Codebook: Wages of Agricultural Day-Laborers in England, 1740-1850

Citation: Joyce Burnette, "Wages of Agricultural Day-Labourers in England, 1740-1850," November 2004, http://persweb.wabash.edu/facstaff/burnettj/Homepage.html

Since not all individuals of the same sex received the same wages, some explanation is needed of how I arrived at one wage for each gender in each season. For observations where the variable "Isolate Wage Quote" is equal to one, the source provided only one male and one female wage. In other cases the full record of wages paid to all workers was available, and the wage recorded for each season is the median wage paid to individuals of that gender. Using the median wage gives a wage for adult men and women, rather than children.

Definition of Variables:

1) County

County in which the farm was located.

2) Year

Date of the observation.

3) Mwinter

Male winter wage, in pence per day.

Winter is defined as October to May.

4) Msummer

Male summer wage, in pence per day.

Summer is defined as June through September, except for harvest (where harvest is the time of peak wages).

5) M harvest

Male harvest wage, in pence per day.

Harvest is identified as the time when the highest wages were paid. If wages were constant all summer, then the harvest wage equals the summer wage.

6) Fwinter

Female winter wage, in pence per day.

Winter is defined as October to May.

7) Fsummer

Female summer wage, in pence per day.

Summer is defined as June through September, except for harvest (where harvest is the time of peak wages).

8) Fharvest

Female harvest wage, in pence per day.

Harvest is identified as the time when the highest wages were paid. If wages were constant all summer, then the harvest wage equals the summer wage.

9) Farm No

Unique identifier for each farm. Some farms appear only once. Other farms have multiple observations at different dates. Some numbers are not used.

10) Isolated Wage Quote

Equal to one if the wage was determined from one wage observation rather than a complete accounts.

11) H74region

Region number from Map 1 in E.H. Hunt, *Regional Wage Variations in Britain, 1850-1914*, Oxford, 1974.

Region 1 includes Essex, Kent, Middlesex, and Surrey.

Region 2 includes Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset, and Wiltshire.

Region 3 includes Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, and Suffolk.

Regions 4 and 5 are in Wales, and are not used.

Region 6 includes Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Shropshire,

Staffordshire, Worcestershire, and Warwickshire.

Region 7 includes Lincolnshire, Rutland, and the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire.

Region 8 includes Cheshire, Lancashire, and the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Region 9 include Cumberland and Westmorland.

Region 10 includes Durham and Northumberland.

12) CottageInd

Prevalence of cottage industry in 1851. Number of females in the county employed in the occupations straw hat and bonnetmaker, glover, embroiderer, straw plait manufacturer, and lace manufacturer, divided by the number of females age 20 and over in the county, from the 1851 census. *Source*: BPP 1852-53 LXXXVIII.

Sources:

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