



AGRICULTURAL LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

JULY 2005



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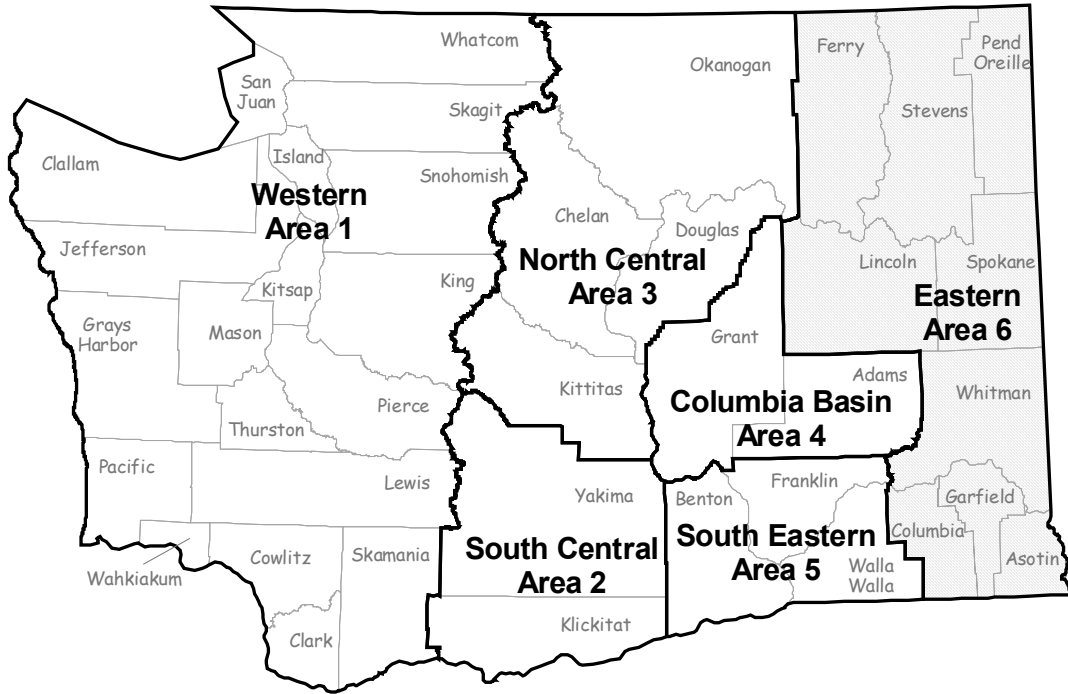
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Report available online at Workforce Explorer-Industry
<http://www.workforceexplorer.com>

JULY 2005

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

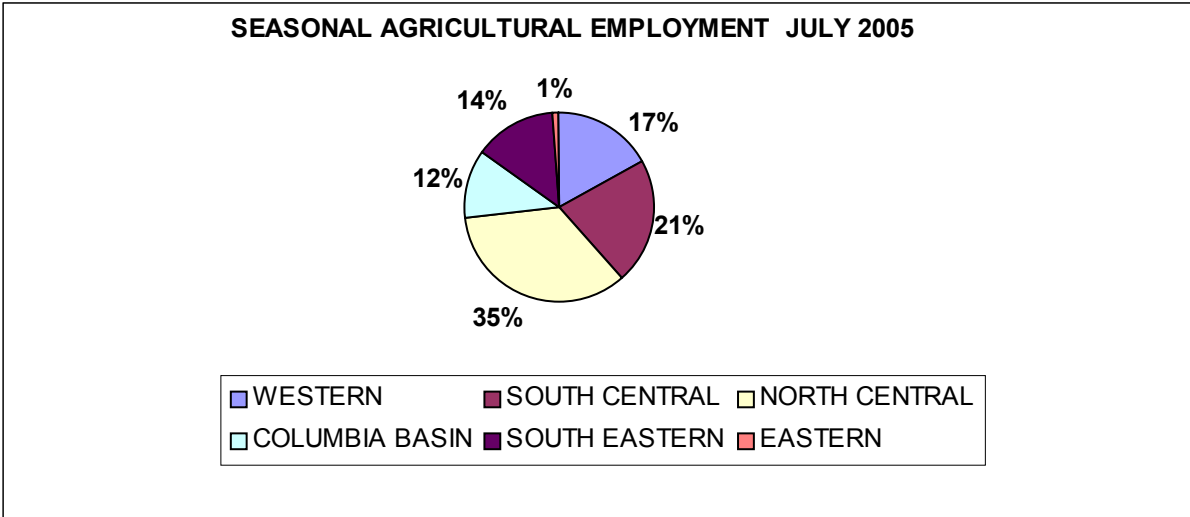
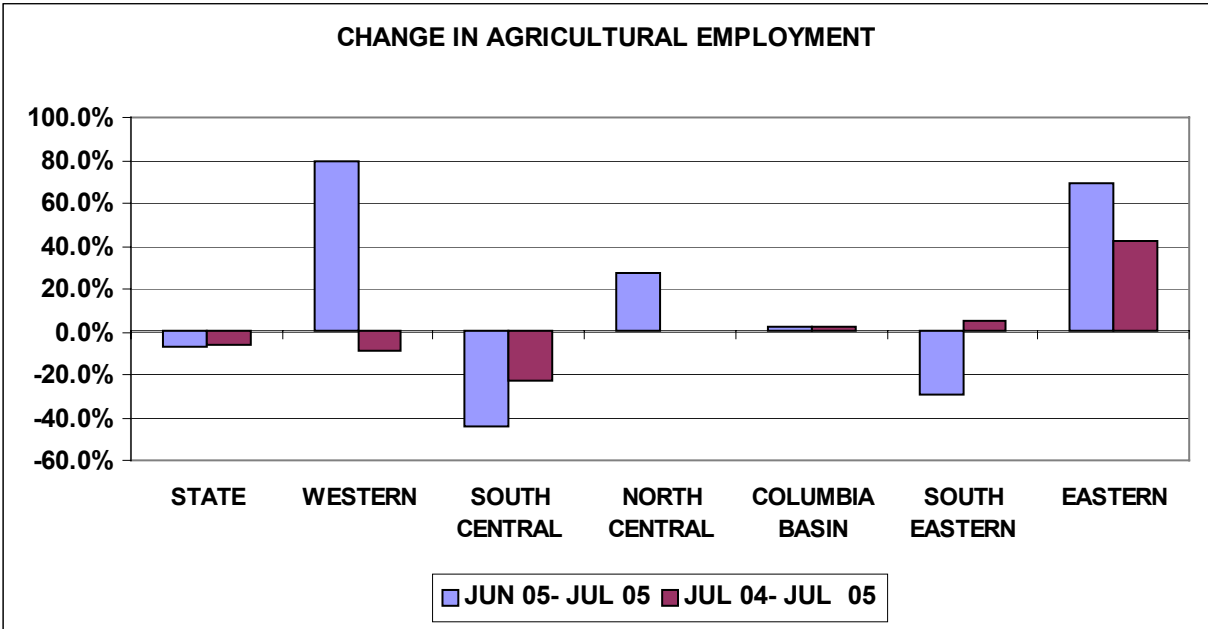
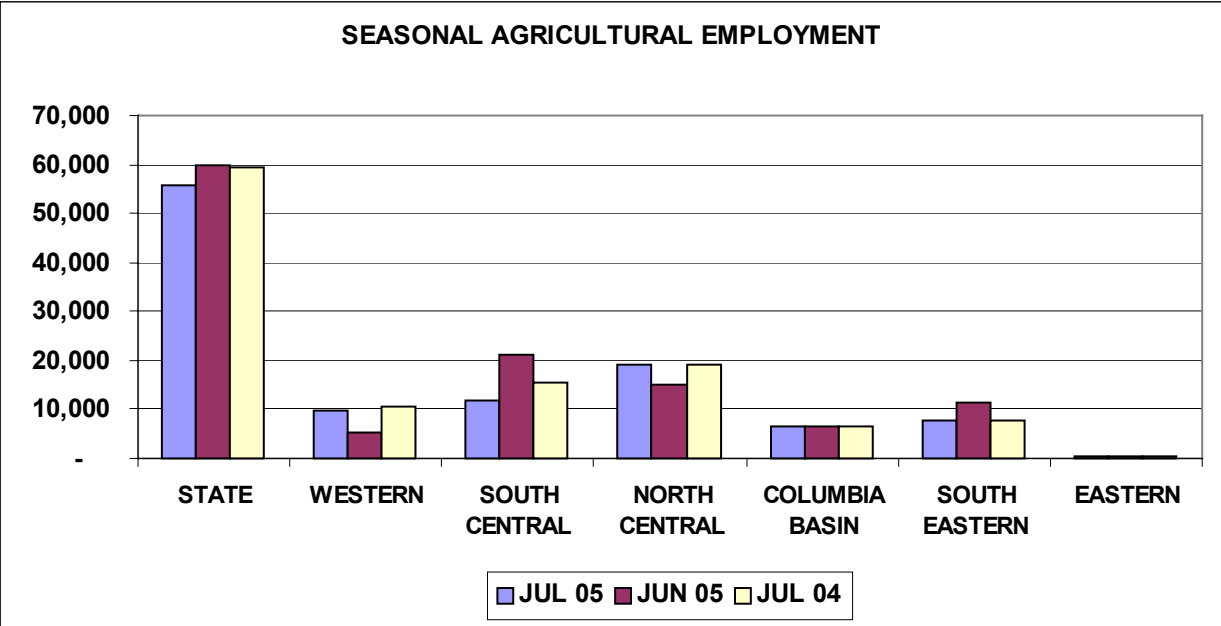
Statewide seasonal employment declined by 6.3% from July 2004 to July 2005. Agricultural activities displaying over-the-year declines were cherry work (-3,645), grape work (-1,399), raspberry work (-672), miscellaneous vegetables work (-617), potato work (-291), bulb work (-252), wheat/grain work (-73), blueberry work (-53) and strawberry work (-35). Activities displaying increases were apple work (971), other seasonal work (579), pear work (512), onion work (333), nursery work (319), asparagus work (218), cucumber work (202), other tree fruit work (137) and hops work (17). Across the state, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment fell by 8.8% due to a decline in raspberry work (-672). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment declined by 23.2% caused by a drop in cherry work (-2,013). North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment inched up by 0.5% thanks to an increase in apple work (1,809). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment also moved forward by 2.3% courtesy of an uptick in cherry work (240). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment grew by 4.8% led by an expansion in apple work (450). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment expanded by an impressive 42.2% driven by more wheat/grain work (50).

ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

India is rapidly becoming a large market for Washington State apples. Exports that were nonexistent seven years ago, might approach 1 million boxes this year as the industry finishes shipping its record 2004 harvest. The world's second-most-populace nation behind China is one of the fastest-growing overseas destinations for apples, but several obstacles remain for it to reach its full potential. A lack of modern supply chain to bring perishable goods to consumers is hindering apples sales on the subcontinent, local industry leaders say. Analysts predict that will change, however, with signs that India will remove restrictions on direct foreign ownership of retail outlets. Meanwhile, the 780,000 boxes shipped to India as of mid-July represent 3 percent of the state's total apples exports this season when growers and shippers struggled to turn a profit on the 102 million-box crop.

Asparagus growers in the state are finishing their harvest knowing that next year's prospects look bleak. This is due to the closing of the last canning plant in the state, Seneca Foods Corporation in Dayton. In 2003 the Del Monte Foods Company also closed. Growers who had contracted to sell asparagus to Seneca now likely will be forced to risk depressing prices by adding their crops to the fresh market—or switch crops altogether. Washington is the nation's No. 2 producer of asparagus behind California, harvesting about 40 percent of the U.S. crop. The seasonal employment for asparagus has been in decline since 1997 when the average employment was 2,183. In 2004 the average employment number had sunk to 1,323, a 39.4 percent drop. This market change has been due to the Andean Trade Preference Act of 1991. The intent of the law was to help countries such as Peru combat drug trafficking. The law was a boon to Peru's asparagus industry, but it has devastated Washington growers. As a result, today the United States represents more than 80 percent of Peru's fresh asparagus market. At the beginning of 2005, just 12,500 acres of asparagus remained in the state, compared to the record high of 32,000 acres in 1991.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
	JUL 05	JUN 05	JUL 04	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05
STATE	55,724	59,702	59,467	(3,978)	(3,743)	-6.7%	-6.3%
WESTERN	9,612	5,367	10,541	4,245	(929)	79.1%	-8.8%
SOUTH CENTRAL	11,863	21,244	15,456	(9,381)	(3,593)	-44.2%	-23.2%
NORTH CENTRAL	19,264	15,169	19,167	4,095	97	27.0%	0.5%
COLUMBIA BASIN	6,462	6,320	6,318	142	144	2.2%	2.3%
SOUTH EASTERN	7,923	11,248	7,563	(3,325)	360	-29.6%	4.8%
EASTERN	600	354	422	246	178	69.5%	42.2%



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment declined by 6.3% from July 2004 to July 2005. Seasonal employment also decreased by 6.7% statewide from June 2005 to July 2005. The crop activity gaining the largest number of jobs from July 2004 to July 2005 was other apple work (971). Cherry work shed the most employment (-3,645) for that same time period. Raspberry work moved ahead of all other crops in employment (4,882) from June 2005 to July 2005. Cherry work showed the greatest decline in employment (-11,919) during that same time period. The statewide weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2005 was \$7.58 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE CROP	STATE			CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 05	JUN 05	JUL 04	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05
Apples	21,613	17,259	20,642	4,354	971	25.2%	4.7%
Asparagus	452	4,074	234	(3,622)	218	-88.9%	93.2%
Blueberry	1,363	383	1,416	980	(53)	255.9%	-3.7%
Bulb	89	32	341	57	(252)	178.1%	-73.9%
Cherries	14,577	26,496	18,222	(11,919)	(3,645)	-45.0%	-20.0%
Cucumbers	352	93	150	259	202	278.5%	134.7%
Grapes	684	1,573	2,083	(889)	(1,399)	-56.5%	-67.2%
Hops	127	200	110	(73)	17	-36.5%	15.5%
Misc Vegetables	1,705	578	2,322	1,127	(617)	195.0%	-26.6%
Nursery	2,033	2,272	1,714	(239)	319	-10.5%	18.6%
Onion	1,564	159	1,231	1,405	333	883.6%	27.1%
Other Seasonal	2,338	2,360	1,759	(22)	579	-0.9%	32.9%
Other Tree Fruit	1,305	335	1,168	970	137	289.6%	11.7%
Pears	833	642	321	191	512	29.8%	159.5%
Potato	643	361	934	282	(291)	78.1%	-31.2%
Raspberry	5,064	182	5,736	4,882	(672)	2682.4%	-11.7%
Strawberries	604	2,540	639	(1,936)	(35)	-76.2%	-5.5%
Wheat/Grain	372	147	445	225	(73)	153.1%	-16.4%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment contracted by 8.8% from July 2004 to July 2005. This trend was reversed by an 79.1% spike in employment from June 2005 to July 2005. Cucumber work grew by the greatest amount of employment (202) from July 2004 to July 2005. Raspberry work stepped back by the largest number of jobs (-672) for that same time period. However, raspberry work surged ahead by the greatest margin (4,882) from June 2005 to July 2005. Strawberry work lost the most employment (-2,342) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2005 in Area 1 was \$7.67 per hour. (See pages 14 -16 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
WESTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 05	JUN 05	JUL 04	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05
CROP							
Blueberry	1,363	383	1,416	980	(53)	255.9%	-3.7%
Bulb	89	32	341	57	(252)	178.1%	-73.9%
Cucumbers	352	93	150	259	202	278.5%	134.7%
Misc Vegetables	514	108	659	406	(145)	375.9%	-22.0%
Nursery	1,628	1,808	1,472	(180)	156	-10.0%	10.6%
Other Seasonal	466	303	281	163	185	53.8%	65.8%
Potato	106	102	37	4	69	3.9%	186.5%
Raspberry	5,064	182	5,736	4,882	(672)	2682.4%	-11.7%
Rhubarb	12	0	15	12	(3)	0.0%	-20.0%
Strawberries	18	2,360	434	(2,342)	(416)	-99.2%	-95.9%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment slowed by 23.2% from July 2004 to July 2005. This was overshadowed by a larger loss of 44.2% in employment from June 2005 to July 2005. Pear work led all other crops in employment gain (590) from July 2004 to July 2005. Cherry work posted the greatest loss of jobs (-2,013) for that same time period. Apple work expanded by the largest amount of employment (1,701) from June 2005 to July 2005. Due to the harvest peaking in June instead of July, cherry work plummeted by the greatest number of jobs (-9,276) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2005 in Area 2 was \$7.53 per hour. (See pages 17 -19 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 05	JUN 05	JUL 04	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05
CROP							
Apples	6,378	4,677	6,825	1,701	(447)	36.4%	-6.5%
Asparagus	452	1,907	221	(1,455)	231	-76.3%	104.5%
Cherries	2,914	12,190	4,927	(9,276)	(2,013)	-76.1%	-40.9%
Grapes	250	1,105	1,390	(855)	(1,140)	-77.4%	-82.0%
Hops	54	128	34	(74)	20	-57.8%	58.8%
Misc Vegetables	250	153	497	97	(247)	63.4%	-49.7%
Onions	7	0	54	7	(47)	0.0%	-87.0%
Other Seasonal	455	496	499	(41)	(44)	-8.3%	-8.8%
Other Tree Fruit	204	162	726	42	(522)	25.9%	-71.9%
Pears	719	428	129	291	590	68.0%	457.4%
Potato	179	0	154	179	25	0.0%	16.2%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment managed a small gain of 0.5% from July 2004 to July 2005. This bump was exceeded by a much larger gain of 27.0% from June 2005 to July 2005. Apple work displayed the greatest over-the-year employment increase (1,809) from July 2004 to July 2005. Cherry work registered the largest job loss (-1,765) for that same time period. Apple work led the gainers in employment (3,691) from June 2005 to July 2005. Other seasonal work was the largest loser in employment (-139) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2005 in Area 3 was \$7.64 per hour. (See pages 20 and 21 for Area 3 detail)

AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
NORTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
CROP	JUL 05	JUN 05	JUL 04	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05
Apples	9,005	5,314	7,196	3,691	1,809	69.5%	25.1%
Cherries	9,622	9,432	11,387	190	(1,765)	2.0%	-15.5%
Other Seasonal	72	211	202	(139)	(130)	-65.9%	-64.4%
Other Tree Fruit	450	89	292	361	158	405.6%	54.1%
Pears	114	124	90	(10)	24	-8.1%	26.7%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment inched ahead by 2.3% from July 2004 to July 2005. This increase was also echoed by a small increase of 2.2% in employment from June 2005 to July 2005. Cherry work moved ahead of all other crops in employment gain (240) from July 2004 to July 2005. Potato work scaled back by the most jobs (-304) during that same time period. Cherry work again led over-the-month gainers in employment (1,609) from June 2005 to July 2005. Other seasonal work displayed the largest employment loss (-257) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2005 in Area 4 was \$7.49 per hour. (See pages 22 - 24 for Area 4 detail)

AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
COLUMBIA BASIN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
CROP	JUL 05	JUN 05	JUL 04	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05
Apples	3,350	3,591	3,291	(241)	59	-6.7%	1.8%
Asparagus	0	214	13	(214)	(13)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Cherries	1,609	0	1,369	1,609	240	0.0%	17.5%
Mint	43	0	18	43	25	0.0%	138.9%
Misc Vegetables	467	68	460	399	7	586.8%	1.5%
Nursery	243	271	215	(28)	28	-10.3%	13.0%
Onion	133	87	72	46	61	52.9%	84.7%
Other Seasonal	366	623	273	(257)	93	-41.3%	34.1%
Other Tree Fruit	146	4	17	142	0	3550.0%	0.0%
Pears	0	90	102	(90)	(102)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Potato	45	30	349	15	(304)	50.0%	-87.1%
Wheat/Grain	55	27	139	0	(84)	0.0%	-60.4%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment expanded by 4.8% from July 2004 to July 2005. However, seasonal employment fell back by 29.6% from June 2005 to July 2005. Strawberry work grew by the largest amount of employment (381) from July 2004 to July 2005. Apple work led the decliners (-450) during that same time period. Onion work surged ahead by the largest number of jobs (1,352) from June 2005 to July 2005. Cherry work shed the most employment (-3,128) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2005 in Area 5 was \$7.50 per hour. (See pages 25 - 28 for Area 5 detail)

AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH EASTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 05	JUN 05	JUL 04	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05
CROP							
Apples	2,880	3,677	3,330	(797)	(450)	-21.7%	-13.5%
Asparagus	0	1,953	0	(1,953)	0	-100.0%	0.0%
Cherries	432	3,560	539	(3,128)	(107)	-87.9%	-19.9%
Grapes	434	468	693	(34)	(259)	-7.3%	-37.4%
Hops	73	72	76	1	(3)	1.4%	-3.9%
Misc Vegetables	462	249	691	213	(229)	85.5%	-33.1%
Nursery	86	72	1	14	85	19.4%	8500.0%
Onion	1,424	72	1,105	1,352	319	1877.8%	28.9%
Other Seasonal	679	560	304	119	375	21.3%	123.4%
Other Tree Fruit	505	80	133	425	372	531.3%	279.7%
Potatoes	313	229	394	84	(81)	36.7%	-20.6%
Strawberries	586	180	205	406	381	225.6%	185.9%
Wheat/Grain	50	54	92	(4)	(42)	-7.4%	-45.7%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment ramped up by 42.2% from July 2004 to July 2005 due to an early and large wheat harvest. Additionally, seasonal employment charged ahead by 69.5% in July 2005 over June 2005. Other seasonal work added the largest number of jobs (75) from July 2004 to July 2005. No seasonal work lost employment but nursery displayed the smallest gain (50) for that same time period. Wheat/grain work expanded by the largest amount of employment (201) from June 2005 to July 2005. Nursery work displayed the largest decrease (-45) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers for July 2005 in Area 6 was \$8.33 per hour. (See pages 29 and 30 for Area 6 detail)

AREA 6 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
EASTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JUL 05	JUN 05	JUL 04	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05	JUN 05- JUL 05	JUL 04- JUL 05
CROP							
Nursery	76	121	26	(45)	50	-37.2%	192.3%
Other Seasonal	257	167	182	90	75	53.9%	41.2%
Wheat/Grain	267	66	214	201	53	304.5%	24.8%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

Methodology

The "Agricultural Workforce Report" uses data from the monthly Seasonal Farm Labor Survey. This is a survey of 600 agricultural growers in the state. They report monthly the number of total and seasonal workers by crop, activity, and wage. Both hourly and piece rates are used. "Seasonal" workers for the purpose of the survey are those working less than 150 days per year. The state is grouped into six areas based on agricultural economic similarity. The tables and charts presented compare the seasonal agricultural employment for the state and the six areas for the current month, previous month and year ago. Percentage increases as well as raw numbers are given. The weighted monthly wage for seasonal employment is given for the state and the six areas. Each crop activity having significant employment is noted as a percentage change for previous month and year ago. The crops having the highest gain and highest decline in employment are highlighted in the narrative. The Farm Labor Abstract is also included. This contains the top four crop activities by employment and wage for each of the six areas. Piece rates are given in addition to hourly wages when available and disclosable. Some variation in the reporting of the seasonal data can be attributed to the requirement that employment be reported in the pay period including the 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 LABOR REPORT

Washington State Employment Security, Labor Market and Economic Analysis

SEASONAL LABOR ABSTRACT JULY 2005

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: 9,612 (4,030 local, 174 intrastate, 504 interstate, 53 foreign, 4,851 unknown origin)

Raspberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	2,558	\$ 7.39/hr	
Raspberry Harvester	1,219	\$ 7.36/hr	
Blueberry Harvester	1,029	\$ 7.35/hr	or \$ 0.17½ - \$ 0.35 per pound
Raspberry Mechanized Harvester	712	\$ 7.41/hr	

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 11,863 (7,986 local, 2,206 intrastate, 513 interstate, 1,057 foreign, 101 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	5,566	\$ 7.36/hr	
Cherry Harvester	1,486	\$ 8.08/hr	or \$45.00 - \$60.00 per bin
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	1,402	\$ 7.35/hr	
Asparagus Harvester	423	\$ 7.35/hr	

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 19,264 (15,546 local, 472 intrastate, 2,095 interstate, 260 foreign, 891 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	8,523	\$ 7.40/hr	or \$ 0.08 - \$ 3.75 per tree
Cherry Harvester	7,594	\$ 7.65/hr	or \$ 4.25 - \$ 7.00 per box
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	1,809	\$ 7.62/hr	
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	297	\$ 7.35/hr	

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 6,462 (4,063 local, 36 intrastate, 631 interstate, 699 foreign, 1,033 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	3,028	\$ 7.42/hr	or \$ 0.16 - \$10.00 per tree
Cherry Harvester	1,586	\$ 7.36/hr	or \$ 3.50 - \$ 5.00 per lug
Sweet Corn Weeder	452	\$ 7.35/hr	
Apple Trainer	184	\$ 7.35/hr	

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 7,923 (6,421 local, 99 intrastate, 176 interstate, 543 foreign, 684 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	2,464	\$ 7.37/hr	or \$ 0.50 - \$ 3.00 per tree
Walla Walla Sweets Harvester	937	\$ 7.36/hr	
Cherry Harvester	420	\$ 7.35/hr	
Strawberry Harvester	407	Not Available	

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 600 (580 local, 13 intrastate, 7 interstate, 0 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Wheat Tractor Operator	89	\$ 9.19/hr	
Wheat Vehicle Operator	76	\$ 9.67/hr	
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Worker	51	\$ 9.38/hr	
Wheat Combine Driver	51	\$11.25/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												

AGRICULTURAL LABOR SURVEY
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE DETAIL BY CROP ACTIVITY

JULY 2005

TABLE 1

JULY 2005

**Agricultural 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	4,030	174	504	53	4,851	9,612
2. South Central	7,986	2,206	513	1,057	101	11,863
3. North Central	15,546	472	2,095	260	891	19,264
4. Columbia Basin	4,063	36	631	699	1,033	6,462
5. South Eastern	6,421	99	176	543	684	7,923
6. Eastern	580	13	7	0	0	600
State Totals	38,626	3,000	3,926	2,613	7,560	55,724
% State Total	69.3%	5.4%	7.0%	4.7%	13.6%	100%

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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 9,612
a. Local 4,029
b. Intrastate migratory 174
c. Interstate migratory 504
d. Foreign 53
e. Unknown 4,851
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
a. Intrastate: Everson, Gig Harbor, Mount Vernon, Selah, Wenatchee
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 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 6,285.
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. Livestock producers harvested hay under nearly ideal conditions. Greenhouse tomato growers reported excellent demand to the point of being sold out. Sweet corn and field corn were beginning to show signs of drought distress where irrigation was not available. The general drought conditions were expected to be bad through the end of September.
b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.67 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for nursery harvester, blueberry harvester, cauliflower weeder, cucumber weeder, bulbs sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous squash harvester, cucumber harvester, nursery weeder, beans harvester, nursery irrigator, raspberry planter, potato sorter/grader/packer, nursery cultivator, raspberry weeder, miscellaneous onion harvester, miscellaneous squash weeder, beets harvester, blackberry harvester, potato worker, nursery chemical applicator and strawberry harvester to \$12.00 for blueberry tractor operator. Typical piece rates were: \$.17 1/2 to \$.35 per pound for blueberry picking. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated at 41.9% local, 1.8% intrastate, 5.3% interstate, foreign 0.6% and 50.4% unknown.
d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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	9,612
		* = piece rate
Raspberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	2,558	\$ 7.39
Raspberry Harvester	1,219	\$ 7.36
Blueberry Harvester	1,029	\$ 7.35 or * \$ 0.17½ - \$ 0.35 per lb
Raspberry Mechanized Harvester	712	\$ 7.41
Nursery Worker	467	\$ 9.52
Nursery Planter	380	\$ 7.51
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	333	\$ 7.49
Nursery Harvester	280	\$ 7.35
Chicken Eggs Worker	232	\$ 7.52
Cauliflower Weeder	211	\$ 7.35
Raspberry Planter	190	\$ 7.35
Raspberry Worker	181	\$ 7.44
Cucumber Weeder	141	\$ 7.35
Blueberry Weeder	129	\$ 7.56
Blueberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	120	\$ 8.08
Cucumber Sorter/Grader/Packer	96	\$ 8.53
Cucumber Harvester	94	\$ 7.35
Misc Squash Harvester	94	\$ 7.35
General Farm Harvester	91	\$ 8.50
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	89	\$ 7.35
Raspberry Tractor Operator	78	\$ 7.70
Blackberry Harvester	75	\$ 7.35
Nursery Weeder	60	\$ 7.35
Beans Harvester	59	\$ 7.35
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	46	\$ 7.35
Blueberry Worker	39	\$ 8.46
Nursery Irrigator	37	\$ 7.35
Nursery Cultivator	34	\$ 7.35
Potato Weeder	34	\$ 7.44
Raspberry Vehicle Operator	31	\$ 8.50
Raspberry Forklift Driver	28	\$ 8.00
Summer fallow Worker	27	\$ 8.00
Nursery Vehicle Operator	25	\$12.00
Misc Vegetables Worker	23	\$12.00
Misc Onion Harvester	23	\$ 7.35
Lettuce Planter	23	\$ 7.50

Area 1 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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	
	TOTAL	
Beets Harvester	23	\$ 7.35
Misc Squash Weeder	23	\$ 7.35
Blueberry Vehicle Operator	20	\$10.42
Raspberry Weeder	20	\$ 7.35
General Farm Worker	17	\$ 7.83
Raspberry Manager	17	\$16.00
Raspberry Pruner	12	\$ 7.50
Cauliflower Tractor Operator	12	\$ 9.00
Cucumber Tractor Operator	12	\$ 9.00
Rhubarb Harvester	12	\$ 7.50
Raspberry Loader	12	\$ 8.00
Potato Worker	11	\$ 7.35
Blueberry Pruner	9	\$ 8.00
Strawberry Weeder	9	\$ 9.00
Blueberry Manager	9	\$10.75
Misc Berries Worker	9	\$11.37
Cucumber Worker	9	Not Available
Potato Tractor Operator	9	\$ 11.00
Nursery Tractor Operator	7	\$ 11.27
Blackberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	6	\$ 8.50
Strawberry Harvester	6	\$ 7.35
Raspberry Chemical Applicator	6	\$ 9.00
Potato Irrigator	6	\$ 9.00
Nursery Chemical Applicator	5	\$ 7.35
Blueberry Forklift Driver	5	\$ 9.75
Blueberry Tractor Operator	3	\$12.00
Strawberry Manager	3	Not Available
Misc Under Cover Crop Sorter/Grader/Packer	3	\$ 8.00
Wheat Worker	3	\$ 8.00
General Farm Mechanic	3	\$ 9.55

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS

EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG

PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 \$ 7.67/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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 11,863
 - a. Local 7,986
 - b. Intrastate migratory 2,206
 - c. Interstate migratory 513
 - d. Foreign 1,057
 - e. Unknown 101

 - 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
 - a. Intrastate: Quincy, 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 July 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 18,810.

 - 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 3 to 8 degrees above normal with no precipitation. There were no new crop losses due to a weather event reported. Primary agricultural activities were apple thinning, cherry picking and cherry warehouse work.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.53 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for cherry sorter/grader/packer, asparagus harvester, pear harvester, potato sorter/grader/packer, apple trainer, beans harvester, nectarine proper, miscellaneous field crops weeder, grapes worker, hops weeder, grapes trainer, grapes hand thinner, asparagus weeder, cherry worker, field corn irrigator, miscellaneous hay irrigator, mint mechanized harvester, asparagus loader and miscellaneous vegetables harvester to \$13.25 for asparagus manager. Typical piece rates were: \$45.00 to \$60.00 per bin for cherry picking. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.

 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 67.3% local, 18.6% intrastate, 4.3% interstate, foreign 8.9% and unknown 0.9%.

 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

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

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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	11,863
		* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	5,566	\$ 7.36
Cherry Harvester	1,486	\$ 8.08 or * \$45.00 - \$60.00 per bin
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	1,402	\$ 7.35
Asparagus Harvester	423	\$ 7.35
Pear Hand Thinner	408	\$ 7.87
Apple Irrigator	315	\$ 8.23
Pear Harvester	275	\$ 7.35
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	271	\$ 7.43
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	179	\$ 7.35
Apple Trainer	122	\$ 7.35
Apricot Harvester	122	\$ 8.00
Contract Misc Crew Weeder	117	\$ 7.53
Cucumber Harvester	109	\$ 7.50
Apple Pruner	85	\$ 7.50
Nectarine Propper	82	\$ 7.35
Beans Harvester	67	\$ 7.35
Mint Weeder	67	\$ 7.43
Grapes Suckering Worker	64	\$ 7.37
Misc Field Crops Weeder	63	\$ 7.35
Nursery Planter	57	\$ 8.41
Grapes Worker	56	\$ 7.35
Hops Weeder	54	\$ 7.35
Silage Irrigator	47	\$ 8.27
Cucumber Sorter/Grader/Packer	40	\$ 7.75
Grapes Weeder	40	\$ 7.50
Grapes Trainer	34	\$ 7.35
Grapes Hand Thinner	32	\$ 7.35
Asparagus Weeder	22	\$ 7.35
Mint Vehicle Operator	19	\$10.25
Wheat Vehicle Operator	19	\$10.25
Contract Misc Crew Manager	17	\$10.00
Cherry Pruner	16	\$ 8.00
Grapes Irrigator	16	\$ 9.00
Pear Pruner	16	\$ 8.50
Pear Worker	10	\$ 9.32
Cherry Worker	10	\$ 7.35

Area 2 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
State: WASHINGTON

Area 2: SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL	* = piece rate
Apple Worker	10	\$ 9.36
Tomato Weeder	10	\$ 7.50
Misc Peppers Weeder	10	\$ 7.50
Misc Squash Weeder	10	\$ 7.50
Misc Hay Irrigator	9	\$ 7.35
Wheat Combine Driver	9	\$12.50
Nursery Worker	9	\$ 9.00
Field Corn Irrigator	9	\$ 7.35
Mint Mechanized Harvester	9	\$ 7.35
Apple Chemical Applicator	9	\$ 7.50
Grapes Manager	8	\$10.00
Misc Onion Irrigator	7	\$ 9.75
Asparagus Loader	5	\$ 7.35
Alfalfa Irrigator	2	\$ 8.00
Silage Tractor Operator	2	\$ 8.00
Misc Vegetables Harvester	2	\$ 7.35
Misc Vegetables Irrigator	2	\$ 8.20
Asparagus Manager	2	\$13.25

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 7.53/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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 19,264
 - a. Local 15,546
 - b. Intrastate migratory 472
 - c. Interstate migratory 2,095
 - d. Foreign 260
 - e. Unknown 891

 - 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
 - a. Intrastate: Benton City, Bridgeport, Mattawa, Outlook, Sunnyside, Tacoma, Yakima
 - b. Interstate: Alabama, Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon
 - c. Foreign: Mexico
-

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The July 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 10,303.

 - 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. Dry conditions were becoming a problem. Several spot fires occurred on wheat lands. Above average yields were reported in most areas, which was attributed to timely rains in May and June. Cherry harvest was slowing as the high elevation orchards were starting to pick limited acres of later varieties. Other primary agricultural activities were apple thinning and cherry warehouse work.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.64 per hour. Hourly wages ranged \$7.35 for miscellaneous fruit trees worker, pear hand thinner and apple proper to \$25.00 for horse and equines manager. Typical piece rates were: \$.08 to \$3.75 per tree for apple thinning and \$4.25 to \$7.00 per box for cherry picking. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.

 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 80.6% local, 2.5% intrastate, 10.9% interstate, 1.4% foreign and 4.6% unknown.

 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

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

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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 19,264	* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	8,523	\$ 7.40 or * \$ 0.08 - \$ 3.75 per tree
Cherry Harvester	7,594	\$ 7.65 or * \$ 4.25 - \$ 7.00 per box
Cherry Sorter/Grader/Packer	1,809	\$ 7.62
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	297	\$ 7.35
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	189	\$ 7.40
Apricot Harvester	142	\$ 7.60
Cherry Loader	109	\$ 8.50
Apple Preparation	104	\$ 7.68
Pear Hand Thinner	93	\$ 7.35
Apple Manager	82	\$ 8.00
Apple Chemical Applicator	49	\$ 8.11
Cherry Tractor Operator	44	\$10.00
Cherry Manager	33	\$10.00
Cherry Worker	33	\$ 8.00
Apple Propper	27	\$ 7.35
Nursery Worker	16	\$ 7.39
Horse and Equines Worker	12	\$13.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	12	\$ 9.42
Apricot Manager	11	\$ 8.25
Pear Preparation	11	\$ 7.75
Apple Irrigator	11	\$ 9.00
Apple Trainer	11	Not Available
Beef Cattle Worker	8	\$ 9.50
Misc Hay Irrigator	8	\$ 9.29
Pear Chemical Applicator	5	\$ 8.25
Pear Manager	5	\$ 8.00
Apple Worker	5	\$ 7.75
Apple Loader	4	\$12.00
Sweet Corn Irrigator	4	\$ 8.38
Wheat Vehicle Operator	4	\$11.50
Horse and Equines Manager	4	\$25.00
Misc Field Crops Worker	4	\$11.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.64/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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 6,462
a. Local 4,063
b. Intrastate migratory 36
c. Interstate migratory 631
d. Foreign 699
e. Unknown 1,033
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
a. Intrastate: Grandview, Kennewick, Monitor, Ritzville, Yakima
b. Interstate: Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon
c. Foreign: Mexico

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The July 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 6,210.
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 wound down in some areas but remained in full swing in others. Yields were better than average overall with good grain quality. Fresh pea harvest was winding down. Early sweet corn harvest began. Cherry harvest continued, with average yields being obtained. Apple thinning continued. Onion seed harvest was underway.
b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.49 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 sweet corn weeder, apple trainer, apricot harvester, grapes hand thinner, nursery suckering worker, beans weeder, potato weeder, nursery planter, mint loader, general farm irrigator, cherry pruner, wheat weeder, peas weeder, potato mechanic, alfalfa weeder, miscellaneous grain and seed crops weeder, nursery trainer and nursery tractor operator to \$14.00 for nursery manager. Typical piece rates were: \$.16 to \$10.00 per tree for apple thinning and \$3.50 to \$5.00 per lug for cherry picking. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 62.9% local, 0.6% intrastate, 9.8% interstate 10.8% foreign and 15.9% unknown.
d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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 6,462	* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	3,028	\$ 7.42 or * \$ 0.16 - \$10.00 per tree
Cherry Harvester	1,586	\$ 7.36 or * \$ 3.50 - \$ 5.00 per lug
Sweet Corn Weeder	452	\$ 7.35
Apple Trainer	184	\$ 7.35
Nursery Worker	139	\$ 7.37
Misc Onion Weeder	133	\$ 7.72
Apricot Harvester	80	\$ 7.35
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	74	\$ 9.77
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	52	\$ 9.49
Grapes Hand Thinner	51	\$ 7.35
Nursery Weeder	51	\$ 7.47
Apple Preparation	38	\$ 7.85
Nectarine Harvester	38	\$ 7.56
Field Corn Irrigator	32	\$ 8.04
Apple Manager	31	\$ 8.03
Apple Chemical Applicator	31	\$ 8.54
Mint Vehicle Operator	30	\$ 8.50
Alfalfa Irrigator	30	\$ 8.00
Peach Harvester	28	Not Available
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Weeder	27	\$ 7.42
Nursery Suckering Worker	26	\$ 7.35
Grass Seed Mechanized Harvester	24	\$ 8.00
Apple Propper	24	\$ 7.50
Potato Worker	24	\$ 9.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	19	\$10.00
Potato Weeder	16	\$ 7.35
Nursery Planter	14	\$ 7.35
Apple Worker	14	\$ 8.00
Cherry Tractor Operator	14	\$ 7.49
Wheat Worker	13	\$ 7.57
Mint Loader	13	\$ 7.35
Wheat Combine Driver	10	\$11.00
Grass Seed Combine Driver	10	\$10.00
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Worker	10	\$ 7.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Vehicle Operator	10	\$10.00
Pumpkin Weeder	9	\$ 7.50

Area 4 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
 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
General Farm Irrigator	9	\$ 7.35
Cherry Pruner	9	\$ 7.35
General Farm Worker	9	\$ 9.00
Wheat Weeder	8	\$ 7.35
Misc Hay Irrigator	7	\$ 9.00
Misc Hay Harvester	7	\$ 9.00
Alfalfa Worker	7	\$ 8.00
Peas Weeder	6	\$ 7.35
Potato Mechanic	5	\$ 7.35
Wheat Vehicle Operator	5	\$12.00
General Farm Combine Driver	4	\$10.00
Nursery Manager	3	\$14.00
Nursery Chemical Applicator	3	\$13.00
Alfalfa Weeder	3	\$ 7.35
Nursery Harvester	3	\$ 7.67
Nursery Trainer	3	\$ 7.35
Nursery Tractor Operator	1	\$ 7.35

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 7.49/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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 7,923
a. Local 6,421
b. Intrastate migratory 99
c. Interstate migratory 176
d. Foreign 543
e. Unknown 684
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
a. Intrastate: Enumclaw, Mattawa, Yakima
b. Interstate: California, Oregon, Texas
c. Foreign: El Salvador, Mexico

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

- 1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The July 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 8,077.
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. Extremely hot weather kept irrigators busy. Stone fruit harvest continued. Weed control and grape thinning were other activities. Hay harvest was going smoothly with excellent hay being harvested. Apricots and early peaches and nectarines were being harvested. Primary agricultural activities were apple thinning, onion harvesting, cherry harvesting and strawberry harvesting.
b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$7.50 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for cherry harvester, blueberry harvester, apple trainer, pear hand thinner, strawberry sorter/grader/packer, carrot weeder, apricot sorter/grader/packer, grapes worker, hops trainer, nursery weeder, nursery planter, carrot planter, potato weeder, grapes cultivator, apple cultivator, hops cultivator, strawberry tractor operator, grapes chemical applicator, strawberry vehicle operator, miscellaneous hay irrigator, apple preparer, strawberry irrigator, miscellaneous onion weeder, grapes weeder, strawberry manager, grapes planter, grapes pruner, strawberry worker, miscellaneous fruit trees worker, carrot irrigator and wheat irrigator to \$11.60 for sweet corn vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$.50 to \$3.00 per tree for apple thinning. 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 81.0% local, 1.3% intrastate, 2.2% interstate, 6.9% foreign and 8.6% unknown.
d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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 7,923	* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	2,464	\$ 7.37 or * \$ 0.50 - \$ 3.00 per tree
Walla Walla Sweets Harvester	937	\$ 7.36
Cherry Harvester	420	\$ 7.35
Strawberry Harvester	407	Not Available
Blueberry Harvester	361	\$ 7.35
Apricot Harvester	289	\$ 7.50
Misc Onion Harvester	253	Not Available
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	206	\$ 7.39
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	201	\$ 7.39
Apple Trainer	188	\$ 7.35
Grapes Trainer	172	\$ 7.39
Pear Hand Thinner	144	\$ 7.35
Strawberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	104	\$ 7.35
Carrot Weeder	104	\$ 7.35
Sweet Corn Vehicle Operator	94	\$11.60
Apple Worker	85	\$ 7.56
Chicken Eggs Worker	71	\$ 7.80
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	70	\$ 9.34
Sweet Corn Mechanized Harvester	67	\$ 9.75
Grass Seed Weeder	64	\$ 7.85
Grapes Hand Thinner	62	\$ 7.56
Apricot Sorter/Grader/Packer	62	\$ 7.35
Carrot Sorter/Grader/Packer	59	\$ 7.88
Apple Irrigator	54	\$ 7.48
Grapes Worker	47	\$ 7.35
Grapes Preparation	46	\$ 7.70
Hops Trainer	46	\$ 7.35
Nursery Weeder	38	\$ 7.35
Nursery Planter	35	\$ 7.35
Blueberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	35	\$ 7.38
Sweet Corn Forklift Driver	33	\$ 9.40
Carrot Planter	33	\$ 7.35
Potato Weeder	31	\$ 7.35
Grapes Cultivator	30	\$ 7.35
Apple Cultivator	30	\$ 7.35
Hops Cultivator	27	\$ 7.35

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL	* = piece rate
Wheat Vehicle Operator	25	\$ 9.27
Potato Harvester	24	\$ 8.37
Sweet Corn Tractor Operator	23	\$ 8.54
Apple Propper	22	\$ 7.38
Strawberry Tractor Operator	21	\$ 7.35
Beans Weeder	21	\$ 8.00
Potato Vehicle Operator	21	\$ 9.00
Grapes Chemical Applicator	21	\$ 7.35
Apple Pruner	20	\$ 7.62
Strawberry Vehicle Operator	18	\$ 7.35
Misc Hay Irrigator	18	\$ 7.35
Apple Preparation	15	\$ 7.35
Strawberry Irrigator	15	\$ 7.35
Misc Onion Weeder	15	\$ 7.35
Grapes Weeder	14	\$ 7.35
Potato Mechanized Harvester	14	\$ 9.00
Nursery Worker	13	\$ 8.75
Alfalfa Irrigator	13	\$ 6.83
Cherry Worker	12	\$ 7.41
Strawberry Manager	12	\$ 7.35
Grapes Planter	12	\$ 7.35
Misc Onion Tractor Operator	12	\$ 9.50
Grapes Irrigator	10	\$ 7.46
Field Corn Preparation	10	\$10.00
Wheat Mechanized Harvester	10	\$11.00
Wheat Worker	10	\$ 8.30
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	10	\$ 8.00
Grapes Pruner	9	\$ 7.35
Strawberry Worker	9	\$ 7.35
Potato Preparation	7	\$10.00
Potato Loader	7	\$ 8.00
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Irrigator	7	\$ 8.00
Misc Vegetables Sorter/Grader/Packer	7	\$ 8.60
Carrot Harvester	6	\$11.00
Grapes Suckering Worker	6	Not Available
General Farm Worker	6	\$10.00

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005
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 Fruit Trees Worker	6	\$ 7.35
Carrot Irrigator	6	\$ 7.75
Carrot Vehicle Operator	6	Not Available
Wheat Irrigator	5	\$ 7.35
Grass Seed Mechanized Harvester	5	\$10.75
Grapes Tractor Operator	5	\$ 8.00
Sweet Corn Irrigator	3	\$ 8.50
General Farm Weeder	3	\$ 7.50
Potato Planter	3	\$ 8.00
Misc Onion Planter	3	\$ 8.00
Misc Onion Vehicle Operator	3	\$ 9.00
Misc Field Crops Tractor Operator	3	\$ 8.00
Misc Field Crops Worker	3	\$ 9.00
Apple Tractor Operator	2	\$ 8.00
Nectarine Hand Thinner	2	\$ 8.00
Peach Hand Thinner	2	\$ 8.25

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 7.50/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005

State: WASHINGTON

Area Name: **EASTERN** (Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, PendOreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman)

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers	600
a. Local	580
b. Intrastate migratory	13
c. Interstate migratory	7
d. Unknown	0
e. Foreign	0
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Pomeroy, St. John	
b. Interstate: Idaho	
c. Foreign: None	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The July 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 1,166.
 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. Dryland winter wheat harvest was continuing. Overall, the crop has been above average in yield with reports of good grain quality. Peach and apricot picking continued. The second cutting of hay was in full swing. Dry pea harvest and lentil swathing were progressing.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in July averaged \$8.33 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for strawberry cultivator, strawberry harvester and alfalfa irrigator to \$11.25 for wheat combine driver. No piece rates were reported. Housing was limited. Workers provided their own transportation.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 96.7% local, 2.2% intrastate, 1.1% interstate, 0.0% 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 LABOR REPORT

Period: JULY 2005

State: WASHINGTON

Area 6: EASTERN (Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman Counties)

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL	600
		* = piece rate
Wheat Tractor Operator	89	\$ 9.19
Wheat Vehicle Operator	76	\$ 9.67
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Worker	51	\$ 9.38
Wheat Combine Driver	51	\$11.25
Strawberry Cultivator	41	\$ 7.35
Carrot Cultivator	41	\$ 7.50
Strawberry Harvester	41	\$ 7.35
Wheat Worker	25	\$10.00
Field Corn Cultivator	24	\$ 8.00
Nursery Worker	20	\$ 8.50
Nursery Chemical Applicator	20	\$ 8.50
Nursery Trainer	20	\$ 8.00
Strawberry Worker	16	\$ 8.00
Nursery Planter	16	\$ 7.75
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Tractor Operator	13	\$ 8.67
Lentil Chemical Applicator	13	\$10.00
Alfalfa Irrigator	13	\$ 7.35
Wheat Chemical Applicator	13	\$10.00
Wheat Preparation	13	\$ 8.00
Beef Cattle Worker	4	\$10.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN EASTERN AREA 6 \$ 8.33/hr (weighted average)