



## **AGRICULTURAL LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS**

**MARCH 2005**



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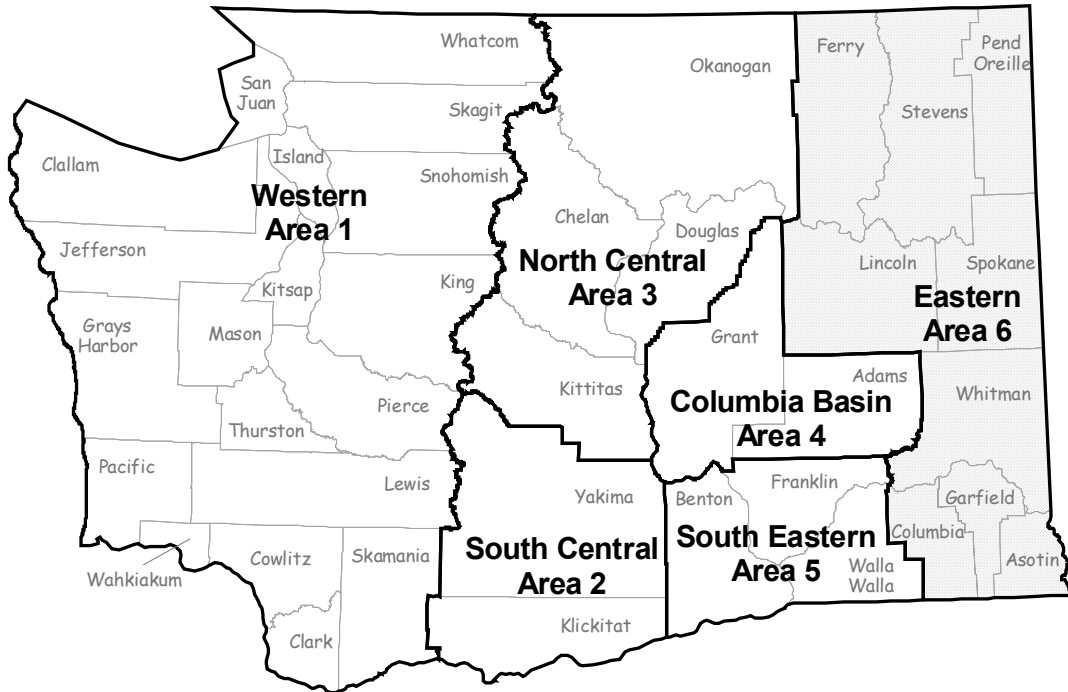
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Report available online at Workforce Explorer-Industry  
<http://www.workforceexplorer.com>

MARCH 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 grew by 14.6% from March 2004 to March 2005. This growth was caused by an increase in nursery work. Agricultural activities displaying over-the-year increases were nursery work (1,417), other tree fruit work (1,032), grapes work (519), apple work (277), raspberry work (264), pear work (261), miscellaneous vegetables work (175), cucumber work (162), other seasonal work (134), hops work (105), onion work (45), blueberry work (42) and asparagus work (22). Activities displaying declines were bulb work (-1,125), cherry work (-709), strawberry work (-117) and potato work (-44). Regionally, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment marched ahead by 25.3%, thanks to an increase in nursery work (1,350). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment moved forward by 17.3%, due to a growth in other tree fruit work (831). North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment rose by a large 31.0%, courtesy of a large increase in apple work (1,055). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment expanded by 8.2%, caused by a growth in other tree fruit work (177). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment experienced a loss of 10.6%, led by a decrease in cherry work (-220). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment expanded by 9.9%, due to an increase in nursery work (31).

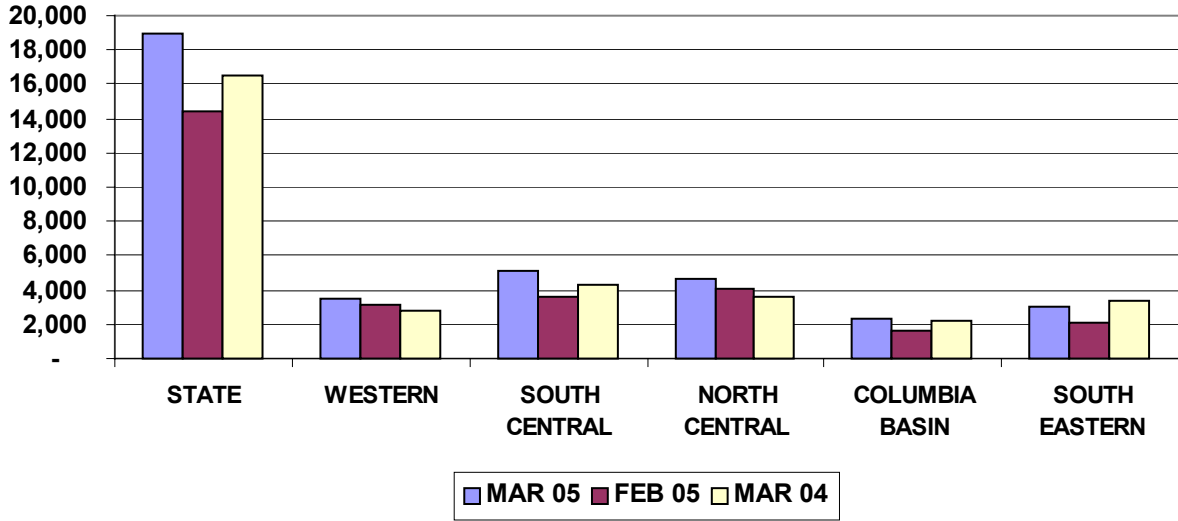
**ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE**

China is importing more wheat as its economy continues to grow at 9 to 10 percent a year and its own wheat production declines. The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates China will import 8 million metric tons of wheat this marketing year, ranking it as the world’s top importer. Of that, 2.4 metric tons will come from the United States. In just two to three years, China will be the dominant force in the wheat-trading world, importing tens of millions of metric tons. China wants soft white wheat, produced in the Pacific Northwest, and hard red wheat from Montana and North Dakota, said John Oades, director of U.S. Wheat Associates’ West Coast office in Portland, Oregon. That bodes well for the Central Washington Grain Growers Association in Waterville because its growers mainly produce soft white wheat, Oades said. In the long run, it should help prices, he said.

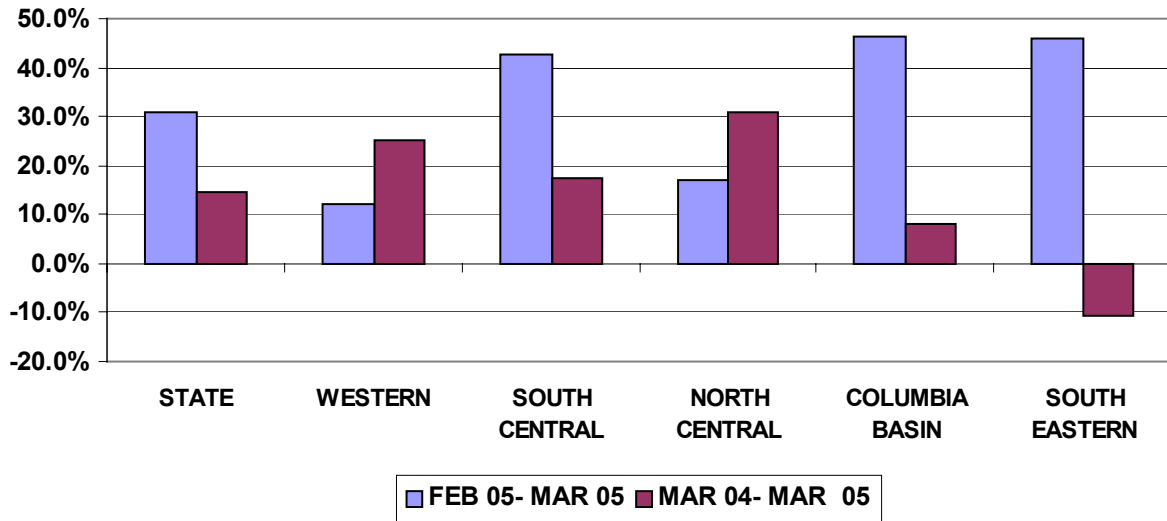
In a quarterly meeting of the Washington Asparagus Commission, directors say they will need continued state funding and new federal trade help if the local industry is to regain an edge over cheaper imports. The weapons they need, directors say, are state financial help to develop less labor intensive harvesting and packing equipment. They also need federal trade protection from Peruvian imports during Washington’s April-through-June harvest season so growers can better compete in the domestic fresh market. Director Kevin Boushey said the commission is seeking a quota on Peruvian imports during the harvest period, over which it would have to pay a tariff. Numbers have yet to be determined as the United States prepares to negotiate a new free trade agreement with the country. With the closure of Seneca Foods canned and frozen plant in Dayton after the harvest ends in June, growers in 2006 will no longer have a major processor in the state to buy their asparagus. Peru’s asparagus industry has grown from about 4,000 acres in 1991 to more than 47,000 today. Over the same time period, Washington’s acreage fell from a high of about 32,000 acres to 12,000 acres this year.

<b>SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT</b>							
				<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>	
	<b>MAR 05</b>	<b>FEB 05</b>	<b>MAR 04</b>	<b>FEB 05- MAR 05</b>	<b>MAR 04- MAR 05</b>	<b>FEB 05- MAR 05</b>	<b>MAR 04- MAR 05</b>
<b>STATE</b>	18,918	14,473	16,503	4,445	2,415	30.7%	14.6%
<b>WESTERN</b>	3,481	3,106	2,778	375	703	12.1%	25.3%
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>	5,113	3,583	4,360	1,530	753	42.7%	17.3%
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>	4,698	4,021	3,587	677	1,111	16.8%	31.0%
<b>COLUMBIA BASIN</b>	2,356	1,608	2,178	748	178	46.5%	8.2%
<b>SOUTH EASTERN</b>	2,992	2,052	3,347	940	(355)	45.8%	-10.6%
<b>EASTERN</b>	278	103	253	175	25	169.9%	9.9%

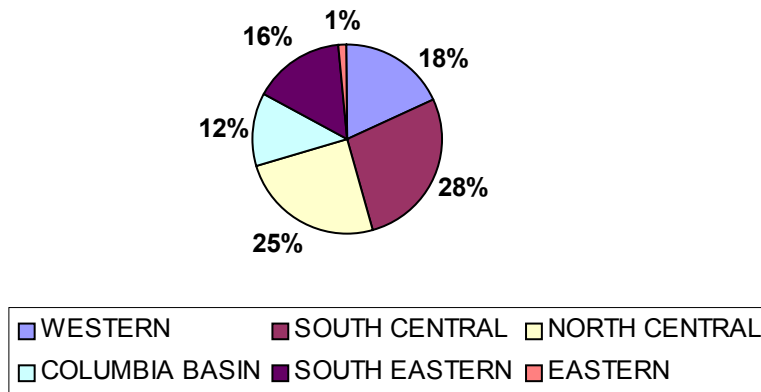
### SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



### CHANGE IN AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



### SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT MARCH 2005



## STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

**Statewide** seasonal employment expanded by 14.6% from March 2004 to March 2005. Seasonal employment grew by 30.7% statewide from February 2005 to March 2005. The crop activity increasing the most in employment from March 2004 to March 2005 was nursery work (1,417). Bulb work shed the largest number of jobs (-1,125) for that same time period. Other tree fruit work displayed the largest over-the-month gain (997) from February 2005 to March 2005. Bulb work showed the largest drop in employment (-546) during that same time period. The statewide weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for March 2005 was \$7.62 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
CROP	MAR 05	FEB 05	MAR 04	FEB 05- MAR 05	MAR 04- MAR 05	FEB 05- MAR 05	MAR 04- MAR 05
Apples	8,180	7,784	7,903	396	277	5.1%	3.5%
Asparagus	36	0	14	36	22	0.0%	157.1%
Blueberry	50	256	8	(206)	42	-80.5%	525.0%
Bulb	39	585	1,164	(546)	(1,125)	-93.3%	-96.6%
Cherries	264	317	973	(53)	(709)	-16.7%	-72.9%
Cucumbers	162	58	0	104	162	179.3%	0.0%
Grapes	2,075	1,650	1,556	425	519	25.8%	33.4%
Hops	769	217	664	552	105	0.0%	15.8%
Misc Vegetables	322	145	147	177	175	122.1%	119.0%
Nursery	2,582	1,617	1,165	965	1,417	59.7%	121.6%
Onion	873	116	828	757	45	652.6%	5.4%
Other Seasonal	757	481	623	276	134	57.4%	21.5%
Other Tree Fruit	1,249	252	217	997	1,032	395.6%	475.6%
Pears	605	411	344	194	261	47.2%	75.9%
Potato	320	219	364	101	(44)	46.1%	-12.1%
Raspberry	545	255	281	290	264	113.7%	94.0%
Strawberries	10	66	127	(56)	(117)	0.0%	0.0%
Wheat/Grain	79	41	125	38	(46)	92.7%	-36.8%

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

**Western (Area 1)** seasonal employment grew by 25.3% from March 2004 to March 2005. Seasonal employment also moved forward by 12.1% from February 2005 to March 2005. Nursery work posted the largest over-the-year increase in employment (1,350) from March 2004 to March 2005. Bulb work lost the largest number of jobs (-1,125) for that same time period. Nursery work boasted the largest employment increase (791) from February 2005 to March 2005. Bulb work declined by the greatest amount of employment (-546) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for March 2005 in Area 1 was \$7.86 per hour. (See pages 14 -15 for Area 1 detail)

**AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**

WESTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				FEB 05-	MAR 04-	FEB 05-	MAR 04-
	<u>MAR 05</u>	<u>FEB 05</u>	<u>MAR 04</u>	<u>MAR 05</u>	<u>MAR 05</u>	<u>MAR 05</u>	<u>MAR 05</u>
<b>CROP</b>							
Blueberry	50	256	8	(206)	42	-80.5%	525.0%
Bulb	39	585	1,164	(546)	(1,125)	-93.3%	-96.6%
Cucumbers	162	58	0	104	162	0.0%	0.0%
Misc Vegetables	42	15	39	27	3	180.0%	7.7%
Nursery	2,330	1,539	980	791	1,350	51.4%	137.8%
Other Seasonal	43	39	62	4	(19)	10.3%	-30.6%
Potato	122	196	81	(74)	41	-37.8%	50.6%
Raspberry	545	255	281	290	264	113.7%	94.0%
Rhubarb	147	97	36	0	111	0.0%	308.3%
Strawberries	4	66	127	0	(123)	0.0%	-96.9%

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

**South Central (Area 2)** seasonal employment advanced by 17.3% from March 2004 to March 2005. This was exceeded by a bump of 42.7% in employment from February 2005 to March 2005. Other tree fruit work led the gainers in employment (831) from March 2004 to March 2005. Apple work declined by the largest employment (-635) for that same time period. Other tree fruit work grew by the largest employment (785) from February 2005 to March 2005. Apple work shrunk by the largest number of jobs (-99) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for March 2005 in Area 2 was \$7.57 per hour. (See pages 16 -17 for Area 2 detail)

**AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**

SOUTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				FEB 05-	MAR 04-	FEB 05-	MAR 04-
	<u>MAR 05</u>	<u>FEB 05</u>	<u>MAR 04</u>	<u>MAR 05</u>	<u>MAR 05</u>	<u>MAR 05</u>	<u>MAR 05</u>
<b>CROP</b>							
Apples	1,650	1,749	2,285	(99)	(635)	-5.7%	-27.8%
Asparagus	22	0	4	22	18	0.0%	450.0%
Cherries	28	18	393	10	(365)	55.6%	-92.9%
Grapes	1,208	1,096	832	112	376	10.2%	45.2%
Hops	528	197	307	331	221	0.0%	0.0%
Misc Vegetables	101	15	54	86	47	573.3%	87.0%
Onions	40	0	0	40	40	0.0%	0.0%
Other Seasonal	119	11	73	108	46	0.0%	63.0%
Other Tree Fruit	926	141	95	785	831	556.7%	874.7%
Pears	472	354	307	118	165	33.3%	53.7%
Potatoes	15	0	10	15	5	0.0%	50.0%

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

**North Central (Area 3)** seasonal employment posted a gain of 31.0% from March 2004 to March 2005. However, seasonal employment grew by a smaller 16.8% from February 2005 to March 2005. Apple work posted the largest increase (1,055) in employment from March 2004 to March 2005. Cherry work had the largest decline in jobs (-40) for that same time period. Apple work expanded by the largest amount of employment (537) from February 2005 to March 2005. No crops declined in production, but cherry work displayed the smallest increase in employment (14) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for March 2005 in Area 3 was \$7.53 per hour. (See pages 18 and 19 for Area 3 detail)

<b>AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT</b>							
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>			<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>		
<b>CROP</b>	<b>MAR 05</b>	<b>FEB 05</b>	<b>MAR 04</b>	<b>FEB 05- MAR 05</b>	<b>MAR 04- MAR 05</b>	<b>FEB 05- MAR 05</b>	<b>MAR 04- MAR 05</b>
Apples	4,322	3,785	3,267	537	1,055	14.2%	32.3%
Cherries	131	117	171	14	(40)	12.0%	-23.4%
Other Seasonal	97	54	102	43	(5)	79.6%	-4.9%
Other Tree Fruit	28	10	13	18	15	180.0%	115.4%
Pears	121	57	34	64	87	112.3%	255.9%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

**Columbia Basin (Area 4)** seasonal employment moved forward by 8.2% from March 2004 to March 2005. This increase was dwarfed by a leap of 46.5% in employment from February 2005 to March 2005. Other tree fruit work displayed the largest gain in seasonal employment (177) from March 2004 to March 2005. Potato work lost the largest number of jobs (-146) during that same time period. Other tree fruit work expanded by the largest number of jobs (190) from February 2005 to March 2005. Mint work netted the largest decrease in employment (-4) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for March 2005 in Area 4 was \$7.56 per hour. (See pages 20 - 22 for Area 4 detail)

<b>AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT</b>							
<b>COLUMBIA BASIN</b>			<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>		
<b>CROP</b>	<b>MAR 05</b>	<b>FEB 05</b>	<b>MAR 04</b>	<b>FEB 05- MAR 05</b>	<b>MAR 04- MAR 05</b>	<b>FEB 05- MAR 05</b>	<b>MAR 04- MAR 05</b>
Apples	1,526	1,379	1487	147	39	10.7%	2.6%
Asparagus	5	0	8	5	(3)	0.0%	-37.5%
Cherries	58	47	142	11	(84)	23.4%	-59.2%
Mint	0	4	31	(4)	(31)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Misc Vegetables	12	3	3	9	9	300.0%	300.0%
Nursery	104	4	90	100	14	2500.0%	15.6%
Onion	200	108	105	92	95	85.2%	90.5%
Other Seasonal	223	40	101	183	122	457.5%	120.8%
Other Tree Fruit	199	9	22	190	177	2111.1%	804.5%
Pears	12	0	3	12	9	0.0%	300.0%
Potato	14	13	160	1	(146)	7.7%	-91.3%
Wheat/Grain	0	0	26	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

**South Eastern (Area 5)** seasonal employment declined by 10.6% from March 2004 to March 2005. March 2005 employment surged ahead by a huge 45.8% from February 2005. Grapes work employment expanded by the largest amount of employment (143) from March 2004 to March 2005. Cherry work shed the most jobs (-220) during that same time period. Onion work grew by the greatest amount of employment (625) from February 2005 to March 2005. Apple work declined by the largest number of jobs (-189) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for March 2005 in Area 5 was \$7.55 per hour. (See pages 23 - 25 for Area 5 detail)

<b>AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT</b>							
<b>SOUTH EASTERN</b>			<b>CHANGE</b>		<b>PERCENT CHANGE</b>		
<b>CROP</b>	<b>MAR 05</b>	<b>FEB 05</b>	<b>MAR 04</b>	<b>FEB 05- MAR 05</b>	<b>MAR 04- MAR 05</b>	<b>FEB 05- MAR 05</b>	<b>MAR 04- MAR 05</b>
Apples	682	871	864	(189)	(182)	-21.7%	-21.1%
Asparagus	9	0	2	9	7	0.0%	350.0%
Cherries	47	135	267	(88)	(220)	-65.2%	-82.4%
Grapes	867	554	724	313	143	56.5%	19.8%
Hops	241	20	357	221	(116)	1105.0%	-32.5%
Misc Vegetables	20	15	15	5	5	33.3%	33.3%
Nursery	26	12	4	14	22	116.7%	550.0%
Onion	633	8	723	625	(90)	7812.5%	-12.4%
Other Seasonal	181	321	170	(140)	11	-43.6%	6.5%
Other Tree Fruit	96	92	87	4	9	4.3%	10.3%
Potatoes	169	10	113	159	56	1590.0%	49.6%
Strawberries	6	0	0	6	6	0.0%	0.0%
Wheat/Grain	15	9	21	6	(6)	66.7%	-28.6%

\*\*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 March.



## Methodology

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

### Related Ag Links:

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

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

# DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Washington State Employment Security, Labor Market and Economic Analysis

## SEASONAL LABOR ABSTRACT MARCH 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: 3,481 (2,996 local, 0 intrastate, 125 interstate, 0 foreign, 360 unknown origin)

Nursery Harvester .....	1,274	\$ 7.35/hr
Nursery Worker .....	545	\$ 9.37/hr
Raspberry Planter .....	446	\$ 7.35/hr
Nursery Planter .....	222	\$ 7.95/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 5,113 (4,405 local, 137 intrastate, 72 interstate, 347 foreign, 152 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner .....	1,480	\$ 7.56/hr
Grapes Pruner .....	1,012	\$ 7.42/hr or \$ 0.10 - \$ 0.40 per plant
Hops Worker .....	528	\$ 7.35/hr
Pear Pruner .....	387	Not Available

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 4,698 (4,227 local, 36 intrastate, 0 interstate, 12 foreign, 423 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner .....	2,056	\$ 7.41/hr
Apple Planter .....	1,186	\$ 7.40/hr
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer .....	304	\$ 7.43/hr
Apple Hand Thinner .....	298	\$ 7.50/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,356 (1,922 local, 0 intrastate, 7 interstate, 65 foreign, 362 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner .....	970	\$ 7.54/hr or \$ 0.10 - \$ 3.00 per tree
Apple Trainer .....	263	\$ 7.38/hr
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer .....	179	\$ 7.35/hr
Peach Hand Thinner .....	174	Not Available

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,992 (2,610 local, 0 intrastate, 37 interstate, 152 foreign, 193 unknown origin)

Grapes Pruner .....	750	\$ 7.41/hr or \$ 0.13 - \$ 0.20 per plant
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer .....	587	\$ 7.35/hr
Apple Pruner .....	407	\$ 7.44/hr
Hops Planter .....	155	\$ 7.35/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 278 (255 local, 23 intrastate, 0 interstate, 0 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Nursery Planter .....	94	\$ 7.91/hr
Contract Misc Crop Planter .....	76	\$12.00/hr
Wheat Tractor Operator .....	51	\$ 9.00/hr
Nursery Loader .....	14	\$ 7.35/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

MARCH 2005

TABLE 1

MARCH 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	2,996	0	125	0	360	3,481
2. South Central	4,405	137	72	347	152	5,113
3. North Central	4,227	36	0	12	423	4,698
4. Columbia Basin	1,922	0	7	65	362	2,356
5. South Eastern	2,610	0	37	152	193	2,992
6. Eastern	255	23	0	0	0	278
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>16,416</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>18,918</b>
<b>% State Total</b>	<b>86.8%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT**

Period: MARCH 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)

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SECTION A. (see attachments)

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SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers .....	3,481
a. Local .....	2,996
b. Intrastate migratory .....	0
c. Interstate migratory .....	125
d. Foreign .....	0
e. Unknown .....	360
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: California, Texas	
c. Foreign: None	

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SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
    The March 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 7,162.
  2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
    - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal earlier in the month. Then heavy rains fell during the last two weeks of the month. This heavy rainfall totaled 3 inches per week in some areas. Cut-flower harvest began in full swing. Christmas tree growers complained that the persistent rainfall delayed herbicide applications. Cranberry growers and dairy producers were able to continue their maintenance work for both equipment and bogs.
    - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in March averaged \$7.86 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for nursery harvester, raspberry planter, cucumber sorter/grader/packer, rhubarb weeder, blueberry pruner, bulbs sorter/grader/packer, raspberry trainer, miscellaneous onion harvester, rhubarb harvester, nursery irrigator and beets harvester to \$13.00 for blueberry manger. No piece rates were reported. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
    - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:  
The labor force was estimated at 86.1% local, 0.0% intrastate, 3.6% interstate, foreign 0.0% and 10.3% 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: MARCH 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)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,481</b>
		* = piece rate
Nursery Harvester	1,274	\$ 7.35
Nursery Worker	545	\$ 9.37
Raspberry Planter	446	\$ 7.35
Nursery Planter	222	\$ 7.95
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	203	\$ 7.97
Cucumber Sorter/Grader/Packer	162	\$ 7.35
Rhubarb Weeder	121	\$ 7.35
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	119	\$ 7.36
Nursery Vehicle Operator	53	\$11.45
Raspberry Pruner	47	\$ 7.40
Blueberry Pruner	46	\$ 7.35
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	39	\$ 7.35
Raspberry Trainer	34	\$ 7.35
Misc Onion Harvester	30	\$ 7.35
Misc Field Crops Weeder	27	\$ 8.71
Rhubarb Harvester	26	\$ 7.35
Nursery Tractor Operator	19	\$10.38
Nursery Irrigator	14	\$ 7.35
Beets Harvester	12	\$ 7.35
Raspberry Weeder	10	\$ 8.00
Chicken Eggs Worker	8	\$ 8.60
Misc Berries Mechanic	4	\$12.00
Blueberry Manager	4	\$13.00
Strawberry Tractor Operator	4	\$11.00
Misc Berries Worker	4	\$10.00
Raspberry Tractor Operator	4	\$ 8.00
Raspberry Chemical Applicator	4	\$ 9.00
Potato Mechanized Harvester	3	\$12.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 ..... \$ 7.86/hr (weighted average)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT**

Period: MARCH 2005  
State: WASHINGTON

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

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SECTION A. (see attachments)

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SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers . . . . .	5,113
a. Local . . . . .	4,405
b. Intrastate migratory . . . . .	137
c. Interstate migratory . . . . .	72
d. Foreign . . . . .	347
e. Unknown . . . . .	152
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Sunnyside, Wenatchee	
b. Interstate: California, Oregon	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

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SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The March 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 13,864.
  
  2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
    - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal earlier in the month. Then heavy rains fell during the last two weeks of the month. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, grapes pruning, pear pruning and hops work.
  
    - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in March averaged \$7.57 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.25 for apple planter to \$9.50 for miscellaneous onion irrigator. Typical piece rates were: \$.10 to \$.40 per plant for grapes pruning. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
  
    - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:  
The labor force was estimated to be 86.1% local, 2.7% intrastate, 1.4% interstate, foreign 6.8% and unknown 3.0%.
  
    - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
  
    - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
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**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT**

Period: MARCH 2005  
State: WASHINGTON

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

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	TOTAL 5,113	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	1,480	\$ 7.56
Grapes Pruner	1,012	\$ 7.42 or * \$ 0.10 - \$ 0.40 per plant
Hops Worker	528	\$ 7.35
Pear Pruner	387	Not Available
Apricot Hand Thinner	331	\$ 7.35
Nectarine Pruner	312	\$ 7.99
Peach Pruner	283	\$ 8.19
Grapes Trainer	170	\$ 7.48
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	89	\$ 7.69
Apple Worker	77	\$ 7.35
Cucumber Preparation	69	\$ 8.00
Pear Trainer	57	\$ 7.75
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	51	\$ 7.35
Misc Peppers Planter	32	\$ 7.35
Nursery Worker	30	\$ 7.35
Pear Chemical Applicator	28	\$ 7.35
Grapes Worker	26	Not Available
Asparagus Fertilizer Applicator	22	\$ 8.50
Misc Onion Irrigator	20	\$ 9.50
Misc Onion Planter	20	\$ 8.25
Apple Planter	15	\$ 7.00
Potato Planter	15	\$ 8.00
Cherry Pruner	10	Not Available
Cherry Preparation	9	\$ 7.62
Cherry Worker	9	\$ 7.50
Apple Preparation	9	\$ 9.32
Apple Tractor Operator	9	\$ 7.52
Apple Weeder	9	\$ 7.35

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 ..... \$ 7.57/hr (weighted average)

# DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MARCH 2005

State: WASHINGTON

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

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## SECTION A. (see attachments)

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### SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1.	Total domestic seasonal hired workers .....	4,698
a.	Local .....	4,227
b.	Intrastate migratory .....	36
c.	Interstate migratory .....	0
d.	Foreign .....	12
e.	Unknown .....	423
2.	Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a.	Intrastate: Beverly, Wenatchee, Yakima	
b.	Interstate: None	
c.	Foreign: Mexico	

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### SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The March 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 8,958.
  2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
    - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal earlier in the month. Then heavy rains fell during the last two weeks of the month. Cherries were beginning to bloom. Tree fruit was blooming ahead of schedule with very little freeze damage. Pasture grasses along with timothy hay will see definite improvement with the rain and snow that was received. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, apple planting, apple thinning and apple warehouse work.
    - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in March averaged \$7.53 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for pear planter, miscellaneous fruit trees worker, pear preparer and nursery sorter/grader/packer to \$24.00 for miscellaneous field crops manager. No piece rates were reported. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
    - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:  
The labor force was estimated to be 89.9 local, 0.8% intrastate, 0.0% interstate, 0.3% foreign and 9.0% 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: MARCH 2005  
State: WASHINGTON

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

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,698</b>
		* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	2,056	\$ 7.41
Apple Planter	1,186	\$ 7.40
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	304	\$ 7.43
Apple Hand Thinner	298	\$ 7.50
Apple Worker	239	\$10.00
Cherry Pruner	77	\$ 7.70
Apple Trainer	66	\$ 7.50
Nursery Worker	65	\$ 7.36
Pear Pruner	47	\$ 7.37
Cherry Planter	44	\$ 7.41
Apple Weeder	43	\$ 7.94
Pear Planter	37	\$ 7.35
Apple Manager	30	\$ 8.00
Apple Preparation	30	\$ 8.00
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	28	\$ 7.35
Apple Chemical Applicator	23	\$ 8.36
Pear Preparation	20	\$ 7.35
Apple Grafter	20	\$ 9.00
Pear Chemical Applicator	17	\$ 8.15
Apple Tractor Operator	13	\$ 9.00
Apple Forklift Driver	12	\$ 9.00
Misc Field Crops Worker	11	\$19.25
Cherry Trainer	7	\$ 8.00
Beef Cattle Worker	6	\$ 9.25
Cherry Chemical Applicator	3	\$ 7.50
Horse and Equines Worker	3	\$12.50
Misc Field Crops Manager	3	\$24.00
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	3	\$ 7.35
Misc Hay Tractor Operator	3	\$ 9.25
Wheat Tractor Operator	3	\$ 8.50
Apple Loader	2	\$12.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 ..... \$ 7.53/hr (weighted average)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT**

Period: MARCH 2005  
State: WASHINGTON

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

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SECTION A. (see attachments)

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SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers .....	2,356
a. Local .....	1,922
b. Intrastate migratory .....	0
c. Interstate migratory .....	7
d. Foreign .....	65
e. Unknown .....	362
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: California	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

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SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The March 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,754.
  2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
    - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal earlier in the month. Then heavy rains fell during the last two weeks of the month. This rain has improved both range and pasture conditions and dryland winter wheat. Potato planting continued. Fields were also being prepared for fresh peas. Orchardists continued to monitor cold temperatures, with no reports of frost damage. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, apple training, peach hand thinning and miscellaneous onion warehouse work.
    - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in March averaged \$7.56 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.25 for miscellaneous fruit trees worker to \$13.00 for potato mechanized harvester. Typical piece rates were: \$.10 to \$3.00 per tree for apple pruning. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
    - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:  
The labor force was estimated to be 81.5% local, 0.0% intrastate, 0.3% interstate 2.8% foreign and 15.4% unknown.
    - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
    - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
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**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT**

Period: MARCH 2005  
State: WASHINGTON

**Area 4: COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b> 2,356	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	970	\$ 7.54 or * \$ 0.10 - \$ 3.00 per tree
Apple Trainer	263	\$ 7.38
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	179	\$ 7.35
Peach Hand Thinner	174	Not Available
Apple Worker	144	\$ 7.61
Nursery Worker	83	\$ 7.38
Grapes Pruner	74	\$ 7.50
Grass Seed Weeder	69	\$ 7.75
Apple Planter	43	\$ 7.47
Apple Weeder	34	\$ 7.45
Alfalfa Irrigator	30	\$ 8.00
Cherry Irrigator	21	\$ 7.50
Apple Irrigator	21	\$ 7.50
Cherry Pruner	21	\$ 8.00
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	17	\$ 7.25
Apple Manager	17	\$ 8.00
Apple Mechanic	17	\$ 8.00
Field Corn Preparation	16	\$ 7.35
Nursery Planter	13	\$ 7.35
Apple Chemical Applicator	13	\$ 8.00
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	10	\$10.00
Peas Worker	9	\$ 7.35
Nectarine Worker	8	\$ 8.00
Cherry Worker	8	\$ 7.35
Field Corn Tractor Operator	8	\$ 9.50
Potato Worker	6	\$10.00
Alfalfa Worker	6	\$ 8.18
Misc Onion Loader	6	\$ 8.50
Misc Onion Planter	6	\$ 8.78
Potato Planter	5	\$ 8.00
Asparagus Preparation	5	\$ 7.35
Cherry Chemical Applicator	4	\$ 7.50
Cherry Preparation	4	\$ 8.00
Apple Preparation	4	\$ 8.00
Blueberry Pruner	4	\$ 7.35
Pear Chemical Applicator	4	\$ 8.50

Area 4 (continued)

**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT**

Period: MARCH 2005  
State: WASHINGTON

**Area 4: COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)**

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>* = piece rate</b>
Pear Pruner	4	\$ 8.00
Pear Worker	4	\$ 7.35
Nursery Grafter	4	\$ 7.35
General Farm Preparation	3	\$10.00
Alfalfa Chemical Applicator	3	\$ 9.00
Misc Onion Preparation	3	\$ 8.78
Misc Onion Worker	3	\$11.00
Misc Onion Manager	3	\$ 9.00
Potato Mechanized Harvester	3	\$13.00
Misc Vegetables Worker	3	\$ 7.35
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	3	\$ 7.35
Nursery Pruner	1	\$ 7.35

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 ..... \$ 7.56/hr (weighted average)

# DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MARCH 2005

State: WASHINGTON

Area Name: **SOUTHEASTERN** (Benton, Franklin, & Walla Walla)

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## SECTION A. (see attachments)

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### SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers .....	2,992
a. Local .....	2,610
b. Intrastate migratory .....	0
c. Interstate migratory .....	37
d. Foreign .....	152
e. Unknown .....	193
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: Oregon	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

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### SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:  
The March 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 10,207.
2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
  - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:  
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal earlier in the month. Then heavy rains fell during the last two weeks of the month. Frost protection in tree fruit has been necessary. Cherries were in full bloom in early locations, two weeks ahead of normal. Spring work is now in full swing, with area growers working hard to complete seeding, spraying, etc. Primary agricultural activities were grapes pruning, miscellaneous onion warehouse work, apple pruning and hops planting.
  - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:  
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in March averaged \$7.55 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for miscellaneous onion sorter/grader/packer, hops planter, grapes trainer, apple preparer, miscellaneous field crops worker, grapes irrigator, miscellaneous vegetables worker, apple irrigator, nursery irrigator, grapes preparer, apple trainer, asparagus sorter/grader/packer, apple sorter/grader/packer, grapes worker, miscellaneous field crops irrigator, miscellaneous hay irrigator and miscellaneous grain and seed crops irrigator to \$25.00 for wheat mechanic. Typical piece rates were: \$.13 to \$.20 per plant for grapes pruning. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
  - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:  
The labor force was estimated to be 87.3% local, 0.0% intrastate, 1.2% interstate, 5.1% foreign and 6.4% 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: MARCH 2005  
State: WASHINGTON

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

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL 2,992</b>	<b>* = piece rate</b>
Grapes Pruner	750	\$ 7.41 or * \$ 0.13 - \$ 0.20 per plant
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	587	\$ 7.35
Apple Pruner	407	\$ 7.44
Hops Planter	155	\$ 7.35
Apple Planter	143	\$ 7.76
Chicken Eggs Worker	112	\$ 7.80
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	100	\$ 7.38
Peach Pruner	96	Not Available
Hops Worker	86	Not Available
Grapes Trainer	83	\$ 7.35
Apple Preparation	70	\$ 7.35
Cherry Pruner	47	\$ 7.62
Potato Preparation	39	\$ 7.47
Apple Worker	38	\$ 7.85
Misc Onion Tractor Operator	30	\$ 8.78
Misc Field Crops Worker	29	\$ 7.35
Potato Planter	25	\$ 9.78
Grapes Irrigator	17	\$ 7.35
Misc Vegetables Worker	14	\$ 7.35
Nursery Harvester	12	\$ 8.25
Apple Irrigator	11	\$ 7.35
Misc Onion Worker	10	\$11.00
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	8	\$ 9.50
Nursery Irrigator	8	\$ 7.35
Grapes Preparation	8	\$ 7.35
Apple Trainer	7	\$ 7.35
Asparagus Sorter/Grader/Packer	6	\$ 7.35
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	6	\$ 7.35
Strawberry Worker	6	\$ 7.65
Grapes Worker	6	\$ 7.35
Nursery Worker	6	\$10.00
Misc Hay Tractor Operator	6	\$ 8.25
General Farm Worker	6	\$12.00
Misc Onion Planter	6	\$ 8.00
Peas Vehicle Operator	5	\$10.00
Potato Tractor Operator	5	\$10.00

Area 5 (continued)



**DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT**

Period: MARCH 2005  
 State: WASHINGTON

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

<b>SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS</b>		
<b>EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY</b>		
<b>CROP ACTIVITY</b>	<b>ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS</b>	<b>HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>* = piece rate</b>
Wheat Worker	5	\$ 9.00
Wheat Mechanic	5	\$25.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	5	\$12.00
Misc Field Crops Irrigator	4	\$ 7.35
Misc Hay Irrigator	4	\$ 7.35
Alfalfa Worker	4	\$ 8.50
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Irrigator	4	\$ 7.35
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	4	\$ 8.00
Grapes Tractor Operator	3	\$ 7.70
Asparagus Manager	3	\$ 9.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS  
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG  
 PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 ..... \$ 7.55/hr (weighted average)