farm labor

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Winter Wheat Harvest Progressing Rapidly

The Nation's farm labor force for the survey week of June 20-26 is estimated at 5,250,000 workers, down 3½ percent from a year ago. The farm work force consisted of 3,603,000 farm operators and unpaid family members and 1,648,000 hired workers.

Farmworkers averaged 40.1 hours during the June survey week compared with 41.2 hours in May. Farm operators worked an average of 48.6 hours; other unpaid family members, 34.0; and hired hands, 33.6 hours during the June week.

Farm operators reported wage rates on July 1, 1971, were up 4 percent from a year earlier. The average cash rate without board and room rose to $1.74 per hour from $1.66 on July 1, 1970. Monthly, weekly and daily rates were up similarly. The seasonally adjusted national index reached 1,127 on the 1910-14 base and 133 on the 1967 base. This is an increase of 5 percent from a year earlier.

Hot, dry weather pushed the small grain harvest in the Great Plains. Winter wheat harvest ranged from nearly complete in Oklahoma to just starting in southern Nebraska. The Texas wheat harvest was 73 percent complete and behind 1970. Winter wheat harvest started in Indiana and a third of the acreage was cut in Illinois and Missouri. Barley was nearly ready for harvest in the Northeast.

Spring seeded grains made rapid progress. Most of the acreage was headed in South Dakota. Hail and wind damaged grainfields in localized parts of the Dakotas, Nebraska, and Montana, and lodging occurred in Wisconsin. Aphids are causing some concern to wheat and barley growers in Washington.

The 1971 corn crop continued to make rapid growth in the Corn Belt. Most of the crop was off to a fast start and was well above knee-high long before the 4th of July. Some fields were showing stress from the hot temperatures and drying winds. Moisture was becoming short in several areas and a general rain would be beneficial. Ninety-five percent of the acreage in both Iowa and Illinois is rated good to excellent. Extensive corn borer infestations were developing in southeastern South Dakota, eastern Nebraska and western Iowa. Corn also made good growth in the South. Moisture was adequate and cooler temperatures limited evaporation. Silking started in many States, with some Louisiana fields beginning to form ears.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD
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Soybeans made good progress. Some replanting was necessary in Illinois and hail hit parts of north central Iowa during the week of June 21-27. Soybeans were 85 to 90 percent planted in the South. Recent plantings in Alabama need rain to improve germination.

Warm temperatures and showers in late June improved the cotton outlook in the South. Bolls were starting to set in early planted fields. Planting was nearing completion in Texas but heavy weevil and fleahopper damage was noted in the extreme southern and eastern areas. Favorable conditions accelerated growth in California and Arizona.

Flue-cured tobacco harvest started in North Carolina and 15 percent of Georgia's crop was in by the last week of June. Harvest was in full swing in Florida. In Kentucky growth was rapid but irregular. Transplanting was still active in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Peach harvest was widespread in the South with picking active as far north as Maryland. Georgia peach growers had 25 percent of their crop picked. Sweet cherry picking started in New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Oregon; picking continues in Washington. Some orchards in northern Washington have a high percentage of hail-marked apples. The June apple drop in New England is normal, with the set also good in New York. Rain enhanced citrus prospects in Texas; however, only fair prospects exist for the pecan crop. Fruit and nut crops developed favorably in California under warm weather.

Dry soils continue to plague vegetable growth in Michigan. New England and New Jersey growers were irrigating where water was available. Tomato picking started as far north as Tennessee. Strawberry harvest was underway in Michigan's northern Lower Peninsula.

Farm employment represents number of family and hired labor working during the survey week. Family labor includes farm operators working on farms one hour or more plus other family members working 15 hours or more without receiving cash wages during survey week. Hired workers include all persons working one hour or more for cash wages during the survey week. These data should not be confused with the data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The BLS data are derived from a household survey where each member 16 year of age and older is classified as performing farm or nonfarm work on the basis of major activity during the survey week.

Farm employment and indexes, June 1971, with comparisons, United States

Item	Annual average 1969	Annual average 1970	June 22-28 1969	June 21-27 1970	June 20-26 1971
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/					
(Thousands)					
Total	4,595.8	4,522.6	5,238.7	5,439.5	5,250.4
Family labor	3,419.4	3,348.1	3,660.1	3,699.5	3,602.8
Hired labor	1,176.4	1,174.5	1,578.6	1,740.0	1,647.6
INDEXES 2/					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	34	33	33	34	33
Family labor	34	33	33	33	33
Hired labor	35	35	33	36	34
(1967=100)					
Total	94	92	90	93	91
Family labor	94	92	92	92	92
Hired labor	92	92	87	95	89

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.

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Farm Wage Rates and Indexes, July 1, 1971, United States

Item	Annual average 1970	July 1, 1969	July 1, 1970	July 1, 1971
FARM WAGE RATES				
Composite rate per hour 1/	$ 1.42	$ 1.29	$ 1.38	$ 1.44
Per month with house	328	319	340	349
Per month with board and room	251	232	249	261
Per week with board and room	60.75	58.50	63.00	66.50
Per week without board or room	78.00	75.75	81.75	84.50
Per day with house	9.80	8.80	9.70	10.20
Per day with board and room	10.70	10.50	11.00	11.50
Per day without board or room	11.70	10.80	11.60	12.10
Per hour with house	1.50	1.45	1.52	1.61
Per hour without board or room	1.64	1.58	1.66	1.74
INDEXES 2/				
(1910-14=100)	1,092	1,010	1,078	1,127
(1967=100)	129	119	127	133

1/ Weighted average of all rates on a per hour basis. Composite rate does not include piece rate workers.
2/ Indexes are adjusted for seasonal variation.

Workers on Farms, June 1971

State and division	June 1969 Week of 22-28			June 1970 Week of 21-27			June 1971 Week of 20-26		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	Thousands								
Maine	21.6	14	7.6	23.1	15	8.1	21.1	13	8.1
N. H.	8.2	5.3	2.9	7.4	4.8	2.6	7.5	4.8	2.7
Vt.	15.9	12	3.9	15.6	12	3.6	14.6	11	3.6
Mass.	23	12	11	19.8	11	8.8	20.1	11	9.1
R. I.	2.5	1.5	1.0	2.2	1.4	.8	2.2	1.4	.8
Conn.	18.0	8.5	9.5	15.6	7.6	8.0	14	7.7	6.3
N. Eng.	89.2	53.3	35.9	83.7	51.8	31.9	79.5	48.9	30.6
N. Y.	107	76	31	109	77	32	109	76	33
N. J.	28	11	17	27	10	17	25	10	15
Pa.	134	110	24	144	115	29	138	112	26
M. Atl.	269	197	72	280	202	78	272	198	74
Ohio	165	146	19	174	144	30	170	142	28
Ind.	130	116	14	146	123	23	144	125	19
Ill.	181	151	30	195	157	38	195	156	39
Mich.	148	123	25	162	135	27	163	123	40
Wis.	207	188	19	214	190	24	203	182	21
E. N. Cent.	831	724	107	891	749	142	875	728	147
Minn.	219	186	33	223	184	39	218	183	35
Iowa	251	207	44	266	209	57	274	204	70
Mo.	199	164	35	214	170	44	220	174	46
N. Dak.	72	58	14	72	58	14	68	53	15
S. Dak.	77	66	11	84	70	14	80	66	14
Nebr.	127	103	24	130	109	21	138	111	27
Kans.	129	102	27	144	107	37	143	105	38
W. N. Cent.	1,074	886	188	1,133	907	226	1,141	896	245
Del.	9.0	5.0	4.0	9.0	5.0	4.0	9.0	5.0	4.0
Md.	38	26	12	39	27	12	39	28	11
Va.	138	84	54	132	84	48	140	79	61
W. Va.	47	36	11	47	36	11	47	36	11
N. C.	309	203	106	310	201	109	289	194	95
S. C.	104	69	35	93	64	29	93	63	30
Ga.	104	80	24	112	78	34	98	76	22
Fla.	102	34	68	98	30	68	103	32	71
S. Atl.	851	537	314	840	525	315	818	513	305
Ky.	169	126	43	181	130	51	178	126	52
Tenn.	137	102	35	172	122	50	167	121	46
Ala.	94	69	25	89	67	22	83	62	21
Miss.	121	97	24	142	103	39	130	95	35
E. S. Cent.	521	394	127	584	422	162	558	404	154
Ark.	160	89	71	170	83	87	148	80	68
La.	96	56	40	90	51	39	80	46	34
Okla.	152	131	21	157	122	35	158	125	33
Texas	355	227	128	344	219	125	309	212	97
W. S. Cent.	763	503	260	761	475	286	695	463	232
Mont.	52	32	20	47	29	18	51	32	19
Idaho	61	39	22	60	38	22	61	39	22
Wyo.	20	11	9.0	21	12	9.0	20	10	10
Colo.	73	39	34	81	43	38	69	39	30
N. Mex.	25	15	10	25	16	9.0	21	13	8.0
Ariz.	40	7.0	33	37	7.0	30	38	7.0	31
Utah	30	20	10	29	20	9.0	29	19	10
Nev.	5.5	2.8	2.7	5.8	2.7	3.1	5.9	2.9	3.0
Mount.	306.5	165.8	140.7	305.8	167.7	138.1	294.9	161.9	133
Wash.	118	62	56	125	66	59	124	63	61
Oreg.	116	58	58	118	56	62	80	54	26
Calif.	300	80	220	318	78	240	313	73	240
Pac.	534	200	334	561	200	361	517	190	327
U. S.	5,238.7	3,660.1	1,578.6	5,439.5	3,699.5	1,740.0	5,250.4	3,602.8	1,647.6

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

Farm work: Weekly hours worked per worker

State and division	Average for reporting farms - week of June 20-26, 1971				
	Farm operators	Other family members 1/	All family 1/	Hired workers	All workers 1/
	Hours				
Maine	52.1	37.6	47.0	30.8	40.0
N. H.	60.5	33.3	52.8	40.3	47.2
Vt.	64.4	36.2	53.2	43.7	49.7
Mass.	57.2	38.8	50.0	41.1	46.4
R. I.	47.3	21.5	40.9	52.3	46.6
Conn.	59.1	36.7	51.1	44.5	48.4
N. Eng.	57.6	36.5	50.0	39.6	45.7
N. Y.	62.4	34.0	51.2	38.4	46.6
N. J.	47.8	26.0	38.6	27.3	34.0
Pa.	55.5	32.7	47.0	28.5	41.5
M. Atl.	57.9	32.8	48.2	32.7	42.9
Ohio	51.2	33.8	45.7	22.9	37.0
Ind.	45.6	34.0	42.3	22.0	36.8
Ill.	50.1	36.4	46.7	27.2	41.7
Mich.	52.9	38.0	48.2	33.9	43.2
Wis.	60.1	36.0	49.7	40.8	47.9
E. N. Cent.	52.0	35.6	46.5	29.5	41.7
Minn.	59.8	36.1	50.6	30.5	46.0
Iowa	59.6	33.1	50.0	24.3	42.1
Mo.	49.5	31.9	44.4	28.4	39.9
N. Dak.	58.1	40.5	51.2	36.4	48.1
S. Dak.	62.0	39.0	53.3	40.8	50.8
Nebr.	64.1	31.6	50.8	31.1	46.7
Kans.	59.7	43.6	54.4	36.9	49.2
W. N. Cent.	58.0	35.5	49.9	30.3	44.8
Del.	41.8	35.5	39.5	43.5	41.0
Md.	49.7	35.3	43.7	35.4	41.2
Va.	42.8	37.1	41.3	28.4	35.1
W. Va.	45.0	30.6	40.2	17.8	32.5
N. C.	38.6	30.9	35.9	28.0	32.8
S. C.	39.6	32.9	37.6	25.2	30.9
Ga.	38.0	31.8	36.2	24.7	31.1
Fla.	40.2	30.5	36.8	25.3	30.1
S. Atl.	40.3	32.5	37.7	27.0	32.9
Ky.	41.0	30.8	38.0	22.7	31.4
Tenn.	37.2	32.1	35.8	22.0	30.9
Ala.	35.6	30.6	34.3	27.5	31.9
Miss.	39.6	36.9	38.8	36.3	37.4
E. S. Cent.	38.5	32.5	36.8	26.2	32.7
Ark.	40.4	40.1	40.3	36.4	38.4
La.	34.0	31.3	33.4	37.5	35.1
Okla.	52.9	37.5	47.5	34.5	43.3
Texas	41.2	22.5	35.6	36.5	36.0
W. S. Cent.	42.7	30.3	38.8	36.3	38.1
Mont.	60.0	41.6	52.7	48.9	51.6
Idaho	55.4	41.5	49.3	33.2	45.1
Wyo.	59.0	44.6	54.5	41.9	50.7
Colo.	59.0	39.2	52.8	41.9	47.7
N. Mex.	57.5	34.1	50.9	46.8	49.3
Ariz.	52.7	34.2	48.0	43.6	45.0
Utah	48.9	32.1	42.5	35.6	39.7
Nev.	42.5	31.9	38.8	49.8	44.0
Mount.	56.6	38.9	50.3	41.9	46.9
Wash.	49.2	36.5	45.6	36.9	40.5
Oreg.	45.2	31.7	40.8	33.6	38.4
Calif.	47.5	43.6	46.4	44.3	44.8
Pac.	47.4	38.0	44.6	42.1	42.8
U. S.	48.6	34.0	43.6	33.6	40.1

1/ Includes as "other family" only those farm household members working 15 hours or more per week without receiving cash wages.

Farm Wage Rates, July 1, 1970 1/

State and Division	Per Month		Per Week		Per Day			Per Hour	
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board and room	With house	With board and room	Without board and room	With house	Without board and room
	Dollars								
Maine	305	240	63.00	90.00			15.00		1.75
N. H.	330	255	67.00	90.00			15.50		1.86
Vt.	335	255	68.00	89.00			15.50		1.86
Mass.	370	265	70.00	97.00			15.70		1.90
R. I.	370	265	69.00	97.00			15.70		1.90
Conn.	360	265	69.00	97.00			15.70		1.90
N. Eng.	347	258	67.75	94.00			15.50		1.86
N. Y.	353	235	68.50	90.25			13.50		1.72
N. J.	375	275	70.00	90.00			15.50		1.92
Pa.	310	234	61.75	81.00			12.10		1.61
M. Atl.	344	244	66.75	87.25			13.50		1.73
Ohio	300	227				10.80	12.50		1.55
Ind.	285	216				10.70	13.40		1.68
Ill.	336	260				12.00	15.00		1.78
Mich.	382	273				12.00	14.20		1.72
Wis.	350	254				11.50	14.10		1.75
E. N. Cent.	336	250				11.50	14.00		1.71
Minn.	332	253				12.10	14.50		1.68
Iowa	380	305				13.30	15.90		1.80
Mo.	273	204				9.80	12.50		1.55
N. Dak.	326	271				11.70	14.70		1.58
S. Dak.	326	262				11.20	13.40		1.53
Nebr.	369	278				12.20	15.30		1.69
Kans.	339	266				11.80	14.40		1.65
W. N. Cent.	337	263				11.80	14.50		1.66
Del.	260						11.50		1.51
Md.	265	180	56.00	70.00			12.00		1.55
Va.					8.80		10.90		1.37
W. Va.							9.10		1.25
N. C.					9.20		10.70		1.33
S. C.					7.70		8.80		1.18
Ga.					8.40		9.40		1.31
Fla.					9.90		11.30		1.41
S. Atl.					9.10		10.60		1.34
Ky.					7.50		9.90		1.37
Tenn.					7.70		9.40		1.23
Ala.					7.80		8.60		1.19
Miss.					8.50		9.50		1.25
E. S. Cent.					7.80		9.40		1.27
Ark.					11.00		11.70		1.33
La.					9.30		10.20		1.27
Okla.					11.40		12.90		1.52
Texas					10.90		12.00		1.36
W. S. Cent.					10.70		11.70		1.35
Mont.	330	270					13.80		1.61
Idaho	380	290					14.40		1.65
Wyo.	353	257					13.60		1.58
Colo.	338	248					14.00		1.67
N. Mex.	300	220					11.80		1.30
Ariz.	397	270					14.90		1.51
Utah	330	260					12.80		1.64
Nev.	330	215					12.80		1.69
Mount.	355	262					14.00		1.58
Wash.	430	330						1.87	1.95
Oregon	380	310						1.64	1.71
Calif.	460	330						1.81	1.90
Pac.	441	327						1.79	1.88
U. S.	340	249	63.00	81.75	9.70	11.00	11.60	1.52	1.66

1/ Average rates paid on crop and livestock reporters' farms or in their localities for arrangements specified above. U. S. averages include estimates for unpublished State rates of small importance.

Farm Wage Rates, July 1, 1971 1/

State and division	Per month		Per week		Per day			Per hour	
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board and room	With house	With board and room	Without board and room	With house	Without board and room
	Dollars								
Maine	320	270	70.00	90.00			15.00		1.75
N. H.	350	280	75.00	95.00			16.00		1.90
Vt.	350	270	70.00	100.00			15.50		1.95
Mass.	400	300	75.00	100.00			17.00		1.95
R. I.	390	290	75.00	101.00			17.00		2.00
Conn.	380	290	80.00	100.00			17.00		2.00
N. Eng.	365	285	74.50	97.25			16.30		1.91
N. Y.	380	255	70.75	94.00			15.20		1.87
N. J.	380	280	71.00	91.00			16.00		1.94
Pa.	310	246	67.75	83.00			13.00		1.67
M. Atl.	354	257	69.75	89.25			14.60		1.81
Ohio	311	237				10.80	13.40		1.66
Ind.	295	199				10.60	13.40		1.74
Ill.	364	264				12.70	15.70		1.87
Mich.	415	299				11.60	14.50		1.85
Wis.	367	279				11.60	14.40		1.83
E. N. Cent.	352	257				11.60	14.40		1.80
Minn.	348	272				12.90	15.60		1.79
Iowa	386	307				14.10	17.00		1.88
Mo.	284	204				10.25	12.50		1.70
N. Dak.	337	279				12.80	16.20		1.67
S. Dak.	329	266				11.50	14.00		1.59
Nebr.	389	291				13.70	16.90		1.79
Kans.	352	273				12.50	15.10		1.74
W. N. Cent.	347	269				12.60	15.30		1.77
Del.	270						12.50		1.66
Md.	275	190	57.00	73.00			12.90		1.69
Va.					9.50		11.10		1.45
W. Va.							9.60		1.30
N. C.					9.90		11.10		1.45
S. C.					8.80		10.00		1.26
Ga.					9.20		10.30		1.39
Fla.					10.80		11.50		1.35
S. Atl.					9.90		11.00		1.41
Ky.					8.00		10.60		1.47
Tenn.					8.60		10.10		1.34
Ala.					8.50		9.30		1.29
Miss.					9.10		9.85		1.30
E. S. Cent.					8.50		10.10		1.36
Ark.					11.60		12.10		1.42
La.					10.10		10.60		1.36
Okla.					11.40		13.20		1.57
Texas					11.50		12.70		1.48
W. S. Cent.					11.30		12.30		1.46
Mont.	360	285					14.60		1.71
Idaho	400	320					14.40		1.80
Wyo.	342	256					13.00		1.74
Colo.	365	273					14.90		1.74
N. Mex.	310	240					12.10		1.35
Ariz.	410	290					14.50		1.55
Utah	340	290					13.50		1.72
Nev.	350	270					14.00		1.80
Mount.	373	284					14.30		1.68
Wash.	440	340						2.00	1.95
Oreg.	366	288						1.86	1.80
Calif.	445	330						1.88	1.96
Pac.	431	324						1.90	1.93
U. S.	349	261	66.50	84.50	10.20	11.50	12.10	1.61	1.74

1/ Average rates paid on crop and livestock reporters' farms or in their localities for arrangements specified above. U. S. averages include estimates for unpublished State rates of small importance.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

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