farm labor

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SMALL GRAIN HARVEST NEARLY COMPLETE

The Nation's farm labor force for the survey week of September 17-23 was estimated at 5,102,500 workers or about 6,000 fewer than a year ago. The farm work force consisted of 3,660,000 farm operators and unpaid family members and 1,442,500 hired workers.

Farmworkers averaged 38.3 hours during the September survey week, compared with 37.4 hours in August. Farm operators worked an average of 43.5 hours; other unpaid family members, 32.0; and hired hands worked 34.3 during the September week.

Farm operators reported wage rates on October 1, 1972 were up about 7 percent from a year earlier. The average cash rate without board and room rose to $1.82 per hour from $1.70 on October 1, 1971. Monthly, weekly, and daily rates were up similarly. The seasonally adjusted farm wage rate index reached 147 on the 1967 base, an increase of 7 percent from a year earlier.

Planting of the 1973 winter wheat crop advanced rapidly during the survey week of September 17-23 in the southern Great Plains States. North Dakota farmers continued to wind up their small grain harvest, but were slowed by poor drying conditions. Silo filling with corn silage was in full swing in the northern half of the Nation. Corn harvesting in the Southern States was gaining momentum and early harvesting of mature fields was starting in the Corn Belt.

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 years of age and older is classified as performing farm or nonfarm work on the basis of major activity during the survey week.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD
La 1 (10-72) WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

Combining of soybeans had also started in the Corn Belt. However, maturity of the crop continued to lag behind normal. Some light harvest had begun in the Southern States.

Cotton harvesting had started in most producing areas and should soon become more active. The burley tobacco harvest was active in western North Carolina and winding up in Kentucky and Tennessee.

Potato digging was rapidly increasing in Idaho and active in Aroostook County, Maine. The sugarbeet harvest was increasing in California and just starting in Washington.

Apple picking was active and widespread in Northern orchards. Cranberry harvest was underway in Massachusetts and New Jersey. Grape harvesting continued in California and was just starting in the Finger Lakes area of New York.

Vegetable harvesting continued with wet fields plaguing farmers in Michigan and Wisconsin. New York needs an extended season to complete harvest of sweet corn, snap beans, cabbage, and tomatoes. Harvest of late summer vegetables was seasonally active in California. Planting of fall vegetables was active in Florida.

Farm employment and indexes, September 1972, with comparisons, United States

Item	Annual average 1970	Annual average 1971	September 20-26, 1970	September 19-25, 1971	September 17-23, 1972
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/					
(Thousands)					
Total	4,522.6	4,445.9	5,310.5	5,108.9	5,102.5
Family labor	3,348.1	3,281.4	3,765.1	3,669.4	3,660.0
Hired labor	1,174.5	1,164.5	1,545.4	1,439.5	1,442.5
INDEXES 2/					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	33	33	31	30	30
Family labor	33	33	31	31	30
Hired labor	35	34	31	29	29
(1967=100)					
Total	92	92	85	83	81
Family labor	92	89	86	86	83
Hired labor	92	89	82	76	76

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, October 1, 1972, United States

Item	Annual average 1971	October 1, 1970	October 1, 1971	October 1, 1972
FARM WAGE RATES				
Composite rate per hour 1/	$ 1.48	$ 1.46	$ 1.54	$ 1.65
Per month with house	340	325	338	363
Per month with board and room	263	250	262	282
Per week with board and room	64.50	61.25	3/66.50	69.00
Per week without board or room	81.00	76.50	80.50	86.25
Per day with house	10.30	10.10	10.60	11.50
Per day with board and room	11.20	10.50	11.10	12.00
Per day without board or room	12.20	12.20	12.80	13.90
Per hour with house	1.56	1.65	1.72	1.81
Per hour without board or room	1.73	1.61	1.70	1.82
INDEXES 2/				
(1910-14=100)	1,138	1,107	1,170	1,249
(1967=100)	134	131	138	147

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.
3/ Revised.

Workers on Farms, September 1972 1/

State and division	September 1970 Week of 20-26			September 1971 Week of 19-25			September 1972 Week of 17-23		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	Thousands								
Maine	38.	13	25	37	12	25	37.	13	24.
N. H.	8.5	4.9	3.6	7.9	4.6	3.3	7.8	4.9	2.9
Vt.	15.7	11	4.7	14.8	11	3.8	14.2	10	4.2
Mass.	21	10	11	20.4	10	10.4	18.6	9.1	9.5
R. I.	2.0	1.3	.7	2.0	1.3	.7	1.8	1.0	.8
Conn.	14.3	7.9	6.4	12.4	6.8	5.6	12.7	7.3	5.4
N. Eng.	99.5	48.1	51.4	94.5	45.7	48.8	92.1	45.3	46.8
N. Y.	123	84	39	122	83	39	116	80	36
N. J.	24	10	14	23	9.0	14	26	10	16
Pa.	128	104	24	122	103	19	122	102	20
M. Atl.	275	198	77	267	195	72	264	192	72
Ohio	159	125	34	157	127	30	161	128	33
Ind.	134	119	15	136	120	16	137	121	16
Ill.	164	140	24	169	142	27	170	143	27
Mich.	143	117	26	138	109	29	144	114	30
Wis.	204	178	26	195	168	27	187	158	29
E. N. Cent.	804	679	125	795	666	129	799	664	135
Minn.	191	172	19	197	170	27	186	164	22
Iowa	217	190	27	234	197	37	209	182	27
Mo.	226	179	47	229	178	51	220	170	50
N. Dak.	73	60	13	73	58	15	72	58	14
S. Dak.	76	66	10	72	63	9.0	71	61	10
Nebr.	104	91	13	116	101	15	105	91	14
Kans.	114	103	11	120	107	13	126	111	15
W. N. Cent.	1,001	861	140	1,041	874	167	989	837	152
Del.	9.0	5.0	4.0	7.0	4.0	3.0	7.0	4.0	3.0
Md.	35	25	10	34	24	10	33	23	10
Va.	135	97	38	128	90	38	127	91	36
W. Va.	42	37	5.0	40	35	5.0	38	34	4.0
N. C.	288	229	59	266	211	55	265	220	45
S. C.	102	76	26	91	71	20	87	67	20
Ga.	137	109	28	126	104	22	128	105	23
Fla.	97	42	55	97	42	55	102	47	55
S. Atl.	845	620	225	789	581	208	787	591	196
Ky.	195	144	51	198	144	54	182	137	45
Tenn.	199	154	45	189	155	34	189	153	36
Ala.	125	97	28	112	91	21	111	93	18
Miss.	187	130	57	160	112	48	163	120	43
E. S. Cent.	706	525	181	659	502	157	645	503	142
Ark.	163	96	67	164	98	66	160	100	60
La.	111	65	46	107	65	42	118	65	53
Okla.	130	110	20	130	110	20	139	114	25
Texas	355	210	145	286	188	98	338	206	132
W. S. Cent.	759	481	278	687	461	226	755	485	270
Mont.	44	32	12	44	32	12	48	33	15
Idaho	59	40	19	57	41	16	57	40	17
Wyo.	18	11	7.0	18	12	6.0	18	12	6.0
Colo.	75	39	36	68	36	32	73	40	33
N. Mex.	26	16	10	26	16	10	25	15	10
Ariz.	34	7.0	27	34	7.0	27	34	7.0	27
Utah	34	23	11	30	21	9.0	26	20	6.0
Nev.	6.0	3.0	3.0	5.4	2.7	2.7	5.4	2.7	2.7
Mount.	296	171	125	282.4	167.7	114.7	286.4	169.7	116.7
Wash.	105	57	48	88	55	33	85	54	31
Oreg.	63	48	15	66	47	19	61	45	16
Calif.	357	77	280	340	75	265	339	74	265
Pac.	525	182	343	494	177	317	485	173	312
U. S.	5,310.5	3,765.1	1,545.4	5,108.9	3,669.4	1,439.5	5,102.5	3,660.0	1,442.5

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: Average for reporting farms, week of September 17-23, 1972

State and division	Farm Operators	Other Family Members 1/	All Family 1/	Hired Workers	All Workers 1/
Maine	58.3	32.0	48.7	37.1	45.2
N. H.	62.2	32.1	52.7	33.9	44.9
Vt.	60.5	37.1	52.0	42.9	48.4
Mass.	59.6	33.7	50.9	35.9	44.2
R. I.	51.9	35.0	48.6	26.7	38.8
Conn.	59.1	38.3	51.6	41.9	47.7
N. Eng.	59.4	34.4	50.7	37.6	45.7
N. Y.	58.8	34.4	50.4	38.1	46.5
N. J.	43.2	32.1	40.3	29.6	37.9
Pa.	51.1	30.8	44.5	34.2	42.2
M. Atl.	53.8	32.4	46.7	35.1	43.7
Ohio	42.7	32.3	39.7	26.8	35.9
Ind.	37.7	30.9	36.0	25.7	34.2
Ill.	41.6	31.0	39.3	30.7	37.6
Mich.	49.1	36.0	45.5	32.5	42.4
Wis.	53.9	32.6	45.9	35.2	43.8
E. N. Cent.	44.8	32.4	41.1	30.5	39.0
Minn.	54.1	32.0	46.8	32.1	44.5
Iowa	51.1	28.6	45.2	29.5	42.4
Mo.	41.9	34.0	40.5	37.1	39.7
N. Dak.	55.6	40.1	50.2	37.1	47.8
S. Dak.	52.3	38.8	48.5	35.8	46.3
Nebr.	51.5	37.0	47.5	38.1	46.0
Kans.	50.3	35.5	46.5	34.3	44.1
W. N. Cent.	50.0	33.7	45.5	34.8	43.5
Del.	41.5	34.0	39.6	33.2	36.8
Md.	37.8	30.0	37.6	32.0	35.9
Va.	41.3	33.8	39.1	29.2	35.2
W. Va.	40.2	29.2	37.3	24.0	35.1
N. C.	35.7	28.5	33.4	25.6	30.3
S. C.	36.6	31.3	35.4	30.4	33.2
Ga.	36.7	26.6	34.3	30.9	33.1
Fla.	40.5	26.7	36.4	33.5	35.0
S. Atl.	37.7	29.4	35.4	30.0	33.0
Ky.	36.8	30.6	35.3	23.7	30.5
Tenn.	33.8	28.9	32.8	20.8	29.2
Ala.	32.8	27.9	31.9	30.0	31.4
Miss.	33.9	29.0	32.8	37.9	35.6
E. S. Cent.	34.5	29.2	33.4	28.1	31.6
Ark.	35.6	30.9	34.5	39.2	36.6
La.	33.3	30.6	32.7	31.7	32.3
Okla.	44.6	31.8	41.1	28.3	38.2
Tex.	41.4	32.1	39.5	33.2	37.2
W. S. Cent.	40.0	31.6	38.1	33.8	36.5
Mont.	53.5	35.0	47.4	44.7	46.6
Idaho	51.6	32.6	45.3	26.4	38.0
Wyo.	55.3	36.5	49.2	42.6	46.7
Colo.	50.8	37.1	46.2	35.0	43.5
N. Mex.	48.3	31.9	43.4	36.4	40.5
Ariz.	42.1	28.8	40.1	43.7	42.1
Utah	43.0	32.4	39.3	28.5	36.4
Nev.	48.6	33.5	45.9	47.7	46.4
Mount.	50.3	34.1	45.1	37.5	42.1
Wash.	45.5	34.3	42.9	34.0	37.9
Oreg.	40.4	31.9	38.0	28.2	35.0
Calif.	44.3	41.7	43.6	41.0	41.5
Pac.	43.6	36.7	41.8	39.6	40.1
U. S.	43.5	32.0	40.3	34.3	38.3

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

Farm Wage Rates, October 1, 1972 1/

State and division	Per Month		Per Week		Per Day			Per Hour	
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	Without board or room
	Dollars								
Maine	330	280	80.00	95.00			15.50		1.80
N. H.	370	290	80.00	100.00			16.50		2.00
Vt.	370	280	75.00	100.00			16.00		2.00
Mass.	420	310	80.00	105.00			17.50		2.00
R. I.	410	290	80.00	105.00			17.50		2.05
Conn.	410	300	80.00	100.00			17.00		2.00
N. Eng.	367	290	79.50	98.50			16.30		1.90
N. Y.	380	260	2/73.00	95.00			15.20		1.87
N. J.	375	275	70.00	90.00			16.00		1.95
Pa.	308	235	65.00	78.50			12.90		1.69
M. Atl.	357	255	2/70.00	89.00			14.60		1.83
Ohio	2/318	240				2/11.20	13.20		1.71
Ind.	312	231				11.00	13.90		1.79
Ill.	350	266				12.40	15.30		1.87
Mich.	2/400	2/290	75.00	2/100.00			15.00		1.86
Wis.	364	274				12.10	14.80		1.87
E. N. Cent.	2/350	2/262				11.80	14.40		1.82
Minn.	349	275				13.10	15.70		1.85
Iowa	380	307				14.20	16.50		1.90
Mo.	292	222				11.00	13.50		1.75
N. Dak.	341	278				12.70	15.80		1.77
S. Dak.	331	259				11.30	14.20		1.59
Nebr.	382	292				12.70	16.10		1.80
Kans.	354	273				11.80	14.90		1.74
W. N. Cent.	337	264				12.30	15.00		1.79
Del.	270						12.00		1.66
Md.	275	200	57.00	73.00			12.10		1.72
Va.					10.00		11.70		1.45
W. Va.							9.80		1.35
N. C.					9.90		11.30		1.44
S. C.					8.70		10.00		1.30
Ga.					9.30		10.50		1.42
Fla.					10.50		12.00		1.42
S. Atl.					9.80		11.30		1.43
Ky.					8.50		12.00		1.79
Tenn.					8.50		10.40		1.39
Ala.					8.70		9.80		1.33
Miss.					9.10		9.90		1.30
E. S. Cent.					8.70		10.60		1.46
Ark.					11.95		12.70		1.46
La.					10.20		10.90		1.36
Okla.					11.50		13.10		1.59
Texas					12.40		13.10		1.50
W. S. Cent.					11.90		12.60		1.47
Mont.	360	285					15.00		1.75
Idaho	390	310					15.30		1.84
Wyo.	352	250					13.00		1.72
Colo.	346	259					14.80		1.76
N. Mex.	320	240					12.30		1.40
Ariz.	415	280					14.70		1.60
Utah	375	2/300					14.00		1.80
Nev.	350	270					14.00		1.80
Mount.	370	2/276					14.50		1.71
Wash.	450	350						1.95	2.05
Oregon	393	287						1.81	1.86
Calif.	455	340						1.90	1.99
Pac.	452	339						1.90	1.99
U. S.	338	262	2/66.50	80.50	10.60	11.10	12.80	1.72	1.70

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

Farm Wage Rates, October 1, 1972 1/

State and division	Per month		Per week		Per day			Per hour	
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	Without board or room
	Dollars								
Maine	340	290	70.00	100.00			16.00		1.90
N. H.	370	300	80.00	105.00			17.50		2.10
Vt.	400	310	80.00	95.00			16.50		2.05
Mass.	410	300	85.00	110.00			18.50		2.15
R. I.	410	300	85.00	110.00			18.00		2.10
Conn.	410	300	85.00	110.00			18.00		2.10
N. Eng.	371	296	76.50	103.25			16.90		2.01
N. Y.	395	285	75.00	97.00			15.50		1.95
N. J.	385	285	75.00	95.00			17.00		2.09
Pa.	332	252	63.75	81.25			13.90		1.78
M. Atl.	377	276	72.00	92.50			15.40		1.93
Ohio	333	250				11.40	14.30		1.79
Ind.	320	230				10.90	15.50		1.85
Ill.	380	280				13.30	16.30		2.00
Mich.	420	320	82.00	105.00			17.50		1.99
Wisc.	398	305				12.70	16.20		1.96
E. N. Cent.	375	282				12.60	16.00		1.92
Minn.	369	292				13.90	16.70		1.92
Iowa	412	333				15.10	18.10		2.02
Mo.	320	230				11.00	15.00		1.80
N. Dak.	359	306				14.20	17.30		1.84
S. Dak.	347	275				12.70	15.40		1.72
Nebr.	402	301				13.40	16.30		1.93
Kans.	382	293				13.20	16.10		1.88
W. N. Cent.	365	283				13.10	16.40		1.89
Del.	275						12.90		1.79
Md.	265	210	57.00	81.00			12.90		1.79
Va.					10.40		12.40		1.59
W. Va.	199	156					10.90		1.37
N. C					10.90		12.60		1.59
S. C.					9.50		10.70		1.40
Ga.					10.00		11.80		1.56
Fla.					12.00		13.50		1.60
S. Atl.					10.80		12.50		1.58
Ky.					9.10		12.60		1.89
Tenn.					9.70		11.80		1.50
Ala.					9.50		10.60		1.45
Miss.					10.50		11.20		1.42
E. S. Cent.					9.70		11.70		1.60
Ark.					12.80		13.20		1.55
La.					10.90		11.60		1.46
Okla.					12.70		14.00		1.69
Texas					12.20		13.20	1.50	1.60
W. S. Cent.					12.20		13.00		1.57
Mont.	385	300					16.80		1.93
Idaho	430	345					16.40		1.98
Wyo.	400	275					14.90		1.83
Colo.	381	273					16.00		1.90
N. Mex.	335	271					12.90		1.51
Ariz.	450	335					15.50		1.70
Utah	365	290					14.30		1.83
Nev.	350	260					14.00		1.85
Mount.	400	302					15.50		1.82
Wash.	475	375						2.05	2.20
Oregon	400	321						1.88	1.96
Calif.	480	340						1.99	2.10
Pac.	475	342						1.99	2.10
U. S.	363	282	69.00	86.25	11.50	12.00	13.90	1.81	1.82

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.

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