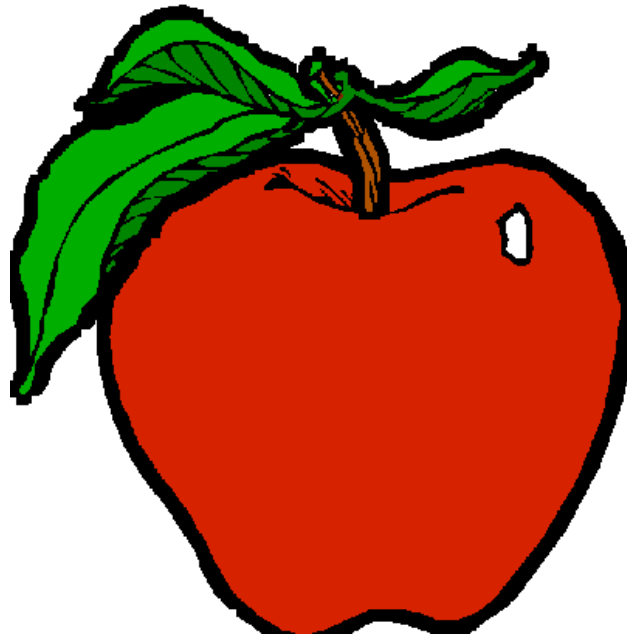




SEASONAL FARM LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

OCTOBER 2004



Prepared by

John Wines, Economic Analyst
Judy Anderson, Data Compiler

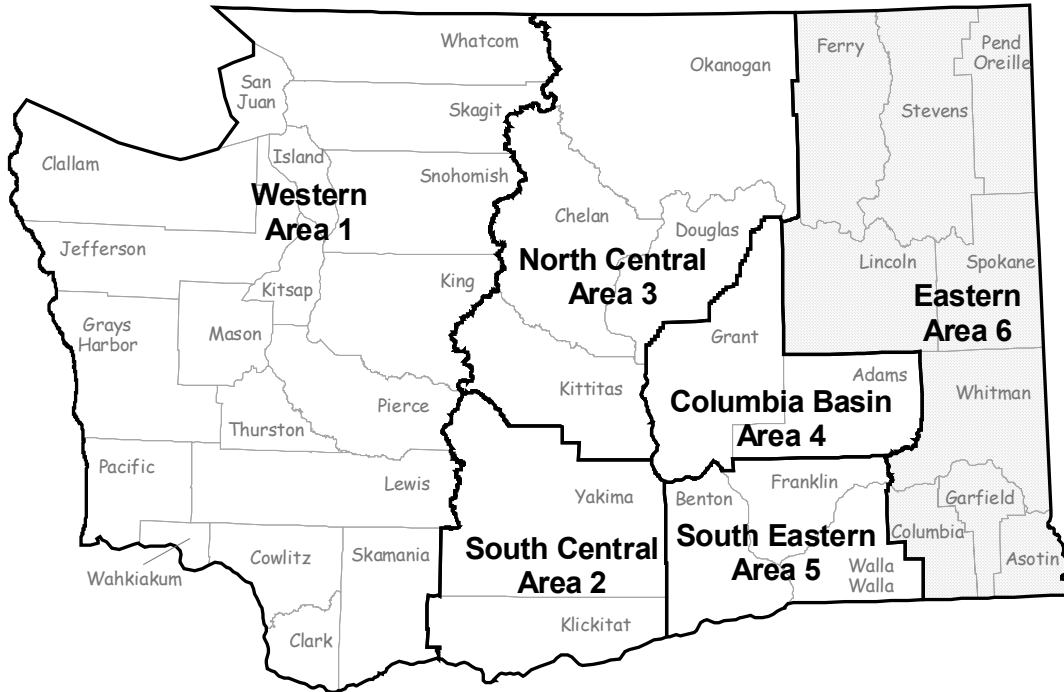
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch
Greg Weeks, Director
Washington State Employment Security Department

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

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

OCTOBER 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 expanded by 12.2% from October 2003 to October 2004. This uptick was due to a large seasonal increase in apple harvest employment. Agricultural activities displaying an over-the-year increase were apple work (6,812), grape work (385), blueberry work (183), other seasonal work (122), onion work (74), strawberry work (43), wheat/grain work (41) and cherry work (10). Activities displaying declines were pear work (-425), raspberry work (-425), potato work (-405), miscellaneous vegetables work (-383), nursery work (-273), cucumber work (-46), bulb work (-35), other tree fruit work (-15) and hop work (-12). Regionally, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment decreased by 20.2%, caused by a decline in raspberry work (-425). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment increased by 6.7%, led by an increase in apple work (626). North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment ramped up by 18.7%, thanks to a large increase in apple work (2,931). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment expanded by 10.4%, again led by the seasonal increase in apple work (1,091). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment grew by 23.2%, again courtesy of a large bump in apple work (2,164). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment expanded by a large 112.5%, thanks to an increase in nursery work (116).

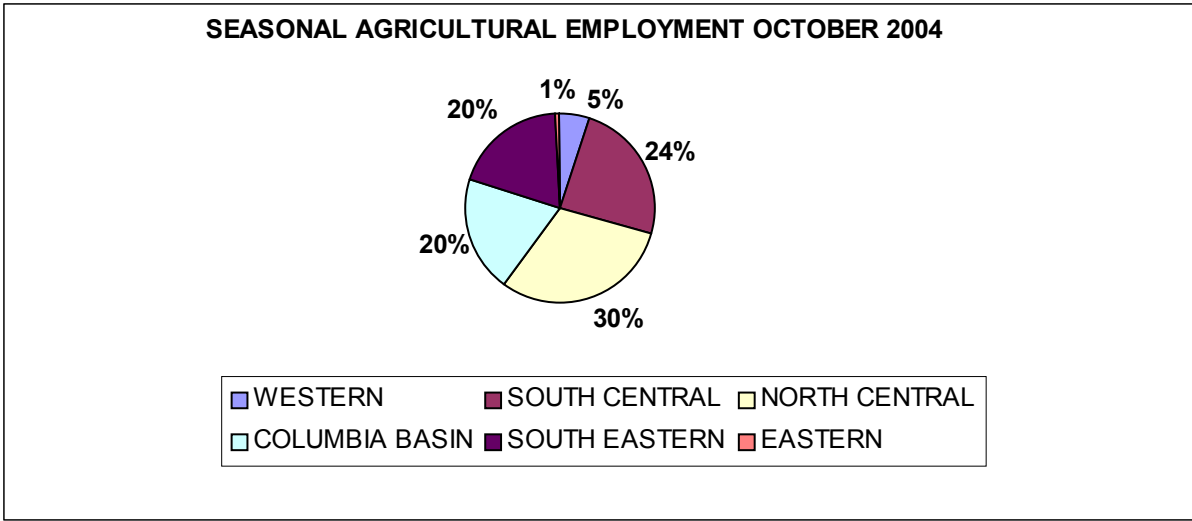
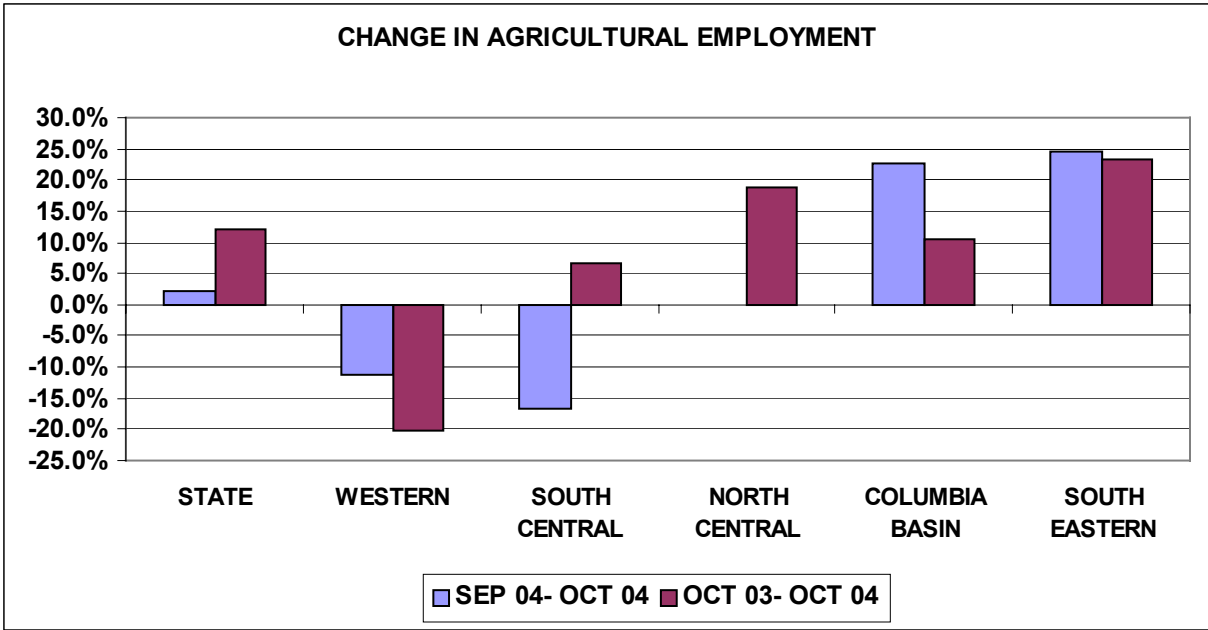
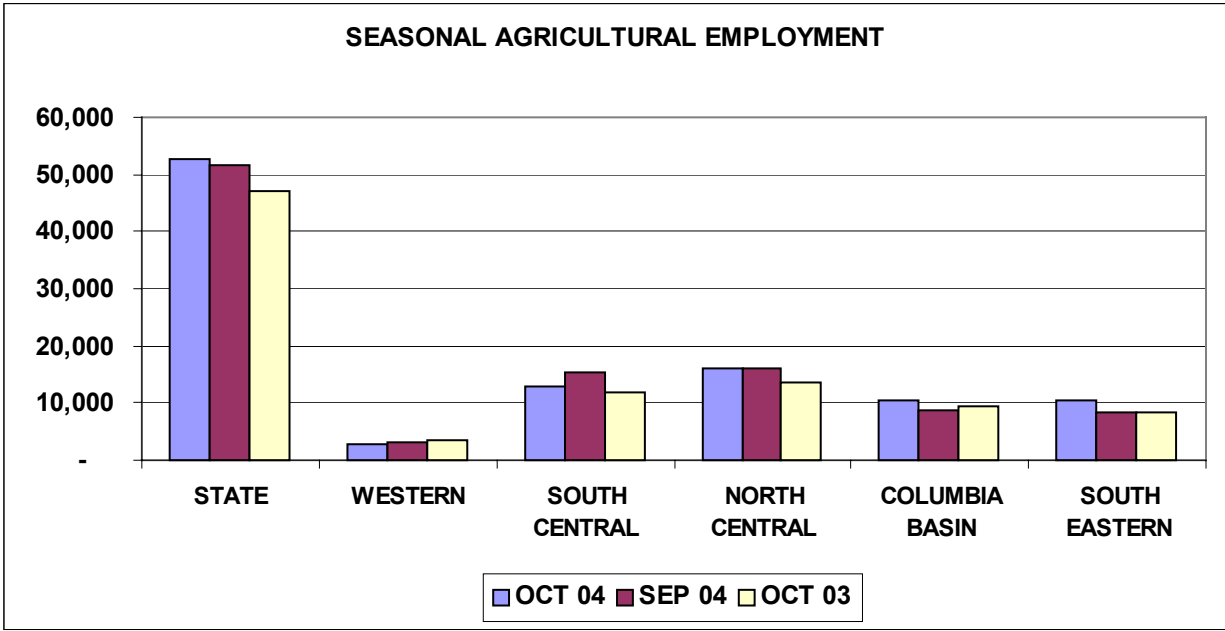
ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

A large apple harvest is predicted for this year’s crop. Unofficial harvest predictions range from 96 million boxes to 100 million boxes for fresh sale. Shipments from last year’s crop reached nearly 79.5 million boxes. The record, more than 98.3 million boxes shipped, was from 2000. This year the fruit is better and damage from severe hailstorms was less than had been feared. In some cases the number of apples needed to fill a 42-pound box has declined from 100 to 88. According to the latest forecast from the growers and shippers group, Galas will become the second-largest variety this year with 15.2 million boxes, a million boxes more than for the previous No. 2 Golden Delicious.

However, harvesting the large crop this year has been hampered by labor and equipment shortages. A potentially record-setting apple harvest has resulted in shortages of pickers, trucks, bins and storage, industry officials say. In some cases, growers are leaving fruit on the trees, hoping enough pickers and bins will be available to pick it before it goes bad.

Washington apple growers sold a record \$1.16 billion worth of fruit in 2003. Total sales of Washington farm products increased slightly, the state Agricultural Statistics Service reported recently. It was the third time that Washington apple sales topped the 1\$ billion mark. The state is the nation’s top apple producer, growing about half the U.S. crop. Overall, the total value of Washington crops in 2003 was \$5.75 billion, a 3.1 percent increase from the previous year. The mark was short of the record \$5.88 billion in 1995.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	OCT 04	SEP 04	OCT 03	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04
STATE	52,783	51,670	47,028	1,113	5,755	2.2%	12.2%
WESTERN	2,775	3,126	3,479	(351)	(704)	-11.2%	-20.2%
SOUTH CENTRAL	12,751	15,318	11,946	(2,567)	805	-16.8%	6.7%
NORTH CENTRAL	15,992	15,983	13,469	9	2,523	0.1%	18.7%
COLUMBIA BASIN	10,539	8,604	9,543	1,935	996	22.5%	10.4%
SOUTH EASTERN	10,386	8,331	8,431	2,055	1,955	24.7%	23.2%
EASTERN	340	308	160	32	180	10.4%	112.5%



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment increased by 12.2% from October 2003 to October 2004. Seasonal employment also grew by a smaller 2.2% statewide from September 2004 to October 2004. The crop activity expanding by the largest amount of employment from October 2003 to October 2004 was apple work (6,812). Pear work and raspberry work both displayed the greatest decline in employment (-425) for that same time period. Apple work added the most jobs (6,877) from September 2004 to October 2004. Pear work lost the greatest amount of employment (-1,985) during that same time period. The statewide weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for October 2004 was \$7.61 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	OCT 04	SEP 04	OCT 03	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04
CROP	OCT 04	SEP 04	OCT 03	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04
Apples	42,346	35,469	35,534	6,877	6,812	19.4%	19.2%
Asparagus	0	17	0	(17)	0	-100.0%	0.0%
Blueberry	518	363	335	155	183	42.7%	54.6%
Bulb	118	80	153	38	(35)	47.5%	-22.9%
Cherries	27	147	17	(120)	10	-81.6%	58.8%
Cucumbers	0	284	46	(284)	(46)	0.0%	-100.0%
Grapes	1,781	1,151	1,396	630	385	54.7%	27.6%
Hop	11	1,639	23	(1,628)	(12)	-99.3%	-52.2%
Misc Vegetables	1,471	2,058	1,854	(587)	(383)	-28.5%	-20.7%
Nursery	468	642	741	(174)	(273)	-27.1%	-36.8%
Onion	523	1,009	449	(486)	74	-48.2%	16.5%
Other Seasonal	1,030	1,367	908	(337)	122	-24.7%	13.4%
Other Tree Fruit	143	1,151	158	(1,008)	(15)	-87.6%	-9.5%
Pears	1,370	3,355	1,795	(1,985)	(425)	-59.2%	-23.7%
Potato	2,449	2,337	2,854	112	(405)	4.8%	-14.2%
Raspberry	324	364	749	(40)	(425)	-11.0%	-56.7%
Strawberry	43	26	0	17	43	65.4%	0.0%
Wheat/Grain	161	222	120	(61)	41	-27.5%	34.2%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment decreased by 20.2% from October 2003 to October 2004. Seasonal employment also declined by 11.2% from September 2004 to October 2004. Blueberry work rose by the largest amount of employment (183) from October 2003 to October 2004. Raspberry work shed the largest number of jobs (-425) for that same time period. Potato work posted the largest over-the-month gain in employment (472) from September 2004 to October 2004. Miscellaneous vegetables work scaled back by the largest amount (-297) of employment during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for October 2004 in Area 1 was \$7.59 per hour. (See pages 14 -15 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
WESTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	OCT 04	SEP 04	OCT 03	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04
CROP							
Blueberry	518	363	335	155	183	42.7%	54.6%
Bulb	118	80	153	38	(35)	47.5%	-22.9%
Cucumbers	0	284	46	(284)	(46)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Misc Vegetables	639	936	708	(297)	(69)	-31.7%	-9.7%
Nursery	312	496	693	(184)	(381)	-37.1%	-55.0%
Other Seasonal	70	303	186	(233)	(116)	-76.9%	-62.4%
Potato	748	276	597	472	151	171.0%	25.3%
Raspberry	324	364	749	(40)	(425)	-11.0%	-56.7%
Rhubarb	0	0	8	0	(8)	0.0%	-100.0%
Strawberry	43	23	0	20	43	0.0%	0.0%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment expanded by 6.7% from October 2003 to October 2004. However, this trend was reversed by a downturn of 16.8% in employment from September 2004 to October 2004. Apple work was the crop activity adding the greatest seasonal employment (626) from October 2003 to October 2004. Miscellaneous vegetables work shed the largest number of jobs (-268) for that same time period. Apple work gained the greatest amount of employment (1,137) from September 2004 to October 2004. Hop work softened by the most jobs (-1,321) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for October 2004 in Area 2 was \$7.68 per hour. (See pages 16 - 18 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	OCT 04	SEP 04	OCT 03	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04
CROP							
Apples	10,404	9,267	9,778	1,137	626	12.3%	6.4%
Asparagus	0	17	0	(17)	0	-100.0%	0.0%
Cherries	21	7	17	14	4	200.0%	0.0%
Grapes	696	823	687	(127)	9	-15.4%	1.3%
Hop	11	1,332	23	(1,321)	(12)	0.0%	-52.2%
Misc Vegetables	238	206	506	32	(268)	15.5%	-53.0%
Onion	125	95	0	30	125	0.0%	0.0%
Other Seasonal	344	421	201	(77)	143	-18.3%	71.1%
Other Tree Fruit	0	946	6	(946)	(6)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Pears	885	2,130	836	(1,245)	49	-58.5%	5.9%
Potato	28	72	8	0	20	0.0%	250.0%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment displayed an over-the-month gain of 18.7% from October 2003 to October 2004. However seasonal employment edged up only 0.1% from September 2004 to October 2004. The crop activity posting the largest increase in employment from October 2003 to October 2004 was apple work (2,931). Pear work shed the most jobs (-860) for that same time period. Apple work advanced by the largest amount of employment (842) from September 2004 to October 2004. Pear work again contracted by the largest number of jobs (-1,027) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for October 2004 in Area 3 was \$7.35 per hour. (See pages 19 and 20 for Area 3 detail)

AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
NORTH CENTRAL			CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	OCT 04	SEP 04	OCT 03	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04
Apples	15,316	14,474	12,385	842	2,931	5.8%	23.7%
Cherries	6	140	0	(134)	6	-95.7%	0.0%
Other Seasonal	458	152	67	306	391	201.3%	583.6%
Other Tree Fruit	131	116	82	15	49	12.9%	59.8%
Pears	78	1,105	938	(1,027)	(860)	-92.9%	-91.7%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment moved forward by 10.4% from October 2003 to October 2004. This number was beaten by an unusually large seasonal bump of 22.5% in employment from September 2004 to October 2004, due to a near record apple harvest. Apple work charged ahead of all other seasonal activities (1,091) in employment from October 2003 to October 2004. Potato work pulled back by the greatest employment (-217) during that same time period. Apple work again showed the greatest advance (2,014) in employment from September 2004 to October 2004. Pear work netted the greatest over-the-month decline in jobs (-93) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for October 2004 in Area 4 was \$7.83 per hour. (See pages 21 - 23 for Area 4 detail)

AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
COLUMBIA BASIN			CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	OCT 04	SEP 04	OCT 03	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04
Apples	8,749	6,735	7,658	2,014	1,091	29.9%	14.2%
Mint	15	0	0	15	15	0.0%	0.0%
Misc Vegetables	12	23	26	(11)	(14)	-47.8%	-53.8%
Nursery	16	78	29	(62)	(13)	-79.5%	-44.8%
Onion	173	236	135	(63)	38	-26.7%	28.1%
Other Seasonal	159	137	95	22	64	16.1%	67.4%
Other Tree Fruit	12	18	0	(6)	12	-33.3%	0.0%
Pears	27	120	21	(93)	6	-77.5%	28.6%
Potato	1,341	1,231	1,558	110	(217)	8.9%	-13.9%
Wheat/Grain	37	35	7	2	30	5.7%	428.6%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment expanded by 23.2% from October 2003 to October 2004. October 2004 employment also moved upward by 24.7% from September 2004. Apple work employment rose by the largest amount (2,164) from October 2003 to October 2004. Potato work contracted by the largest number of jobs (-359) during that same time period. Apple work again grew by the largest amount of employment (2,884) from September 2004 to October 2004. Onion work contracted by the largest amount (-453) of employment for that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for October 2004 in Area 5 was \$7.84 per hour. (See pages 24 - 26 for Area 5 detail)

AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH EASTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	OCT 04	SEP 04	OCT 03	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04	SEP 04- OCT 04	OCT 03- OCT 04
CROP							
Apples	7,877	4,993	5,713	2,884	2,164	57.8%	37.9%
Grapes	1,085	328	709	757	376	230.8%	53.0%
Hops	0	307	0	(307)	0	-100.0%	0.0%
Misc Vegetables	582	893	606	(311)	(24)	-34.8%	-4.0%
Nursery	10	0	5	0	5	0.0%	100.0%
Onion	225	678	314	(453)	(89)	-66.8%	-28.3%
Other Seasonal	248	284	291	(36)	(43)	-12.7%	-14.8%
Other Tree Fruit	0	71	70	(71)	(70)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Potatoes	332	758	691	(426)	(359)	-56.2%	-52.0%
Strawberry	0	3	0	(3)	0	-100.0%	0.0%
Wheat/Grain	28	18	35	10	(7)	55.6%	-20.0%
**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 October.

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 OCTOBER 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: 2,775 (2,212 local, 0 intrastate, 328 interstate, 235 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	638	\$ 7.17/hr
Blueberry Pruner	518	\$ 7.16/hr
Raspberry Pruner	227	\$ 7.24/hr
Cauliflower Harvester	207	\$ 7.16/hr

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 12,751 (10,391 local, 529 intrastate, 876 interstate, 868 foreign, 87 unknown origin)

Apple Harvester	9,632	\$ 7.54/hr or \$10.00 - \$24.00 per bin
Pear Sorter/Grader/Packer	698	\$ 8.25/hr
Grapes Harvester	410	\$ 7.98/hr
Apple Worker	286	\$ 7.82/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 15,992 (13,127 local, 1,687 intrastate, 835 interstate, 343 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Apple Harvester	14,331	\$ 7.21/hr or \$12.00 - \$30.00 per bin
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	466	\$ 7.66/hr
Pear Sorter/Grader/Packer	317	\$ 7.42/hr
Apple Worker	229	\$ 8.62/hr

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 10,539 (7,122 local, 0 intrastate, 979 interstate, 480 foreign, 1,958 unknown origin)

Apple Harvester	8,070	\$ 7.57/hr or \$12.00 - \$40.00 per bin
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	530	\$ 7.54/hr
Apple Worker	260	\$ 8.32/hr
Potato Vehicle Operator	177	\$ 9.67/hr

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 10,386 (9,546 local, 117 intrastate, 204 interstate, 222 foreign, 297 unknown origin)

Apple Harvester	7,690	\$ 7.63/hr or \$10.00 - \$25.00 per bin
Grapes Harvester	1,067	\$ 7.84/hr
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	182	\$ 7.47/hr
Sweet Corn Vehicle Operator	160	\$10.40/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 340 (244 local, 0 intrastate, 6 interstate, 6 foreign, 84 unknown origin)

Wheat Tractor Operator	54	\$11.50/hr
Nursery Weeder	38	\$ 7.75/hr
Nursery Harvester	38	\$ 8.00/hr
Potato Vehicle Operator	33	\$ 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
OCTOBER 2004

TABLE 1

OCTOBER 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	2,212	0	328	235	0	2,775
2. South Central	10,391	529	876	868	87	12,751
3. North Central	13,127	1,687	835	343	0	15,992
4. Columbia Basin	7,122	0	979	480	1,958	10,539
5. South Eastern	9,546	117	204	222	297	10,386
6. Eastern	244	0	6	6	84	340
State Totals	42,642	2,332	3,227	2,154	2,426	52,783
% State Total	80.8%	4.4%	6.1%	4.1%	4.6%	100%

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: OCTOBER 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	2,775
a. Local	2,212
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	328
d. Foreign	235
e. Unknown	0
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: California, Oregon, Texas	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The October 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 8,290.

2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:

a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:

Weather conditions were cooler and wetter than normal for the reporting period. U-Pick pumpkin growers reported excellent sales. Most crops had been harvested. Potatoes continued to be harvested. Apple harvest continued for the later varieties. Blueberry and raspberry pruning continued. Christmas tree growers were getting ready to start their harvest season.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in October averaged \$7.59 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for blueberry pruner, cauliflower harvester, bulbs sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous squash harvester, beets harvester, miscellaneous vegetables harvester and raspberry tractor operator to \$14.00 for wheat worker. No piece rates were reported. Housing was limited.

c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:

The labor force was estimated at 79.7% local, 0.0% intrastate, 11.8% interstate, foreign 8.5% 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: OCTOBER 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	2,775
		* = piece rate
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	638	\$ 7.17
Blueberry Pruner	518	\$ 7.16
Raspberry Pruner	227	\$ 7.24
Cauliflower Harvester	207	\$ 7.16
Pumpkin Sorter/Grader/Packer	159	\$ 7.20
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	118	\$ 7.16
Raspberry Trainer	86	\$ 7.25
Nursery Planter	84	\$ 7.22
Nursery Preparation	81	\$ 7.92
Potato Vehicle Operator	80	\$11.50
Misc Squash Harvester	79	\$ 7.16
Beets Harvester	73	\$ 7.16
Nursery Worker	59	\$ 7.66
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	55	\$ 7.57
Pumpkin Harvester	49	\$ 7.20
Strawberry Weeder	43	\$ 7.25
Nursery Pruner	33	\$ 7.92
Cauliflower Manager	24	\$ 8.00
General Farm Worker	24	\$ 7.83
Misc Field Crops Weeder	24	\$ 8.55
Potato Worker	14	\$ 7.25
Misc Peppers Harvester	12	\$ 7.50
Misc Vegetables Harvester	12	\$ 7.16
Cabbage Harvester	12	\$ 7.50
Raspberry Tractor Operator	11	\$ 7.16
Misc Under Cover Crop Sorter/Grader/Packer	10	\$ 7.50
Potato Mechanized Harvester	10	\$10.67
Cauliflower Forklift Driver	6	\$ 7.50
Cauliflower Worker	6	\$13.00
Wheat Worker	3	\$14.00
Potato Manager	3	\$ 8.25
Misc Field Crops Harvester	3	\$ 8.55
Misc Field Crops Tractor Operator	3	\$ 9.00
Potato Tractor Operator	3	\$ 8.50
Chicken Eggs Worker	3	\$ 8.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 \$ 7.59/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: OCTOBER 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	12,751
a. Local	10,391
b. Intrastate migratory	529
c. Interstate migratory	876
d. Foreign	868
e. Unknown	87
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Camano, Othello, Eltopia, Sunnyside, Wenatchee	
b. Interstate: Arizona, California, Florida, Oregon	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The October 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 15,874.
 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. Apple harvest continued under ideal field conditions as the peak of the Red Delicious crop came in. Most apple growers experienced an extended harvest period that started a week earlier than normal. Pear warehouse work and grape harvest continued.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in October averaged \$7.68 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for pear worker, pear pruner, miscellaneous peppers harvester, green onion sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous field crops weeder, potato sorter/grader/packer, green onion harvester, general farm irrigator, spinach sorter/grader/packer, spinach harvester and grapes weeder to \$16.94 for grapes manager. Typical piece rates were: \$10.00 to \$24.00 per bin for apple 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 81.5% local, 4.1% intrastate, 6.9% interstate, foreign 6.8% and unknown 0.7%. Shortages of workers were reported for tree fruit picking.
 - 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: OCTOBER 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 12,751	* = piece rate
Apple Harvester	9,632	\$ 7.54 or * \$10.00 - \$24.00 per bin
Pear Sorter/Grader/Packer	698	\$ 8.25
Grapes Harvester	410	\$ 7.98
Apple Worker	286	\$ 7.82
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	204	\$ 8.22
Apple Tractor Operator	167	\$ 8.00
Grapes Hand Thinner	153	\$ 9.00
Silage Vehicle Operator	117	\$ 8.04
Pear Worker	104	\$ 7.16
Pear Pruner	83	\$ 7.16
Apple Manager	73	\$ 8.50
Misc Squash Harvester	60	\$ 7.50
Misc Peppers Harvester	58	\$ 7.16
Misc Onion Harvester	48	Not Available
Cucumber Harvester	44	Not Available
Apple Vehicle Operator	42	\$10.25
Green Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	37	\$ 7.16
Misc Field Crops Weeder	36	\$ 7.16
Misc Peppers Sorter/Grader/Packer	33	\$ 7.38
Grapes Mechanic	31	\$ 8.50
Grapes Vehicle Operator	31	\$ 8.50
Grapes Irrigator	31	\$ 7.75
Nursery Planter	29	\$ 7.85
Nursery Weeder	29	\$ 7.82
General Farm Worker	29	\$ 8.05
Cucumber Sorter/Grader/Packer	23	\$ 7.50
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	21	\$ 7.16
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	21	\$ 9.50
Cherry Pruner	21	\$ 7.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Mechanized Harvester	19	\$ 8.00
Nursery Worker	19	\$ 8.98
Green Onion Harvester	19	\$ 7.16
Grapes Tractor Operator	17	\$10.00
Dairy Vehicle Operator	15	\$10.00
Dairy Worker	15	\$ 7.20
Grapes Trainer	13	\$ 8.34

Area 2 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: OCTOBER 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
General Farm Irrigator	10	\$ 7.16
Silage Mechanized Harvester	10	\$ 8.50
Spinach Sorter/Grader/Packer	8	\$ 7.16
Hops Worker	7	\$ 9.00
Mint Vehicle Operator	7	\$ 8.20
Potato Tractor Operator	7	\$ 8.00
Mint Worker	7	\$ 8.00
Spinach Harvester	6	\$ 7.16
Grapes Weeder	6	\$ 7.16
Hops Trainer	4	\$ 7.50
Grapes Manager	4	\$16.94
Misc Vegetables Worker	2	\$ 8.00
Misc Vegetables Harvester	2	\$ 7.50
Nursery Harvester	2	\$ 7.50
Pumpkin Harvester	2	\$ 7.50

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 7.68/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: OCTOBER 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	15,992
	a. Local	13,127
	b. Intrastate migratory	1,687
	c. Interstate migratory	835
	d. Foreign	343
	e. Unknown	0
2.	Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
	a. Intrastate: Benton City, Chelan, Ephrata, George, Kent, Mattawa, Quincy, Seattle, Wenatchee, Yakima	
	b. Interstate: California, Florida, Oregon	
	c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The October 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 10,929.
 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. Apple harvest was winding down. Potato harvest, apple warehouse and pear warehouse work continued. Winter wheat plantings were all emerged and looked good at this time.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in October averaged \$7.35 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for miscellaneous fruit trees worker, nursery worker, apple suckering worker, pear suckering worker, nursery sorter/grader/packer and nursery mechanic to \$24.00 for miscellaneous field crops manager. Typical piece rates were: \$12.00 to \$30.00 per bin for apple picking. Housing was very limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 82.2% local, 10.5% intrastate, 5.2% interstate, 2.1% foreign and 0.0% unknown. Shortages of workers were reported for tree fruit picking.
 - 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: OCTOBER 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 15,992	* = piece rate
Apple Harvester	14,331	\$ 7.21 or * \$12.00 - \$30.00 per bin
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	466	\$ 7.66
Pear Sorter/Grader/Packer	317	\$ 7.42
Apple Worker	229	\$ 8.62
Apple Tractor Operator	156	\$ 8.90
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	131	\$ 7.16
Apple Manager	72	\$ 8.92
Pear Irrigator	48	\$ 7.50
Pear Harvester	48	\$ 8.00
Apple Forklift Driver	30	\$ 8.97
Apple Chemical Applicator	24	\$ 7.88
Pear Forklift Driver	21	\$ 9.00
Beef Cattle Worker	17	\$10.00
Nursery Worker	17	\$ 7.16
Misc Hay Irrigator	8	\$ 9.35
Pear Vehicle Operator	6	Not Available
Apple Suckering Worker	6	\$ 7.16
Pear Chemical Applicator	6	\$ 8.25
Pear Suckering Worker	6	\$ 7.16
Cherry Irrigator	6	\$10.00
Pear Worker	6	\$ 8.00
Horse and Equines Worker	4	\$12.00
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	4	\$ 7.16
Nursery Mechanic	4	\$ 7.16
Misc Field Crops Manager	4	\$24.00
Misc Field Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	4	\$ 8.00
Misc Field Crops Worker	4	\$20.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	4	\$ 9.00
Horse and Equines Trainer	4	\$22.00
Misc Hay Tractor Operator	4	\$ 9.00
Apple Loader	2	\$12.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS

EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG

PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.35/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: OCTOBER 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	10,539
a. Local	7,122
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	979
d. Foreign	480
e. Unknown	1,958
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: California, Texas	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The October 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,803.
 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. Carrot harvest processing continued. Sweet corn harvest was completed. Fuji Harvest finished up. The fourth cutting of alfalfa was completed. Yields on most crops were good.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in October averaged \$7.83 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for field corn irrigator, miscellaneous onion loader, mint weeder, miscellaneous vegetables worker, nursery weeder and nursery trainer to \$16.31 for miscellaneous field crops worker and miscellaneous fields crops vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$12.00 to \$40.00 per bin for apple 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 67.5% local, 0.0% intrastate, 9.3% interstate 4.6% foreign and 18.6% unknown. Shortages of workers were reported for tree fruit picking.
 - 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: OCTOBER 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 10,539	* = piece rate
Apple Harvester	8,070	\$ 7.57 or * \$12.00 - \$40.00 per bin
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	530	\$ 7.54
Apple Worker	260	\$ 8.32
Potato Vehicle Operator	177	\$ 9.67
Potato Worker	169	\$ 7.41
Potato Harvester	147	\$ 7.55
Apple Tractor Operator	147	\$ 8.81
Potato Loader	123	\$ 7.88
Apple Manager	117	\$ 9.00
Potato Tractor Operator	113	\$ 7.84
Apple Forklift Driver	107	\$ 8.72
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	76	\$ 7.29
Potato Mechanized Harvester	45	\$11.23
Apple Vehicle Operator	41	\$ 9.00
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	38	\$ 9.43
Misc Onion Vehicle Operator	33	\$ 9.31
Misc Field Crops Worker	32	\$16.31
Misc Field Crops Vehicle Operator	32	\$16.31
Pear Chemical Applicator	27	\$ 8.00
Wheat Preparation	24	\$ 8.00
Misc Onion Harvester	23	\$ 8.18
Field Corn Irrigator	22	\$ 7.16
Misc Onion Loader	18	\$ 7.16
Potato Mechanic	18	\$10.00
Mint Weeder	15	\$ 7.16
Misc Onion Mechanized Harvester	15	\$10.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	13	\$10.00
Nursery Worker	12	\$ 7.18
Cherry Trainer	12	\$ 8.00
Potato Manager	11	\$12.00
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Combine Driver	11	\$ 8.50
Misc Onion Forklift Driver	8	\$ 8.50
Potato Forklift Driver	8	\$ 7.83
Pumpkin Harvester	8	\$ 7.50
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	8	\$ 8.67
Apple Grafter	7	\$ 7.30

Area 4 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: OCTOBER 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 Grain & Seed Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	5	\$ 7.50
Field Corn Vehicle Operator	5	\$10.00
Misc Vegetables Worker	4	\$ 7.16
General Farm Tractor Operator	3	\$10.50
General Farm Worker	3	\$10.50
Nursery Harvester	2	\$ 7.50
Nursery Weeder	1	\$ 7.16
Nursery Trainer	1	\$ 7.16

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 7.83/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: OCTOBER 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	10,386
a. Local	9,546
b. Intrastate migratory	117
c. Interstate migratory	204
d. Foreign	222
e. Unknown	297
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Kittitas, Quincy, Tonasket	
b. Interstate: California, Oregon, Texas	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The October 2004 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,878.
 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. Harvest was almost complete in wine grapes and apples. Good harvest conditions continued. Most of the fourth cutting hay was completed. Corn harvest continued as well as some final late potato fields.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in October averaged \$7.84 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.16 for field corn sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous onion worker, pumpkin sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous peppers harvester, apple sorter/grader/packer, wheat irrigator and miscellaneous onion weeder to \$15.00 for potato manager. Typical piece rates were: \$10.00 to \$25.00 per bin for apple 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 91.9% local, 1.1% intrastate, 2.0% interstate, 2.1% foreign and 2.9% unknown. Shortages of workers were reported for tree fruit picking.
 - 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: OCTOBER 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 10,386	* = piece rate
Apple Harvester	7,690	\$ 7.63 or * \$10.00 - \$25.00 per bin
Grapes Harvester	1,067	\$ 7.84
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	182	\$ 7.47
Sweet Corn Vehicle Operator	160	\$10.40
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	130	\$ 7.32
Apple Worker	103	\$ 7.77
Sweet Corn Mechanized Harvester	100	\$ 9.00
Misc Vegetables Harvester	76	Not Available
Field Corn Sorter/Grader/Packer	76	\$ 7.16
Mint Vehicle Operator	70	\$ 8.50
Sweet Corn Forklift Driver	60	\$ 9.00
Pumpkin Harvester	59	\$ 8.00
Misc Onion Worker	55	\$ 7.16
Potato Vehicle Operator	48	\$ 9.31
Potato Harvester	41	\$ 8.25
Pumpkin Sorter/Grader/Packer	30	\$ 7.16
Misc Peppers Harvester	30	\$ 7.16
Carrot Vehicle Operator	29	\$12.00
Potato Mechanized Harvester	29	\$ 8.09
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	26	\$ 7.16
Potato Loader	24	\$ 8.65
Wheat Irrigator	21	\$ 7.16
Misc Hay Planter	19	\$ 8.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	16	\$ 7.80
Apple Forklift Driver	16	\$ 8.00
Apple Irrigator	16	\$ 8.50
Misc Onion Weeder	14	\$ 7.16
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	13	\$ 9.96
Grapes Mechanized Harvester	10	\$ 7.75
Sweet Corn Worker	10	Not Available
Walla Walla Sweets Preparation	10	\$ 8.50
Sweet Corn Manager	10	Not Available
Walla Walla Sweets Irrigator	10	\$ 8.50
Apple Suckering Worker	10	\$ 7.50
Nursery Planter	10	\$ 8.25
General Farm Worker	10	\$12.00

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL SEASONAL FARM LABOR REPORT

Period: OCTOBER 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 Hay Tractor Operator	10	\$ 8.50
Alfalfa Vehicle Operator	10	\$12.00
Sweet Corn Tractor Operator	10	\$ 8.75
Grapes Manager	8	\$10.10
Apple Manager	8	\$10.10
Apple Tractor Operator	8	\$ 8.94
Wheat Tractor Operator	7	\$10.00
Misc Field Crops Tractor Operator	6	\$10.00
Misc Onion Tractor Operator	6	\$ 9.50
Silage Vehicle Operator	5	\$ 8.83
Field Corn Tractor Operator	3	\$10.00
Hops Worker	3	Not Available
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	3	\$ 8.89
Pumpkin Tractor Operator	3	\$10.00
Misc Peppers Tractor Operator	3	\$10.00
Potato Manager	2	\$15.00
Potato Tractor Operator	2	\$11.88
Potato Forklift Driver	2	\$10.00
Potato Worker	2	\$ 7.26
Field Corn Vehicle Operator	2	\$ 8.00
Sweet Corn Irrigator	2	\$ 8.50
Misc Field Crops Irrigator	2	\$ 9.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 7.84/hr (weighted average)