



**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Iowa Ag News – Labor**



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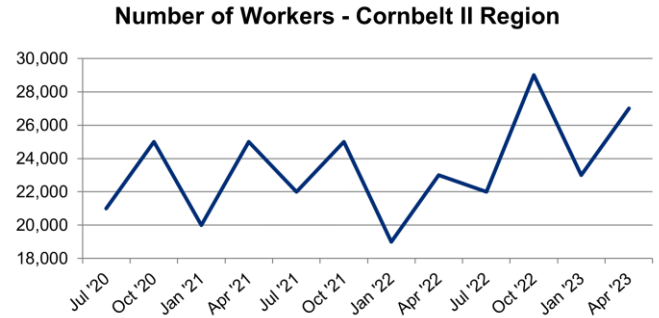
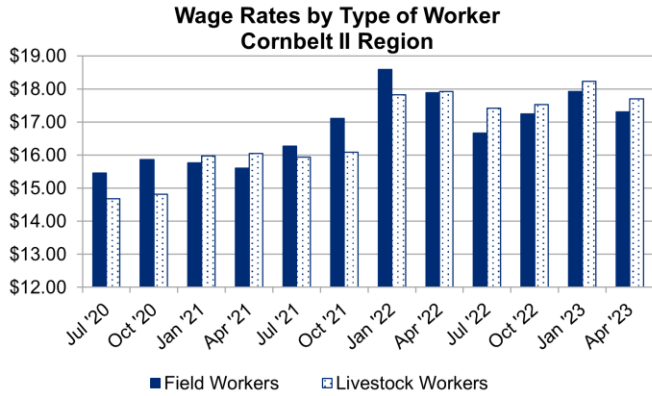
**Cooperating with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship**

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There were 23,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Cornbelt II Region (Iowa and Missouri) 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 \$19.05 per hour, 19 cents above January 2022. The number of hours worked averaged 36.7 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 34.6 hours in January 2022.

During the reference week of April 10-16, 2023, there were 27,000 workers hired directly by farms in the Cornbelt II Region (Iowa and Missouri). Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage rate of \$18.25 per hour during the April 2023 reference week, 27 cents below April 2022. The number of hours worked averaged 39.7 for hired workers during the reference week, compared with 36.0 hours in April 2022.



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

[Cornbelt II Region includes Iowa and Missouri]

	Cornbelt II Region			United States		
	April 2022	January 2023	April 2023	April 2022	January 2023	April 2023
Hired workers on farms ..... 1,000 workers	23	23	27	630	511	651
Hours worked by hired workers ..... hours per week	36.0	36.7	39.7	39.7	38.9	40.6
Wage rate <sup>1</sup>						
Field and livestock combined ..... dollars per hour	17.90	18.11	17.51	16.27	17.26	16.99
Field ..... dollars per hour	17.89	17.92	17.31	16.50	17.67	17.26
Livestock ..... dollars per hour	17.92	18.23	17.70	15.82	16.71	16.48
All hired workers ..... dollars per hour	18.52	19.05	18.25	17.22	18.55	18.08

<sup>1</sup> 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](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications).