



Wisconsin Ag News – Labor

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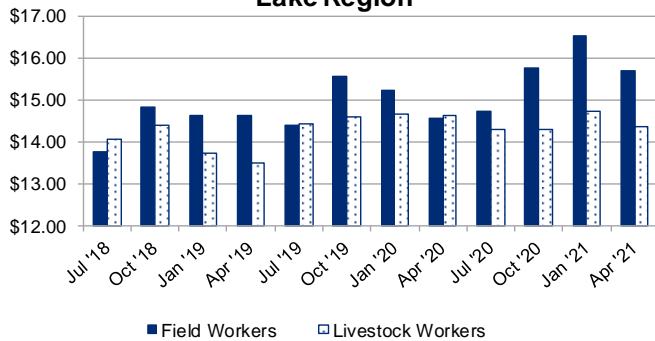
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Media Contact: Greg Bussler

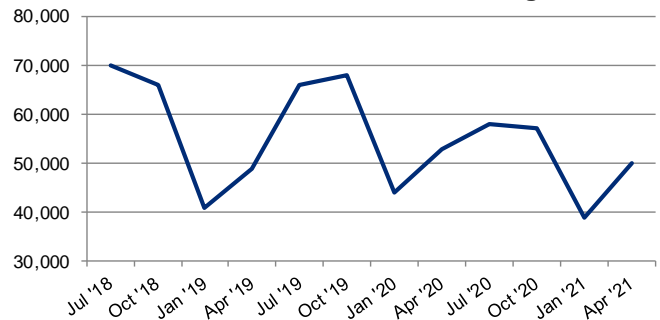
There were 39,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Lake Region (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin) during the reference week of January 10-16, 2021, according to the latest USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service – *Farm Labor* report. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$16.12 per hour, up 57 cents from January 2020. The number of hours worked averaged 41.0 for hired workers during the reference week, the same as in January 2020.

During the reference week of April 11-17, 2021, there were 50,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Lake Region (Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin). Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$15.75 per hour during the April 2021 reference week, up 49 cents from April 2020. The number of hours worked averaged 40.9 for hired workers during the reference week, down from 41.6 hours in April 2020.

**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: 2020-2021

[Lake Region includes Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin]

	Lake Region			United States		
	April 2020	January 2021	April 2021	April 2020	January 2021	April 2021
Hired workers on farms1,000 workers	53	39	50	688	506	613
Hours worked by hired workershours per week	41.6	41.0	40.9	40.3	40.2	40.9
Wage rate ¹						
Field and livestock combined dollars per hour	14.60	15.30	14.95	14.16	15.08	15.06
Field..... dollars per hour	14.56	16.53	15.68	14.19	15.23	15.19
Livestock..... dollars per hour	14.62	14.74	14.36	14.10	14.87	14.81
All hired workers..... dollars per hour	15.26	16.12	15.75	15.07	16.21	15.97

¹Benefits, 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 613,000 workers hired directly by farm operators on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of April 11-17, 2021, down 11% from the April 2020 reference week. Workers hired directly by farm operators numbered 506,000 during the week of January 10-16, 2021, down 11% from the January 2020 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$15.97 per hour during the April 2021 reference week, up 6% from the April 2020 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$15.19 per hour, up 7%. Livestock workers earned \$14.81 per hour, up 5%. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$15.06 per hour, was up 6% from the 2020 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.9 hours during the April 2021 reference week, up 1% from the hours worked during the April 2020 reference week.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$16.21 per hour during the January 2021 reference week, up 6% from the January 2020 reference week. Field workers received an average of \$15.23 per hour, up 7%, while livestock workers earned \$14.87 per hour, up 5% from a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$15.08 per hour, was up 6% from the January 2020 reference week. Hired laborers worked an average of 40.2 hours during the January 2021 reference week, unchanged from the hours worked during the January 2020 reference week.