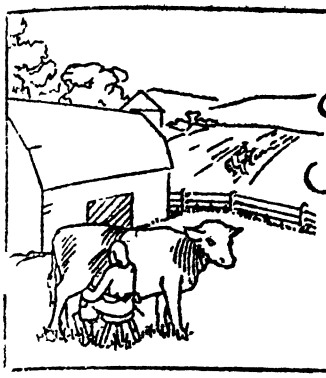


Farm Labor

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D.C. BAE June 14, 1945

FARM WAGE RATES RISE TO NEW HIGHS
EMPLOYMENT DOWN FROM YEAR AGO

Continuation of the upward trend in farm wage rates to a new record was reported by the United States Department of Agriculture today. All wage categories were higher than 2 months ago. Monthly rates averaged $81.30 with board and $93.10 without board. Daily wages were $3.65 with board and $4.16 without board. These are all record highs, except for wages per day with board, which were exceeded slightly in October 1944.

The farm wage index rose 5 points from April 1 to June 1. At 340 percent of the 1910-14 average, the June 1 index was 48 points above April 1, 1944 and 12 points above July 1, 1944. Comparable data for June 1, 1944 are not available.

June 1 farm wage rates were about double those paid 3 years ago. On June 1, 1942, wages per month averaged $41.50 with board and $50.40 without board. Daily wages averaged $1.83 with board and $2.10 without board.

Farm employment on June 1, 1945, at 10,994,000 persons, was seasonally higher than on May 1, but was 291,000 or about 2½ percent less than on June 1, 1944. Decreases occurred in the number of both family and hired workers compared to a year ago; hired workers were off 3.4 percent, and family workers, 2.4.

Except in the Northeast, total farm employment was below a year ago throughout the entire United States. The largest percentage decreases occurred in the East South Central and the Pacific regions, where total farm employment dropped more than 4 percent. There were fewer family workers in all geographic regions than a year ago. The number of hired workers, however, was up from last June in the New England, Middle Atlantic and Mountain States. All other regions showed a smaller number of hired hands on farms.

The average number of hours worked per day on United States farms was less than a year ago, despite lower farm employment and the necessity for rapid completion of spring planting in Central and Northern areas. Farm operators averaged 12.4 hours per day and hired workers 10.2 hours on the first of June. These averages are both 0.4 hour less than on June 1 a year ago. Cold, wet weather restricted farm activities around June 1 of this year, whereas a year ago conditions favored unusually long work days.

In New England, the total number of workers was estimated at 254,000 on June 1--19,000 over May 1, 1945 and 4,000 over June 1, 1944. Most of the increase over last year occurred in hired labor. Extra workers were used in some sections to replant crops ruined by frosts. Growth and planting were retarded by cold wet

weather. Potato and corn planting were delayed 2 to 3 weeks. Tobacco setting was proceeding normally, however.

Hired workers on June 1 were working about the same number of hours in New England as a year ago, while farm operators generally worked fewer hours than on June 1, 1944. Farm wage rates show a slight increase over April 1 this year, except in the per-day-without-board classification, which remained practically unchanged.

In the Middle Atlantic States farm wage rates continued to rise, with the highest percentage increase over April in the rate per month without board. Total farm employment at 626,000, advanced 43,000 over May 1 and 13,000 over June 1 last year; family employment, however, increased only 2,000 since May 1 this year and was 9,000 persons less than a year ago. Farm work has been retarded in this area because of cold wet weather. Much corn has not yet been planted, and some other fields had to be replanted when the seed rotted.

Farm wage rates on June 1 in the East North Central region averaged slightly less than on April 1 in all rates except per day with board. Shorter workdays of operators and hired workers reflected weather conditions which prevented normal field operations. The total number of workers employed on June 1 in this region was nearly 3 percent smaller than on June 1, 1944. Poor weather has put farm work somewhat behind schedule. Many northern counties are still too wet and cold for corn and vegetable planting, but in others rapid progress has been made in planting corn, soybeans, potatoes and in setting tobacco and tomatoes. The first cutting of alfalfa has been harvested in areas where weather permitted.

The index of farm wage rates in the West North Central region advanced from 312 on April 1 to 326 on June 1, 1945. Wage rate increases exceeded those of any other region. With farming operations in this region well advanced in spite of wet muddy fields, farm employment has increased seasonally, but is more than 3 percent below June 1, 1944. Both farm operators and hired workers are reported working about a half hour less per day than a year ago.

The farm wage rate index in the South Atlantic region declined slightly from April 1 to June 1, 1945. The number of persons employed on June 1, 1945 was 2.8 percent less than a year earlier, and the farm operators and hired workers were working a half hour less per day. Drought in the eastern and southern sections hindered growth of most crops, except cotton. Citrus harvest has been practically completed. In the northern section of the region, the weather has been favorable for current farm operations.

Farm wage rates on June 1 in the East South Central States averaged slightly lower than on April 1, with declines in Mississippi offsetting steady-to-higher rates elsewhere. Rates per-day-with-board were up a little, with all other categories lower. The length of workday averaged 12.1 hours for operators and 10.1 hours for hired workers on June 1 of this year, a decrease from last June of one-third hour for operators and half an hour for hired labor.

This region showed the greatest decrease from a year ago in total farm employment, 4.4 percent. Declines in both family workers and hired workers contributed to the decrease. Wet cold weather had hindered spring planting in the Ohio River

Valley. Most of the corn in Kentucky had not yet been planted, and most of the tobacco was still to be set. Lowlands in the southern section of the area were drying out and ready for cultivation. Some corn was still to be planted in Alabama and Mississippi, but cotton chopping was making good progress.

Total farm employment of 1,911,000 persons in the West South Central States was up seasonally on June 1, but 7,000 under a year ago. Almost all the decrease occurred in family workers. Corn and cotton were making good progress, with much cotton being chopped. Wheat and barley were being harvested in southwest Oklahoma and north central Texas. Some Texas farmers were still late with their work, with the worst situation in the High Plains where sorghum and cotton planting have been delayed by extremely dry weather.

Monthly wage rates were up slightly from April 1, while daily rates averaged a little lower than 2 months ago. Both farm operators and hired workers were putting in somewhat shorter work days than a year ago. Workdays averaged 12.1 hours for operators and 10.1 hours for hired workers.

Wage rates on June 1 in the Mountain States advanced from 2 months ago. Rates in all categories were up about 5 percent. Monthly wages averaged $107.00 with board and $139.00 without board, and daily wages were $4.83 with board and $5.77 without board. These wage rates were exceeded only by those on the Pacific Coast. Farm operators worked 12.7 hours per day, a half hour less than last year at this time. Hired labor worked about a half hour less per day than a year ago, averaging 9.7 hours.

Total farm employment, at 462,000 workers, was about 2 percent less than on June 1, 1944. Hired laborers increased 5,000 from June 1 a year ago to 153,000. The number of family workers dropped from 328,000 on June 1 a year ago to the present 309,000. Farm work is progressing well in most sections. Beet blocking and thinning is underway in Idaho and nearly completed in the southwestern part of the State. Livestock are being moved to higher pastures.

On the Pacific Coast, all farm wage rates advanced over April 1 and a year ago. The index of wage rates for this region rose 8 points during the past 2 months to 395 percent of the 1910-14 average on June 1. Although foreign workers and prisoners of war are helping to alleviate the scarcity of farm workers, total farm employment as of June 1 declined more than 4 percent from June 1, 1944. In the northern section of the region, cherries, apricots, and apples were being thinned. Cutting and curing alfalfa and seasonal vegetable harvests were under way in California.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm wage rates and related data, United States, June 1 1945, with comparisons

	Annual average 1910-14	Annual average 1935-39	June 1 1942	April 1 1945	June 1 1945
FARM WAGE RATES					
Per month, with board	$22.09	$26.01	$42.93	$78.60	$81.28
Per month, without board	29.18	34.17	1/52.79	92.70	93.10
Per day, with board	1.16	1.23	1.89	3.56	3.65/
Per day, without board	1.42	1.50	1/ 2.11	4.12	4.16
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES					
Unadjusted	100	118	1/182	335	340
Adjusted for seasonal variation	100	118	1/180	342	337
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES BY REGIONS:					
New England	100	143	220	341	344
Middle Atlantic	100	129	207	327	334
East North Central	100	115	189	307	306
West North Central	100	98	169	312	326
South Atlantic	100	111	163	292	285
East South Central	100	101	143	263	258
West South Central	100	102	160	319	324
Mountain	100	106	171	305	319
Pacific	100	129	211	387	395
FARM EMPLOYMENT (thousands of persons)					
Total	12,052	10,920	11,917	8,982	10,994
Family labor	9,160	8,353	9,037	7,322	8,637
Hired labor	2,892	2,567	2,880	1,660	2,357
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES					
Adjusted for seasonal variation:					
Total	100	91	88	81	81
Family labor	100	91	88	83	83
Hired labor	100	89	88	73	73
RELATED INDEXES					
Prices received by farmers 2/	100	107	154	200	3/ 200
Ratio of prices received to farm wage rates	100	91	85	1/ 60	59
Average weekly factory earnings 4/	100	200	326	427	--

1/ Revised.
2/ Average of the 15th of the given and the 15th of the previous month.
3/ May 15, 1945 - latest data available.
4/ Factory pay roll per employed workers; average of all weeks during the designated month.

5/ Based on reports from 21,099 farmers.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm wage rates, by geographic divisions, June 1, 1945
with comparisons

Geographic division	Annual average 1910-14	June 1, 1942	Apr. 1, 1944	Apr. 1, 1945	June 1, 1945
FARM WAGE RATES	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
PER MONTH WITH BOARD					
New England	24.18	52.32	78.49	85.76	86.80
Middle Atlantic	22.25	46.25	66.72	74.82	77.60
East North Central	23.75	45.30	65.16	73.85	73.80
West North Central	26.32	47.91	72.84	86.17	90.20
South Atlantic	14.62	23.69	36.88	43.63	41.40
East South Central	14.71	22.14	34.26	39.04	38.70
West South Central	17.35	30.58	48.26	57.90	61.90
Mountain	32.48	57.03	87.29	98.53	107.00
Pacific	33.45	68.12	126.78	137.73	139.00
PER MONTH WITHOUT BOARD					
New England	37.70	81.75	115.00	125.62	126.00
Middle Atlantic	33.41	1/68.26	96.05	108.46	110.00
East North Central	32.80	62.67	88.80	101.22	100.00
West North Central	36.86	59.67	93.75	110.54	116.00
South Atlantic	20.97	1/36.03	51.51	59.43	57.00
East South Central	20.80	32.51	46.92	54.22	53.00
West South Central	24.93	43.39	68.84	81.07	81.90
Mountain	46.42	76.66	118.18	134.54	139.00
Pacific	48.16	102.06	163.35	177.68	180.00
PER DAY WITH BOARD					
New England	1.27	2.75	3.75	4.00	4.02
Middle Atlantic	1.24	2.57	3.62	3.97	4.04
East North Central	1.31	2.33	3.49	3.95	3.96
West North Central	1.46	2.26	3.65	4.31	4.47
South Atlantic	.81	1.20	2.02	2.37	2.41
East South Central	.81	1.08	1.77	2.05	2.08
West South Central	.98	1.46	2.51	3.12	3.10
Mountain	1.50	2.53	4.04	4.62	4.83
Pacific	1.49	3.30	5.71	6.04	6.32
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD					
New England	1.71	3.58	4.89	5.25	5.04
Middle Atlantic	1.63	3.39	4.58	4.90	4.97
East North Central	1.68	2.94	4.33	4.85	4.83
West North Central	1.88	2.84	4.72	5.39	5.54
South Atlantic	1.05	1.52	2.55	2.99	3.00
East South Central	1.05	1.32	2.27	2.69	2.64
West South Central	1.25	1.74	3.06	3.74	3.72
Mountain	2.05	3.06	4.80	5.50	5.77
Pacific	2.06	4.24	6.91	7.32	7.52

1/ Revised.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm Wage Rates, by States, June 1, 1942, June 1, 1945

State	Per month with board		Per month without board		Per day with board		Per day without board	
	1942	1945	1942	1945	1942	1945	1942	1945
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.
Maine	50.00	92.00	70.25	128.00	2.90	4.80	3.40	5.80
N.H.	47.50	86.00	76.00	123.00	2.80	4.40	3.40	5.20
Vt.	48.75	81.25	71.00	116.00	2.60	4.05	3.35	5.10
Mass.	53.50	86.25	90.00	132.00	2.60	4.00	3.65	5.30
R.I.	55.00	85.75	90.00	127.00	2.90	4.00	3.80	5.30
Conn.	56.00	85.75	89.75	124.00	2.90	4.15	3.90	5.20
N.Y.	49.00	85.75	71.00	118.00	2.60	4.15	3.50	5.20
N.J.	50.50	87.50	77.25	128.00	2.60	4.65	3.50	5.45
Pa.	40.00	62.50	1/59.50	91.50	2.50	3.65	3.20	4.50
Ohio	40.00	59.50	58.00	85.00	2.35	3.50	2.80	4.35
Ind.	40.75	68.25	55.00	92.00	2.10	3.75	2.80	4.55
Ill.	49.50	82.50	65.00	106.00	2.45	4.35	3.00	5.20
Mich.	45.00	77.75	65.00	108.00	2.40	4.30	3.05	5.25
Wis.	49.25	79.50	68.00	109.00	2.30	4.00	3.00	4.95
Minn.	53.00	90.75	64.00	120.00	2.50	4.50	3.05	5.80
Iowa	56.75	97.50	67.00	121.00	2.75	4.95	3.25	5.80
Mo.	36.00	63.75	44.00	82.50	1.60	3.20	2.00	3.90
N.Dak.	50.00	110.00	65.50	140.00	2.25	5.00	3.00	6.50
S.Dak.	48.50	96.25	63.25	127.00	2.25	4.70	2.90	5.90
Nebr.	46.75	92.25	60.75	115.00	2.30	4.75	2.80	5.70
Kans.	42.50	84.00	59.75	109.00	2.10	4.60	2.85	5.70
Del.	40.00	68.50	57.75	92.00	2.25	4.60	2.75	5.60
Md.	36.75	64.50	54.00	88.00	1.95	3.80	2.50	4.60
Va.	30.00	47.00	48.00	65.75	1.50	2.75	1.95	3.35
W.Va.	30.00	49.00	44.00	68.00	1.45	2.55	1.90	3.20
N.C.	26.00	44.25	1/35.00	59.25	1.30	2.65	1.60	3.10
S.C.	18.75	32.25	25.50	44.75	.90	1.70	1.10	2.10
Ga.	18.25	36.25	26.25	49.00	1.00	2.50	1.25	3.10
Fla.	26.50	58.00	55.00	80.00	1.30	2.85	1.75	3.85
Ky.	28.00	49.00	40.00	67.00	1.30	2.50	1.65	3.10
Tenn.	23.50	40.00	34.50	54.75	1.10	1.95	1.40	2.50
Ala.	21.00	34.25	30.00	48.00	1.00	2.00	1.30	2.60
Miss.	19.50	35.00	30.00	47.75	1.05	2.00	1.15	2.50
Ark.	24.50	47.00	44.50	64.50	1.25	2.60	1.55	3.05
La.	22.50	40.00	31.00	55.00	1.10	2.20	1.35	2.70
Okla.	35.00	67.50	50.00	91.50	1.75	3.70	2.25	4.60
Tex.	34.60	72.00	45.75	93.25	1.60	3.45	1.85	4.10
Mont.	68.00	127.00	89.00	155.00	3.15	5.90	3.75	6.90
Idaho	62.50	139.00	84.00	173.00	3.05	5.90	3.80	6.80
Wyo.	66.50	108.00	86.00	143.00	2.50	4.70	3.20	5.70
Colo.	50.55	97.50	69.25	131.00	2.20	4.70	2.90	5.70
N.Mex.	42.00	75.00	59.00	102.00	1.95	4.00	2.10	4.50
Ariz.	56.00	105.00	77.00	142.00	2.35	4.30	2.80	5.40
Utah	70.00	115.00	88.00	145.00	2.75	4.90	3.00	5.75
Nev.	65.00	120.00	85.00	150.00	2.50	5.00	3.00	6.00
Wash.	60.50	144.00	89.25	189.00	3.10	6.50	3.90	7.90
Oregon	61.00	139.00	86.50	171.00	2.95	6.20	3.70	7.00
Calif.	71.00	138.00	107.00	179.00	3.40	6.30	4.40	7.50
U.S.	42.93	81.30	1/52.79	93.10	1.89	3.65	1/2.11	4.16

1/ Revised.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm employment, United States and geographic division, June 1, 1945 with comparisons

TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT

Geographic division	June 1 average 1935-39	May 1 1944	June 1 1944	May 1 1945	June 1 1945
	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's
United States	12,564	10,068	11,285	10,017	10,994
New England	273	232	250	235	254
Middle Atlantic	651	580	613	583	626
East North Central	1,604	1,414	1,499	1,399	1,458
West North Central	1,794	1,564	1,707	1,531	1,654
South Atlantic	2,610	2,002	2,285	1,989	2,221
East South Central	2,285	1,662	1,924	1,655	1,830
West South Central	2,303	1,685	1,928	1,698	1,911
Mountain	476	411	476	403	462
Pacific	569	518	603	524	578
FAMILY WORKERS 1/					
United States	9,579	8,079	8,845	8,153	8,637
New England	168	159	168	166	168
Middle Atlantic	427	407	417	406	408
East North Central	1,228	1,167	1,217	1,179	1,208
West North Central	1,433	1,336	1,428	1,332	1,409
South Atlantic	1,967	1,583	1,785	1,585	1,728
East South Central	1,933	1,457	1,681	1,482	1,604
West South Central	1 787	1,359	1,503	1,395	1,488
Mountain	306	300	328	295	309
Pacific	330	311	318	313	315
HIRED WORKERS					
United States	2,985	1,989	2,440	1,864	2,357
New England	105	73	82	69	86
Middle Atlantic	224	173	196	177	218
East North Central	376	247	282	220	250
West North Central	361	228	279	199	245
South Atlantic	643	419	500	404	493
East South Central	352	205	243	173	226
West South Central	516	326	425	303	423
Mountain	170	111	148	108	153
Pacific	239	207	285	211	263

1/ Including farm operators and members of their families working without wages.

Based on reports from 21,099 farmers who reported for their own farms the number of family and hired workers doing 2 or more days of work during the week of inquiry.

REPORTS FROM NEW SURVEYS OF FARM WAGES AND WAGE RATES TO BE ISSUED

A series of reports presenting detailed results from the new enumerative surveys of farm wages and wage rates during 1945 will be issued this year by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The series will include two types of reports: (1) reports from the quarterly national surveys containing wage information for the United States and major regions; and (2) reports from the special crop area surveys containing wage information for labor used in harvesting particular crops in major production areas of selected States.

Copies of these reports may be obtained upon request to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. In making the request, please specify which types of reports (national or special crop area) you wish to receive, and in the case of special crop area reports, indicate for which of the following States you desire reports: California, Colorado, Florida (report now available), Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, Arizona, Louisiana, and possibly Michigan and Wisconsin.

Summaries of preliminary results from enumerative surveys recently made on wages and wage rates of labor used in harvesting certain fruits and vegetables in specified areas of 4 States follow.

North Carolina Strawberries: Workers were paid an average of 3.8 cents per quart for picking and 27 cents per crate for packing strawberries, according to preliminary returns from a special survey in the Wallace area of North Carolina, covering the peak week of the 1945 season, April 23-28. At these rates, pickers earned an average of 26 cents per hour, while employed, and packers averaged 38 cents per hour. The majority of the hired workers were women and children; males aged 18 to 44 comprised only 5 percent. The 300 hired strawberry workers on the farms covered by the enumeration worked an average of 7.4 hours per day and earned an average of $2.00 per day.

Louisiana Snap Beans: The survey in the snap bean area of Louisiana included parts of Livingston, Tangipahoa and St. Helena Parishes. This survey covered wages and wage rates paid to 357 harvesters of snap beans during the week of May 6-12, 1945. All bean pickers were paid at piece rates for bushel-size hampers. Rates averaged 49.5 cents per hamper and showed little variation. On the average, workers earned 43 cents an hour, worked 7 hours a day on the farms surveyed, and earned $3.00 per day. Most of the workers were Negro women and children recruited from nearby farms, towns and villages.

Arizona Lettuce: A survey of 778 workers harvesting lettuce in Maricopa County, Arizona, was made the week of March 25-31, 1945. Over 60 percent of the hired workers were Spanish-American men, 20 percent Spanish-American women and 14 percent Mexican nationals. All the workers were paid by the hour. The average hourly rate was 70 cents an hour for cutting and 64 cents an hour for field packing. Workers harvesting lettuce averaged 7.2 hours and earned $4.80 a day.

Washington Asparagus: Asparagus harvesters in the Yakima Valley area of Washington averaged 80 cents per hour during the week ended May 12, 1945. The special survey obtained wage information on 212 asparagus workers, of whom 202 were cutters paid by hourly rates, ranging from 75 cents to 85 cents, with the exception of a few 40- and 50-cent rates paid boys or girls under 14 years of age. Approximately 30 percent of the workers surveyed were females. The average age of all workers for whom age information was obtained was 22 years. Asparagus workers on farms covered in the survey worked an average of 10.8 hours per day and earned an average of $8.60 per day.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE MADE MORE THAN 6 MILLION PLACEMENTS IN 1944

A total of 6,127,000 placements of farm workers were made by the Cooperative Extension Service during 1944. Of this number 5,700,000 were made during the period May 1 to December 31, a gain of 33 percent over placements during the comparable period in 1943. About 96 percent of the placements, or 5,896,000, were made on seasonal jobs lasting 5 months or less. The remainder, 231,000 were placements in jobs of more than five months duration. Approximately 59 percent of the seasonal jobs were filled by men, 13 percent by women and 28 percent by youths (boys and girls under 18). Of the jobs lasting more than five months on which workers were placed, 81.9 percent were filled by men, 5.7 percent by women and 12.4 percent by youths. It is estimated that 2,650,000 different individuals were placed, many workers having been placed more than once during the year.

In the administration of the Extension farm labor program, existing organizational facilities of the Cooperative Extension Service have been utillized at all levels - Federal, State, county, community and neighborhood - additional personnel being hired in the Federal, State and county extension offices as required to handle the new responsibilities; 92 percent of the additional personnel used in the farm placement program were employed in to counties. Because of the seasonality of much of the work on farms. 85% of placements are made during the five months, June through October. Advisory committees were organized in States, counties and communities to assist in determining farm labor requirements and in recruiting and placing workers. The name U. S.; Crop Corps was selected as a convenient label covering all types of workers recruited for agricultural labor. Specialized programs - Victory Farm Volunteers and Women's Land Army, were organized for recruiting from youth and women of villages and cities.

To serve the farmers that use hired labor in the 3,000 agricultural counties in the United States, the Extension Service utilized 9,000 placement offices in 1944. In most counties the county agent's office was used as the central office to receive farmers' orders, to register workers, and to refer workers to the places where they were needed.

Farmers who wished to utilize this service placed orders with the placement offices. These orders gave specific information with regard to the type and amount of work to be done, the wages and perquisites offered, hours of work, date workers were needed, and arrangements for getting the workers to the farm. In 1944 approximately 700,000 different farmers placed 1,600,000 orders for worke

The Extension Service conducted meetings during the winter months, informing farmers of the procedures for placing orders and obtaining workers. With the help of 125,000 neighborhood leaders, farm labor information has been given to practically every farm family concerned.

Special programs have been inaugurated to assist migratory seasonal workers. An important feature of these programs has been to supply migrant workers with information about job opportunities in areas to which they might migrate. In some areas information stations have been established on major highways to give migratory workers information in regard to crop condition, maturity dats, and need for labor.

The scarcity of local seasonal workers has required highly organized compaig to get youth, women, business men, factory workers and others to help during peak seasons. Committees organized in towns and cities, consisting of leading local citizens representing civic organizations, schools, newspapers and radio stations, have developed and carried out mobilization camaigns. In some cases,

these campaigns have involved door-to-door solicitation urging urban people to give their spare time to helping with the harvest.

Factory employees, business men and others have been mobilized for farm work during their vacation periods and during free hours in the evening. In some instances, town holidays have been declared during which time stores were closed and townspeople assisted with the local harvest.

When the supply of labor from all local sources was deemed to be insufficient, the Extension Serivce has determined and certified the need for outside workers. The prisoners of war and foreign workers made available by the Army and the War Food Administration for these emergency situations have been placed with farmers who have contracted for their use. Farmers have been assisted in organizing into county and community farm labor cooperative associations that are responsible for the full and effective utilization of these workers.

More than 1,708,000 placements of youths under 18 years of age, involving approximately 875,000 individuals were made in 1944. Six percent of those placed lived in work camps. Twenty-four percent lived on farms with farm families and 70 percent lived at home.

In 1944, county extension farm labor offices placed about 400,000 individual women in farm work. While most of the women did seasonal farm work, 11,000 were placed on farmers jobs lasting 5 months or longer. Sixteen States operated camps for women farm workers. In 1944 more than 300 farm labor camps received some financial support from Extension farm labor funds, and provided housing for an estimated 62,000 workers.

In 1944 information was supplied in response to more than 1,269,000 inquiries made by Selective Service relative to essentiality of agricultural workers.

Over 1,014,000 farmers were instructed with regard to labor-saving methods, sharing of labor and equipment, et cetera. There were 22,000 communities with organized programs for the exchange of labor and equipment.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF THE 1944 EXTENSION FARM LABOR PROGRAM JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1944 1/
(48 States and Hawaii)

RECRUITMENT AND PLACEMENT

Number of orders received from farmers for farm labor	1,584,279
Estimated number of different farmers with whom one or more workers were placed	700,400
Total number of farm labor placements	6,127,446

	Seasonal placements 2/	Year-round placements 2/	Total Seasonal and year-round placements
Men	3,453,024	3/ 189,437	3,642,461
Women	763,719	12,974	776,693
Youth	1,679,482	28,810	1,708,292
Total	5,896,225	231,221	6,127,446

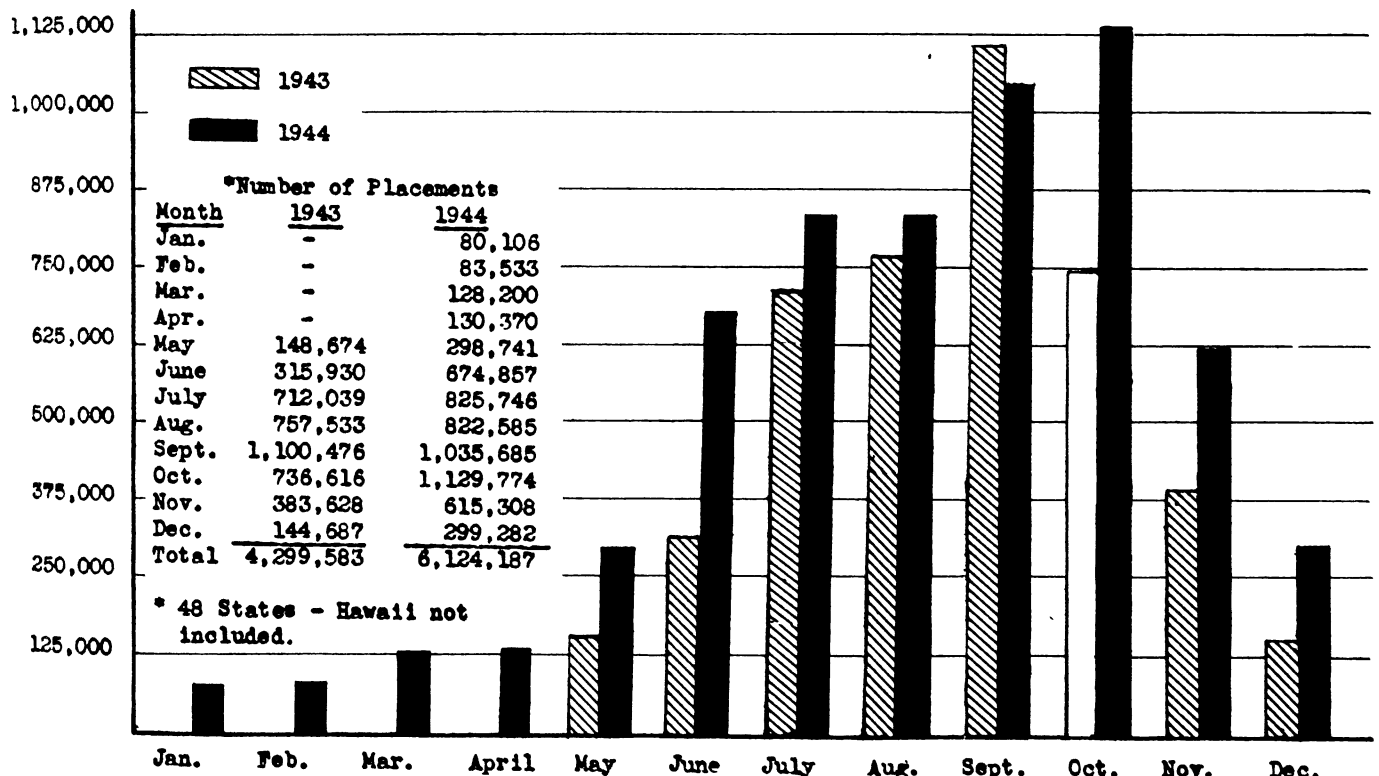
Estimate of number of different individuals placed:

a. Men	1,375,000
b. Women	400,000
c. Boys (under 18)	545,000
d. Girls(under 18)	330,000
Total	2,650,000

Estimated number of youth placed who lived in—

a. The farm home where employed	150,000
b. Farm labor camps	35,000
c. Own home (transported daily to and from work)	690,000
Total	875,000

MONTHLY FARM LABOR PLACEMENTS
(Adjusted to annual statistical reports)



*Number of Placements

Month	1943	1944
Jan.	-	80,106
Feb.	-	83,533
Mar.	-	128,200
Apr.	-	130,370
May	148,674	298,741
June	315,930	674,857
July	712,039	825,746
Aug.	757,533	822,585
Sept.	1,100,476	1,035,685
Oct.	736,616	1,129,774
Nov.	383,628	615,308
Dec.	144,687	299,282
Total	4,299,583	6,124,187

* 48 States - Hawaii not included.

1/ From 1944 State Annual Statistical Reports.
2/ Monthly reports adjusted to annual statistical reports.
3/ Includes families placed as sharecroppers and tenants.

HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

Number of intrastate workers whose transportation was paid wholly or in part from Extension Farm Labor Funds	21,515
Number of farm labor camps receiving financial support from Extension Farm Labor Funds	325
Number of different workers housed in facilities provided wholly or in part from Extension Farm Labor Funds	65,642

TRAINING AND LABOR UTILIZATION

Number of communities with organized program for exchanging labor and equipment	22,017
Number of organized training courses conducted	1,542
Number of different individual workers trained for farm work:	
a. Men	136,629
b. Women	31,179
c. Youth	148,442
Total	316,250
Number of farm people, labor foremen, and supervisors of youth labor given organized instruction in regard to training and use of inexperienced labor	106,801

SELECTIVE SERVICE

Number of agricultural workers on whom information was supplied for use by Selective Service 1/	1,269,799

ORGANIZATION

Number of placement offices operated	
a. By employed personnel	3,954
b. By volunteer leaders	5,201
Total	9,155
Number of county farm labor advisory committees	2,606
Membership of county farm labor advisory committees :	
a. Men	31,654
b. Women	4,210
Total	35,864
Number of subcommittees of county farm labor advisory committees	
a. City, town, and village mobilization committees	3,874
b. Victory farm volunteer subcommittees	2,156
c. Women's Land Army subcommittees	467
d. Camp and other committees	706
Total	7,203
Number of county farm-wage boards	1,409
a. Number of hearings held	2,136
Number of volunteer leaders assisting with the farm labor program (includes members of committees)	176,516

1/ Includes some duplication since information was supplied on some workers more than once during the year.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

FARM LABOR PLACEMENTS JANUARY 1 - APRIL 30, 1944 and 1945

STATE	Seasonal placements 1/		Year round placements 2/		Total seasonal & year-round placements	
	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Maine	63	76	118	186	181	262
N.H.	58	116	151	199	209	315
Vt.	77	55	371	412	448	467
Mass.	91	414	216	229	307	643
R.I.	31	4	36	27	67	31
Conn.	2,181	1,513	428	563	2,609	2,076
N.Y.	492	9,201	2,254	1,767	2,746	10,068
N.J.	880	1,817	623	812	1,503	2,629
Pa.	180	915	623	668	803	1,583
Ohio	543	2,740	1,784	1,076	2,327	3,816
Ind.	387	849	945	681	1,332	1,530
Ill.	402	4,390	5,703	7,866	6,105	12,256
Mich.	2,555	435	1,107	833	3,662	1,268
Wis.	767	494	3,158	1,917	3,925	2,411
Minn.	1,889	1,233	2,039	1,350	3,928	2,583
Iowa	1,373	3,211	1,818	1,205	3,191	4,416
Mo.	1,709	307	1,855	654	3,564	961
N. Dak.	12,478	6,240	7,121	6,413	19,599	12,653
S. Dak.	470	575	389	458	859	1,033
Nebr.	2,503	7,387	562	488	3,065	7,875
Kans.	—	842	—	98	—	940
Del.	952	1,581	35	28	987	1,609
Md.	1,778	10,008	322	305	2,100	10,313
Va.	453	10,160	500	245	953	10,405
W. Va.	71	97	761	572	832	669
N. C.	2,789	11,594	2,369	2,116	5,158	13,710
S. C.	2,768	7,269	1,117	1,314	3,885	8,583
Ga.	7,992	18,021	1,385	2,104	9,377	20,125
Fla.	44,018	16,581	2,193	779	46,211	17,360
Ky.	2,428	5,238	1,229	2,004	3,657	7,242
Tenn.	3,615	10,547	17,006	14,669	20,621	25,216
Ala.	2,299	7,663	1,770	1,857	4,069	9,520
Miss.	2,244	31,135	2,289	2,686	4,533	33,821
Ark.	26,699	53,531	3,456	10,446	30,155	63,977
La.	5,819	13,019	1,930	958	7,749	13,977
Okla.	12,940	43,919	1,027	999	13,967	44,918
Tex.	12,850	53,091	2,508	3,172	15,358	56,263
Mont.	1,264	1,592	754	537	2,018	2,129
Idaho	1,651	2,331	538	502	2,189	2,833
Wyo.	620	748	351	625	971	1,373
Colo.	2,199	4,086	1,464	1,615	3,663	5,701
N. Mex.	7,456	14,893	496	288	7,952	15,191
Ariz.	15,060	32,449	830	467	15,890	32,916
Utah	342	5339	164	169	506	708
Nev.	741	566	400	727	1,141	1,293
Wash.	7,066	16,045	1,347	2,036	8,413	18,081
Oreg.	1,942	5,409	710	1,626	2,652	7,035
Calif.	87,795	135,495	11,817	9,622	99,612	145,117
Totals	284,980	550,421	90,069	90,380	375,049	640,801

Extension Service, Farm Labor Program, War Food Administration, Wash., D. C.

1/ Jobs lasting five months or less filled by workers referred to farmers by placement offices.

2/ Jobs lasting more than five months filled by workers referred to farmers by placements offices.

Farm labor placements: Cooperative Extension Service Farm Labor Program, January 1 to December 31, 1944.

State	Number of Placements: Seasonal workers: Men	Women	Youth	Total	Yr-round 2/ workers	Total seasonal and year-round placements	Communities with program for exchange for labor and Eqpt:	Farmers supplied with hired labor
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Maine	9,040	1,559	20,573	31,172	965	32,137	—	4,961
N. H.	2,277	670	10,447	13,394	850	14,244	40	1,229
Vt.	568	512	4,608	5,688	1,055	6,743	111	1,873
Mass.	4,894	1,779	8,156	14,829	1,320	16,149	11	2,168
R.I.	72	33	548	653	102	755	--	200
Conn.	11,366	853	16,197	28,416	2,861	31,277	67	2,603
N.Y.	196,230	22,116	58,055	276,451	5,992	282,443	191	15,122
N.J.	9,626	8,021	142,779	160,426	2,450	162,876	39	4,323
Pa.	22,158	6,043	72,516	100,717	2,859	103,576	93	12,984
Ohio	51,457	4,229	14,803	70,489	3,944	74,433	2,688	11,982
Ind.	10,457	2,461	48,596	61,514	2,151	63,665	930	7,900
Ill.	30,463	6,249	41,399	78,111	11,100	89,211	712	11,698
Mich.	116,094	32,248	66,647	214,989	5,437	220,426	280	27,149
Wis.	10,423	3,127	21,194	34,744	7,816	42,560	772	15,801
Minn.	38,818	5,751	27,317	71,886	6,912	78,798	1,030	25,215
Iowa	20,640	1,920	25,439	47,999	3,847	51,846	459	21,791
Mo.	8,764	5,008	7,095	20,867	2,407	23,274	1,115	7,806
N. Dak.	48,930	4,616	38,775	92,321	12,370	104,691	629	32,894
S. Dak.	33,916	1,615	4,845	40,376	1,199	41,575	594	19,368
Nebr.	37,333	933	8,400	46,666	1,162	47,828	394	11,672
Kans.	34,640	2,068	14,994	51,702	1,998	53,700	503	19,903
Del.	26,571	1,296	4,536	32,403	1,232	33,635	25	1,638
Md.	132,833	16,399	14,759	163,991	1,050	165,041	18	9,513
Va.	81,362	16,272	4,068	101,702	2,826	104,528	138	7,838
W. Va.	1,352	225	1,641	3,218	1,472	4,690	305	1,790
N. C.	106,318	27,735	20,031	154,084	3,827	157,911	769	14,105
S. C.	41,661	20,830	28,076	90,567	3,003	93,570	225	13,995
Ga.	93,967	45,026	56,772	195,765	2,448	198,213	1,015	24,168

Fla.	34,803	14,545	2,597	51,945	4,915	56,860	171	1,581
Ky.	86,566	3,055	12,221	101,842	1,661	103,503	1,041	7,776
Tenn.	34,522	21,245	32,752	88,519	29,956	118,475	1,526	30,357
Ala.	61,451	12,498	30,205	104,154	3,728	107,882	586	10,836
Miss.	81,476	59,909	98,250	239,635	5,421	245,056	691	34,300
Ark.	114,845	77,597	117,949	310,391	13,180	323,571	704	15,730
La.	57,778	21,399	27,819	106,996	2,420	109,416	244	9,602
Okla.	141,297	43,476	86,952	271,725	2,269	273,994	891	22,851
Tex.	398,902	125,969	174,957	699,828	9,810	709,638	1,563	85,060
Mont.	27,919	332	4,986	33,237	2,081	35,318	233	11,755
Idaho	169,554	4,086	30,642	204,282	1,418	205,700	201	16,965
Wyo.	27,525	296	1,776	29,597	1,176	30,773	87	3,893
Colo.	73,623	4,908	19,633	98,164	4,932	103,096	248	16,282
N. Mex.	95,694	2,127	8,506	106,327	1,995	108,322	136	6,229
Ariz.	44,186	456	911	45,553	4,588	50,141	—	2,280
Utah	55,593	2,827	35,806	94,226	489	94,715	131	9,014
Nev.	4,452	102	563	5,117	952	6,069	27	1,321
Wash.	172,691	29,270	90,736	292,697	8,145	300,842	136	34,811
Oregi.	99,707	24,927	53,414	178,048	5,634	181,682	89	13,792
Calif.	488,158	75,101	62,585	625,844	33,495	659,339	128	34,181
Hawaii	2	—	2,956	2,958	301	3,259	31	95
Total	3,453,024	763,719	1,679,482	5,896,225	231,221	6,127,446	22,017	700,400

Source: Cooperative Extension Service, War Food Administration,

1/ Adjusted to State annual statistical reports,

2/ Includes families as tenants and sharecroppers.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

FOREIGN WORKERS AND PRISONERS OF WAR EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE AS OF MAY 1945

STATE	MEXICANS 1/	JAMAICANS 1/	BAHAMAINS 1/	NEWFOUNDLANDERS 1/	PRISONERS OF WAR	TOTAL
Maine		80		106	200	386
N.H.		38		76		114
Vt.				166		166
Mass.		374		82	45	501
R.I.				17		17
Conn.		2,429		119		2,548
N.Y.		733		353	459	1,545
N.J.		1,447		89	212	1,748
Pa.		294	2	92	10	398
Ohio		895			200	1,095
Ind.	150	288	3		228	669
Ill.	533	542	32		802	1,909
Mich.	565	423			385	1,373
Wis.	589	216	45		332	1,182
Minn.	119		10		160	289
Iowa	100	39			880	1,019
Mo.		117			2,673	2,790
N. Dak.	741					741
S. Dak.	120					120
Nebr.	737				978	1,715
Kans.	43	246			2,400	2,689
Delaware		74	319	17	279	689
Md.		240	581	26	700	1,547
Va.			206		585	791
W.Va.						
N.C.					474	474
S.C.					563	563
Ga.					698	698
Fla.		2,536	4,688		477	7,701
Ky.					185	185
Tenn.					445	445
Ala.					300	300
Miss.					2,626	2,626
Ark.					8,031	8,031
La.					4,420	4,420
Okla.					898	898
Tex.					3,023	3,023
Mont.	2,061					2,061
Idaho	3,163				865	4,028
Wyo.	235				102	337
Colo.	1,990	1,381			2,765	6,136
N.Mex.					920	920
Ariz.	1,497	52			1,002	2,551
Utah	785					785
Nev.	313					313
Wash.	2,824				553	3,377
Oreg.	1,569				630	2,199
Calif.	27,888				5,946	33,834
Totals	46,022	12,444	5,886	1,143	46,451	111,946

1/ As of May 26 data provided by Requirements and Certification Division, Program Branch, Office of Labor, W. F. A.

2/ As of May 24 data provided by Extension Service, War Food Administration, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Length of workday for operators and hired workers, June 1, 1945, with comparisons

State	Operator			Hired workers		
	June 1, 1940	June 1, 1944	June 1, 1945	June 1, 1940	June 1, 1944	June 1, 1945
	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
Maine	12.5	12.9	12.6	9.7	9.5	9.7
N.H.	11.5	12.2	11.9	9.4	9.7	9.6
Vt.	12.5	12.9	12.7	10.6	11.1	11.3
Mass.	11.5	11.6	11.3	10.0	9.8	9.6
R.I.	12.0	12.8	12.5	10.0	10.0	10.3
Conn.	11.5	12.0	11.0	10.1	10.1	9.9
N. Eng.	12.0	12.4	12.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
N.Y.	12.5	13.1	12.5	10.7	11.1	10.6
N.J.	12.0	12.6	12.2	10.6	10.0	10.1
Pa.	12.5	13.1	13.0	10.4	10.9	10.5
M. Atl.	12.5	13.1	12.7	10.6	10.9	10.5
Ohio	12.4	13.3	12.9	10.1	10.4	10.6
Ind.	12.6	13.5	13.0	10.4	11.0	10.7
Ill.	12.3	13.9	13.5	11.0	12.2	11.4
Mich.	12.4	13.4	12.7	10.4	11.1	10.3
Wis.	12.9	13.6	13.2	11.7	12.1	11.8
E.N. Cent.	12.5	13.5	13.1	10.8	11.4	11.1
Minn.	12.6	13.7	13.2	11.2	11.9	11.5
Iowa	12.6	14.0	13.2	11.2	12.3	11.5
Mo.	12.4	13.3	13.1	10.5	10.7	10.4
N. Dak.	12.5	13.6	13.5	11.5	12.0	11.9
S. Dak.	12.7	13.9	13.2	11.3	11.8	11.3
Nebr.	12.8	14.2	13.3	11.1	11.7	11.3
Kans.	12.5	13.1	12.9	10.7	11.0	10.6
W.N. Cent.	12.6	13.6	13.2	11.0	11.6	11.2
Del.	12.3	13.3	12.6	10.4	10.2	10.5
Md.	12.4	12.9	11.6	10.4	10.8	10.5
Va.	11.9	12.7	12.4	10.0	10.3	9.9
W. Va.	11.5	12.1	12.0	9.4	9.9	9.0
N. C.	11.7	12.3	11.9	10.2	10.4	9.7
S. C.	12.0	12.3	12.1	10.7	10.6	10.1
Ga.	11.9	12.6	11.9	10.8	10.8	10.3
Fla.	11.0	11.1	10.6	9.5	9.4	9.0
S. Atl.	11.8	12.4	11.9	10.3	10.5	10.0
Ky.	11.7	12.7	12.1	10.4	10.5	10.2
Tenn.	11.9	12.8	12.4	10.6	10.9	10.5
Ala.	11.8	12.1	12.0	10.7	10.6	10.2
Miss.	11.5	12.1	11.8	10.6	10.6	9.7
E.S. Cent.	11.7	12.4	12.1	10.6	10.6	10.1
Ark.	11.9	12.1	11.9	10.3	10.2	9.9
La.	11.2	11.3	11.0	10.0	9.9	9.4
Okla.	11.9	12.8	12.8	10.2	10.3	10.1
Tex.	11.9	12.7	12.3	10.4	10.4	10.3
W.S. Cent.	11.8	12.3	12.1	10.3	10.3	10.1
Mont.	12.6	13.1	13.2	10.7	10.8	10.6
Idaho	12.8	13.6	12.8	10.0	10.0	9.7
Wyo.	12.1	13.2	13.0	10.4	10.6	10.5
Colo.	12.5	13.4	13.0	10.5	10.7	10.0
N. Mex.	12.0	12.9	12.1	10.4	10.0	9.2
Ariz.	11.5	12.2	11.6	9.4	9.3	9.3
Utah	12.0	13.2	12.9	9.0	9.1	9.0
Nev.	11.6	12.1	12.0	9.0	10.5	9.0
Mount.	12.3	13.2	12.7	10.1	10.1	9.7
Wash.	11.5	12.3	12.2	10.0	9.8	9.8
Oreg.	11.8	12.2	12.0	9.6	9.5	9.2
Calif.	11.0	11.7	11.1	9.3	9.2	9.2
Pacific	11.3	12.0	11.6	9.5	9.3	9.3
U. S.	12.1	12.8	12.4	10.4	10.6	10.2

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