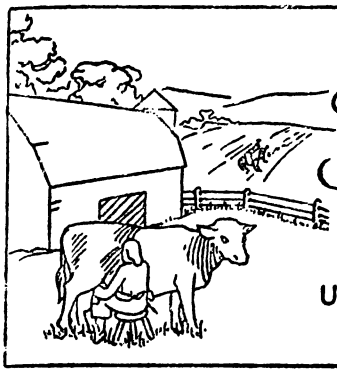
PERIODICAL ROOM



Farm Labor

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C. July 11, 1955

FARM EMPLOYMENT UNDER LAST YEAR WAGE RATES HIGHER

About 9.3 million people were at work on farms during the week of June 19-25, the Crop Reporting Board reported today. Of this total, 6.8 million were operators and unpaid members of their families and 2.5 million were hired workers. The number of family workers was 2 percent less than a year earlier and the number of hired workers was 6 percent less.

In comparison with a month earlier, the number of family workers was down 2 percent while the number of hired workers was up about a fourth or about a half million. Both changes were about usual for the season.

Farm wage rates on about July 1 averaged 1 percent more than a year earlier for the country as a whole. The seasonally adjusted index of farm wage rates was 510 percent of the 1910-14 average compared with 505 July 1, 1954. All types of rates for the Nation were higher than a year ago. Monthly rates were up $3.00, weekly rates about $1.00, daily rates 10 cents, and hourly rates 1 cent.

On a regional basis, wage rates averaged higher than a year ago in all regions except the West North Central. Increases varied from 1 percent to 4 percent with the largest increase in the New England States. Increases in industrial wage rates probably had the greatest effect in this area. Individual rates were also all higher than a year earlier except in the West North Central States and in a few cases where individual rates held steady. In the West North Central States, the monthly rate with house, and the daily rate without board or room were under a year earlier while the hourly rate without board or room remained the same. Rather slow progress of winter wheat harvest may account for the failure of wage rates to increase in this region as they did in other regions.

Individual types of wage rates for the country as a whole were up from April 1 but not as much as usual as indicated by the drop of 1 percent in the seasonally adjusted index. The index indicates that by regions, changes from April 1 were mixed. The index was down in the Middle Atlantic, East and West North Central, and South Atlantic States, up in the New England, East and

West South Central States, and about the same in the Mountain and Pacific States. The largest changes were the increase in the New England States and the decrease in the West North Central States. Changes in other regions were about 1 percent or less.

For individual types of rates, practically all rates in all regions were up seasonally except in the South Atlantic States. In this region, all individual rates were lower than the previous quarter. A decrease in individual types of rates is usual for the season in this region, but the decrease in the seasonally adjusted index indicates a little greater than usual drop this year. Wage rates in this region are probably influenced by large numbers of children out of school working for lower rates than persons available about April 1.

Weather during the week of June 19-25 was generally favorable for farm work. Temperatures were a little above normal in the Mountain States and slightly below normal in the rest of the country. Rain in the form of scattered showers was light in most of the country. Moderate to heavy rains hit the Atlantic Coast, eastern Texas, and a narrow belt from Eastern Wyoming to Tennessee.

Farm work during the survey week consisted largely of cultivation of row crops and harvest of small grains and hays. Cultivation of crops was in progress practically everywhere. In some areas of the South, crops had been "laid by." Small grain harvest was completed in much of the South and was starting in the North Central States. Winter wheat harvest was completed in Texas except in the High Plains area and was well along in Kansas. In Kansas, cloudy weather, uneven ripening, and weeds were slowing harvest slightly. Very little combining was done in the western part of the State. Supplies of men and equipment were adequate.

Most planting was completed before the end of June. However, in parts of the South, soybeans and grain sorghums were being planted after small grains had been harvested.

Besides the major operations of harvesting small grains and hay, farmers were harvesting a variety of other crops in many different areas. Fruits and vegetables of various kinds were probably the most important. Tobacco was being harvested in the southern part of the Tobacco Belt. In Texas, grain sorghums were being harvested in the south, and cotton was being picked in the Lower Valley.

Decreases from a year ago in the total number of persons working on farms during the survey week ranged from 1 percent to 6 percent. In most cases, the numbers of family workers and of hired workers were each less than a year earlier. In the New England States there were a few more hired workers than a year earlier. In the Pacific States, there were a few more family workers than a year earlier, while in the West South Central States there was no change in the number of family workers. A 15-percent decrease in the West North Central States in hired workers was probably largely due to a change from last year in the progress of wheat harvest in Kansas and Nebraska.

The usual pattern of change from May to June in the numbers of family workers was followed this year. There are usually increases in the New England and Middle Atlantic States where field work starts late, little change in the East North Central, East South Central, and the Pacific States, and decreases elsewhere.

For hired workers, the usual increases from May to June range from 40 percent to 60 percent in the Middle Atlantic, East and West North Central, and South Atlantic States. This year, increases were greater than usual in all these regions except the West North Central. Seasonal increases are usually moderate in the East South Central, Mountain, and Pacific States. They were that this year with a larger than usual rise in the Mountain States and an increase of less than average size in the Pacific States. There was a small increase of about the usual proportion in the New England States. In the West South Central States where there is usually little change the number of hired workers was 12 percent less than a month earlier. The decrease is partly the result of the more than usual increase a month earlier.

The total number of persons at work on farms was up 5 percent to 9 percent from late May to June in five of nine regions. In the Middle Atlantic States there were 16 percent more persons at work than a month earlier, about the usual rise. In the East South Central and the Mountain, there were the usual very small increases, while in the West South Central States there were fewer persons at work than a month earlier. The decrease was greater than usual.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service

Farm employment: Persons employed during week of June 19-25, 1955, United States, with comparisons

	June average 1950-54 1/	June 20-26, 1954	May 22-28, 1955	June 19-25, 1955
FARM EMPLOYMENT (Thousands of persons):				
Total	9,950	9,642	8,921	9,329
Family labor	7,387	6,994	6,947	6,832
Hired labor	2,563	2,648	1,974	2,497
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES (Adjusted for seasonal variation, 1910-14 = 100)				
Total	65	63	61	61
Family labor	67	63	62	62
Hired labor	61	63	59	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, 1955 United States, with comparisons 1/

	April 1, 1954	July 1, 1954	April 1, 1955	July 1, 1955
FARM WAGE RATES				
Per month with house	$144.00	$160.00	$145.00	$163.00
Per month with board and room	117.00	122.00	118.00	125.00
Per week with board and room	28.50	29.75	28.50	30.75
Per week without board or room	37.00	38.75	38.00	39.50
Per day with house	4.05	4.05	4.05	4.15
Per day with board and room	4.70	5.80	4.75	5.90
Per day without board or room	5.00	5.20	5.10	5.30
Per hour with house	.63	.80	.63	.81
Per hour without board or room	.84	.87	.85	.88
Composite rate per hour 2/	.580	.663	.590	.669
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES (1910-14=100)				
Adjusted for seasonal variation	507	505	516	510
RELATED INDEXES (1910-14 = 100)				
Prices received by farmers 3/	256	248	246	243 *
Ratio of prices received to farm wage rates	50	49	48	48

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, 1955.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Farm employment: Persons employed during week of June 19-25, 1955, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons

Geographic division	June average 1950-54 1/	May 23-29, 1954	June 20-26, 1954	May 22-28, 1955	June 19-25, 1955
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
		TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT			
United States	9,950	9,285	9,642	8,921	9,329
New England	203	191	204	185	200
Middle Atlantic	623	535	601	499	578
East North Central	1,574	1,448	1,553	1,389	1,517
West North Central	1,818	1,652	1,789	1,633	1,712
South Atlantic	1,869	1,719	1,797	1,571	1,692
East South Central	1,475	1,425	1,385	1,354	1,371
West South Central	1,227	1,205	1,170	1,232	1,151
Mountain	428	405	415	390	396
Pacific	733	705	728	668	712
		FAMILY WORKERS 2/			
United States	7,387	7,251	6,994	6,947	6,832
New England	136	129	135	119	129
Middle Atlantic	437	407	433	390	417
East North Central	1,295	1,261	1,253	1,212	1,233
West North Central	1,477	1,457	1,422	1,427	1,401
South Atlantic	1,343	1,334	1,250	1,237	1,164
East South Central	1,227	1,172	1,112	1,116	1,106
West South Central	867	872	800	837	804
Mountain	248	267	239	259	224
Pacific	357	352	350	350	354
		HIRED WORKERS 3/			
United States	2,563	2,034	2,648	1,974	2,497
New England	67	62	69	66	71
Middle Atlantic	186	128	168	109	161
East North Central	279	187	300	177	284
West North Central	341	195	367	206	311
South Atlantic	526	385	547	334	528
East South Central	248	253	273	238	265
West South Central	360	333	370	395	347
Mountain	180	138	176	131	172
Pacific	376	353	378	318	358

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 1955, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons 1/

Geographic division	1950-54	1952	1953	1954	1955
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
		TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT			
United States	8,105	7,960	7,918	7,851	7,518
New England	164	162	161	164	160
Middle Atlantic	509	499	500	499	479
East North Central	1,308	1,297	1,282	1,283	1,232
West North Central	1,512	1,493	1,495	1,457	1,416
South Atlantic	1,439	1,410	1,384	1,378	1,292
East South Central	1,196	1,156	1,168	1,157	1,091
West South Central	1,078	1,050	1,040	1,024	982
Mountain	340	335	335	331	316
Pacific	559	558	553	558	550
		FAMILY WORKERS 2/			
United States	6,509	6,406	6,341	6,246	5,989
New England	115	113	112	113	109
Middle Atlantic	383	375	377	379	368
East North Central	1,140	1,133	1,121	1,113	1,073
West North Central	1,332	1,315	1,320	1,285	1,256
South Atlantic	1,119	1,102	1,070	1,055	986
East South Central	1,025	999	982	970	916
West South Central	840	818	811	789	749
Mountain	234	231	231	227	216
Pacific	321	320	317	315	316
		HIRED WORKERS 3/			
United States	1,596	1,554	1,577	1,605	1,529
New England	49	49	49	51	51
Middle Atlantic	126	124	123	120	111
East North Central	168	164	161	170	159
West North Central	180	178	175	172	160
South Atlantic	320	308	314	323	306
East South Central	171	157	186	187	175
West South Central	238	232	229	235	233
Mountain	106	104	104	104	100
Pacific	238	238	236	243	234

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.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Farm wage rates: Wage rates by geographic divisions, July 1, 1955, with comparisons

Geographic division	April 1, 1954	July 1, 1954	April 1, 1955	July 1, 1955
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
PER MONTH WITH HOUSE				
New England	164.00	163.00	166.00	172.00
Middle Atlantic	164.00	166.00	167.00	167.00
East North Central	159.00	158.00	159.00	161.00
West North Central	155.00	160.00	156.00	158.00
Mountain	191.00	191.00	197.00	198.00
Pacific	231.00	231.00	234.00	239.00
PER MONTH WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	123.00	125.00	123.00	130.00
Middle Atlantic	118.00	118.00	119.00	120.00
East North Central	120.00	121.00	119.00	124.00
West North Central	122.00	128.00	124.00	129.00
Mountain	148.00	150.00	149.00	153.00
Pacific	178.00	182.00	183.00	189.00
PER WEEK WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	32.25	31.75	32.75	34.25
Middle Atlantic	31.25	31.75	31.00	31.75
PER WEEK WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	46.25	45.00	48.00	47.50
Middle Atlantic	43.50	44.50	43.75	44.50
PER DAY WITH HOUSE				
South Atlantic	4.15	4.00	4.25	4.05
East South Central	3.30	3.25	3.30	3.35
West South Central	4.60	4.80	4.55	4.90
PER DAY WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
East North Central	5.90	6.10	5.90	6.30
West North Central	6.10	6.70	6.20	6.80
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	8.00	7.90	8.00	8.30
Middle Atlantic	7.40	7.40	7.60	7.70
East North Central	7.30	7.50	7.30	7.70
West North Central	7.70	8.30	7.80	8.20
South Atlantic	4.85	4.65	4.95	4.75
East South Central	3.85	3.90	3.90	4.00
West South Central	5.10	5.40	5.10	5.40
Mountain	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.80
PER HOUR WITH HOUSE				
South Atlantic	.56	-	.56	-
East South Central	.44	-	.46	-
West South Central	.55	-	.55	-
Pacific	.99	1.00	1.00	1.02
PER HOUR WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	1.01	1.01	1.02	1.03
Middle Atlantic	.96	.97	.97	.98
East North Central	.98	1.00	.99	1.01
West North Central	.97	1.00	.98	1.00
South Atlantic	.65	.59	.65	.61
East South Central	.53	.52	.54	.54
West South Central	.64	.64	.64	.65
Mountain	.94	.93	.92	.96
Pacific	1.07	1.08	1.08	1.09

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Farm wage rates: Wage rates by States and regions, July 1, 1954 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	150.00	117.00	31.50	43.50	-	-	7.50	-	.97	.793	478
N. H.	173.00	130.00	36.50	48.00	-	-	8.20	-	1.00	.854	562
Vt.	155.00	125.00	30.50	41.00	-	-	7.90	-	.99	.798	520
Mass.	176.00	130.00	32.00	48.00	-	-	8.20	-	1.05	.862	563
R. I.	179.00	130.00	31.50	49.00	-	-	8.30	-	1.05	.868	597
Conn.	179.00	130.00	31.00	49.00	-	-	8.30	-	1.10	.882	596
New Eng.	163.00	125.00	31.75	46.00	-	-	7.90	-	1.01	.827	541
N. Y.	169.00	123.00	32.75	46.75	-	-	8.00	-	1.02	.857	479
N. J.	194.00	134.00	35.25	51.00	-	-	7.80	-	.98	.854	565
Pa.	151.00	107.00	29.50	41.00	-	-	6.80	-	.92	.767	568
Mid. Atl.	166.00	118.00	31.75	44.50	-	-	7.40	-	.97	.818	520
Ohio	143.00	106.00	-	-	-	5.50	6.80	-	1.00	.733	519
Ind.	151.00	116.00	-	-	-	5.70	7.10	-	.99	.748	545
Ill.	172.00	137.00	-	-	-	6.90	8.20	-	1.04	.823	570
Mich.	170.00	125.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.00	-	1.02	.797	536
Wis.	160.00	123.00	-	-	-	5.90	7.40	-	.96	.751	485
E.N.Cent.	158.00	121.00	-	-	-	6.10	7.50	-	1.00	.770	529
Minn.	155.00	132.00	-	-	-	6.60	8.30	-	1.04	.881	485
Iowa	166.00	139.00	-	-	-	7.50	9.10	-	1.07	.926	496
Mo.	137.00	104.00	-	-	-	5.40	6.40	-	.85	.714	565
N.Dak.	179.00	145.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.50	-	1.03	.888	451
S.Dak.	161.00	138.00	-	-	-	6.80	8.30	-	1.02	.876	474
Nebr.	178.00	134.00	-	-	-	6.80	9.00	-	1.03	.894	523
Kans.	165.00	128.00	-	-	-	7.40	8.70	-	1.03	.891	620
W.N.Cent.	160.00	128.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.30	-	1.00	.860	511
Del.	-	-	-	-	5.50	-	6.80	-	.85	.733	679
Md.	-	-	-	-	5.40	-	6.60	-	.88	.730	744
Va.	-	-	-	-	4.30	-	5.30	-	.65	.563	632
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	4.10	-	4.80	-	.63	.523	423
N. C.	-	-	-	-	4.30	-	4.95	-	.58	.518	613
S. C.	-	-	-	-	3.05	-	3.60	-	.44	.382	549
Ga.	-	-	-	-	3.35	-	3.85	-	.52	.425	508
Fla.	-	-	-	-	4.70	-	5.20	-	.72	.581	624
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	4.00	-	4.65	-	.59	.502	594
Ky.	-	-	-	-	3.60	-	4.50	-	.63	.449	482
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	3.10	-	3.85	-	.50	.381	433
Ala.	-	-	-	-	3.15	-	3.65	-	.47	.369	466
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.15	-	3.45	-	.45	.356	440
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	3.25	-	3.90	-	.52	.391	448
Ark.	-	-	-	-	4.20	-	4.45	-	.53	.471	478
La.	-	-	-	-	3.75	-	4.15	-	.53	.447	529
Okla.	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	6.90	-	.81	.715	557
Tex.	-	-	-	-	4.90	-	5.70	-	.65	.583	513
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	4.80	-	5.40	-	.64	.564	525
Mont.	204.00	171.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	1.02	.794	429
Idaho	210.00	165.00	-	-	-	-	8.50	-	1.04	.812	495
Wyo.	192.00	145.00	-	-	-	-	8.40	-	1.07	.786	442
Colo.	179.00	133.00	-	-	-	-	7.30	-	.90	.690	494
N. Mex.	156.00	110.00	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	.73	.571	519
Ariz.	210.00	160.00	-	-	-	-	7.20	-	.79	.693	506
Utah	210.00	190.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	1.00	.811	550
Nev.	190.00	165.00	-	-	-	-	7.40	-	1.00	.756	438
Mountain	191.00	150.00	-	-	-	-	7.50	-	.93	.729	475
Wash.	230.00	193.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.05	1.12	1.075	546
Oreg.	202.00	172.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.01	1.08	1.030	512
Calif.	238.00	180.00	-	-	-	-	-	.98	1.06	1.019	486
Pacific	231.00	182.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.00	1.08	1.033	495
U. S.	160.00	122.00	29.75	38.75	4.05	5.80	5.20	.80	.87	.663	505

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service

Farm wage rates: Wage rates by States and regions, July 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 board and room	Without board or room	With house	Without board or room		
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
Maine	160.00	120.00	33.00	45.50	-	-	7.60	-	.97	.810	488
N. H.	176.00	136.00	35.50	49.50	-	-	8.50	-	1.01	.874	575
Vt.	156.00	129.00	31.50	43.50	-	-	7.70	-	1.00	.810	528
Mass.	189.00	139.00	37.00	51.00	-	-	9.20	-	1.12	.938	613
R. I.	190.00	138.00	36.00	51.00	-	-	9.30	-	1.08	.928	638
Conn.	191.00	134.00	36.00	51.00	-	-	9.40	-	1.09	.933	630
New. Eng.	172.00	130.00	34.25	47.50	-	-	8.30	-	1.03	.863	564
N. Y.	173.00	127.00	34.00	46.00	-	-	8.20	-	1.02	.864	484
N. J.	195.00	143.00	36.00	50.50	-	-	8.50	-	1.03	.892	590
Pa.	151.00	105.00	28.25	41.00	-	-	7.10	-	.92	.768	568
Mid. Atl.	167.00	120.00	31.75	44.50	-	-	7.70	-	.98	.825	525
Ohio	143.00	112.00	-	-	-	6.20	7.50	-	1.00	.756	536
Ind.	151.00	114.00	-	-	-	5.90	7.00	-	1.00	.749	546
Ill.	172.00	137.00	-	-	-	6.90	8.30	-	1.04	.825	571
Mich.	180.00	133.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.00	-	1.02	.805	541
Wis.	166.00	124.00	-	-	-	6.10	7.70	-	.98	.770	497
E.N.Cent.	161.00	124.00	-	-	-	6.30	7.70	-	1.01	.781	536
Minn.	152.00	126.00	-	-	-	7.00	8.40	-	1.02	.873	481
Iowa	166.00	141.00	-	-	-	7.70	9.20	-	1.08	.937	501
Mo.	137.00	106.00	-	-	-	5.40	6.30	-	.85	.714	565
N.Dak.	170.00	147.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.60	-	1.01	.877	446
S.Dak.	161.00	138.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.00	-	.99	.851	461
Nebr.	178.00	136.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.30	-	1.05	.894	523
Kans.	162.00	130.00	-	-	-	7.10	8.70	-	1.01	.877	610
W.N.Cent.	158.00	129.00	-	-	-	6.80	8.20	-	1.00	.859	510
Del.	-	-	-	-	5.70	-	7.30	-	.90	.777	720
Md.	-	-	-	-	5.60	-	7.00	-	.88	.751	767
Va.	-	-	-	-	4.40	-	5.50	-	.66	.579	649
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	4.25	-	4.95	-	.65	.540	438
N. C.	-	-	-	-	4.35	-	5.00	-	.60	.529	627
S. C.	-	-	-	-	3.15	-	3.75	-	.48	.405	582
Ga.	-	-	-	-	3.40	-	3.80	-	.53	.426	509
Fla.	-	-	-	-	4.70	-	5.20	-	.70	.575	618
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	4.05	-	4.75	-	.61	.512	605
Ky.	-	-	-	-	3.65	-	4.70	-	.64	.463	497
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	3.25	-	3.90	-	.52	.392	445
Ala.	-	-	-	-	3.25	-	3.70	-	.51	.379	478
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.20	-	3.65	-	.47	.370	457
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	3.35	-	4.00	-	.54	.402	460
Ark.	-	-	-	-	4.35	-	4.55	-	.55	.486	493
La.	-	-	-	-	3.80	-	4.15	-	.52	.446	527
Okla.	-	-	-	-	5.80	-	6.70	-	.79	.696	542
Tex.	-	-	-	-	5.20	-	5.80	-	.69	.609	535
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	4.90	-	5.40	-	.65	.570	531
Mont.	204.00	167.00	-	-	-	-	8.30	-	1.02	.801	432
Idaho	218.00	170.00	-	-	-	-	9.10	-	1.06	.847	516
Wyo.	205.00	144.00	-	-	-	-	8.20	-	1.02	.777	438
Colo.	184.00	140.00	-	-	-	-	7.60	-	.93	.719	515
New Mex.	164.00	125.00	-	-	-	-	6.20	-	.74	.599	545
Ariz.	230.00	155.00	-	-	-	-	7.50	-	.85	.736	539
Utah	220.00	185.00	-	-	-	-	8.30	-	1.10	.848	574
Nev.	188.00	160.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	1.05	.783	453
Mountain	198.00	153.00	-	-	-	-	7.80	-	.96	.753	492
Wash.	244.00	198.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.09	1.14	1.099	558
Oreg.	210.00	172.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.05	1.10	1.052	523
Calif.	245.00	190.00	-	-	-	-	-	.99	1.07	1.033	493
Pacific	239.00	189.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.02	1.09	1.050	503
U. S.	163.00	125.00	30.75	39.50	4.15	5.90	5.30	.81	.88	.669	510

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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 15,000 to 20,000 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 22,000 farm and nonfarm households on the labor force status of the household members, 14 years of age and over, for the week including the 8th 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 1955 issue of Farm Labor.