



AGRICULTURAL LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

NOVEMBER 2006



Prepared by

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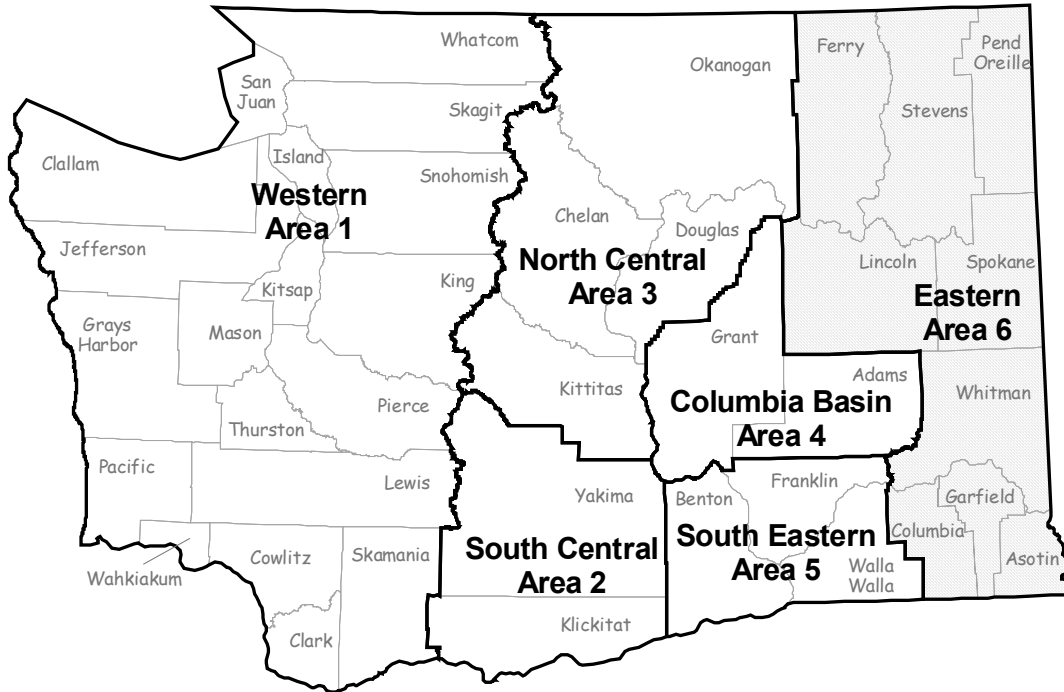
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Agricultural Reporting Areas in Washington State



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

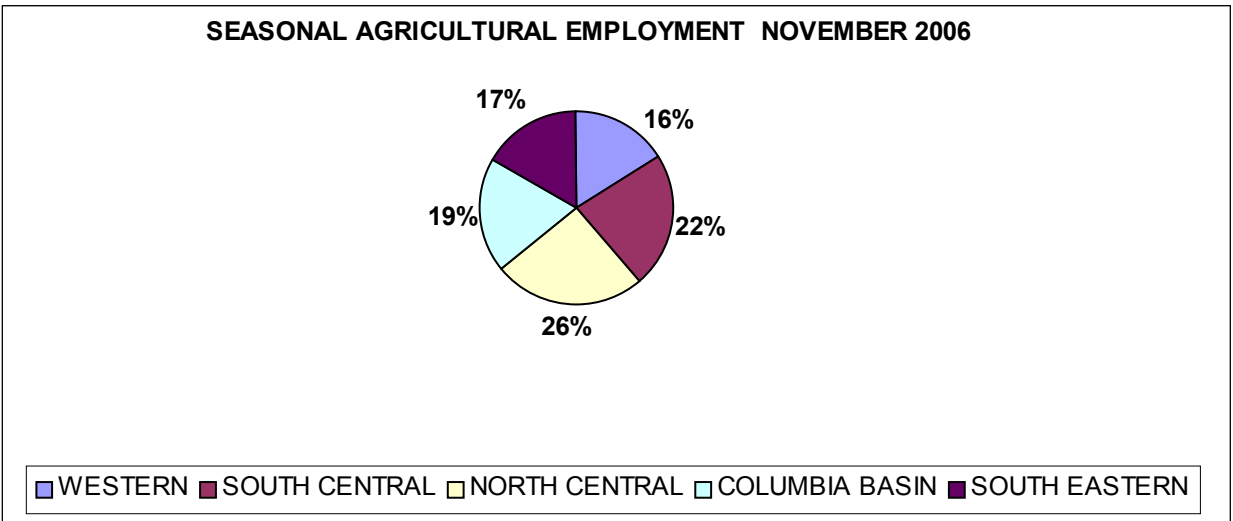
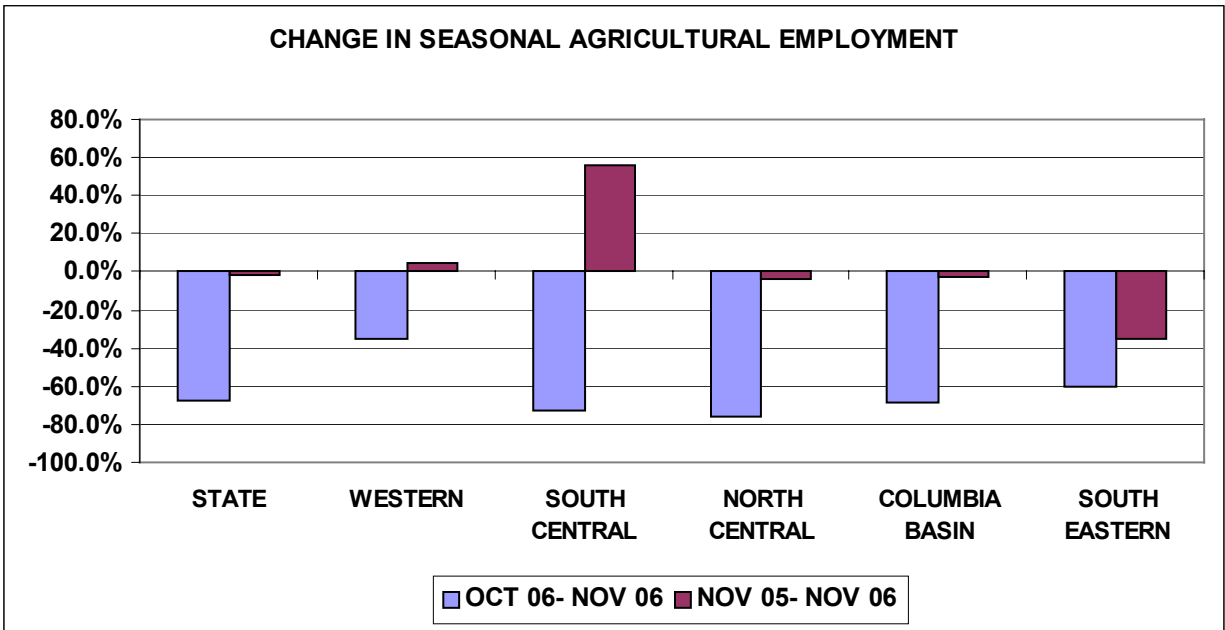
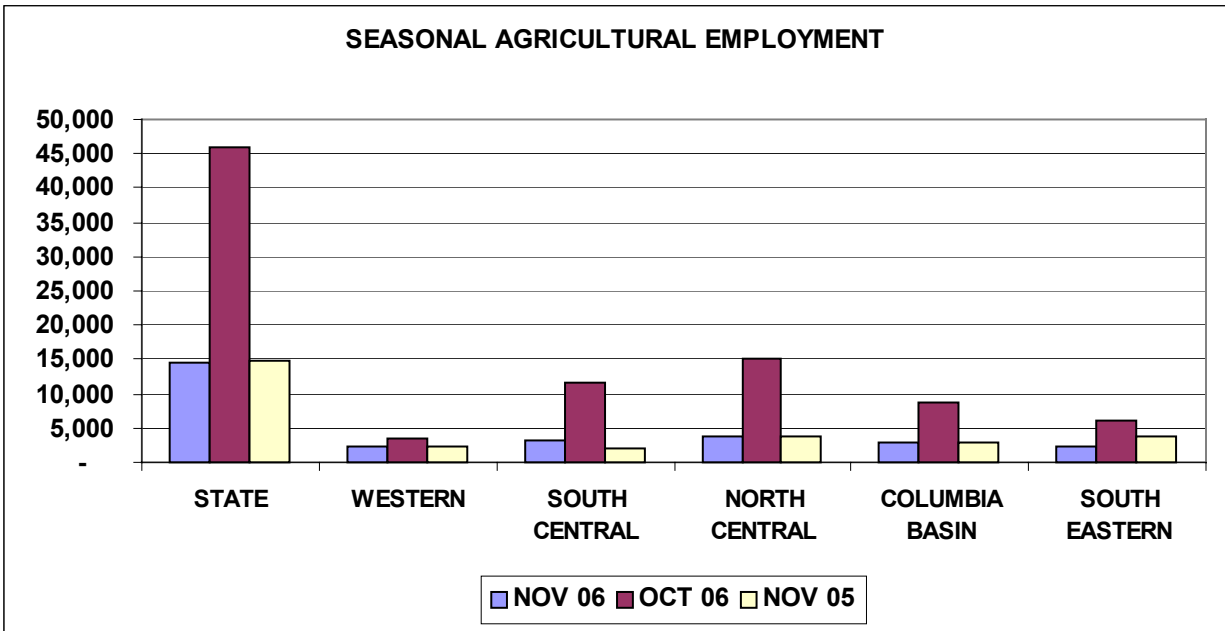
Statewide seasonal employment fell by 1.5% from November 2005 to November 2006. Agricultural activities displaying over-the-year losses were other seasonal work (-665), onion work (-393), nursery work (-240), raspberry work (-163), bulb work (-96), miscellaneous vegetables work (-95), grapes work (-72), cucumber work (-51) and hops work (-28). Activities displaying gains were potato work (790), other tree fruit work (284), apple work (244), pear work (146), cherry work (104) and wheat/grain work (2). Regionally, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment moved forward by 5.1%, due to an increase in potato work (518). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment ramped up by 55.7%, thanks to a bump up in apple work (1,340). North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment slipped by 3.4%, caused by a downturn in apple work (-220). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment also slid by 3.1% courtesy of a drop in mint work (-251). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment plummeted by 35.0%, driven down by a decline in apple work (-629). Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment grew by 24.3%, pushed ahead by an uptick in nursery work (22).

ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

Skagit County potato growers are pleased with this year's crop. The quantity of the crop was normal. The market is better than last year and the quality of the crop is good. About 80 percent of the Skagit Valley crop has been harvested. This year's prices are on the upswing. Red potatoes, the Valley's signature potato are bringing in from \$12 to \$14 per 50-pound weight, compared to last year's prices of \$11 to \$12. Tight supplies in the spring and summer have pushed prices up. Estimates of potato acreage for the Valley range from 9,500 to 12,000 acres.

U.S. beef exporters continue to have problems with zero tolerance laws in South Korea and Japan. Trade has resumed amid continued negotiations over zero tolerance. "Meaningful discussions are currently under way, and we remain optimistic," said Sean McHugh of Swift and Co. Like more than 50 other nations, South Korea banned U.S. beef in late December 2003 after bovine spongiform encephalopathy was confirmed in a Canadian-born U.S. dairy cow. The boneless cuts are what worry packers, because Korean government officials insist on a zero tolerance for even a chip of bone in a box of beef. That same zero tolerance in Japan's U.S. beef import policy in January resulted in re-imposition of the import ban. Trade didn't resume until August, when Japanese officials said they would refuse only the offending shipment, not cut off all imports. Several U.S. packers told the trade press they don't want to try a Korea shipment until bone tolerance is relaxed. In 2003, U.S. beef producers did \$81.5 million worth of business with Korea, capping years of negotiations that slowly increased acceptance of imported product. High tariffs remain on U.S. beef.

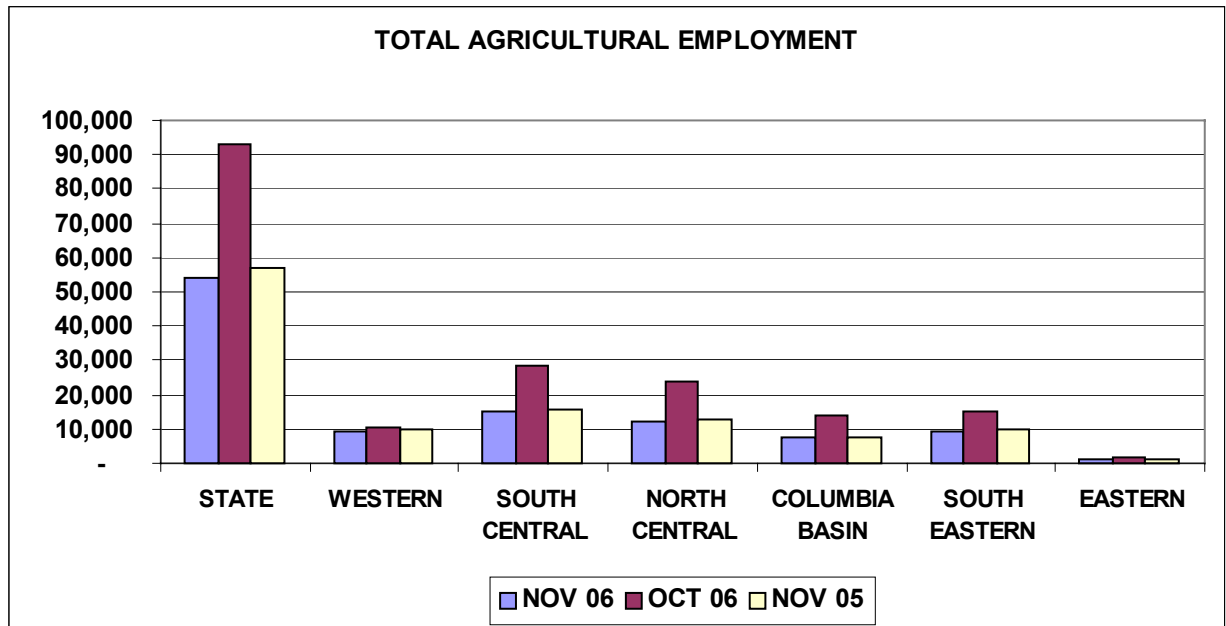
	SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT						
	NOV 06	OCT 06	NOV 05	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06
STATE	14,673	45,786	14,900	(31,113)	(227)	-68.0%	-1.5%
WESTERN	2,372	3,627	2,257	(1,255)	115	-34.6%	5.1%
SOUTH CENTRAL	3,222	11,752	2,070	(8,530)	1,152	-72.6%	55.7%
NORTH CENTRAL	3,674	15,024	3,803	(11,350)	(129)	-75.5%	-3.4%
COLUMBIA BASIN	2,793	8,841	2,883	(6,048)	(90)	-68.4%	-3.1%
SOUTH EASTERN	2,433	6,176	3,743	(3,743)	(1,310)	-60.6%	-35.0%
EASTERN	179	366	144	(187)	35	-51.1%	24.3%



TOTAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY

Statewide total agricultural employment declined by 5.0% from November 2005 to November 2006. Over-the-month total employment contracted by 41.9% due to the completion of apple harvest. Over-the-year regionally, Western (Area 1) total employment slipped by 4.8%. South Central (Area 2) total employment dipped by 5.1%. North Central (Area 3) total employment fell by 5.2%. Columbia Basin (Area 4) total employment softened by 4.6%. South Eastern (Area 5) total employment narrowed by 5.3%. Eastern (Area 6) total employment eased by 2.3%.

	TOTAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE		
	<u>NOV 06</u>	<u>OCT 06</u>	<u>NOV 05</u>	<u>OCT 06- NOV 06</u>	<u>NOV 05- NOV 06</u>	<u>OCT 06- NOV 06</u>	<u>NOV 05- NOV 06</u>	
STATE	54,210	93,273	57,055	(39,063)	(2,845)	-41.9%	-5.0%	
WESTERN	9,200	10,499	9,667	(1,299)	(467)	-12.4%	-4.8%	
SOUTH CENTRAL	15,136	28,254	15,946	(13,118)	(810)	-46.4%	-5.1%	
NORTH CENTRAL	11,900	23,667	12,557	(11,767)	(657)	-49.7%	-5.2%	
COLUMBIA BASIN	7,301	13,987	7,652	(6,686)	(351)	-47.8%	-4.6%	
SOUTH EASTERN	9,450	15,398	9,982	(5,948)	(532)	-38.6%	-5.3%	
EASTERN	1,222	1,469	1,250	(247)	(28)	-16.8%	-2.3%	

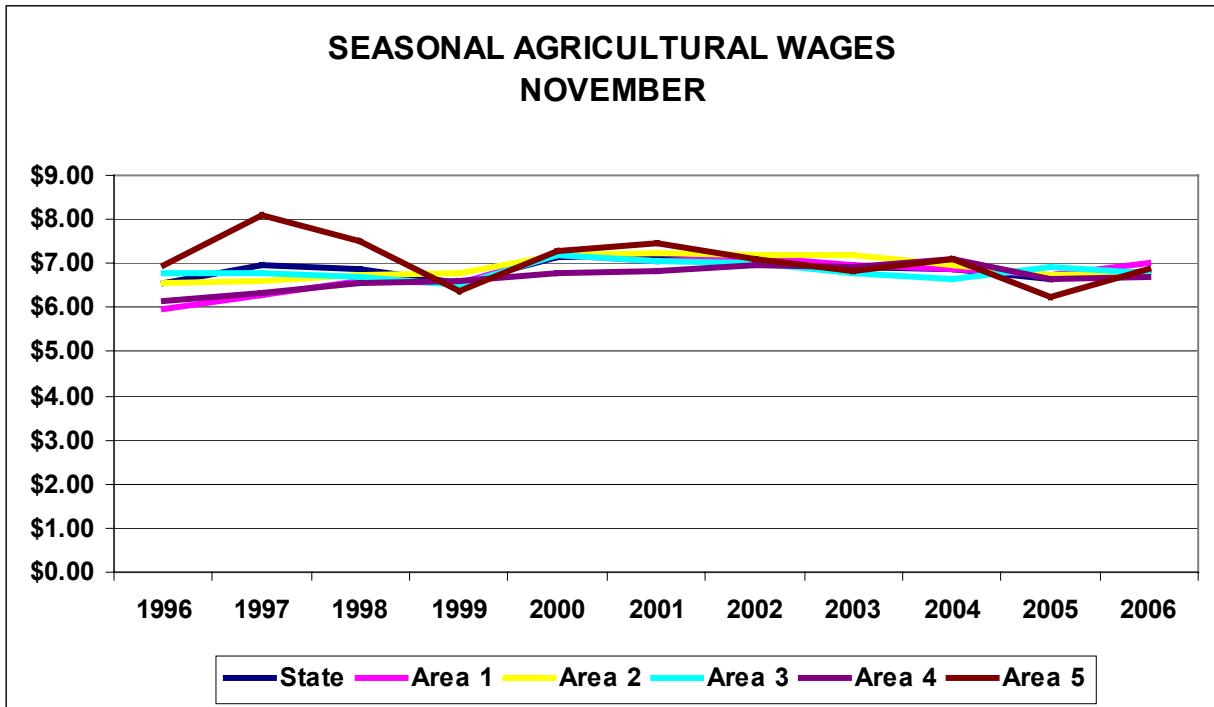


STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL WAGE TRENDS

Statewide real seasonal agricultural wages expanded by 4.3% from November 1996 to November 2006. Washington State real minimum wages grew by 21.5% during this same time period. Statewide real agricultural seasonal wages rose by 3.1% from November 2005 to November 2006. The state minimum wage increased by 1.2% during this same time period. Western (Area 1) seasonal wages moved forward by 4.0% from November 2005 to November 2006. South Central (Area 2) seasonal wages advanced by 0.6% for that same time period. North Central (Area 3) seasonal wages slipped by 2.1% for that same time period. Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal wages nudged ahead by 1.0% for that same time period. South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal wages ramped up by 10.4% during that same time period.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL WAGES*											
NOVEMBER											
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
State	\$6.56	\$6.94	\$6.86	\$6.56	\$7.16	\$7.18	\$7.08	\$6.94	\$6.89	\$6.63	\$6.84
Area 1	\$5.95	\$6.28	\$6.62	\$6.57	\$7.21	\$7.04	\$7.16	\$6.97	\$6.88	\$6.74	\$7.01
Area 2	\$6.56	\$6.62	\$6.73	\$6.76	\$7.20	\$7.26	\$7.18	\$7.18	\$6.96	\$6.75	\$6.79
Area 3	\$6.81	\$6.77	\$6.67	\$6.50	\$7.20	\$7.05	\$7.00	\$6.77	\$6.66	\$6.92	\$6.78
Area 4	\$6.16	\$6.33	\$6.54	\$6.59	\$6.80	\$6.84	\$6.98	\$6.92	\$7.09	\$6.64	\$6.71
Area 5	\$6.96	\$8.11	\$7.53	\$6.39	\$7.30	\$7.44	\$7.08	\$6.84	\$7.10	\$6.23	\$6.88

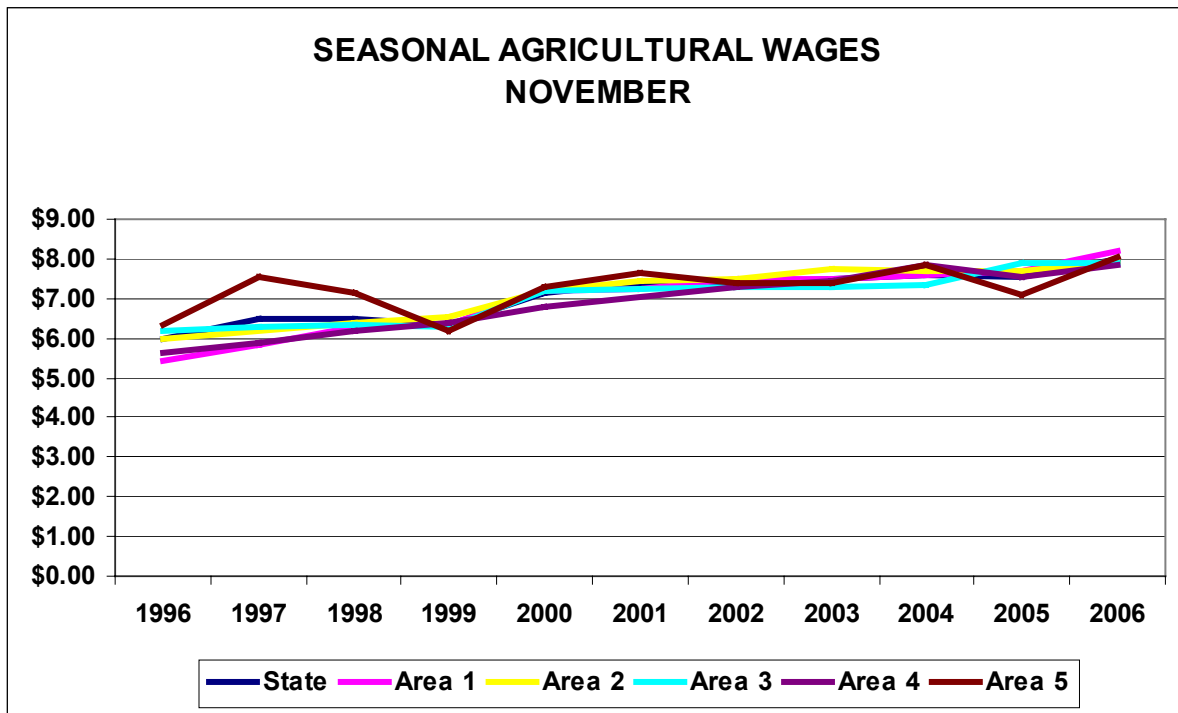
*Real 2000 Adjusted Dollars



Statewide non-adjusted seasonal agricultural wages increased by 33.6% from November 1996 to November 2006. Washington State non-adjusted minimum wages expanded by 55.7% during this same time period. Statewide non-adjusted agricultural seasonal wages grew by 5.7% from November 2005 to November 2006. The state minimum wage expanded by 3.8% during this same time period. Western (Area 1) seasonal wages moved ahead by 6.6% from November 2005 to November 2006. South Central (Area 2) seasonal wages advanced by 3.1% for that same time period. North Central (Area 3) seasonal wages grew by 0.4% for that same time period. Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal wages expanded by 3.6% for that same time period. South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal wages rose by 13.3% during that same time period.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL WAGES**											
NOVEMBER											
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
State	\$5.97	\$6.47	\$6.49	\$6.35	\$7.16	\$7.38	\$7.39	\$7.47	\$7.61	\$7.55	\$7.98
Area 1	\$5.42	\$5.85	\$6.27	\$6.35	\$7.21	\$7.24	\$7.48	\$7.51	\$7.59	\$7.67	\$8.18
Area 2	\$5.98	\$6.17	\$6.37	\$6.54	\$7.20	\$7.46	\$7.50	\$7.73	\$7.68	\$7.68	\$7.92
Area 3	\$6.20	\$6.31	\$6.32	\$6.29	\$7.20	\$7.25	\$7.31	\$7.29	\$7.35	\$7.88	\$7.91
Area 4	\$5.61	\$5.90	\$6.19	\$6.37	\$6.80	\$7.03	\$7.29	\$7.45	\$7.83	\$7.56	\$7.83
Area 5	\$6.34	\$7.56	\$7.13	\$6.18	\$7.30	\$7.65	\$7.39	\$7.37	\$7.84	\$7.09	\$8.03

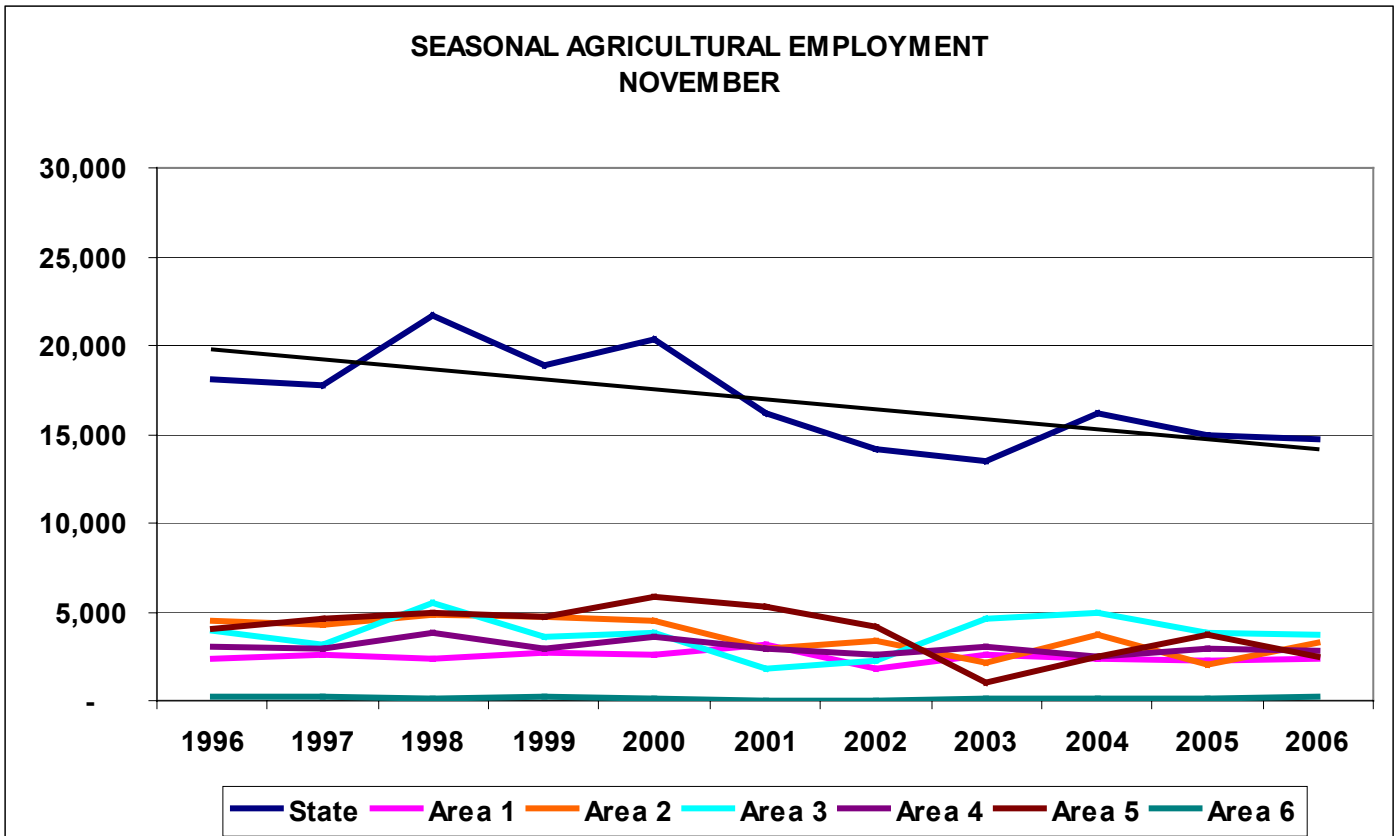
**** Non-Adjusted Dollars**



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Statewide seasonal agricultural employment fell by 19.0% from November 1996 to November 2006. Statewide seasonal agricultural employment declined by 1.5% from November 2005 to November 2006. Western (Area 1) seasonal employment increased 5.1% from November 2005 to November 2006. South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment advanced by 55.7% during that same time period. North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment declined by 3.4% for that same time period. Columbia Basin seasonal employment slipped by 3.1% during that same time period. South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment fell by 35.0% over that same time period. Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment grew by 24.3% during that same time period.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT NOVEMBER											
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
State	18,113	17,782	21,702	18,860	20,370	16,164	14,153	13,434	16,179	14,900	14,673
Area 1	2,367	2,570	2,415	2,712	2,638	3,116	1,779	2,552	2,371	2,257	2,372
Area 2	4,456	4,272	4,798	4,735	4,443	2,944	3,389	2,091	3,739	2,070	3,222
Area 3	3,967	3,098	5,495	3,579	3,778	1,840	2,211	4,591	5,000	3,803	3,674
Area 4	3,075	2,955	3,840	2,951	3,570	2,923	2,604	3,088	2,497	2,883	2,793
Area 5	4,052	4,659	4,994	4,680	5,884	5,294	4,119	1,042	2,454	3,743	2,433
Area 6	196	228	160	203	57	47	51	70	118	144	179



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment decreased by 1.5% from November 2005 to November 2006. Seasonal employment declined by 68.0% statewide from October 2006 to November 2006, due to the winding down of tree fruit harvest. The crop displaying the largest employment growth from November 2005 to November 2006 was potato work (790). Other seasonal work lost the largest amount of employment (-665) for that same time period. Cherry work moved ahead of all other crop activities (152) from October 2006 to November 2006. Apple work shed the greatest number of jobs (-25,431) during that same time period. The statewide weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2006 was \$7.98 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	NOV 06	OCT 06	NOV 05	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06
Apples	9,641	35,072	9,397	(25,431)	244	-72.5%	2.6%
Asparagus	0	49	0	(49)	0	NA	NA
Blueberry	5	8	5	(3)	0	-37.5%	NA
Bulb	0	87	96	(87)	(96)	NA	NA
Cherries	157	5	53	152	104	3040.0%	196.2%
Cucumber	0	52	51	(52)	(51)	NA	NA
Grapes	457	988	529	(531)	(72)	-53.7%	-13.6%
Hops	60	26	88	34	(28)	130.8%	-31.8%
Misc Vegetables	312	1,298	407	(986)	(95)	-76.0%	-23.3%
Nursery	823	938	1,063	(115)	(240)	-12.3%	-22.6%
Onion	260	221	653	39	(393)	17.6%	-60.2%
Other Seasonal	428	618	1,093	(190)	(665)	-30.7%	-60.8%
Other Tree Fruit	351	92	67	259	284	281.5%	423.9%
Pears	182	2,194	36	(2,012)	146	-91.7%	405.6%
Potato	1,213	3,419	423	(2,206)	790	-64.5%	186.8%
Raspberry	692	625	855	67	(163)	10.7%	-19.1%
Strawberry	0	9	0	(9)	0	NA	NA
Wheat/Grain	86	83	84	3	2	3.6%	2.4%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment expanded by 5.1% from November 2005 to November 2006. Seasonal employment fell by 34.6% from October 2006 to November 2006. Potato work increased by the greatest number of jobs (518) from November 2005 to November 2006. Raspberry work lost the largest number of jobs (-163) for that same time period. Raspberry work displayed the largest over-the-month employment gain (67) from October 2006 to November 2006. Potato work showed the largest downtick in jobs (-590) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2006 in Area 1 was \$8.18 per hour. (See pages 19 -20 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
WESTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	NOV 06	OCT 06	NOV 05	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06
CROP							
Blueberry	5	8	5	(3)	0	-37.5%	0.0%
Bulb	0	87	96	(87)	(96)	NA	NA
Cucumber	0	52	51	(52)	(51)	NA	NA
Misc Vegetables	168	702	209	(534)	(41)	-76.1%	-19.6%
Nursery	641	668	689	(27)	(48)	-4.0%	-7.0%
Other Seasonal	153	183	160	(30)	(7)	-16.4%	-4.4%
Potato	710	1,300	192	(590)	518	-45.4%	269.8%
Raspberry	692	625	855	67	(163)	10.7%	-19.1%
Strawberry	0	8	0	0	0	NA	NA
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment leaped forward by 55.7% from November 2005 to November 2006. Seasonal employment fell back by 72.6% from October 2006 to November 2006. Apple work posted the largest gain in employment (1,340) from November 2005 to November 2006. Grapes work posted the largest over-the-month decline in employment (-156) for that same time period. Hops work moved forward with the greatest gain in jobs (34) from October 2006 to November 2006. Apple work displayed the greatest job loss (-7,247) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2006 in Area 2 was \$7.92 per hour. (See pages 21 -22 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	NOV 06	OCT 06	NOV 05	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06
CROP							
Apples	2,839	10,086	1,499	(7,247)	1,340	-71.9%	89.4%
Asparagus	0	37	0	(37)	0	NA	NA
Cherries	16	0	26	16	(10)	NA	-38.5%
Grapes	215	328	371	(113)	(156)	-34.5%	-42.0%
Hops	60	26	0	34	60	130.8%	NA
Misc Vegetables	40	231	59	(191)	(19)	-82.7%	-32.2%
Onion	0	6	0	(6)	0	NA	NA
Other Seasonal	37	99	100	(62)	(63)	-62.6%	-63.0%
Other Tree Fruit	0	7	10	(7)	(10)	NA	NA
Pears	16	931	5	(915)	11	-98.3%	220.0%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment declined by 3.4% from November 2005 to November 2006. However, seasonal employment decreased by 75.5% from October 2006 to November 2006 due to the winding down of apple harvest. Pear work displayed the largest over-the-year gain in employment (151) from November 2005 to November 2006. Apple work registered the largest employment loss (-220) for that same time period. Cherry work expanded by the largest amount of employment (24) from October 2006 to November 2006. Apple work displayed the greatest decline in employment (-10,245) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2006 in Area 3 was \$7.91 per hour. (See pages 23 - 24 for Area 3 detail)

AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
NORTH CENTRAL							
CROP				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	NOV 06	OCT 06	NOV 05	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06
Apples	3,434	13,679	3,654	(10,245)	(220)	-74.9%	-6.0%
Cherries	29	5	3	24	26	480.0%	866.7%
Other Seasonal	42	34	88	8	(46)	23.5%	-52.3%
Other Tree Fruit	3	42	43	(39)	(40)	-92.9%	-93.0%
Pears	166	1,263	15	(1,097)	151	-86.9%	1006.7%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment declined by 3.1% from November 2005 to November 2006. Seasonal employment plunged by a 68.4% from October 2006 to November 2006. Other tree fruit work showed the largest employment growth (325) from November 2005 to November 2006. Mint work saw the greatest decline in jobs (-251) during that same time period. Other tree fruit work posted the largest over-the-month gain in employment (333) from October 2006 to November 2006. Apple work experienced the greatest loss of jobs (-5,148) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2006 in Area 4 was \$7.83 per hour. (See pages 25 - 26 for Area 4 detail)

AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
COLUMBIA BASIN							
CROP				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	NOV 06	OCT 06	NOV 05	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06
Apples	1,565	6,713	1,812	(5,148)	(247)	-76.7%	-13.6%
Asparagus	0	12	0	(12)	0	NA	NA
Cherries	70	0	24	70	46	NA	191.7%
Mint	0	0	251	0	(251)	NA	NA
Misc Vegetables	8	0	3	8	5	NA	166.7%
Nursery	97	118	311	(21)	(214)	-17.8%	-68.8%
Onion	242	145	168	97	74	66.9%	44.0%
Other Seasonal	55	127	192	(72)	(137)	-56.7%	-71.4%
Other Tree Fruit	334	1	9	333	325	33300.0%	3611.1%
Pears	0	0	16	0	(16)	NA	NA
Potato	406	1,727	83	(1,321)	323	-76.5%	389.2%
Wheat	14	0	14	14	0	NA	NA
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment contracted by 35.0% from November 2005 to November 2006. Seasonal employment also fell by 60.6% from October 2006 to November 2006. Grapes work led all other crop activities (84) from November 2005 to November 2006. Apple work led the decliners (-629) during that same time period. Other seasonal work was the largest over-the-month gainer (78) from October 2006 to November 2006. Apple work shed the most jobs (-2,791) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for November 2006 in Area 5 was \$8.03 per hour. (See pages 27 - 29 for Area 5 detail)

AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH EASTERN							
CROP				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	NOV 06	OCT 06	NOV 05	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06	OCT 06- NOV 06	NOV 05- NOV 06
Apples	1,803	4,594	2,432	(2,791)	(629)	-60.8%	-25.9%
Cherries	42	0	0	42	42	NA	NA
Grapes	242	660	158	(418)	84	-63.3%	53.2%
Hops	0	0	88	0	(88)	NA	NA
Misc Vegetables	96	365	136	(269)	(40)	-73.7%	-29.4%
Nursery	0	1	0	(1)	0	NA	NA
Onion	18	70	485	(52)	(467)	-74.3%	-96.3%
Other Seasonal	117	39	281	78	(164)	200.0%	-58.4%
Other Tree Fruit	14	42	5	(28)	9	-66.7%	180.0%
Potatoes	97	392	148	(295)	(51)	-75.3%	-34.5%
Strawberry	0	1	0	(1)	0	NA	NA
Wheat/Grain	2	5	10	(3)	(8)	-60.0%	-80.0%
**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.

LABOR SUPPLY

New survey questions were inserted into the November survey. The first question asked growers if they failed to complete some work due to lack of available seasonal labor. For November, 400 questionnaires were sent to the employers in the survey. Of these 400, 321 were returned. Of the 321 returned, 321 provided usable answers to the question of labor shortage. These 321 report their rate of labor shortage in the panel below. These statistics are unweighted.

RESPONSE RATES TO LABOR SHORTAGE QUESTION INDICATING A POSITIVE RESPONSE

REPORTED LABOR SHORTAGE	
State	3.7%
Area 1	6.4%
Area 2	1.9%
Area 3	3.1%
Area 4	2.5%
Area 5	4.9%
Area 6	3.8%

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 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: 2,372 (1,488 local, 0 intrastate, 70 interstate, 0 foreign, 814 unknown origin)

Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	710	\$ 7.79/hr
Raspberry Pruner	442	\$ 7.63/hr
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	303	\$ 7.66/hr
Nursery Harvester	147	\$ 7.63/hr

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,222 (2,953 local, 75 intrastate, 52 interstate, 142 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Apple Harvester	2,101	\$ 7.63/hr
Apple Pruner	263	\$ 7.67/hr
Apple Trainer	217	\$ 7.63/hr
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	180	\$ 8.44/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,674 (3,136 local, 3 intrastate, 198 interstate, 99 foreign, 238 unknown origin)

Apple Pruner	2,398	\$ 7.74/hr
Apple Harvester	642	\$ 7.67/hr
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	237	\$ 8.01/hr
Pear Sorter/Grader/Packer	125	\$ 8.97/hr

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,793 (2,270 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate, 0 foreign, 523 unknown origin)

Apple Harvester	1,168	\$ 7.70/hr or \$12.00 - \$25.00 per bin
Apple Worker	276	\$ 8.00/hr
Misc Fruit Trees Harvester	234	\$ 7.63/hr
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	229	\$ 7.63/hr

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 2,433 (575 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate, 469 foreign, 1,389 unknown origin)

Apple Harvester	1,494	\$ 7.97/hr or \$10.00 - \$23.00 per bin
Grapes Harvester	202	\$ 7.79/hr
Apple Worker	154	\$ 7.92/hr
Apple Pruner	109	\$ 8.27/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 179 (179 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate, 0 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Wheat Tractor Operator	30	\$ 9.75/hr
Nursery Mechanized Harvester	27	\$ 9.25/hr
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	24	\$ 8.25/hr
Grass Seed Tractor Operator	15	\$12.00/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 2006

TABLE 1

NOVEMBER 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	1,488	0	70	0	814	2,372
2. South Central	2,953	75	52	142	0	3,222
3. North Central	3,136	3	198	99	238	3,674
4. Columbia Basin	2,270	0	0	0	523	2,793
5. South Eastern	575	0	0	469	1,389	2,433
6. Eastern	179	0	0	0	0	179
State Totals	10,600	78	321	710	2,964	14,673
% State Total	72.2%	0.5%	2.2%	4.8%	20.2%	100%

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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	2,372
a. Local	1,488
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	70
d. Foreign	0
e. Unknown	814
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: California, Texas	
c. Foreign: None	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The November 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 6,145.

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. Record precipitation was recorded in some counties during the month. Wholesale Christmas tree harvest was winding down as the U-Cut harvest begins. Potato harvest was still underway.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$8.18 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.73 for raspberry pruner, nursery harvester, raspberry trainer, nursery weeder and nursery worker to \$15.00 for miscellaneous grain & seed crops sorter/grader/packer. 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 62.7% local, 0.0% intrastate, 3.0% interstate, foreign 0.0% and 34.3% unknown.
 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.
 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
-

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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	2,372
		* = piece rate
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	710	\$ 7.79
Raspberry Pruner	442	\$ 7.63
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	303	\$ 7.66
Nursery Harvester	147	\$ 7.63
Raspberry Sorter/Grader/Packer	132	\$ 8.00
Nursery Planter	130	\$ 7.77
Misc Vegetables Sorter/Grader/Packer	111	\$ 9.90
Raspberry Trainer	105	\$ 7.63
Nursery Weeder	52	\$ 7.63
Misc Field Crops Harvester	46	\$ 8.71
Chicken Eggs Harvester	31	\$ 9.55
Chicken Eggs Worker	31	\$14.71
Misc Vegetables Worker	19	\$10.06
Beets Harvester	15	\$ 8.20
Misc Onion Harvester	15	\$ 8.20
Raspberry Worker	13	\$ 8.00
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	11	\$ 9.33
Dairy Sorter/Grader/Packer	10	\$11.44
Nursery Worker	9	\$ 7.63
Misc Vegetables Tractor Operator	8	\$12.40
Misc Berries Mechanic	5	\$ 9.00
Blueberry Planter	5	\$10.00
Chicken Eggs Vehicle Operator	5	\$14.08
Chicken Eggs Sorter/Grader/Packer	5	\$ 9.51
Misc Under Cover Crop Sorter/Grader/Packer	5	\$ 7.75
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Worker	2	\$12.00
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	2	\$15.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 \$ 8.18/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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	3,222
a. Local	2,953
b. Intrastate migratory	75
c. Interstate migratory	52
d. Foreign	142
e. Unknown	0
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 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 10,650.
 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 new crop losses were reported due to weather conditions. Primary agricultural activities were apple harvesting, apple pruning, apple training and apple warehouse work.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$7.92 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.63 for apple harvester, apple trainer, grapes worker, apple worker, pear worker, hops trainer and miscellaneous field crops mechanic to \$10.00 for miscellaneous vegetables 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 to be 91.7% local, 2.3% intrastate, 1.6% interstate, foreign 4.4% and unknown 0.0%.
 - 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 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	3,222
		* = piece rate
Apple Harvester	2,101	\$ 7.63
Apple Pruner	263	\$ 7.67
Apple Trainer	217	\$ 7.63
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	180	\$ 8.44
Grapes Worker	152	\$ 7.63
Apple Worker	78	\$ 7.63
Grapes Harvester	35	\$ 7.98
Hops Tractor Operator	30	\$ 8.23
Grapes Trainer	28	\$ 7.84
Misc Squash Sorter/Grader/Packer	28	\$ 8.00
Nursery Planter	17	\$ 8.74
Cherry Pruner	16	Not Available
Pear Worker	16	\$ 7.63
Hops Trainer	15	\$ 7.63
Hops Vehicle Operator	15	\$ 7.70
Misc Field Crops Tractor Operator	15	\$ 7.86
Misc Vegetables Mechanic	12	\$10.00
Misc Field Crops Mechanic	5	\$ 7.63

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 7.92/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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	3,674
a.	Local	3,136
b.	Intrastate migratory	3
c.	Interstate migratory	198
d.	Foreign	99
e.	Unknown	238
2.	Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a.	Intrastate: Wenatchee	
b.	Interstate: California	
c.	Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The November 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 8,166.
 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. All fieldwork was concluded for the year. Significant amount of snow was received in the higher elevations. Winter wheat was in good condition. Some flooding occurred due to the heavy rains, but no damage to crops or livestock was reported.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$7.91 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.67 for apple pruner 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 85.3% local, 0.1% intrastate, 5.4% interstate, 2.7% foreign and 6.5% 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: NOVEMBER 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	3,674 * = piece rate
Apple Pruner	2,398	\$ 7.74
Apple Harvester	642	\$ 7.67
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	237	\$ 8.01
Pear Sorter/Grader/Packer	125	\$ 8.97
Apple Preparation	103	\$ 7.71
Apple Forklift Driver	31	\$ 9.32
Cherry Pruner	29	\$ 9.00
Pear Preparation	25	\$ 7.75
Apple Worker	18	\$ 9.43
Pear Forklift Driver	16	\$ 9.22
Horse and Equines Trainer	14	\$13.00
Misc Hay Tractor Operator	14	\$ 9.25
Horse and Equines Manager	14	\$25.00
Misc Fruit Trees Mechanic	3	\$12.50
Apple Manager	3	\$14.00
Apple Vehicle Operator	2	\$15.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 7.91/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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	2,793
a. Local	2,270
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	0
d. Foreign	0
e. Unknown	523
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: None	
c. Foreign: None	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:

The November 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 4,301.

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. Winter wheat remained unchanged as the crop was in mostly fair condition. Primary agricultural activities were apple harvesting and general work, miscellaneous fruit trees harvesting and miscellaneous onion warehouse work.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$7.83 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.63 for miscellaneous fruit trees harvester, miscellaneous onion sorter/grader/packer, miscellaneous fruit trees sorter/grader/packer, nursery harvester, cherry trainer, apple preparer, potato weeder, apple trainer, miscellaneous vegetables chemical operator, cherry pruner and miscellaneous vegetables weeder to \$14.75 for potato manager. Typical piece rates were: \$12.00 to \$25.00 per bin for apple harvesting. Housing was limited. Transportation was provided by the workers.

c. Recruitment and composition of seasonal hired work force:

The labor force was estimated to be 81.3% local, 0.0% intrastate, 0.0% interstate 0.0% foreign and 18.7% 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 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 2,793	* = piece rate
Apple Harvester	1,168	\$ 7.70 or * \$12.00 - \$25.00 per bin
Apple Worker	276	\$ 8.00
Misc Fruit Trees Harvester	234	\$ 7.63
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	229	\$ 7.63
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	183	\$ 7.74
Misc Fruit Trees Sorter/Grader/Packer	100	\$ 7.63
Nursery Harvester	97	\$ 7.63
Potato Preparation	74	\$ 9.00
Cherry Trainer	65	\$ 7.63
Apple Tractor Operator	42	\$ 9.00
Apple Preparation	40	\$ 7.63
Potato Worker	38	\$ 9.75
Apple Pruner	27	\$ 8.09
Potato Vehicle Operator	25	\$ 8.75
Potato Mechanic	25	\$ 9.30
Grass Seed Weeder	22	\$ 9.00
Potato Weeder	21	\$ 7.63
Wheat Tractor Operator	14	\$11.50
Misc Field Crops Vehicle Operator	14	\$ 9.50
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	14	\$ 9.50
Potato Manager	14	\$14.75
Potato Loader	14	\$ 8.38
Misc Onion Forklift Driver	10	\$ 8.00
Apple Trainer	9	\$ 7.63
Potato Forklift Driver	7	\$ 9.12
Misc Vegetables Chemical Applicator	6	\$ 7.63
Potato Tractor Operator	5	\$10.00
Cherry Pruner	5	\$ 7.63
General Farm Worker	5	\$10.00
Misc Onion Worker	3	\$ 8.63
Apple Weeder	3	\$ 7.75
Misc Vegetables Weeder	2	\$ 7.63

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS

EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG

PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 7.83/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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	2,433
a. Local	575
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	0
d. Foreign	469
e. Unknown	1,389
 2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: None	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The November 2006 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,260.

 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. Heavy rainfall helped the crops as a whole. Feed corn was still be harvested. Dryland wheat looked very good for this time of year. The primary agricultural activity was apple harvest.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in November averaged \$8.03 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.63 for miscellaneous field crops sorter/grader/packer, apple preparer, potato harvester, miscellaneous onion sorter/grader/packer, grapes worker, cherry preparer, miscellaneous other tree fruit trainer, grapes trainer, miscellaneous field crops irrigator, apple trainer and potato irrigator to \$12.00 for general farm worker. Typical piece rates were: \$10.00 to \$23.00 per bin for apple harvesting. 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 23.6% local, 0.0% intrastate, 0.0% interstate, 19.3% foreign and 57.1% 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 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 2,433	* = piece rate
Apple Harvester	1,494	\$ 7.97 or * \$10.00 - \$23.00 per bin
Grapes Harvester	202	\$ 7.79
Apple Worker	154	\$ 7.92
Apple Pruner	109	\$ 8.27
Potato Vehicle Operator	53	\$ 8.99
Misc Field Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	51	\$ 7.63
Pumpkin Worker	33	\$ 8.00
Cherry Pruner	31	\$ 9.50
Apple Preparation	27	\$ 7.63
Potato Harvester	24	\$ 7.63
Misc Vegetables Worker	20	\$ 8.00
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	18	\$ 9.50
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	17	\$ 7.63
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	13	\$10.50
Carrot Tractor Operator	12	\$ 8.75
Potato Loader	12	\$ 8.00
Grapes Worker	12	\$ 7.63
Grapes Irrigator	11	\$ 8.50
Chicken Eggs Sorter/Grader/Packer	11	\$ 8.00
Alfalfa Mechanic	11	\$ 9.00
Carrot Mechanized Harvester	11	\$ 8.75
General Farm Mechanic	9	\$ 8.48
Pear Pruner	9	\$ 7.67
Cherry Preparation	7	\$ 7.63
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	7	\$10.00
Carrot Vehicle Operator	7	\$ 8.75
Carrot Harvester	6	\$ 8.40
Grapes Preparation	6	\$ 8.00
Grapes Tractor Operator	6	\$ 9.50
Misc Other Fruit Trainer	5	\$ 7.63
Grapes Trainer	5	\$ 7.63
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter/Grader/Packer	5	\$ 8.33
Cherry Worker	4	\$ 7.65
Field Corn Worker	4	\$ 8.00
Field Corn Tractor Operator	4	\$10.00
Field Corn Vehicle Operator	4	\$10.00

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: NOVEMBER 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
Misc Melon Worker	4	\$ 8.00
Carrot Irrigator	3	\$ 7.92
Wheat Tractor Operator	2	\$ 9.00
Alfalfa Vehicle Operator	2	\$11.50
Misc Field Crops Irrigator	2	\$ 7.63
Apple Trainer	1	\$ 7.63
Misc Onion Preparation	1	\$ 8.00
Potato Irrigator	1	\$ 7.63
General Farm Worker	1	\$12.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 8.03/hr (weighted average)