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Farm Labor

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Washington, D. C.
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FARM EMPLOYMENT UP SEASONALLY
WAGE RATES HIGHER

About 10,428,000 persons were working on farms during the week of September 23-29, the Crop Reporting Board announced today. Total farm employment showed a seasonal increase from a month earlier but was still about 4 percent less than during the corresponding period a year earlier.

The increase of 1,190,000 workers from a month earlier was a little less than usual. Family workers showed an increase of 15 percent while the number of hired workers was up 8 percent. The average increases from August to September are 16 percent for family workers and 12 percent for hired workers. The decrease of 421,000 workers from a year ago was entirely due to a drop in the number of family workers, as the number of hired workers was slightly larger.

Farm wage rates on October 1 were up 5 percent from a year earlier and 6 percent from July 1 to a record high for this time of year. The farm wage rate index for October 1 this year was 550 compared with 518 a year earlier and 535 for the previous quarter. Apparently farm wage rates are being influenced by increases in wage rates in non-agricultural jobs.

Individual types of wage rates averaged higher than a year ago for all classifications. The monthly rate with house was up $7 to average $161, the daily rate without board or room was up 30 cents to average $6 while the hourly rate without board was up 5 cents to 82 cents.

When compared with the previous quarter, per day with house, per day without board or room, and per hour with house rates averaged higher. The per month

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with board and room rate was unchanged and all other types of rates were lower. These changes are in line with the usual seasonal trends, but the resulting average for all wage rates was up more than usual.

Wage rates as measured by the seasonally adjusted index were up from a year ago on October 1 for all regions. Increases were largest in the South Atlantic, New England, East South Central, and Middle Atlantic States. The average was up least in the Mountain States. Compared with the previous quarter, wage rates were lower in the Mountain States, unchanged in the Pacific States, and higher in all other States. Largest increases were in the East South Central and South Atlantic States.

The weather during the survey week was featured by the hurricane "Flossy" which moved from the Gulf of Mexico at the beginning of the week in a northeasterly direction across the Carolina coast and out to sea. Intensity of the winds decreased as the hurricane moved inland, and most of the damage to farm crops was in Louisiana, Florida, and southern Georgia. Rain accompanying the storm fell from Louisiana to New England, ranging from a heavy fall in the South Atlantic area to less than an inch in southern New England. Most of the rest of the country had dry weather which was ideal for harvesting seasonal crops, but dry soil conditions continued to delay fall seeding operations throughout the southern Great Plains area.

Outside the storm area, farm work progressed well during the week. In the South, cotton picking was the principal activity. Early areas were finished, and progress was ahead of normal in the later areas. Peanut digging was in full swing and farmers were harvesting corn as time was available from the more urgent task of gathering cash crops. Apple picking was well under way in the Appalachian area, and harvest of other seasonal fruit and vegetable crops continued along the eastern seaboard. The storm interfered with farm work during part of the week but did not halt operations for the entire period in any area.

Principal jobs in the North Central States were the combining of soybeans, harvest of late vegetable crops and fall seeding. Harvest of corn was well started in early areas and just beginning in the more northerly sections. Sugar beet digging was under way in the North Central area and also in the West. Apple picking was starting in the Pacific Northwest. Digging of the late potato crop was in progress in this area and in the Mountain States, and farmers were well along with seeding fall grain crops.

In the southern Great Plains, seeding operations were being delayed for lack of rainfall, but farmers were harvesting corn, soybeans, and grain sorghum. Marketing of livestock was on the increase from this area as the shortage of feed and water became more acute.

Fall vegetable crops were being planted in California, Florida, and Texas.

Most of the increase in total farm employment from August to September was in the South this year --as in the past. The East South Central States, with a sharper than usual gain of 64 percent, accounted for over two-thirds of the net increase for the entire country. Substantial but less than usual increases occurred in the West South Central States and the South Atlantic

States with changes of 32 and 5 percent, respectively. The Middle Atlantic States showed the usual moderate seasonal rise. There was a small contra-seasonal increase in the New England States as harvest of fall fruit and vegetable crops reached a peak later than usual. There was a contraseasonal increase in the Mountain States. There was no change in the Pacific States. In the East and West North Central States there was about the usual small seasonal decrease in farm workers from late August to late September.

Compared with a year earlier, there were fewer persons working on farms in all regions except the New England, the East North Central, and the Mountain States. The largest percentage decreases were in the South Atlantic and West South Central States.

The number of family workers was sharply higher than a month earlier, due mostly to the large seasonal gains in the South. The increase in the East South Central States was above average, while the South Atlantic and West South Central States made below average gains. There were the usual small increases in the Mountain and Middle Atlantic States and a small contraseasonal increase in the New England States. A small seasonal decline appeared in the North Central and Pacific States.

There were fewer family workers than a year earlier in all regions except the Mountain and New England States which had small increases. The decreases were generally small, ranging from 1 percent in the Pacific and East North Central States to a high of 11 percent in the South Atlantic States.

Most of the increase in hired farm workers from late August to late September was in the East South Central States. In this region and in the Middle Atlantic States the rise was larger than usual. The West South Central, Pacific, and East North Central States had smaller than usual increases. The Mountain States showed an increase in hired farm workers rather than the small decline which has been usual in recent years. The South Atlantic, West North Central, and New England States all had larger than average drops.

The number of hired workers employed on farms was considerably less than a year ago in the West South Central, South Atlantic, and Pacific States. Decreases ranged from 5 percent in the South Atlantic to 10 percent in the West South Central States. The New England States also had slightly fewer hired farm workers than a year ago. The other five geographic regions had increases which more than offset the losses noted above. The East North Central and Mountain States showed increases of 18 percent over a year ago. Smaller gains were made in the West North Central, Middle Atlantic, and East South Central States.

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Farm employment: Persons employed during week of September 23-29, 1956
United States, with comparisons

	September average 1951-55 1/	September 18-24, 1955	August 19-25, 1956	September 23-29, 1956
FARM EMPLOYMENT (Thousands of persons):				
Total	11,388	10,849	9,238	10,428
Family labor	8,328	7,960	6,533	7,502
Hired labor	3,060	2,889	2,705	2,926
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES (Adjusted for seasonal variation, 1910-14=100)				
Total	63	60	59	57
Family labor	65	62	61	59
Hired labor	56	53	55	54

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

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Farm wage rates: Wage rates, indexes, and related data, October 1, 1956
United States, with comparisons 1/

	July 1, 1955	October 1, 1955	July 1, 1956	October 1, 1956
FARM WAGE RATES				
Per month with house	$163.00	$154.00	$170.00	$161.00
Per month with board and room	125.00	125.00	129.00	129.00
Per week with board and room	30.75	30.50	32.75	32.50
Per week without board or room	39.50	37.50	40.50	39.75
Per day with house	4.15	4.35	4.40	4.60
Per day with board and room	5.90	5.20	6.10	5.50
Per day without board or room	5.30	5.70	5.50	6.00
Per hour with house	.81	.87	.83	.90
Per hour without board or room	.88	.77	.91	.82
Composite rate per hour 2/	.669	.701	.696	.736
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES (1910-14=100)				
Adjusted for seasonal variation	510	518	535	550
RELATED INDEXES (1910-14=100)				
Prices received by farmers 3/	240	232	246	236 *
Ratio of prices received to farm wage rates	47	45	46	43

1/ Wage rates on the average refer to a date 2 or 3 days before the first of the month.
2/ Weighted average of all rates on a per hour basis.
3/ Average of the 15th of the given and the 15th of the previous month.
* September 15, 1956.

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Farm employment: Persons employed during week of September 23-29, 1956, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons

Geographic division	September average 1951-55 1/	August 21-27, 1955	September 18-24, 1955	August 19-25, 1956	September 23-29, 1956
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
	TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT				
United States	11,388	9,602	10,849	9,238	10,428
New England	205	197	200	203	205
Middle Atlantic	684	607	643	598	632
East North Central	1,425	1,399	1,329	1,386	1,360
West North Central	1,837	1,783	1,688	1,740	1,666
South Atlantic	2,184	1,882	2,115	1,824	1,912
East South Central	2,214	1,363	2,130	1,253	2,056
West South Central	1,565	1,137	1,476	1,012	1,335
Mountain	474	497	454	453	492
Pacific	800	737	814	769	770
	FAMILY WORKERS 2/				
United States	8,328	6,876	7,960	6,533	7,502
New England	120	117	115	115	122
Middle Atlantic	450	415	441	398	413
East North Central	1,150	1,169	1,095	1,133	1,085
West North Central	1,510	1,443	1,437	1,400	1,383
South Atlantic	1,708	1,358	1,639	1,282	1,459
East South Central	1,775	1,094	1,701	995	1,597
West South Central	1,011	690	943	621	856
Mountain	271	251	255	250	258
Pacific	333	339	334	339	329
	HIRED WORKERS 3/				
United States	3,060	2,726	2,889	2,705	2,926
New England	85	80	85	88	83
Middle Atlantic	234	192	202	200	219
East North Central	275	230	234	253	275
West North Central	327	340	251	340	283
South Atlantic	476	524	476	542	453
East South Central	439	269	429	258	459
West South Central	554	447	533	391	479
Mountain	203	246	199	203	234
Pacific	467	398	480	430	441

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

2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages.

3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

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Farm employment: Average number of persons employed per month, January through September 1956, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons 1/

Geographic division	1951-55	1953	1954	1955	1956
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
	TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT				
United States	8,684	8,677	8,581	8,309	7,971
New England	175	175	178	171	172
Middle Atlantic	548	550	548	522	501
East North Central	1,348	1,348	1,343	1,293	1,254
West North Central	1,608	1,619	1,576	1,533	1,457
South Atlantic	1,580	1,559	1,562	1,499	1,423
East South Central	1,307	1,311	1,292	1,239	1,179
West South Central	1,116	1,112	1,086	1,068	997
Mountain	379	382	373	365	373
Pacific	623	621	623	619	615
	FAMILY WORKERS 2/				
United States	6,693	6,688	6,586	6,367	6,055
New England	115	116	117	111	111
Middle Atlantic	395	396	397	386	368
East North Central	1,148	1,151	1,140	1,102	1,067
West North Central	1,372	1,382	1,347	1,318	1,253
South Atlantic	1,199	1,186	1,175	1,123	1,049
East South Central	1,090	1,082	1,066	1,020	957
West South Central	811	812	787	757	698
Mountain	238	240	235	226	230
Pacific	325	323	322	324	322
	HIRED WORKERS 3/				
United States	1,991	1,989	1,995	1,942	1,916
New England	60	59	61	60	61
Middle Atlantic	153	154	151	136	133
East North Central	200	197	203	191	187
West North Central	236	237	229	215	204
South Atlantic	381	373	387	376	374
East South Central	217	229	226	219	222
West South Central	305	300	299	311	299
Mountain	141	142	138	139	143
Pacific	298	298	301	295	293

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

2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages.

3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

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Farm wage rates: Wage rates by geographic divisions, October 1, 1956, with comparisons

Geographic division	July 1 1955	October 1, 1955	July 1, 1956	October 1, 1956
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
PER MONTH WITH HOUSE				
New England	172.00	170.00	180.00	181.00
Middle Atlantic	167.00	168.00	177.00	180.00
East North Central	161.00	162.00	170.00	170.00
West North Central	158.00	155.00	165.00	160.00
Mountain	198.00	201.00	202.00	204.00
Pacific	239.00	240.00	249.00	252.00
PER MONTH WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	130.00	130.00	143.00	148.00
Middle Atlantic	120.00	122.00	126.00	127.00
East North Central	124.00	120.00	128.00	126.00
West North Central	129.00	124.00	132.00	126.00
Mountain	153.00	153.00	157.00	154.00
Pacific	189.00	185.00	192.00	193.00
PER WEEK WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	34.25	35.00	38.50	39.50
Middle Atlantic	31.75	33.00	33.75	34.00
PER WEEK WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	47.50	48.75	51.25	53.25
Middle Atlantic	44.50	44.75	45.75	47.25
PER DAY WITH HOUSE				
South Atlantic	4.05	4.00	4.30	4.45
East South Central	3.35	3.55	3.55	3.75
West South Central	4.90	5.10	5.20	5.20
PER DAY WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
East North Central	6.30	6.20	6.50	6.50
West North Central	6.80	6.40	6.90	6.60
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	8.30	8.50	8.80	9.10
Middle Atlantic	7.70	7.80	8.20	8.20
East North Central	7.70	7.70	8.10	8.00
West North Central	8.20	8.00	8.50	8.10
South Atlantic	4.75	4.75	5.10	5.30
East South Central	4.00	4.10	4.20	4.40
West South Central	5.40	5.80	5.70	5.90
Mountain	7.80	7.90	8.20	7.90
PER HOUR WITH HOUSE				
Pacific	1.02	1.01	1.05	1.05
PER HOUR WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	1.03	1.04	1.10	1.11
Middle Atlantic	.98	.98	1.03	1.04
East North Central	1.01	1.01	1.03	1.04
West North Central	1.00	.98	1.02	1.01
South Atlantic	.61	.62	.64	.67
East South Central	.54	.54	.55	.59
West South Central	.65	.69	.68	.72
Mountain	.96	.96	.97	.96
Pacific	1.09	1.10	1.14	1.15

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Farm wage rates: Wage rates by States and regions, October 1, 1955 1/

State and region	Per month		Per week		Per day		Per hour		Composite rate per hour	Indexes of composite rates 1910-14=100 2/
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	Without board and room	With house	Without board or room		
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
Maine	160.00	128.00	36.00	48.50	-	-	8.50	-	1.00	.866	492
N. H.	176.00	134.00	35.50	50.50	-	-	8.40	-	1.00	.874	553
Vt.	156.00	123.00	30.00	42.00	-	-	7.50	-	.98	.800	501
Mass.	186.00	136.00	37.00	53.00	-	-	9.20	-	1.14	.960	603
R. I.	190.00	135.00	37.00	52.00	-	-	9.10	-	1.13	.950	635
Conn.	193.00	132.00	36.00	52.00	-	-	9.10	-	1.15	.956	640
New Eng.	170.00	130.00	35.00	48.75	-	-	8.50	-	1.04	.885	561
N. Y.	172.00	124.00	33.50	46.25	-	-	8.20	-	1.02	.801	479
N. J.	194.00	140.00	37.25	48.50	-	-	8.70	-	1.03	.836	574
Pa.	154.00	112.00	30.50	42.00	-	-	7.10	-	.93	.725	562
Mid. Atl.	168.00	122.00	33.00	44.75	-	-	7.80	-	.98	.775	521
Ohio	153.00	114.00	-	-	-	6.00	7.60	-	1.00	.794	533
Ind.	151.00	114.00	-	-	-	6.00	7.20	-	1.01	.795	554
Ill.	172.00	137.00	-	-	-	6.80	8.20	-	1.03	.845	574
Mich.	185.00	123.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.00	-	1.03	.835	541
Wis.	160.00	121.00	-	-	-	6.10	7.70	-	.98	.793	494
E.N.Cent.	162.00	120.00	-	-	-	6.20	7.70	-	1.01	.808	540
Minn.	150.00	128.00	-	-	-	7.10	8.80	-	1.03	.788	475
Iowa	166.00	140.00	-	-	-	7.50	9.30	-	1.06	.829	500
Mo.	136.00	102.00	-	-	-	5.30	6.50	-	.87	.646	577
N.Dak.	166.00	141.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.30	-	.98	.777	399
S.Dak.	159.00	132.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.40	-	1.02	.783	457
Nebr.	174.00	136.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.70	-	1.03	.801	534
Kans.	168.00	127.00	-	-	-	6.80	8.30	-	1.02	.782	614
W.N.Cent.	155.00	124.00	-	-	-	6.40	8.00	-	.98	.750	522
Del.	-	-	-	-	5.80	-	7.40	-	.90	.809	713
Md.	-	-	-	-	5.50	-	6.90	-	.93	.800	777
Va.	-	-	-	-	4.50	-	5.50	-	.69	.604	651
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	4.30	-	5.00	-	.66	.566	440
N.C.	-	-	-	-	4.35	-	5.10	-	.61	.549	625
S.C.	-	-	-	-	3.15	-	3.80	-	.46	.410	538
Ga.	-	-	-	-	3.45	-	4.10	-	.58	.482	527
Fla.	-	-	-	-	4.70	-	5.20	-	.70	.600	600
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	4.00	-	4.75	-	.62	.537	597
Ky.	-	-	-	-	3.80	-	4.85	-	.69	.634	486
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	3.20	-	4.00	-	.52	.488	432
Ala.	-	-	-	-	3.70	-	4.20	-	.53	.506	492
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.45	-	3.85	-	.52	.489	465
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	3.55	-	4.10	-	.54	.510	470
Ark.	-	-	-	-	4.50	-	4.85	-	.57	.559	488
La.	-	-	-	-	4.15	-	4.55	-	.59	.566	537
Okla.	-	-	-	-	5.90	-	7.10	-	.82	.803	557
Tex.	-	-	-	-	5.40	-	6.20	-	.73	.714	551
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	5.10	-	5.80	-	.69	.674	542
Mont.	199.00	165.00	-	-	-	-	8.30	-	1.09	.906	427
Idaho	219.00	177.00	-	-	-	-	9.40	-	1.10	.956	527
Wyo.	200.00	146.00	-	-	-	-	8.50	-	1.07	.888	440
Colo.	191.00	141.00	-	-	-	-	7.80	-	.97	.819	516
N.Mex.	170.00	122.00	-	-	-	-	6.40	-	.78	.676	540
Ariz.	235.00	160.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	.85	.806	537
Utah	213.00	192.00	-	-	-	-	8.20	-	1.10	.935	562
Nev.	190.00	162.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	1.05	.874	454
Mountain	201.00	153.00	-	-	-	-	7.90	-	.96	.831	496
Wash.	240.00	205.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.14	1.19	1.162	566
Oreg.	215.00	173.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.05	1.10	1.071	528
Calif.	243.00	185.00	-	-	-	-	-	.99	1.09	1.063	492
Pacific	240.00	185.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.01	1.10	1.072	503
U. S.	154.00	125.00	30.50	37.50	4.35	5.20	5.70	.87	.77	.701	518

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.
2/ Adjusted for seasonal variation.

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Farm wage rates: Wage rates by States and regions, October 1, 1956 1/

State and region	Per month		Per week		Per day		Per hour		Composite rate per hour	Indexes of composite rates 1910-14=100 2/
	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		
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
Maine	175.00	142.00	38.00	54.00	-	-	9.20	-	1.06	.934	536
N. H.	180.00	145.00	39.00	52.00	-	-	8.90	-	1.10	.939	600
Vt.	165.00	142.00	35.00	47.00	-	-	8.30	-	1.06	.881	558
Mass.	193.00	155.00	43.50	55.00	-	-	9.60	-	1.19	1.012	642
R. I.	205.00	155.00	43.00	58.00	-	-	9.60	-	1.19	1.025	691
Conn.	206.00	165.00	45.00	59.00	-	-	9.80	-	1.25	1.062	711
N. Eng.	181.00	148.00	39.50	53.25	-	-	9.10	-	1.11	.956	607
N. Y.	184.00	130.00	35.25	49.00	-	-	8.50	-	1.07	.841	507
N. J.	204.00	142.00	37.25	53.00	-	-	8.90	-	1.11	.887	610
Pa.	166.00	118.00	31.50	43.50	-	-	7.60	-	.98	.763	603
Mid. Atl.	180.00	127.00	34.00	47.25	-	-	8.20	-	1.04	.816	554
Ohio	161.00	119.00	-	-	-	6.30	7.80	-	1.05	.831	558
Ind.	158.00	121.00	-	-	-	6.10	7.70	-	1.04	.825	575
Ill.	181.00	141.00	-	-	-	7.10	8.60	-	1.06	.873	594
Mich.	190.00	129.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.50	-	1.06	.864	565
Wis.	172.00	130.00	-	-	-	6.50	7.90	-	1.02	.829	516
E.N.Cent.	170.00	126.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.00	-	1.04	.840	562
Minn.	168.00	133.00	-	-	-	7.20	9.00	-	1.07	.820	499
Iowa	171.00	140.00	-	-	-	7.60	9.30	-	1.07	.835	504
Mo.	139.00	105.00	-	-	-	5.50	6.70	-	.92	.674	602
N.Dak.	182.00	154.00	-	-	-	7.10	8.80	-	1.05	.835	440
S.Dak.	163.00	135.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.20	-	1.02	.783	457
Nebr.	178.00	138.00	-	-	-	6.90	8.80	-	1.04	.812	541
Kans.	173.00	130.00	-	-	-	7.00	8.60	-	1.04	.799	633
W.N.Cent.	160.00	126.00	-	-	-	6.60	8.10	-	1.01	.768	535
Del.	-	-	-	-	6.20	-	8.00	-	.97	.858	757
Md.	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	7.50	-	.98	.853	829
Va.	-	-	-	-	4.85	-	6.00	-	.74	.650	701
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	4.25	-	5.30	-	.72	.612	476
N.C.	-	-	-	-	4.80	-	5.60	-	.67	.600	683
S.C.	-	-	-	-	3.30	-	3.90	-	.48	.424	562
Ga.	-	-	-	-	3.75	-	4.45	-	.62	.518	566
Fla.	-	-	-	-	5.50	-	6.00	-	.75	.664	665
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	4.45	-	5.30	-	.67	.584	650
Ky.	-	-	-	-	4.10	-	5.40	-	.74	.683	519
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	3.45	-	4.35	-	.57	.533	472
Ala.	-	-	-	-	3.90	-	4.45	-	.59	.556	541
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.60	-	4.05	-	.54	.509	484
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	3.75	-	4.40	-	.59	.549	505
Ark.	-	-	-	-	4.85	-	5.20	-	.66	.637	556
La.	-	-	-	-	4.30	-	4.85	-	.65	.618	586
Okla.	-	-	-	-	6.20	-	7.10	-	.86	.835	579
Tex.	-	-	-	-	5.50	-	6.20	-	.73	.714	551
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	5.20	-	5.90	-	.72	.695	559
Mont.	206.00	172.00	-	-	-	-	8.60	-	1.10	.926	445
Idaho	228.00	182.00	-	-	-	-	9.60	-	1.10	.969	535
Wyo.	203.00	153.00	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	1.10	.921	461
Colo.	193.00	145.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	.96	.823	519
N.Mex.	164.00	115.00	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	.81	.672	547
Ariz.	250.00	175.00	-	-	-	-	8.30	-	.85	.833	556
Utah	212.00	183.00	-	-	-	-	8.50	-	1.12	.944	572
Nev.	210.00	160.00	-	-	-	-	8.40	-	1.10	.915	475
Mountain	204.00	154.00	-	-	-	-	7.90	-	.96	.833	497
Wash.	252.00	209.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.16	1.23	1.200	585
Oreg.	228.00	179.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.11	1.14	1.112	548
Calif.	255.00	193.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.03	1.14	1.111	514
Pacific	252.00	193.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.05	1.15	1.119	525
U. S.	161.00	129.00	32.50	39.75	4.60	5.50	6.00	.90	.82	.736	550

1/ Certain wage rates are not estimated because they are relatively unimportant.
2/ Adjusted for seasonal variation.

EXPLANATIONS 1/

Farm employment estimates of the Agricultural Marketing Service cover persons doing farm work on all farms. Mailed questionnaires are received every month from 20,000 to 25,000 farmers who report the number of persons working on their farms during the last complete calendar week, ending at least one day before the end of the month. The Census of Agriculture and interview surveys of farmers are used to provide bench mark data on employment.

All farm operators who spend one hour or more during the survey week at farm work, chores, or in the transaction of farm business are counted as employed. Members of the operator's family or household doing unpaid farm work or chores are counted if they put in 15 hours or more during the week. Operators plus unpaid members of their families or households who meet these criteria are called family workers. All persons doing one or more hours of farm work or chores for pay during the week are counted as hired workers.

The data on farm employment published by the Agricultural Marketing Service differ from those on agricultural employment of the Census in the Monthly Report on the Labor Force because of the differences in the method of approach, in concepts of employment, and in time of the month for which data are collected. The AMS collects information from the farmer on all persons working on his farm during the week regardless of age, or other jobs held by these workers. The Census data are obtained by interview from about 35,000 farm and nonfarm households on the labor force status of the household members 14 years of age and over, for the week including the 12th of the month. In addition, both series are subject to sampling variation and may differ from the results of a complete census.

Wage rates are reported quarterly by the same sample of farm operators that reports employment. The farmer is asked to report average wage rates being paid "at this time" in his locality.

1/ Additional information available in January 1956 issue of Farm Labor.

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