



SEASONAL FARM LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

JULY 2004



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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Statewide seasonal employment declined by 10.7% from July 2003 to July 2004. This decrease was due to post season drop in cherry harvest employment. Agricultural employment contributing to over-the-year increases were apple work (2,216), grape work (905), miscellaneous vegetables work (571), bulb work (409) and blueberry work (133). Activities displaying declines were strawberry work (-3,487), cherry work (-2,904), raspberry work (-1,016), onion work (-547), pear work (-447), potato work (-435), nursery work (-335), cucumber work (-296), other seasonal work (-247), other tree fruit work (-210), asparagus work (-150), and wheat/grain work (-128). Across the state, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment declined by 10.7%, due to a decrease in strawberry work (-3,190). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment decreased by a large 47.8%, courtesy of a large decline in cherry work (-3,969). North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment expanded by 4.5%, thanks to an increase in cherry work (678). Columbia Basin (Area 4) inched up by a small 0.9%, caused by an increase in cherry work (764). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment contracted by 6.2%, helped by a decline in onion work (-477). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment dipped by a large 35.7%, caused by a decline in wheat/grain work (-175).

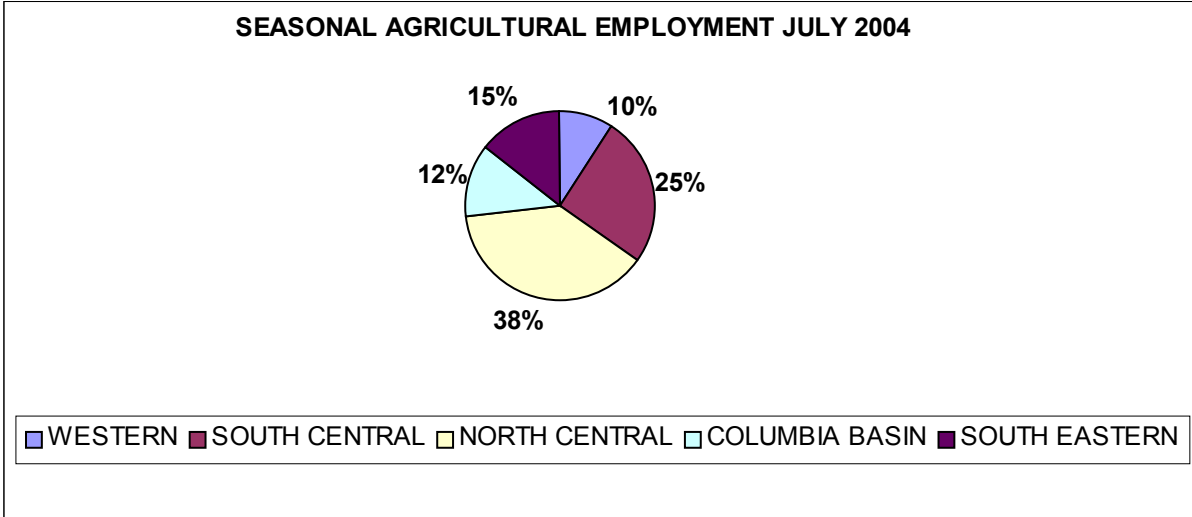
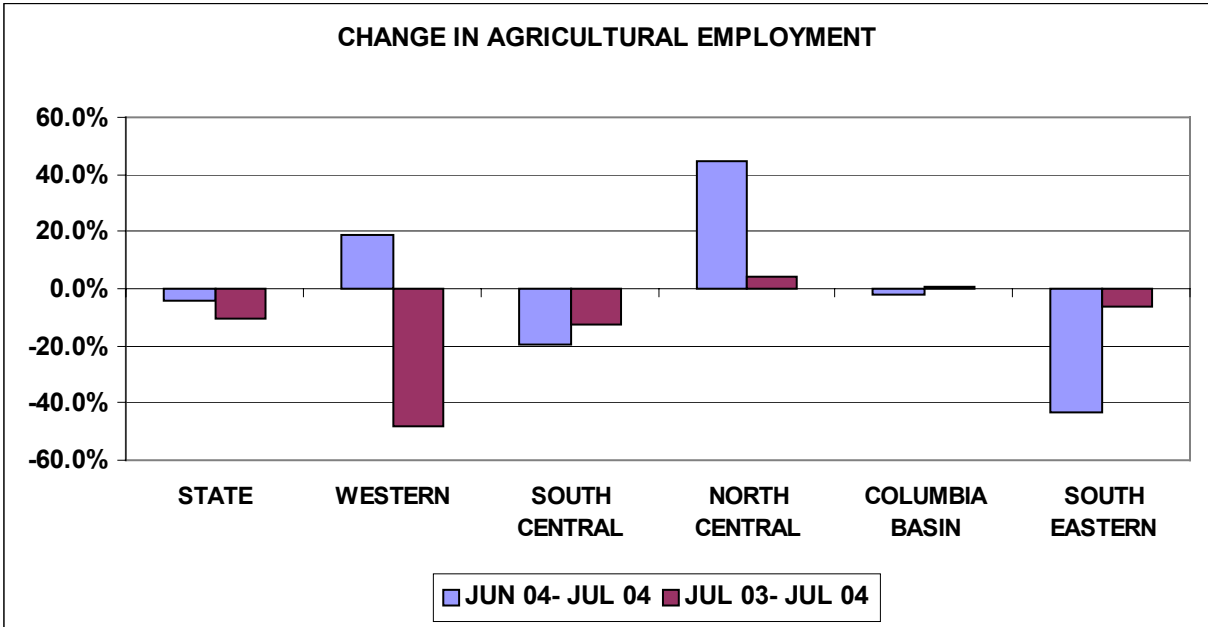
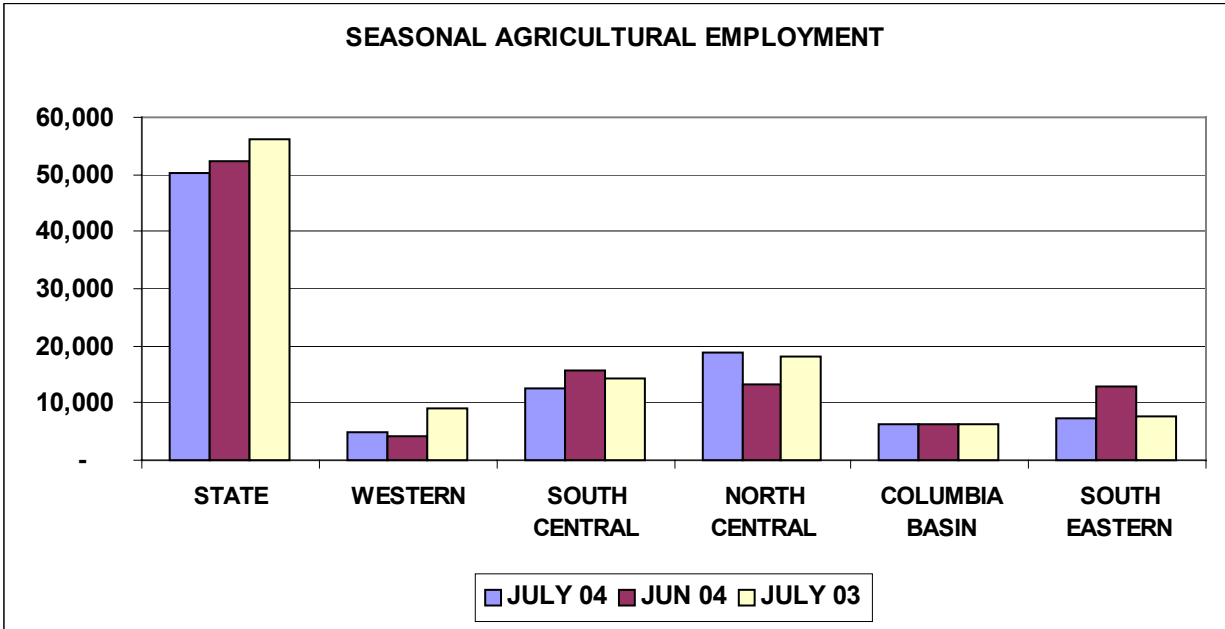
ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

The United States is seeking authorization from the World Trade Organization to impose \$143.4 million in trade sanctions against Japan over restrictions that Japan has placed on imports of U.S. apples. Japan said it imposed the restrictions to prevent fire blight from reaching that country. Fire blight is a bacterial disease found in the United States that can reduce yields and kill trees. But a WTO trade panel ruled last year that the Japanese restrictions were illegal after the United States argued that the disease could not be carried on mature, symptomless apples, which are the only types allowed for export. Washington apple industry leaders worked hard for years to open Japan to apple exports and had built the export level up to more than 500,000 boxes of apples. The industry had hoped the amount would grow, but over the past several years it has dwindled to fewer than 15,000 boxes because Japan imposed fire blight restrictions.

Scientists in California have discovered the protein link to mad cow disease. They have created the first synthetic version of a rogue protein called a prion and used it to give mice a brain-destroying infection. This is evidence important to settling any lingering doubt these mysterious substances alone cause mad cow disease and similar illnesses. If the work is ultimately validated, it could have far-reaching implications—such as helping to create diagnostic tests for mad cow disease. It also could help explain why normal brain proteins suddenly go bad and sicken some people who've never eaten mad cow-tainted food.

Meetings with senior agriculture officials in the Mexican government during Governor Locke's mission in June proved timely. The Mexican government has announced that it has reinstated suspended Washington state shippers for the new shipping season. Pest concerns have held up shipments from seven Washington potato sheds since the market opened in April 2003.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
	<u>JULY 04</u>	<u>JUN 04</u>	<u>JULY 03</u>	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				<u>JUN 04-</u> <u>JUL 04</u>	<u>JUL 03-</u> <u>JUL 04</u>	<u>JUN 04-</u> <u>JUL 04</u>	<u>JUL 03-</u> <u>JUL 04</u>
STATE	50,218	52,236	56,254	(2,018)	(6,036)	-3.9%	-10.7%
WESTERN	4,763	4,016	9,128	747	(4,365)	18.6%	-47.8%
SOUTH CENTRAL	12,590	15,585	14,420	(2,995)	(1,830)	-19.2%	-12.7%
NORTH CENTRAL	18,976	13,102	18,155	5,874	821	44.8%	4.5%
COLUMBIA BASIN	6,213	6,362	6,160	(149)	53	-2.3%	0.9%
SOUTH EASTERN	7,256	12,764	7,738	(5,508)	(482)	-43.2%	-6.2%
EASTERN	420	407	653	13	(233)	3.2%	-35.7%



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment contracted by 10.7% from July 2003 to July 2004. Seasonal employment also declined statewide by 3.9% from June 2004 to July 2004. The crop activity growing by the largest amount of employment from July 2003 to July 2004 was apple work (2,216). Strawberry work had the largest downturn in employment (-3,487) for that same time period. Apple work grew by the largest number of jobs (5,120) from June 2004 to July 2004. During that same time period, cherry work reported the largest downturn in employment (-5,736). The statewide weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2004 was \$7.40 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE	CHANGE			PERCENT CHANGE			
CROP	JUL 04	JUN 04	JUL 03	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04
Apples	20,765	15,645	18,549	5,120	2,216	32.7%	11.9%
Asparagus	226	4,071	376	(3,845)	(150)	-94.4%	-39.9%
Blueberry	366	166	233	200	133	120.5%	57.1%
Bulb	810	75	401	735	409	980.0%	102.0%
Cherries	15,883	21,619	18,787	(5,736)	(2,904)	-26.5%	-15.5%
Cucumbers	0	12	296	(12)	(296)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Grapes	2,138	1,605	1,233	533	905	33.2%	73.4%
Hop	92	156	149	(64)	(57)	-41.0%	-38.3%
Misc Vegetables	2,634	1,385	2,063	1,249	571	90.2%	27.7%
Nursery	1,120	1,474	1,455	(354)	(335)	-24.0%	-23.0%
Onion	425	704	972	(279)	(547)	-39.6%	-56.3%
Other Seasonal	1,780	1,469	2,027	311	(247)	21.2%	-12.2%
Other Tree Fruit	759	105	969	654	(210)	622.9%	-21.7%
Pears	172	523	619	(351)	(447)	-67.1%	-72.2%
Potato	907	625	1,342	282	(435)	45.1%	-32.4%
Raspberry	1,671	845	2,687	826	(1,016)	97.8%	-37.8%
Strawberry	149	1,652	3,636	(1,503)	(3,487)	-91.0%	-95.9%
Wheat/Grain	332	109	460	223	(128)	204.6%	-27.8%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment fell by 47.8% from July 2003 to July 2004. This trend was reversed by an 18.6% climb in seasonal employment from June 2004 to July 2004. Bulb work was the crop activity growing the most (409) in employment from July 2003 to July 2004. Strawberry work experienced the largest over-the-year loss (-3,190) in employment for that same time period. Raspberry work advanced by the largest employment (826) from June 2004 to July 2004. Strawberry work scaled back the most in employment (-1,330) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2004 in Area 1 was \$7.31 per hour. (See pages 14 - 16 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
WESTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 04	JUN 04	JUL 03	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04
CROP							
Blueberry	366	166	233	200	133	120.5%	57.1%
Bulb	810	75	401	735	409	980.0%	102.0%
Cucumbers	0	12	296	(12)	(296)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Misc Vegetables	698	125	435	573	263	458.4%	60.5%
Nursery	819	978	1,298	(159)	(479)	-16.3%	-36.9%
Other Seasonal	172	116	256	56	(84)	48.3%	-32.8%
Potato	53	67	67	(14)	(14)	-20.9%	-20.9%
Raspberry	1,671	845	2,687	826	(1,016)	97.8%	-37.8%
Rhubarb	25	148	116	(123)	(91)	-83.1%	-78.4%
Strawberry	149	1,479	3,339	(1,330)	(3,190)	-89.9%	-95.5%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment slowed by 12.7% from July 2003 to July 2004. This was trumped by a larger decrease of 19.2% from June 2004 to July 2004. Apple work was the crop activity displaying the largest uptick in employment (1,633) from July 2003 to July 2004. Cherry work softened by the largest number of jobs (-3,969) for that same time period. Apple work (1,070) displayed the largest expansion in seasonal crop employment from June 2004 to July 2004. Cherry work slipped by the largest amount of employment (-4,018) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2004 in Area 2 was \$7.34 per hour. (See pages 17 - 19 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 04	JUN 04	JUL 03	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04
CROP							
Apples	7,140	6,070	5,507	1,070	1,633	17.6%	29.7%
Asparagus	205	1,212	362	(1,007)	(157)	-83.1%	-43.4%
Cherries	2,207	6,225	6,176	(4,018)	(3,969)	-64.5%	-64.3%
Grapes	1,350	979	360	371	990	37.9%	275.0%
Hop	0	95	137	(95)	(137)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Misc Vegetables	339	194	505	145	(166)	74.7%	-32.9%
Onion	50	0	74	50	(24)	0.0%	-32.4%
Other Seasonal	612	398	348	214	264	53.8%	75.9%
Other Tree Fruit	440	0	310	440	130	0.0%	41.9%
Pears	139	411	418	(272)	(279)	-66.2%	-66.7%
Potato	108	0	223	0	(115)	0.0%	-51.6%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment advanced by 4.5% from July 2003 to July 2004. This was dwarfed by a 44.8% increase in seasonal employment from June 2004 to July 2004. The crop expanding the most in employment from July 2003 to July 2004 was cherry work (678). Pear work displayed the greatest downturn in employment (-137) for that same time period. Apple work leaped ahead by the largest amount of employment (4,292) from June 2004 to July 2004. Pear work shed the most jobs (-92) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2004 in Area 3 was \$7.42 per hour. (See pages 20 and 21 for Area 3 detail)

AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
NORTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 04	JUN 04	JUL 03	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04
CROP							
Apples	7,308	3,016	7,037	4,292	271	142.3%	3.9%
Cherries	11,418	9,789	10,740	1,629	678	16.6%	6.3%
Other Seasonal	67	105	65	(38)	2	-36.2%	3.1%
Other Tree Fruit	167	90	163	77	4	85.6%	2.5%
Pears	13	105	150	(92)	(137)	-87.6%	-91.3%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment inched up by 0.9% from July 2003 to July 2004. This was reversed by a small loss of 2.3% in employment from June 2004 to July 2004. Cherry work increased by the greatest amount (764) of employment from July 2003 to July 2004. Other seasonal work pulled back by largest number (-479) of jobs during that same time period. Miscellaneous vegetables work advanced by the largest (170) amount of employment from June 2004 to July 2004. Apple work displayed the largest downturn (-187) in employment during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2004 in Area 4 was \$7.44 per hour. (See pages 22 - 24 for Area 4 detail)

AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
COLUMBIA BASIN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 04	JUN 04	JUL 03	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04
CROP							
Apples	2,665	2,852	2,957	(187)	(292)	-6.6%	-9.9%
Asparagus	21	88	14	(67)	7	-76.1%	50.0%
Cherries	1,941	2,051	1,177	(110)	764	-5.4%	64.9%
Mint	16	2	7	14	9	700.0%	128.6%
Misc Vegetables	452	282	220	170	232	60.3%	105.5%
Nursery	236	339	92	(103)	144	-30.4%	156.5%
Onion	68	0	114	68	(46)	0.0%	-40.4%
Other Seasonal	315	371	794	(56)	(479)	-15.1%	-60.3%
Other Tree Fruit	33	0	119	33	0	0.0%	0.0%
Pears	20	7	51	13	(31)	185.7%	-60.8%
Potato	402	352	550	50	(148)	14.2%	-26.9%
Wheat/Grain	52	20	65	32	(13)	160.0%	-20.0%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment slowed by 6.2% from July 2003 to July 2004. However, July 2004 employment scaled back by a huge 43.2% over June 2004, primarily due to the winding down of cherry harvest. Apple work experienced the largest increase (604) in employment from July 2003 to July 2004. Onion work shed the most seasonal jobs (-477) during that same time period. Miscellaneous vegetables work grew by the largest amount (484) of employment from June 2004 to July 2004. Cherry work had the weakest demand (-3,237) in employment for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2004 in Area 5 was \$7.42 per hour. (See pages 25 - 28 for Area 5 detail)

AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH EASTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 04	JUN 04	JUL 03	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04	JUN 04- JUL 04	JUL 03- JUL 04
CROP							
Apples	3,652	3,707	3,048	(55)	604	-1.5%	19.8%
Asparagus	0	2,771	0	(2,771)	0	-100.0%	0.0%
Cherries	317	3,554	694	(3,237)	(377)	-91.1%	-54.3%
Grapes	788	626	873	162	(85)	25.9%	-9.7%
Hops	92	61	12	31	80	50.8%	666.7%
Misc Vegetables	1,120	636	787	484	333	76.1%	42.3%
Nursery	2	2	4	0	(2)	0.0%	-50.0%
Onion	307	704	784	(397)	(477)	-56.4%	-60.8%
Other Seasonal	409	302	312	107	97	35.4%	31.1%
Other Tree Fruit	119	15	377	104	(258)	693.3%	-68.4%
Potatoes	344	206	502	138	(158)	67.0%	-31.5%
Strawberry	-	173	297	(173)	(297)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Wheat/Grain	108	12	48	96	60	800.0%	125.0%

**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 July.

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

JULY 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: 4,763 (3,183 local, 579 intrastate, 924 interstate, 77 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Raspberry Harvester	720	\$ 7.18/hr	or \$ 2.50 - \$ 4.50 per flat
Raspberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	673	\$ 7.21/hr	
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	626	\$ 7.16/hr	
Nursery Planter	506	\$ 7.29/hr	

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 12,590 (10,617 local, 368 intrastate, 533 interstate, 1,028 foreign, 44 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	6,399	\$ 7.37/hr	or \$ 1.50 - \$ 7.75 per tree
Cherry Harvester	1,349	\$ 7.25/hr	or \$ 4.00 - \$ 8.00 per box
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	734	\$ 7.16/hr	
Grapes Trainer	718	\$ 7.24/hr	

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 18,976 (11,471 local, 2,511 intrastate, 1,950 interstate, 306 foreign, 2,738 unknown origin)

Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	6,170	\$ 7.43/hr	
Cherry Harvester	5,042	\$ 7.16/hr	or \$ 3.50 - \$ 5.00 per lug
Apple Hand Thinner	4,767	\$ 7.27/hr	
Apple Trainer	2,327	\$ 7.20/hr	

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 6,213 (5,281 local, 8 intrastate, 190 interstate, 353 foreign, 381 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	2,258	\$ 7.31/hr	or \$ 0.35 - \$ 2.50 per tree
Cherry Harvester	1,315	\$ 7.34/hr	or \$ 2.00 - \$ 5.00 per box
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	267	\$ 7.19/hr	
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	267	\$ 7.16/hr	

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 7,256 (5,400 local, 173 intrastate, 356 interstate, 798 foreign, 529 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	3,448	\$ 7.26/hr	
Carrot Sorter/Grader/Packer	478	\$ 7.20/hr	
Grapes Trainer	361	\$ 7.58/hr	
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	217	\$ 7.29/hr	

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 420 (391 local, 7 intrastate, 15 interstate, 7 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Wheat Vehicle Operator	51	\$ 9.50/hr	
Wheat Tractor Operator	43	\$ 9.00/hr	
Wheat Mechanized Harvester	26	\$11.00/hr	
Wheat Worker	26	\$10.50/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
JULY 2004

TABLE 1

JULY 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	3,183	579	924	77	0	4,763
2. South Central	10,617	368	533	1,028	44	12,590
3. North Central	11,471	2,511	1,950	306	2,738	18,976
4. Columbia Basin	5,281	8	190	353	381	6,213
5. South Eastern	5,400	173	356	798	529	7,256
6. Eastern	391	7	15	7	0	420
State Totals	36,342	3,646	3,968	2,569	3,692	50,218
% State Total	72.4%	7.3%	7.9%	5.1%	7.4%	100%

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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	4,763
a. Local	3,183
b. Intrastate migratory	579
c. Interstate migratory	924
d. Unknown	77
e. Foreign	0
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Mabton, Mount Vernon, Pasco, Sedro Woolley, Shelton	
b. Interstate: California, Oregon, Texas	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The July 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 9,513.

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 high temperatures of nearly 100 degrees were registered later in the month. Sweet corn fields under irrigation began to form tassels. Two thirds of the garlic was already harvested. Haying was almost complete. Raspberry harvest operations were nearly complete. Blueberry harvest was in full swing. Potato and wheat harvest began. Harvest continued on cauliflower, broccoli and raspberries.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.31 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for bulbs sorter/grader/packer, strawberry harvester, nursery sorter/grader/packer, cauliflower harvester, cauliflower weeder, bulbs harvester, nursery irrigator, blackberry harvester, pumpkin weeder, beets weeder, cauliflower irrigator, rhubarb harvester, beets harvester, raspberry pruner, raspberry preparer, potato sorter/grader/packer, cabbage planter, potato weeder, cauliflower planter and raspberry tractor operator to \$13.00 for cabbage worker. Typical piece rates were: \$2.50 to \$4.50 per flat for raspberry picking. Housing was limited.

c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:

The labor force was estimated at 66.8% local, 12.2% intrastate, 19.4% interstate, foreign 1.6% and 0.0% unknown.

d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

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

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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 4,763	* = piece rate
Raspberry Harvester	720	\$ 7.18 or * \$ 2.50 - \$ 4.50 per flat
Raspberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	673	\$ 7.21
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	626	\$ 7.16
Nursery Planter	506	\$ 7.29
Blueberry Harvester	188	\$ 7.19
Strawberry Harvester	141	\$ 7.16
Blueberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	140	\$ 7.58
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	138	\$ 7.16
Raspberry Worker	129	\$ 7.20
Cauliflower Harvester	125	\$ 7.16
Misc Squash Harvester	113	\$ 7.45
Cauliflower Weeder	100	\$ 7.16
Bulbs Harvester	92	\$ 7.16
Bulbs Worker	92	\$ 7.16
Nursery Weeder	83	\$ 7.40
Lettuce Harvester	50	\$ 7.66
Nursery Irrigator	46	\$ 7.16
Nursery Worker	46	\$ 7.43
Raspberry Weeder	44	\$ 7.20
Raspberry Mechanized Harvester	44	\$ 7.61
Misc Field Crops Weeder	41	\$ 8.55
Blackberry Harvester	40	\$ 7.16
Misc Field Crops Harvester	38	\$ 8.55
Pumpkin Weeder	38	\$ 7.16
Misc Vegetables Weeder	38	\$ 7.60
General Farm Worker	31	\$ 7.99
Rhubarb Harvester	25	\$ 7.16
Cauliflower Irrigator	25	\$ 7.16
Beets Weeder	25	\$ 7.16
Cabbage Weeder	25	\$ 7.50
Beets Harvester	25	\$ 7.16
Cabbage Cultivator	25	\$ 9.00
Potato Irrigator	24	\$ 7.78
Cabbage Sorter/Grader/Packer	23	\$ 7.75
Blueberry Worker	22	\$ 7.90
Raspberry Pruner	15	\$ 7.16

Area 1 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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	* = piece rate
Raspberry Preparation	15	\$ 7.16
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	15	\$ 7.16
Cabbage Planter	14	\$ 7.16
Raspberry Forklift Driver	14	\$ 7.16
Misc Squash Vehicle Operator	13	\$ 7.33
Lettuce Vehicle Operator	13	\$10.50
Cabbage Tractor Operator	13	\$10.50
Cauliflower Tractor Operator	13	\$10.00
Cabbage Worker	13	\$10.00
Misc Hay Worker	11	\$13.00
Raspberry Manager	8	\$10.00
Chicken Eggs Worker	7	\$ 8.19
Raspberry Vehicle Operator	7	\$ 8.25
Potato Weeder	7	\$ 8.00
Cauliflower Planter	7	\$ 7.16
Potato Tractor Operator	7	\$ 7.16
Strawberry Manager	6	\$10.00
Blueberry Vehicle Operator	5	\$ 8.50
Blueberry Mechanized Harvester	5	\$10.38
Blueberry Forklift Driver	4	\$ 9.00
Blackberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	4	\$ 9.25
Strawberry Worker	2	\$ 8.33
Raspberry Tractor Operator	2	\$ 8.50
Blueberry Tractor Operator	2	\$ 7.16
		\$10.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS

EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG

PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 \$ 7.31/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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	12,590
a. Local	10,617
b. Intrastate migratory	368
c. Interstate migratory	533
d. Unknown	1,028
e. Foreign	44
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Basin City, Eltopia, Mesa, Sunnyside, Wenatchee, Yakima	
b. Interstate: California, Oregon	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The July 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 15,770.
 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 varied from three to fourteen degrees above normal. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported. Primary agricultural activities were apple thinning, cherry picking, cherry warehouse work and grapes training.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.34 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.13 for cherry worker to \$12.00 for cherry tractor operator and mint vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$1.50 to \$7.75 per tree for apple thinning and \$4.00 to \$8.00 per box for cherry picking. Housing was limited; workers provided their own transportation.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 84.3% local, 2.9% intrastate, 4.2% interstate, foreign 8.2% and unknown 0.4%.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
-

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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 12,590	* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	6,399	\$ 7.37 or * \$ 1.50 - \$ 7.75 per tree
Cherry Harvester	1,349	\$ 7.25 or * \$ 4.00 - \$ 8.00 per box
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	734	\$ 7.16
Grapes Trainer	718	\$ 7.24
Misc Field Crops Weeder	490	\$ 7.16
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	315	\$ 7.23
Grapes Worker	290	\$ 7.33
Apple Pruner	270	\$ 7.16
Apricot Harvester	224	\$ 7.57
Grapes Hand Thinner	208	\$ 7.41
Asparagus Harvester	195	Not Available
Peach Harvester	185	\$ 7.16
Cucumber Harvester	120	Not Available
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	108	\$ 7.16
Grapes Planter	94	\$ 7.16
Apple Harvester	93	\$ 7.16
Pear Hand Thinner	85	\$ 7.16
Cherry Pruner	77	\$ 7.16
Cucumber Sorter/Grader/Packer	55	\$ 7.50
Pear Harvester	54	\$ 7.16
Tomato Harvester	52	\$ 7.16
Misc Onion Weeder	48	\$ 7.16
Misc Vegetables Harvester	34	\$ 7.18
Cherry Worker	31	\$ 7.13
Nursery Planter	28	\$ 9.40
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Weeder	24	\$ 7.16
Plum Weeder	23	\$ 7.16
Apple Worker	23	\$ 8.39
Misc Peppers Harvester	21	\$ 7.16
Grapes Suckering Worker	20	\$ 7.42
Silage Irrigator	18	\$ 8.34
Grapes Weeder	16	\$ 7.25
Misc Peppers Trainer	13	\$ 7.50
Apple Irrigator	12	\$ 7.72
Nursery Worker	12	\$ 8.79
Apple Chemical Applicator	12	\$ 8.45

Area 2 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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	* = piece rate
Tomato Sorter/Grader/Packer	8	\$ 7.16
Sweet Corn Harvester	8	\$ 7.16
Misc Vegetables Sorter/Grader/Packer	8	\$ 7.16
Wheat Irrigator	8	\$ 7.16
Alfalfa Irrigator	8	\$ 7.16
Mint Mechanized Harvester	8	\$ 8.50
Asparagus Weeder	8	\$ 7.16
Apple Manager	8	\$ 8.63
Apple Loader	8	\$10.00
Plum Hand Thinner	8	\$ 8.00
Cherry Chemical Applicator	8	\$ 7.52
Cherry Tractor Operator	8	\$12.00
Misc Squash Weeder	4	\$ 7.50
Mint Vehicle Operator	4	\$12.00
Mint Worker	4	\$ 7.16
Wheat Combine Driver	4	\$11.00
Grapes Irrigator	4	\$ 7.16
Misc Vegetables Worker	2	\$ 8.00
Field Corn Irrigator	2	\$ 7.70
Nursery Harvester	2	\$ 7.50
Sweet Corn Irrigator	2	\$ 7.70
Pumpkin Harvester	2	\$ 7.50
Misc Peppers Irrigator	2	\$ 9.00
Sweet Corn Sorter/Grader/Packer	2	\$ 7.16
Misc Onion Irrigator	2	\$ 9.00
Cucumber Cultivator	2	\$ 8.50
Cucumber Irrigator	2	\$ 9.00
Asparagus Irrigator	2	\$ 9.00
Misc Peppers Sorter/Grader/Packer	2	\$ 7.16

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 7.34/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2004
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers 18,976
 - a. Local 11,471
 - b. Intrastate migratory 2,511
 - c. Interstate migratory 1,950
 - d. Unknown 306
 - e. Foreign 2,738

 - 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
 - a. Intrastate: Forks, Grandview, Mattawa, Prosser, Puyallup, Seattle, Sunnyside, Tacoma, Wenatchee, Yakima
 - b. Interstate: Arizona, California, Florida, Oregon, Texas
 - c. Foreign: Mexico
-

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The July 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 10,687.

 - 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. The extreme heat has kept pasture growth slow. Some corn was beginning to tassel. Wheat harvest was in full swing. Irrigation continued on all crops. Cherry harvest was nearly complete in the higher elevations, which will conclude harvest for the 2004 crop. The second cutting of alfalfa was well underway. Primary agricultural activities were cherry harvest and warehouse work, apple thinning and apple training.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.42 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for cherry harvester, miscellaneous fruit trees worker, apple pruner, apple weeder, nursery worker and apple mechanic to \$24.00 for miscellaneous field crops manager. Typical piece rates were: \$3.50 to \$5.00 per lug. 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 60.5% local, 13.2% intrastate, 10.3% interstate, 1.6% foreign and 14.4% unknown.

 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

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

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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 18,976	* = piece rate
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	6,170	\$ 7.43
Cherry Harvester	5,042	\$ 7.16 or * \$ 3.50 - \$ 5.00 per lug
Apple Hand Thinner	4,767	\$ 7.27
Apple Trainer	2,327	\$ 7.20
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	167	\$ 7.16
Cherry Worker	126	\$ 7.81
Apple Pruner	100	\$ 7.16
Apple Propper	47	\$ 7.50
Cherry Manager	33	\$ 9.80
Cherry Tractor Operator	27	\$ 9.25
Misc Hay Irrigator	22	\$ 8.81
Apple Grafter	20	Not Available
Apple Chemical Applicator	16	\$ 7.55
Cherry Vehicle Operator	13	\$ 9.00
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	13	\$ 7.38
Pear Hand Thinner	13	\$ 8.00
Apple Weeder	13	\$ 7.16
Nursery Worker	9	\$ 7.16
Cherry Forklift Driver	7	\$ 9.00
Misc Field Crops Worker	6	\$15.00
Horse and Equines Worker	6	\$12.00
Misc Hay Tractor Operator	3	\$ 7.00
Apple Mechanic	3	\$ 7.16
Misc Hay Harvester	3	\$ 9.00
Horse and Equines Trainer	3	\$22.00
Misc Field Crops Harvester	3	\$ 8.00
Misc Field Crops Manager	3	\$24.00
Misc Hay Mechanic	3	\$ 8.75
Wheat Tractor Operator	3	\$ 9.50
Misc Field Crops Irrigator	3	\$ 9.00
Apple Worker	2	\$ 9.50

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.42/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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	6,213
a. Local	5,281
b. Intrastate migratory	8
c. Interstate migratory	190
d. Unknown	353
e. Foreign	381
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Grandview	
b. Interstate: California, Florida	
c. Foreign: Japan, Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The July 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,844.
2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Winter wheat harvest was in full swing with yields average to above average and the initial grain quality reports were very good. Sweet corn harvest continued. The second cutting of timothy hay was underway.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.44 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for cherry sorter/grader/packer, apple weeder, nursery weeder, miscellaneous grain and seed crops weeder, nursery suckering worker, miscellaneous field crops sorter/grader/packer, asparagus weeder, apple trainer, pear trainer, miscellaneous hay weeder, cherry irrigator, miscellaneous hay irrigator, field corn irrigator, grapes trainer, nursery trainer, mint loader, apricot harvester, field corn weeder, cherry weeder, miscellaneous vegetables worker, grapes suckering worker, potato weeder and nursery tractor operator to \$15.00 for miscellaneous grain and seed crops worker. Typical piece rates were: \$0.35 to \$2.50 per tree for apple thinning and \$2.00 to \$5.00 per box for cherry picking. 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 85.0% local, 0.1% intrastate, 3.1% interstate 5.7% foreign and 6.1% unknown.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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 6,213	* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	2,258	\$ 7.31 or * \$ 0.35 - \$ 2.50 per tree
Cherry Harvester	1,615	\$ 7.34 or * \$ 2.00 - \$ 5.00 per box
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	267	\$ 7.19
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	267	\$ 7.16
Carrot Weeder	260	\$ 7.30
Nursery Worker	146	\$ 7.20
Apple Pruner	141	\$ 7.58
Sweet Corn Weeder	120	\$ 7.22
Apple Worker	85	\$ 7.27
Misc Onion Weeder	68	\$ 7.35
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	55	\$ 9.40
Misc Hay Mechanized Harvester	50	\$ 9.00
Apple Weeder	48	\$ 7.16
Potato Tractor Operator	45	\$ 8.59
Nursery Weeder	45	\$ 7.16
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Weeder	42	\$ 7.16
Apple Chemical Applicator	41	\$ 8.59
Apple Irrigator	39	\$ 7.50
Misc Vegetables Weeder	34	\$ 8.06
Potato Worker	33	\$ 7.96
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	33	\$ 7.26
Nursery Suckering Worker	32	\$ 7.16
Misc Field Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	30	\$ 7.16
Grass Seed Combine Driver	27	\$ 9.33
Cherry Worker	27	\$ 7.50
Wheat Weeder	22	\$ 8.83
Asparagus Weeder	21	\$ 7.16
Apple Trainer	20	\$ 7.16
Pear Trainer	20	\$ 7.16
Potato Forklift Driver	20	\$ 7.83
Nectarine Harvester	13	\$ 7.90
Peach Harvester	13	Not Available
Cherry Loader	13	\$ 7.75
Potato Mechanic	13	\$10.00
Wheat Vehicle Operator	13	\$ 8.50
Pumpkin Weeder	13	\$ 7.50

Area 4 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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	* = piece rate
Misc Hay Weeder	13	\$ 7.16
Cherry Irrigator	13	\$ 7.16
Misc Hay Irrigator	13	\$ 7.16
Wheat Harvester	13	\$10.00
Field Corn Irrigator	13	\$ 7.16
Grapes Trainer	12	\$ 7.16
Alfalfa Vehicle Operator	11	\$ 8.00
Sweet Corn Irrigator	9	\$ 8.00
Potato Irrigator	9	\$ 8.00
Nursery Trainer	8	\$ 7.16
Mint Worker	8	\$ 7.16
Mint Loader	8	\$ 7.16
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	8	\$ 9.10
Potato Manager	7	\$13.75
Apricot Harvester	7	\$ 7.16
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Worker	7	\$15.00
Field Corn Weeder	6	\$ 7.16
Cherry Weeder	6	\$ 7.16
General Farm Chemical Applicator	6	\$10.33
Wheat Mechanized Harvester	4	\$ 8.50
Alfalfa Irrigator	4	\$ 9.00
Alfalfa Harvester	4	\$ 9.00
Peas Irrigator	4	\$10.00
Misc Vegetables Worker	4	\$ 7.16
Misc Vegetables Manager	4	\$14.00
General Farm Worker	4	\$ 8.63
Grapes Weeder	4	\$ 8.00
Grapes Suckering Worker	4	\$ 7.16
Carrot Manager	4	\$ 8.50
Potato Vehicle Operator	4	\$ 8.00
Potato Weeder	4	\$ 7.16
Nursery Harvester	3	\$ 7.50
General Farm Irrigator	2	\$10.00
Nursery Tractor Operator	1	\$ 7.16
Nursery Vehicle Operator	1	\$12.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS

EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG

PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 7.44/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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	7,256
a. Local	5,400
b. Intrastate migratory	173
c. Interstate migratory	356
d. Unknown	798
e. Foreign	529
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Enumclaw, Kennewick, Pasco, Richland, Wenatchee, Yakima	
b. Interstate: California, Oregon, Texas	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The July 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 9,442.

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. Soft fruit and wheat harvest, irrigation and weed control were major activities. Winter wheat harvest yields ranged from 25 to 40 bushels per acre and spring wheat yields ranged from 20 to 32 bushels per acre. Sweet corn harvest was underway. Potato harvest continued. Green pea harvest was complete. The third cutting of alfalfa was underway in some areas. The primary agricultural activity was apple hand thinning.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.42 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for hops weeder, miscellaneous onion worker, miscellaneous onion weeder, miscellaneous vegetables weeder, apple planter, miscellaneous fruit trees pruner, miscellaneous vegetables irrigator, pumpkin irrigator and grapes chemical applicator to \$17.00 for wheat manager. No piece rates were reported. Housing was limited; transportation was provided by the workers.

c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:

The labor force was estimated to be 74.4% local, 2.4% intrastate, 4.9% interstate 11.0% foreign and 7.3% unknown.

d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

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

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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 7,256	* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	3,448	\$ 7.26
Carrot Sorter/Grader/Packer	478	\$ 7.20
Grapes Trainer	361	\$ 7.58
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	217	\$ 7.29
Grapes Hand Thinner	212	\$ 7.17
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	205	\$ 7.19
Sweet Corn Vehicle Operator	160	\$10.40
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	118	\$ 7.16
Apricot Harvester	111	\$ 7.16
Carrot Weeder	110	\$ 7.25
Grass Seed Weeder	106	\$ 7.49
Cherry Harvester	104	Not Available
Sweet Corn Mechanized Harvester	100	\$ 9.00
Grapes Irrigator	98	\$ 7.28
Hops Weeder	92	\$ 7.16
Cherry Hand Thinner	86	\$ 7.58
Sweet Corn Forklift Driver	60	\$ 9.00
Grapes Worker	59	\$ 8.03
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	59	\$ 8.40
Misc Squash Weeder	50	\$ 7.50
Wheat Vehicle Operator	50	\$10.42
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	46	\$ 8.08
Pumpkin Weeder	43	\$ 7.30
Apple Irrigator	43	\$ 7.99
Misc Onion Worker	40	\$ 7.16
Mint Vehicle Operator	40	\$ 8.50
Apple Suckering Worker	38	\$ 7.50
Potato Vehicle Operator	37	\$ 8.90
Misc Onion Weeder	36	\$ 7.16
Apple Trainer	34	\$ 7.37
Apple Worker	33	\$ 7.17
Potato Planter	31	\$ 8.25
Alfalfa Weeder	27	\$ 8.39
Grapes Pruner	24	\$ 7.16
Misc Berries Harvester	24	\$ 7.74
Wheat Combine Driver	23	\$ 9.50

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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	* = piece rate
Misc Vegetables Weeder	22	\$ 7.16
Apple Tractor Operator	21	\$ 7.37
Misc Onion Forklift Driver	20	\$ 8.75
Carrot Planter	19	\$ 7.25
Potato Irrigator	17	\$ 8.78
Wheat Worker	17	\$ 9.42
Apple Pruner	17	\$ 7.44
General Farm Worker	17	\$ 8.68
Potato Loader	16	\$ 8.50
Chicken Eggs Sorter/Grader/Packer	16	\$ 7.50
Beans Weeder	16	\$ 8.00
Alfalfa Harvester	16	\$ 9.00
Potato Weeder	15	\$ 7.25
Grapes Weeder	14	\$ 7.27
Sweet Corn Tractor Operator	14	\$ 8.92
Grapes Tractor Operator	13	\$ 8.13
Grass Seed Harvester	12	\$ 8.00
Apple Planter	12	\$ 7.16
Potato Mechanized Harvester	11	\$ 9.17
Sweet Corn Manager	10	Not Available
Sweet Corn Worker	10	Not Available
Carrot Irrigator	9	\$ 7.22
Misc Fruit Trees Pruner	8	\$ 7.16
Alfalfa Worker	7	\$ 8.50
Potato Tractor Operator	7	\$ 9.06
Alfalfa Irrigator	6	\$ 7.50
Misc Vegetables Irrigator	6	\$ 7.16
Pumpkin Irrigator	6	\$ 7.16
Wheat Harvester	6	\$ 9.00
Misc Onion Tractor Operator	6	\$ 8.50
Apple Manager	6	\$ 8.80
Wheat Manager	6	\$17.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	6	\$10.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Worker	6	\$ 9.75
Potato Worker	5	\$ 7.39
Carrot Vehicle Operator	5	\$11.33

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 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	* = piece rate
Grapes Chemical Applicator	4	\$ 7.16
Misc Field Crops Irrigator	3	\$ 9.00
Grass Seed Vehicle Operator	3	\$ 9.00
Cherry Worker	3	\$ 7.50
Cherry Tractor Operator	3	\$ 8.00
Grapes Manager	3	\$10.10
Contract Aerial Worker	3	Not Available
Cherry Manager	3	Not Available
Potato Manager	2	\$14.00
Sweet Corn Irrigator	2	\$ 8.50
Potato Forklift Driver	2	\$10.00
Nursery Weeder	2	\$ 8.00
General Farm Weeder	2	\$ 7.50

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 7.42/hr (weighted average)