



AGRICULTURAL LABOR EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE TRENDS

MAY 2007



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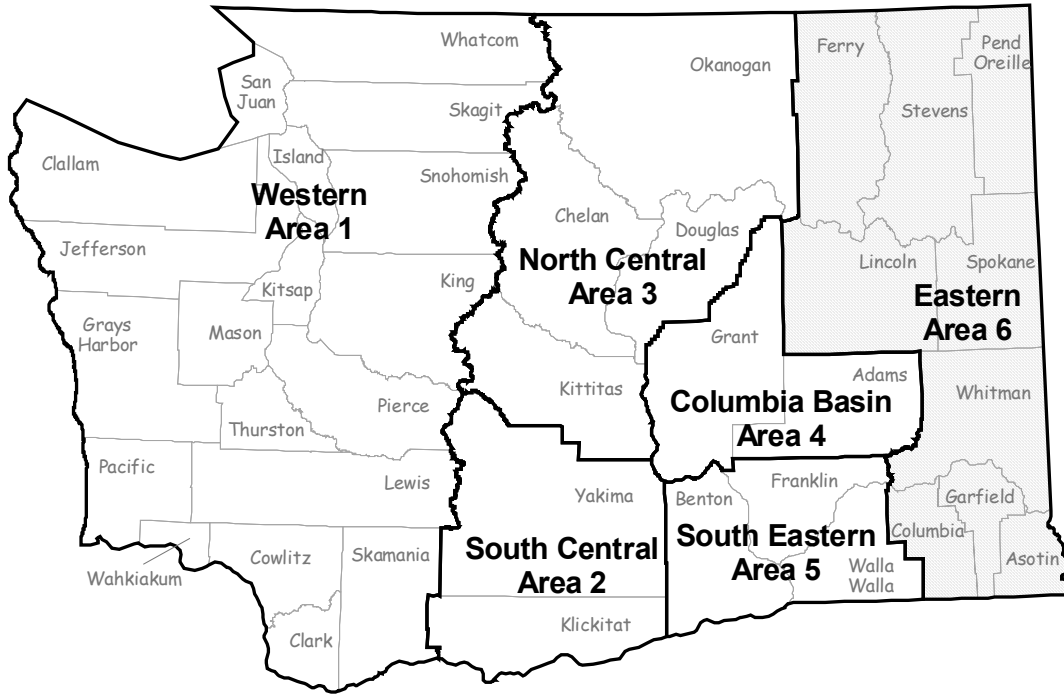
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MAY 2007

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

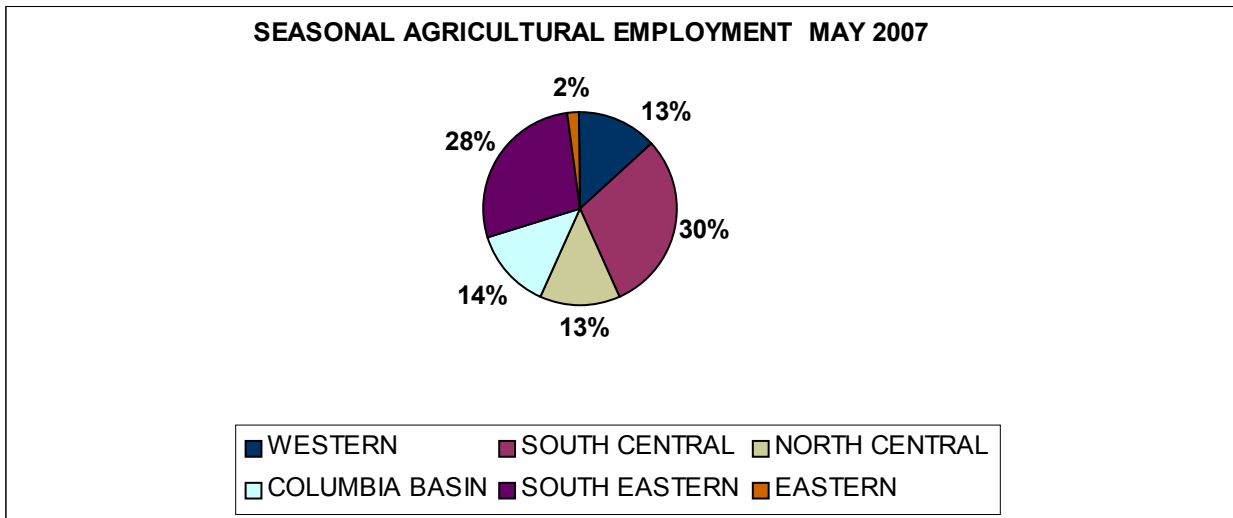
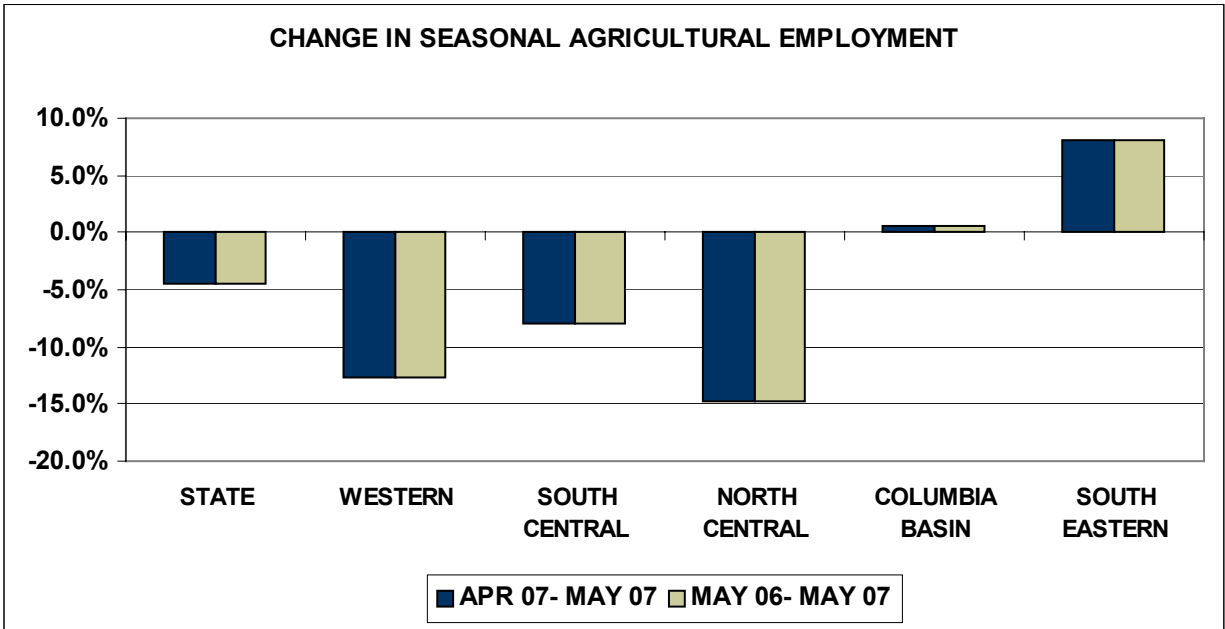
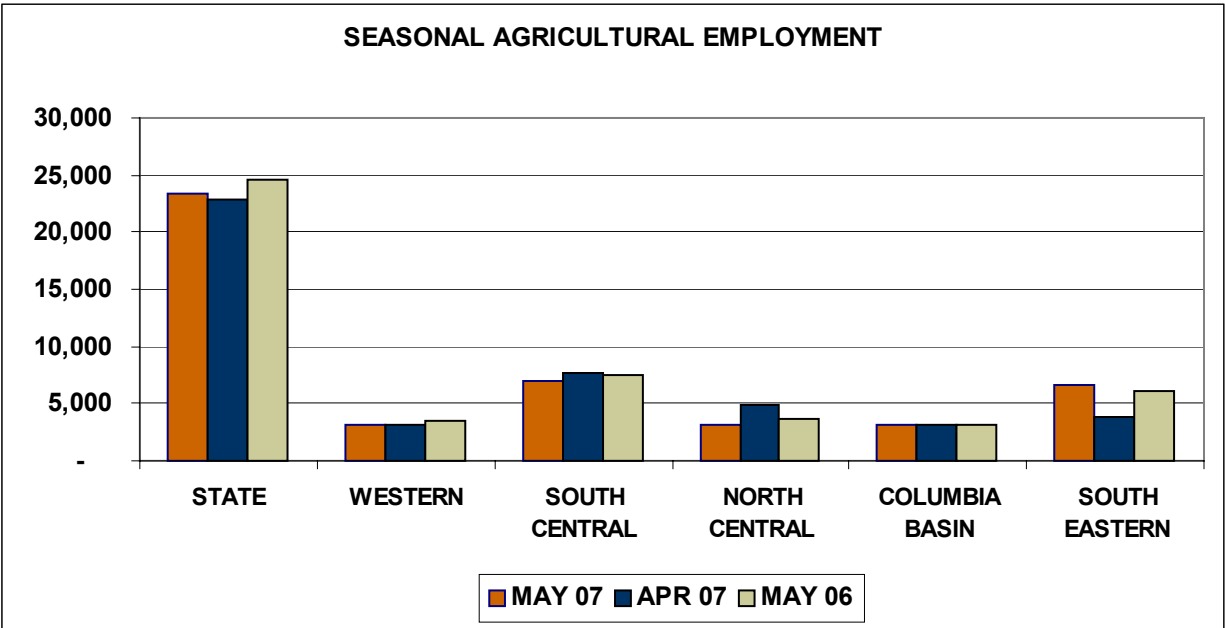
Statewide seasonal agricultural employment fell by 4.5% from May 2006 to May 2007. Agricultural activities displaying over-the-year losses were nursery work (-985), asparagus work (-889), grapes work (-730), other tree fruit work (-334), onion work (-315), hops work (-311), cherry work (-273), pear work (-120), bulb work (-111), raspberry work (-47), strawberry work (-44), blueberry work (-43) and cucumber work (-11). Activities displaying gains were apple work (1,658), other seasonal work (775), miscellaneous vegetables work (572), wheat/grain work (94) and potato work (14). Regionally, Western (Area 1) seasonal employment declined by 12.6%, caused by a decrease in nursery work (-803). South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment contracted by 8.0%, due to a loss in grapes employment (-741). North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment slowed by 14.8%, courtesy of a decline in apple work (-235). Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment decreased by 0.7%, forced down by a drop in asparagus work (-342). South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment expanded by 8.1%, thanks to an upturn in apple work (706).

ECONOMIC FACTORS IMPACTING AGRICULTURE

Cherry growers are expecting another large harvest this year. Record cherry harvests have been recorded during the last five years. However, this is not dimming Northwest cherry growers' predictions for 2007, as more acreage comes into production and volume continues to climb from varieties that ripen later in the summer. Growers are estimating the 2007 crop at between 140,000 and 150,000 tons for the five-state region that includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah and Montana. Most of that is grown in Washington, where this year's crop should be about 120,000 tons, said B.J. Thurlby, president of Northwest Cherry Growers, a promotional group for growers and shippers. In 2006, Washington state cherry growers harvested an all-time high 117,000 tons. In 2001, Washington had 30,000 acres of cherries. That now stands at 36,000 acres. "All of that planting, or I'd say 90 percent of it, is post Fourth of July cherries, late-season cherries," Thurlby said. "The great message to consumers is that cherries are now available until the middle of August, where just two or three years ago, they would be done by the third week of July." (Yakima Herald, May 5, 2007).

A large-scale shortage of bees in the nation could diminish the array of food. Unless someone or something stops it soon, the mysterious kill that is wiping out many of the nation's honeybees could have a devastating effect on America's dinner plate. Honeybees don't just make honey; they pollinate more than 90 of the tastiest flowering crops we have. Among them are apples, nuts, avocados, soybeans, asparagus, broccoli, celery, squash and cucumbers. They also pollinate a lot of the really sweet and tart foods too, including citrus fruit, peaches, kiwi, cherries, blueberries, cranberries, strawberries, cantaloupe and other melons. About one-third of the human diet comes from insect-pollinated plants, and the honeybee is responsible for 80 percent of that pollination, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. U.S. beekeepers in the past few months have lost one-quarter of their colonies—or about five times the normal winter losses—because of what scientist have dubbed Colony Collapse Disorder. The problem started in November and seems to have spread to 27 states, with similar collapses reported in Brazil, Canada and part of Europe. (Olympian, May 3, 2007).

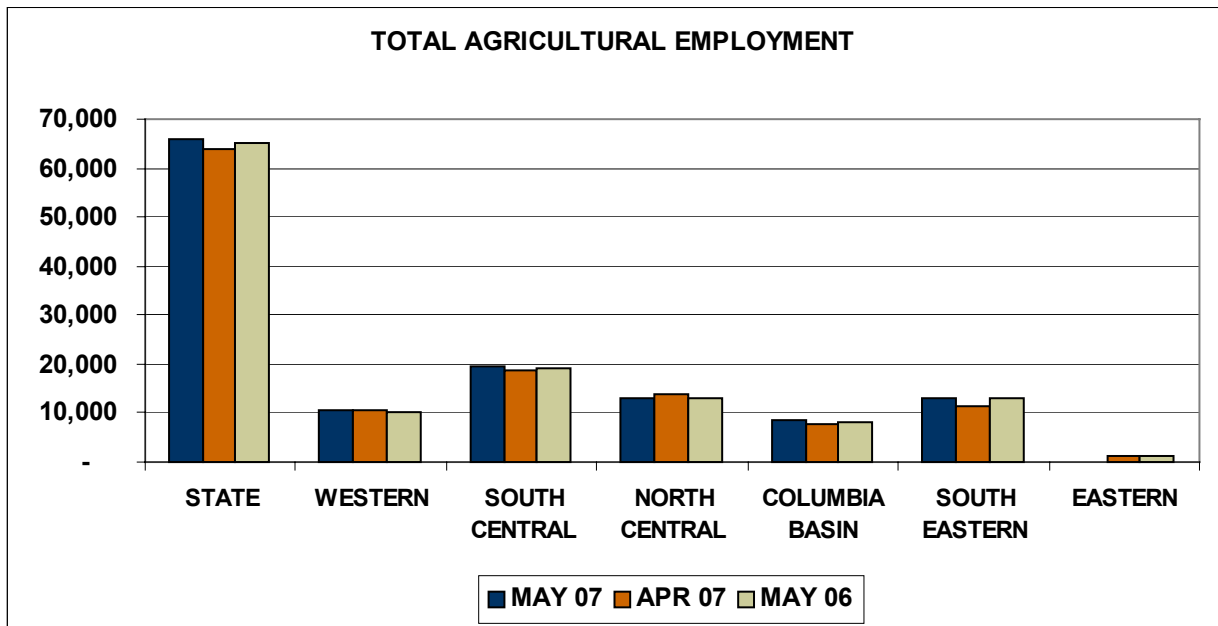
SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
	<u>MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07</u>	<u>MAY 06</u>	CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
				<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>
STATE	23,404	22,778	24,516	626	(1,112)	2.7%	-4.5%
WESTERN	3,110	3,124	3,559	(14)	(449)	-0.4%	-12.6%
SOUTH CENTRAL	6,941	7,629	7,548	(688)	(607)	-9.0%	-8.0%
NORTH CENTRAL	3,116	4,828	3,658	(1,712)	(542)	-35.5%	-14.8%
COLUMBIA BASIN	3,202	3,097	3,181	105	21	3.4%	0.7%
SOUTH EASTERN	6,574	3,782	6,080	2,792	494	73.8%	8.1%
EASTERN	461	318	490	143	(29)	45.0%	-5.9%



TOTAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY

Statewide total agricultural employment expanded by 1.3% from May 2006 to May 2007. Over-the-month total employment grew by 3.4%. Over-the-year regionally, Western (Area 1) total employment nudged up by 1.1%. South Central (Area 2) total employment increased by 1.7%. North Central (Area 3) total employment advanced by 1.1%. Columbia Basin (Area 4) total employment increased by 1.3%. South Eastern (Area 5) total employment grew by 0.9% change. Eastern (Area 6) total employment inched forward by 1.0%.

	TOTAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT						
				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	<u>MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07</u>	<u>MAY 06</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>
STATE	66,093	63,926	65,270	2,167	823	3.4%	1.3%
WESTERN	10,450	10,411	10,332	39	118	0.4%	1.1%
SOUTH CENTRAL	19,600	18,744	19,272	856	328	4.6%	1.7%
NORTH CENTRAL	13,080	13,981	12,936	(901)	144	-6.4%	1.1%
COLUMBIA BASIN	8,437	7,916	8,332	521	105	6.6%	1.3%
SOUTH EASTERN	13,125	11,542	13,012	1,583	113	13.7%	0.9%
EASTERN	1,401	1,332	1,387	69	14	5.2%	1.0%

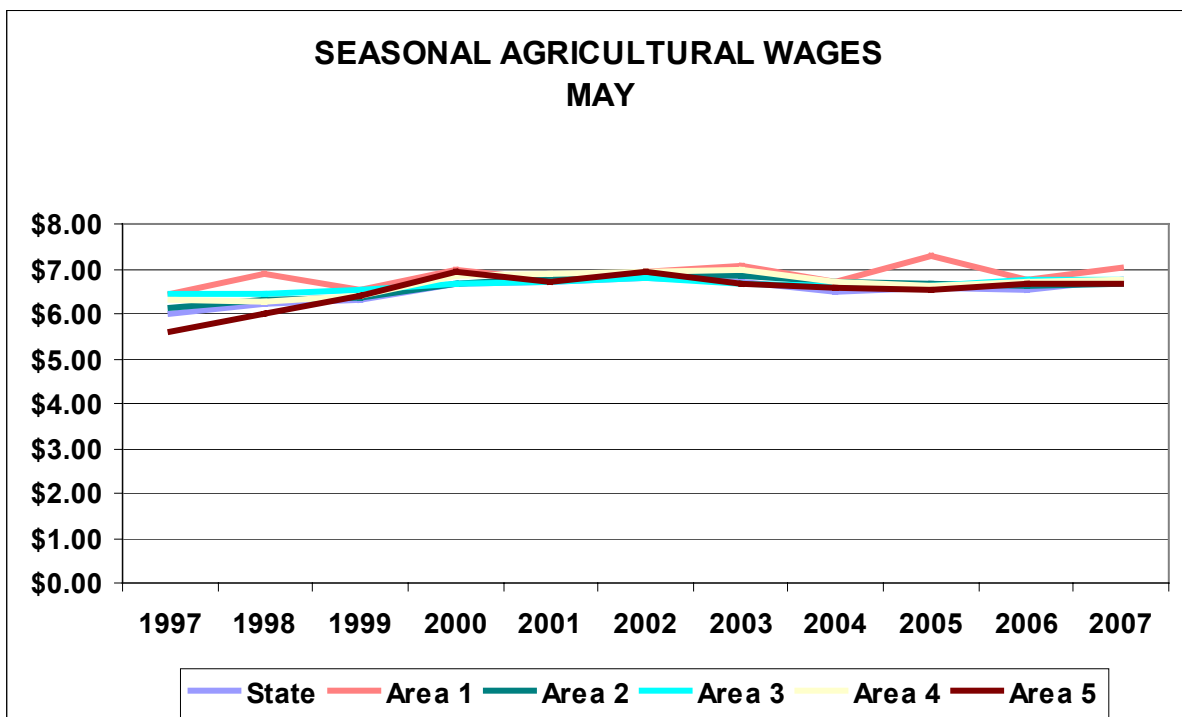


STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL WAGE TRENDS

Statewide real seasonal agricultural wages increased by 11.9% from May 1997 to May 2007. Washington State real minimum wages advanced by 22.4% during this same time period. Statewide real agricultural seasonal wages rose by 3.0% from May 2006 to May 2007. The state minimum wage increased by 3.9% during this same time period. Western (Area 1) seasonal wages grew by 3.7% from May 2006 to May 2007. South Central (Area 2) seasonal wages inched forward 0.7% for that same time period. North Central (Area 3) seasonal wages declined by 0.5% for that same time period. Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal wages nudged up by 0.3% for that same time period. South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal wages crept up by 0.2% during that same time period.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL WAGES*											
MAY											
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
State	\$6.02	\$6.21	\$6.33	\$6.66	\$6.69	\$6.81	\$6.70	\$6.50	\$6.60	\$6.54	\$6.74
Area 1	\$6.43	\$6.88	\$6.51	\$6.96	\$6.74	\$6.93	\$7.07	\$6.71	\$7.30	\$6.76	\$7.01
Area 2	\$6.15	\$6.33	\$6.37	\$6.65	\$6.81	\$6.91	\$6.82	\$6.71	\$6.67	\$6.64	\$6.69
Area 3	\$6.44	\$6.45	\$6.53	\$6.66	\$6.72	\$6.79	\$6.69	\$6.60	\$6.64	\$6.77	\$6.74
Area 4	\$6.33	\$6.28	\$6.39	\$6.83	\$6.89	\$6.94	\$6.97	\$6.71	\$6.63	\$6.72	\$6.74
Area 5	\$5.60	\$6.01	\$6.38	\$6.95	\$6.72	\$6.93	\$6.67	\$6.59	\$6.54	\$6.65	\$6.66

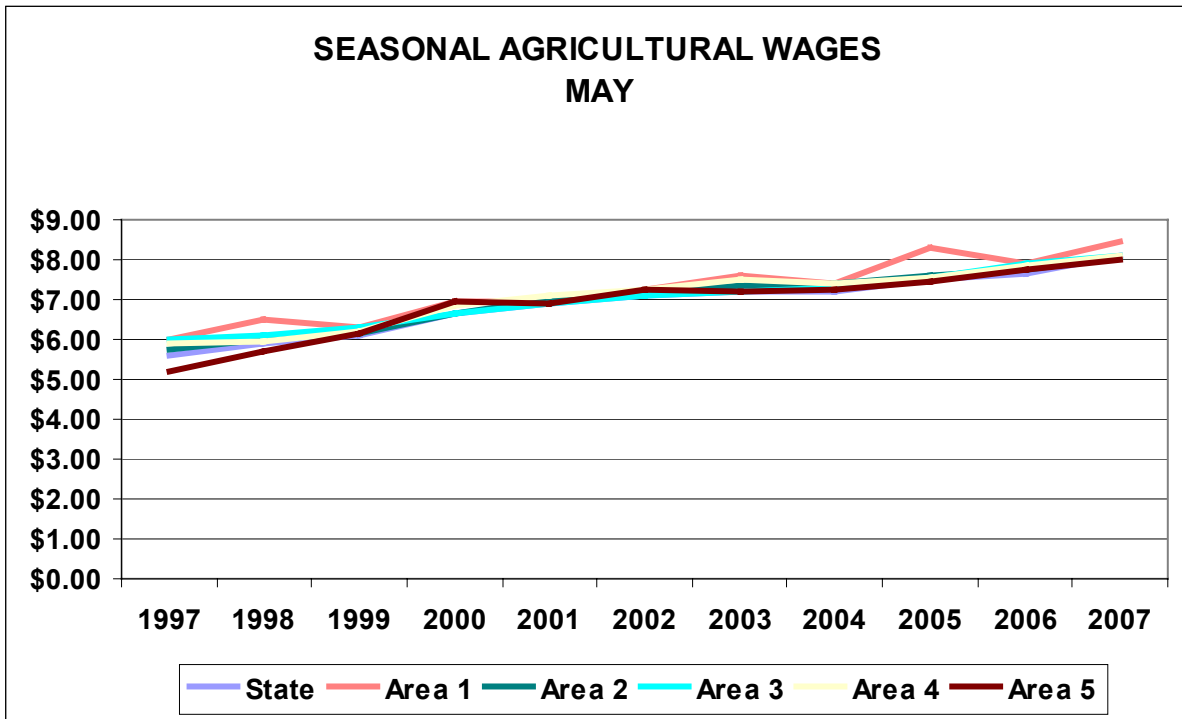
*Real 2000 Adjusted Dollars



Statewide non-adjusted seasonal agricultural wages grew by 44.5% from May 1997 to May 2007. Washington State non-adjusted minimum wages expanded by 61.8% during this same time period. Statewide non-adjusted agricultural seasonal wages grew by 6.3% from May 2006 to May 2007. The state minimum wage expanded by 3.9% during this same time period. Western (Area 1) seasonal wages advanced by 7.0% from May 2006 to May 2007. South Central (Area 2) seasonal wages increased by 3.9% for that same time period. North Central (Area 3) seasonal wages ramped up by 2.7% for that same time period. Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal wages expanded by 3.4% for that same time period. South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal wages also rose by 3.4% during that same time period.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL WAGES**											
MAY											
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
State	\$5.61	\$5.89	\$6.12	\$6.66	\$6.88	\$7.11	\$7.22	\$7.18	\$7.51	\$7.63	\$8.11
Area 1	\$5.99	\$6.52	\$6.30	\$6.96	\$6.93	\$7.24	\$7.61	\$7.41	\$8.31	\$7.89	\$8.44
Area 2	\$5.73	\$5.99	\$6.16	\$6.65	\$7.00	\$7.21	\$7.35	\$7.41	\$7.59	\$7.75	\$8.05
Area 3	\$6.00	\$6.11	\$6.31	\$6.66	\$6.91	\$7.09	\$7.20	\$7.29	\$7.56	\$7.90	\$8.11
Area 4	\$5.90	\$5.95	\$6.18	\$6.83	\$7.08	\$7.25	\$7.51	\$7.41	\$7.54	\$7.84	\$8.11
Area 5	\$5.22	\$5.69	\$6.17	\$6.95	\$6.91	\$7.23	\$7.18	\$7.27	\$7.44	\$7.76	\$8.02

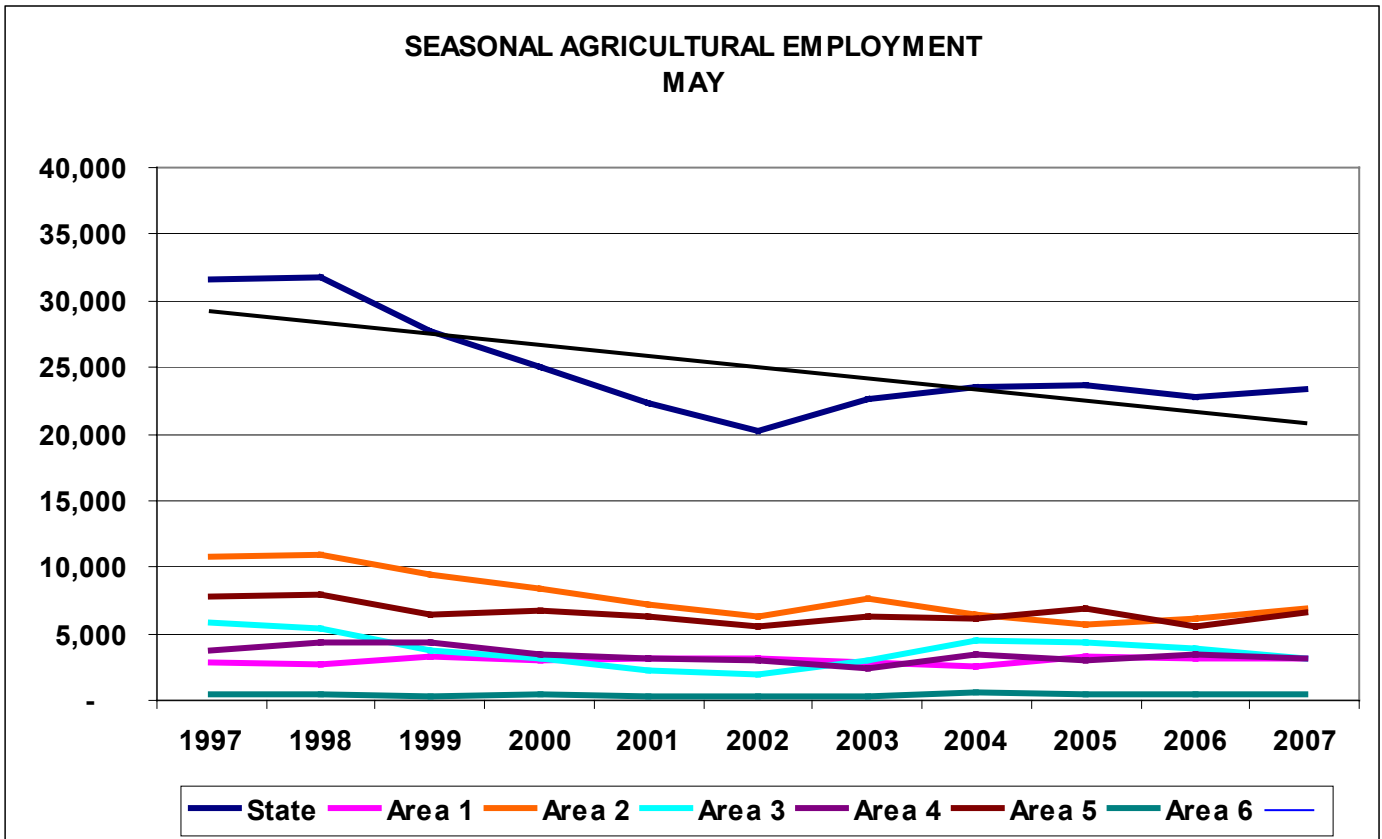
****Non-Adjusted Dollars**



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Statewide seasonal agricultural employment fell by 26.0% from May 1997 to May 2007. Statewide seasonal agricultural employment advanced by 2.8% from May 2006 to May 2007. Western (Area 1) seasonal employment fell by 0.8% from May 2006 to May 2007. South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment moved ahead by 11.6% during that same time period. North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment decreased by 19.5% for that same time period. Columbia Basin seasonal employment contracted by 6.4% during that same time period. South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment ramped up by 17.5% over that same time period. Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment decreased by 12.0% during that same time period.

SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT											
MAY											
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
State	31,632	31,762	27,719	25,007	22,261	20,222	22,662	23,502	23,613	22,774	23,414
Area 1	2,837	2,638	3,296	2,981	3,113	3,162	2,917	2,490	3,297	3,136	3,110
Area 2	10,791	10,995	9,453	8,362	7,239	6,315	7,589	6,491	5,706	6,217	6,941
Area 3	5,894	5,351	3,816	3,077	2,235	1,914	3,060	4,425	4,332	3,872	3,116
Area 4	3,782	4,368	4,300	3,371	3,077	2,935	2,412	3,453	2,974	3,429	3,208
Area 5	7,861	7,941	6,490	6,705	6,322	5,593	6,337	6,101	6,917	5,596	6,578
Area 6	467	469	364	511	275	303	347	542	387	524	461



STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL TRENDS

Statewide seasonal employment decreased by 4.5% from May 2006 to May 2007. Seasonal employment increased by 2.7% statewide from April 2007 to May 2007. The crop displaying the largest employment growth from May 2006 to May 2007 was apple work (1,658). Nursery work displayed the greatest decline in employment (-985) for that same time period. Apple work moved ahead of all other crops (2,164) from April 2007 to May 2007. Other tree fruit work lost the most jobs (-1,822) during that same time period. The statewide weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2007 was \$8.16 per hour.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT**							
STATE CROP				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	MAY 07	APR 07	MAY 06	APR 07- MAY 07	MAY 06- MAY 07	APR 07- MAY 07	MAY 06- MAY 07
Apples	10,501	8,337	8,843	2,164	1,658	26.0%	18.7%
Asparagus	4,198	2,424	5,087	1,774	(889)	73.2%	-17.5%
Blueberry	0	129	43	(129)	(43)	NA	NA
Bulb	216	223	327	(7)	(111)	-3.1%	-33.9%
Cherries	1,123	1,265	1,396	(142)	(273)	-11.2%	-19.6%
Cucumbers	0	0	11	0	(11)	NA	NA
Grapes	755	717	1,485	38	(730)	5.3%	-49.2%
Hops	621	979	932	(358)	(311)	-36.6%	-33.4%
Misc Vegetables	1,349	635	777	714	572	112.4%	73.6%
Nursery	1,056	1,295	2,041	(239)	(985)	-18.5%	-48.3%
Onion	25	356	340	(331)	(315)	-93.0%	-92.6%
Other Seasonal	1,961	2,117	1,186	(156)	775	-7.4%	65.3%
Other Tree Fruit	219	2,041	553	(1,822)	(334)	-89.3%	-60.4%
Pears	37	832	157	(795)	(120)	-95.6%	-76.4%
Potato	625	763	611	(138)	14	-18.1%	2.3%
Raspberry	443	470	490	(27)	(47)	-5.7%	-9.6%
Strawberry	131	17	175	114	(44)	670.6%	-25.1%
Wheat/Grain	156	180	62	(24)	94	-13.3%	151.6%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

Western (Area 1) seasonal employment declined by 12.6% from May 2006 to May 2007. Seasonal employment also fell by 0.4% from April 2007 to May 2007. Potato work grew by the greatest number of jobs (347) from May 2006 to May 2007. Nursery work lost the most employment (-803) for that same time period. Rhubarb work displayed the greatest over-the-month employment gain (201) from April 2007 to May 2007. Nursery work displayed the largest downtick in jobs (-244) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2007 in Area 1 was \$8.44 per hour. (See pages 20-21 for Area 1 detail)

AREA 1 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
WESTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
CROP	<u>MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07</u>	<u>MAY 06</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>
Blueberry	0	129	43	(129)	(43)	NA	NA
Bulb	216	223	327	(7)	(111)	-3.1%	-33.9%
Cucumbers	0	0	11	0	(11)	NA	NA
Misc Vegetables	470	425	396	45	74	10.6%	18.7%
Nursery	935	1,179	1,738	(244)	(803)	-20.7%	-46.2%
Other Seasonal	119	179	105	(60)	14	-33.5%	13.3%
Potato	559	471	212	88	347	18.7%	163.7%
Raspberry	443	470	490	(27)	(47)	-5.7%	-9.6%
Rhubarb	237	36	89	201	148	558.3%	166.3%
Strawberry	131	17	148	114	(17)	670.6%	-11.5%

South Central (Area 2) seasonal employment contracted by 8.0% from May 2006 to May 2007. Seasonal employment slipped by 0.4% from April 2007 to May 2007. Other seasonal work posted the largest gain in jobs (482) from May 2006 to May 2007. Grapes work displayed the greatest decline in employment (-741) for that same time period. Apple moved ahead with the largest employment gain (1,804) from April 2007 to May 2007. Other tree fruit work recorded the greatest job loss (-1,900) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2007 in Area 2 was \$8.05 per hour. (See pages 22-24 for Area 2 detail)

AREA 2 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH CENTRAL				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
CROP	<u>MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07</u>	<u>MAY 06</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>
Apples	2,929	1,125	2,687	1,804	242	160.4%	9.0%
Asparagus	1,746	948	1,854	798	(108)	84.2%	-5.8%
Cherries	673	1,059	1,156	(386)	(483)	-36.4%	-41.8%
Grapes	76	106	817	(30)	(741)	-28.3%	-90.7%
Hops	411	591	506	(180)	(95)	-30.5%	-18.8%
Misc Vegetables	165	118	108	47	57	39.8%	52.8%
Onions	11	14	0	(3)	11	-21.4%	NA
Other Seasonal	839	929	357	(90)	482	-9.7%	135.0%
Other Tree Fruit	65	1,965	53	(1,900)	12	-96.7%	22.6%
Pears	26	773	10	(747)	16	-96.6%	160.0%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

North Central (Area 3) seasonal employment declined by 14.8% from May 2006 to May 2007. Seasonal employment also decreased by 35.5% from April 2007 to May 2007. No crop activities experienced growth in employment from May 2006 to May 2007. Pear work lost the smallest amount of employment (-28) during the same time period. Apple work registered the largest employment loss (-235) for that same time period. Other tree fruit work added the most jobs (13) from April 2007 to May 2007. Apple work experienced the largest decline in employment (-1,665) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2007 in Area 3 was \$8.11 per hour. (See pages 25-26 for Area 3 detail)

AREA 3 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
NORTH CENTRAL							
CROP				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	<u>MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07</u>	<u>MAY 06</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>
Apples	2,972	4,637	3,207	(1,665)	(235)	-35.9%	-7.3%
Cherries	83	124	118	(41)	(35)	-33.1%	-29.7%
Other Seasonal	42	32	147	10	(105)	31.3%	-71.4%
Other Tree Fruit	13	0	152	13	(139)	NA	-91.4%
Pears	6	37	34	(31)	(28)	-83.8%	-82.4%
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

Columbia Basin (Area 4) seasonal employment grew by 0.7% from May 2006 to May 2007. Seasonal employment moved ahead by 3.4% in employment from April 2007 to May 2007. Apple work registered the largest employment growth (945) from May 2006 to May 2007. Asparagus work experienced the greatest job loss (-342) during that same time period. Apple work posted the largest over-the-month gain in employment (534) from April 2007 to May 2007. Other seasonal work contracted by the greatest employment (-237) during that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2007 in Area 4 was \$8.11 per hour. (See pages 27-29 for Area 4 detail)

AREA 4 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
COLUMBIA BASIN							
CROP				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
	<u>MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07</u>	<u>MAY 06</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>
Apples	2,270	1,736	1,325	534	945	30.8%	71.3%
Asparagus	240	240	582	0	(342)	0.0%	-58.8%
Cherries	149	57	73	92	76	161.4%	104.1%
Mint	5	0	127	5	(122)	NA	-96.1%
Misc Vegetables	148	10	61	138	87	1380.0%	142.6%
Nursery	0	0	25	0	(25)	NA	NA
Onion	14	195	172	(181)	(158)	-92.8%	-91.9%
Other Seasonal	306	543	186	(237)	120	-43.6%	64.5%
Other Tree Fruit	0	12	276	(12)	(276)	NA	NA
Pears	5	22	0	(17)	5	-77.3%	NA
Potato	66	233	354	(167)	(288)	-71.7%	-81.4%
Wheat/Grain	2	45	0	(43)	2	-95.6%	NA
**Crop detail may not add due to rounding							

South Eastern (Area 5) seasonal employment moved ahead by 8.1% from May 2006 to May 2007. Seasonal employment ramped up by 73.8% from April 2007 to May 2007 due to asparagus harvest and apple thinning. Apples work led all other crop activities (706) from May 2006 to May 2007. Asparagus work led the decliners (-439) during that same time period. Apple work was the largest over-the-month gainer in employment (1,491) from April 2007 to May 2007. Hops work shed the largest number of jobs (-178) for that same time period. The weighted seasonal average wage for hourly paid farm workers for May 2007 in Area 5 was \$8.02 per hour. (See pages 30-32 for Area 5 detail)

AREA 5 SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT							
SOUTH EASTERN				CHANGE		PERCENT CHANGE	
CROP	<u>MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07</u>	<u>MAY 06</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>	<u>APR 07- MAY 07</u>	<u>MAY 06- MAY 07</u>
Apples	2,330	839	1,624	1,491	706	177.7%	43.5%
Asparagus	2,212	1,236	2,651	976	(439)	79.0%	-16.6%
Cherries	218	25	49	193	169	772.0%	344.9%
Grapes	679	611	668	68	11	11.1%	1.6%
Hops	210	388	426	(178)	(216)	-45.9%	-50.7%
Misc Vegetables	329	46	123	283	206	615.2%	167.5%
Nursery	0	0	13	0	(13)	NA	NA
Onion	0	147	168	(147)	(168)	-100.0%	-100.0%
Other Seasonal	439	291	199	148	240	50.9%	120.6%
Other Tree Fruit	141	64	72	77	69	120.3%	95.8%
Potatoes	0	59	45	(59)	(45)	NA	NA
Strawberry	0	0	27	0	(27)	NA	NA
Wheat/Grain	24	76	15	(52)	9	-68.4%	60.0%

**Crop detail may not add due to rounding

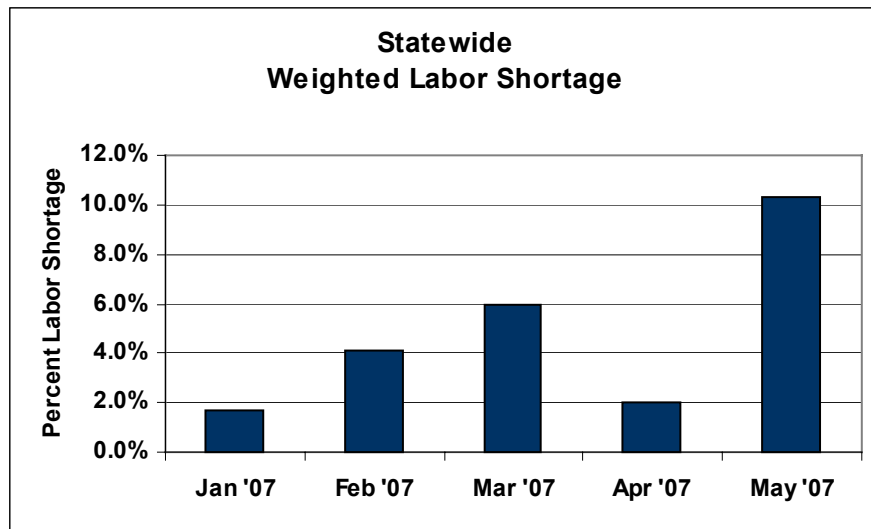
Eastern (Area 6) seasonal employment did not meet the criterion of 500 seasonal employees and therefore is not published for the month of May.

LABOR SUPPLY

New survey questions were inserted into the May survey. The first question asked growers if they failed to complete some work due to lack of available seasonal labor. For May, 400 questionnaires were sent to the employers in the survey. Of these 400, 339 were returned. Of the 339 returned, 339 provided usable answers to the question of labor shortage. These report their rate of labor shortage in the panel below. These statistics are weighted based on reported seasonal employment.

RESPONSE RATES TO LABOR SHORTAGE QUESTION INDICATING A POSITIVE RESPONSE

State	10.3%
Area 1	0.0%
Area 2	3.2%
Area 3	1.1%
Area 4	0.1%
Area 5	26.2%



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/occe/occe/labor-affairs/whatsnew.htm> for What's New in Agricultural Employment.

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Washington State Employment Security, Labor Market and Economic Analysis

SEASONAL LABOR ABSTRACT MAY 2007

A mid-month survey of farm labor employment and wages is conducted by the Washington State Employment Security Department. At least five percent of all growers are surveyed for employment data about seasonal workers, type of crop, work activity, wages and their residence. Based on that data, the Washington employment Security Department develops estimates on the size of the workforce, average wages for each crop activity, and whether workers commute, live within the state, or come in from outside of Washington State. These data are reported for each agricultural area identified as having similar farm labor characteristics and a significant supply/demand for seasonal hired workforce.

WESTERN (Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum and Whatcom Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,110 (1,098 local, 0 intrastate, 0 interstate, 10 foreign, 2,002 unknown origin)

Nursery Worker	471	\$ 8.64/hr
Raspberry Planter	436	\$ 8.03/hr
Potato Planter	272	\$ 8.35/hr
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	227	\$ 7.93/hr

SOUTH CENTRAL (Klickitat and Yakima Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 6,941 (4,464 local, 98 intrastate, 53 interstate, 60 foreign, 2,266 unknown origin)

Asparagus Harvester	1,458	\$ 7.93/hr or \$ 0.20 - \$ 0.25 per pound
Apple Pruner	1,152	\$ 7.95/hr
Apple Planter	714	\$ 7.93/hr
Apple Trainer	562	\$ 7.98/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,116 (2,238 local, 89 intrastate, 48 interstate, 7 foreign, 734 unknown origin)

Apple Worker	1,521	\$ 8.02/hr
Apple Trainer	517	\$ 7.96/hr
Apple Hand Thinner	398	\$ 7.93/hr
Apple Chemical Applicator	168	\$ 8.47/hr

COLUMBIA BASIN (Adams and Grant Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 3,208 (1,309 local, 0 intrastate, 36 interstate, 165 foreign, 1,698 unknown origin)

Apple Hand Thinner	552	\$ 7.94/hr
Apple Pruner	526	\$ 7.98/hr
Apple Preparation	504	\$ 8.11/hr
Apple Weeder	244	\$ 8.14/hr

SOUTH EASTERN (Benton, Franklin and Walla Walla Counties)

Estimated seasonal workforce: 6,578 (3,054 local, 0 intrastate, 204 interstate, 1,964 foreign, 1,356 unknown origin)

Asparagus Harvester	1,877	\$ 8.08/hr or \$ 0.15½ - \$ 0.26 per pound
Apple Hand Thinner	1,769	\$ 7.94/hr
Asparagus Sorter/Grader/Packer	335	\$ 7.93/hr
Apple Trainer	229	\$ 8.03/hr

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

Estimated seasonal workforce: 461 (420 local, 24 intrastate, 0 interstate, 17 foreign, 0 unknown origin)

Wheat Weeder	91	\$ 9.50/hr
Beef Cattle Worker	78	\$ 9.50/hr
Nursery Worker	69	\$ 8.50/hr
Bulbs Mechanic	43	\$ 8.50/hr

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas Harvest Periods

Washington State crop harvest timetables are listed below by agricultural areas. The dates may vary considerably due to weather or other conditions.

Note that the five area groupings in the following five timeline charts do not directly match with the six agricultural area groupings that are used in the Seasonal Farm Labor Survey data used in this report.

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Okanogan and Wenatchee Crop Areas											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Apples												
Cherries												
Pears												
Golden Delicious												
Red Delicious												

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Bellingham and Mount Vernon Crop Areas											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Flowers												
Cucumbers												
Broccoli												
Cauliflower												
Spinach												
Blueberries												
Raspberries												
Strawberries												

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Tri-Cities and Walla Walla Crop Areas											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Asparagus												
Apples												
Cherries												
Apricots												
Peaches												
Pears												
Onions												
Strawberries												

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Bingen, Sunnyside and Yakima Areas											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Asparagus												
Apples												
Cherries												
Peaches												
Pears												
Grapes												
Hops												
Vegetables												

Washington State Agricultural Crop Areas												
Major Crops	Moses Lake Crop Area											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Asparagus												
Apples												
Cherries												
Peaches												
Potatoes												

AGRICULTURAL LABOR SURVEY
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGE DETAIL BY CROP ACTIVITY

MAY 2007

TABLE 1

MAY 2007

**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	1,098	0	0	10	2,002	3,110
2. South Central	4,464	98	53	60	2,266	6,941
3. North Central	2,238	89	48	7	734	3,116
4. Columbia Basin	1,309	0	36	165	1,698	3,208
5. South Eastern	3,054	0	204	1,964	1,356	6,578
6. Eastern	420	24	0	17	0	461
State Totals	12,582	211	341	2,223	8,056	23,414
% State Total	53.7%	0.9%	1.5%	9.5%	34.4%	100%

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007

State: WASHINGTON

Area Name: **WESTERN** (Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum, Whatcom)

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers	3,110
a. Local	1,098
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	0
d. Foreign	10
e. Unknown	2,002
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 May 2007 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural area was 6,689.

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

- a. Crop, market, and weather conditions: Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Spring crops were being planted thanks to warm weather. First cuttings of grass and alfalfa were reported to have some of the highest tonnage in years. Blueberries were still in bloom.
 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$8.44 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.93 for potato sorter/grader/packer, nursery harvester, strawberry weeder, nursery sorter/grader/packer, rhubarb harvester, bulbs planter, nursery planter, rhubarb planter, nursery irrigator, bulbs worker, miscellaneous berries weeder, blackberry weeder, raspberry weeder, and pumpkin worker to \$15.00 for hog worker. 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 35.3% local, 0.0% intrastate, 0.0% interstate, foreign 0.3% and 64.4% 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: MAY 2007
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL	3,110
		**** = hourly wage rates not reported * = piece rate
Nursery Worker	471	\$ 8.64
Raspberry Planter	436	\$ 8.03
Potato Planter	272	\$ 8.35
Potato Sorter/Grader/Packer	227	\$ 7.93
Misc Vegetables Planter	224	\$ 8.28
Nursery Harvester	155	\$ 7.93
Strawberry Weeder	124	\$ 7.93
Nursery Sorter/Grader/Packer	110	\$ 7.93
Rhubarb Harvester	103	\$ 7.93
Bulbs Planter	86	\$ 7.93
Nursery Planter	76	\$ 7.93
Rhubarb Weeder	69	\$ 7.96
Nursery Vehicle Operator	65	\$11.35
Rhubarb Planter	65	\$ 7.93
Misc Vegetables Sorter/Grader/Packer	63	\$10.00
Bulbs Weeder	58	\$ 8.09
Nursery Irrigator	58	\$ 7.93
Misc Vegetables Worker	57	\$ 9.82
Misc Vegetables Tractor Operator	52	\$11.17
Bulbs Worker	45	\$ 7.93
Misc Hay Worker	43	\$ 9.00
Potato Tractor Operator	36	\$12.00
Misc Onion Weeder	34	\$ 7.95
Potato Mechanized Harvester	24	\$10.00
Misc Onion Harvester	17	\$ 8.50
Bulbs Irrigator	17	\$ 8.04
Misc Berries Tractor Operator	15	\$ 9.50
Contract Misc Crop Worker	12	\$13.33
Misc Squash Weeder	11	\$ 7.95
Silage Planter	11	\$ 8.00
Hog Worker	11	\$15.00
Bulbs Sorter/Grader/Packer	10	\$ 7.95
Misc Berries Weeder	7	\$ 7.93
Misc Berries Mechanic	7	\$12.00
Blackberry Weeder	7	\$ 7.93
Raspberry Weeder	7	\$ 7.93

Area 1 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
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	* * * * = hourly wage rates not reported * = piece rate
Strawberry Tractor Operator	7	\$10.00
Field Corn Planter	6	\$ 8.50
Pumpkin Worker	6	\$ 7.93
Misc Onion Planter	6	\$ 8.50

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN WESTERN AREA 1 \$ 8.44/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
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	6,941
a. Local	4,464
b. Intrastate migratory	98
c. Interstate migratory	53
d. Foreign	60
e. Unknown	2,266
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 May 2007 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 13,862.

 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. The apple crop was progressing nicely. Hand thinning of green apple fruit was proceeding. No new crop losses were reported due to weather conditions.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$8.05 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.93 for asparagus harvester, apple planter, hops trainer, general farm weeder, hops weeder, peach hand thinner, plum irrigator, cherry irrigator, pear weeder, apple tractor operator, hops irrigator, and grapes cultivator to \$14.00 for asparagus manager. Typical piece rates were: \$0.20 to \$0.25 per pound for asparagus 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 64.3% local, 1.4% intrastate, 0.8% interstate, foreign 0.9% and unknown 32.6%.

 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

 - e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.
-

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
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 6,941	* * * * = hourly wage rates not reported * = piece rate
Asparagus Harvester	1,458	\$ 7.93 or * \$ 0.20 - \$ 0.25 per pound
Apple Pruner	1,152	\$ 7.95
Apple Planter	714	\$ 7.93
Apple Trainer	562	\$ 7.98
Bulbs Trainer	550	\$ 8.12
Cherry Pruner	532	\$ 8.11
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	350	\$ 7.95
Asparagus Sorter/Grader/Packer	285	\$ 8.00
Hops Trainer	230	\$ 7.93
Misc Peppers Planter	125	\$ 8.00
Cherry Worker	119	\$ 8.00
Apple Worker	119	\$ 8.00
General Farm Weeder	105	\$ 7.93
Hops Weeder	85	\$ 7.93
Field Corn Irrigator	58	\$ 8.25
Wheat Irrigator	46	\$ 9.13
Peach Hand Thinner	43	\$ 7.93
Hops Hand Thinner	32	* * * *
Grapes Pruner	26	\$ 9.08
Mint Irrigator	24	\$ 8.02
Misc Squash Planter	23	\$ 8.25
Grapes Chemical Applicator	22	\$10.50
Plum Irrigator	22	\$ 7.93
Cherry Irrigator	22	\$ 7.93
Pear Weeder	22	\$ 7.93
Apple Tractor Operator	22	\$ 7.93
Hops Worker	20	\$ 8.04
Cucumber Irrigator	17	\$ 9.50
Field Corn Vehicle Operator	16	\$ 9.35
Hops Irrigator	16	\$ 7.93
Hops Mechanic	12	\$ 9.98
Field Corn Planter	12	\$ 8.25
Hops Cultivator	12	\$ 8.10
Grapes Suckering Worker	12	\$ 9.33
Misc Onion Irrigator	11	\$ 8.75
Apple Forklift Driver	10	\$ 9.00

Area 2 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
 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	* * * * = hourly wage rates not reported * = piece rate
Grapes Cultivator	8	\$ 7.93
Grapes Worker	8	\$ 8.20
Field Corn Cultivator	8	\$ 8.97
Silage Tractor Operator	6	\$ 8.47
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	6	\$ 8.47
Hops Chemical Applicator	4	\$ 8.25
Field Corn Mechanic	4	\$ 8.50
Pear Suckering Worker	4	\$ 8.25
General Farm Mechanic	4	\$10.00
Asparagus Manager	3	\$14.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 2 \$ 8.05/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
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	3,116
a.	Local	2,238
b.	Intrastate migratory	89
c.	Interstate migratory	48
d.	Foreign	7
e.	Unknown	734
2.	Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a.	Intrastate: Moses Lake, Wenatchee, Yakima	
b.	Interstate: California	
c.	Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The May 2007 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 8,724.

 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Hand thinning of Barlett pears and apples was the main crop activity. Some damage to winter wheat was reported in Douglas County.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$8.11 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.93 for apple hand thinner and pear worker to \$10.50 for 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 71.8% local, 2.9% intrastate, 1.5% interstate, 0.2% foreign and 23.6% 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: MAY 2007
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 3,116	* * * * = hourly wage rates not reported * = piece rate
Apple Worker	1,521	\$ 8.02
Apple Trainer	517	\$ 7.96
Apple Hand Thinner	398	\$ 7.93
Apple Chemical Applicator	168	\$ 8.47
Apple Preparation	161	\$ 7.96
Apple Weeder	97	\$ 8.23
Apple Tractor Operator	52	\$ 8.00
Wheat Tractor Operator	42	\$10.50
Cherry Planter	39	\$ 9.29
Apple Irrigator	26	\$ 8.56
Cherry Worker	19	\$ 9.00
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	19	\$ 8.36
Apple Planter	13	\$ 8.75
Cherry Irrigator	13	\$ 9.40
Apricot Hand Thinner	13	* * * *
Pear Worker	6	\$ 7.93
Cherry Trainer	6	\$ 8.75
Cherry Chemical Applicator	6	\$10.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
PRODUCERS IN NORTH CENTRAL AREA 3 \$ 8.11/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
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	3,208
a. Local	1,309
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	36
d. Foreign	165
e. Unknown	1,698
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 May 2007 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 5,185.

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

a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:

Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. Winter wheat and alfalfa remained in good condition. Primary agricultural activities were apple hand thinning, apple pruning, apple preparation and apple weeding.

b. Wages, housing, and transportation:

The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$8.11 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.93 for grapes trainer, cherry hand thinner, peas weeder, general farm preparation, cherry irrigator, miscellaneous onion weeder, cherry weeder, miscellaneous onion sorter/grader/packer, asparagus worker, and pear irrigator to \$13.50 for potato 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 40.8% local, 0.0% intrastate, 1.1% interstate 5.2% foreign and 52.9% unknown.

d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

e. Explanation of differences in employment from same period last year: None.

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
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 3,208	* * * * = hourly wage rates not reported * = piece rate
Apple Hand Thinner	552	\$ 7.94
Apple Pruner	526	\$ 7.98
Apple Preparation	504	\$ 8.11
Apple Weeder	244	\$ 8.14
Asparagus Harvester	235	* * * *
Apple Trainer	132	\$ 7.99
Grapes Trainer	121	\$ 7.93
Cherry Hand Thinner	117	\$ 7.93
Peas Weeder	93	\$ 7.93
Apple Chemical Applicator	81	\$ 8.68
Apple Irrigator	81	\$ 8.28
Bulbs Suckering Worker	79	\$ 8.00
Apple Worker	71	\$ 8.00
Apple Planter	60	\$ 8.13
Alfalfa Mechanized Harvester	53	\$ 9.25
Misc Vegetables Mechanic	50	\$ 8.59
Potato Worker	26	\$ 9.00
Potato Manager	16	\$13.50
Cherry Trainer	15	\$ 8.00
General Farm Preparation	14	\$ 7.93
Apple Forklift Driver	13	\$ 9.80
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	12	\$10.00
Potato Tractor Operator	10	\$10.00
Cherry Irrigator	10	\$ 7.93
Misc Onion Weeder	9	\$ 7.93
Potato Vehicle Operator	9	\$ 9.40
General Farm Worker	7	\$ 9.50
Cherry Weeder	7	\$ 7.93
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter	6	\$10.15
Apple Sorter/Grader/Packer	6	\$ 8.20
Bulbs Worker	5	\$ 9.50
Misc Vegetables Weeder	5	\$ 8.00
Misc Onion Sorter/Grader/Packer	5	\$ 7.93
Alfalfa Vehicle Operator	5	\$ 9.50
Mint Irrigator	5	\$ 8.64
Potato Irrigator	5	\$ 8.00

Area 4 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
 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	**** = hourly wage rates not reported * = piece rate
Asparagus Worker	5	\$ 7.93
Pear Irrigator	5	\$ 7.93
Alfalfa Irrigator	4	\$ 9.00
Wheat Irrigator	2	\$10.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN COLUMBIA BASIN AREA 4 \$ 8.11/hr (weighted average)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. (see attachments)

SECTION B. DOMESTIC SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Total domestic seasonal hired workers	6,578
a. Local	3,054
b. Intrastate migratory	0
c. Interstate migratory	204
d. Foreign	1,964
e. Unknown	1,356
2. Origin of nonlocal domestic seasonal hired workers	
a. Intrastate: None	
b. Interstate: California, Oregon, Texas, Utah	
c. Foreign: Mexico	

SECTION C. REGULAR HIRED FARM WORKERS

1. Supply and demand for regular hired farm workers:
The May 2007 estimate for regular hired farm workers in this agricultural reporting area was 6,965.

 2. Factors affecting the farm labor supply and demand situation:
 - a. Crop, market, and weather conditions:
Weather conditions were warmer and drier than normal for the reporting period. The first cutting of alfalfa was completed. Wheat and potato crops were progressing well. Primary agricultural activities were asparagus harvesting, and apple hand thinning.

 - b. Wages, housing, and transportation:
The weighted seasonal wage for hourly paid farm workers during the pay period in May averaged \$8.02 per hour. Hourly wages ranged from \$7.93 for miscellaneous melon planter, grapes pruner, miscellaneous peppers planter, apple preparation, cherry pruner, apple chemical applicator, apple weeder, cherry preparation, wheat irrigator, grapes irrigator, and barley irrigator to \$12.00 for wheat vehicle operator. Typical piece rates were: \$0.15½ to \$0.26 per pound for asparagus 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 46.4% local, 0.0% intrastate, 3.1% interstate, 29.9% foreign and 20.6% unknown.

 - d. Changes in production practices: None reported.

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

Period: MAY 2007
State: WASHINGTON

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

SECTION A. ALL SEASONAL HIRED FARM WORKERS		
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES BY CROP ACTIVITY		
CROP ACTIVITY	ALL SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS	HOURLY WAGES and/or PIECE RATES FOR DOMESTIC SEASONAL WORKERS
	TOTAL 6,578	* * * * = hourly wage rates not reported * = piece rate
Asparagus Harvester	1,877	\$ 8.08 or * \$ 0.15½ - \$ 0.26 per pound
Apple Hand Thinner	1,769	\$ 7.94
Asparagus Sorter/Grader/Packer	335	\$ 7.93
Apple Trainer	229	\$ 8.03
Grapes Trainer	226	\$ 8.29
Hops Trainer	210	* * * *
Grass Seed Weeder	210	\$ 8.10
Misc Melon Planter	201	\$ 7.93
Chicken Eggs Worker	197	\$ 8.20
Grapes Suckering Worker	185	\$ 8.40
Apple Irrigator	170	\$ 8.06
Grapes Pruner	159	\$ 7.93
Misc Peppers Planter	121	\$ 7.93
Nectarine Hand Thinner	94	\$ 8.00
Grapes Worker	88	\$ 8.25
Cherry Tractor Operator	83	\$ 8.50
Cherry Harvester	83	\$ 8.50
Apple Preparation	64	\$ 7.93
Apple Pruner	56	\$ 7.96
Peach Hand Thinner	43	\$ 8.00
Cherry Pruner	30	\$ 7.93
Apple Worker	17	\$ 8.50
Apple Chemical Applicator	16	\$ 7.93
Cherry Worker	13	\$ 8.75
Grapes Weeder	9	\$ 8.22
Misc Grain & Seed Crops Sorter	9	\$ 8.65
Apple Weeder	9	\$ 7.93
Cherry Preparation	9	\$ 7.93
Wheat Irrigator	8	\$ 7.93
Wheat Tractor Operator	8	\$10.00
Wheat Vehicle Operator	8	\$12.00
Alfalfa Irrigator	7	\$ 7.97
Alfalfa Harvester	7	\$ 8.50
Sweet Corn Tractor Operator	7	\$ 9.00
Grapes Irrigator	6	\$ 7.93
Misc Other Fruit Worker	4	\$10.00

Area 5 (continued)

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPORT

Period: MAY 2007
 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	* * * * = hourly wage rates not reported * = piece rate
Barley Irrigator	3	\$ 7.93
Misc Hay Irrigator	3	\$ 8.00
Alfalfa Tractor Operator	3	\$10.00
Grapes Mechanized Harvester	3	\$ 9.00
Grapes Tractor Operator	3	\$ 9.00

AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR SEASONAL WORKERS
 EARNING HOURLY WAGES AS REPORTED BY AG
 PRODUCERS IN SOUTH EASTERN AREA 5 \$ 8.02/hr (weighted average)