



AGRICULTURAL LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

JANUARY 2006



Prepared by

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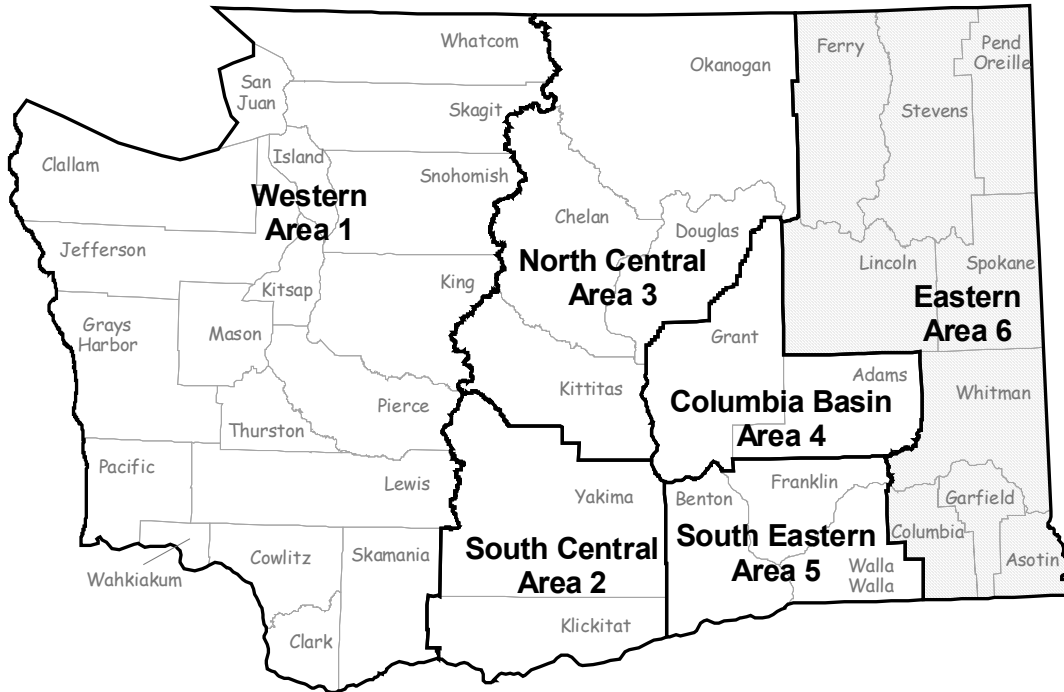
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Report available online at Workforce Explorer-Industry
<http://www.workforceexplorer.com>

JANUARY 2006

Agricultural Reporting Areas in Washington State



Counties Within Agricultural Reporting Areas

Area 1 = Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum and Whatcom

Area 2 = Klickitat and Yakima

Area 3 = Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas and Okanogan

Area 4 = Adams and Grant

Area 5 = Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla

Area 6 = Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

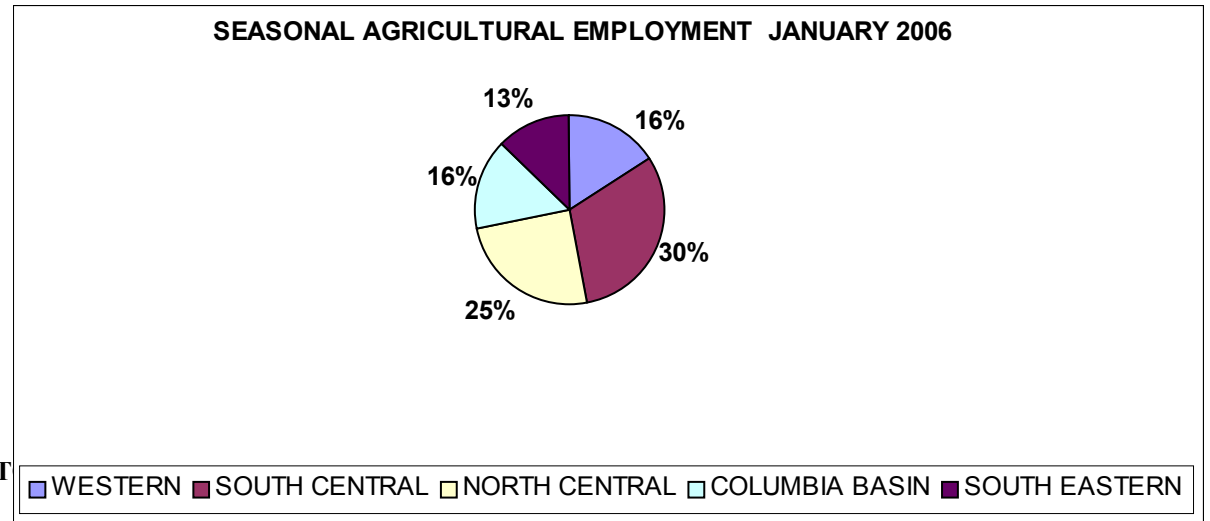
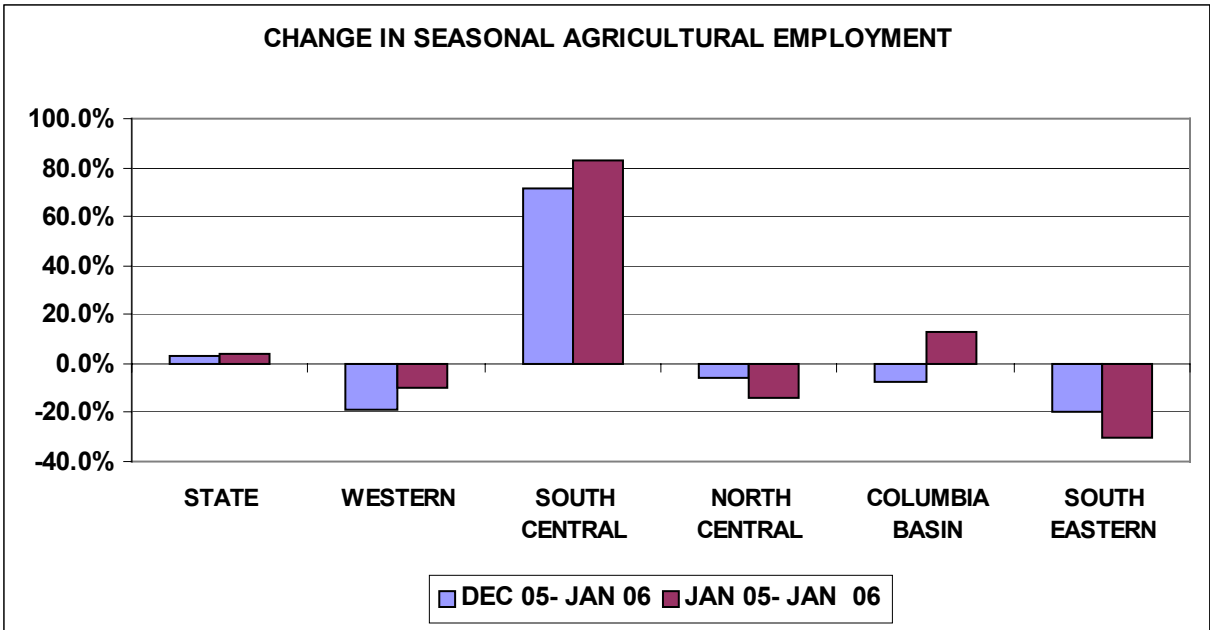
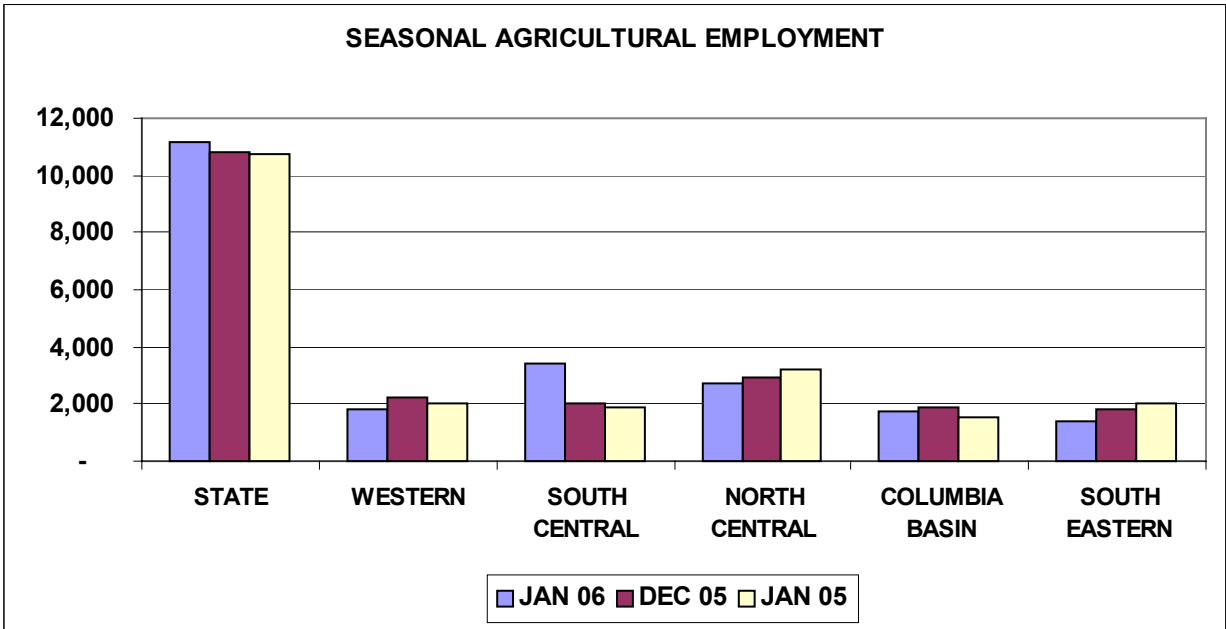
Statewide seasonal employment expanded by 3.9% from January 2005 to January 2006. Agricultural activities displaying over-the-year gains were grapes work (576), blueberry work (387), potato work (261), pear work (242), other tree fruit work (205), cherry work (113), bulb work (85), other seasonal work (65), hops work (20) and miscellaneous vegetables work (10). Activities displaying losses were raspberry work (-599), apple work (-386), nursery work (-260), onion work (-254) and wheat/grain work (-45). Across the state, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment declined by 10.0%, due to a decline in raspberry work (-599). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment expanded by 81.6%, courtesy of a gain in apple work (797). North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment contracted by 13.9%, caused by a loss in apple work (-538). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment grew by 12.5%, led by growth in other tree fruit work (120). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment dropped by 29.9%, due to a decline in apple work (-679). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment fell by 70.3%, thanks to a decrease in wheat/grain work (-59).

ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

In a move to bolster consumer confidence, almost all U.S. chickens will be tested for avian flu. The voluntary testing officially began on January 16th. According to the National Chicken Council, companies that made up more than 90 percent of the nation's production in 2005 have signed up for the testing program. The cost of the testing will be paid by the producers. The U.S. poultry industry produced about 9.5 billion chickens in 2005. More than 99 percent of the chickens consumed in this country are raised here. The rest are imported from Canada. Under the testing program, which will be done in accordance with the National Poultry Improvement Plan, swabs or beak samples will be taken from 11 chickens in each flock. Any results that look suspicious will be sent to USDA's laboratory in Ames, Iowa for confirmation. In most cases, the birds will be tested two weeks before slaughter.

Early projections are for another record cherry crop this year. The Pacific Northwest should harvest a record 12.4 million, 20-pound boxes of sweet cherries this year. A combined total record of 11.7 million boxes of cherries was produced in 2005 by Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Utah. This number has been increasing about 700,000 boxes a year for the last decade, according to B.J. Thurlby, president of the Washington State Fruit Commission. Thurlby stated that according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the cherry industry grossed \$423 million in 2005, compared with \$400 million in 2004.

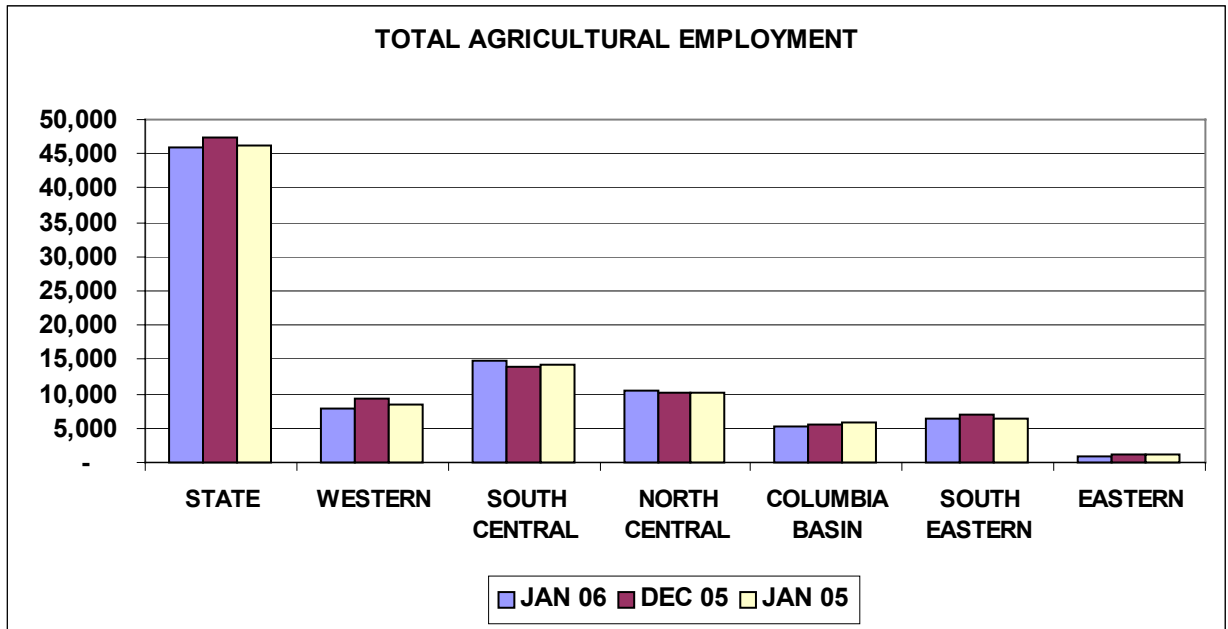
SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>DEC 05</u>	<u>JAN 05</u>	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				<u>DEC 05- JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 05- JAN 06</u>	<u>DEC 05- JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 05- JAN 06</u>
STATE	11,163	10,844	10,740	319	423	2.9%	3.9%
WESTERN	1,807	2,232	2,008	(425)	(201)	-19.0%	-10.0%
SOUTH CENTRAL	3,415	2,003	1,880	1,412	1,535	70.5%	81.6%
NORTH CENTRAL	2,747	2,905	3,191	(158)	(444)	-5.4%	-13.9%
COLUMBIA BASIN	1,744	1,882	1,550	(138)	194	-7.3%	12.5%
SOUTH EASTERN	1,428	1,786	2,037	(358)	(609)	-20.0%	-29.9%
EASTERN	22	36	74	(14)	(52)	-38.9%	-70.3%



TOTAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY

Statewide total agricultural employment contracted by 0.5% in January 2006 from January 2005. Over-the-month total employment decreased by a larger 3.0% from December 2005 to January 2006. Over-the-year regionally, Western (Area 1) total employment fell by 6.1%. South Central (Area 2) total employment expanded by 3.4%. North Central (Area 3) total employment also grew by 3.4%. Columbia Basin (Area 4) total employment retreated by 8.5%. South Eastern (Area 5) total employment moved ahead by 2.5%. Eastern (Area 6) total employment slid by 19.1%.

	TOTAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT						
	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>DEC 05</u>	<u>JAN 05</u>	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				<u>DEC 05- JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 05- JAN 06</u>	<u>DEC 05- JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 05- JAN 06</u>
STATE	45,941	47,347	46,173	(1,406)	(232)	-3.0%	-0.5%
WESTERN	7,897	9,333	8,410	(1,436)	(513)	-15.4%	-6.1%
SOUTH CENTRAL	14,806	14,000	14,323	806	483	5.8%	3.4%
NORTH CENTRAL	10,589	10,210	10,245	379	344	3.7%	3.4%
COLUMBIA BASIN	5,208	5,665	5,691	(457)	(483)	-8.1%	-8.5%
SOUTH EASTERN	6,516	6,891	6,360	(375)	156	-5.4%	2.5%
EASTERN	925	1,248	1,144	(323)	(219)	-25.9%	-19.1%



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment moved forward by 3.9% from January 2005 to January 2006. Seasonal employment also increased by a slightly smaller 2.9% statewide from December 2005 to January 2006. The crop activity gaining the most jobs from January 2005 to January 2006 was grapes work (576). Raspberry work lost the largest amount of employment (-599) for that same time period. Grapes work employment moved ahead of all other seasonal crop work (603) from December 2005 to January 2006. Raspberry work contracted by the largest amount of employment (-748) during that same time period. The statewide weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2006 was \$7.78 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE	CHANGE			PERCENT CHANGE			
	JAN 06	DEC 05	JAN 05	DEC 05- JAN 06	JAN 05- JAN 06	DEC 05- JAN 06	JAN 05- JAN 06
Apples	6,395	6,244	6,781	151	(386)	2.42%	-5.69%
Blueberry	414	130	27	284	387	218.46%	1433.33%
Bulb	194	167	109	27	85	16.17%	77.98%
Cherries	472	169	359	303	113	179.29%	31.48%
Grapes	879	276	303	603	576	218.48%	190.10%
Hops	20	39	0	(19)	20	-48.72%	NA
Misc Vegetables	100	192	90	(92)	10	-47.92%	11.11%
Nursery	411	302	671	109	(260)	36.09%	-38.75%
Onion	298	702	552	(404)	(254)	-57.55%	-46.01%
Other Seasonal	207	321	142	(114)	65	-35.51%	45.77%
Other Tree Fruit	247	236	42	11	205	4.66%	488.10%
Pears	570	450	328	120	242	26.67%	73.78%
Potato	482	386	221	96	261	24.87%	118.10%
Raspberry	448	1,196	1,047	(748)	(599)	-62.54%	-57.21%
Wheat/Grain	23	37	68	(14)	(45)	-37.84%	-66.18%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment contracted by 10.0% from January 2005 to January 2006. Seasonal employment decreased over-the-month by 19.0% from December 2005 to January 2006. Blueberry work increased by the greatest amount of employment (387) from January 2005 to January 2006. Raspberry work lost the most jobs (-599) for that same time period. Blueberry work moved forward with the largest employment gain (284) from December 2005 to January 2006. Raspberry work lost the largest amount of employment (-748) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2006 in Area 1 was \$7.91 per hour. (See pages 15 -16 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

WESTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				DEC 05-	JAN 05-	DEC 05-	JAN 05-
	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>DEC 05</u>	<u>JAN 05</u>	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 06</u>
CROP							
Blueberry	414	130	27	284	387	218.46%	1433.33%
Bulb	194	167	109	27	85	16.17%	77.98%
Misc Vegetables	72	132	74	(60)	(2)	-45.45%	-2.70%
Nursery	382	277	546	105	(164)	37.91%	-30.04%
Other Seasonal	9	146	16	(137)	(7)	-93.84%	-43.75%
Potato	288	185	179	103	109	55.68%	60.89%
Raspberry	448	1,196	1,047	(748)	(599)	-62.54%	-57.21%
Rhubarb	0	0	10	0	(10)	NA	NA

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment grew by 81.6% from January 2005 to January 2006. Seasonal employment also expanded by 70.5% from December 2005 to January 2006. Apple work led all other crops in employment gain (797) from January 2005 to January 2006. Other tree fruit work posted the largest job loss (-10) for that same time period. Apple work moved forward by the largest number of jobs (791) from December 2005 to January 2006. Miscellaneous vegetables lost the greatest number of jobs (-32) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2006 in Area 2 was \$7.75 per hour. (See pages 17 -18 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

SOUTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				DEC 05-	JAN 05-	DEC 05-	JAN 05-
	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>DEC 05</u>	<u>JAN 05</u>	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 06</u>	<u>JAN 06</u>
CROP							
Apples	2,244	1,453	1,447	791	797	54.44%	55.08%
Cherries	29	10	19	19	10	190.00%	52.63%
Grapes	646	178	217	468	429	262.92%	197.70%
Hops	7	0	0	7	7	NA	NA
Misc Vegetables	28	60	6	(32)	22	-53.33%	366.67%
Other Seasonal	30	16	0	14	30	87.50%	0.00%
Other Tree Fruit	0	5	10	(5)	(10)	NA	NA
Pears	430	281	181	149	249	53.02%	137.57%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment slid by 13.9% from January 2005 to January 2006. However, job loss from December 2005 to January 2006 was only 5.4%. Other tree fruit work displayed the largest over-the-month gain in employment (116) from January 2005 to January 2006. Apple work registered the largest employment loss (-538) for that same time period. Cherry work gained the greatest number of jobs (107) from December 2005 to January 2006. Apple work displayed the largest decline in employment (-294) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2006 in Area 3 was \$7.80 per hour. (See pages 19 - 20 for Area 3 detail)

AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
NORTH CENTRAL			CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	JAN 06	DEC 05	JAN 05	DEC 05- JAN 06	JAN 05- JAN 06	DEC 05- JAN 06	JAN 05- JAN 06
Apples	2,418	2,712	2,956	(294)	(538)	-10.84%	-18.20%
Cherries	147	40	82	107	65	267.50%	79.27%
Other Seasonal	9	12	71	(3)	(62)	-25.00%	-87.32%
Other Tree Fruit	123	23	7	100	116	434.78%	1657.14%
Pears	50	119	75	(69)	(25)	-57.98%	-33.33%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment advanced by 12.5% from January 2005 to January 2006. This gain was reversed by a loss of 7.3% in employment from December 2005 to January 2006. Other tree fruit work displayed the largest increase in employment (120) from January 2005 to January 2006. Nursery work decreased by the greatest number of jobs (-105) during that same time period. Mint work led the gainers in employment (57) from December 2005 to January 2006. Apple work displayed the largest downturn in employment (-160) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2006 in Area 4 was \$7.68 per hour. (See pages 21 - 22 for Area 4 detail)

AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
COLUMBIA BASIN			CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE		
CROP	JAN 06	DEC 05	JAN 05	DEC 05- JAN 06	JAN 05- JAN 06	DEC 05- JAN 06	JAN 05- JAN 06
Apples	1,114	1,274	1,080	(160)	34	-12.56%	3.15%
Cherries	45	9	84	36	(39)	400.00%	-46.43%
Mint	57	0	0	57	57	NA	NA
Nursery	20	25	125	(5)	(105)	-20.00%	-84.00%
Onion	149	170	110	(21)	39	-12.35%	35.45%
Other Seasonal	0	78	41	(78)	(41)	NA	NA
Other Tree Fruit	120	126	0	(6)	120	-4.76%	0.00%
Pears	90	50	72	40	18	80.00%	25.00%
Potato	146	150	38	(4)	108	-2.67%	284.21%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment declined by 29.9% from January 2005 to January 2006. Seasonal employment also contracted by a slightly smaller 20.0% from December 2005 to January 2006. Grapes work moved forward with the largest gain in employment (147) from January 2005 to January 2006. Apple work led the decliners (-679) during that same time period. Cherry work displayed the greatest increase in employment (141) from December 2005 to January 2006. Onion work shed the most jobs (-383) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for January 2006 in Area 5 was \$7.76 per hour. (See pages 23 - 24 for Area 5 detail)

AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH EASTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	JAN 06	DEC 05	JAN 05	DEC 05- JAN 06	JAN 05- JAN 06	DEC 05- JAN 06	JAN 05- JAN 06
CROP							
Apples	619	805	1,298	(186)	(679)	-23.11%	-52.31%
Cherries	251	110	174	141	77	128.18%	44.25%
Grapes	233	98	86	135	147	137.76%	170.93%
Hops	13	39	0	(26)	13	-66.67%	NA
Onion	149	532	442	(383)	(293)	-71.99%	-66.29%
Other Seasonal	98	57	8	41	90	71.93%	1125.00%
Other Tree Fruit	4	82	25	(78)	(21)	-95.12%	-84.00%
Potatoes	48	51	4	(3)	44	-5.88%	1100.00%
Wheat/Grain	14	12	0	2	14	16.67%	NA
**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 January.

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 JANUARY 2006

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: 1,807 (1,412 local, 20 intrastate, 55 interstate, 254 foreign, 66 unknown origin)

Blueberry Pruner	414	\$ 7.62/hr
Raspberry Worker	377	\$ 7.80/hr
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	282	\$ 8.29/hr
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	236	\$ 7.63/hr

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,415 (1,944 local, 108 intrastate, 81 interstate, 1,013 foreign, 269 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	2,101	\$ 7.65/hr	or \$ 0.50 - \$ 4.40 per tree
Grapes Pruner	646	\$ 7.80/hr	or \$ 0.16 - \$ 0.25 per plant
Pear Pruner	430	\$ 7.68/hr	or \$ 0.95 - \$ 4.25 per tree
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	119	\$ 7.64/hr	

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,747 (2,597 local, 5 intrastate, 3 interstate, 137 foreign, 5 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	2,106	\$ 7.75/hr
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	282	\$ 7.77/hr
Cherry Pruner	147	\$ 8.01/hr
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	120	\$ 7.64/hr

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 1,744 (1,290 local, 0 intrastate, 3 interstate, 77 foreign, 374 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	1,071	\$ 7.68/hr	or \$ 0.25 - \$ 1.50 per tree
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	130	\$ 7.63/hr	
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	110	\$ 7.66/hr	
Pear Pruner	87	\$ 7.64/hr	

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 1,428 (1,121 local, 3 intrastate, 3 interstate, 10 foreign, 291 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	600	\$ 7.68/hr	or \$ 0.60 - \$ 2.25 per tree
Cherry Pruner	248	\$ 7.70/hr	or \$ 1.00 - \$ 4.00 per tree
Grapes Pruner	191	\$ 7.65/hr	or \$ 0.10 - \$ 0.31 per plant
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	84	\$ 7.65/hr	

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 22 (0 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate, 0 foreign, 22 unknown origin)

Nursery Planter	9	\$ 7.75/hr
Wheat Worker	9	\$ 9.50/hr
Apple Pruner	4	\$ 7.65/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

JANUARY 2006

TABLE 1

JANUARY 2006

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	1,412	20	55	254	66	1,807
2. South Central	1,944	108	81	1,013	269	3,415
3. North Central	2,597	5	3	137	5	2,747
4. Columbia Basin	1,290	0	3	77	374	1,744
5. South Eastern	1,121	3	3	10	291	1,428
6. Eastern	22	0	0	0	0	22
State Totals	8,386	135	143	1,492	1,006	11,163
% State Total	75.1%	1.2%	1.3%	13.4%	9.0%	100%

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2006

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	1,807
a. Local	1,412
b. Intrastate migratory	20
c. Interstate migratory	55
d. Foreign	254
e. Unknown	66
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Yakima	
b. Interstate: California, Texas	
c. Foreign: Guatemala, Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The January 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 6,090.

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. Primary agricultural activities were blueberry pruning, raspberry work, potato and nursery warehouse work.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.91 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.62 for blueberry pruner to \$10.50 for pumpkin preparer. 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 78.1% local, 1.1% intrastate, 3.0% interstate, foreign 14.1% and 3.7% 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: JANUARY 2006
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 1,807	* = piece rate
Blueberry Pruner	414	\$ 7.62
Raspberry Worker	377	\$ 7.80
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	282	\$ 8.29
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	236	\$ 7.63
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	161	\$ 7.63
Nursery Harvester	87	\$ 7.63
Raspberry Pruner	66	\$ 7.63
Misc Vegetables Sorter/Grader/Packer	37	\$ 8.88
Bulbs Harvester	33	\$ 7.63
Misc Vegetables Worker	25	\$ 9.56
Nursery Worker	21	\$ 7.66
Nursery Planter	21	\$ 9.00
Nursery Tractor Operator	17	\$ 7.70
Pumpkin Preparation	10	\$10.50
Cranberry Worker	5	\$ 7.75
Raspberry Trainer	5	\$ 7.63
Misc Under Cover Crop Sorter/Grader/Packer	4	\$ 8.00
Potato Loader	4	\$ 9.00
Potato Mechanic	2	\$ 9.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 \$ 7.91/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2006

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	3,415
a. Local	1,944
b. Intrastate migratory	108
c. Interstate migratory	81
d. Foreign	1,013
e. Unknown	269
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 January 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 10,446.
 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. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, grapes pruning, pear pruning and apple warehouse work.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.75 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.63 for miscellaneous field crops mechanic, field corn worker, hops worker and miscellaneous field crops irrigator to \$35.00 for apple mechanic. Typical piece rates were: \$.50 to \$4.40 per tree for apple pruning, \$.16 to \$0.25 per plant for grapes pruning and \$.95 to \$4.25 per tree for pear pruning. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.
 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 56.8% local, 3.2% intrastate, 2.4% interstate, foreign 29.7% and unknown 7.9%.
 - 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: JANUARY 2006
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	3,415
		* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	2,101	\$ 7.65 or * \$ 0.50 - \$ 4.40 per tree
Grapes Pruner	646	\$ 7.80 or * \$ 0.16 - \$ 0.25 per plant
Pear Pruner	430	\$ 7.68 or * \$ 0.95 - \$ 4.25 per tree
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	119	\$ 7.64
Cherry Pruner	29	\$15.00 or * \$ 2.00 - \$ 6.00 per tree
Misc Squash Sorter/Grader/Packer	28	\$ 7.75
Apple Worker	19	\$ 9.43
Misc Field Crops Mechanic	10	\$ 7.63
Misc Field Crops Preparation	7	\$ 8.02
Field Corn Worker	7	\$ 7.63
Hops Worker	7	\$ 7.63
Apple Mechanic	5	\$35.00
Field Corn Vehicle Operator	3	\$ 7.70
Misc Field Crops Irrigator	3	\$ 7.63

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 7.75/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2006
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	2,747
	a. Local	2,597
	b. Intrastate migratory	5
	c. Interstate migratory	3
	d. Foreign	137
	e. Unknown	5
2.	Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
	a. Intrastate: Yakima	
	b. Interstate: California	
	c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The January 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 7,842.
 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. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning and warehouse work, cherry pruning and miscellaneous fruit trees work.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.80 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.64 for miscellaneous fruit trees worker to \$25.00 for 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 94.5% local, 0.2% intrastate, 0.1% interstate, 5.0% foreign and 0.2% 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: JANUARY 2006
 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 2,747	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	2,106	\$ 7.75
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	282	\$ 7.77
Cherry Pruner	147	\$ 8.01
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	120	\$ 7.64
Pear Pruner	50	\$ 7.76
Apple Forklift Driver	11	\$ 8.50
Apple Manager	8	\$ 8.08
Apple Preparation	5	\$ 8.50
Misc Fruit Trees Mechanic	3	\$ 8.00
Misc Hay Mechanic	3	\$ 8.00
Horse and Equines Manager	3	\$25.00
Horse and Equines Worker	3	\$14.00
Apple Mechanic	3	\$10.00
Apple Tractor Operator	3	\$ 9.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.80/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2006

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	1,744
a. Local	1,290
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	3
d. Foreign	77
e. Unknown	374
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 January 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 3,464.

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. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, miscellaneous onion and potato warehouse work.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.68 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.63 for miscellaneous onion sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous fruit trees sorter/grader/packer, mint planter, cherry planter, apple planter, nursery sorter/grader/planter, miscellaneous onion loader, apricot worker and nursery harvester to \$8.75 for potato mechanic. Typical piece rates were: \$.25 to \$1.50 per tree for apple pruning. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.

c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:

The labor force was estimated to be 74.1% local, 0.0% intrastate, 0.1% interstate 4.4% foreign and 21.4% 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: JANUARY 2006
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	1,744
		* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	1,071	\$ 7.68 or * \$ 0.25 - \$ 1.50 per tree
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	130	\$ 7.63
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	110	\$ 7.66
Pear Pruner	87	\$ 7.64
Misc Fruit Trees Sorter/Grader/Packer	82	\$ 7.63
Mint Planter	54	\$ 7.63
Cherry Pruner	45	\$ 7.63
Apple Planter	35	\$ 7.63
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	18	\$ 7.63
Potato Worker	18	\$ 8.38
Misc Onion Loader	15	\$ 7.63
Potato Mechanic	14	\$ 8.75
Apricot Worker	14	\$ 7.63
Apricot Pruner	14	Not Available
Misc Fruit Trees Worker	10	\$ 7.69
Apple Manager	8	\$ 8.40
Potato Forklift Driver	4	\$ 8.00
Misc Onion Forklift Driver	4	\$ 8.50
Pear Worker	3	\$ 7.75
Mint Manager	3	\$ 8.50
Nursery Harvester	2	\$ 7.63

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 7.68/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2006

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	1,428
a. Local	1,121
b. Intrastate migratory	3
c. Interstate migratory	3
d. Foreign	10
e. Unknown	291
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: Warden	
b. Interstate: California	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The January 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,088.

 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. Primary agricultural activities were apple pruning, cherry pruning, grape pruning and miscellaneous onion warehouse work.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in January averaged \$7.76 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.63 for grapes trainer, hops trainer, apple trainer, grapes cultivator, apple cultivator, apple grafter, cherry manager and miscellaneous hay worker to \$15.00 for grass seed worker. Typical piece rates were: \$.60 to \$2.25 per tree for apple pruning, \$1.00 to \$4.00 per tree for cherry pruning and \$.10 to \$.31 per plant for grapes pruning. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.

 - c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:
The labor force was estimated to be 78.5% local, 0.2% intrastate, 0.2% interstate, 0.7% foreign and 20.4% unknown.

 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
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DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: JANUARY 2006
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 1,428	* = piece rate
Apple Pruner	600	\$ 7.68 or * \$ 0.60 - \$ 2.25 per tree
Cherry Pruner	248	\$ 7.70 or * \$ 1.00 - \$ 4.00 per tree
Grapes Pruner	191	\$ 7.65 or * \$ 0.10 - \$ 0.31 per plant
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	84	\$ 7.65
Walla Walla Sweets Worker	65	\$ 9.14
Chicken Eggs Worker	62	\$ 8.00
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	48	\$ 7.68
Grapes Trainer	34	\$ 7.63
Chicken Eggs Sorter/Grader/Packer	14	\$ 8.00
Wheat Worker	14	\$ 9.50
Hops Trainer	13	\$ 7.63
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	11	\$ 8.00
Apple Trainer	9	\$ 7.63
Grapes Cultivator	8	\$ 7.63
Apple Cultivator	5	\$ 7.63
Apple Grafter	5	\$ 7.63
Misc Other Fruit Worker	4	\$ 8.25
General Farm Worker	4	\$12.00
Grass Seed Worker	3	\$15.00
Cherry Manager	3	\$ 7.63
Misc Hay Worker	2	\$ 7.63
Misc Hay Weeder	2	\$ 8.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 7.76/hr (weighted average)