/hr | or \$ 0.15 - \$ 0.26/lb |
| Apple Hand Thinner | 2,297 | \$ 7.12/hr | or \$ 0.05 - \$ 3.50/tree |
| Cherry Harvester | 1,991 | \$ 8.37/hr | or \$ 4.00 - \$ 7.00/box |
| Apple Pruner | 1,045 | \$ 7.02/hr | |

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 381 (198 local, 56 intrastate, 41 interstate, 86 unknown)

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|------------|--|
| Barley Weeder | 112 | \$ 7.50/hr | |
| Wheat Tractor Operator | 34 | \$ 8.50/hr | |
| Misc Grain & Seed Crops Worker | 34 | \$ 8.13/hr | |
| Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer | 23 | \$ 7.12/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

JUNE 2003

TABLE 1

JUNE 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 | 1,499 | 25 | 292 | 2,259 | 4,074 |
| 2. South Central | 13,033 | 37 | 1,319 | 940 | 15,330 |
| 3. North Central | 6,228 | 272 | 1,244 | 21 | 7,765 |
| 4. Columbia Basin | 4,421 | 0 | 103 | 541 | 5,065 |
| 5. South Eastern | 7,218 | 0 | 2,075 | 1,630 | 10,922 |
| 6. Eastern | 198 | 56 | 41 | 86 | 381 |
| ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |
| State Totals | 32,596 | 390 | 5,074 | 5,477 | 43,537 |
| % State Total | 74.9% | 0.9% | 11.7% | 12.6% | 87% |

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 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)

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

| | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers | 4,074 |
| a. Local | 1,498 |
| b. Intrastate migratory | 25 |
| c. Interstate migratory | 292 |
| d. Unknown | 138 |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers | |
| a. Intrastate: Pasco | |
| b. Interstate: California, Minnesota, Texas | |
| c. Foreign: Mexico | |

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The June 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 7,619.

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 sweet corn crop continued to exhibit accelerated growth due to the warm weather. Dry weather was also favorable for the hay harvest. Fruit and vegetable production was on schedule. Strawberry harvest was nearly complete and growers were preparing for the raspberry harvest. Nursery work continued.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in June averaged \$7.88 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for strawberry harvester, raspberry weeder, bulbs sorter/grader/packer, bulbs harvester, rhubarb worker, raspberry harvester, raspberry mechanized harvester, raspberry planter, beets weeder, potato sorter/grader/packer, potato worker, lettuce planter and general farm worker to \$14.60 for nursery loader. Typical piece rates were: \$0.13½ 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 36.8% local, 0.6% intrastate, 7.2% interstate and 55.4% 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: JUNE 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 4,074 | * = piece rate |
| Strawberry Harvester | 1293 | \$ 7.01 or * \$ 0.13½ - \$ 0.19 per lb |
| Nursery Harvester | 515 | \$ 9.52 |
| Nursery Planter | 335 | \$ 7.10 |
| Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer | 248 | \$ 7.39 |
| Raspberry Weeder | 153 | \$ 7.01 |
| Nursery Worker | 149 | \$ 7.55 |
| Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer | 133 | \$ 7.01 |
| Nursery Hand Thinner | 126 | \$ 7.43 |
| Potato Planter | 109 | \$ 8.11 |
| Bulbs Harvester | 95 | \$ 7.01 |
| Rhubarb Worker | 95 | \$ 7.01 |
| Raspberry Harvester | 91 | \$ 7.01 |
| Cucumber Weeder | 78 | \$ 7.09 |
| Broccoli Harvester | 77 | \$ 8.50 |
| Nursery Loader | 57 | \$14.60 |
| Rhubarb Harvester | 54 | \$ 7.15 |
| Raspberry Mechanized Harvester | 50 | \$ 7.01 |
| Cabbage Weeder | 31 | \$ 7.16 |
| Potato Tractor Operator | 29 | \$10.23 |
| Raspberry Planter | 27 | \$ 7.01 |
| Misc Field Crops Harvester | 24 | \$ 8.43 |
| Beets Weeder | 22 | \$ 7.01 |
| Misc Squash Weeder | 22 | \$ 7.43 |
| Nursery Irrigator | 19 | \$ 7.11 |
| Nursery Vehicle Operator | 19 | \$12.14 |
| Broccoli Planter | 18 | \$ 8.50 |
| Rhubarb Weeder | 16 | \$ 7.62 |
| Strawberry Worker | 16 | \$ 7.60 |
| Nursery Mechanized Harvester | 15 | \$ 9.25 |
| Raspberry Worker | 15 | \$ 8.50 |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer | 15 | \$ 7.01 |
| Carrot Weeder | 14 | \$ 7.58 |
| Nursery Tractor Operator | 11 | \$ 8.60 |
| Misc Vegetables Tractor Operator | 9 | \$10.00 |
| Misc Vegetables Worker | 9 | \$10.34 |
| Raspberry Trainer | 8 | \$ 7.50 |

Area 1 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 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 | * = piece rate |
| Pumpkin Planter | 6 | \$ 7.50 |
| Cucumber Tractor Operator | 6 | \$ 8.50 |
| Potato Worker | 6 | \$ 7.01 |
| Blackberry Worker | 5 | \$ 8.50 |
| Silage Vehicle Operator | 5 | \$10.00 |
| Silage Tractor Operator | 5 | \$13.00 |
| Nursery Weeder | 4 | \$ 7.25 |
| Potato Mechanized Harvester | 4 | \$ 8.00 |
| Cauliflower Tractor Operator | 3 | \$ 7.25 |
| Lettuce Planter | 3 | \$ 7.01 |
| Lettuce Weeder | 3 | \$ 8.50 |
| Peas Tractor Operator | 3 | \$ 7.50 |
| Cauliflower Chemical Applicator | 3 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Squash Planter | 3 | Not Available |
| Sweet Corn Planter | 3 | Not Available |
| Tomato Weeder | 3 | \$ 8.50 |
| Spinach Tractor Operator | 3 | \$10.50 |
| Cauliflower Cultivator | 3 | \$12.00 |
| Raspberry Manager | 3 | \$10.00 |
| General Farm Worker | 2 | \$ 7.01 |
| Misc Field Crops Manager | 2 | \$11.50 |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 \$ 7.88/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 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 15,330
 - a. Local 13,034
 - b. Intrastate migratory 37
 - c. Interstate migratory 1,319
 - d. Unknown 940

 - 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
 - a. Intrastate: Mount Vernon, Toppenish
 - b. Interstate: California, Oregon, Texas
 - c. Foreign: Mexico
-

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The June 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 12,180.

 - 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 and apricots harvests continued. Apples were developing without problems. Average temperatures varied from 8 degrees below normal to 13 degrees above normal, with no precipitation. There were no new crop losses due to weather conditions.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in June averaged \$7.26 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for cherry sorter/grader/packer, grapes suckering worker, hops trainer, apricot harvester, mint weeder, pear hand thinner, nectarine hand thinner, peach hand thinner, peas hand thinner, hops worker, alfalfa weeder, miscellaneous squash weeder, field corn worker, general farm worker, general farm irrigator, miscellaneous hay irrigator, miscellaneous fruit trees worker, oats irrigator and asparagus worker to \$12.50 for cherry manager. Typical piece rates were: \$0.18 to \$ 0.25 per pound for asparagus harvest, \$0.20 to \$3.50 per tree for apple thinning to \$3.50 to \$7.50 per box for cherry harvest. Housing was limited; workers provided their own transportation.

 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 85.0% local, 0.3% intrastate, 8.6% interstate and 6.1% 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: JUNE 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 2: SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima 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 15,330 | * = piece rate |
| Apple Hand Thinner | 5066 | \$ 7.39 or * \$ 0.20 - \$ 3.50 per tree |
| Cherry Harvester | 3933 | \$ 7.50 or * \$ 3.50 - \$ 7.50 per box |
| Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer | 1923 | \$ 7.01 |
| Asparagus Harvester | 1353 | * \$ 0.18 - \$ 0.25 per lb |
| Grapes Suckering Worker | 282 | \$ 7.01 |
| Grapes Trainer | 243 | \$ 7.26 |
| Misc Field Crops Weeder | 209 | \$ 7.02 |
| Hops Trainer | 186 | \$ 7.01 |
| Misc Onion Harvester | 184 | \$ 8.50 |
| Cherry Hand Thinner | 184 | Not Available |
| Apricot Harvester | 165 | \$ 7.01 |
| Cherry Worker | 136 | \$ 7.43 |
| Misc Onion Weeder | 121 | \$ 7.25 |
| Cucumber Planter | 112 | \$ 7.25 |
| Grapes Hand Thinner | 105 | \$ 7.56 |
| Lettuce Weeder | 90 | \$ 7.25 |
| Mint Weeder | 89 | \$ 7.01 |
| Apple Worker | 76 | \$ 7.18 |
| Pear Hand Thinner | 71 | \$ 7.01 |
| Nectarine Hand Thinner | 61 | \$ 7.01 |
| Peach Hand Thinner | 52 | \$ 7.01 |
| Apple Irrigator | 52 | \$ 7.91 |
| Cherry Tractor Operator | 50 | \$ 8.20 |
| Apple Harvester | 47 | Not Available |
| Cherry Forklift Driver | 44 | \$ 8.00 |
| Peas Hand Thinner | 42 | \$ 7.01 |
| Apple Chemical Applicator | 37 | \$ 7.75 |
| Hops Archer | 35 | Not Available |
| Silage Irrigator | 34 | \$ 8.20 |
| Hops Worker | 29 | \$ 7.01 |
| Alfalfa Weeder | 29 | \$ 7.01 |
| Misc Squash Weeder | 27 | \$ 7.01 |
| Mint Irrigator | 21 | \$ 7.30 |
| Contract Misc Crew Weeder | 18 | \$ 7.94 |
| Contract Misc Crew Pruner | 15 | \$ 7.94 |
| Hops Tractor Operator | 14 | \$ 8.10 |

Area 2 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 2: SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima 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 | * = piece rate |
| Apple Vehicle Operator | 14 | \$10.00 |
| Field Corn Irrigator | 14 | \$ 7.30 |
| Misc Field Crops Irrigator | 12 | \$ 8.40 |
| Cherry Manager | 9 | \$12.50 |
| Misc Field Crops Tractor Operator | 9 | \$ 9.00 |
| Apple Pruner | 9 | \$ 7.50 |
| Field Corn Worker | 7 | \$ 7.01 |
| General Farm Worker | 7 | \$ 7.01 |
| Potato Irrigator | 7 | \$ 7.75 |
| General Farm Irrigator | 7 | \$ 7.01 |
| Mint Manager | 7 | \$11.00 |
| Misc Hay Irrigator | 7 | \$ 7.01 |
| Field Corn Cultivator | 7 | \$ 8.75 |
| Mint Worker | 7 | \$ 7.25 |
| Misc Fruit Trees Worker | 7 | \$ 7.01 |
| Silage Tractor Operator | 7 | \$ 8.50 |
| Grapes Irrigator | 6 | \$ 7.15 |
| Grapes Chemical Applicator | 6 | \$ 8.75 |
| Oats Irrigator | 6 | \$ 7.01 |
| Cucumber Irrigator | 6 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Onion Irrigator | 6 | \$ 8.00 |
| Asparagus Irrigator | 6 | \$ 7.51 |
| Asparagus Worker | 6 | \$ 7.01 |
| Hops Irrigator | 6 | \$ 8.25 |
| Cherry Irrigator | 5 | \$ 7.92 |
| Apple Trainer | 5 | \$ 7.92 |
| Contract Misc Crew Worker | 3 | \$ 7.94 |
| Grapes Manager | 3 | \$16.94 |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 7.29/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 2003
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers 7,765
 - a. Local 6,228
 - b. Intrastate migratory 272
 - c. Interstate migratory 1,244
 - d. Unknown 21

 - 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
 - a. Intrastate: Chelan, Chelan Falls, Manson, Orondo, Pateros, Seattle, Spokane, Wenatchee, Yakima
 - b. Interstate: Arizona, California, Florida, Nevada, Oregon
 - c. Foreign: Mexico
-

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The June 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 7,922.

 - 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 well underway. Yields looked good. Shallow areas in some wheat fields were drying up due to low moisture levels. Small grain crops were in need of moisture. The first cutting of alfalfa was up. The first cutting of timothy hay was about 75 percent complete. Primary agricultural activities were cherry harvest, apple and pear hand thinning and cherry warehouse work.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in June averaged \$7.34 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for cherry harvester, miscellaneous fruit trees worker, nursery weeder, cherry pruner, potato irrigator, pear worker and pear fertilizer applicator to \$22.00 for horse and equines trainer. 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 80.2% local, 3.5% intrastate, 16.0% 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: JUNE 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 | | |
| CROP ACTIVITY | ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS | HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS |
| | TOTAL 7,765 | * = piece rate |
| Cherry Harvester | 3617 | \$ 7.01 |
| Apple Hand Thinner | 2759 | \$ 7.08 |
| Pear Hand Thinner | 304 | \$ 7.16 |
| Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer | 242 | \$ 7.72 |
| Apple Trainer | 218 | \$ 7.25 |
| Misc Fruit Trees Worker | 94 | \$ 7.01 |
| Wheat Weeder | 83 | \$ 7.10 |
| Cherry Worker | 82 | \$ 8.01 |
| Apple Pruner | 72 | Not Available |
| Apple Mechanic | 32 | \$ 7.36 |
| Apple Manager | 29 | \$ 9.75 |
| Apple Chemical Applicator | 25 | \$ 7.75 |
| Apple Irrigator | 18 | \$ 7.25 |
| Apple Fertilizer Applicator | 18 | \$ 7.25 |
| Misc Hay Tractor Operator | 14 | \$11.00 |
| Misc Hay Mechanized Harvester | 14 | \$ 8.44 |
| Apple Worker | 13 | \$ 7.32 |
| Horse and Equines Worker | 11 | \$10.67 |
| Cherry Irrigator | 11 | \$ 8.08 |
| Apple Tractor Operator | 11 | \$ 7.25 |
| Apple Grafter | 11 | Not Available |
| Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer | 7 | \$ 7.25 |
| Nursery Weeder | 7 | \$ 7.01 |
| Sweet Corn Tractor Operator | 7 | \$ 8.75 |
| Pear Irrigator | 7 | \$ 7.25 |
| Cherry Manager | 7 | Not Available |
| Cherry Pruner | 7 | \$ 7.01 |
| Cherry Forklift Driver | 4 | \$ 8.27 |
| Misc Field Crops Weeder | 4 | \$ 7.50 |
| Wheat Tractor Operator | 4 | \$ 8.00 |
| Potato Cultivator | 4 | \$11.00 |
| Misc Hay Worker | 4 | \$ 9.00 |
| Misc Hay Irrigator | 4 | \$ 9.00 |
| Potato Irrigator | 4 | \$ 7.01 |
| Horse and Equines Trainer | 4 | \$22.00 |
| Cherry Tractor Operator | 4 | \$ 8.00 |

Area 3 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 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 | | |
| CROP ACTIVITY | ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS | HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS |
| | TOTAL | * = piece rate |
| Cherry Vehicle Operator | 4 | \$ 8.50 |
| Pear Worker | 4 | \$ 7.01 |
| Pear Fertilizer Applicator | 4 | \$ 7.01 |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.34/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 2003
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

| | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers | 5,065 |
| a. Local | 4,421 |
| b. Intrastate migratory | 0 |
| c. Interstate migratory | 103 |
| d. Unknown | 541 |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers | |
| a. Intrastate: None | |
| b. Interstate: California, Oregon | |
| c. Foreign: Mexico | |

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The June 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,645.
 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. Hot, dry conditions were not beneficial to spring cereal crops, especially spring wheat and barley. Sweet corn planting was near completion. Sugar snap pea harvest was underway. Carrot, onion and radish seed crops were in full bloom. The cherry harvest was underway. The second cutting of hay was being finished. Primary agricultural activities were apple hand thinning and training, potato warehouse work and nursery work.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in June averaged \$7.27 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for mint weeder, nursery suckering worker, miscellaneous onion weeder, miscellaneous onion weeder, nursery pruner, potato weeder, grapes weeder, mint chemical applicator, asparagus weeder, miscellaneous vegetables irrigator, nursery trainer, nursery weeder, apple weeder, cherry worker, nursery tractor operator and nursery planter to \$13.75 for potato manager. Typical piece rates were: \$0.20 to \$0.80 per tree for apple thinning. 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 87.3% local, 0.0% intrastate, 2.0% interstate and 10.7% 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: JUNE 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 4: COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant 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 5,065 | * = piece rate |
| Apple Hand Thinner | 2727 | \$ 7.08 or * \$ 0.20 - \$ 0.80 per tree |
| Apple Trainer | 417 | \$ 7.14 |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer | 335 | \$ 7.07 |
| Nursery Worker | 159 | \$ 7.04 |
| Cherry Harvester | 146 | \$ 7.25 |
| Mint Weeder | 133 | \$ 7.01 |
| Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester | 124 | \$ 8.88 |
| Asparagus Harvester | 96 | \$ 7.10 |
| Pear Hand Thinner | 95 | \$ 7.25 |
| Grass Seed Weeder | 93 | \$ 7.25 |
| Alfalfa Tractor Operator | 89 | \$ 7.78 |
| Apple Worker | 66 | \$ 7.50 |
| Nursery Suckering Worker | 47 | \$ 7.01 |
| Apple Chemical Applicator | 42 | \$ 7.75 |
| Misc Onion Weeder | 38 | \$ 7.01 |
| Misc Vegetables Weeder | 35 | \$ 7.25 |
| Potato Cultivator | 31 | \$ 8.50 |
| Potato Tractor Operator | 30 | \$ 9.17 |
| Nursery Pruner | 30 | \$ 7.01 |
| Potato Forklift Driver | 26 | \$ 7.83 |
| Potato Weeder | 22 | \$ 7.01 |
| Grapes Weeder | 20 | \$ 7.01 |
| Potato Vehicle Operator | 20 | \$ 9.00 |
| Potato Worker | 20 | \$ 9.30 |
| Potato Mechanic | 18 | \$ 8.25 |
| Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer | 16 | \$ 7.50 |
| Apple Irrigator | 15 | \$ 7.50 |
| Alfalfa Worker | 14 | \$ 8.67 |
| Mint Chemical Applicator | 14 | \$ 7.01 |
| Sweet Corn Weeder | 11 | \$10.00 |
| Misc Onion Chemical Applicator | 10 | \$ 8.35 |
| Wheat Weeder | 10 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Onion Cultivator | 9 | \$10.00 |
| Contract Misc Custom Mechanic | 9 | \$ 9.00 |
| Beans Vehicle Operator | 9 | \$10.75 |
| Asparagus Weeder | 8 | \$ 7.01 |

Area 4 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 4: COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant 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 | * = piece rate |
| Misc Vegetables Irrigator | 8 | \$ 7.01 |
| Apple Manager | 7 | \$ 9.00 |
| Apple Tractor Operator | 7 | \$ 7.50 |
| Cherry Chemical Applicator | 7 | \$10.00 |
| General Farm Worker | 7 | \$ 9.08 |
| Nursery Trainer | 7 | \$ 7.01 |
| Potato Irrigator | 6 | \$ 8.00 |
| Potato Manager | 6 | \$13.75 |
| Nursery Weeder | 5 | \$ 7.01 |
| Mint Fertilizer Applicator | 5 | \$ 7.75 |
| Apple Weeder | 5 | \$ 7.01 |
| Peas Weeder | 4 | \$10.00 |
| Cherry Worker | 2 | \$ 7.01 |
| Nursery Tractor Operator | 2 | \$ 7.01 |
| Nursery Planter | 2 | \$ 7.01 |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 7.27/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 2003
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

| | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers | 10,922 |
| a. Local | 7,217 |
| b. Intrastate migratory | 0 |
| c. Interstate migratory | 2,075 |
| d. Unknown | 1,630 |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers | |
| a. Intrastate: None | |
| b. Interstate: California, Oregon, Texas | |
| c. Foreign: Mexico | |

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The June 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 7,547.

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 began with pickers in short supply. Onion harvest began. Hot days put a high demand on irrigation. The second cutting of alfalfa was complete. Green pea harvest, affected by hot weather, turned peas rapidly. Asparagus harvest was nearly complete. Potato crops looked good. Apple thinning and pruning continued.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in June averaged \$7.16 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for asparagus harvester, miscellaneous onion sorter/grader/packer, cherry pruner, cherry hand thinner, apple cultivator, grass seed weeder, grapes cultivator, pumpkin weeder, grapes weeder, strawberry sorter/grader/packer, hops cultivator, grapes worker, miscellaneous field crops worker, grapes pruner, pumpkin irrigator, wheat worker, cherry irrigator, peach suckering worker, peach hand thinner, strawberry irrigator, strawberry vehicle operator and miscellaneous hay irrigator to \$14.26 for wheat weeder. Typical piece rates were: \$0.05 to \$3.50 per tree for apple thinning, \$0.15 to \$0.26 per pound for asparagus harvest to \$4.00 to \$7.50 per box for cherry picking. 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 66.1% local, 0.0% intrastate, 19.0% interstate and 14.9% 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: JUNE 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 5: SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla 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 10,922 | * = piece rate |
| Asparagus Harvester | 3586 | \$ 7.01 or * \$ 0.15 - \$ 0.26 per lb |
| Apple Hand Thinner | 2297 | \$ 7.12 or * \$ 0.05 - \$ 3.50 per tree |
| Cherry Harvester | 1991 | \$ 8.37 or * \$ 4.00 - \$ 7.00 per box |
| Apple Pruner | 1045 | \$ 7.02 |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer | 406 | \$ 7.04 |
| Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer | 330 | \$ 7.01 |
| Grapes Suckering Worker | 278 | \$ 7.11 |
| Grapes Trainer | 165 | \$ 7.05 |
| Cherry Pruner | 98 | \$ 7.01 |
| Cherry Hand Thinner | 82 | \$ 7.01 |
| Apple Cultivator | 64 | \$ 7.01 |
| Chicken Eggs Worker | 54 | \$ 7.70 |
| Strawberry Harvester | 48 | Not Available |
| Grass Seed Weeder | 44 | \$ 7.01 |
| Grapes Cultivator | 35 | \$ 7.01 |
| Apple Chemical Applicator | 30 | \$ 8.30 |
| Pumpkin Weeder | 25 | \$ 7.01 |
| Carrot Weeder | 22 | \$ 7.25 |
| Cherry Manager | 21 | \$ 8.00 |
| Hops Trainer | 19 | Not Available |
| Cherry Worker | 17 | \$ 8.00 |
| Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester | 16 | \$ 8.57 |
| Grapes Weeder | 16 | \$ 7.01 |
| Strawberry Sorter/Grader/Packer | 16 | \$ 7.01 |
| Hops Cultivator | 15 | \$ 7.01 |
| Grass Seed Harvester | 14 | \$ 7.05 |
| Grapes Hand Thinner | 13 | \$ 7.20 |
| Grapes Worker | 13 | \$ 7.01 |
| Misc Field Crops Worker | 12 | \$ 7.01 |
| Wheat Tractor Operator | 11 | \$ 9.25 |
| Asparagus Vehicle Operator | 10 | \$ 7.50 |
| Misc Hay Mechanized Harvester | 10 | \$ 8.50 |
| Beans Worker | 9 | \$ 9.65 |
| Grapes Pruner | 8 | \$ 7.01 |
| Pumpkin Irrigator | 7 | \$ 7.01 |
| Potato Tractor Operator | 7 | \$ 9.00 |

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JUNE 2003
State: WASHINGTON

Area 5: SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla 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 | * = piece rate |
| Wheat Weeder | 6 | \$14.26 |
| Wheat Worker | 6 | \$ 7.01 |
| Cherry Tractor Operator | 6 | \$ 8.00 |
| Cherry Weeder | 6 | \$ 7.25 |
| Potato Worker | 5 | \$10.47 |
| Alfalfa Weeder | 5 | \$ 8.50 |
| Potato Vehicle Operator | 5 | \$11.00 |
| Sweet Corn Planter | 5 | \$ 8.50 |
| Alfalfa Irrigator | 4 | \$ 8.00 |
| Cherry Irrigator | 3 | \$ 7.01 |
| Nectarine Worker | 3 | \$ 7.92 |
| Peach Suckering Worker | 3 | \$ 7.01 |
| Peach Hand Thinner | 3 | \$ 7.01 |
| Peach Worker | 3 | \$ 7.92 |
| Strawberry Irrigator | 3 | \$ 7.01 |
| Nursery Mechanized Harvester | 3 | \$10.00 |
| Strawberry Vehicle Operator | 3 | \$ 7.01 |
| Misc Hay Tractor Operator | 2 | \$10.00 |
| Alfalfa Mechanic | 2 | \$12.50 |
| Misc Hay Irrigator | 2 | \$ 7.01 |
| Potato Mechanic | 2 | \$11.00 |
| Potato Irrigator | 2 | \$ 7.50 |
| Wheat Irrigator | 2 | \$ 8.00 |
| Alfalfa Tractor Operator | 2 | \$ 9.00 |
| Alfalfa Worker | 2 | \$ 8.00 |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 7.16/hr (weighted average)