



AGRICULTURAL LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

MAY 2005



Prepared by

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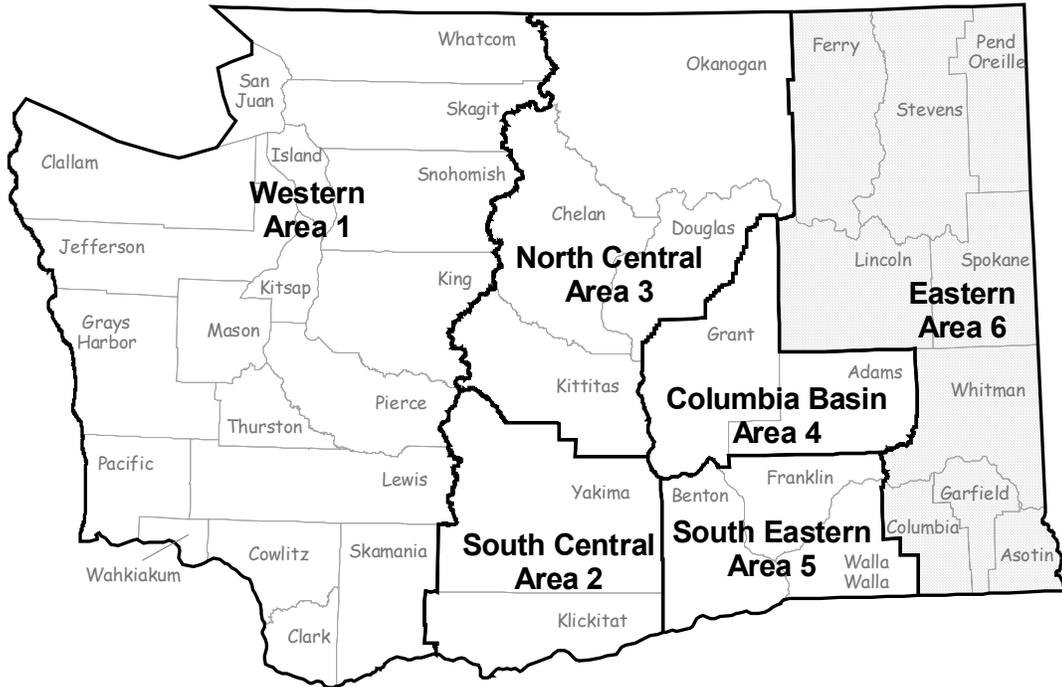
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<http://www.workforceexplorer.com>

MAY 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 decreased slightly by 2.1% from May 2004 to May 2005. This was due in large part to a smaller amount of apple thinning than last year. Agricultural activities displaying over-the-year increases were other seasonal work (645), cherry work (386), cucumber work (226), blueberry work (197), hop work (192), other tree fruit work (176), miscellaneous vegetables work (81), pear work (28) and onion work (9). Activities displaying declines were apple work (-800), asparagus work (-583), grape work (-469), potato work (-185), strawberry work (-157), nursery work (-151), bulb work (-48), wheat/grain work (-46) and raspberry work (-19). Regionally, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment moved ahead by 13.5%, thanks to an increase in other seasonal work (296). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment slid by 10.1%, due to a decline in grape work (-539). North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment inched forward by a small 0.9%, caused by an increase in other tree fruit work (301). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment lagged by a large 17.5%, courtesy of a decline in potato work (-267). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment expanded by a respectable 4.9%, led by an increase in other tree fruit work (109). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment nudged up by 2.1%, driven by a seasonal uptick in other seasonal work (116).

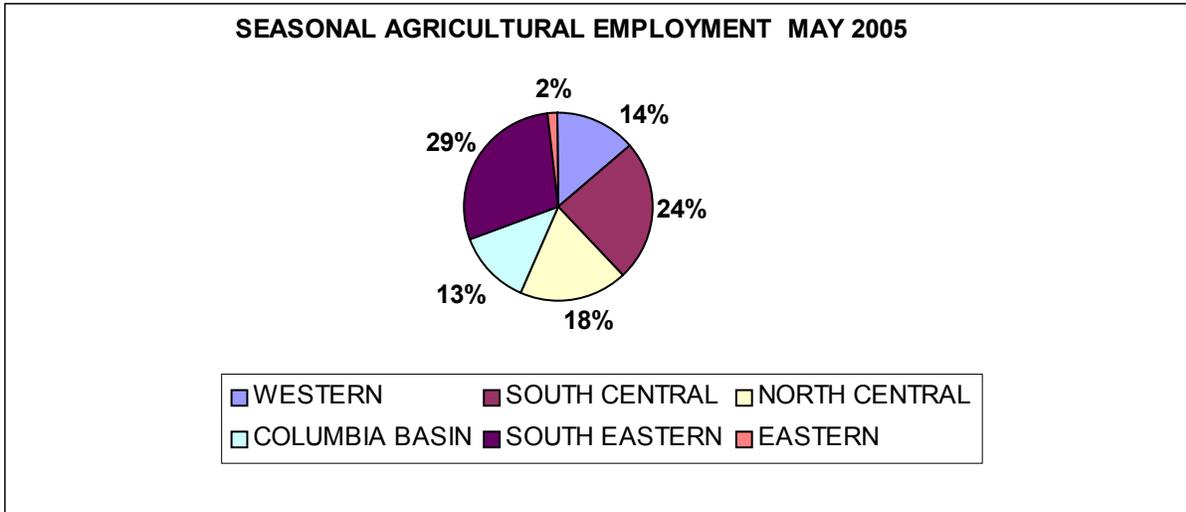
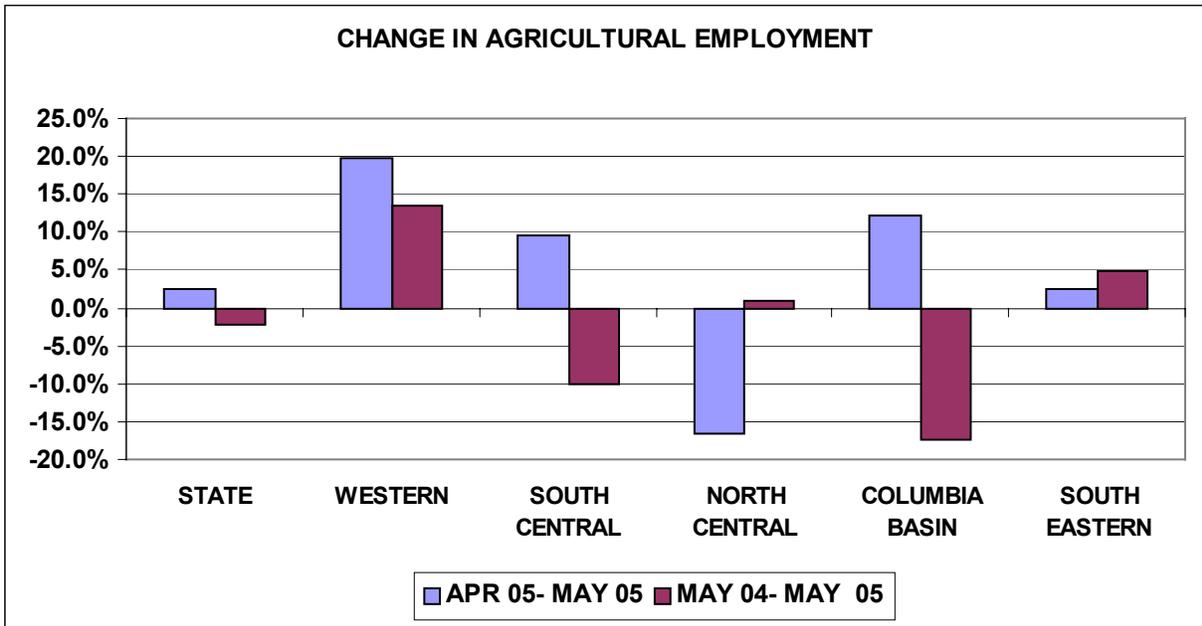
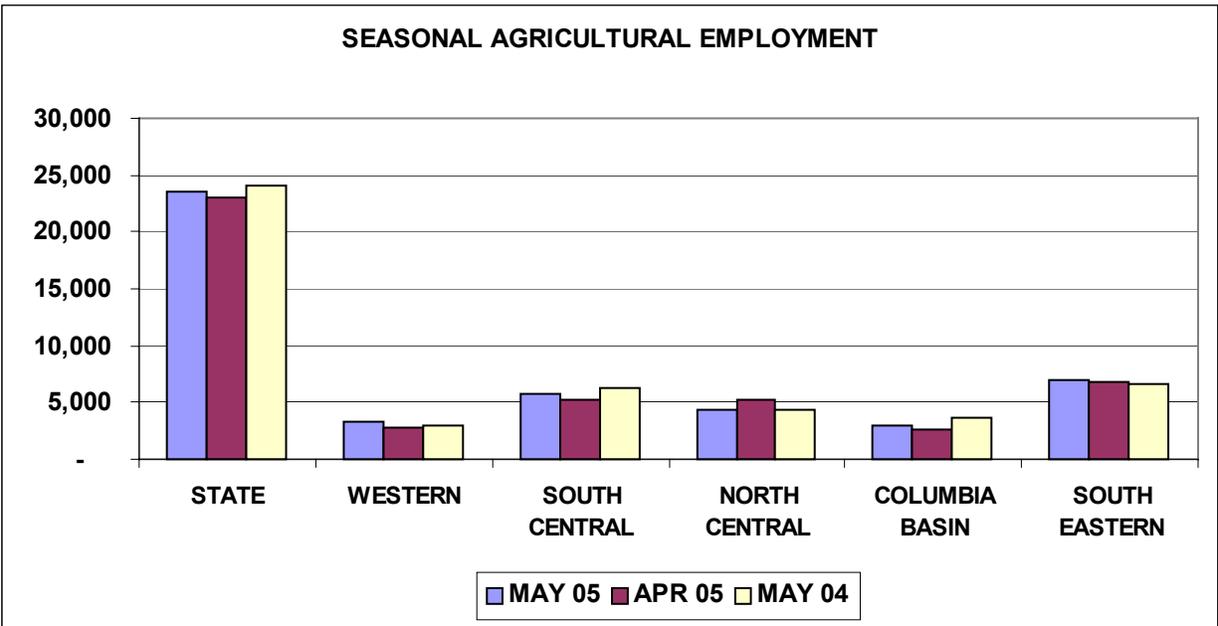
ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

Rainy weather and freezes have cut forecasts for Washington's cherry crop by as much as a third, while the early forecast for the pear harvest in Washington and Oregon is up. Cherry growers now expect to harvest 8 million to 9 million 20-pound boxes, down from a forecast of about 12 million boxes about a month ago, according to the Washington State Fruit Commission. Meanwhile, Northwest pear growers might have a hard time getting enough pickers for the harvest in August and September if forecasts prove accurate, said Kirk Mayer, manager of the Washington Growers Clearing House Association in Wenatchee. A preliminary forecast by the Pear Bureau Northwest in Milwaukie, Oregon is for 18.4 million 44-pound boxes, an 8 percent increase over the 17 million boxes last year, but growers fear pickers might mistakenly think that the crop has been diminished by drought, he said.

The federal government is helping troubled asparagus growers with a major purchase. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced May 16th plans to buy up to 7 million pounds of canned and frozen asparagus for distribution to programs such as school lunches and emergency food assistance. This is good news for asparagus growers in Washington who have watched prices for asparagus plummet from near-record highs of 65 cents a pound at the start of the season to around 40 cents a pound recently. This is the third year in a row that the USDA has purchased asparagus. The last major asparagus cannery in the state, Senecca Foods' Dayton plant, will cease operations at the end of the season. As canneries have shifted production to Peru, due to low costs of production there, the processed market for Washington asparagus growers has rapidly disappeared.

Construction workers, farm workers and other seasonal employees began receiving higher unemployment benefits effective April 24th, under a bill passed by the legislature. This bill switches how the state calculates unemployment benefits from a "four-quarter averaging" to a "two-quarter averaging." So a construction worker who made \$20,000 during the spring and summer and nothing in the fall and winter would get the same unemployment benefits as someone who made \$40,000 working year-round.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
	<u>MAY 05</u>	<u>APR 05</u>	<u>MAY 04</u>	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				<u>APR 05- MAY 05</u>	<u>MAY 04- MAY 05</u>	<u>APR 05- MAY 05</u>	<u>MAY 04- MAY 05</u>
STATE	23,613	23,038	24,128	575	(515)	2.5%	-2.1%
WESTERN	3,297	2,754	2,906	543	391	19.7%	13.5%
SOUTH CENTRAL	5,706	5,213	6,348	493	(642)	9.5%	-10.1%
NORTH CENTRAL	4,332	5,187	4,295	(855)	37	-16.5%	0.9%
COLUMBIA BASIN	2,974	2,652	3,604	322	(630)	12.1%	-17.5%
SOUTH EASTERN	6,917	6,755	6,596	162	321	2.4%	4.9%
EASTERN	387	477	379	(90)	8	-18.9%	2.1%



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment decreased by 2.1% from May 2004 to May 2005. However, seasonal employment grew by 2.5% statewide from April 2005 to May 2005. The crop activity increasing by the greatest amount of employment from May 2004 to May 2005 was other seasonal work (645). Apple work shed the largest number of jobs (-800) for that same time period. Asparagus work rose the most in employment (1,889) from April 2005 to May 2005. Onion work showed the greatest drop in employment (-2,172) during that same time period. The statewide weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2005 was \$7.64 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE	CHANGE			PERCENT CHANGE			
	MAY 05	APR 05	MAY 04	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05
CROP	MAY 05	APR 05	MAY 04	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05
Apples	7,936	9,285	8,736	(1,349)	(800)	-14.5%	-9.2%
Asparagus	5,634	3,745	6,217	1,889	(583)	50.4%	-9.4%
Blueberry	197	40	0	157	197	392.5%	0.0%
Bulb	37	433	85	(396)	(48)	-91.5%	-56.5%
Cherries	947	252	561	695	386	275.8%	68.8%
Cucumbers	233	179	7	54	226	30.2%	3228.6%
Grapes	1,334	1,562	1,803	(228)	(469)	-14.6%	-26.0%
Hops	827	357	635	470	192	131.7%	30.2%
Misc Vegetables	536	234	455	302	81	129.1%	17.8%
Nursery	2,061	1,782	2,212	279	(151)	15.7%	-6.8%
Onion	173	2,345	164	(2,172)	9	-92.6%	5.5%
Other Seasonal	1,896	1,387	1,251	509	645	36.7%	51.6%
Other Tree Fruit	527	315	351	212	176	67.3%	50.1%
Pears	160	45	132	115	28	255.6%	21.2%
Potato	511	483	696	28	(185)	5.8%	-26.6%
Raspberry	384	388	403	(4)	(19)	-1.0%	-4.7%
Strawberries	97	72	254	25	(157)	34.7%	-61.8%
Wheat/Grain	120	142	166	(22)	(46)	-15.5%	-27.7%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment ramped up by 13.5% from May 2004 to May 2005. Seasonal employment also moved forward by a larger 19.7% from April 2005 to May 2005. Other seasonal work posted the largest over-the-year increase in employment (296) from May 2004 to May 2005. Strawberry work lost the largest number of jobs (-186) for that same time period. Nursery work boasted the largest employment gain (343) from April 2005 to May 2005. Bulb work declined by the largest amount of employment (-396) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2005 in Area 1 was \$8.31 per hour. (See pages 14 -16 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

WESTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				APR 05-	MAY 04-	APR 05-	MAY 04-
	<u>MAY 05</u>	<u>APR 05</u>	<u>MAY 04</u>	<u>MAY 05</u>	<u>MAY 05</u>	<u>MAY 05</u>	<u>MAY 05</u>
CROP							
Blueberry	197	40	0	157	197	392.5%	0.0%
Bulb	37	433	85	(396)	(48)	-91.5%	-56.5%
Cucumbers	233	179	7	54	226	30.2%	3228.6%
Misc Vegetables	118	74	91	44	27	59.5%	29.7%
Nursery	1,680	1,337	1,749	343	(69)	25.7%	-3.9%
Other Seasonal	363	180	67	183	296	101.7%	441.8%
Potato	131	68	93	63	38	92.6%	40.9%
Raspberry	384	388	403	(4)	(19)	-1.0%	-4.7%
Rhubarb	117	24	186	93	(69)	387.5%	-37.1%
Strawberries	39	34	225	5	(186)	14.7%	-82.7%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment scaled back by 10.5% from May 2004 to May 2005. This was offset by an expansion of 9.5% in employment from April 2005 to May 2005. Other seasonal work led the gainers in employment (270) from May 2004 to May 2005. Grape work shrunk back by the greatest employment (-539) for that same time period. Other seasonal work created the largest number of jobs (547) from April 2005 to May 2005. Apple work contracted by the largest amount of employment (-574) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2005 in Area 2 was \$7.59 per hour. (See pages 17 -19 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

SOUTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				APR 05-	MAY 04-	APR 05-	MAY 04-
	<u>MAY 05</u>	<u>APR 05</u>	<u>MAY 04</u>	<u>MAY 05</u>	<u>MAY 05</u>	<u>MAY 05</u>	<u>MAY 05</u>
CROP							
Apples	1,220	1,794	1,505	(574)	(285)	-32.0%	-18.9%
Asparagus	1,983	2,139	2,224	(156)	(241)	-7.3%	-10.8%
Cherries	617	72	315	545	302	756.9%	95.9%
Grapes	505	454	1,044	51	(539)	11.2%	-51.6%
Hops	492	229	371	263	121	114.8%	32.6%
Misc Vegetables	92	0	110	92	(18)	0.0%	-16.4%
Onions	23	157	65	(134)	(42)	-85.4%	-64.6%
Other Seasonal	740	193	470	547	270	283.4%	57.4%
Other Tree Fruit	30	173	197	(143)	(167)	-82.7%	-84.8%
Pears	4	0	47	4	(43)	0.0%	-91.5%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment posted a gain of 0.9% from May 2004 to May 2005. This trend was reversed by a loss of 16.5% from April 2005 to May 2005. Other tree fruit work expanded by the largest amount of employment (301) from May 2004 to May 2005. Apple work had the largest decline in employment (-498) for that same time period. Other tree fruit work grew by the greatest amount of employment (332) from April 2005 to May 2005. Apple work experienced the largest downturn in employment (-1,402) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2005 in Area 3 was \$7.56 per hour. (See pages 20 and 21 for Area 3 detail)

AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
NORTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
CROP	MAY 05	APR 05	MAY 04	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05
Apples	3,563	4,965	4,061	(1,402)	(498)	-28.2%	-12.3%
Cherries	163	40	48	123	115	307.5%	239.6%
Other Seasonal	108	126	95	(18)	13	-14.3%	13.7%
Other Tree Fruit	359	27	58	332	301	1229.6%	519.0%
Pears	138	30	33	108	105	360.0%	318.2%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment retreated by 17.5% from May 2004 to May 2005. However this decline was countered by an increase of 12.1% in employment from April 2005 to May 2005. Miscellaneous vegetables work expanded by the largest number of jobs (94) from May 2004 to May 2005. Potato work lost the largest amount of employment (-267) during that same time period. Apple work made the largest gain in employment (454) from April 2005 to May 2005. Onion work shed the largest number of jobs (-206) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2005 in Area 4 was \$7.54 per hour. (See pages 22 - 24 for Area 4 detail)

AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
COLUMBIA BASIN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
CROP	MAY 05	APR 05	MAY 04	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05
Apples	1,819	1,365	1,885	454	(66)	33.3%	-3.5%
Asparagus	285	148	485	137	(200)	92.6%	-41.2%
Cherries	65	34	71	31	(6)	91.2%	-8.5%
Mint	113	26	62	87	51	0.0%	82.3%
Misc Vegetables	123	28	29	95	94	339.3%	324.1%
Nursery	155	214	316	(59)	(161)	-27.6%	-50.9%
Onion	14	220	5	(206)	9	-93.6%	180.0%
Other Seasonal	180	264	165	(84)	15	-31.8%	9.1%
Other Tree Fruit	18	71	85	(53)	(67)	-74.6%	-78.8%
Pears	18	15	52	3	(34)	20.0%	-65.4%
Potato	175	263	442	(88)	(267)	-33.5%	-60.4%
Wheat/Grain	6	6	7	0	(1)	0.0%	-14.3%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment crept up by 4.9% from May 2004 to May 2005. May 2005 employment displayed a smaller 2.4% bump up from April 2005. Other tree fruit work showed the largest over-the-year increase (109) from May 2004 to May 2005. Asparagus work shed the most jobs (-142) during that same time period. However due to harvest, asparagus work added the greatest amount of employment (1,908) from April 2005 to May 2005. Onion work experienced the largest downturn in employment (-1,832) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2005 in Area 5 was \$7.44 per hour. (See pages 25 - 27 for Area 5 detail)

AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH EASTERN			CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	MAY 05	APR 05	MAY 04	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05	APR 05- MAY 05	MAY 04- MAY 05
Apples	1,334	1,161	1,285	173	49	14.9%	3.8%
Asparagus	3,366	1,458	3,508	1,908	(142)	130.9%	-4.0%
Cherries	102	106	127	(4)	(25)	-3.8%	-19.7%
Grapes	829	1,108	759	(279)	70	-25.2%	9.2%
Hops	335	128	264	207	71	161.7%	26.9%
Misc Vegetables	86	108	39	(22)	47	-20.4%	120.5%
Nursery	18	19	4	(1)	14	-5.3%	350.0%
Onion	136	1,968	94	(1,832)	42	-93.1%	44.7%
Other Seasonal	310	460	300	(150)	10	-32.6%	3.3%
Other Tree Fruit	120	44	11	76	109	172.7%	990.9%
Potatoes	205	152	161	53	44	34.9%	27.3%
Strawberries	58	38	29	20	29	52.6%	100.0%
Wheat/Grain	16	7	15	9	1	128.6%	6.7%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

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

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

MAY 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: 3,297 (2,682 local, 71 intrastate, 151 interstate, 48 foreign, 345 unknown origin)

Nursery Worker	850	\$ 9.43/hr
Nursery Planter	338	\$ 7.48/hr
Cucumber Sorter/Grader/Packer	233	\$ 7.81/hr
Raspberry Planter	230	\$ 7.39/hr

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 5,706 (5,249 local, 111 intrastate, 37 interstate, 226 foreign, 83 unknown origin)

Asparagus Harvester	1,753	\$ 7.35/hr or \$ 0.19 - \$ 0.24 per pound
Cherry Hand Thinner	590	\$ 7.94/hr
Apple Pruner	416	\$ 7.41/hr
Apple Trainer	349	\$ 7.35/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 4,332 (4,141 local, 26 intrastate, 0 interstate, 162 foreign, 3 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	1,210	\$ 7.40/hr
Apple Planter	524	\$ 7.40/hr
Apple Fertilizer Applicator	361	\$ 7.75/hr
Apple Pruner	345	\$ 7.42/hr

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,974 (2,129 local, 0 intrastate, 50 interstate, 274 foreign, 521 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	768	\$ 7.50/hr
Apple Trainer	555	\$ 7.48/hr
Asparagus Harvester	285	\$ 7.35/hr
Nursery Worker	130	\$ 7.37/hr

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 6,917 (3,992 local, 147 intrastate, 886 interstate, 91 foreign, 1,801 unknown origin)

Asparagus Harvester	3,057	\$ 7.35/hr or \$ 0.15 - \$ 0.30 per pound
Apple Hand Thinner	985	\$ 7.35/hr
Grapes Suckering Worker	297	\$ 7.63/hr
Asparagus Sorter/Grader/Packer	257	\$ 7.35/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 387 (270 local, 0 intrastate, 4 interstate, 0 foreign, 113 unknown origin)

Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	75	\$ 7.75/hr
Nursery Harvester	52	\$ 8.87/hr
Wheat Tractor Operator	39	\$ 9.08/hr
Nursery Planter	36	\$ 8.15/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
MAY 2005

TABLE 1

MAY 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	2,682	71	151	48	345	3,297
2. South Central	5,249	111	37	226	83	5,706
3. North Central	4,141	26	0	162	3	4,332
4. Columbia Basin	2,129	0	50	274	521	2,974
5. South Eastern	3,992	147	886	91	1,801	6,917
6. Eastern	270	0	4	0	113	387
State Totals	18,463	355	1,127	801	2,866	23,613
% State Total	78.2%	1.5%	4.8%	3.4%	12.1%	100%

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 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	3,297
a. Local	2,682
b. Intrastate migratory	71
c. Interstate migratory	151
d. Foreign	48
e. Unknown	345
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Mount Vernon, Wenatchee	
b. Interstate: California, Texas	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The May 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 7,990.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Harvest of early varieties of strawberries began, with yields and prices reported to be very good. Tree fruit crops suffered damage due to the rainy late spring. Raspberry growers were busy with fumigation to prevent root rot. Primary agricultural activities were nursery work, cucumber warehouse work and raspberry planting.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$8.31 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for nursery harvester, blueberry weeder, rhubarb harvester, potato sorter/grader/packer, raspberry worker, blackberry weeder, cranberry weeder, raspberry pruner, beets harvester, bulbs sorter/grader/packer, nursery irrigator, miscellaneous onion harvester, field corn harvester, potato worker and nursery chemical applicator to \$14.00 for blackberry tractor operator. 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 81.3% local, 2.2% intrastate, 4.6% interstate, foreign 1.4% and 10.5% 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: MAY 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	3,297
		* = piece rate
Nursery Worker	850	\$ 9.43
Nursery Planter	338	\$ 7.48
Cucumber Sorter/Grader/Packer	233	\$ 7.81
Raspberry Planter	230	\$ 7.39
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	184	\$ 7.85
Nursery Harvester	174	\$ 7.35
Blueberry Weeder	125	\$ 7.35
Rhubarb Harvester	117	\$ 7.35
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	105	\$ 7.35
Raspberry Worker	96	\$ 7.35
Chicken Eggs Worker	95	\$ 7.45
Blackberry Weeder	91	\$ 7.35
Cranberry Weeder	86	\$ 7.35
Nursery Vehicle Operator	67	\$12.00
Raspberry Pruner	53	\$ 7.35
Beets Harvester	49	\$ 7.35
Misc Field Crops Weeder	48	\$ 8.60
Blueberry Worker	43	\$ 7.68
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	37	\$ 7.35
Strawberry Weeder	34	\$ 8.11
Cauliflower Planter	29	\$ 7.50
Nursery Irrigator	27	\$ 7.35
Nursery Weeder	20	\$ 7.38
Misc Onion Harvester	20	\$ 7.35
Potato Tractor Operator	19	\$10.75
Blueberry Hand Thinner	19	\$ 7.75
Nursery Tractor Operator	13	\$10.63
Misc Vegetables Preparation	10	\$ 7.35
Misc Vegetables Mechanic	10	\$16.00
Field Corn Harvester	10	\$ 7.35
Blueberry Tractor Operator	10	\$10.00
Contract Misc Crop Chemical Applicator	7	\$ 9.00
Potato Worker	7	\$ 7.35
Nursery Chemical Applicator	7	\$ 7.35
Strawberry Tractor Operator	5	\$ 9.50
Blackberry Manager	5	\$13.00

Area 1 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 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	* = piece rate
Blackberry Tractor Operator	5	\$14.00
Misc Berries Mechanic	5	\$12.00
Misc Berries Worker	5	\$10.00
Raspberry Tractor Operator	5	\$11.00
Misc Field Crops Worker	4	\$ 8.00
Wheat Worker	2	\$ 8.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 \$ 8.31/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 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	5,706
a. Local	5,249
b. Intrastate migratory	111
c. Interstate migratory	37
d. Foreign	226
e. Unknown	83
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 May 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 13,443.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. No new crop losses due to weather conditions were reported. Average temperatures varied from three to twelve degrees above normal. Several producers reported hail damage to fruit and vegetable crops early in the month. Primary agricultural activities were asparagus harvesting, cherry hand thinning, apple pruning and apple training.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$7.64 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from to \$7.29 for grapes suckering worker to \$12.50 for green onion vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$.19 to \$.24 per pound for asparagus cutting. 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 92.0% local, 1.9% intrastate, 0.6% interstate, foreign 4.0% and unknown 1.5%.
 - 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: MAY 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 5,706	* = piece rate
Asparagus Harvester	1,753	\$ 7.35 or * \$ 0.19 - \$ 0.24 per lb
Cherry Hand Thinner	590	\$ 7.94
Apple Pruner	416	\$ 7.41
Apple Trainer	349	\$ 7.35
Dairy Worker	294	\$ 7.94
Grapes Trainer	265	\$ 7.39
Asparagus Sorter/Grader/Packer	225	\$ 7.75
Hops Trainer	174	Not Available
Hops Weeder	159	\$ 7.35
Hops Twiner	159	Not Available
Apple Planter	147	\$ 7.39
Misc Field Crops Weeder	143	\$ 7.35
Apple Irrigator	138	\$ 7.35
Apple Hand Thinner	115	\$ 7.46
Grapes Pruner	110	\$ 7.35
Contract Misc Crew Irrigator	96	\$ 8.07
Grapes Worker	89	\$ 7.35
Misc Peppers Planter	78	\$ 7.50
Contract Misc Crew Planter	60	\$ 8.07
Grapes Suckering Worker	41	\$ 7.29
Wheat Weeder	35	\$ 8.07
Cherry Suckering Worker	27	\$ 8.00
Nursery Weeder	27	\$ 7.86
Nursery Planter	23	\$ 7.86
Apple Worker	21	\$ 7.54
Nursery Worker	15	\$ 8.05
Contract Misc Crew Manager	15	\$10.00
Contract Misc Crew Worker	15	\$ 8.07
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	13	\$ 7.96
Peach Hand Thinner	13	\$ 8.50
Plum Hand Thinner	13	\$ 8.00
Apple Cultivator	13	\$ 7.75
Misc Squash Planter	10	\$ 7.50
Green Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	9	\$ 7.35
Silage Tractor Operator	8	\$ 8.50
Apple Chemical Applicator	8	\$ 7.63

Area 2 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 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
Green Onion Harvester	7	\$ 7.35
Wheat Manager	5	\$10.00
Misc Fruit Trees Chemical Applicator	4	\$ 8.50
Mint Cultivator	4	\$ 7.35
Pear Irrigator	4	\$ 7.35
Asparagus Irrigator	3	\$ 9.00
Misc Onion Irrigator	3	\$ 9.00
Misc Peppers Irrigator	2	\$ 9.00
Cucumber Irrigator	2	\$ 9.00
Asparagus Manager	2	\$ 8.25
Green Onion Worker	2	\$20.00
Green Onion Vehicle Operator	2	\$12.50

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 7.59/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 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	4,332
	a. Local	4,141
	b. Intrastate migratory	26
	c. Interstate migratory	0
	d. Foreign	162
	e. Unknown	3
2.	Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
	a. Intrastate: Rock Island, Wenatchee, Yakima	
	b. Interstate: None	
	c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The May 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 7,510.

 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Cherry crop estimates were dropping. Poor pollination early in the season led to poor fruit sets in many orchards. All other fruit crops looked good. There was a lot of hand thinning of pears and apples. Winter wheat crop continued to look good.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$7.56 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for peach hand thinner, nursery worker, pear pruner, pear weeder, apple propper and miscellaneous fruit trees worker to \$25.00 for miscellaneous field crops manager and horse and equines 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 95.6% local, 0.6% intrastate, 0.0% interstate, 3.7% foreign and 0.1% 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: MAY 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 4,332	* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	1,210	\$ 7.40
Apple Planter	524	\$ 7.40
Apple Fertilizer Applicator	361	\$ 7.75
Apple Pruner	345	\$ 7.42
Peach Hand Thinner	343	\$ 7.35
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	256	\$ 7.43
Apple Trainer	220	\$ 7.37
Apple Irrigator	197	\$ 7.74
Apple Tractor Operator	118	\$ 7.86
Apple Preparation	105	\$ 7.75
Cherry Hand Thinner	85	Not Available
Apple Weeder	79	\$ 7.44
Apple Chemical Applicator	59	\$ 8.17
Nursery Worker	57	\$ 7.35
Apple Worker	49	\$ 8.01
Pear Pruner	49	\$ 7.35
Cherry Pruner	49	Not Available
Pear Weeder	39	\$ 7.35
Pear Trainer	30	\$ 7.64
Apple Grafter	16	Not Available
Cherry Trainer	16	\$ 8.50
Peach Pruner	13	\$ 7.50
Cherry Worker	13	\$ 8.59
Apple Propper	13	\$ 7.35
Horse and Equines Worker	11	\$12.00
Apple Forklift Driver	11	\$ 9.00
Pear Preparation	10	\$ 7.75
Pear Chemical Applicator	10	\$ 8.00
Beef Cattle Worker	8	\$ 9.25
Misc Field Crops Worker	8	\$19.00
Misc Hay Irrigator	8	\$ 9.73
Misc Field Crops Manager	8	\$25.00
Horse and Equines Manager	4	\$25.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	4	\$10.00
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	3	\$ 7.35

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.56/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 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	2,964
a. Local	2,129
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	50
d. Foreign	274
e. Unknown	521
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: Alaska, California, Oregon	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The May 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 6,072.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Hay producers were getting the first cutting of alfalfa finished. Some crop damage to alfalfa was reported due to rain. Bean planting was wrapping up. Grain crops continued to progress nicely. Primary agricultural activities were apple hand thinning and training, asparagus picking and nursery work.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$7.54 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.32 for apple planter to \$13.00 for potato mechanized harvester and miscellaneous vegetables chemical applicator. 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 71.6% local, 0.0% intrastate, 1.7% interstate 9.2% foreign and 17.5% 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: MAY 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 2,974	* = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	768	\$ 7.50
Apple Trainer	555	\$ 7.48
Asparagus Harvester	285	\$ 7.35
Nursery Worker	130	\$ 7.37
Apple Preparation	117	\$ 7.66
Mint Weeder	113	\$ 7.35
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	108	\$ 7.38
Carrot Weeder	83	\$ 7.35
Apple Weeder	79	\$ 7.40
Apple Planter	63	\$ 7.32
Apple Worker	58	\$ 7.68
Apple Chemical Applicator	58	\$ 8.29
Alfalfa Preparation	58	\$ 8.00
Apple Pruner	54	\$ 7.41
Cherry Trainer	47	\$ 7.38
Apple Grafter	45	\$ 7.56
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	45	\$10.00
Grass Seed Weeder	42	\$ 7.50
Misc Vegetables Weeder	26	\$ 7.73
Potato Worker	25	\$ 9.08
Nursery Weeder	25	\$ 7.35
Field Corn Cultivator	20	\$ 7.35
Cherry Pruner	18	\$ 7.35
Pear Hand Thinner	18	\$ 7.35
Apple Tractor Operator	15	\$ 8.40
Misc Onion Weeder	14	\$ 7.35
Potato Weeder	13	\$ 7.35
Peach Hand Thinner	11	\$ 7.50
Apricot Trainer	7	\$ 7.46
Apple Irrigator	7	\$ 7.35
Misc Vegetables Worker	7	\$ 7.35
Misc Vegetables Chemical Applicator	7	\$13.00
Potato Mechanized Harvester	7	\$13.00
Field Corn Tractor Operator	6	\$ 9.00
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	6	\$ 9.00
Wheat Irrigator	6	\$ 7.35

Area 4 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 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
Potato Forklift Driver	5	\$ 9.00
Potato Loader	5	\$ 9.00
Potato Mechanic	3	\$ 7.35
Potato Vehicle Operator	3	\$ 8.00
General Farm Worker	3	\$10.00
Potato Preparation	3	\$10.00
Potato Cultivator	3	\$10.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 7.54/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 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 | 6,917 |
| | a. Local | 3,992 |
| | b. Intrastate migratory | 147 |
| | c. Interstate migratory | 886 |
| | d. Foreign | 91 |
| | e. Unknown | 1,801 |
| | | |
| 2. | Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers | |
| | a. Intrastate: Bow, Mount Vernon, 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 May 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 6,839.

 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and wetter than normal for the reporting period. Warmer temperatures have increased water demand. Asparagus cutting continued. Irrigation and weed control were other agricultural activities. Cherries were turning color and maturing rapidly. Potato plants were beginning to bloom. The first cutting of hay was continuing. Peas were beginning to bloom. Primary agricultural activities were asparagus cutting, apple hand thinning and grapes pruning.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$7.44 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.25 for Walla Walla Sweets weeder to \$12.00 for general farm worker. Typical piece rates were: \$.15 to \$.30 per pound for asparagus 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 57.7% local, 2.1% intrastate, 12.8% interstate, 1.3% foreign and 26.1% 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: MAY 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 6,917	* = piece rate
Asparagus Harvester	3,057	\$ 7.35 or * \$ 0.15 - \$ 0.30 per lb
Apple Hand Thinner	985	\$ 7.35
Grapes Suckering Worker	297	\$ 7.64
Asparagus Sorter/Grader/Packer	257	\$ 7.35
Hops Trainer	237	Not Available
Apple Trainer	193	\$ 7.36
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	185	\$ 7.38
Grapes Cultivator	165	\$ 7.58
Grapes Trainer	150	\$ 7.48
Chicken Eggs Sorter/Grader/Packer	102	\$ 7.85
Grass Seed Weeder	81	\$ 7.85
Walla Walla Sweets Weeder	79	\$ 7.25
Grapes Weeder	73	\$ 7.35
Carrot Planter	71	\$ 7.35
Cherry Pruner	62	\$ 7.35
Peach Trainer	58	Not Available
Strawberry Weeder	58	\$ 7.35
Peach Hand Thinner	53	\$ 7.50
Hops Twiner	52	Not Available
Grapes Hand Thinner	49	\$ 7.35
Apple Planter	43	\$ 7.73
Blueberry Weeder	41	\$ 7.35
Hops Weeder	39	Not Available
Cherry Grafter	36	\$ 7.35
Grapes Planter	36	\$ 7.60
Apple Worker	33	\$ 7.58
Grapes Pruner	32	\$ 7.35
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	28	\$ 9.44
Asparagus Loader	27	\$ 7.50
Misc Field Crops Weeder	24	\$ 9.35
Apple Pruner	23	\$ 7.57
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	23	\$ 7.35
Apple Cultivator	21	\$ 7.35
Potato Planter	18	\$ 9.75
Grapes Worker	16	\$ 7.35
Misc Onion Tractor Operator	14	\$ 9.75

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 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
Walla Walla Sweets Planter	14	\$ 8.33
Apple Irrigator	13	\$ 7.46
Peas Worker	13	\$ 8.75
Wheat Worker	12	\$11.20
Asparagus Manager	11	\$ 9.00
Apple Preparation	11	\$ 7.35
Grapes Irrigator	9	\$ 7.35
Apricot Hand Thinner	9	\$ 7.50
Asparagus Forklift Driver	9	\$ 8.00
Hops Cultivator	7	\$ 7.35
Misc Field Crops Irrigator	7	\$ 7.35
Silage Vehicle Operator	7	\$ 9.00
Nursery Weeder	6	\$ 7.35
Nursery Irrigator	6	\$ 7.50
Nursery Planter	6	\$ 8.25
General Farm Worker	6	\$12.00
Misc Onion Planter	6	\$ 8.00
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	5	\$ 7.35
Asparagus Worker	5	\$ 7.75
Contract Aerial Worker	5	Not Available
Wheat Irrigator	4	\$ 7.35
Cherry Worker	4	\$ 7.52
Apple Tractor Operator	4	\$ 8.30
Misc Hay Irrigator	3	\$ 7.35
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Irrigator	3	\$ 7.35
Apple Weeder	3	\$ 8.00
Field Corn Tractor Operator	3	\$10.00
Grapes Preparation	2	\$ 7.35
Peas Vehicle Operator	2	\$10.00
Potato Preparation	2	\$ 7.50

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 7.44/hr (weighted average)