



Oregon Housing and Community Services

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Farmworker Wages in Oregon

For more information:

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Wages received by farmworkers vary according to the employer and type of commodity produced. Oregon law requires minimum wage for farmworkers, although they can also receive a "piece rate" or set fee per volume of harvest. As of February 1 of 2004 farmworkers were also granted two paid 10-minute paid breaks and one unpaid 30-minute lunch break after 4 hours of continual labor.

Oregon Covered Employment reports that workers in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting industry earned average wages of \$23,28. Forestry and logging workers earned the highest average pay of \$37,110, while crop production workers earned the lowest wages at \$19,417.

Those not covered by employment insurance, hired for a set fee, custom, or contract work are not represented in the Oregon Employment Covered wages. **In 1997-1998, the National Agricultural Workers Study (NAWS) found that the national median annual income of a single farmworker was \$7500 and between \$10,000 and \$14,000 for families.**

Oregon Agriculture Industry, Employment by Category, Pay Roll and Average Pay Chart:

www.ohcs.oregon.gov/OHCS/ISD/PPR/docs/Oregon_Agriculture_Industry_Covered_Employment_Chart.pdf

Source: <http://www.qualityinfo.org/olmisj/CEP>

2002 Regional Wages for Farmworker and Laborer, Crop, Nursery and Greenhouse

Chart: http://www.ohcs.oregon.gov/OHCS/ISD/PPR/docs/2002_Wages_Chart.pdf

Source: <http://www.qualityinfo.org/olmisj/CEP>

National Agriculture Workers Survey

<http://www.ohcs.oregon.gov/OHCS/ISD/PPR/docs/FWICNAWSFarmworkersReport.pdf>

For More Information

For more program information, contact Vicki Massey at 503.986.2146 or by E-mail: Vicki.Massey@hcs.state.or.us.

OHCS is the state housing finance agency, providing financial and program support to create and preserve opportunities for quality, affordable housing for lower income Oregonians. The agency also administers federal and state antipoverty, homeless and energy assistance community service programs.