



NASS Programs

2014 Farm Labor Survey

About the Survey

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducts the Farm Labor Survey twice a year, in October and April. The survey collects information on the number of hired farm workers, average hours worked and average wage rates by type of worker.

NASS will publish the results of the survey conducted in October in the Farm Labor report to be issued November 20, 2014.

All previous farm labor publications are available online at <http://bit.ly/FarmLabor>.

Response Confidentiality

All information NASS collects in this survey will be kept strictly confidential, as required by federal law. The results of this survey will be available in aggregate form only, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

How NASS Collects Data

NASS will conduct the Farm Labor Survey in every state except Alaska.

In October, NASS will mail the survey to more than 14,000 agricultural operations, asking them to provide information for two one-week periods in 2014: July 6-12 and October 12-18.

The survey asks operators to provide information on how many farm workers they hired, the number of hours worked and the wages paid each week.

Producers who receive the survey may respond in either of the following ways:

- **Online – Respond online at www.agcounts.usda.gov.** Online is the easiest, fastest way to complete your survey. The cover letter includes instructions for this option.
- **By mail** – Producers fill out the survey and return it in the envelope provided.

A NASS representative will contact producers who do not respond to offer the option of a telephone or personal interview.

Who Uses the Information

NASS labor estimates impact the entire agriculture community. Federal, state and local government agencies, educational institutions, farm organizations, and private sector employers all use these data. For example:

- The Department of Labor uses the results of this survey in establishing minimum wage rates for agricultural workers and assisting legislators in determining labor policies.
- USDA and the Department of Labor use the data to estimate the demand for, and availability of seasonal agricultural workers.
- Agencies responsible for administering farm labor recruitment and placement programs use the statistics in their planning and evaluation.

