



LAES has developed a series of immigrant issue instructional modules entitled "Tierra de Oportunidad" for orientation to our complex society.

LAES - Making Choices About Jobs

Tierra de Oportunidad - Module 1

Resource Sheet #4

HOURLY, AND DAILY EARNINGS, PIECE RATE EARNINGS

Hourly Wage	= Daily Earnings / Total Hours Worked
Daily Earnings	= Number of pieces per hour x Number of hours per day x Piece rate
Total Hours Worked	= Time arrives at work to time left work - waiting time, lunch, breaks

SAMPLE PROBLEM - CUTTING ASPARAGUS

Joe went to work at 5 AM and left work at 2 PM Minus the 1 hr waiting time for new boxes and minus the two breaks of 15 minutes each Total hours worked	= 9 hours 1 hour 30 minutes 7.5 hours
Piece Rate	= 15 cents per lb.
Joe picked 43 lbs. of asparagus per hour x 7.5 hours x 15 cents per lb. Daily wage	= \$ 48.37
\$ 48.37 divided by 7.5 hours Hourly wage	= \$ 6.45/hr.

* Ask workers if they work as fast at the end of the day as at the beginning of the day.

** To compare the value of two different piece rates, remember that the ratio of the piece rates is the same as the ratio of the earnings at the different piece rates. So an increase of 2 cents per lb. on an asparagus piece rate of 15 cents per lb. makes a difference of 13% in daily earnings. Ask the students to figure out what the daily wage increase would be for a typical work week of about 30 hours.

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