Farm Labor

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FARM EMPLOYMENT BELOW YEAR AGO
WAGE RATES CONTINUE ADVANCE

About 8.8 million persons were working on farms during the week of June 23-29, the Crop Reporting Board announced today. Of this total, nearly 6.3 million were farm operators or unpaid members of their families and 2.5 million were hired workers.

Total persons employed on the Nation's farms rose about 7 percent from a month earlier due mainly to a rather sharp seasonal increase in hired workers. Family labor declined slightly during the month.

In comparison with a year ago, total farm employment dropped 160,000 workers or about 2 percent. This was caused by a quarter of million fewer family workers being actually engaged in current farm operations. Four percent more hired workers only partially offset this decline in family workers. While labor demands increased seasonally it appears evident that the adverse planting and harvesting weather plus reduced acreages of such crops as cotton, tobacco, corn and peanuts has had some effect in holding down total employment during the spring and early summer months.

Farm wage rates continued to climb and around July 1 were at an all time high level for that date. For the country as a whole, they averaged 3 percent more than a year earlier. The seasonally adjusted wage rate index of 552 percent of the 1910-14 average compares with 535 a year ago and 510 for July 1955. All individual rates of pay were higher than last year.

Currently prevailing rates were higher than a year ago in all geographic regions. Based on the composite rate per hour, increases ranged from 1.3 cents in the West North Central to 3.4 cents in the Middle Atlantic States. Competition from industry was probably greatest in the latter area. Increases were general for all methods of pay. Every individual rate rose or held steady in all regions of the country.

All regions showed some seasonal increase in composite rates from April 1, but the average rose less than usual as evidenced by the drop of 2 percent in the seasonally adjusted index. The index shows mixed changes by regions from April but except for New England and the Mountain States, actual rate increases were less than usual from April to July. Decline in the index was

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sharpest in the West North Central States. Adverse weather in parts of this region held back many planting and harvesting operations and to July 1, labor supplies have generally been more than adequate to meet requirements for the curtailed activities.

Weather during the week of June 23-29 was quite variable, highlighted by a destructive hurricane, more wet weather and flooding in the central part of the United States, and continued drought along the northeastern coast. "Audrey", the season's first hurricane, caused much crop damage in Louisiana and Mississippi and rains preceding the storm front were unusually heavy from east central Kansas to central Indiana on the 27th and 28th. The heavy rains and wet soil had deleterious effects on the wheat, corn, soybean, and cotton crop prospects. Along the northeast coast, drought conditions reached from southern Maryland northward into Massachusetts. Rainfall was light throughout most of the West and Southwest and dry sunny weather favored crops and harvest operations in the far West. The adverse weather cut down the farm labor requirements in much of the middle United States.

The more important jobs throughout the country were harvesting small grains, cultivating various row crops and putting up hay. Small grain harvest was active in most of the heavy-growing areas but was progressing slowly under difficulty due to intermittent rains. For example, by the last week of June only about 5 percent of the winter wheat crop was harvested in Kansas compared with 87 percent at this time in 1956. A little better progress was being made in the East North Central States as harvest had advanced into Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. However, considerable grain was still unharvested in Kentucky, Tennessee, and even in States to the South due to the rather frequent and heavy rainfall. Haying was common throughout the country but curing was a problem in many areas due to the weather. Many row crops, like corn, cotton and soybeans were getting weedy due to lack of cultivation. To offset this, spraying was being used rather extensively.

Ordinarily, the planting season is nearly over by July 1 as far north as Kansas, Missouri and Indiana. However, due to the prolonged wet weather, farmers throughout the Southern and Central Regions of the country were still pondering planting plans in many fields while cultivating went on in neighboring areas.

Vegetable harvest was under way in many parts of the country and fruit harvest was likewise of considerable importance in the Southeast and Far West. Peach picking was in progress as far north as the Carolinas. Strawberry harvest had moved northward into Michigan, New York and Washington. Cherry picking was also under way in the Lakes States and the Pacific Northwest. The usual large variety of field and fruit crops were being harvested in California. Crop harvesting activity was at its low seasonal ebb in Florida and south Texas and most migrant labor had moved on north for the summer.

The total number of persons working on farms during the survey week in late June was lower than a year earlier in all regions except the Middle Atlantic, East North Central, Mountain and Pacific States. Each of these regions showed very small increases. Declines in the other regions were not

large, ranging from 61,000 workers or about 4 percent in the South Atlantic States down to less than 2 percent in the West North Central.

The decrease in total workers was due to a rather sharp decline in family workers. The number of family workers was steady in the Middle Atlantic and Pacific regions but fewer operators and family members were working on farms elsewhere. These declines ranged from 1 percent in the East North Central States to a high of 9 percent in the South Atlantic States.

Partially offsetting the decline in family workers was the increase in hired labor being used on the Nation's farms. There were about 93,000 more hired workers than were being used in late June a year ago. All except the South Central States showed more hired hands on farms than a year earlier. Wet fields caused by the hurricane and accompanying heavy rains kept workers out of fields in parts of this area during the survey week.

Shifts in number of workers from May to June showed more than the usual seasonal increase due to the sizable 34 percent increase in hired workers and a less than usual decline in family workers. The 560,000 workers or 7 percent increase compares with the usual May-June rise of 4 percent. Changes by regions reflect an almost universal pattern of more workers than a month ago. There was a decrease of only 1 percent in the West South Central States and even here there is usually a decline of 6 percent. The Pacific States, with many crops reaching harvest stage during the month, made the sharpest increase --18 percent of 111,000 more workers in June 1957 than a month earlier.

The number of family workers usually declines during June due to inactivity in the Southern and Mountain States. They followed the normal pattern in these areas this year but not to as great a degree. Increases in the New England, East North Central and Pacific States were greater than average. This led to only a 1-percent decline in family labor during the past month.

Hired labor took a somewhat more than usual May to June spurt, numbers advancing 34 percent compared to the 1952-56 average increase of 27 percent. This amounted to a change of 634,000 workers. Increases ranged from a high of 81 percent or 132,000 workers in the West North Central States to a low of 2 percent and 8,000 more workers in the West South Central region. Normally there is a decline in the latter area but weather conditions this year have delayed many farm activities beyond their usual date. Largest change in actual number of hired workers was found in the South Atlantic States. All regions increased more than average except in the Mountain States and even here the change was more than last year and just one percent below average.

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Farm employment: Persons employed during week of June 23-29, 1957, United States, with comparisons

	June average 1952-56 1/	June 17-23, 1956	May 19-25, 1957	June 23-29, 1957
FARM EMPLOYMENT (Thousands of persons)				
Total	9,486	8,958	8,238	8,798
Family labor	6,964	6,547	6,368	6,294
Hired labor	2,522	2,411	1,870	2,504
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES (Adjusted for seasonal variation, 1910-14=100)				
Total	62	59	57	58
Family labor	63	59	57	57
Hired labor	60	57	56	59

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

Farm wage rates: Wage rates, indexes and related data, July 1, 1957, United States, with comparisons 1/

	April 1, 1956	July 1, 1956	April 1, 1957	July 1, 1957
FARM WAGE RATES				
Per month with house	$152.00	$170.00	$159.00	$177.00
Per month with board and room	123.00	129.00	128.00	133.00
Per week with board and room	29.75	32.75	32.25	34.25
Per week without board or room	39.00	40.50	40.75	42.50
Per day with house	4.30	4.40	4.50	4.50
Per day with board and room	5.00	6.10	5.20	6.20
Per day without board or room	5.40	5.50	5.60	5.70
Per hour with house	.66	.83	.67	.86
Per hour without board or room	.89	.91	.92	.93
Composite rate per hour 2/	.615	.696	.643	.717
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES (1910-14=100)				
Adjusted for seasonal variation	538	535	562	552
RELATED INDEXES (1910-14=100)				
Prices received by farmers 3/	232	246	239	244*
Ratio of prices received to farm wage rates	43	46	43	44

1/ Wage rates on the average refer to a date two or three 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.
* June 15, 1957.

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Farm employment: Persons employed during week of June 23-29, 1957, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons

Geographic division	June average 1952-56 1/	May 20-26, 1956	June 17-23, 1956	May 19-25, 1957	June 23-29 1957
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
	TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT				
United States	9,486	8,739	8,958	8,238	8,798
New England	203	187	203	174	199
Middle Atlantic	590	483	533	471	537
East North Central	1,516	1,360	1,392	1,282	1,405
West North Central	1,744	1,565	1,611	1,472	1,584
South Atlantic	1,759	1,574	1,660	1,493	1,599
East South Central	1,390	1,330	1,346	1,278	1,289
West South Central	1,149	1,193	1,082	1,062	1,049
Mountain	410	396	403	386	405
Pacific	725	651	728	620	731
	FAMILY WORKERS 2/				
United States	6,964	6,734	6,547	6,368	6,294
New England	133	121	131	110	121
Middle Atlantic	420	374	388	372	388
East North Central	1,242	1,183	1,162	1,118	1,155
West North Central	1,413	1,385	1,321	1,309	1,289
South Atlantic	1,241	1,192	1,155	1,118	1,047
East South Central	1,131	1,067	1,084	1,040	1,027
West South Central	795	798	722	719	698
Mountain	236	262	234	242	219
Pacific	353	352	350	340	350
	HIRED WORKERS 3/				
United States	2,522	2,005	2,411	1,870	2,504
New England	70	66	72	64	78
Middle Atlantic	170	109	145	99	149
East North Central	274	177	230	164	250
West North Central	331	180	290	163	295
South Atlantic	518	382	505	375	552
East South Central	259	263	262	238	262
West South Central	354	395	360	343	351
Mountain	174	134	169	144	186
Pacific	372	299	378	280	381

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 June 1957, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons 1/

Geographic division	1952-56	1954	1955	1956	1957
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
	TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT				
United States	7,695	7,851	7,518	7,232	6,988
New England	161	164	160	159	159
Middle Atlantic	486	499	479	452	453
East North Central	1,255	1,283	1,232	1,185	1,167
West North Central	1,440	1,457	1,416	1,337	1,300
South Atlantic	1,341	1,378	1,292	1,239	1,202
East South Central	1,122	1,157	1,091	1,040	990
West South Central	1,008	1,024	982	946	867
Mountain	329	331	316	327	316
Pacific	553	558	550	547	534
	FAMILY WORKERS 2/				
United States	6,138	6,246	5,989	5,714	5,485
New England	111	113	109	108	104
Middle Atlantic	370	379	368	349	350
East North Central	1,095	1,113	1,073	1,036	1,017
West North Central	1,273	1,285	1,256	1,189	1,156
South Atlantic	1,029	1,055	986	933	888
East South Central	946	970	916	863	820
West South Central	773	789	749	702	641
Mountain	225	227	216	221	205
Pacific	316	315	316	313	304
	HIRED WORKERS 3/				
United States	1,557	1,605	1,529	1,518	1,503
New England	50	51	51	51	55
Middle Atlantic	116	120	111	103	103
East North Central	160	170	159	149	150
West North Central	167	172	160	148	144
South Atlantic	312	323	306	306	314
East South Central	176	187	175	177	170
West South Central	235	235	233	244	226
Mountain	104	104	100	106	111
Pacific	237	243	234	234	230

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, July 1, 1957, with comparisons

Geographic division	April 1, 1956	July 1, 1956	April 1, 1957	July 1, 1957
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
PER MONTH WITH HOUSE				
New England	174.00	180.00	190.00	192.00
Middle Atlantic	178.00	177.00	186.00	185.00
East North Central	166.00	170.00	177.00	177.00
West North Central	161.00	165.00	166.00	170.00
Mountain	206.00	202.00	212.00	210.00
Pacific	247.00	249.00	255.00	258.00
PER MONTH WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	130.00	143.00	144.00	147.00
Middle Atlantic	125.00	126.00	131.00	133.00
East North Central	124.00	128.00	131.00	133.00
West North Central	125.00	132.00	130.00	134.00
Mountain	155.00	157.00	158.00	162.00
Pacific	190.00	192.00	194.00	200.00
PER WEEK WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	35.00	38.50	38.75	40.25
Middle Atlantic	32.75	33.75	35.00	35.50
PER WEEK WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	49.75	51.25	52.75	53.50
Middle Atlantic	45.50	45.75	48.25	48.75
PER DAY WITH HOUSE				
South Atlantic	4.40	4.30	4.60	4.45
East South Central	3.50	3.50	3.70	3.70
West South Central	4.90	5.20	5.00	5.20
PER DAY WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
East North Central	6.20	6.50	6.50	6.70
West North Central	6.30	6.90	6.60	7.00
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	8.40	8.80	9.00	9.10
Middle Atlantic	7.90	8.20	8.30	8.60
East North Central	7.80	8.10	8.20	8.40
West North Central	7.90	8.50	8.20	8.70
South Atlantic	5.10	5.10	5.40	5.20
East South Central	4.15	4.20	4.30	4.35
West South Central	5.40	5.70	5.60	5.80
Mountain	7.90	8.20	8.20	8.50
PER HOUR WITH HOUSE				
South Atlantic	.57	--	.59	--
East South Central	.48	--	.50	--
West South Central	.58	--	.59	--
Pacific	1.04	1.05	1.07	1.08
PER HOUR WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	1.08	1.10	1.11	1.12
Middle Atlantic	1.01	1.03	1.05	1.06
East North Central	1.03	1.03	1.05	1.06
West North Central	.99	1.02	1.00	1.03
South Atlantic	.68	.64	.70	.66
East South Central	.57	.55	.59	.57
West South Central	.67	.68	.70	.71
Mountain	.96	.97	.97	1.02
Pacific	1.11	1.14	1.15	1.16

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Farm wage rates: Wage rates by States and regions, July 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	170.00	136.00	34.00	49.00	--	-	8.20	-	1.02	.862	519
N. H.	176.00	145.00	39.00	52.00	-	-	8.80	-	1.07	.919	605
Vt.	165.00	136.00	34.50	47.00	-	-	8.20	-	1.07	.869	566
Mass.	193.00	150.00	43.50	54.00	-	-	9.40	-	1.16	.984	643
R. I.	205.00	150.00	42.00	57.00	-	-	9.50	-	1.18	1.004	690
Conn.	212.00	160.00	44.50	58.00	-	-	9.80	-	1.23	1.039	703
New Eng.	180.00	143.00	38.50	51.25	-	-	8.80	-	1.10	.923	603
N. Y.	178.00	128.00	34.50	47.50	-	-	8.40	-	1.06	.892	499
N. J.	210.00	151.00	39.00	49.50	-	-	9.40	-	1.09	.943	630
Pa.	161.00	114.00	30.50	42.50	-	-	7.50	-	.98	.816	598
Mid. Atl.	177.00	126.00	33.75	45.75	-	-	8.20	-	1.03	.870	553
Ohio	160.00	122.00	-	-	-	6.20	7.70	-	1.02	.783	554
Ind.	158.00	121.00	-	-	-	6.30	7.70	-	1.03	.786	573
Ill.	180.00	140.00	-	-	-	7.10	8.50	-	1.06	.843	583
Mich.	185.00	128.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.30	-	1.05	.825	550
Wis.	171.00	129.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.20	-	1.01	.800	517
E.N.Cent.	170.00	128.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.10	-	1.03	.807	554
Minn.	169.00	134.00	-	-	-	7.30	8.80	-	1.04	.900	496
Iowa	170.00	139.00	-	-	-	7.60	9.20	-	1.07	.929	496
Mo.	139.00	106.00	-	-	-	5.50	6.80	-	.92	.762	602
N.Dak.	180.00	155.00	-	-	-	6.80	8.60	-	1.01	.886	439
S.Dak.	166.00	135.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.00	-	.98	.844	457
Nebr.	175.00	143.00	-	-	-	7.20	9.00	-	1.03	.902	527
Kans.	171.00	130.00	-	-	-	7.30	8.80	-	1.05	.904	623
W.N.Cent.	165.00	132.00	-	-	-	6.90	8.50	-	1.02	.878	522
Del.	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	7.80	-	.95	.826	766
Md.	-	-	-	-	5.70	-	7.10	-	.93	.777	793
Va.	-	-	-	-	4.85	-	5.80	-	.72	.618	694
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	4.25	-	5.20	-	.69	.570	461
N. C.	-	-	-	-	4.70	-	5.50	-	.65	.577	684
S. C.	-	-	-	-	3.30	-	3.90	-	.47	.412	586
Ga.	-	-	-	-	3.70	-	4.30	-	.59	.477	571
Fla.	-	-	-	-	5.60	-	6.00	-	.75	.645	678
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	4.30	-	5.10	-	.64	.543	635
Ky.	-	-	-	-	3.90	-	4.80	-	.66	.479	520
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	3.35	-	4.15	-	.52	.409	464
Ala.	-	-	-	-	3.50	-	4.00	-	.52	.407	514
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.40	-	3.75	-	.50	.387	478
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	3.55	-	4.20	-	.55	.421	482
Ark.	-	-	-	-	4.55	-	4.85	-	.62	.526	535
La.	-	-	-	-	4.05	-	4.40	-	.55	.472	558
Okla.	-	-	-	-	6.50	-	7.30	-	.87	.763	588
Tex.	-	-	-	-	5.40	-	6.00	-	.69	.621	546
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	5.20	-	5.70	-	.68	.599	558
Mont.	209.00	171.00	-	-	-	-	8.60	-	1.05	.823	440
Idaho	227.00	181.00	-	-	-	-	9.20	-	1.06	.864	526
Wyo.	191.00	149.00	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	1.02	.795	443
Colo.	195.00	147.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	.93	.742	532
N.Mex.	169.00	121.00	-	-	-	-	6.50	-	.76	.612	556
Ariz.	230.00	160.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	.85	.754	558
Utah	210.00	178.00	-	-	-	-	8.40	-	1.10	.836	566
Nev.	210.00	160.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	1.10	.807	482
Mountain	202.00	157.00	-	-	-	-	8.20	-	.97	.771	508
Wash.	254.00	203.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.14	1.20	1.156	587
Oreg.	230.00	183.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.09	1.12	1.078	536
Calif.	252.00	192.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.02	1.13	1.087	518
Pacific	249.00	192.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.05	1.14	1.098	525
U. S.	170.00	129.00	32.75	40.50	4.40	6.10	5.50	.83	.91	.696	535

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, July 1, 1957 1/

State and region	Per month		Per week		Per day			Per hour		Com-posite 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	Without board or room	With house	Without board or room		
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
Maine	185.00	140.00	38.50	52.00	-	-	8.40	-	1.05	.900	542
N. H.	194.00	146.00	39.00	54.00	-	-	9.20	-	1.10	.949	624
Vt.	178.00	144.00	36.00	49.50	-	-	8.80	-	1.07	.901	587
Mass.	204.00	154.00	44.00	57.00	-	-	9.70	-	1.22	1.025	670
R. I.	210.00	156.00	44.00	58.00	-	-	9.80	-	1.20	1.027	706
Conn.	215.00	162.00	46.50	58.00	-	-	9.90	-	1.23	1.046	707
New Eng.	192.00	147.00	40.25	53.50	-	-	9.10	-	1.12	.952	622
N. Y.	190.00	138.00	36.75	51.00	-	-	9.00	-	1.09	.930	521
N. J.	206.00	148.00	38.00	52.75	-	-	9.20	-	1.12	.960	641
Pa.	173.00	123.00	33.50	45.00	-	-	7.90	-	1.02	.857	628
Mid. Atl.	185.00	133.00	35.50	48.75	-	-	8.60	-	1.06	.904	575
Ohio	159.00	121.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.10	-	1.07	.813	576
Ind.	162.00	125.00	-	-	-	6.30	8.00	-	1.07	.815	594
Ill.	186.00	146.00	-	-	-	7.40	8.80	-	1.07	.863	597
Mich.	196.00	135.00	-	-	-	6.80	8.40	-	1.06	.842	561
Wis.	182.00	136.00	-	-	-	6.60	8.40	-	1.05	.833	539
E.N.Cent.	177.00	133.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.40	-	1.06	.834	573
Minn.	175.00	140.00	-	-	-	7.40	9.10	-	1.07	.927	510
Iowa	177.00	144.00	-	-	-	7.80	9.60	-	1.08	.948	507
Mo.	140.00	106.00	-	-	-	5.60	7.00	-	.93	.772	610
N.Dak.	187.00	159.00	-	-	-	7.10	9.10	-	1.06	.929	460
S.Dak.	171.00	139.00	-	-	-	6.90	8.60	-	1.02	.884	479
Nebr.	182.00	140.00	-	-	-	6.90	8.90	-	1.02	.891	521
Kans.	176.00	135.00	-	-	-	7.30	9.10	-	1.05	.913	629
W.N.Cent.	170.00	134.00	-	-	-	7.00	8.70	-	1.03	.891	529
Del.	-	-	-	-	6.40	-	8.20	-	.96	.857	794
Md.	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	7.50	-	.94	.810	826
Va.	-	-	-	-	5.00	-	6.00	-	.75	.642	720
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	4.40	-	5.50	-	.75	.608	493
N.C.	-	-	-	-	4.70	-	5.50	-	.67	.583	691
S.C.	-	-	-	-	3.40	-	3.95	-	.49	.422	600
Ga.	-	-	-	-	3.80	-	4.40	-	.60	.487	582
Fla.	-	-	-	-	5.40	-	5.80	-	.76	.635	668
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	4.45	-	5.20	-	.66	.559	654
Ky.	-	-	-	-	4.05	-	5.10	-	.70	.506	548
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	3.50	-	4.20	-	.55	.420	476
Ala.	-	-	-	-	3.55	-	4.05	-	.51	.410	518
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.55	-	3.90	-	.50	.401	495
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	3.70	-	4.35	-	.57	.438	502
Ark.	-	-	-	-	4.60	-	5.00	-	.62	.534	542
La.	-	-	-	-	4.10	-	4.60	-	.58	.492	582
Okla.	-	-	-	-	6.20	-	7.30	-	.89	.764	589
Tex.	-	-	-	-	5.50	-	6.10	-	.73	.641	564
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	5.20	-	5.80	-	.71	.616	574
Mont.	208.00	176.00	-	-	-	-	8.70	-	1.07	.835	446
Idaho	233.00	183.00	-	-	-	-	9.70	-	1.12	.900	548
Wyo.	210.00	155.00	-	-	-	-	9.30	-	1.09	.840	468
Colo.	205.00	150.00	-	-	-	-	8.60	-	1.05	.800	573
N.Mex.	168.00	117.00	-	-	-	-	6.30	-	.78	.607	552
Ariz.	239.00	165.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	.85	.763	564
Utah	219.00	193.00	-	-	-	-	9.10	-	1.11	.880	597
Nev.	220.00	160.00	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	1.15	.856	512
Mountain	210.00	162.00	-	-	-	-	8.50	-	1.02	.804	530
Wash.	258.00	210.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.17	1.25	1.201	610
Oreg.	232.00	186.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.10	1.15	1.104	549
Calif.	265.00	200.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.04	1.13	1.091	520
Pacific	258.00	200.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.08	1.16	1.117	534
U. S.	177.00	133.00	34.25	42.50	4.50	6.20	5.70	.86	.93	.717	552

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service

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 1957 issue of Farm Labor.

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