



Wisconsin Ag News – Labor



Upper Midwest Region - Wisconsin Field Office · 2811 Agriculture Drive · Madison WI 53718-6777 · (608) 287-4775
fax (855) 271-9802 · www.nass.usda.gov/wi

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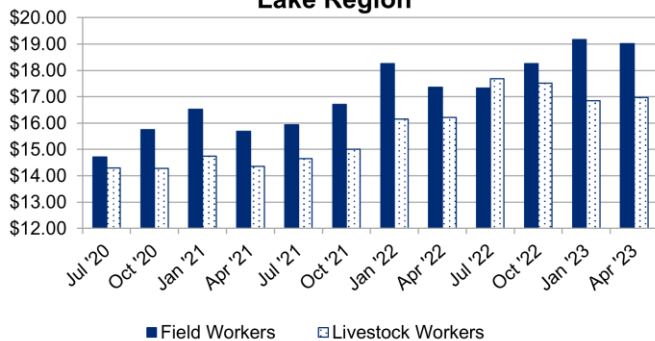
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Media Contact: Greg Bussler

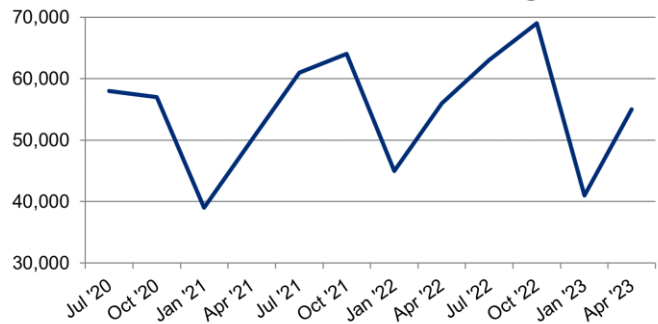
There were 41,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Lake Region (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) during the reference week of January 9-15, 2023, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Farm Labor* report. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$18.85 per hour, \$1.14 above January 2022. The number of hours worked averaged 39.8 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 39.1 hours in January 2022.

During the reference week of April 10-16, 2023, there were 55,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Lake Region (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin). Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$18.92 per hour during the April 2023 reference week, \$1.47 above April 2022. The number of hours worked averaged 40.1 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 38.4 hours in April 2022.

**Wage Rates by Type of Worker
Lake Region**



Number of Workers - Lake Region



Hired Workers, Hours Worked and Wage Rates – Lake Region and United States: 2022-2023

[Lake Region includes Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin]

| | Lake Region | | | United States | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|------------|---------------|--------------|------------|
| | April 2022 | January 2023 | April 2023 | April 2022 | January 2023 | April 2023 |
| Hired workers on farms 1,000 workers | 56 | 41 | 55 | 630 | 511 | 651 |
| Hours worked by hired workers hours per week | 38.4 | 39.8 | 40.1 | 39.7 | 38.9 | 40.6 |
| Wage rate ¹ | | | | | | |
| Field and livestock combineddollars per hour | 16.73 | 17.63 | 17.92 | 16.27 | 17.26 | 16.99 |
| Fielddollars per hour | 17.36 | 19.17 | 19.01 | 16.50 | 17.67 | 17.26 |
| Livestockdollars per hour | 16.22 | 16.85 | 16.97 | 15.82 | 16.71 | 16.48 |
| All hired workersdollars per hour | 17.45 | 18.85 | 18.92 | 17.22 | 18.55 | 18.08 |

¹ Benefits, such as housing and meals, are provided to some workers but the values are not included in the wage rates.

UNITED STATES LABOR

There were 651,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 9-15, 2023, up 3 percent from the April 2022 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 511,000 during the week of January 8-14, 2023, up 1 percent from the January 2022 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$18.08 per hour during the April 2023 reference week, up 5 percent from the April 2022 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$17.26 per hour, up 5 percent. Livestock workers earned \$16.48 per hour, up 4 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$16.99 per hour, was up 4 percent from the 2022 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.6 hours during the April 2023 reference week, up 2 percent from the hours worked during the April 2022 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$18.55 per hour during the January 2023 reference week, up 5 percent from the January 2022 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$17.67 per hour, up 7 percent, while livestock workers earned \$16.71 per hour, up 4 percent from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$17.26 per hour, was up 5 percent from the January 2022 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 38.9 hours during the January 2023 reference week, down 1 percent from the hours worked during the January 2022 reference week.

The complete report can be found on the USDA NASS website at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications.