



## SEASONAL FARM LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

APRIL 2004



Prepared by

John Wines, Economic Analyst  
Judy Anderson, Data Compiler

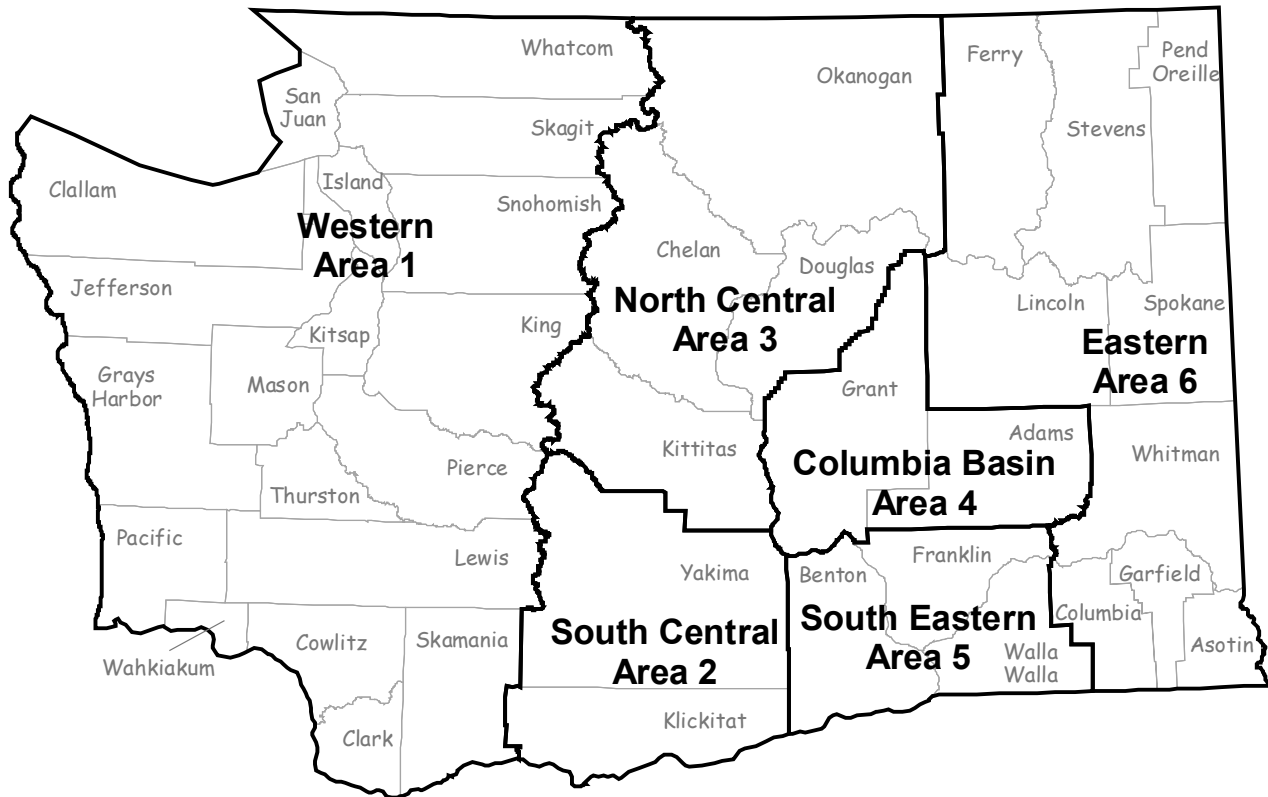
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch  
Greg Weeks, Director  
Washington State Employment Security Department

For More Information Contact: John Wines Telephone: (360) 438-4843  
E-mail: [jwines@esd.wa.gov](mailto:jwines@esd.wa.gov) or call the Labor Market  
Information Center toll free: 1-800-215-1617

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APRIL 2004

## 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 and Whatcom

**Area 2** = Klickitat and Yakima

**Area 3** = Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas and Okanogan

**Area 4** = Adams and Grant

**Area 5** = Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla

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

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Statewide seasonal employment advanced by 11.8% from April 2003 to April 2004. The increase was again led by apple work. Agricultural employment displaying an over-the-year increase were apple work (988), onion work (632), other seasonal work (495), other tree fruit work (403), cherry work (362), grapes work (311), bulb work (270), raspberry work (239), miscellaneous vegetables work (111), wheat/grain work (19), pear work (18), cucumber work (7) and strawberry work (5). Declines were experienced in nursery work (-928), potato work (-228), hop work (-211), asparagus work (-66) and blueberry work (-9). Regionally, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment decreased by 8.6% due to a drop in nursery work (-1,003). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment contracted slightly by 1.3% led by hop work (-293). North Central (Area 3) grew by 12.1% thanks to an increase in other seasonal work (353). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment ramped up by an impressive 53.6%, courtesy of a large growth in apple work (744). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment experienced moderate growth of 16.6% due to an expansion in onion work (658). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment advanced by a large 89.2% caused by an increase in nursery work (267).

## ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

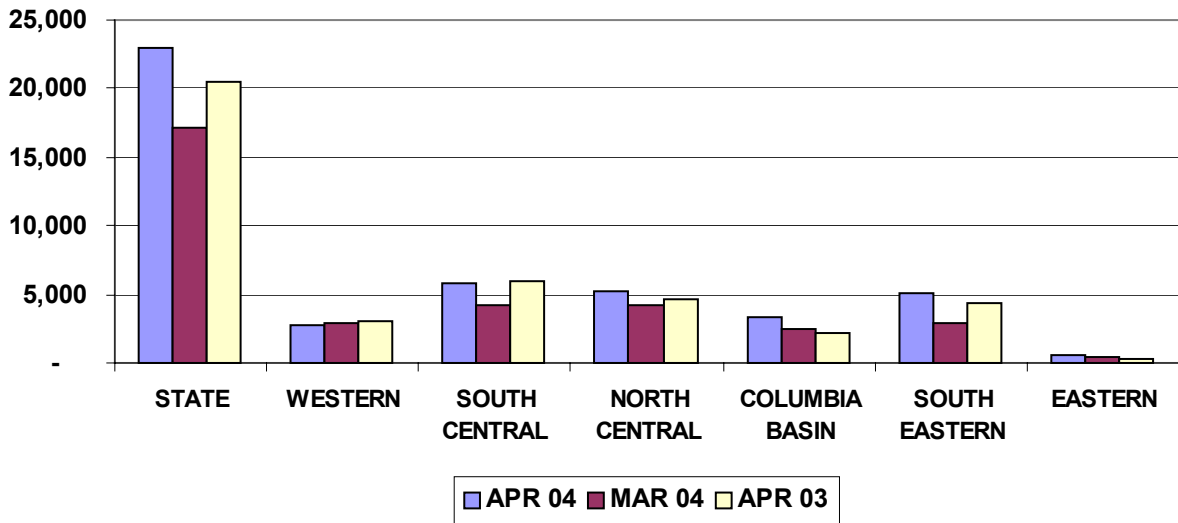
This year's asparagus harvest is off to a good start. Warm weather has helped asparagus growers to their best start in several years. After losing market share to duty-free Peruvian imports and removing acreage in an attempt to balance supply and demand, growers have been rewarded with better prices. A federal commodity purchase will also help drive demand for processed asparagus, keeping excess product off the fresh market. A warm early April free of frost and wind drew the temperature-sensitive crop out of the ground in time for Easter, when demand for fresh spears is high.

Another big cherry harvest is expected this year. It should be close, if not just as big as last year's record crop. A perfect bloom, good pollination and warm weather followed by a cooling to spread the timing of harvest all point to "a second bang-up year," said B.J. Thurlby, president of the Washington State Fruit Commission. Washington cherry growers produced 8.9 million 20-pound boxes of cherries in 2003 and another 2.2 million boxes for canning, freezing and other processing. It was a record year in Oregon, Idaho and Utah as well. This year's Washington State crop is predicted to be about 8 million boxes.

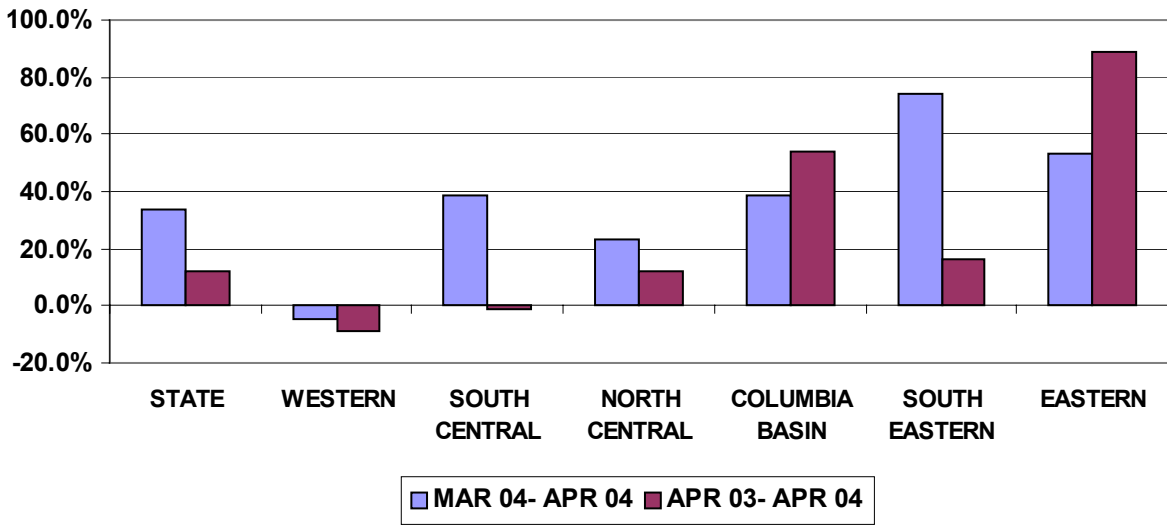
A fast snowmelt is raising concern of a drought. Snowpacks in areas of central Washington are causing the most concern, with most areas in the 70<sup>th</sup> percentile and at least one basin near Wenatchee at 68 percent of average. The snowpacks in western Washington were 80 percent to 95percent of normal. Most river basins in the Spokane area are running about 20 percent short on snowpack for this time of year. Low river conditions shouldn't impact orchardists. Most orchardists have senior water rights that can't be interrupted. However, Kittitas and Yakima Counties are in the worst shape. Kittitas customers will see their allocations reduced by 12.5 percent. In the Yakima area, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has projected that holders of junior water rights could get only 65 percent of a normal water supply this year.

| SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                  |               |               |               | CHANGE                    |                           | PERCENT CHANGE            |                           |
|                                  | <u>APR 04</u> | <u>MAR 04</u> | <u>APR 03</u> | <u>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</u> | <u>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</u> | <u>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</u> | <u>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</u> |
| <b>STATE</b>                     | 22,945        | 17,131        | 20,529        | 5,814                     | 2,416                     | 33.9%                     | 11.8%                     |
| <b>WESTERN</b>                   | 2,767         | 2,900         | 3,027         | (133)                     | (260)                     | -4.6%                     | -8.6%                     |
| <b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>             | 5,827         | 4,207         | 5,901         | 1,620                     | (74)                      | 38.5%                     | -1.3%                     |
| <b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>             | 5,260         | 4,268         | 4,694         | 992                       | 566                       | 23.2%                     | 12.1%                     |
| <b>COLUMBIA BASIN</b>            | 3,363         | 2,421         | 2,189         | 942                       | 1,174                     | 38.9%                     | 53.6%                     |
| <b>SOUTH EASTERN</b>             | 5,134         | 2,949         | 4,404         | 2,185                     | 730                       | 74.1%                     | 16.6%                     |
| <b>EASTERN</b>                   | 594           | 387           | 314           | 207                       | 280                       | 53.5%                     | 89.2%                     |

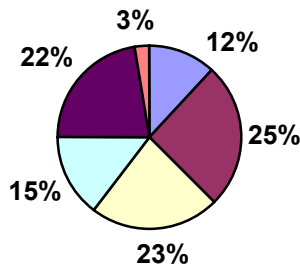
### SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



### CHANGE IN AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



### SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT APRIL 2004



## STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

**Statewide** seasonal employment expanded 11.8% from April 2003 to April 2004. Seasonal employment trumped up statewide by 33.9% from March 2004 to April 2004. The crop activity increasing the most in employment from April 2003 to April 2004 was apple work (988). Nursery work had the largest decrease in employment (-928) for that same time period. Asparagus work logged the largest over-the-month gain (4,516) from March 2004 to April 2004. During that same time period, bulb work fell back the most in employment (-869). The statewide weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for April 2004 was \$7.39 per hour.

| STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT** |        |        |        |                   |                   |                   |                   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| STATE  |        |        |        | CHANGE            |                   | PERCENT CHANGE    |                   |
| CROP   | APR 04 | MAR 04 | APR 03 | MAR 04-<br>APR 04 | APR 03-<br>APR 04 | MAR 04-<br>APR 04 | APR 03-<br>APR 04 |
| Apples                                       | 8,889  | 8,536  | 7,901  | 353               | 988               | 4.1%              | 12.5%             |
| Asparagus                                    | 4,526  | 10     | 4,592  | 4,516             | (66)              | 45160.0%          | -1.4%             |
| Blueberry                                    | 24     | 8      | 33     | 16                | (9)               | 200.0%            | -27.3%            |
| Bulb   | 793    | 1,662  | 523    | (869)             | 270               | -52.3%            | 51.6%             |
| Cherries                                     | 646    | 1,059  | 284    | (413)             | 362               | -39.0%            | 127.5%            |
| Cucumbers                                    | 7      | 0      | 0      | 7                 | 7                 | 0.0%              | 0.0%              |
| Grapes                                       | 1,176  | 1,305  | 865    | (129)             | 311               | -9.9%             | 36.0%             |
| Hop  | 225    | 606    | 436    | (381)             | (211)             | -62.9%            | -48.4%            |
| Misc Vegetables                              | 805    | 209    | 694    | 596               | 111               | 285.2%            | 16.0%             |
| Nursery                                      | 991    | 945    | 1,919  | 46                | (928)             | 4.9%              | -48.4%            |
| Onion  | 970    | 689    | 338    | 281               | 632               | 40.8%             | 187.0%            |
| Other Seasonal                               | 1,330  | 631    | 835    | 699               | 495               | 110.8%            | 59.3%             |
| Other Tree Fruit                             | 870    | 232    | 467    | 638               | 403               | 275.0%            | 86.3%             |
| Pears  | 259    | 368    | 241    | (109)             | 18                | -29.6%            | 7.5%              |
| Potato                                       | 787    | 348    | 1,015  | 439               | (228)             | 126.1%            | -22.5%            |
| Raspberry                                    | 498    | 347    | 259    | 151               | 239               | 43.5%             | 92.3%             |
| Strawberry                                   | 22     | 84     | 17     | (62)              | 5                 | -73.8%            | 29.4%             |
| Wheat/Grain                                  | 129    | 91     | 110    | 38                | 19                | 41.8%             | 17.3%             |

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

**Western (Area 1)** seasonal employment fell by 8.6% from April 2003 to April 2004. This was echoed by a slightly smaller decrease in seasonal employment of 4.6% from March 2004 to April 2004. Bulb work was the crop activity rising the most (270) in employment from April 2003 to April 2004. Nursery work experienced the largest downturn (-1,003) in employment for that same time period. Miscellaneous vegetables work posted the largest uptick in employment (380) from March 2004 to April 2004. Bulb work shrunk by the greatest amount (-869) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for April 2004 in Area 1 was \$7.36 per hour. (See pages 14 and 15 for Area 1 detail)

| <b>AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**</b> |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |  |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>WESTERN</b>                                   |               |               |               |                           | <b>CHANGE</b>             |                           | <b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>     |  |
|  | <b>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04</b> | <b>APR 03</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> |  |
| <b>CROP</b>                                      |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |  |
| Blueberry  | 24            | 8             | 33            | 16                        | (9)                       | 200.0%                    | -27.3%                    |  |
| Bulb   | 793           | 1,662         | 523           | (869)                     | 270                       | -52.3%                    | 51.6%                     |  |
| Cucumbers  | 7             | 0             | 0             | 7                         | 7                         | 0.0%                      | 0.0%                      |  |
| Misc Vegetables                                  | 399           | 19            | 305           | 380                       | 94                        | 2000.0%                   | 30.8%                     |  |
| Nursery  | 481           | 592           | 1,484         | (111)                     | (1,003)                   | -18.8%                    | -67.6%                    |  |
| Other Seasonal                                   | 83            | 66            | 51            | 17                        | 32                        | 25.8%                     | 62.7%                     |  |
| Potato   | 119           | 78            | 214           | 41                        | (95)                      | 52.6%                     | -44.4%                    |  |
| Raspberry  | 498           | 347           | 259           | 151                       | 239                       | 43.5%                     | 92.3%                     |  |
| Rhubarb  | 357           | 44            | 158           | 313                       | 199                       | 711.4%                    | 125.9%                    |  |
| Strawberry                                       | 7             | 84            | 0             | (77)                      | 7                         | -91.7%                    | 0.0%                      |  |

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

**South Central (Area 2)** seasonal employment declined by 1.3% from April 2003 to April 2004. However, this was contrasted by a large increase of 38.5% from March 2004 to April 2004. Asparagus work was the crop activity adding the most seasonal jobs (325) from April 2003 to April 2004. Hop work decreased by the largest amount (-293) for that same time period. The largest expansion in seasonal crop employment from March 2004 to April 2004 was asparagus work (1,775). Grapes work posted the largest loss in employment (-255) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for April 2004 in Area 2 was \$7.41 per hour. (See pages 16 - 18 for Area 2 detail)

| <b>AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT</b> |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |  |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>                           |               |               |               |                           | <b>CHANGE</b>             |                           | <b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>     |  |
|  | <b>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04</b> | <b>APR 03</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> |  |
| <b>CROP</b>                                    |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |  |
| Apples   | 2,095         | 2,154         | 2,181         | (59)                      | (86)                      | -2.7%                     | -3.9%                     |  |
| Asparagus                                      | 1,783         | 8             | 1,458         | 1,775                     | 325                       | 22187.5%                  | 22.3%                     |  |
| Cherries                                       | 367           | 392           | 149           | (25)                      | 218                       | -6.4%                     | 146.3%                    |  |
| Grapes   | 506           | 761           | 462           | (255)                     | 44                        | -33.5%                    | 9.5%                      |  |
| Hop  | 91            | 253           | 384           | (162)                     | (293)                     | -64.0%                    | -76.3%                    |  |
| Misc Vegetables                                | 21            | 121           | 169           | (100)                     | (148)                     | -82.6%                    | -87.6%                    |  |
| Onion  | 80            | 0             | 152           | 80                        | (72)                      | 0.0%                      | -47.4%                    |  |
| Other Seasonal                                 | 352           | 86            | 373           | 266                       | (21)                      | 309.3%                    | -5.6%                     |  |
| Other Tree Fruit                               | 322           | 99            | 378           | 223                       | (56)                      | 225.3%                    | -14.8%                    |  |
| Pears  | 203           | 322           | 195           | (119)                     | 8                         | -37.0%                    | 4.1%                      |  |
| Potato   | 7             | 9             | 0             | (2)                       | 7                         | -22.2%                    | 0.0%                      |  |

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

**North Central (Area 3)** seasonal employment displayed a net gain of 12.1% from April 2003 to April 2004. This was exceeded by a stronger recovery of 23.2% in seasonal employment from March 2004 to April 2004. The crop activity posting the largest over-the-year increase in employment from April 2003 to April 2004 was other seasonal work (353). Cherry work had the largest decrease in employment (-35) for that same time period. Apple work expanded the most in employment (756) from March 2004 to April 2004. Cherry work experienced the greatest decrease in employment (-185) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for April 2004 in Area 3 was \$7.37 per hour. (See pages 19 and 20 for Area 3 detail)

| <b>AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT</b> |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>                           |               |               |               | <b>CHANGE</b>             |                           | <b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>     |                           |
|  | <b>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04</b> | <b>APR 03</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> |
| <b>CROP</b>                                    |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |
| Apples   | 4,655         | 3,899         | 4,486         | 756                       | 169                       | 19.4%                     | 3.8%                      |
| Cherries                                       | 20            | 205           | 55            | (185)                     | (35)                      | -90.2%                    | -63.6%                    |
| Other Seasonal                                 | 449           | 107           | 96            | 342                       | 353                       | 319.6%                    | 367.7%                    |
| Other Tree Fruit                               | 84            | 15            | 11            | 69                        | 73                        | 460.0%                    | 663.6%                    |
| Pears  | 52            | 41            | 46            | 11                        | 6                         | 26.8%                     | 13.0%                     |
| **Crop detail may not add due to rounding      |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |

**Columbia Basin (Area 4)** seasonal employment expanded by 53.6% from April 2003 to April 2004. This was echoed by a slightly smaller gain of 38.9% in employment from March 2004 to April 2004. Apple work displayed the greatest upturn (744) in employment from April 2003 to April 2004. Nursery work experienced the largest decline (-194) in employment during that same time period. Asparagus work grew by the largest (436) employment from March 2004 to April 2004. Nursery work produced the weakest demand (-53) in employment during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for April 2004 in Area 4 was \$7.46 per hour. (See pages 21 - 23 for Area 4 detail)

| <b>AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT</b> |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>COLUMBIA BASIN</b>                          |               |               |               | <b>CHANGE</b>             |                           | <b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>     |                           |
|  | <b>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04</b> | <b>APR 03</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> |
| <b>CROP</b>                                    |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |
| Apples   | 1,632         | 1,655         | 888           | (23)                      | 744                       | -1.4%                     | 83.8%                     |
| Asparagus                                      | 436           | 0             | 243           | 436                       | 193                       | 0.0%                      | 79.4%                     |
| Cherries                                       | 145           | 203           | 54            | (58)                      | 91                        | -28.6%                    | 168.5%                    |
| Mint   | 11            | 36            | 46            | (25)                      | (35)                      | -69.4%                    | -76.1%                    |
| Misc Vegetables                                | 19            | 5             | 13            | 14                        | 6                         | 280.0%                    | 46.2%                     |
| Nursery  | 68            | 121           | 262           | (53)                      | (194)                     | -43.8%                    | -74.0%                    |
| Onion  | 123           | 87            | 77            | 36                        | 46                        | 41.4%                     | 59.7%                     |
| Other Seasonal                                 | 203           | 100           | 82            | 103                       | 121                       | 103.0%                    | 147.6%                    |
| Other Tree Fruit                               | 363           | 33            | 15            | 330                       | 348                       | 1000.0%                   | 2320.0%                   |
| Pears  | 4             | 5             | 0             | (1)                       | 4                         | -20.0%                    | 0.0%                      |
| Potato   | 345           | 149           | 505           | 196                       | (160)                     | 131.5%                    | -31.7%                    |
| Wheat/Grain                                    | 12            | 27            | 4             | (15)                      | 8                         | -55.6%                    | 200.0%                    |
| **Crop detail may not add due to rounding      |               |               |               |                           |                           |                           |                           |

**South Eastern (Area 5)** seasonal employment grew by a respectable 16.6% from April 2003 to April 2004. April 2004 employment bounded up by 74.1% over March 2004, primarily due to the start of asparagus harvest. Onion work employment rose by the greatest amount (658) from April 2003 to April 2004. Asparagus work displayed an over-the-year drop (-584) in employment during that same time period. However, asparagus work ramped up by the largest amount (2,305) of employment from March 2004 to April 2004. Apple work had the largest decline (-321) in employment for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for April 2004 in Area 5 was \$7.34 per hour. (See pages 24 - 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>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04</b> | <b>APR 03</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> |
| Apples   | 507           | 828           | 346           | (321)                     | 161                       | -38.8%                    | 46.5%                     |
| Asparagus                                      | 2,307         | 2             | 2,891         | 2,305                     | (584)                     | 115250.0%                 | -20.2%                    |
| Cherries                                       | 114           | 259           | 26            | (145)                     | 88                        | -56.0%                    | 338.5%                    |
| Grapes   | 670           | 544           | 403           | 126                       | 267                       | 23.2%                     | 66.3%                     |
| Hops   | 134           | 353           | 52            | (219)                     | 82                        | -62.0%                    | 157.7%                    |
| Misc Vegetables                                | 9             | 20            | 49            | (11)                      | (40)                      | -55.0%                    | -81.6%                    |
| Nursery  | 6             | 6             | 4             | 0                         | 2                         | 0.0%                      | 50.0%                     |
| Onion  | 767           | 602           | 109           | 165                       | 658                       | 27.4%                     | 603.7%                    |
| Other Seasonal                                 | 166           | 122           | 131           | 44                        | 35                        | 36.1%                     | 26.7%                     |
| Other Tree Fruit                               | 101           | 85            | 63            | 16                        | 38                        | 18.8%                     | 60.3%                     |
| Potatoes                                       | 316           | 112           | 296           | 204                       | 20                        | 182.1%                    | 6.8%                      |
| Strawberry                                     | 15            | 0             | 17            | 15                        | (2)                       | 0.0%                      | -11.8%                    |
| Wheat/Grain                                    | 23            | 15            | 17            | 8                         | 6                         | 53.3%                     | 35.3%                     |

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

**Eastern (Area 6)** seasonal employment grew by 89.2% from April 2003 to April 2004. Seasonal employment also charged ahead by 53.5% in April 2004 over March 2004. Nursery work moved forward with the largest increase (267) in employment from April 2003 to April 2004. No agricultural activities showed a decline over the year, however wheat/grain work exhibited the smallest increase (5) in employment during that same time period. Again, nursery work ramped up by the greatest amount of employment (210) from March 2004 to April 2004. Other seasonal work contracted the most jobs (-48) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for April 2004 in Area 6 was \$7.87 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>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04</b> | <b>APR 03</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>MAR 04-<br/>APR 04</b> | <b>APR 03-<br/>APR 04</b> |
| Nursery  | 436           | 226           | 169           | 210                       | 267                       | 92.9%                     | 158.0%                    |
| Other Seasonal                                 | 66            | 114           | 56            | (48)                      | 10                        | -42.1%                    | 17.9%                     |
| Wheat/Grain                                    | 94            | 49            | 89            | 45                        | 5                         | 91.8%                     | 5.6%                      |

\*\*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 APRIL 2004

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 outside of Washington 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: 2,767 (2,239 local, 14 intrastate, 101 interstate, 14 foreign, 399 unknown origin)

|                         |     |            |
|-------------------------|-----|------------|
| Bulbs Harvester         | 678 | \$ 7.16/hr |
| Raspberry Planter       | 303 | \$ 7.16/hr |
| Misc Vegetables Planter | 281 | \$ 7.36/hr |
| Nursery Planter         | 255 | \$ 7.26/hr |

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 5,827 (5,246 local, 155 intrastate, 98 interstate, 328 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

|                     |       |   |
|---------------------|-------|---|
| Asparagus Harvester | 1,735 | \$ 7.16/hr or \$ 0.19 - \$ 0.23 per pound |
| Apple Pruner        | 1,140 | \$ 7.37/hr                                |
| Grapes Pruner       | 291   | \$ 7.60/hr                                |
| Apple Planter       | 264   | \$ 7.16/hr                                |

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 5,260 (5,045 local, 38 intrastate, 15 interstate, 162 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

|                    |       |               |
|--------------------|-------|---------------|
| Apple Hand Thinner | 2,456 | Not Available |
| Apple Planter      | 840   | \$ 7.20/hr    |
| Apple Trainer      | 820   | \$ 7.21/hr    |
| Grapes Trainer     | 390   | Not Available |

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,363 (3,046 local, 56 intrastate, 11 interstate, 39 foreign, 211 unknown origin)

|                     |     |            |
|---------------------|-----|------------|
| Apple Worker        | 459 | \$ 7.27/hr |
| Asparagus Harvester | 432 | \$ 7.16/hr |
| Apple Pruner        | 259 | \$ 7.28/hr |
| Apple Planter       | 252 | \$ 7.17/hr |

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 5,134 (2,701 local, 27 intrastate, 980 interstate, 682 foreign, 744 unknown origin)

|                            |       |   |
|----------------------------|-------|---|
| Asparagus Harvester        | 2,295 | \$ 7.16/hr or \$ 0.17 - \$ 0.27 per pound |
| Misc Onion Planter         | 358   | \$ 7.16/hr                                |
| Walla Walla Sweets Planter | 303   | \$ 7.20/hr                                |
| Grapes Trainer             | 291   | \$ 7.25/hr                                |

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 594 (406 local, 0 intrastate, 13 interstate, 52 foreign, 123 unknown origin)

|                   |     |            |
|-------------------|-----|------------|
| Nursery Worker    | 231 | \$ 7.28/hr |
| Nursery Loader    | 86  | \$ 7.61/hr |
| Wheat Weeder      | 40  | \$ 9.00/hr |
| Nursery Harvester | 40  | \$ 8.50/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**

**APRIL 2004**

**TABLE 1**

**APRIL 2004**

**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  | Foreign      | Unknown      | Area Total    |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. Western                  | 2,239         | 14          | 101          | 14           | 399          | 2,767         |
| 2. South Central            | 5,246         | 155         | 98           | 328          | 0            | 5,827         |
| 3. North Central            | 5,045         | 38          | 15           | 162          | 0            | 5,260         |
| 4. Columbia Basin           | 3,046         | 56          | 11           | 39           | 211          | 3,363         |
| 5. South Eastern            | 2,701         | 27          | 980          | 682          | 744          | 5,134         |
| 6. Eastern                  | 406           | 0           | 13           | 52           | 123          | 594           |
| <b>State Totals</b>         | <b>18,682</b> | <b>291</b>  | <b>1,219</b> | <b>1,276</b> | <b>1,477</b> | <b>22,945</b> |
| <b>% State Total</b>        | <b>81.4%</b>  | <b>1.3%</b> | <b>5.3%</b>  | <b>5.6%</b>  | <b>6.4%</b>  | <b>100%</b>   |

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: APRIL 2004  
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              | 2,767 |
| a. Local  | 2,239 |
| b. Intrastate migratory                               | 14    |
| c. Interstate migratory                               | 101   |
| d. Unknown  | 14    |
| e. Foreign  | 399   |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers |       |
| a. Intrastate: Mount Vernon, Wenatchee                |       |
| b. Interstate: California, Texas                      |       |
| c. Foreign: Mexico                                    |       |

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SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
    The April 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 7,243.
  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. Record breaking temperatures in the 80's were recorded. Some counties have had fewer than 2 inches of rain during the month when 9 inches is the average. U-Pick vegetable farms were planting warm season vegetable crops earlier than normal due to the warm soil temperatures. Apple blossom was over for most varieties. Strawberries were coming into bloom.
    - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in April averaged \$7.36 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for bulbs harvester, raspberry planter, bulbs sorter/grader/packer, rhubarb harvester, raspberry trainer, raspberry worker, potato preparer, potato worker, strawberry weeder, cabbage sorter/grader/packer and nursery worker to \$32.69 for general farm worker. No piece rates were reported. Housing was limited.
    - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:  
The labor force was estimated at 80.9% local, 0.5% intrastate, 3.6% interstate, foreign 0.5% and 14.4% unknown.
    - 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: APRIL 2004

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 2,767                | * = piece rate  |
| Bulbs Harvester                            | 678                        | \$ 7.16   |
| Raspberry Planter                          | 303                        | \$ 7.16   |
| Misc Vegetables Planter                    | 281                        | \$ 7.36   |
| Nursery Planter                            | 255                        | \$ 7.26   |
| Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer               | 222                        | \$ 7.24   |
| Rhubarb Weeder                             | 140                        | \$ 7.18   |
| Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer                 | 115                        | \$ 7.16   |
| Rhubarb Harvester                          | 115                        | \$ 7.16   |
| Rhubarb Sorter/Grader/Packer               | 102                        | \$ 7.26   |
| Raspberry Pruner                           | 96                         | \$ 7.20   |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer                | 60                         | \$ 7.18   |
| Raspberry Trainer                          | 53                         | \$ 7.16   |
| Raspberry Worker                           | 46                         | \$ 7.16   |
| Misc Vegetables Sorter/Grader/Packer       | 37                         | \$ 8.48   |
| Misc Vegetables Worker                     | 37                         | \$ 7.81   |
| Misc Field Crops Weeder                    | 31                         | \$ 8.81   |
| Misc Vegetables Tractor Operator           | 26                         | \$ 9.39   |
| Potato Preparation                         | 22                         | \$ 7.16   |
| Blueberry Hand Thinner                     | 18                         | \$ 7.75   |
| Potato Tractor Operator                    | 18                         | \$ 9.25   |
| Potato Worker                              | 16                         | \$ 7.16   |
| General Farm Planter                       | 15                         | \$ 9.00   |
| Misc Field Crops Harvester                 | 12                         | \$ 8.81   |
| Misc Under Cover Crop Sorter/Grader/Packer | 9                          | \$ 7.50   |
| Chicken Eggs Worker                        | 7                          | \$ 8.50   |
| Misc Vegetables Mechanic                   | 7                          | \$ 7.50   |
| Cucumber Preparation                       | 7                          | \$10.00   |
| Cauliflower Preparation                    | 7                          | \$10.00   |
| Strawberry Weeder                          | 7                          | \$ 7.16   |
| Cabbage Sorter/Grader/Packer               | 4                          | \$ 7.16   |
| General Farm Worker                        | 4                          | \$32.69   |
| Nursery Worker                             | 4                          | \$ 7.16   |
| Blueberry Worker                           | 4                          | \$11.00   |
| Misc Berries Worker                        | 4                          | Not Available   |
| Potato Mechanized Harvester                | 3                          | \$10.00   |
| Blueberry Trainer                          | 2                          | \$ 8.00   |
| Contract Misc Crop Worker                  | 1                          | \$ 8.00   |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS

EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG

PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 ..... \$ 7.36/hr (weighted average)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: APRIL 2004

State: WASHINGTON

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

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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 .....        | 5,827 |
| a. Local .....  | 5,246 |
| b. Intrastate migratory .....                         | 155   |
| c. Interstate migratory .....                         | 98    |
| d. Unknown .....                                      | 328   |
| e. Foreign .....                                      | 0     |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers |       |
| a. Intrastate: Quincy, Sunnyside, Wenatchee           |       |
| b. Interstate: California, Oregon                     |       |
| c. Foreign: Mexico                                    |       |

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SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The April 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 10,952.
  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 were 1 to 12 degrees above normal. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported. Primary agricultural activities were asparagus harvesting, apple pruning, grapes pruning and apple planting.
    - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in April averaged \$7.41 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for grapes weeder to \$16.94 for grapes manager. Typical piece rates were: \$0.19 to \$0.23 per pound for asparagus 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 90.0% local, 2.7% intrastate, 1.7% interstate, foreign 5.6% and unknown 0.0%.
    - 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: MARCH 2003  
State: WASHINGTON

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

| SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS |                                   |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY      | EMPLOYMENT                        | WAGES  |
| CROP ACTIVITY<br>(1)                       | ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS<br>(2) | HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS<br>(3) |
|  | TOTAL 4,796                       | * = piece rate   |
| Apple Pruner                               | 1,433                             | \$ 7.35 or * \$ 0.50 - \$ 4.50/tree                                  |
| Grapes Pruner                              | 1,250                             | \$ 7.35 or * \$ 0.11 - \$ 0.40/vine                                  |
| Pear Pruner                                | 412                               | \$ 7.01  |
| Apple Planter                              | 319                               | \$ 7.03  |
| Nectarine Pruner                           | 196                               | \$ 7.01  |
| Peach Pruner                               | 190                               | \$ 7.01  |
| Hops Worker                                | 151                               | Not Available  |
| Apple Trainer                              | 133                               | \$ 7.76  |
| Hops Planter                               | 103                               | \$ 7.06  |
| Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer                 | 57                                | \$ 7.50  |
| Hops Tractor Operator                      | 56                                | \$ 7.70  |
| Grapes Trainer                             | 53                                | \$ 7.32  |
| Apple Irrigator                            | 48                                | \$ 8.00  |
| Cherry Pruner                              | 42                                | \$ 7.10  |
| Silage Fertilizer Applicator               | 37                                | \$ 8.50  |
| Nectarine Hand Thinner                     | 36                                | \$ 7.01  |
| Hops Trainer                               | 36                                | \$ 7.88  |
| Cherry Planter                             | 35                                | \$ 8.00  |
| Field Corn Irrigator                       | 28                                | \$ 7.10  |
| Peach Hand Thinner                         | 24                                | \$ 7.01  |
| Apple Worker                               | 24                                | \$ 7.94  |
| Potato Planter                             | 18                                | \$ 7.01  |
| Asparagus Irrigator                        | 18                                | \$ 8.25  |
| Cherry Chemical Applicator                 | 13                                | \$ 8.00  |
| Apple Chemical Applicator                  | 13                                | \$ 7.88  |
| Hops Preparation                           | 11                                | \$ 7.01  |
| Misc Field Crops Weeder                    | 11                                | \$ 8.00  |
| Mint Tractor Operator                      | 9                                 | \$ 9.75  |
| Apple Vehicle Operator                     | 8                                 | \$12.00  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Worker                    | 8                                 | \$ 8.13  |
| Apple Tractor Operator                     | 8                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Grapes Tractor Operator                    | 4                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Misc Field Crops Tractor Operator          | 3                                 | \$ 9.00  |
| Hops Irrigator                             | 3                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| continued                                  |                                   |  |

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: APRIL 2004  
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>  |
| Spinach Sorter/Grader/Packer                      | 9                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Spinach Harvester                                 | 9                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Silage Tractor Operator                           | 9                                 | \$ 8.50  |
| Grapes Weeder                                     | 7                                 | \$ 7.01  |
| Potato Planter                                    | 7                                 | \$ 7.50  |
| Nursery Worker                                    | 7                                 | \$12.34  |
| Wheat Irrigator                                   | 7                                 | \$ 7.21  |
| Grapes Manager                                    | 5                                 | \$16.94  |
| General Farm Tractor Operator                     | 4                                 | \$ 7.75  |
| Contract Misc Crew Planter                        | 4                                 | \$ 7.40  |
| Misc Vegetables Worker                            | 3                                 | \$12.00  |
| Grapes Worker                                     | 3                                 | \$ 7.60  |
| General Farm Irrigator                            | 2                                 | \$ 7.75  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Manager                          | 2                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Nursery Mechanic                                  | 2                                 | \$10.35  |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 ..... \$ 7.41/hr (weighted average)

# DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: APRIL 2004

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 .....        | 5,260 |
| a. | Local .....  | 5,045 |
| b. | Intrastate migratory .....                         | 38    |
| c. | Interstate migratory .....                         | 15    |
| d. | Unknown .....                                      | 162   |
| e. | Foreign .....                                      | 0     |
| 2. | Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers |       |
| a. | Intrastate: Mattawa, Wenatchee, Yakima             |       |
| b. | Interstate: California                             |       |
| c. | Foreign: Mexico                                    |       |

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### SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

- Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The April 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 8,405.
  - Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
    - Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Spring planting was continuing. Irrigation was in full swing on pasture and hay ground. No crop damage was reported from the high winds of up to 65 miles per hour. Apple bloom was about 2 weeks earlier than normal. Primary agricultural activities were general apple work, asparagus harvest, apple pruning and apple planting.
    - Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in April averaged \$7.37 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for potato sorter/grader/packer, pear planter, pear irrigator 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.
    - Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:  
The labor force was estimated to be 95.9% local, 0.7% intrastate, 0.3% interstate, 3.1% foreign and 0.0% unknown.
    - Changes in production practices: None reported.
    - Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
-

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: APRIL 2004  
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> |
|   | TOTAL 5,260                       | * = piece rate   |
| Apple Hand Thinner                                | 2,456                             | Not Available  |
| Apple Planter                                     | 840                               | \$ 7.20  |
| Apple Trainer                                     | 820                               | \$ 7.21  |
| Grapes Trainer                                    | 390                               | Not Available  |
| Apple Pruner                                      | 154                               | \$ 7.35  |
| Apple Preparation                                 | 153                               | \$ 7.42  |
| Apple Worker                                      | 106                               | \$ 7.43  |
| Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer                        | 67                                | \$ 7.33  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Worker                           | 66                                | \$ 7.29  |
| Apple Chemical Applicator                         | 30                                | \$ 7.73  |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer                       | 25                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Pear Trainer                                      | 20                                | \$ 7.25  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Planter                          | 16                                | \$ 8.50  |
| Apple Irrigator                                   | 16                                | \$ 9.50  |
| Cherry Weeder                                     | 16                                | \$ 8.80  |
| Misc Hay Irrigator                                | 14                                | \$ 9.00  |
| Pear Preparation                                  | 12                                | \$ 7.50  |
| Pear Planter                                      | 8                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Apple Tractor Operator                            | 8                                 | \$ 8.50  |
| Misc Hay Worker                                   | 7                                 | \$ 9.00  |
| Misc Field Crops Worker                           | 7                                 | \$ 8.67  |
| Apple Grafter                                     | 4                                 | \$ 8.25  |
| Cherry Worker                                     | 4                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Pear Irrigator                                    | 4                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Pear Chemical Applicator                          | 4                                 | \$ 8.25  |
| Pear Fertilizer Applicator                        | 4                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Wheat Mechanic                                    | 2                                 | \$ 8.25  |
| Horse and Equines Worker                          | 2                                 | \$12.00  |
| Horse and Equines Trainer                         | 2                                 | \$22.00  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Vehicle Operator                 | 2                                 | \$ 8.28  |
| Apple Loader                                      | 1                                 | \$15.00  |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 ..... \$ 7.37/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: APRIL 2004

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 .....        | 3,363 |
| a. Local .....  | 3,046 |
| b. Intrastate migratory .....                         | 56    |
| c. Interstate migratory .....                         | 11    |
| d. Unknown .....                                      | 39    |
| e. Foreign .....                                      | 211   |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers |       |
| a. Intrastate: Sunnyside                              |       |
| b. Interstate: California                             |       |
| c. Foreign: Mexico                                    |       |

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The April 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 4,713.
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. High winds and erosion may require replanting of some fields. In spite of hot and dry conditions, winter wheat remained spotty but in fair to good condition. Additional moisture is badly needed to maintain the current crop condition. Sweet corn planting continued. Apple red - bloom was complete. Cherry bloom was heavy. Primary agricultural activities were general apple work, asparagus harvest, apple pruning and apple planting.
  - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in April averaged \$7.46 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for asparagus harvester, nursery planter, miscellaneous hay worker, cherry trainer, miscellaneous fruit trees planter, cherry planter, apple grafter, miscellaneous fruit trees trainer, miscellaneous fruit trees pruner, grapes planter, nursery chemical applicator, cherry irrigator, peach weeder, nectarine weeder, asparagus weeder, miscellaneous fruit trees grafter, mint preparer, carrot preparer and miscellaneous fruit trees irrigator to \$13.75 for potato manager. 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 90.5% local, 1.7% intrastate, 0.3% interstate 1.2% foreign and 6.3% 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: APRIL 2004  
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> |
|   | TOTAL 3,363                       | * = piece rate   |
| Apple Worker                                      | 459                               | \$ 7.27  |
| Asparagus Harvester                               | 432                               | \$ 7.16  |
| Apple Pruner                                      | 259                               | \$ 7.28  |
| Apple Planter                                     | 252                               | \$ 7.17  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Worker                           | 231                               | \$ 7.24  |
| Apple Trainer                                     | 151                               | \$ 7.26  |
| Potato Preparation                                | 121                               | \$ 8.00  |
| Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer                   | 118                               | \$ 7.18  |
| Apple Weeder                                      | 116                               | \$ 7.42  |
| Apple Chemical Applicator                         | 110                               | \$ 8.20  |
| Apple Hand Thinner                                | 78                                | \$ 7.45  |
| Apple Irrigator                                   | 70                                | \$ 7.44  |
| Nursery Planter                                   | 63                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Apple Preparation                                 | 58                                | \$ 7.50  |
| Misc Hay Worker                                   | 54                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Cherry Pruner                                     | 50                                | \$ 7.53  |
| Apple Suckering Worker                            | 50                                | \$ 7.71  |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer                       | 49                                | \$ 7.38  |
| Grass Seed Weeder                                 | 49                                | \$ 7.50  |
| Potato Tractor Operator                           | 44                                | \$ 8.81  |
| Cherry Trainer                                    | 41                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Potato Vehicle Operator                           | 41                                | \$ 9.67  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Planter                          | 38                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Potato Planter                                    | 37                                | \$ 8.59  |
| Cherry Planter                                    | 33                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Potato Worker                                     | 28                                | \$ 8.38  |
| Nectarine Hand Thinner                            | 25                                | \$ 7.45  |
| Apple Grafter                                     | 25                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Grapes Pruner                                     | 21                                | \$ 7.50  |
| Peach Hand Thinner                                | 21                                | \$ 7.45  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Trainer                          | 20                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Alfalfa Tractor Operator                          | 19                                | \$ 7.87  |
| Alfalfa Irrigator                                 | 14                                | \$ 8.50  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Pruner                           | 13                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Misc Grain & Seed Crops Tractor Operator          | 13                                | \$ 8.50  |
| Cherry Weeder                                     | 12                                | \$ 7.30  |

Area 4 (continued)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: APRIL 2004  
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>  |
| General Farm Worker                               | 12                                | \$ 8.83  |
| Potato Loader                                     | 10                                | \$ 9.00  |
| Potato Mechanic                                   | 10                                | \$ 9.33  |
| Grapes Planter                                    | 10                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Sweet Corn Tractor Operator                       | 9                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Mint Irrigator                                    | 9                                 | \$ 8.50  |
| Potato Manager                                    | 5                                 | \$13.75  |
| Misc Onion Forklift Driver                        | 5                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Wheat Irrigator                                   | 5                                 | \$ 7.75  |
| Wheat Worker                                      | 5                                 | \$10.00  |
| Nursery Chemical Applicator                       | 5                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Cherry Irrigator                                  | 5                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Field Corn Preparation                            | 5                                 | \$10.00  |
| Pear Chemical Applicator                          | 4                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Peach Weeder                                      | 4                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Tractor Operator                 | 4                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Apple Mechanic                                    | 4                                 | \$ 8.25  |
| Cherry Chemical Applicator                        | 4                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Nectarine Weeder                                  | 4                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Asparagus Weeder                                  | 4                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Misc Vegetables Worker                            | 4                                 | \$ 7.58  |
| Misc Grain & Seed Crops Vehicle Operator          | 2                                 | \$10.25  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Grafter                          | 2                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Misc Hay Tractor Operator                         | 2                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Mint Preparation                                  | 2                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Carrot Preparation                                | 2                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| General Farm Irrigator                            | 2                                 | \$ 7.35  |
| Wheat Tractor Operator                            | 2                                 | \$ 9.50  |
| Misc Vegetables Weeder                            | 2                                 | \$11.50  |
| Sweet Corn Planter                                | 2                                 | \$13.00  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Irrigator                        | 1                                 | \$ 7.16  |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 ..... \$ 7.46/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: APRIL 2004

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 .....        | 5,134 |
| a. Local .....  | 2,701 |
| b. Intrastate migratory .....                         | 27    |
| c. Interstate migratory .....                         | 980   |
| d. Unknown .....                                      | 682   |
| e. Foreign .....                                      | 782   |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers |       |
| a. Intrastate: Othello, Seattle                       |       |
| b. Interstate: California, Idaho, Oregon, Texas       |       |
| c. Foreign: Mexico                                    |       |

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The April 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,973.
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. Asparagus harvest continued. High winds had minimal effect on the fruit crops. The first cutting of alfalfa began. Planting of potatoes, carrots and sweet corn continued. Primary agricultural activities were asparagus harvesting, onion planting and grapes training.
  - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in April averaged \$7.34 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for asparagus harvester, miscellaneous onion planter, grapes trainer, grapes pruner, apple hand thinner, hops twiner, grapes planter, cherry sorter/grader/packer, grapes suckering worker, hops trainer, mint planter, strawberry weeder, pumpkin irrigator, apple grafter, asparagus worker, strawberry irrigator, apple proper, hops weeder, grapes mechanized harvester, hops irrigator, apple cultivator and apricot hand thinner to \$25.00 for wheat mechanic. Typical piece rates were: \$0.17 to \$0.27 per pound for asparagus 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 52.6% local, 0.5% intrastate, 19.1% interstate, 13.3% foreign and 14.5% 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: APRIL 2004

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> 5,134                | * = piece rate   |
| Asparagus Harvester                               | 2,295                             | \$ 7.16 or * \$ 0.17 - \$ 0.27 per lb                                |
| Misc Onion Planter                                | 358                               | \$ 7.16  |
| Walla Walla Sweets Planter                        | 303                               | \$ 7.20  |
| Grapes Trainer                                    | 291                               | \$ 7.25  |
| Grapes Pruner                                     | 224                               | \$ 7.16  |
| Apple Hand Thinner                                | 174                               | \$ 7.16  |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer                       | 142                               | \$ 7.53  |
| Potato Preparation                                | 129                               | \$ 7.28  |
| Hops Twiner                                       | 88                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Apple Pruner                                      | 87                                | \$ 7.27  |
| Apple Worker                                      | 78                                | \$ 7.31  |
| Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer                   | 70                                | \$ 7.17  |
| Cherry Pruner                                     | 55                                | \$ 7.90  |
| Grass Seed Weeder                                 | 55                                | \$ 7.39  |
| Grapes Planter                                    | 52                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Apple Trainer                                     | 51                                | \$ 7.27  |
| Apple Irrigator                                   | 47                                | \$ 7.24  |
| Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer                       | 39                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Walla Walla Sweets Preparation                    | 36                                | \$ 7.20  |
| Chicken Eggs Sorter/Grader/Packer                 | 31                                | \$ 7.65  |
| Grapes Suckering Worker                           | 30                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Grapes Tractor Operator                           | 29                                | \$ 7.61  |
| Apple Suckering Worker                            | 29                                | \$ 7.36  |
| Peach Hand Thinner                                | 26                                | \$ 7.39  |
| Nectarine Hand Thinner                            | 26                                | \$ 7.39  |
| Grass Seed Worker                                 | 22                                | \$ 7.30  |
| Grapes Worker                                     | 21                                | \$ 7.43  |
| Potato Tractor Operator                           | 20                                | \$10.50  |
| Hops Cultivator                                   | 20                                | \$ 7.19  |
| Hops Trainer                                      | 18                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Grapes Cultivator                                 | 18                                | \$ 7.18  |
| Apple Chemical Applicator                         | 17                                | \$ 7.74  |
| Mint Planter                                      | 16                                | \$ 7.16  |
| Potato Vehicle Operator                           | 15                                | \$ 9.20  |
| Grapes Weeder                                     | 14                                | \$ 7.30  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Weeder                           | 13                                | \$ 8.50  |

Area 5 (continued)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period:       APRIL 2004  
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>                      | <b>* = piece rate</b>  |
| Misc Fruit Trees Worker                           | 13                                | Not Available  |
| Wheat Worker                                      | 12                                | \$ 7.37  |
| Cherry Tractor Operator                           | 11                                | \$ 7.56  |
| Apricot Pruner                                    | 11                                | \$ 7.25  |
| Peach Pruner                                      | 10                                | \$ 7.24  |
| Strawberry Weeder                                 | 9                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Pumpkin Irrigator                                 | 9                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Apple Tractor Operator                            | 7                                 | \$ 7.60  |
| Cherry Trainer                                    | 7                                 | \$ 8.00  |
| Apple Grafter                                     | 7                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Alfalfa Irrigator                                 | 6                                 | \$ 8.50  |
| Wheat Tractor Operator                            | 6                                 | \$ 9.25  |
| Asparagus Worker                                  | 6                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Strawberry Irrigator                              | 6                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Apple Propper                                     | 5                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Field Corn Planter                                | 5                                 | \$ 9.45  |
| Hops Weeder                                       | 5                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Grapes Mechanized Harvester                       | 5                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Potato Cultivator                                 | 4                                 | \$ 8.50  |
| Potato Planter                                    | 3                                 | \$10.00  |
| Potato Worker                                     | 3                                 | \$ 9.50  |
| Grapes Irrigator                                  | 3                                 | \$ 7.38  |
| Hops Irrigator                                    | 3                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Misc Berries Tractor Operator                     | 3                                 | \$ 7.80  |
| Asparagus Manager                                 | 3                                 | Not Available  |
| Asparagus Vehicle Operator                        | 3                                 | \$ 7.88  |
| Apple Cultivator                                  | 3                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Hops Pruner                                       | 3                                 | \$ 7.40  |
| Misc Field Crops Irrigator                        | 3                                 | \$ 7.30  |
| Wheat Mechanic                                    | 3                                 | \$25.00  |
| Nursery Harvester                                 | 2                                 | \$ 7.70  |
| General Farm Worker                               | 2                                 | \$12.00  |
| Nursery Vehicle Operator                          | 2                                 | \$14.50  |
| Nursery Planter                                   | 2                                 | \$ 8.50  |
| Field Corn Preparation                            | 2                                 | \$10.00  |
| Misc Berries Irrigator                            | 2                                 | \$ 8.85  |

Area 5 (continued)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: APRIL 2004  
 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>                      | <b>* = piece rate</b>  |
| Apricot Hand Thinner                              | 2                                 | \$ 7.16  |
| Cherry Irrigator                                  | 2                                 | \$ 7.50  |
| Apple Manager                                     | 2                                 | \$10.10  |
| Grapes Manager                                    | 2                                 | \$10.10  |
| Wheat Planter                                     | 2                                 | \$ 9.17  |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
 PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 ..... \$ 7.34/hr (weighted average)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT**

Period: APRIL 2004

State: WASHINGTON

Area Name: **EASTERN** (Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, PendOreille, 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 .....        | 594 |
| a. Local .....  | 406 |
| b. Intrastate migratory .....                         | 0   |
| c. Interstate migratory .....                         | 13  |
| d. Unknown .....                                      | 52  |
| e. Foreign .....                                      | 123 |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers |     |
| a. Intrastate: None                                   |     |
| b. Interstate: Oregon                                 |     |
| c. Foreign: Mexico                                    |     |

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SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The April 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 1,227.
  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. Primary agricultural activities were general nursery work, nursery loading, wheat weeding and nursery harvesting.
    - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in April averaged \$7.87 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for nursery planter, nursery irrigator, apple pruner and cherry pruner to \$13.00 for beef cattle worker. 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 68.4% local, 0.0% intrastate, 2.2% interstate, 8.7% foreign and 20.7% 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: APRIL 2004

State: WASHINGTON

**Area 6: EASTERN (Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman 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 594                  | * = piece rate  |
| Nursery Worker                             | 231                        | \$ 7.28   |
| Nursery Loader                             | 86                         | \$ 7.61   |
| Wheat Weeder                               | 40                         | \$ 9.00   |
| Nursery Harvester                          | 40                         | \$ 8.50   |
| Nursery Planter                            | 40                         | \$ 7.16   |
| Nursery Irrigator                          | 26                         | \$ 7.16   |
| Wheat Tractor Operator                     | 17                         | \$ 9.00   |
| Nursery Vehicle Operator                   | 13                         | \$10.00   |
| Wheat Manager                              | 13                         | Not Available   |
| Misc Other Fruit Worker                    | 13                         | \$ 8.50   |
| Wheat Worker                               | 11                         | \$ 7.50   |
| Misc Fruit Trees Pruner                    | 7                          | \$ 8.00   |
| Apple Pruner                               | 7                          | \$ 7.16   |
| Cherry Pruner                              | 7                          | \$ 7.16   |
| Misc Other Fruit Cultivator                | 7                          | \$ 8.00   |
| Beef Cattle Worker                         | 7                          | \$13.00   |
| Wheat Chemical Applicator                  | 7                          | \$10.00   |
| Lentil Vehicle Operator                    | 6                          | \$ 8.00   |
| Misc Grain & Seed Crops Planter            | 6                          | \$ 9.25   |
| Wheat Planter                              | 6                          | \$ 9.25   |
| Misc Grain & Seed Crops Tractor Operator   | 6                          | \$10.00   |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS

EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG

PRODUCERS IN EASTERN AREA 6 ..... \$ 7.87/hr (weighted average)