



# REGIONAL NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
MOUNTAIN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-9966



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 25, 2022

Contact: Bill Meyer  
(800) 392-3202

## FARM LABOR

### MOUNTAIN I REGION (IDAHO, MONTANA, WYOMING)

There were 22,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Mountain I Region (Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming) during the reference week of April 10-16, 2022, according to the Agricultural Labor Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$16.35 per hour, compared to \$15.00 in April 2021. The number of hours worked averaged 47.7 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 47.8 hours in April 2021. Field workers averaged \$16.34 per hour, livestock workers averaged \$15.10 per hour, and field and livestock workers combined earned an average of \$15.69 per hour.

During the reference week of January 9-15, 2022, there were 15,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Mountain I Region. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$16.81 per hour, compared to \$15.75 in January 2021. The number of hours worked averaged 44.1 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 42.6 hours in January 2021. Field workers averaged \$16.42 per hour, livestock workers averaged \$15.58 per hour, and field and livestock workers combined earned an average of \$15.78 per hour.

### MOUNTAIN II REGION (COLORADO, NEVADA, UTAH)

There were 18,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Mountain II Region (Colorado, Nevada, and Utah) during the reference week of April 10-16, 2022, according to the Agricultural Labor Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$17.34 per hour, compared to \$16.42 in April 2021. The number of hours worked averaged 42.1 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 43.5 hours in April 2021. Field workers averaged \$17.53 per hour, livestock workers averaged \$15.37 per hour, and field and livestock workers combined earned an average of \$16.43 per hour.

During the reference week of January 9-15, 2022, there were 14,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Mountain II Region. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$17.48 per hour, compared to \$16.27 in January 2021. The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 42.1 hours in January 2021. Field workers averaged \$17.36 per hour, livestock workers averaged \$15.62 per hour, and field and livestock workers combined earned an average of \$16.37 per hour.

### MOUNTAIN III REGION (ARIZONA, NEW MEXICO)

There were 15,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Mountain III Region (Arizona and New Mexico) during the reference week of April 10-16, 2022, according to the Agricultural Labor Survey conducted by the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$16.49 per hour, compared to \$15.26 in April 2021. The number of hours worked averaged 47.9 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 46.3 hours in April 2021. Field workers averaged \$15.20 per hour, livestock workers averaged \$16.39 per hour, and field and livestock workers combined earned an average of \$15.74 per hour.

During the reference week of January 9-15, 2022, there were 14,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Mountain III Region. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$16.31 per hour, compared to \$15.16 in January 2021. The number of hours worked averaged 49.1 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 46.5 hours in January 2021. Field workers averaged \$14.80 per hour, livestock workers averaged \$16.56 per hour, and field and livestock workers combined earned an average of \$15.57 per hour.

## UNITED STATES

There were 630,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 10-16, 2022, up 3 percent from the April 2021 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 507,000 during the week of January 9-15, 2022, up slightly from the January 2021 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$17.22 per hour during the April 2022 reference week, up 8 percent from the April 2021 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$16.50 per hour, up 9 percent. Livestock workers earned \$15.82 per hour, up 7 percent. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$16.27 per hour, was up 8 percent from the 2021 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 39.7 hours during the April 2022 reference week, down 3 percent from the hours worked during the April 2021 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$17.63 per hour during the January 2022 reference week, up 9 percent from the January 2021 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$16.54 per hour, up 9 percent, while livestock workers earned \$16.12 per hour, up 8 percent from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$16.37 per hour, was up 9 percent from the January 2021 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 39.3 hours during the January 2022 reference week, down 2 percent from the hours worked during the January 2021 reference week.

For a full copy of the *Farm Labor* report, please visit [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov). For state specific questions, please contact:

Arizona – Dave DeWalt	1-800-645-7286
Colorado – Bill Meyer	1-800-392-3202
Montana – Eric Sommer	1-800-835-2612
New Mexico – Bill Meyer	1-800-392-3202
Utah – John Hilton	1-800-747-8522
Wyoming – Bill Meyer	1-800-392-3202