

Minimum Agricultural Wages vs NREGA Wages (Major States)

	Latest available minimum agricultural wage (lowest category)		NREGA wage rate, 2020-21 (Rs/day)*	Shortfall of NREGA wage from minimum agricultural wage (Rs)
	Amount (Rs/day) (source in hyperlink)	Effective from		
Kerala	410	May-17	291	119
Maharashtra	356^a	Jul-19	238	118
Jharkhand	275	Oct-19	194	81
Odisha	280	Oct-18	207	73
Karnataka	338	Apr-19	275	63
Chhattisgarh	252	Apr-20	190	62
Bihar	246	Oct-18	194	52
Himachal Pradesh	250	Apr-19	198 ^b	52
West Bengal	247	Jan-20	204	43
Assam	243	Nov-16	213	30
Jammu & Kashmir	225	Oct-17	204	21
Madhya Pradesh	211	Oct-19	190	21
Haryana	329	Jul-18	309	20
Telangana	257^a	Apr-19	237	20
Andhra Pradesh	251	Oct-18	237	14
Punjab	273	Mar-17	263	10
Rajasthan	225	May-19	220	5
Uttarakhand	200	Jun-15	201	-1
Tamil Nadu	229^c	Sep-19	256	-27
Uttar Pradesh	161	Oct-16	201	-40
Gujarat	178	Sep-16	224	-46

* From nrega.nic.in/netnrega/writereaddata/Circulars/2410Wage_rate_notification_for_FY2020-21.pdf (these are prescribed wage rates – actual wages are sometimes lower due to shortfall from productivity norms under the piece-rate system).

^a Lowest among zone-specific minimum wages.

^b Rs 248 in 'scheduled tribe areas'.

^c For six hours of work per day.

Notes: (1) 'Unskilled' wages (non-agriculture) are higher - in some cases much higher - in some states.
 (2) States are ranked in descending order of shortfall (last column).
 (3) In cases where minimum wages are monthly wages, they were divided by 26 to put them on a daily basis.

(Compiled by Ankita Aggarwal and Vipul Paikra, June 2020.)