CALIFORNIA Agricultural Bulletin

Employment Development Department
State of California

What's new this quarter?

4th Quarter, 2012 Quick Facts:

CA Agricultural Employment (In Thousands)

Oct	2012	438.3
Nov	2012	393.4
Dec	2012	342.3

CA Agricultural Average Hourly Earnings (In Dollars per Hour)

Oct	2012	13.04
Nov	2012	13.09
Dec	2012	13.19

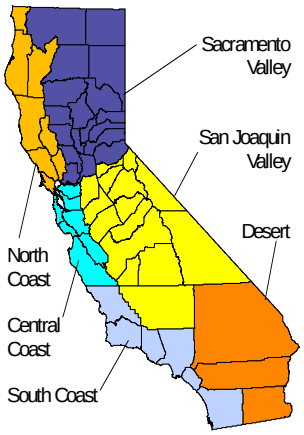
CA Agricultural Employment (In Thousands, Year Ago)

Oct	2011	430.6
Nov	2011	386.6
Dec	2011	335.8

California Highlights:

- Labor is the number one issue for agriculture in California. It's not pesticides, water supply, or land use, as it has been in the past. According to local farmer's, California faces the worst-ever worker shortage. The main reason for this includes stricter border patrols, tighter U.S. enforcement, and an improved economy in Mexico.
- California is one of only five agricultural regions in the world that has a Mediterranean growing climate. As a result, the state's agricultural production is extraordinary, more than $43 billion in sales.
- Almond production was at a record-breaking 2.10 billion pounds, up five percent from last year's crop.
- Unlike other aspects of the economy, jobs are plentiful in California agriculture. In 2012 the average field worker earned $10.76 an hour, up from $9.40 in 2007.
- Tangerine production increased by eight percent and dry edible bean production increased by 17 percent from last year's crop.
- Grapes continue to be California's number one-ranked crop in dollar value. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, California wine grape growers set a record this year with 4.3 million tons. Red wine grapes accounted for the largest share at 2.3 million tons, up nearly 20 percent from 2011.

California Agricultural Regions



The USDA **reports employment and earnings data** for one month per quarter. For more national agricultural data, go to:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/

Regional Spotlight: *Sacramento Valley Region*

- Every winter massive amounts of citrus fruit begin to ripen on front and back yard trees throughout Sacramento. Lemons, limes, grapefruit, oranges and kumquats. Grocery stores and farmers markets sell huge amounts of this fruit, while our local fruit falls to the ground to rot. Over the past four years Sacramento has been organizing neighborhood residents to help people distribute the fruit to local food assistance agencies and family services. In 2012 over 53,000 pounds of fruit was donated with the help of over 800 volunteers.

- According to the National Agricultural Statistics report, Sacramento Valley produced the highest amount of almonds for the state at 7,100 nuts per tree.
- The total value of the 2012 wine grape crop was $656,236,100, up nearly 55.0 percent, or $232,794,200, from the previous year, and 45.3 percent, or $204,582,200, higher than the previous 10-year average of $451,653,900.
- Solano County's farming industry continues to grow, according to the Solano County Crop and Livestock Report. The report shows a steady increase in value of walnuts since 2009, which now tops the list of the Top 10 Crops of 2011 and 2012. Walnuts are valued at $36.6 million, followed by alfalfa at $33.2 million. Organic farming also continues to grow in the number of farms, acreage and total crop value.

Source: http://www.nass .usda.gov/

Regional Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

Sacramento Valley Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(2012 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	31,800	26,400	22,700	$13.40	$13.47	$13.56	25,683	$13.15
Agricultural Production/Crops	20,600	16,800	14,200	$12.99	$13.05	$13.17	15,650	$12.84
Agricultural Production/Animal	1,700	1,700	1,700	$13.41	$13.49	$13.54	1,700	$13.14
Total Agricultural Support	9,500	7,900	6,800	$13.86	$13.93	$14.02	8,283	$13.85

San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(2012 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	212,000	191,000	178,100	$ 12.19	$ 12.26	$ 12.37	196,983	$11.82
Agricultural Production/Crops	73,300	65,700	61,800	$ 12.11	$ 12.18	$ 12.26	63,275	$11.80
Agricultural Production/Animal	21,200	21,200	21,100	$ 12.42	$ 12.47	$ 12.51	21,083	$12.09
Total Agricultural Support	117,000	103,600	94,700	$ 13.46	$ 13.55	$ 13.64	112,067	$13.30

Desert Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(2012 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	25,200	26,100	28,400	$ 12.41	$ 12.52	$ 12.61	25,575	$12.27
Agricultural Production/Crops	9,600	9,900	10,400	$ 12.08	$ 12.17	$ 12.24	9,025	$11.86
Agricultural Production/Animal	2,500	2,500	2,500	$ 12.61	$ 12.64	$ 12.71	2,442	$12.60
Total Agricultural Support	12,900	13,500	15,300	$ 14.32	$ 14.42	$ 14.49	13,975	$14.21

South Coast Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(2012 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	72,400	68,000	58,900	$ 13.07	$ 13.11	$ 13.22	68,750	$12.81
Agricultural Production/Crops	45,300	43,300	38,200	$ 12.57	$ 12.52	$ 12.62	44,875	$12.28
Agricultural Production/Animal	1,900	1,900	1,900	$ 13.69	$ 13.72	$ 13.81	1,825	$13.60
Total Agricultural Support	25,100	22,700	18,700	$ 11.79	$ 11.83	$ 11.91	21,933	$11.47

Central Coast Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(2012 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	78,300	69,100	42,900	$ 12.82	$ 12.88	$ 12.97	64,533	$12.78
Agricultural Production/Crops	40,100	34,900	23,900	$ 12.73	$ 12.78	$ 12.81	31,792	$12.67
Agricultural Production/Animal	800	800	800	$ 13.61	$ 13.68	$ 13.76	650	$13.48
Total Agricultural Support	37,100	33,100	17,900	$ 14.98	$ 15.04	$ 15.16	31,867	$15.01

North Coast Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	(2012 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	18,600	12,800	11,300	$ 14.09	$ 14.03	$ 14.15	14,850	$13.85
Agricultural Production/Crops	10,200	7,000	6,200	$ 14.18	$ 14.14	$ 14.19	7,892	$13.94
Agricultural Production/Animal	1,600	1,600	1,600	$ 12.59	$ 12.54	$ 12.59	1,525	$12.32
Total Agricultural Support	6,600	4,000	3,300	$ 14.63	$ 14.56	$ 14.63	5,208	$14.13

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