Farm Labor

Release:
March 10, 1964
3:00 p.m. (E.S.T.)

FARM WORK CONTINUES ON WINTER SCHEDULE
WORKER NUMBERS AT NEW FEBRUARY LOW

The number of persons working on the Nation's farms during the February survey week, at 4,750,000, was 5 percent less than a year earlier and smallest of record for the month by the same percentage. Northern and Central States remained on a winter schedule featuring livestock care, routine farmstead chores, and advance preparations for spring work. South Atlantic and South Central regions had prolonged cold or wet weather in February, which delayed field work and required fewer workers than usually needed at this period for work on some of the Nation's earliest crop activities.

The seasonal slowness had sharpest impact on the number of hired workers needed, reducing the total number of hired workers in the survey week of February 16-22 to 887,000 persons. This was 12 percent below the previous low for February reported in 1963. Reductions in number of hired workers from last year's February force were of most importance in South Atlantic and West South Central States and in California.

Farm operators and other family members working on the home farms represented even more than the usual dominant part of the February working force. The total of 3,863,000 family workers, however, was 3 percent under a year earlier, continuing the downward trend associated with decreased farm numbers in most States.

Annual Review Provides Revised 1963 Estimates

The monthly estimates of farm employment for 1963 published throughout that year have been re-examined by statisticians in State offices to utilize information or appraisals possible in a careful review of the reports for the entire season. The monthly

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Statistical Reporting Service
Crop Reporting Board
La 1 (3-64)
Washington, D. C.

estimates and annual averages shown on pages 5, 6, and 7 of this report include a considerable number of revisions in State estimates in certain months, which should improve accuracy of comparisons with State monthly estimates to be published in 1964. Although this is a new step in the farm employment estimates, it parallels procedures used in most other SRS series of periodic estimates. Plans for future work include this type of review and revision at the end of each year. The revisions for 1963, although of importance for certain States in different months, produced only small changes in State annual averages and virtually no change in the National averages previously published.

Alaska Farm Employment Estimates - 1963

Surveys made by the Statistical Reporting Service in Alaska during 1963 make possible the publication of estimates of farm employment for survey weeks in five months as shown below.

Number of Persons Working on Alaska Farms - 1963

	January	March	June	September	December
Family Workers	600	600	800	800	600
Hired Workers	200	200	500	1200	300
Total	800	800	1300	2000	900

# # # # #

Farm employment and indexes, February 1964, with comparisons, United States

	Annual average 1958-62 1/	Annual average 1962	Annual average 1963	February average 1958-62 1/	Feb. 17-23, 1963	Feb. 16-22, 1964
FARM EMPLOYMENT						
(Thousands)						
Total	7,104	6,700	6,518	5,406	4,999	4,750
Family labor	5,197	4,873	4,738	4,357	3,991	3,863
Hired labor	1,907	1,827	1,780	1,049	1,008	887
INDEXES 2/						
(1910-14=100)						
Total	52	49	48	53	49	46
Family labor	51	48	47	52	47	46
Hired labor	56	54	52	57	54	48
(1957-59=100)						
Total	94	90	86	96	89	84
Family labor	94	88	86	95	87	84
Hired labor	97	93	91	98	94	83

1/ Employment during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.
2/ Monthly indexes are adjusted for seasonal variation.

----------oOo----------

Farm Wage Rates and Indexes, January 1, 1964, United States

	Annual average 1963	January average 1958-62	Jan. 1, 1963	Jan. 1, 1964
FARM WAGE RATES				
Composite rate per hour 1/	$ 0.880	$ 0.881	$ 0.948	$ 0.962
Per month with house	206	190	205	209
Per month board and room	159	150	161	163
Per week with board and room	37.50	34.25	36.25	37.25
Per week without board and room	48.50	45.25	48.00	48.00
Per day with house	5.70	5.30	5.70	6.00
Per day with board and room	6.90	6.20	6.60	6.80
Per day without board or room	7.10	6.50	6.80	7.00
Per hour with house	.94	.80	.88	.88
Per hour without board or room	1.05	1.05	1.13	1.14
INDEXES 2/				
(1910-14=100)	677	619	663	673
(1957-59=100)	116	106	114	115

1/ Weighted average of all rates on a per hour basis.
2/ Indexes are adjusted for seasonal variation.

Workers on Farms, February 1964
(Thousands of persons)

Region and State	February average 1958-62 1/			February 1963 Week of 17-23			February 1964 Week of 16-22		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
Maine	27	19	8	25	19	6	23	18	5
N. H.	10	8	2	9	7	2	9	7	2
Vt.	26	20	6	22	17	5	22	17	5
Mass.	28	19	9	22	16	6	21	15	6
R. I.	3	2	1	3	2	1	2	1	1
Conn.	22	17	5	18	13	5	17	12	5
N. Eng.	116	85	31	99	74	25	94	70	24
N. Y.	136	99	37	117	87	30	106	80	26
N. J.	33	23	10	28	20	8	24	17	7
Pa.	168	145	23	143	126	17	135	119	16
M. Atl.	337	267	70	288	233	55	265	216	49
Ohio	209	192	17	188	174	14	175	163	12
Ind.	187	175	12	167	156	11	157	149	8
Ill.	193	161	32	177	148	29	169	144	25
Mich.	193	172	21	165	145	20	164	143	21
Wis.	259	239	20	235	214	21	222	205	17
E.N.Cent.	1041	939	102	932	837	95	887	804	83
Minn.	212	194	18	197	180	17	189	174	15
Iowa	232	216	16	209	193	16	205	190	15
Mo.	219	203	16	210	194	16	192	180	12
N.Dak.	62	55	7	56	50	6	53	48	5
S.Dak.	73	67	6	69	64	5	64	59	5
Nebr.	125	116	9	117	108	9	112	104	8
Kans.	130	120	10	127	117	10	119	110	9
W. N. Cent.	1053	971	82	985	906	79	934	865	69
Del.	9	6	3	7	5	2	6	4	2
Md.	39	29	10	36	27	9	33	26	7
Va.	143	118	25	131	106	25	123	101	22
W. Va.	55	46	9	44	38	6	43	37	6
N. C.	253	219	34	255	215	40	234	203	31
S. C.	120	87	33	101	74	27	96	72	24
Ga.	137	102	35	106	81	25	105	81	24
Fla.	143	47	96	147	44	103	137	41	96
S. Atl.	899	654	245	827	590	237	777	565	212
Ky.	183	164	19	172	154	18	172	153	19
Tenn.	164	138	26	156	129	27	154	133	21
Ala.	93	75	18	88	70	18	86	70	16
Miss.	146	116	30	131	105	26	129	103	26
E. S. Cent.	586	493	93	547	458	89	541	459	82
Ark.	143	106	37	136	90	46	125	91	34
La.	117	82	35	101	70	31	101	67	34
Okla.	135	123	12	127	115	12	130	120	10
Tex.	292	215	77	286	211	75	280	214	66
W. S. Cent.	687	526	161	650	486	164	636	492	144
Mont.	40	34	6	35	30	5	35	30	5
Idaho	45	37	8	44	37	7	44	38	6
Wyo.	14	11	3	15	11	4	15	11	4
Colo.	45	38	7	46	39	7	41	36	5
N. Mex.	26	18	8	24	18	6	23	17	6
Ariz.	39	9	30	37	9	28	33	7	26
Utah	23	19	4	22	18	4	19	15	4
Nev.	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1
Mount.	235	168	67	226	164	62	213	156	57
Wash.	84	66	18	75	59	16	78	60	18
Oreg.	70	58	12	73	58	15	72	58	14
Calif.	298	130	168	297	126	171	253	118	135
Pac.	452	254	198	445	243	202	403	236	167
U.S.	5406	4357	1049	4999	3991	1008	4750	3863	887

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.

Total Workers on Farms, 1963, Revised Estimates 1/

(Thousands of persons)

Region and State	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual Average
Maine	24	25	26	28	33	36	39	39	63	30	26	25	32
N.H.	9	9	9	10	12	12	12	12	13	10	10	9	10
Vt.	22	22	23	24	24	25	25	24	25	23	22	21	24
Mass.	21	22	26	30	33	36	40	40	36	30	24	22	30
R.I.	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	3	3	3
Conn.	17	18	20	21	24	29	34	31	23	21	19	17	22
N.Eng.	96	99	107	116	129	141	154	149	163	116	104	98	121
N.Y.	116	117	122	133	140	171	174	171	183	151	125	115	143
N.J.	28	28	29	36	46	52	60	57	48	35	27	25	39
Pa.	127	143	150	157	165	200	194	196	188	165	135	133	162
M.Atl.	271	288	301	326	351	423	428	424	419	351	287	273	344
Ohio	158	188	205	228	232	260	248	235	230	236	200	182	217
Ind.	159	167	183	215	228	248	228	199	206	219	169	160	199
Ill.	170	177	206	249	282	304	275	231	258	272	221	178	235
Mich.	155	165	180	206	232	270	255	261	218	202	169	155	206
Wis.	228	235	247	261	273	289	289	291	275	255	233	222	258
E.N.Cent.	870	932	1021	1159	1247	1371	1295	1217	1187	1184	992	897	1115
Minn.	190	197	214	273	286	344	361	304	264	255	202	184	256
Iowa	197	209	254	277	313	357	374	329	306	319	247	208	283
Mo.	196	210	225	240	259	303	284	294	345	311	202	213	256
N.Dak.	50	56	74	87	91	98	124	121	101	81	58	52	83
S.Dak.	61	69	85	89	91	101	105	105	97	91	71	70	87
Nebr.	115	117	121	147	158	169	193	163	150	157	121	113	144
Kans.	112	127	141	146	156	193	193	163	171	151	114	115	149
W.N.Cent.	921	985	1114	1259	1354	1565	1634	1479	1434	1365	1015	955	1258
Del.	8	7	9	12	15	16	16	15	13	11	10	7	12
Md.	37	36	48	56	60	70	70	67	60	54	46	38	54
Va.	131	131	150	169	178	205	218	188	208	199	149	116	170
W.Va.	43	44	50	59	63	77	65	65	71	61	50	46	57
N.C.	221	255	295	342	393	496	678	666	555	439	318	224	407
S.C.	103	101	124	150	180	209	238	222	219	182	116	97	162
Ga.	101	106	151	162	180	159	168	254	294	202	159	106	170
Fla.	126	147	152	147	118	96	90	93	115	118	125	119	121
S.Atl.	770	827	979	1097	1187	1328	1543	1570	1535	1266	973	753	1153
Ky.	166	172	196	220	229	273	246	285	316	300	244	211	238
Tenn.	149	156	188	208	234	259	243	248	346	360	262	159	235
Ala.	80	88	100	134	173	128	109	119	227	243	140	96	136
Miss.	113	131	183	233	275	245	181	211	342	308	186	124	211
E.S.Cent.	508	547	667	795	911	905	779	863	1231	1211	832	590	820
Ark.	104	136	168	192	230	224	217	222	287	255	151	95	190
La.	90	101	122	134	147	148	141	179	231	195	124	85	141
Okla.	116	127	134	141	164	159	152	149	170	163	128	119	144
Tex.	264	286	326	388	415	471	512	449	512	459	316	265	389
W.S.Cent.	574	650	750	855	956	1002	1022	999	1200	1072	719	564	864
Mont.	34	35	44	54	51	57	65	57	56	49	39	35	48
Idaho	40	44	52	65	72	88	96	87	83	81	51	42	67
Wyo.	12	15	16	20	22	26	26	23	22	21	14	13	19
Colo.	40	46	50	58	64	83	77	74	80	77	50	40	62
N.Mex.	23	24	30	29	28	36	41	37	42	56	36	28	34
Ariz.	37	37	39	41	41	40	34	33	39	42	45	41	39
Utah	21	22	24	26	37	42	40	38	43	33	25	22	31
Nev.	3	3	4	6	7	7	6	6	7	6	4	3	5
Mount.	210	226	259	299	322	379	385	355	372	365	264	224	305
Wash.	64	75	94	116	130	185	156	140	121	110	74	67	111
Oreg.	64	73	85	88	103	141	130	133	92	87	67	64	93
Calif.	301	297	291	285	346	364	353	355	433	426	281	282	334
Pac.	429	445	470	489	579	690	639	628	646	623	422	413	538
U.S.	4649	4999	5668	6395	7036	7804	7879	7684	8187	7553	5608	4767	6518

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.

Family Workers on Farms, 1963, Revised Estimates 1/
(Thousands of persons)

Region and State	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual Average
Maine	19	19	19	19	20	22	23	22	23	20	20	19	20
N. H.	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7
Vt.	17	17	18	18	18	19	18	18	19	18	17	17	18
Mass.	16	16	17	20	20	21	20	20	20	19	17	16	18
R.I.	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2	2
Conn.	13	13	14	14	15	16	17	16	15	14	14	13	14
N.Eng.	74	74	77	80	83	88	89	86	87	79	77	74	79
N.Y.	87	87	88	90	92	103	107	104	109	103	93	86	96
N.J.	20	20	20	19	21	23	25	24	25	21	18	17	21
Pa.	110	126	131	133	136	156	156	154	149	135	112	117	134
M.Atl.	217	233	239	242	249	282	288	282	283	259	223	220	251
Ohio	145	174	181	196	198	200	200	180	175	195	176	171	183
Ind.	150	156	171	191	203	208	186	167	166	174	153	150	173
Ill.	142	148	166	198	221	219	206	183	203	216	185	155	187
Mich.	133	145	159	175	196	196	182	185	167	158	144	137	165
Wis.	213	214	224	235	247	252	251	248	236	224	211	205	230
E.N.Cent.	783	837	901	995	1065	1075	1025	963	947	967	869	818	938
Minn.	178	180	195	247	253	258	271	241	224	229	186	174	220
Iowa	183	193	235	255	278	278	274	263	258	277	221	196	243
Mo.	183	194	205	216	223	238	233	239	274	253	185	201	220
N.Dak.	45	50	67	74	74	75	86	86	77	67	50	47	67
S.Dak.	57	64	79	82	83	83	83	84	84	80	65	65	76
Nebr.	108	108	108	127	132	135	147	129	123	135	110	106	122
Kans.	105	117	127	130	133	143	136	127	145	135	104	108	126
W.N.Cent.	859	906	1016	1131	1176	1210	1230	1169	1185	1176	921	897	1074
Del.	6	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	7	7	6	5	7
Md.	27	27	35	42	39	41	45	43	43	39	34	29	37
Va.	106	106	115	132	137	114	118	114	136	144	111	98	119
W.Va.	37	38	41	47	51	55	53	54	59	52	43	40	47
N.C.	192	215	242	273	305	312	350	416	409	335	236	203	291
S.C.	83	74	86	100	116	129	135	135	145	129	85	78	108
Ga.	82	81	117	122	123	103	110	190	210	152	111	86	124
Fla.	36	44	51	51	43	42	39	40	57	48	41	31	44
S. Atl.	569	590	693	774	822	805	857	1000	1066	906	667	570	777
Ky.	149	154	161	179	180	182	163	190	222	246	201	193	185
Tenn.	131	129	150	162	176	184	165	168	241	264	215	146	178
Ala.	65	70	78	98	131	101	84	88	162	175	103	83	103
Miss.	95	105	140	162	177	163	136	150	193	194	138	104	146
E.S.Cent.	440	458	529	601	664	630	548	596	818	879	657	526	612
Ark.	84	90	107	104	116	116	100	98	143	132	98	82	106
La.	74	70	77	82	84	82	70	83	115	98	83	70	82
Okla.	108	115	119	121	132	129	113	106	127	125	109	109	118
Tex.	197	211	240	248	270	298	287	242	254	232	207	205	241
W.S.Cent.	463	486	543	555	602	625	570	529	639	587	497	466	547
Mont.	30	30	36	42	37	36	37	38	41	39	32	30	36
Idaho	34	37	42	50	49	53	56	54	56	58	38	36	47
Wyo.	10	11	12	14	15	15	15	15	15	14	9	10	13
Colo.	34	39	42	48	51	51	49	49	49	49	40	34	45
N.Mex.	16	18	20	20	19	21	21	21	22	26	17	17	20
Ariz.	10	9	9	10	8	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	9
Utah	17	18	19	20	24	25	25	26	29	24	20	20	22
Nev.	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	2	3
Mount.	153	164	183	207	207	214	216	216	225	222	166	157	195
Wash.	52	59	69	77	89	100	89	79	74	71	56	52	72
Oreg.	54	58	66	65	68	76	74	63	61	64	54	55	64
Calif.	121	126	128	126	142	135	125	130	143	144	113	118	129
Pac.	227	243	263	268	299	311	288	272	278	279	223	225	265
U.S.	3785	3991	4444	4853	5167	5240	5111	5113	5528	5354	4300	3953	4738

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.

Hired Workers on Farms, 1963, Revised Estimates 1/
(Thousands of persons)

Region and State	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual Average
Maine	5	6	7	9	13	14	16	17	40	10	6	6	12
N.H.	2	2	2	3	4	4	4	4	5	3	3	2	3
Vt.	5	5	5	6	6	6	7	6	6	5	5	4	6
Mass.	5	6	9	10	13	15	20	20	16	11	7	6	12
R.I.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Conn.	4	5	6	7	9	13	17	15	8	7	5	4	8
N.Eng.	22	25	30	36	46	53	65	63	76	37	27	24	42
N.Y.	29	30	34	43	48	68	67	67	74	48	32	29	47
N.J.	8	8	9	17	25	29	35	33	23	14	9	8	18
Pa.	17	17	19	24	29	44	38	42	39	30	23	16	28
M.Atl.	54	55	62	84	102	141	140	142	136	92	64	53	93
Ohio	13	14	24	32	34	60	48	55	55	41	24	11	34
Ind.	9	11	12	24	25	40	42	32	40	45	16	10	26
Ill.	28	29	40	51	61	85	69	48	55	56	36	23	48
Mich.	22	20	21	31	36	74	73	76	51	44	25	18	41
Wis.	15	21	23	26	26	37	38	43	49	31	22	17	28
E.N.Cent.	87	95	120	164	182	296	270	254	240	217	123	79	177
Minn.	12	17	19	26	33	86	90	63	40	26	16	10	36
Iowa	14	16	19	22	35	79	100	66	48	42	26	12	40
Mo.	13	16	20	24	36	65	51	55	71	58	17	12	36
N.Dak.	5	6	7	13	17	23	38	35	24	14	8	5	16
S.Dak.	4	5	6	7	8	18	22	21	13	11	6	5	11
Nebr.	7	9	13	20	26	34	46	34	27	22	11	7	22
Kans.	7	10	14	16	23	50	57	36	26	16	10	7	23
W.N.Cent.	62	79	98	128	178	355	404	310	249	189	94	58	184
Del.	2	2	3	5	7	7	9	7	6	4	4	2	5
Md.	10	9	13	14	21	29	25	24	17	15	12	9	17
Va.	25	25	35	37	41	91	100	74	72	55	38	18	51
W.Va.	6	6	9	12	12	22	12	11	12	9	7	6	10
N.C.	29	40	53	69	88	184	328	250	146	104	82	21	116
S.C.	20	27	38	50	64	80	103	87	74	53	31	19	54
Ga.	19	25	34	40	57	56	58	64	84	50	48	20	46
Fla.	90	103	101	96	75	54	51	53	58	70	84	88	77
S.Atl.	201	237	286	323	365	523	686	570	469	360	306	183	376
Ky.	17	18	35	41	49	91	83	95	94	54	43	18	53
Tenn.	18	27	38	46	58	75	78	80	105	96	47	13	57
Ala.	15	18	22	36	42	27	25	31	65	68	37	13	33
Miss.	18	26	43	71	98	82	45	61	149	114	48	20	65
E.S.Cent.	68	89	138	194	247	275	231	267	413	332	175	64	208
Ark.	20	46	61	88	114	108	117	124	144	123	53	13	84
La.	16	31	45	52	63	66	71	96	116	97	41	15	59
Okla.	8	12	15	20	32	30	39	43	43	38	19	10	26
Tex.	67	75	86	140	145	173	225	207	258	227	109	60	148
W.S.Cent.	111	164	207	300	354	377	452	470	561	465	222	98	317
Mont.	4	5	8	12	14	21	28	19	15	10	7	5	12
Idaho	6	7	10	15	23	35	40	33	27	23	13	6	20
Wyo.	2	4	4	6	7	11	11	8	7	7	5	3	6
Colo.	6	7	8	10	13	32	28	25	31	28	10	6	17
N.Mex.	7	6	10	9	9	15	20	16	20	30	19	11	14
Ariz.	27	28	30	31	33	31	25	24	30	33	37	33	30
Utah	4	4	5	6	13	17	15	12	14	9	5	2	9
Nev.	1	1	1	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	1	2
Mount.	57	62	76	92	115	165	169	139	147	143	98	67	110
Wash.	12	16	25	39	41	85	67	61	47	39	18	15	39
Oreg.	10	15	19	23	35	65	56	70	31	23	13	9	29
Calif.	180	171	163	159	204	229	228	225	290	282	168	164	205
Pac.	202	202	207	221	280	379	351	356	368	344	199	188	273
U.S.	864	1008	1224	1542	1869	2564	2768	2571	2659	2199	1308	814	1780

1/ Persons employed during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE
AGRICULTURAL ESTIMATES DIVISION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

SPECIAL IN THIS ISSUE

Revised Farm Employment Estimates, 48 States,
1963, By Months and Annual Averages

	Page
Comments	1 - 2
Farm employment, wage rates, and indexes, United States	3
Workers on Farms, February 1964	4
Total Workers on Farms, 1963, by months	5
Family Workers on Farms 1963, by months	6
Hired Workers on Farms, 1963, by months	7