CALIFORNIA Agricultural Bulletin

Employment Development Department
State of California

4th Quarter, 2009 Quick Facts

CA Agricultural Employment

(In Thousands)

Oct	2009	401.3
Nov	2009	347.0
Dec	2009	307.0

CA Total Agricultural Average Hourly Earnings

(In dollars per Hour)

Oct	2009	11.13
Nov	2009	11.26
Dec	2009	11.06

CA Agricultural Employment

(In Thousands, Year Ago)

Oct	2008	420.3
Nov	2008	366.2
Dec	2008	335.4

What's new this quarter?

California Highlights:

At the end of 2009 California experienced a severe drought, possibly the worst in two decades. This situation had a huge effect on the states agricultural production. The Central Valley is completely dependent on irrigation to produce crops, which spans about 500 miles and grows almost half of the fruit and vegetables produced in the United States. Farmers who were using the reservoirs in Central Valley and Sacramento Valley will not get water for irrigation. Economists are predicting the drought could cost between 60,000 to 80,000 jobs and $2 billion in revenue as farmers are forced to use expensive well water, which will cause the prices of agricultural products to rise to an all time high.

Despite the drought, California continues to remain the No. 1 state in cash farms receipts in 2009, although, the state did experience a nine percent drop in agricultural sales for 2009. The total revenue was $34.8 billion, down from $38.4 billion received in 2008. The decrease in revenue was led by the dairy sector.

Dairy producers received $4.54 billion for the milk production in 2009, down 34 percent from 2008. Milk production from dairy farms decreased 4 percent, while milk prices received continued to fall from $18.05 in 2007, to $16.82 in 2008, to $11.49 per hundred pounds of milk sold in 2009.

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: *San Joaquin*

A QUARTER OF THE NATION'S PRODUCE IS GROWN IN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

- Fresno continued as the leading county with an agricultural production value of $5.37 billion, a decrease of 4.7 percent from the 2008 value, with Tulare County second in value of production with $4.05 billion, a 19.4 percent decrease from 2008. Average weekly wages for Tulare counties each increased 4.4 percent from fourth quarter of 2008.
- California's grape-bearing acreage grew to an all-time high in recession-plagued 2009, with an increase of 1.1 percent over last year's total, with San Joaquin and Madera counties leading the state in grape acreage.

San Joaquin Valley

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-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(2008 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	29,800	23,300	20,400	$11.74	$11.65	$11.80	24,983	$11.59
Agricultural Production/Crops	18,200	14,100	12,200	$11.61	$11.57	$11.86	14,883	$11.33
Agricultural Production/Livestock	1,600	1,600	1,600	$11.88	$11.72	$11.71	1,667	$11.62
Total Agricultural Support	10,000	7,600	6,600	$12.65	$12.57	$12.78	8,383	$12.54

San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(2008 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	186,400	160,500	153,400	$ 11.24	$ 11.29	$ 11.31	190,592	$11.03
Agricultural Production/Crops	73,000	61,500	56,200	$ 10.95	$ 10.96	$ 10.99	63,075	$10.65
Agricultural Production/Livestock	19,800	20,200	20,000	$ 11.49	$ 11.56	$ 11.55	20,850	$11.23
Total Agricultural Support	93,100	78,500	76,800	$ 12.04	$ 12.08	$ 12.05	106,392	$12.19

Desert Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(2008 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	22,400	23,800	26,200	$ 11.40	$ 11.46	$ 11.64	27,400	$10.84
Agricultural Production/Crops	9,200	9,100	9,400	$ 10.82	$ 11.00	$ 11.28	9,908	$10.16
Agricultural Production/Livestock	2,700	2,700	2,700	$ 11.94	$ 11.90	$ 12.01	3,242	$11.95
Total Agricultural Support	10,300	11,800	13,900	$ 12.32	$ 12.59	$ 12.71	14,042	$11.99

South Coast Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(2008 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	67,500	63,100	54,000	$ 11.12	$ 11.12	$ 11.18	68,458	$11.35
Agricultural Production/Crops	45,500	43,100	36,900	$ 10.78	$ 10.75	$ 10.89	46,333	$11.22
Agricultural Production/Livestock	1,800	1,800	1,800	$ 12.71	$ 12.64	$ 12.71	1,967	$12.70
Total Agricultural Support	19,900	17,900	15,000	$ 9.02	$ 9.10	$ 9.08	19,867	$9.14

Central Coast Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(2008 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	74,200	61,900	38,000	$ 12.39	$ 12.48	$ 12.12	62,117	$12.45
Agricultural Production/Crops	37,500	31,300	21,600	$ 11.36	$ 11.41	$ 11.35	31,658	$11.25
Agricultural Production/Livestock	1,300	1,300	900	$ 12.61	$ 12.71	$ 12.69	925	$12.61
Total Agricultural Support	35,300	29,200	15,400	$ 12.96	$ 13.05	$ 13.26	29,425	$13.19

North Coast Agricultural Employment and Wages by Industry Sector

MAJOR SECTOR	(Current Employment) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(Average Hourly Earnings) Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	(2008 Annual Average) Employment	Earnings
Total Agricultural	18,200	11,500	11,100	$ 11.99	$ 12.03	$ 12.10	15,429	$11.23
Agricultural Production/Crops	10,300	6,400	6,500	$ 11.51	$ 11.73	$ 11.95	8,883	$9.23
Agricultural Production/Livestock	1,600	1,600	1,600	$ 11.61	$ 11.55	$ 11.57	1,533	$11.47
Total Agricultural Support	6,200	3,410	2,860	$ 12.42	$ 12.42	$ 12.45	4,862	$12.53

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Detailed State and Regional Data