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Farm Labor

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FARM EMPLOYMENT RISES 4 PERCENT DURING MONTH
STILL UNDER YEAR AGO
WAGE RATES CONTINUE STRONG

Farm employment in late June was 4 percent greater than a month earlier, the Crop Reporting Board announced today. This increase was about the same as the usual rise from late May. A sharp increase in hired workers more than offset the small drop in the number of family laborers.

About 8-2/3 million persons were working on the Nation's farms during the week of June 22-28, 1958. Of these, 72 percent were operators and unpaid members of their families and 2,455,000 or about 28 percent were wage workers.

Compared with a year earlier, there was 1 percent, or 121,000 fewer total workers. Wet weather and reduced crop acreages in the South, the latter a result of heavy participation of the Soil Bank program, led to most of the declines from June 1957. The South Atlantic and South Central States accounted for practically all of the decrease in total workers.

Wage Rates

Farm wage rates around July 1 held at about the same level as the two previous quarters in 1958. The seasonally adjusted wage rate index reached the new high of 567 percent of the 1910-14 average on January 1, 1958. There was no change by April 1 and the current July 1 index computes to 566, or practically the same as the high around the first of the year. Reduced crop acreages and the business recession have probably increased the supply of labor available for farm work and generally helped to stabilize farm wages. A few areas still report advances in wage rates, with local shortages of labor, but these are offset by lower rates in other sections of the country. Higher rates seem to be prevailing throughout most of the Mid-west and Plains States where the small grain harvest is active.

Practically all types of farm wage rates were slightly higher than a year earlier. The rate per week with board and room was the only exception and this rate was only 25¢ under the July 1957 average. For the Nation as a whole, the composite hourly wage rate was 72.8 cents per hour compared with 71.7 cents a year earlier.

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Agricultural Marketing Service — Crop Reporting Board
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On a regional basis, wage rates averaged slightly higher than a year earlier in all except the East North Central and South Atlantic States. Here, the declines were very small, less than 1 cent per hour as measured by the composite rate.

All regions reflected some seasonal increase in the composite rate from April 1, 1958, but the changes were about as usual since there was only a one point drop in the seasonally adjusted index. The index by regions showed mixed changes from the last quarter, but none differed by more than 3 percent.

The Pacific Coast States continued to show the highest average farm wage rates with the New England area second. Lowest rates were in the East South Central States, where the composite rate of 44.6 cents per hour was only about 40 percent of the average for the Pacific States.

Agricultural Activities

Weather during the survey week of June 22-28 was moderately favorable for farm work in most sections of the country. Temperatures were quite low for late June in the middle portion of the country and rains occurred along with the cold air as it moved across the Nation from Canada during June 24-27. Many local thunderstorms produced 3 to 6 inches, but heavy rains did not occur over extensive areas, nor hold back field work for any extended period of time. Areas most seriously affected by the rains were Arkansas and northern Louisiana, southern Indiana, central Kansas and several smaller areas along the eastern Seaboard.

Showers early in the survey week delayed winter wheat harvest in the central and southern Great Plains, but progress was rapid late in the week. There was a great demand for temporary labor, especially for truck and tractor drivers in the wheat harvest area in Oklahoma, Kansas, and Colorado. Wheat harvest was just beginning in the Ohio and middle Mississippi River Valleys and in Oregon and southern Washington. Oat harvest was virtually completed in southern areas, and started in Missouri and southern Illinois. Barley harvest had progressed northward in the central areas, was underway in the Columbia River Basin and on the east coast combining was active as far north as Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Cotton chopping and cultivation was active throughout much of the Cotton Belt. The first bale of cotton was ginned on June 20 in south Texas. Many fields in the Lower Valley have open bolls and cotton is fruiting as far North as northern Alabama. Many farmers are busy applying poisons to help control boll weevil and bollworm infestations.

Showers throughout much of the Corn Belt temporarily delayed cultivation and has made weed control a problem. Considerable corn was being sprayed for weeds. Bottom lands flooded earlier across Indiana and Illinois presented a problem with replanting a gamble. Much of this land was being seeded to soybeans.

Hay harvest was active across the Nation as weather permitted. Livestock ranchers in the mountains were busy moving cattle and sheep to the higher summer ranges.

Besides the major operations of harvesting small grains and hays, farmers were busy harvesting a variety of other crops in many different areas across the country. Fruits and vegetable crops were probably the most important and certainly consuming the most labor. Peach picking was active in Georgia and South Carolina. Melon harvest was underway in Florida and Georgia. Harvest of tomatoes, beans, cucumbers, potatoes, and many other fresh vegetable crops was active along the East Coast and in central vegetable areas. California had its usual heavy harvest load, with such crops as tomatoes, carrots, celery, potatoes, melons, and strawberries. Strawberry picking elsewhere had advanced into Washington, New York, and the New England States. Apricot and peach harvest was well advanced in California. Cherry harvest and caneberry picking were getting underway in the Pacific Northwest and pea pack operations were building up to full scale in Minnesota.

Tobacco harvest was underway in Florida and Georgia, topping and suckering was active in other growing areas. Sugar beet thinning and hoeing was also taking considerable labor in several of the northern and western States.

Employment by Geographic Regions

The total number of persons working on farms during the survey week in late June was higher than a month earlier in all regions except the West South Central States. Widespread and rather heavy rains interfered with field activities in Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana, while farm work in Texas progressed fairly satisfactorily with only showers to delay work. This unfavorable weather resulted in 146,000 fewer workers in that region than a month earlier, more than twice the usual decline. Increases in other regions ranged from a very slight rise in the East South Central States to a 14-percent jump in the Middle Atlantic States. All of the increase in total workers from a month earlier was attributable to the hiring of more wage hands, chiefly for harvest operations. The South Atlantic and West North Central States made the largest changes. Fruit, vegetable and the start of tobacco harvest necessitated more help in the Southeast, whereas small grain harvest getting underway in the Plains States led to more hired help in that section of the country. The number of family workers showed actual drops or only small increases in all except the New England and Middle Atlantic States. Here, the late progress of the season necessitated additional family as well as more hired help to keep abreast of pressing farm work.

Changes in total farm employment from a year earlier were quite small, ranging from a 2-percent increase in the West North Central States to 4-percent declines in both South Central regions. Three regions, the Middle Atlantic, Mountain, and Pacific States, showed a change of 1 percent or less.

Family and hired labor shared fairly equally in the national decline of 1 percent from July 1957. Only 3 regions reflected an increase in family workers, and the largest was 2 percent. At the same time, declines were small, the greatest being 5 percent in the East South Central States. As for hired help, changes from last year were likewise rather insignificant by regions. The largest was reflected by 6 percent declines in the West South Central and East North Central States, largely due to the rainy weather this year. A 5-percent increase in the Middle Atlantic region was the most change in the other direction.

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Farm employment: Persons employed during week of June 22-28, 1958, United States, with comparisons

	June average 1953-57 1/	June 23-29, 1957	May 18-24, 1958	June 22-28, 1958
FARM EMPLOYMENT (Thousands of persons)				
Total	9,302	8,798	8,369	8,677
Family labor	6,774	6,294	6,303	6,222
Hired labor	2,528	2,504	2,066	2,455
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES (Adjusted for seasonal variation, 1910-14=100)				
Total	61	58	58	57
Family labor	61	57	56	56
Hired labor	60	59	61	58

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, July 1, 1958, United States, with comparisons 1/

	April 1, 1957	July 1, 1957	April 1, 1958	July 1, 1958
FARM WAGE RATES				
Per month with house	$159.00	$177.00	$165.00	$181.00
Per month with board and room	128.00	133.00	132.00	135.00
Per week with board and room	32.25	34.25	33.00	34.00
Per week without board or room	40.75	42.50	41.25	42.75
Per day with house	4.50	4.50	4.65	4.60
Per day with board and room	5.20	6.20	5.40	6.40
Per day without board or room	5.60	5.70	5.80	5.80
Per hour with house	.67	.86	.68	.87
Per hour without board or room	.92	.93	.94	.94
Composite rate per hour 2/	.643	.717	.657	.728
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES (1910-14=100)				
Adjusted for seasonal variation	562	552	567	566
RELATED INDEXES (1910-14=100)				
Prices received by farmers 3/	239	246	264	255 *
Ratio of prices received to farm wage rates	43	45	47	45

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.
* June 15, 1958.

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Farm employment: Persons employed during week of June 22-28, 1958, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons

Geographic division	June average 1953-57 1/	May 19-25, 1957	June 23-29, 1957	May 18-24, 1958	June 22-28, 1958
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
	TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT				
United States	9,302	8,238	8,798	8,369	8,677
New England	203	174	199	182	196
Middle Atlantic	574	471	537	477	542
East North Central	1,487	1,282	1,405	1,309	1,368
West North Central	1,705	1,472	1,584	1,511	1,613
South Atlantic	1,714	1,493	1,599	1,445	1,571
East South Central	1,366	1,278	1,289	1,235	1,238
West South Central	1,119	1,062	1,049	1,155	1,009
Mountain	407	386	405	387	406
Pacific	727	620	731	668	734
	FAMILY WORKERS 2/				
United States	6,774	6,368	6,294	6,303	6,222
New England	131	110	121	116	122
Middle Atlantic	411	372	388	365	386
East North Central	1,217	1,118	1,155	1,132	1,133
West North Central	1,379	1,309	1,289	1,309	1,313
South Atlantic	1,184	1,118	1,047	1,073	1,043
East South Central	1,100	1,040	1,027	991	979
West South Central	768	719	698	724	679
Mountain	232	242	219	243	224
Pacific	352	340	350	350	343
	HIRED WORKERS 3/				
United States	2,528	1,870	2,504	2,066	2,455
New England	72	64	78	66	74
Middle Atlantic	163	99	149	112	156
East North Central	270	164	250	177	235
West North Central	326	163	295	202	300
South Atlantic	530	375	552	372	528
East South Central	266	238	262	244	259
West South Central	351	343	351	431	330
Mountain	175	144	186	144	182
Pacific	375	280	381	318	391

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 1958, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons 1/

Geographic division	1953-57	1955	1956	1957	1958
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
	TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT				
United States	7,501	7,518	7,232	6,988	6,884
New England	160	160	159	159	157
Middle Atlantic	477	479	452	453	448
East North Central	1,230	1,232	1,185	1,167	1,159
West North Central	1,401	1,416	1,337	1,300	1,311
South Atlantic	1,299	1,292	1,239	1,202	1,138
East South Central	1,089	1,091	1,040	990	934
West South Central	972	982	946	867	879
Mountain	325	316	327	316	317
Pacific	548	550	547	534	541
	FAMILY WORKERS 2/				
United States	5,954	5,989	5,714	5,485	5,358
New England	109	109	108	104	105
Middle Atlantic	365	368	349	350	343
East North Central	1,072	1,073	1,036	1,017	1,008
West North Central	1,241	1,256	1,189	1,156	1,154
South Atlantic	986	986	933	888	835
East South Central	910	916	863	820	768
West South Central	738	749	702	641	633
Mountain	220	216	221	205	206
Pacific	313	316	313	304	306
	HIRED WORKERS 3/				
United States	1,547	1,529	1,518	1,503	1,526
New England	51	51	51	55	52
Middle Atlantic	112	111	103	103	105
East North Central	158	159	149	150	151
West North Central	160	160	148	144	157
South Atlantic	313	306	306	314	303
East South Central	179	175	177	170	166
West South Central	234	233	244	226	246
Mountain	105	100	106	111	111
Pacific	235	234	234	230	235

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, 1958, with comparisons

Geographic division	April 1, 1957	July 1, 1957	April 1, 1958	July 1, 1958
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
PER MONTH WITH HOUSE				
New England	190.00	192.00	198.00	197.00
Middle Atlantic	186.00	185.00	191.00	194.00
East North Central	177.00	177.00	180.00	178.00
West North Central	166.00	170.00	173.00	177.00
Mountain	212.00	210.00	215.00	212.00
Pacific	255.00	258.00	257.00	260.00
PER MONTH WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	144.00	147.00	148.00	149.00
Middle Atlantic	131.00	133.00	136.00	138.00
East North Central	131.00	133.00	132.00	131.00
West North Central	130.00	134.00	135.00	140.00
Mountain	158.00	162.00	164.00	166.00
Pacific	194.00	200.00	198.00	200.00
PER WEEK WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	38.75	40.25	40.50	39.75
Middle Atlantic	35.00	35.50	35.50	36.25
PER WEEK WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	52.75	53.50	54.00	54.00
Middle Atlantic	48.25	48.75	48.00	49.25
PER DAY WITH HOUSE				
South Atlantic	4.60	4.45	4.80	4.45
East South Central	3.70	3.70	3.70	3.75
West South Central	5.00	5.20	5.20	5.40
PER DAY WITH BOARD AND ROOM	—	—	—	—
East North Central	6.50	6.70	6.50	6.70
West North Central	6.60	7.00	6.80	7.20
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	9.00	9.10	9.30	9.20
Middle Atlantic	8.30	8.60	8.50	8.60
East North Central	8.20	8.40	8.10	8.30
West North Central	8.20	8.70	8.50	9.00
South Atlantic	5.40	5.20	5.50	5.20
East South Central	4.30	4.35	4.30	4.45
West South Central	5.60	5.80	5.90	6.20
Mountain	8.20	8.50	8.30	8.70
PER HOUR WITH HOUSE				
South Atlantic	.59	--	.58	--
East South Central	.50	--	.48	--
West South Central	.59	--	.62	--
Pacific	1.07	1.08	1.08	1.09
PER HOUR WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	1.11	1.12	1.14	1.12
Middle Atlantic	1.05	1.06	1.07	1.08
East North Central	1.05	1.06	1.04	1.05
West North Central	1.00	1.03	1.03	1.05
South Atlantic	.70	.66	.72	.65
East South Central	.59	.57	.58	.59
West South Central	.70	.71	.73	.73
Mountain	.97	1.02	1.00	1.01
Pacific	1.15	1.16	1.16	1.17

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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	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	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 published where they are relatively unimportant, but are estimated for use in computing U.S. averages. 2/ Adjusted for seasonal variation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service

Farm wage rates: Wage rates by States and regions, July 1, 1958 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	195.00	144.00	35.50	51.50	-	-	8.60	-	1.03	.892	537
N. H.	196.00	146.00	39.50	55.00	-	-	9.40	-	1.08	.954	622
Vt.	178.00	145.00	36.00	49.00	-	-	8.90	-	1.10	.911	587
Mass.	209.00	154.00	45.00	58.50	-	-	9.80	-	1.20	1.031	674
R. I.	215.00	157.00	46.00	60.50	-	-	10.00	-	1.18	1.042	724
Conn.	215.00	159.00	46.50	60.50	-	-	10.10	-	1.24	1.065	734
New Eng.	197.00	149.00	39.75	54.00	-	-	9.20	-	1.12	.957	619
N. Y.	200.00	141.00	37.00	51.50	-	-	8.80	-	1.11	.944	538
N. J.	219.00	160.00	41.00	52.75	-	-	9.50	-	1.14	.985	646
Pa.	177.00	126.00	33.50	45.00	-	-	7.90	-	1.02	.858	629
Mid. Atl.	194.00	138.00	36.25	49.25	-	-	8.60	-	1.08	.917	588
Ohio	165.00	124.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.00	-	1.06	.811	585
Ind.	166.00	120.00	-	-	-	6.10	7.70	-	1.03	.787	579
Ill.	187.00	146.00	-	-	-	7.40	9.00	-	1.08	.871	620
Mich.	193.00	129.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.40	-	1.05	.829	573
Wis.	182.00	137.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.60	-	1.05	.837	546
E.N.Cent.	178.00	131.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.30	-	1.05	.827	574
Minn.	176.00	140.00	-	-	-	7.60	9.50	-	1.10	.953	534
Iowa	184.00	151.00	-	-	-	8.00	9.80	-	1.09	.963	524
Mo.	142.00	111.00	-	-	-	5.50	7.00	-	.94	.780	621
N.Dak.	192.00	161.00	-	-	-	7.20	9.10	-	1.04	.920	464
S.Dak.	176.00	144.00	-	-	-	7.00	8.80	-	1.03	.897	486
Nebr.	194.00	146.00	-	-	-	7.30	9.20	-	1.04	.917	555
Kans.	182.00	140.00	-	-	-	7.70	9.50	-	1.09	.950	673
W.N.Cent.	177.00	140.00	-	-	-	7.20	9.00	-	1.05	.913	558
Del.	-	-	-	-	6.80	-	8.70	-	.97	.890	834
Md.	-	-	-	-	6.20	-	7.70	-	.98	.833	858
Va.	-	-	-	-	4.95	-	6.00	-	.75	.641	712
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	4.45	-	5.60	-	.72	.604	489
N. C.	-	-	-	-	4.65	-	5.60	-	.65	.582	690
S. C.	-	-	-	-	3.40	-	3.90	-	.47	.412	568
Ga.	-	-	-	-	3.90	-	4.50	-	.61	.497	582
Fla.	-	-	-	-	5.60	-	6.00	-	.75	.645	671
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	4.45	-	5.20	-	.65	.558	653
Ky.	-	-	-	-	4.05	-	5.10	-	.71	.507	543
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	3.60	-	4.40	-	.57	.437	501
Ala.	-	-	-	-	3.65	-	4.20	-	.52	.423	534
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.55	-	3.90	-	.54	.405	494
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	3.75	-	4.45	-	.59	.446	511
Ark.	-	-	-	-	4.75	-	5.30	-	.64	.558	566
La.	-	-	-	-	4.40	-	4.70	-	.59	.506	599
Okla.	-	-	-	-	6.80	-	7.90	-	.92	.814	634
Tex.	-	-	-	-	5.60	-	6.40	-	.75	.663	589
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	5.40	-	6.20	-	.73	.643	605
Mont.	211.00	172.00	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	1.09	.846	466
Idaho	237.00	185.00	-	-	-	-	10.10	-	1.12	.916	564
Wyo.	209.00	158.00	-	-	-	-	8.80	-	1.10	.829	461
Colo.	203.00	158.00	-	-	-	-	8.90	-	1.00	.802	569
N.Mex.	175.00	130.00	-	-	-	-	6.60	-	.79	.634	583
Ariz.	245.00	175.00	-	-	-	-	8.40	-	.90	.801	586
Utah	220.00	195.00	-	-	-	-	9.20	-	1.10	.883	598
Nev.	240.00	170.00	-	-	-	-	9.20	-	1.20	.896	541
Mountain	212.00	166.00	-	-	-	-	8.70	-	1.01	.811	534
Wash.	252.00	202.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.16	1.25	1.200	597
Oreg.	231.00	181.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.09	1.17	1.121	564
Calif.	270.00	205.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.07	1.14	1.106	528
Pacific	260.00	200.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.09	1.17	1.128	540
U. S.	181.00	135.00	34.00	42.75	4.60	6.40	5.80	.87	.94	.728	566

1/ Certain wage rates are not published where they are relatively unimportant, but are estimated for use in computing U.S. averages. 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 spending any time 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. Working 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 A.M.S. 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 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 1958 issue of Farm Labor.

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