



SEASONAL FARM LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

JANUARY 2004



Prepared by

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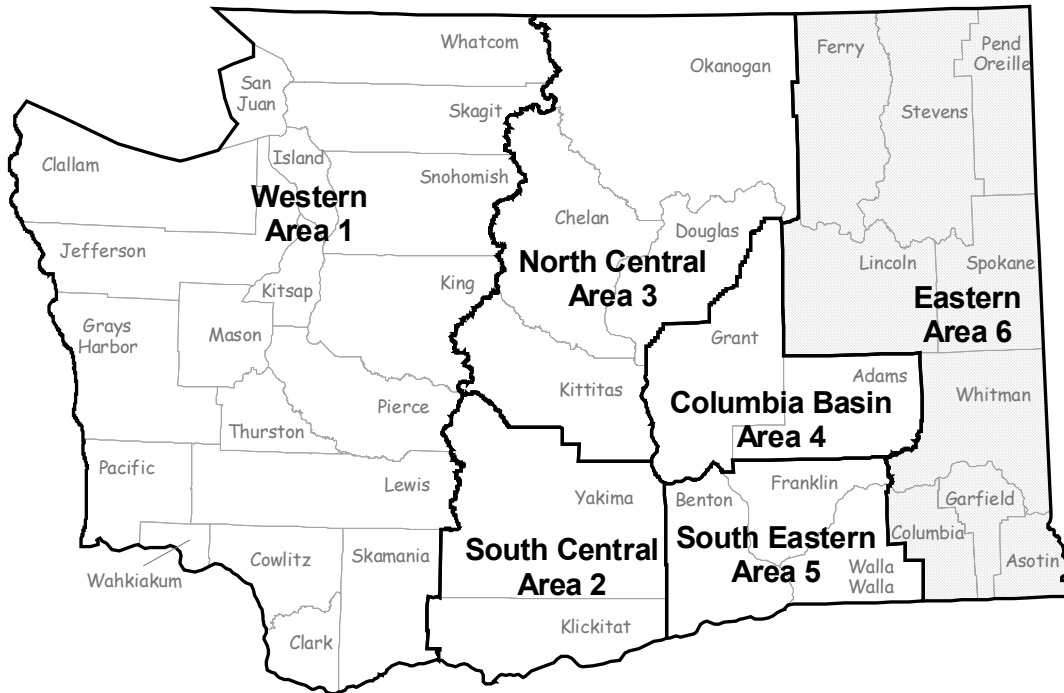
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Report available online at Workforce Explorer-Industry
<http://www.workforceexplorer.com>

JANUARY 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 barely nudged up by a small 0.1% from January 2003 to January 2004. This small increase was led by apple pruning. Crops contributing to an over-the-year increase were apple work (330), raspberry work (201), other tree fruit work (69), other seasonal work (57), bulb work (55), blueberry work (36), grape work (26), pear work (8) and cucumber work (7). Crops displaying declines were nursery work (-326), cherry work (-182), potato work (-129), onion work (-108), miscellaneous vegetables work (-18), hop work (-5) and wheat/grain work (-3). Across the state, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment contracted by 9.0%, led by a decline in nursery work (-300). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment declined by a larger 31.6%, due to a decrease in apple work (-837). North Central (Area 3) expanded by 66.1%, thanks to a large increase in apple work (908). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment shrank by 30.1% courtesy of a decline in onion work (-236). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment expanded by a huge 93.0% thanks to an increase in apple work (469). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment declined by a small 2.2% due to a decrease in wheat/grain work (-5).

ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

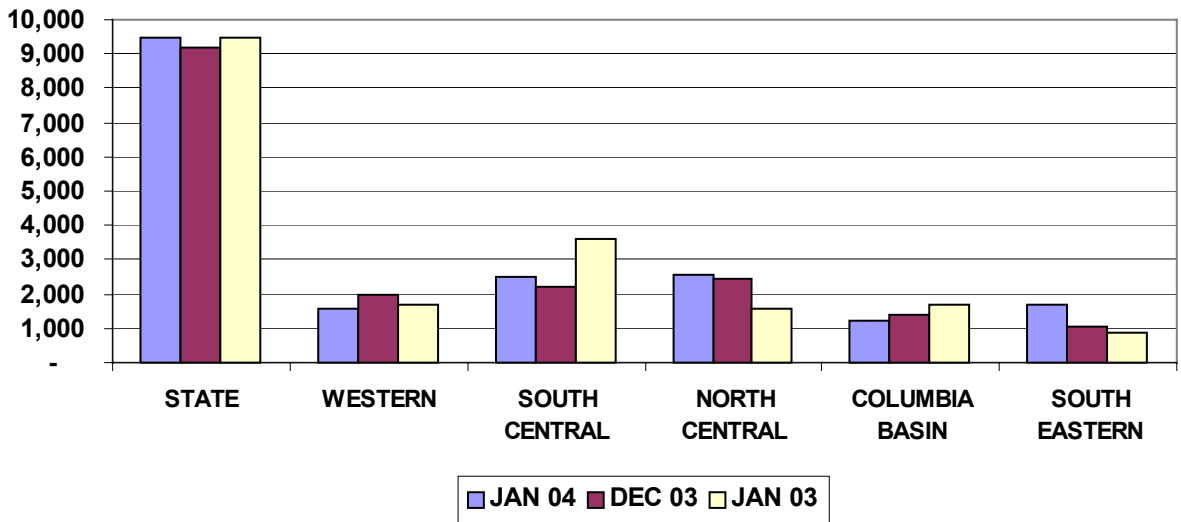
The U.S. Agricultural Department announced sweeping changes intended to keep mad cow disease out of the human food chain. The most significant change is banning all meat from so-called downer cows from entering the human food chain. Downer cows are those unable to walk unassisted to slaughter. Other new federal firewalls against disease include: (1) Creating a national animal identification system to improve tracking of cows from birth to grocery; (2) Prohibiting the sale of human consumption of brains, spinal cords, the lower small intestine and other central nervous-system tissue from cows more than 2 ½ years of age. Mad cow disease is more likely to afflict older cattle; (3) If a cow becomes sick or “downed” only after showing up at the slaughterhouse, the carcass would be held until tests for bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or BSE, are completed; (4) Banning a method of stunning, or killing, cattle with a pneumatic air gun at slaughter that results in internal bleeding into muscle meant for human consumption; and (5) Tougher controls on automated carcass stripping systems to prevent parts of the spinal cord from being shaved off into muscle meat.

Meatpacking plants from Minnesota to Texas and from Iowa to Idaho have since cut jobs because some of the “secondary” meats they produce—such as beef tongue and intestines—primarily go to international markets. Overall meat industry job losses connected to mad cow disease have been relatively few, mainly because domestic demand for steak and hamburger has remained strong. About 10 percent of U.S. beef is exported. Excel Corporation of Wichita, Kansas laid off 700 workers at five plants in Texas, Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska. Swift & Company cut 140 jobs in Colorado, Nebraska, Texas and Idaho. Slaughter cattle prices have dropped about 18 percent. The beef industry is the largest industry in Nebraska and more cattle are slaughtered there than in any other state.

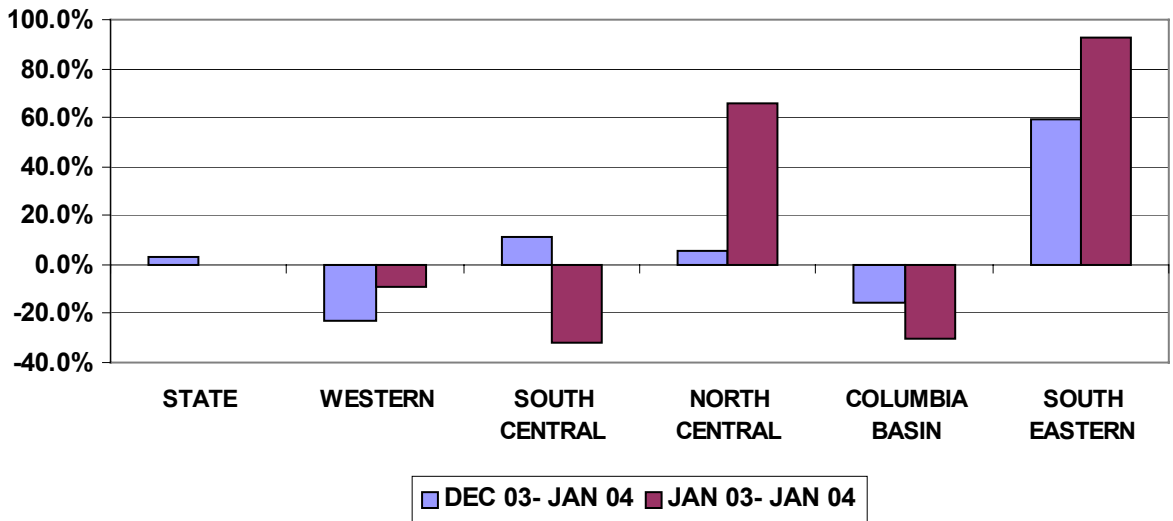
So far, 23 of 81 cows that came from Canada that included a Holstein infected with mad cow disease, have been found. Three of the cows were located at a facility in Tenino, Washington. 10 were found at the Mabton ranch. Six were at a facility in Connell. One was at a dairy in Quincy. Three were at a facility in Mattawa.

	SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT						
	<u>JAN 04</u>	<u>DEC 03</u>	<u>JAN 03</u>	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				<u>DEC 03- JAN 04</u>	<u>JAN 03- JAN 04</u>	<u>DEC 03- JAN 04</u>	<u>JAN 03- JAN 04</u>
STATE	9,503	9,186	9,489	317	14	3.5%	0.1%
WESTERN	1,544	2,001	1,697	(457)	(153)	-22.8%	-9.0%
SOUTH CENTRAL	2,482	2,237	3,627	245	(1,145)	11.0%	-31.6%
NORTH CENTRAL	2,569	2,436	1,547	133	1,022	5.5%	66.1%
COLUMBIA BASIN	1,192	1,417	1,706	(225)	(514)	-15.9%	-30.1%
SOUTH EASTERN	1,671	1,050	866	621	805	59.1%	93.0%
EASTERN	45	45	46	0	(1)	0.0%	-2.2%

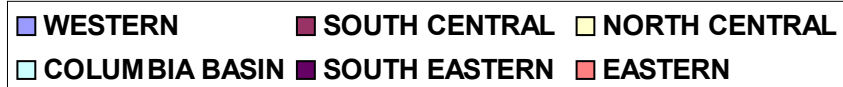
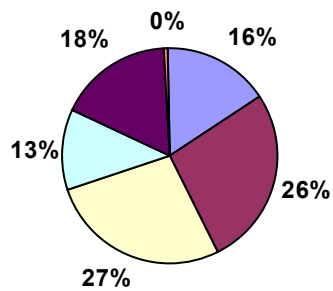
SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



CHANGE IN AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT JANUARY 2004



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment crept forward a meager 0.1% from January 2003 to January 2004. However, statewide seasonal employment grew by 3.5% from December 2003 to January 2004. The crop activity exhibiting the highest gain in employment from January 2003 to January 2004 was apple work (330). Nursery work showed the greatest decline in employment (-326) for that same time period. Apple work expanded by the most workers (1,127) from December 2003 to January 2004. During that same time period, potato work lost the largest number of jobs (-482). The statewide weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2004 was \$7.33 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE	CHANGE			PERCENT CHANGE			
	JAN 04	DEC 03	JAN 03	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04
CROP	JAN 04	DEC 03	JAN 03	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04
Apples	5,529	4,402	5,199	1,127	330	25.6%	6.3%
Blueberry	73	25	37	48	36	192.0%	97.3%
Bulb	112	63	57	49	55	77.8%	96.5%
Cherries	314	140	496	174	(182)	124.3%	-36.7%
Cucumbers	7	0	0	7	7	0.0%	0.0%
Grapes	712	776	686	(64)	26	-8.2%	3.8%
Hop	0	5	5	(5)	(5)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Misc Vegetables	39	115	57	(76)	(18)	-66.1%	-31.6%
Nursery	656	1,056	982	(400)	(326)	-37.9%	-33.2%
Onion	377	379	485	(2)	(108)	-0.5%	-22.3%
Other Seasonal	212	338	155	(126)	57	-37.3%	36.8%
Other Tree Fruit	234	80	165	154	69	192.5%	41.8%
Pears	472	589	464	(117)	8	-19.9%	1.7%
Potato	171	653	300	(482)	(129)	-73.8%	-43.0%
Raspberry	579	519	378	60	201	11.6%	53.2%
Wheat/Grain	20	45	23	(25)	(3)	-55.6%	-13.0%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) over-the-year seasonal employment declined by 9.0% from January 2003 to January 2004. This was exceeded by a much larger decline in seasonal employment of 22.8% from December 2003 to January 2004. Raspberry work (sorting/grading/packing/pruning of plants) was the crop activity displaying the largest increase (201) in employment from January 2003 to January 2004. Nursery work experienced the greatest decline (-300) in employment for that same time period. Raspberry work posted the largest upturn in employment (60) from December 2003 to January 2003. Potato work shrunk by the greatest amount (-351) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2004 in Area 1 was \$7.25 per hour. (See pages 1 - 2 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**

WESTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JAN 04	DEC 03	JAN 03	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04
CROP							
Blueberry	73	25	37	48	36	192.0%	97.3%
Bulb	112	63	57	49	55	77.8%	96.5%
Cucumbers	7	0	0	7	7	0.0%	0.0%
Misc Vegetables	5	34	15	(29)	(10)	-85.3%	-66.7%
Nursery	596	901	896	(305)	(300)	-33.9%	-33.5%
Other Seasonal	51	8	12	43	39	537.5%	325.0%
Potato	102	453	279	(351)	(177)	-77.5%	-63.4%
Raspberry	579	519	378	60	201	11.6%	53.2%
Rhubarb	22	0	23	22	(1)	0.0%	-4.3%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment contracted by 31.6% from January 2003 to January 2004. This was contrasted by an increase of 11.0% from December 2003 to January 2004. Other tree fruit work was the crop activity experiencing the largest growth (71) in employment from January 2003 to January 2004. Apple work fell by the largest amount (-837) for that same time period. The largest over-the-month growth in employment from December 2003 to January 2004 was apple work (497). Pear work displayed the greatest loss in employment (-270) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2004 in Area 2 was \$7.58 per hour. (See pages 3 - 4 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

SOUTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JAN 04	DEC 03	JAN 03	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04
CROP							
Apples	1,640	1,143	2,477	497	(837)	43.5%	-33.8%
Cherries	58	8	266	50	(208)	625.0%	-78.2%
Grapes	357	471	453	(114)	(96)	-24.2%	-21.2%
Hop	0	5	0	(5)	0	-100.0%	0.0%
Misc Vegetables	12	81	19	(69)	(7)	-85.2%	-36.8%
Other Seasonal	0	0	12	0	(12)	0.0%	-100.0%
Other Tree Fruit	156	0	85	156	71	0.0%	83.5%
Pears	259	529	315	(270)	(56)	-51.0%	-17.8%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment exhibited an over-the-year net gain of 66.1% from January 2003 to January 2004. This was contrasted by a much weaker gain of 5.5% in employment in January 2004 over December 2003. The crop activity gaining the largest amount of employment from January 2003 to January 2004 was apple work (908). Cherry work lagged by the largest amount (-51) of employment for that same time period. Pear work added the most employment (108) from December 2003 to January 2004. Other tree fruit work had the largest decline in employment (-15) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2004 in Area 3 was \$7.30 per hour. (See pages 5 - 6 for Area 3 detail)

AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
NORTH CENTRAL	CHANGE				PERCENT CHANGE		
	JAN 04	DEC 03	JAN 03	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04
CROP							
Apples	2,259	2,226	1,351	33	908	1.5%	67.2%
Cherries	56	68	107	(12)	(51)	-17.6%	-47.7%
Other Seasonal	67	47	6	20	61	42.6%	1016.7%
Other Tree Fruit	53	68	28	(15)	25	-22.1%	89.3%
Pears	135	27	55	108	80	400.0%	145.5%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment fell 30.1% from January 2003 to January 2004. This was paralleled by a similar though smaller loss of 15.9% in employment from December 2003 to January 2004. Potato work expanded by the largest amount (48) in employment from January 2003 to January 2004. Onion work contracted by the largest (-236) employment during that same time period. Pear work grew the most (45) in employment from December 2003 to January 2004. Onion work netted the largest over-the-month loss (-94) in employment during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2004 in Area 4 was \$7.37 per hour. (See pages 7 - 8 for Area 4 detail)

AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
COLUMBIA BASIN	CHANGE				PERCENT CHANGE		
	JAN 04	DEC 03	JAN 03	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04
CROP							
Apples	874	882	1,084	(8)	(210)	-0.9%	-19.4%
Cherries	29	23	19	6	10	26.1%	52.6%
Nursery	54	136	83	(82)	(29)	-60.3%	-34.9%
Onion	87	181	323	(94)	(236)	-51.9%	-73.1%
Other Seasonal	2	17	82	(15)	(80)	-88.2%	-97.6%
Pears	78	33	94	45	(16)	136.4%	-17.0%
Potato	69	145	21	(76)	48	-52.4%	228.6%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment ramped up by 93.0% from January 2003 to January 2004. January 2004 employment also charged ahead by 59.1% over December 2003. Apple work employment expanded by the greatest amount (469) from January 2003 to January 2004. Other tree fruit work lost the most (-27) in employment during that same time period. Apple work propelled up by the largest amount (605) of employment from December 2003 to January 2004. Other seasonal work retreated by the largest (-207) employment for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2004 in Area 5 was \$7.30 per hour. (See pages 9 - 10 for Area 5 detail)

AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH EASTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JAN 04	DEC 03	JAN 03	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04	DEC 03- JAN 04	JAN 03- JAN 04
CROP							
Apples	756	151	287	605	469	400.7%	163.4%
Cherries	171	41	104	130	67	317.1%	64.4%
Grapes	355	305	233	50	122	16.4%	52.4%
Hops	0	0	5	0	(5)	0.0%	-100.0%
Nursery	0	7	0	(7)	0	-100.0%	0.0%
Onion	290	198	162	92	128	46.5%	79.0%
Other Seasonal	59	266	11	(207)	48	-77.8%	436.4%
Other Tree Fruit	25	12	52	13	(27)	108.3%	-51.9%
Potato	0	55	0	(55)	0	-100.0%	0.0%
Wheat/Grain	14	12	12	2	2	16.7%	16.7%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

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

Methodology

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

Related Ag Links:

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

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

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Washington State Employment Security, Labor Market and Economic Analysis

FARM LABOR ABSTRACT JANUARY 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: 1,544 (1,153 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate, 56 foreign, 335 unknown origin)

Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	328	\$ 7.28/hr
Raspberry Worker	314	\$ 7.16/hr
Raspberry Pruner	225	Not Available
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	96	\$ 7.16/hr

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,482 (1,454 local, 213 intrastate, 223 interstate, 535 foreign, 57 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	1,532	\$ 7.39/hr or \$ 0.31 - \$ 5.00 per tree
Grapes Pruner	348	\$ 7.16/hr or \$ 0.10 - \$ 0.28½ per plant
Pear Pruner	259	\$ 0.50 - \$ 5.00 per tree
Peach Pruner	156	Not Available

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,569 (2,523 local, 42 intrastate, 0 interstate, 4 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	2,187	\$ 7.25/hr
Pear Sorter/Grader/Packer	98	\$ 7.57/hr
Cherry Pruner	56	\$ 8.80/hr
Apple Trainer	46	\$ 7.25/hr

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 1,192 (1,073 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate, 119 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	859	\$ 7.45/hr or \$ 0.45 - \$ 3.00 per tree
Pear Pruner	78	\$ 7.50/hr
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	77	\$ 7.16/hr
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	49	\$ 7.16/hr

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 1,671 (1,284 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate, 387 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	756	\$ 7.20/hr or \$ 0.50 - \$ 2.75 per tree
Grapes Pruner	348	\$ 7.23/hr or \$ 0.50 - \$ 2.75 per plant
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	290	\$ 7.16/hr
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	99	\$ 7.16/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 45 (45 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate, 0 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	19	\$ 7.24/hr
Wheat Vehicle Operator	6	\$10.00/hr
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Vehicle Operator	6	\$11.50/hr
Beef Cattle Worker	4	\$11.50/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
JANUARY 2004

TABLE 1

JANUARY 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	1,153	0	0	56	335	1,544
2. South Central	1,454	213	223	535	57	2,482
3. North Central	2,523	42	0	4	0	2,569
4. Columbia Basin	1,073	0	0	119	0	1,192
5. South Eastern	1,284	0	0	387	0	1,671
6. Eastern	45	0	0	0	0	45
State Totals	7,532	254	223	1,102	392	9,503
% State Total	79.3%	2.7%	2.3%	11.6%	4.1%	100%

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 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)

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers	1,544
a. Local	1,153
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	0
d. Unknown	56
e. Foreign	335
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: None	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
 The January 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 6,880.

 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
 Weather conditions were colder and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Primary agricultural activities were nursery warehouse work, raspberry sorting/grading/packing of plants and raspberry pruning.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
 The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.25 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for raspberry sorter/grader/packer, potato sorter/grader/packer, bulbs sorter/grader/packer, raspberry worker, nursery harvester, nursery pruner, blueberry pruner, blueberry trainer, raspberry planter, raspberry trainer, bulbs planter, bulbs harvester, cucumber sorter/grader/packer and nursery preparer to \$15.00 for miscellaneous vegetables worker. No piece rates were reported. Housing was limited.

 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
 The labor force was estimated at 74.7% local, 0.0% intrastate, 0.0% interstate, foreign 3.3% and 21.7% 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: JANUARY 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 1,544	* = piece rate
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	328	\$ 7.28
Raspberry Worker	314	\$ 7.16
Raspberry Pruner	225	Not Available
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	96	\$ 7.16
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	90	\$ 7.16
Nursery Planter	76	\$ 7.30
Nursery Harvester	71	\$ 7.16
Nursery Worker	66	\$ 7.21
Nursery Pruner	52	\$ 7.16
Blueberry Pruner	44	\$ 7.16
Dairy Worker	43	Not Available
Blueberry Trainer	29	\$ 7.16
Rhubarb Harvester	22	\$ 7.37
Raspberry Planter	20	\$ 7.16
Raspberry Trainer	20	\$ 7.16
Bulbs Planter	14	\$ 7.16
Bulbs Harvester	8	\$ 7.16
Cucumber Sorter/Grader/Packer	5	\$ 7.16
Misc Field Crops Weeder	5	\$ 9.50
Misc Vegetables Worker	5	\$15.00
Pear Pruner	3	Not Available
Nursery Preparation	3	\$ 7.16
Potato Worker	3	\$11.50
Potato Mechanized Harvester	3	\$ 9.00
Cucumber Mechanic	2	\$10.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 \$ 7.25/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2004

State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers	2,482
a. Local	1,454
b. Intrastate migratory	213
c. Interstate migratory	223
d. Unknown	535
e. Foreign	57
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Mattawa, Mesa, Othello, Sunnyside, Wenatchee	
b. Interstate: California, Oregon	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The January 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 11,710.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were colder and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Primary agricultural activities were apple, grapes, pear and peach pruning.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.58 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for grapes pruner and miscellaneous vegetables worker to \$10.96 for apple worker. Typical piece rates were: \$0.31 to \$5.00 per tree for apple pruning, \$0.10 to \$0.28½ per plant for grapes pruning, \$0.50 to \$5.00 per tree for pear pruning and \$2.75 to \$5.00 per tree for cherry pruning. Housing was limited; workers provided their own transportation.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 58.6% local, 8.6% intrastate, 9.0% interstate, foreign 21.5% and unknown 2.3%.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
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DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2004
State: WASHINGTON

Area 2: SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL 2,482	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	1,532	\$ 7.39 or * \$ 0.31 - \$ 5.00 per tree
Grapes Pruner	348	\$ 7.16 or * \$ 0.10 - \$ 0.28½ per plant
Pear Pruner	259	* \$ 0.50 - \$ 5.00 per tree
Peach Pruner	156	Not Available
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	73	\$ 7.87
Cherry Pruner	58	\$ 7.50 or * \$ 2.75 - \$ 5.00 per tree
Apple Forklift Driver	15	\$ 8.00
Misc Vegetables Worker	12	\$ 7.16
Apple Worker	10	\$10.96
Apple Vehicle Operator	10	\$10.00
Grapes Worker	9	\$10.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 7.58/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

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

Period: JANUARY 2004
State: WASHINGTON

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

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

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

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

Period: JANUARY 2004
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL	2,569
		* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	2,187	\$ 7.25
Pear Sorter/Grader/Packer	98	\$ 7.57
Cherry Pruner	56	\$ 8.80
Apple Trainer	46	\$ 7.25
Nursery Worker	44	\$ 7.17
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	40	\$ 7.16
Pear Pruner	37	\$ 7.42
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	19	\$ 7.39
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	19	\$ 7.29
Misc Fruit Trees Sorter/Grader/Packer	11	\$ 7.16
Apple Weeder	5	\$ 7.16
Misc Field Crops Worker	2	\$12.00
Misc Hay Mechanic	2	\$ 9.00
Misc Fruit Trees Mechanic	2	\$ 7.16
Apple Worker	1	\$ 8.00
Apple Loader	1	\$12.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.30/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

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

Period: JANUARY 2004

State: WASHINGTON

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

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

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The January 2003 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 4,875.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, miscellaneous onion warehouse work, miscellaneous grain and seed crops warehouse work and pear pruning.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.17 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.01 for miscellaneous grain & seed crops sorter/grader/packer, nursery sorter/grader/packer, cherry pruner, cherry weeder and nursery worker to \$11.00 for potato vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$0.50 to \$1.50 per tree for apple pruning. Low cost housing was limited and in short supply. Transportation was provided by the workers.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 91.6% local, 0.0% intrastate and 8.4% interstate.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
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DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2004
State: WASHINGTON

Area 4: COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL 1,192	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	859	\$ 7.45 or * \$ 0.45 - \$ 3.00 per tree
Pear Pruner	78	\$ 7.50
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	77	\$ 7.16
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	49	\$ 7.16
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	48	\$ 7.16
Cherry Pruner	26	\$ 7.16
Apple Worker	9	\$ 8.50
Potato Forklift Driver	6	\$ 7.75
Nursery Worker	6	\$ 7.26
Potato Pruner	4	\$ 7.50
Potato Worker	4	\$ 8.00
Potato Mechanic	4	\$ 8.25
Misc Onion Forklift Driver	4	\$ 8.00
Misc Onion Loader	4	\$ 8.00
Apple Manager	3	\$ 8.00
Cherry Worker	3	\$ 8.00
Apple Mechanic	3	\$ 9.00
General Farm Worker	2	\$ 7.50
Potato Vehicle Operator	2	\$ 9.00
Misc Onion Vehicle Operator	2	\$ 8.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 7.37/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 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	1,671
a. Local	1,284
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	0
d. Unknown	387
e. Foreign	0
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: None	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The January 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 6,377.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were colder and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, grapes pruning and miscellaneous onion and cherry warehouse work.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.30 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.14 for cherry pruner to \$15.00 for wheat vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$0.22 to \$0.30 per plant for grape pruning and \$0.50 to \$2.75 per tree for apple pruning. Housing was limited; transportation was provided by the workers.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 76.8% local, 0.0% intrastate, 23.2% interstate 23.2% foreign and 0.0% 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: JANUARY 2004
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL	1,671
		* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	756	\$ 7.20 or * \$ 0.50 - \$ 2.75 per tree
Grapes Pruner	348	\$ 7.23 or * \$ 0.22 - \$ 0.30 per plant
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	290	\$ 7.16
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	99	\$ 7.16
Cherry Pruner	72	\$ 7.14
Chicken Eggs Sorter/Grader/Packer	28	\$ 7.60
General Farm Pruner	24	\$ 8.50
Peach Pruner	10	\$ 7.20
Misc Fruit Trees Pruner	10	\$ 7.20
Wheat Vehicle Operator	7	\$15.00
Wheat Worker	7	Not Available
Grapes Mechanic	7	\$12.00
Alfalfa Worker	5	\$ 9.00
Pear Pruner	5	Not Available
General Farm Manager	2	\$13.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 7.30/hr (weighted average)