



AGRICULTURAL LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

NOVEMBER 2005



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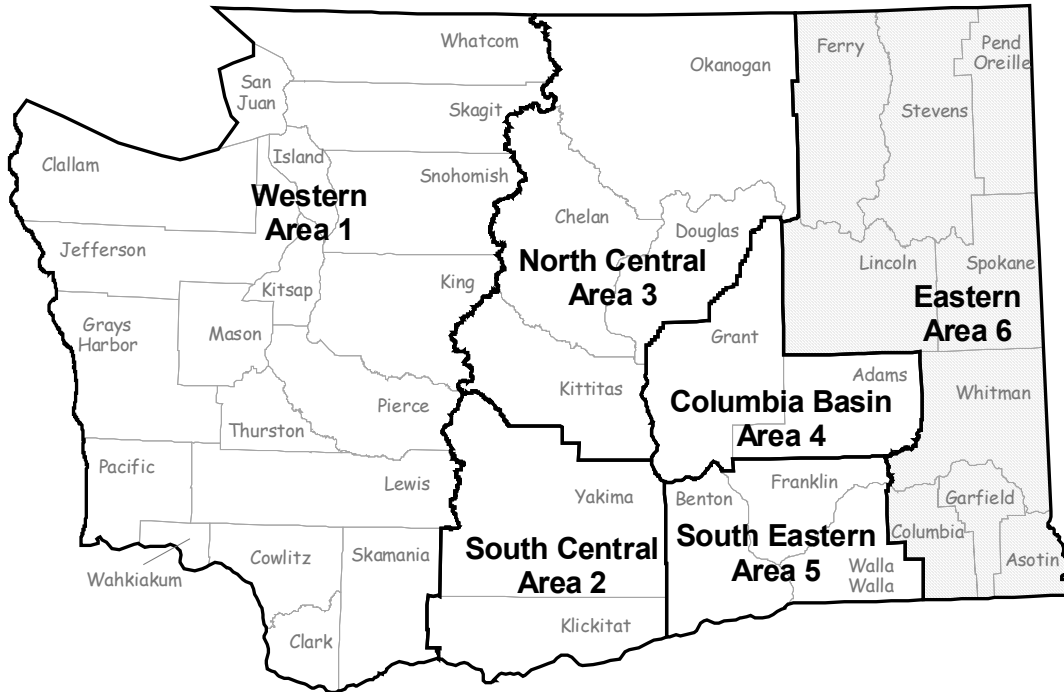
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<http://www.workforceexplorer.com>

NOVEMBER 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

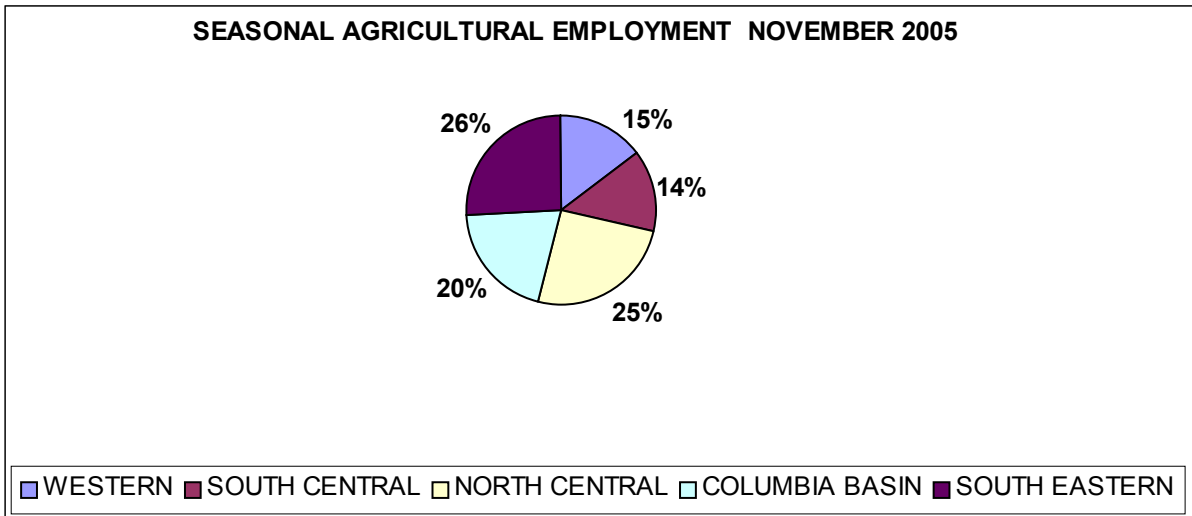
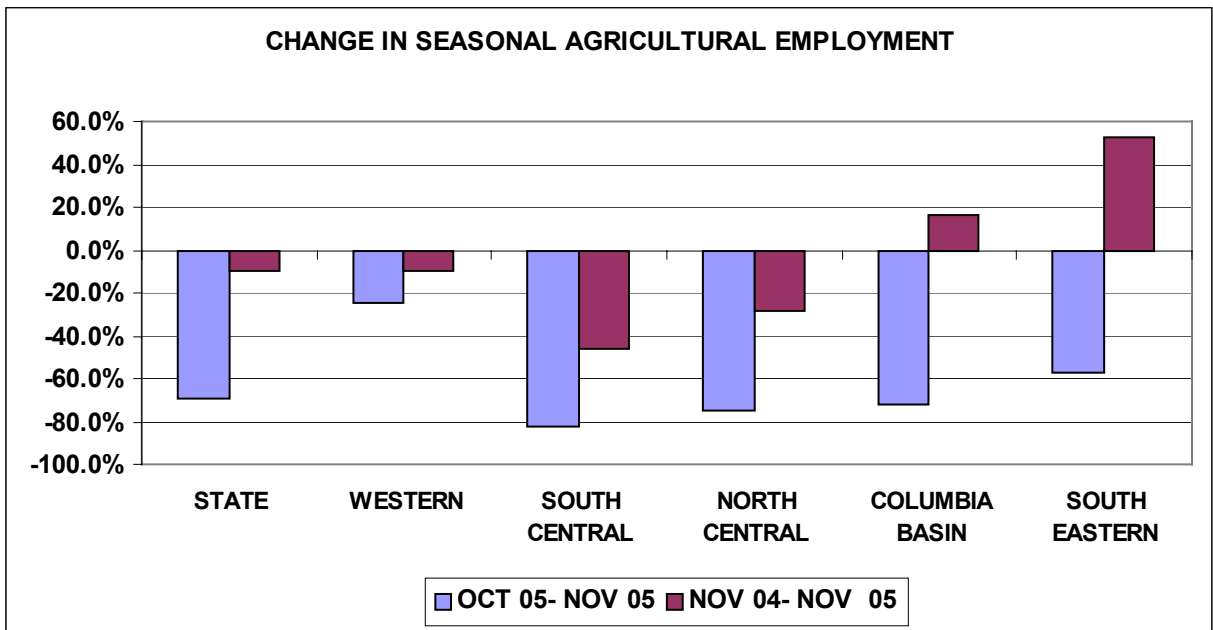
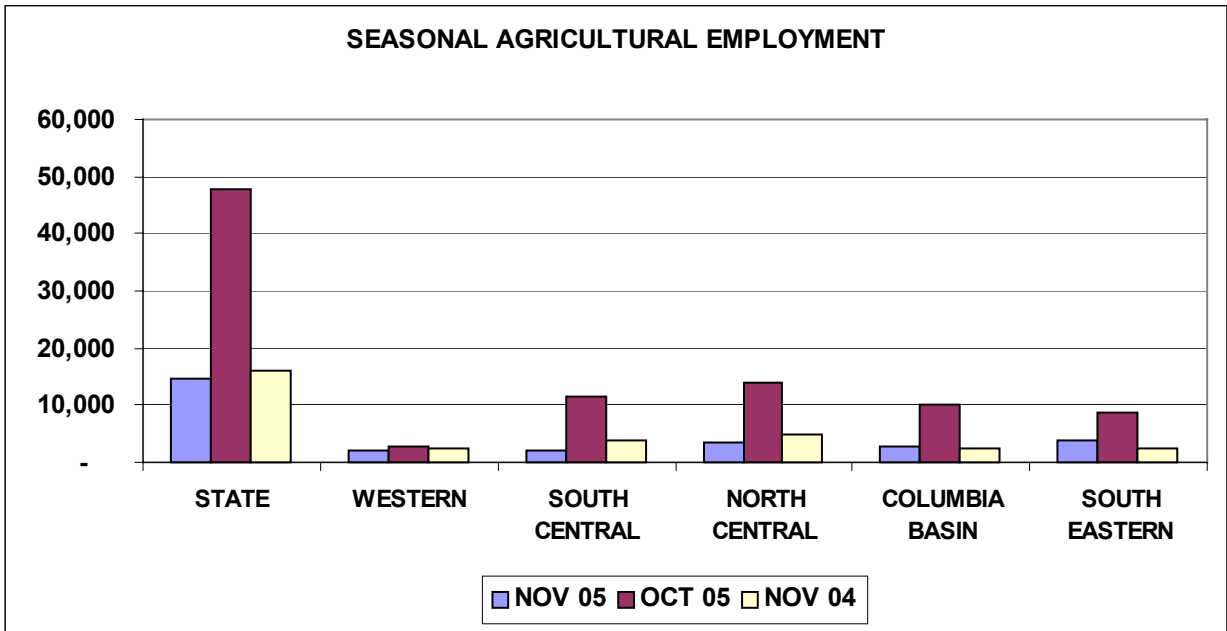
Statewide seasonal employment decreased by 10.2% from November 2004 to November 2005. Agricultural activities displaying over-the-year declines were apple work (-635), pear work (-496), onion work (-266), grapes work (-243), nursery work (-225), potato work (-199), miscellaneous vegetables work (-159), raspberry work (-145) and blueberry work (-35). Activities displaying gains were other seasonal work (587), hops work (100), other tree fruit work (31), cherry work (22), wheat/grain work (14) and bulb work (1). Asparagus and bulb work were flat with no change in employment. Across the state, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment decreased by 9.4%, due to a decline in raspberry work. South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment dropped by 46.3%, thanks to a drop in apple work (-998). North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment fell by 28.5%, courtesy of a decline in apple work (-1,392). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment moved forward by 16.1%, led by an increase in apple work (402). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment charged ahead by 52.3%, caused by a surge in apple work (1,353). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment expanded by 38.1%, due to a gain in nursery work (46).

ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

Washington State farmers set a production record in 2004 and apples once again topped the list of crops, but apple growers saw a decline in sales from the previous year, according to the state's Agricultural Statistics Service. The total value of Washington's crops in 2004 was \$5.94 billion, fourth straight year of increase and a mark that tops the previous record of \$5.92 billion in 1995. Apples made up 16 percent of the total value of Washington farm products, but sales fell 18 percent to \$962 million, down from \$1.18 billion in 2003. The state is the nation's top apple producer, growing about half the U.S. crop. The decline in apple sales can be attributed partly to weather and as well as a decline in bearing acres. More apple growers are planting cherries, which are highly profitable, and wine grapes or are planting new apple varieties that are not yet producing fruit. Countering the decline in apples, several other fruit crops made significant gains in 2004, including cherries at \$242 million, pears at \$133 million, red raspberries at \$47 million and blueberries at \$16 million.

Washington state wine industry leaders are supporting a bill, proposed by the Washington State Liquor Control Board, that would allow wineries in other states to ship wine directly to consumers in Washington. Current law only allows a winery in another state to ship wine to consumers in Washington if the winery's own state reciprocates. Wineries in Washington cheered the ruling as one that could open new markets for Washington wine, in particular orders by mail and the Internet. Washington is the nation's No. 2 wine producer behind California, with an industry valued at \$2.4 billion, according to the Washington Wine Commission. The state is home to more than 300 wine grape growers who harvested 100,500 tons of grapes last year.

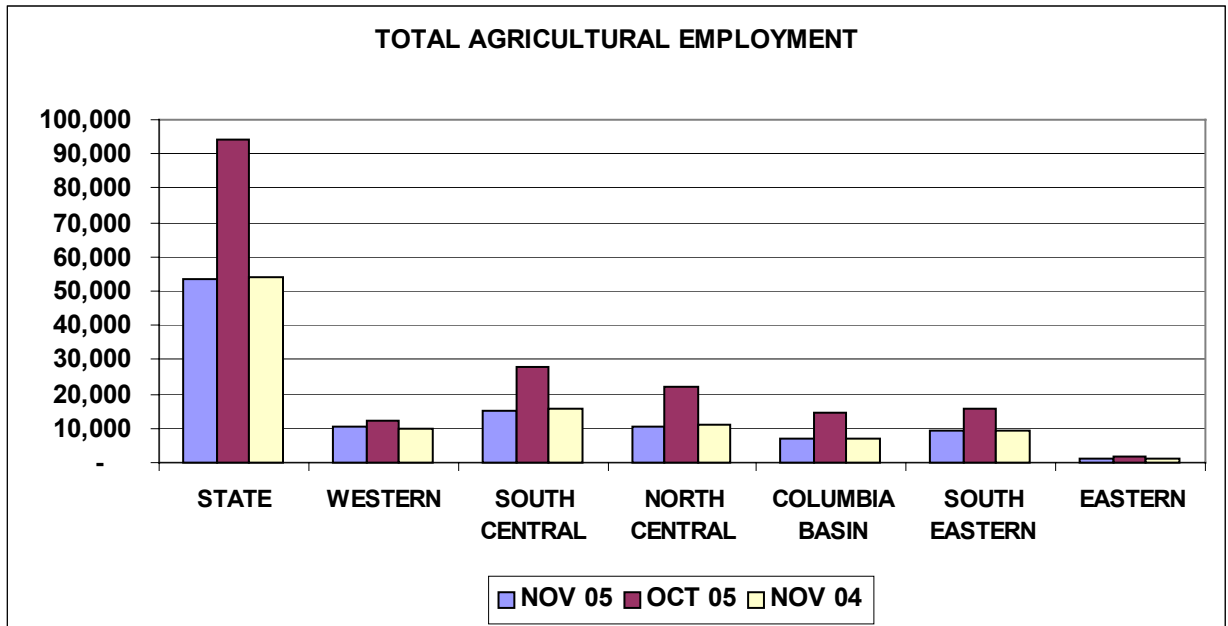
| SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | <u>NOV 05</u> | <u>OCT 05</u> | <u>NOV 04</u> | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
| | | | | <u>OCT 05- NOV 05</u> | <u>NOV 04- NOV 05</u> | <u>OCT 05- NOV 05</u> | <u>NOV 04- NOV 05</u> |
| STATE | 14,530 | 47,624 | 16,179 | (33,094) | (1,649) | -69.5% | -10.2% |
| WESTERN | 2,148 | 2,842 | 2,371 | (694) | (223) | -24.4% | -9.4% |
| SOUTH CENTRAL | 2,007 | 11,588 | 3,739 | (9,581) | (1,732) | -82.7% | -46.3% |
| NORTH CENTRAL | 3,575 | 14,034 | 5,000 | (10,459) | (1,425) | -74.5% | -28.5% |
| COLUMBIA BASIN | 2,900 | 10,281 | 2,497 | (7,381) | 403 | -71.8% | 16.1% |
| SOUTH EASTERN | 3,737 | 8,675 | 2,454 | (4,938) | 1,283 | -56.9% | 52.3% |
| EASTERN | 163 | 204 | 118 | (41) | 45 | -20.1% | 38.1% |



TOTAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY

Statewide total agricultural employment increased by 2.3% in November 2005 over November 2004. However, over-the-month total employment decreased by 42.2% from October 2005 to November 2005 due primarily to the winding down of the apple harvest. Over-the-year regionally, Western (Area 1) total employment declined by 11.3%. South Central (Area 2) total employment fell by 2.3%. North Central (Area 3) total employment grew by 4.4%. Columbia Basin (Area 4) total employment rose by 11.5%. South Eastern (Area 5) total employment moved ahead by 14.7%. Eastern (Area 6) total employment displayed a decrease of 2.4%.

| | TOTAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | | |
| | <u>NOV 05</u> | <u>OCT 05</u> | <u>NOV 04</u> | <u>OCT 05- NOV 05</u> | <u>NOV 04- NOV 05</u> | <u>OCT 05- NOV 05</u> | <u>NOV 04- NOV 05</u> | |
| STATE | 55,378 | 95,823 | 54,112 | (40,445) | 1,266 | -42.2% | 2.3% | |
| WESTERN | 8,749 | 10,439 | 9,864 | (1,690) | (1,115) | -16.2% | -11.3% | |
| SOUTH CENTRAL | 15,205 | 28,569 | 15,566 | (13,364) | (361) | -46.8% | -2.3% | |
| NORTH CENTRAL | 11,421 | 22,601 | 10,942 | (11,180) | 479 | -49.5% | 4.4% | |
| COLUMBIA BASIN | 8,028 | 15,288 | 7,201 | (7,260) | 827 | -47.5% | 11.5% | |
| SOUTH EASTERN | 10,686 | 17,372 | 9,318 | (6,686) | 1,368 | -38.5% | 14.7% | |
| EASTERN | 1,289 | 1,554 | 1,321 | (265) | (32) | -17.1% | -2.4% | |



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment fell back by 10.2% from November 2004 to November 2005. However seasonal employment spiraled downward by 69.5% statewide from October 2005 to November 2005 due to the winding down of the apple harvest. The crop activity gaining the largest number of jobs from November 2004 to November 2005 was other seasonal work (587). Apple work shed the most employment (-635) for that same time period due to a smaller harvest. Other seasonal work moved ahead of all other seasonal crop work in employment (431) from October 2005 to November 2005. Apple work showed the greatest decline in employment (-27,812) during that same time period due to completion of harvest. The statewide weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2005 was \$7.87 per hour.

| STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT** | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| STATE | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
| CROP | <u>NOV 05</u> | <u>OCT 05</u> | <u>NOV 04</u> | <u>OCT 05- NOV 05</u> | <u>NOV 04- NOV 05</u> | <u>OCT 05- NOV 05</u> | <u>NOV 04- NOV 05</u> |
| Apples | 9,728 | 37,540 | 10,363 | (27,812) | (635) | -74.1% | -6.1% |
| Asparagus | 0 | 25 | 0 | (25) | 0 | -100.0% | 0.0% |
| Blueberry | 4 | 91 | 39 | (87) | (35) | -95.6% | -89.7% |
| Bulb | 96 | 82 | 95 | 14 | 1 | 17.1% | 1.1% |
| Cherries | 73 | 33 | 51 | 40 | 22 | 121.2% | 43.1% |
| Cucumbers | 0 | 25 | 0 | (25) | 0 | -100.0% | 0.0% |
| Grapes | 447 | 978 | 690 | (531) | (243) | -54.3% | -35.2% |
| Hops | 110 | 12 | 10 | 98 | 100 | 816.7% | 0.0% |
| Misc Vegetables | 407 | 1,805 | 566 | (1,398) | (159) | -77.5% | -28.1% |
| Nursery | 1,043 | 655 | 1,268 | 388 | (225) | 59.2% | -17.7% |
| Onion | 88 | 589 | 354 | (501) | (266) | -85.1% | -75.1% |
| Other Seasonal | 1,192 | 761 | 605 | 431 | 587 | 56.6% | 97.0% |
| Other Tree Fruit | 105 | 159 | 74 | (54) | 31 | -34.0% | 41.9% |
| Pears | 18 | 1,229 | 514 | (1,211) | (496) | -98.5% | -96.5% |
| Potato | 407 | 3,005 | 606 | (2,598) | (199) | -86.5% | -32.8% |
| Raspberry | 709 | 535 | 854 | 174 | (145) | 32.5% | -17.0% |
| Wheat/Grain | 104 | 100 | 90 | 4 | 14 | 4.0% | 15.6% |

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment declined by 9.4% from November 2004 to November 2005. Over-the-month seasonal employment contracted by 24.4% from October 2005 to November 2005. Potato work expanded by the greatest amount of employment (74) from November 2004 to November 2005. Raspberry work slid back with the largest employment loss (-145) for that same time period. Raspberry work moved forward with the largest employment gain (174) from October 2005 to November 2005. Miscellaneous vegetables work lost the most jobs (-559) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2005 in Area 1 was \$7.67 per hour. (See pages 15 -16 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

| WESTERN | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | NOV 05 | OCT 05 | NOV 04 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 |
| CROP | | | | | | | |
| Blueberry | 4 | 91 | 39 | (87) | (35) | -95.6% | -89.7% |
| Bulb | 96 | 82 | 95 | 14 | 1 | 17.1% | 1.1% |
| Cucumbers | 0 | 25 | 0 | (25) | 0 | -100.0% | 0.0% |
| Misc Vegetables | 202 | 761 | 190 | (559) | 12 | -73.5% | 6.3% |
| Nursery | 690 | 529 | 831 | 161 | (141) | 30.4% | -17.0% |
| Other Seasonal | 145 | 110 | 140 | 35 | 5 | 31.8% | 3.6% |
| Potato | 296 | 707 | 222 | (411) | 74 | -58.1% | 33.3% |
| Raspberry | 709 | 535 | 854 | 174 | (145) | 32.5% | -17.0% |

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment slowed by 46.3% from November 2004 to November 2005. This loss was overcome by a larger downturn of 82.7% in employment from October 2005 to November 2005. Other seasonal work led other crops in employment gain (13) from November 2004 to November 2005. Apple work posted the greatest loss of jobs (-998) for that same time period. Cherry work expanded by the greatest amount of employment (4) from October 2005 to November 2005. Apple work displayed the largest over-the-month drop in employment (-7,932) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2005 in Area 2 was \$7.68 per hour. (See pages 17 -18 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

| SOUTH CENTRAL | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | NOV 05 | OCT 05 | NOV 04 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 |
| CROP | | | | | | | |
| Apples | 1,487 | 9,419 | 2,485 | (7,932) | (998) | -84.2% | -40.2% |
| Cherries | 26 | 22 | 30 | 4 | (4) | 18.2% | -13.3% |
| Grapes | 275 | 561 | 524 | (286) | (249) | -51.0% | -47.5% |
| Misc Vegetables | 59 | 210 | 75 | (151) | (16) | -71.9% | -21.3% |
| Onions | 0 | 21 | 86 | (21) | (86) | -100.0% | -100.0% |
| Other Seasonal | 144 | 318 | 131 | (174) | 13 | -54.7% | 9.9% |
| Other Tree Fruit | 10 | 14 | 9 | (4) | 1 | -28.6% | 11.1% |
| Pears | 5 | 1,026 | 399 | (1,021) | (394) | -99.5% | -98.7% |

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment slid by 28.5% from November 2004 to November 2005. This was overtaken by larger decline of 74.5% in jobs from October 2005 to November 2005. Other tree fruit work displayed the largest over-the-year gain in employment (30) from November 2004 to November 2005. Apple work registered the largest job loss (-1,392) for that same time period. Other seasonal work gained the largest amount of jobs (22) from October 2005 to November 2005. Apple work again was the largest loser in employment (-10,192) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2005 in Area 3 was \$7.88 per hour. (See pages 19 - 20 for Area 3 detail)

| AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| NORTH CENTRAL | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | | |
| CROP | NOV 05 | OCT 05 | NOV 04 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 |
| Apples | 3,462 | 13,654 | 4,854 | (10,192) | (1,392) | -74.6% | -28.7% |
| Cherries | 3 | 8 | 9 | (5) | (6) | -62.5% | -66.7% |
| Other Seasonal | 57 | 35 | 83 | 22 | (26) | 62.9% | -31.3% |
| Other Tree Fruit | 42 | 134 | 12 | (92) | 30 | -68.7% | 250.0% |
| Pears | 13 | 203 | 42 | (190) | (29) | -93.6% | -69.0% |
| **Crop detail may not add due to rounding | | | | | | | |

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment grew by 16.1% from November 2004 to November 2005. This gain was reversed by a loss of 71.8% in employment from October 2005 to November 2005. Apple work moved forward by largest amount of employment (402) from November 2004 to November 2005. Potato work declined by the most jobs (-148) during that same time period. Nursery work led the gainers in employment (282) from October 2005 to November 2005. Apple work displayed the largest downturn in employment (-6,368) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2005 in Area 4 was \$7.56 per hour. (See pages 21 - 22 for Area 4 detail)

| AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| COLUMBIA BASIN | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | | |
| CROP | NOV 05 | OCT 05 | NOV 04 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 |
| Apples | 1,896 | 8,264 | 1,494 | (6,368) | 402 | -77.1% | 26.9% |
| Asparagus | 0 | 25 | 0 | (25) | 0 | -100.0% | 0.0% |
| Cherries | 44 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 41 | 0.0% | 1366.7% |
| Mint | 276 | 0 | 23 | 276 | 253 | 0.0% | 1100.0% |
| Misc Vegetables | 5 | 76 | 3 | (71) | 2 | -93.4% | 66.7% |
| Nursery | 299 | 17 | 428 | 282 | (129) | 1658.8% | -30.1% |
| Onion | 65 | 203 | 148 | (138) | (83) | -68.0% | -56.1% |
| Other Seasonal | 235 | 59 | 90 | 176 | 145 | 298.3% | 161.1% |
| Other Tree Fruit | 48 | 11 | 45 | 37 | 3 | 336.4% | 6.7% |
| Pears | 0 | 0 | 73 | 0 | (73) | 0.0% | -100.0% |
| Potato | 20 | 1,613 | 168 | (1,593) | (148) | -98.8% | -88.1% |
| Wheat/Grain | 14 | 13 | 22 | 1 | (8) | 7.7% | -36.4% |
| **Crop detail may not add due to rounding | | | | | | | |

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment ramped up by 52.3% from November 2004 to November 2005. However, seasonal employment fell by a larger 56.9% from October 2005 to November 2005. Apple work expanded by the largest amount of employment (1,353) from November 2004 to November 2005. Miscellaneous vegetables work led the decline in employment (-157) during that same time period. Hops and other seasonal work displayed the greatest increases in employment (98) from October 2005 to November 2005. Apple work shed the most jobs (-3,320) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2005 in Area 5 was \$8.09 per hour. (See pages 23 - 25 for Area 5 detail)

| AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| SOUTH EASTERN | | | | CHANGE | | PERCENT CHANGE | |
| | NOV 05 | OCT 05 | NOV 04 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 | OCT 05- NOV 05 | NOV 04- NOV 05 |
| Apples | 2,883 | 6,203 | 1,530 | (3,320) | 1,353 | -53.5% | 88.4% |
| Cherries | 0 | 3 | 9 | (3) | (9) | -100.0% | -100.0% |
| Grapes | 172 | 417 | 166 | (245) | 6 | -58.8% | 3.6% |
| Hops | 110 | 12 | 10 | 98 | 100 | 816.7% | 1000.0% |
| Misc Vegetables | 141 | 758 | 298 | (617) | (157) | -81.4% | -52.7% |
| Nursery | 0 | 9 | 1 | (9) | (1) | -100.0% | -100.0% |
| Onion | 23 | 365 | 120 | (342) | (97) | -93.7% | -80.8% |
| Other Seasonal | 302 | 204 | 86 | 98 | 216 | 48.0% | 251.2% |
| Other Tree Fruit | 5 | 0 | 8 | 5 | (3) | 0.0% | -37.5% |
| Potatoes | 91 | 685 | 216 | (594) | (125) | -86.7% | -57.9% |
| Wheat/Grain | 12 | 18 | 10 | (6) | 2 | -33.3% | 20.0% |

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

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

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 NOVEMBER 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: 2,148 (1,664 local, 264 intrastate, 29 interstate, 32 foreign, 159 unknown origin)

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|------------|
| Raspberry Pruner | 543 | \$ 7.39/hr |
| Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer | 361 | \$ 7.35/hr |
| Potato Worker | 255 | \$ 7.35/hr |
| Nursery Planter | 160 | \$ 7.47/hr |

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,007 (1,088 local, 49 intrastate, 49 interstate, 816 foreign, 5 unknown origin)

| | | |
|------------------------|-----|---|
| Apple Worker | 655 | \$ 7.41/hr |
| Apple Harvester | 365 | \$ 7.35/hr or \$18.50 - \$22.00 per bin |
| Grapes Harvester | 161 | \$ 7.35/hr or \$22.00 - \$75.00 per bin |
| Apple Irrigator | 141 | \$ 8.25/hr |

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,575 (3,044 local, 14 intrastate, 295 interstate, 192 foreign, 30 unknown origin)

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|---|
| Apple Harvester | 2,066 | \$ 7.99/hr or \$18.00 - \$30.00 per bin |
| Apple Trainer | 578 | \$ 7.40/hr |
| Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer | 369 | \$ 7.80/hr |
| Apple Preparation | 122 | \$ 8.36/hr |

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,900 (2,094 local, 0 intrastate, 22 interstate, 40 foreign, 744 unknown origin)

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------|------------|
| Apple Harvester | 1,326 | \$ 7.46/hr |
| Nursery Harvester | 299 | \$ 7.35/hr |
| Mint Planter | 273 | \$ 7.35/hr |
| Apple Preparation | 251 | \$ 7.74/hr |

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,737 (3,566 local, 0 intrastate, 11 interstate, 25 foreign, 135 unknown origin)

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------|---|
| Apple Harvester | 2,738 | \$ 8.07/hr or \$18.00 - \$26.00 per bin |
| Hops Trainer | 110 | \$ 7.35/hr |
| Chicken Eggs Worker | 89 | \$ 7.70/hr |
| Grapes Weeder | 54 | \$ 7.35/hr |

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 163 (106 local, 41 intrastate, 0 interstate, 0 foreign, 16 unknown origin)

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|------------|
| Nursery Harvester | 30 | \$ 9.50/hr |
| Nursery Worker | 24 | \$ 9.25/hr |
| Beef Cattle Worker | 21 | \$11.25/hr |
| Wheat Worker | 18 | \$10.00/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
NOVEMBER 2005

TABLE 1

NOVEMBER 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 | 1,664 | 264 | 29 | 32 | 159 | 2,148 |
| 2. South Central | 1,088 | 49 | 49 | 816 | 5 | 2,007 |
| 3. North Central | 3,044 | 14 | 295 | 192 | 30 | 3,575 |
| 4. Columbia Basin | 2,094 | 0 | 22 | 40 | 744 | 2,900 |
| 5. South Eastern | 3,566 | 0 | 11 | 25 | 135 | 3,737 |
| 6. Eastern | 106 | 41 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 163 |
| State Totals | 11,562 | 366 | 405 | 1,107 | 1,089 | 14,530 |
| % State Total | 79.6% | 2.5% | 2.8% | 7.6% | 7.5% | 100% |

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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 | 2,148 |
| a. Local | 1,664 |
| b. Intrastate migratory | 264 |
| c. Interstate migratory | 29 |
| d. Foreign | 32 |
| e. Unknown | 159 |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers | |
| a. Intrastate: Mount Vernon, Wenatchee, Yakima | |
| b. Interstate: California, Texas | |
| c. Foreign: Mexico | |

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The November 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 6,601.

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

a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:

Weather conditions were wetter and colder than normal for the reporting period. Christmas tree harvest was in full swing as growers rushed to fill wholesale orders. Due to the wet spring and fall, growers were boasting that the tree quality this year was the best in years. Raspberry growers continued to trim and tie canes.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$7.67 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for nursery sorter/grader/packer, potato worker, bulbs sorter/grader/packer, raspberry trainer, blackberry pruner, potato sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous onion harvester, beets harvester, nursery worker and nursery weeder to \$15.25 for blueberry mechanic. 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 77.5% local, 12.3% intrastate, 1.3% interstate, foreign 1.5% and 7.4% 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: NOVEMBER 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 | 2,148 |
| | | * = piece rate |
| Raspberry Pruner | 543 | \$ 7.39 |
| Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer | 361 | \$ 7.35 |
| Potato Worker | 255 | \$ 7.35 |
| Nursery Planter | 160 | \$ 7.47 |
| Nursery Harvester | 146 | \$ 7.67 |
| Raspberry Sorter/Grader/Packer | 105 | \$ 7.41 |
| Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer | 96 | \$ 7.35 |
| Misc Vegetables Sorter/Grader/Packer | 58 | \$ 8.91 |
| Raspberry Trainer | 57 | \$ 7.35 |
| Blackberry Pruner | 52 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Worker | 43 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Vegetables Worker | 32 | \$ 9.61 |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer | 32 | \$ 7.35 |
| Cabbage Harvester | 31 | \$ 7.50 |
| Misc Field Crops Harvester | 22 | \$ 8.83 |
| Silage Vehicle Operator | 19 | \$10.00 |
| Misc Onion Harvester | 19 | \$ 7.35 |
| Beets Harvester | 19 | \$ 7.35 |
| Misc Squash Harvester | 19 | \$ 7.40 |
| Nursery Worker | 17 | \$ 7.35 |
| Chicken Eggs Worker | 9 | \$ 9.20 |
| Misc Vegetables Tractor Operator | 9 | \$10.37 |
| Misc Vegetables Planter | 9 | \$11.15 |
| Potato Vehicle Operator | 7 | \$12.40 |
| Cauliflower Tractor Operator | 6 | \$14.00 |
| Nursery Weeder | 6 | \$ 7.35 |
| Blueberry Mechanic | 4 | \$15.25 |
| Blackberry Manager | 4 | \$11.50 |
| Raspberry Chemical Applicator | 4 | \$ 8.50 |
| Potato Tractor Operator | 2 | \$10.00 |

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: NOVEMBER 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 | 2,007 |
| a. Local | 1,088 |
| b. Intrastate migratory | 49 |
| c. Interstate migratory | 49 |
| d. Foreign | 816 |
| e. Unknown | 5 |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers | |
| a. Intrastate: 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 November 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 13,198.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were wetter and colder than normal for the reporting period. No crop damage due to weather conditions was reported. Primary agricultural activities were apple harvest and irrigation and grapes harvest.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$7.68 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for apple harvester, grapes harvester, apple weeder, apple trainer, grapes planter, grapes worker, miscellaneous vegetables harvester, nectarine mechanic and miscellaneous fruit trees worker to \$35.00 for apple mechanic. Typical piece rates were: \$18.50 to \$22.50 per bin for apple picking and \$22.00 to \$75.00 per bin for grapes 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 54.3% local, 2.4% intrastate, 2.4% interstate, foreign 40.7% and unknown 0.2%.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
-

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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 2,007 | * = piece rate |
| Apple Worker | 655 | \$ 7.41 |
| Apple Harvester | 365 | \$ 7.35 or * \$18.50 - \$22.00 per bin |
| Grapes Harvester | 161 | \$ 7.35 or * \$22.00 - \$75.00 per bin |
| Apple Irrigator | 141 | \$ 8.25 |
| Apple Weeder | 126 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Trainer | 100 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer | 58 | \$ 7.57 |
| Misc Squash Sorter/Grader/Packer | 54 | \$ 7.75 |
| Silage Vehicle Operator | 43 | \$ 7.50 |
| Grapes Planter | 37 | \$ 7.35 |
| Grapes Worker | 35 | \$ 7.35 |
| Nursery Planter | 32 | \$ 9.75 |
| General Farm Worker | 32 | \$ 7.98 |
| Apple Pruner | 32 | \$ 7.50 |
| Grapes Trainer | 26 | \$ 7.93 |
| Field Corn Vehicle Operator | 21 | \$ 8.25 |
| Cherry Pruner | 21 | \$ 9.38 |
| Grapes Pruner | 16 | \$ 7.50 |
| Nursery Worker | 11 | \$ 9.00 |
| Misc Vegetables Harvester | 5 | \$ 7.35 |
| Silage Tractor Operator | 5 | \$ 8.00 |
| Pear Pruner | 5 | Not Available |
| Apple Mechanic | 5 | \$35.00 |
| Cherry Worker | 5 | \$12.50 |
| Nectarine Mechanic | 5 | \$ 7.35 |
| Misc Fruit Trees Worker | 5 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Manager | 5 | \$13.00 |

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

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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 | 3,575 |
| | a. Local | 3,044 |
| | b. Intrastate migratory | 14 |
| | c. Interstate migratory | 295 |
| | d. Foreign | 192 |
| | e. Unknown | 30 |
| 2. | Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers | |
| | a. Intrastate: Tonasket, Wenatchee | |
| | b. Interstate: California | |
| | c. Foreign: Mexico | |

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The November 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 7,846.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were wetter and colder than normal for the reporting period. Apple harvest was mostly completed. Crop size was actually slightly larger than expected. Livestock producers were beginning to bring cattle in for the winter. Winter wheat condition was below normal for this time of the year in some areas.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$7.88 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for apple picker, nursery mechanized harvester and miscellaneous fruit trees fertilizer applicator to \$25.00 for horse and equine manager. Typical piece rates were: \$18.00 to \$30.00 per bin for apple picking. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 85.1% local, 0.4% intrastate, 8.3% interstate, 5.4% foreign and 0.8% 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: NOVEMBER 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 | 3,575 |
| | | * = piece rate |
| Apple Harvester | 2,066 | \$ 7.99 or * \$18.00 - \$30.00 per bin |
| Apple Trainer | 578 | \$ 7.40 |
| Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer | 369 | \$ 7.80 |
| Apple Preparation | 122 | \$ 8.36 |
| Apple Manager | 93 | \$ 8.42 |
| Apple Propper | 93 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Worker | 66 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Fruit Trees Worker | 33 | \$ 8.02 |
| Apple Forklift Driver | 23 | \$ 8.63 |
| Nursery Mechanized Harvester | 19 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Irrigator | 19 | Not Available |
| Apple Pruner | 16 | \$ 7.42 |
| Misc Hay Tractor Operator | 13 | \$ 9.73 |
| Horse and Equines Worker | 13 | \$14.00 |
| Apple Tractor Operator | 11 | \$ 8.88 |
| Pear Preparation | 8 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Fruit Trees Vehicle Operator | 6 | \$10.00 |
| Horse and Equines Manager | 6 | \$25.00 |
| Misc Field Crops Worker | 6 | \$15.00 |
| Pear Pruner | 5 | \$ 8.00 |
| Apple Loader | 3 | \$12.00 |
| Apple Vehicle Operator | 3 | \$15.00 |
| Cherry Preparation | 3 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Fruit Trees Fertilizer Applicator | 3 | \$ 7.35 |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.88/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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 | 2,900 |
| a. Local | 2,094 |
| b. Intrastate migratory | 0 |
| c. Interstate migratory | 22 |
| d. Foreign | 40 |
| e. Unknown | 744 |
-
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers
- a. Intrastate: None
 - b. Interstate: California
 - c. Foreign: Mexico

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The November 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,128.
2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
- a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were wetter and wetter than normal for the reporting period. However, more precipitation was needed to improve the winter wheat crop. About one-third of the fourth cutting of hay was ruined by rain in some areas. Primary agricultural activities were apple harvesting and preparation, nursery harvesting and mint planting.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$7.56 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for nursery harvester, mint planter, blueberry weeder, apple hand thinner, apple weeder, miscellaneous onion sorter/grader/packer, apple pruner, cherry worker, grapes trainer, miscellaneous fruit trees worker, potato sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous vegetables planter and miscellaneous fruit trees tractor operator to \$12.00 for apple vehicle operator and wheat 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 to be 72.1% local, 0.0% intrastate, 0.8% interstate 1.4% foreign and 25.7% 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: NOVEMBER 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 2,900 | * = piece rate |
| Apple Harvester | 1,326 | \$ 7.46 |
| Nursery Harvester | 299 | \$ 7.35 |
| Mint Planter | 273 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Preparation | 251 | \$ 7.74 |
| Apple Trainer | 77 | \$ 8.19 |
| Grass Seed Weeder | 69 | \$ 7.75 |
| Blueberry Weeder | 64 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Worker | 62 | \$ 8.24 |
| Apple Hand Thinner | 48 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Weeder | 46 | \$ 7.35 |
| Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer | 41 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Pruner | 36 | \$ 8.44 |
| Grapes Harvester | 34 | \$ 8.00 |
| Pear Pruner | 32 | \$ 7.50 |
| Cherry Worker | 27 | \$ 7.35 |
| Grapes Trainer | 25 | \$ 7.35 |
| Alfalfa Tractor Operator | 22 | \$ 8.00 |
| Apple Vehicle Operator | 18 | \$12.00 |
| Apple Irrigator | 18 | \$ 7.50 |
| Field Corn Tractor Operator | 14 | \$ 9.67 |
| Potato Tractor Operator | 14 | \$ 9.33 |
| Cherry Weeder | 14 | \$ 7.35 |
| Misc Onion Vehicle Operator | 12 | \$10.00 |
| Misc Fruit Trees Worker | 9 | \$ 7.35 |
| Misc Onion Forklift Driver | 8 | \$ 8.50 |
| Misc Hay Irrigator | 7 | \$ 8.00 |
| Wheat Tractor Operator | 7 | \$12.00 |
| Wheat Worker | 7 | \$ 9.50 |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer | 6 | \$ 7.35 |
| Misc Vegetables Planter | 5 | \$ 7.35 |
| Misc Fruit Trees Tractor Operator | 5 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Tractor Operator | 5 | \$ 8.00 |
| Apple Chemical Applicator | 5 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Onion Loader | 4 | \$ 9.00 |
| Apple Forklift Driver | 4 | \$ 9.65 |
| Mint Mechanized Harvester | 3 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Fruit Trees Vehicle Operator | 2 | \$10.00 |

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: NOVEMBER 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 | 3,737 |
| a. Local | 3,566 |
| b. Intrastate migratory | 0 |
| c. Interstate migratory | 11 |
| d. Foreign | 25 |
| e. Unknown | 135 |
| 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers | |
| a. Intrastate: None | |
| b. Interstate: Oregon | |
| c. Foreign: Mexico | |

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The November 2005 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 6,949.
 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were wetter and colder than normal for the reporting period. Fall seeding of winter wheat was still going on in some areas.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$7.09 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.35 for hops trainer, grapes weeder, carrot harvester, apple pruner, apple trainer, grapes harvester, general farm preparer, potato preparer, miscellaneous field crops irrigator, apple tractor operator, grapes tractor operator, alfalfa irrigator, potato mechanized harvester and potato worker to \$14.00 for miscellaneous field crops worker. Typical piece rates were: \$18.00 to \$26.00 per bin for apple picking. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 95.4% local, 0.0% intrastate, 0.3% interstate, 0.7% foreign and 3.6% 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: NOVEMBER 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 | 3,737 |
| | | * = piece rate |
| Apple Harvester | 2,738 | \$ 8.07 or * \$18.00 - \$26.00 per bin |
| Hops Trainer | 110 | \$ 7.35 |
| Chicken Eggs Worker | 89 | \$ 7.70 |
| Grapes Weeder | 54 | \$ 7.35 |
| Carrot Harvester | 54 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Pruner | 51 | \$ 7.35 |
| Apple Worker | 46 | \$ 7.81 |
| Grass Seed Weeder | 44 | \$ 7.85 |
| Apple Trainer | 43 | \$ 7.35 |
| General Farm Mechanic | 39 | \$ 8.35 |
| Grapes Harvester | 35 | \$ 7.35 |
| Grapes Mechanized Harvester | 31 | \$ 7.45 |
| Carrot Mechanized Harvester | 30 | \$ 8.58 |
| Misc Vegetables Worker | 30 | \$ 8.75 |
| Potato Vehicle Operator | 29 | \$ 9.50 |
| Misc Field Crops Tractor Operator | 25 | \$ 9.50 |
| General Farm Preparation | 25 | \$ 7.35 |
| Potato Preparation | 25 | \$ 7.35 |
| Walla Walla Sweets Irrigator | 23 | \$ 8.50 |
| Grapes Trainer | 22 | \$ 7.59 |
| Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer | 20 | \$ 7.77 |
| Grapes Worker | 19 | \$ 7.38 |
| Carrot Vehicle Operator | 19 | \$10.14 |
| Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer | 14 | \$ 8.00 |
| Misc Vegetables Irrigator | 13 | \$ 8.75 |
| Misc Field Crops Irrigator | 13 | \$ 7.35 |
| Potato Loader | 10 | \$ 8.90 |
| General Farm Worker | 10 | \$12.25 |
| Alfalfa Worker | 8 | \$ 9.50 |
| Misc Field Crops Worker | 8 | \$14.00 |
| Carrot Tractor Operator | 7 | \$ 8.75 |
| Wheat Vehicle Operator | 6 | \$ 9.50 |
| Wheat Worker | 6 | \$ 9.00 |
| Grapes Irrigator | 6 | \$ 8.50 |
| Misc Hay Tractor Operator | 5 | \$ 8.25 |
| Apple Tractor Operator | 5 | \$ 7.35 |

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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 |
| Grapes Tractor Operator | 5 | \$ 7.35 |
| Misc Other Fruit Worker | 5 | \$ 8.25 |
| Alfalfa Irrigator | 4 | \$ 7.35 |
| Potato Mechanized Harvester | 3 | \$ 7.75 |
| Potato Tractor Operator | 2 | \$13.75 |
| Potato Worker | 1 | \$ 7.35 |
| Potato Irrigator | 1 | \$ 8.00 |
| Carrot Irrigator | 1 | \$ 8.50 |

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 8.09/hr (weighted average)