farm labor

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JUNE FARM WORKERS LESS THAN A YEAR AGO

The farm labor force in the United States for the week of June 23-29 totaled 5.1 million workers, off 2 percent from a year ago. The June 1974 work force was made up of 3.5 million operators and unpaid family members and 1.6 million hired workers. Each was 2 percent below a year ago.

Farm workers averaged 41.7 hours worked during the survey week almost the same as the 41.5 hours last year. The average in May 1974 was 40.2 hours. Farm operators worked 49.1 hours, other unpaid family members 36.7, and hired workers put in 35.5 hours during the week of June 23-29.

WAGE RATES HIGHER

Farm wage rates advanced to $2.25 per hour (without room and board) on July 1, 1974, up 24 cents from a year ago and 4 cents from last quarter. Wages paid by the month, week, and day were all higher than last July. The seasonally adjusted index based on 1967 stood at 173, compared with 156 a year ago but the same as last quarter.

HARVEST ACTIVITIES INCREASE

Winter wheat harvest made excellent gains during the week of June 23-29, much ahead of 1973 and normal harvest in most States. Harvesting moved northward into Nebraska, Indiana, and Ohio during the week. Wheat harvest in Texas was almost completed and about half complete along the Kansas-Nebraska border. Oat harvest was getting underway in Kansas and was nearing completion in Texas, Arkansas, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Harvest of early vegetables was underway in New York and New Jersey and was nearing completion in the coastal counties of South Carolina. Watermelon harvest was increasing in South Carolina, Arkansas and Texas and continued in good volume in Georgia. Cantaloupe harvest was declining in the Desert, but was increasing in the San Joaquin Valley of California. The Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas was in final stages of cantaloupe and honeydew harvesting but cantaloupes were being harvested in Laredo and San Antonio. Heavy rains hampered the watermelon and sweet corn harvest in Florida.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD
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Peach harvest gained momentum in South Carolina and continued in Georgia. Sweet cherry harvest was underway in southern Pennsylvania and about to begin in western New York. California grapefruit harvest neared completion in the Desert, while lemon picking was active.

Wisconsin and Minnesota farmers took advantage of a sunny week and made good progress on their first hay cutting. But wet conditions in the eastern Corn Belt and North Atlantic Region hampered haying on many farms. Harvest of flue-cured tobacco gained momentum in South Carolina and just got underway in North Carolina.

Planting of soybeans in the Corn Belt neared completion during the survey week and made good progress in the South. Many farmers were busy planting soybeans in fields following wheat harvest. Cool temperatures continue to slow maturity in all major soybean States.

The Nation's corn crop continued to grow well under much cooler than normal temperatures during the week of June 23-29. The Corn Belt crop was in fair to good condition with mostly adequate soil moisture.

The cool temperatures slowed development of the cotton crop in much of the major producing areas. Weed and insect control has been effective as the application of herbicides, insecticides, and cultivation remained active.

Farm employment represents number of family and hired labor working during the survey week. Family labor includes farm operators working on farms one hour or more plus other family members working 15 hours or more without receiving cash wages during survey week. Hired workers include all persons working one hour or more for cash wages during the survey week. These data should not be confused with the data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The BLS data are derived from a household survey where each member 16 years of age and older is classified as performing farm or nonfarm work on the basis of major activity during the survey week.

Farm employment and indexes, June 1974, with comparisons, United States

Item	Annual average 1972	Annual average 1973	June 18-24, 1972	June 17-23, 1973	June 23-29, 1974
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/					
(thousands)					
Total	4,373.4	4,336.7	5,099.4	5,187.2	5,074.7
Family labor	3,227.7	3,169.0	3,491.2	3,536.6	3,455.9
Hired labor	1,145.7	1,167.7	1,608.2	1,650.6	1,618.8
INDEXES 2/					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	32	32	32	33	32
Family labor	32	31	32	32	31
Hired labor	34	34	33	34	34
(1967=100)					
Total	89	89	88	89	87
Family labor	89	86	89	89	86
Hired labor	89	89	87	89	89

1/ Employment during the last full calendar week ending at least one day before the end of the month.
2/ Monthly indexes are adjusted for seasonal variation.

Farm wage rates and indexes, July 1, 1974, United States

Item	Annual average 1973	July 1, 1972	July 1, 1973	July 1, 1974
FARM WAGE RATES	$	$	$	$
Composite rate per hour 1/	1.73	1.54	1.69	1.88
Per month with house	393	369	3/408	440
Per month with board and room	309	276	3/312	335
Per week with board and room	74.00	70.25	3/76.75	83.75
Per week without board or room	94.75	89.75	101.00	108.50
Per day with house	12.30	11.00	12.00	13.30
Per day with board and room	13.10	12.40	3/13.50	15.20
Per day without board or room	14.50	13.10	14.40	16.00
Per hour with house	1.81	1.70	1.86	2.08
Per hour without board or room	2.00	1.85	3/2.01	2.25
INDEXES 2/				
(1910-14=100)	1,331	1,203	3/1,320	1,467
(1967=100)	157	142	156	173

1/ Weighted average of all rates on a per hour basis. Composite rate does not include piece rate workers.
2/ Indexes are adjusted for seasonal variation.
3/ Revised.

Workers on Farms: June 1974

State	June 1972 week of 18-24			June 1973 week of 17-23			June 1974 week of 23-29		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	Thousands								
Ala.	75	56	19	81	61	20	84	64	20
Ariz.	36	6.0	30	34	7.0	27	36	6.0	30
Ark.	148	86	62	151	85	66	151	88	63
Calif.	327	72	255	338	68	270	431	66	275
Colo.	66	38	28	77	41	36	67	39	28
Conn.	15.5	7.8	7.7	15.6	7.8	7.8	15.1	7.3	7.8
Del.	7.0	4.0	3.0	9.0	5.0	4.0	8.0	4.0	4.0
Fla.	109	32	77	112	34	78	101	34	67
Ga.	97	75	22	102	80	22	100	74	26
Idaho	62	38	24	56	35	21	49	31	18
Ill.	193	157	36	195	154	41	186	151	35
Ind.	157	136	21	173	148	25	163	144	19
Iowa	261	202	59	267	203	64	254	196	58
Kan.	137	104	33	139	104	35	150	107	43
Ky.	182	131	51	204	140	64	182	130	52
La.	79	47	32	74	47	27	71	45	26
Maine	19	13	6.0	18.5	13	5.5	18.2	13	5.2
Md.	32	24	8.0	37	26	11	40	27	13
Mass.	17.5	9.7	7.8	18.6	11	7.6	17.4	10	7.4
Mich.	148	117	31	148	113	35	142	113	29
Minn.	228	177	51	236	189	47	239	191	48
Miss.	121	88	33	123	87	36	107	77	30
Mo.	205	164	41	215	168	47	225	174	51
Mont.	52	31	21	47	28	19	49	29	20
Nebr.	140	109	31	131	101	30	133	101	32
Nev.	6.1	3.0	3.1	5.6	2.6	3.0	6.0	2.9	3.1
N. H.	5.7	3.9	1.8	5.4	3.7	1.7	5.5	3.8	1.7
N. J.	23	9.0	14	24	9.0	15	23	9.0	14
N. Mex.	22	12	10	26	16	10	25	15	10
N. Y.	100	73	27	108	75	33	106	74	32
N. C.	252	168	84	227	155	72	227	140	87
N. Dak.	69	55	14	64	53	11	76	58	18
Ohio	162	143	19	193	164	29	175	151	24
Okla.	150	120	30	148	121	27	153	117	36
Oreg.	101	46	55	101	43	58	91	40	51
Pa.	120	102	18	129	107	22	133	111	22
R. I.	1.8	1.0	.8	1.6	.9	.7	1.6	.9	.7
S. C.	86	61	25	76	54	22	75	45	30
S. Dak.	70	58	12	75	63	12	76	62	14
Tenn.	174	126	48	163	124	39	161	128	33
Tex.	317	210	107	298	204	94	285	195	90
Utah	25	16	9.0	26	18	8.0	27	19	8.0
Vt.	12.8	9.8	3.0	12.9	9.6	3.3	12.9	10	2.9
Va.	123	78	45	132	87	45	125	85	40
Wash.	111	59	52	109	54	55	105	53	52
W. Va.	38	32	6.0	45	34	11	37	31	6.0
Wis.	195	170	25	194	171	23	200	172	28
Wyo.	21	11	10	22	12	10	20	12	8.0
U.S.	5,099.4	3,491.2	1,608.2	5,187.2	3,536.6	1,650.6	5,074.7	3,455.9	1,618.8

Farm Work: Weekly hours worked per worker
Average for reporting farms, week of June 23-29, 1974

State	Farm operators	Other family members 1/	All family 1/	Hired workers	All workers 1/
			Hours		
Ala.	35.5	30.0	34.2	26.7	31.7
Ariz.	50.6	30.4	46.5	42.3	43.8
Ark.	46.6	42.4	45.2	41.9	43.5
Calif.	50.7	47.6	49.8	45.1	46.0
Colo.	58.5	44.3	53.5	40.1	50.0
Conn.	55.3	34.1	47.7	38.9	44.3
Del.	43.2	34.9	40.8	28.8	36.0
Fla.	45.6	33.5	41.9	26.1	29.6
Ga.	42.0	35.6	40.0	27.8	35.1
Idaho	48.2	37.0	44.1	40.7	43.2
Ill.	48.9	36.9	45.5	33.6	42.7
Ind.	47.0	38.9	44.5	30.0	41.1
Iowa	59.4	35.8	51.1	29.1	45.3
Kans.	61.7	48.5	57.1	42.4	52.4
Ky.	39.2	31.3	36.8	23.0	31.4
La.	34.5	32.9	34.1	35.2	34.5
Maine	65.1	38.4	55.8	34.9	47.3
Md.	49.8	36.7	44.7	32.0	40.9
Mass.	63.2	40.9	53.6	36.7	46.2
Mich.	51.8	37.6	46.8	33.8	43.5
Minn.	61.2	38.4	52.4	29.7	47.7
Miss.	32.9	30.5	32.2	34.3	33.3
Mo.	51.7	38.5	47.7	33.0	43.0
Mont.	56.7	41.5	50.9	44.2	48.7
Nebr.	60.4	43.1	54.1	38.0	49.9
Nev.	51.6	41.7	48.3	55.6	51.6
N. H.	61.4	33.2	53.1	43.6	49.2
N. J.	41.4	32.4	39.1	29.4	35.4
N. Mex.	53.0	42.3	49.9	38.6	44.7
N. Y.	59.9	35.4	51.1	38.0	46.3
N. C.	38.2	34.2	36.9	27.5	32.1
N. Dak.	63.3	47.2	56.7	46.7	54.4
Ohio	47.2	35.7	43.6	27.8	39.4
Okla.	53.5	36.8	47.1	38.1	44.1
Oreg.	42.2	34.7	39.6	33.3	37.4
Pa.	53.1	32.9	46.0	33.2	42.9
R. I.	66.8	38.7	61.2	38.2	50.1
S. C.	38.2	34.3	37.1	28.2	32.6
S. Dak.	58.0	42.8	52.5	37.9	49.5
Tenn.	41.1	34.2	38.9	24.1	34.3
Tex.	44.3	33.7	41.4	35.6	38.8
Utah	51.8	31.7	43.5	25.7	36.0
Vt.	66.8	34.9	54.6	45.3	51.0
Va.	43.5	35.5	41.0	30.1	36.8
Wash.	50.7	34.1	45.2	37.4	40.9
W. Va.	38.5	34.0	37.2	20.3	33.5
Wis.	66.3	36.1	51.9	37.9	48.7
Wyo.	60.0	40.7	51.7	43.6	49.1
U. S.	49.1	36.7	44.7	35.5	41.7

1/ Includes as "other family" only those farm household members working 15 hours or more per week without receiving cash wages.

Farm Wage Rates, July 1, 1973 1/

State	Per month		Per week		Per day			Per hour	
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	W/out board or room	With house	With board and room	W/out board or room	With house	W/out board or room
	Dollars								
Ala.	--	--	--	--	10.50	--	11.50	--	1.54
Ariz.	500	380	--	--	--	--	16.80	--	1.82
Ark.	--	--	--	--	13.60	--	14.20	--	1.63
Calif.	509	389	--	--	--	--	--	2.13	2.24
Colo.	425	308	--	--	--	--	17.30	--	1.97
Conn.	450	310	85.00	120.00	--	--	19.00	--	2.25
Del.	293	--	--	--	--	--	12.00	--	1.81
Fla.	--	--	--	--	13.00	--	14.00	--	1.65
Ga.	--	--	--	--	11.40	--	12.40	--	1.61
Idaho	460	375	--	--	--	--	18.50	--	2.10
Ill.	395	306	--	--	--	14.10	18.20	--	2.15
Ind.	359	284	--	--	--	11.80	16.60	--	1.99
Iowa	448	375	--	--	--	16.20	19.20	--	2.20
Kans.	417	327	--	--	--	14.80	17.90	--	2.02
Ky.	--	--	--	--	9.70	--	12.40	--	1.71
La.	--	--	--	--	11.90	--	12.50	--	1.56
Maine	380	270	75.00	105.00	--	--	16.50	--	2.00
Md.	293	220	59.00	84.00	--	--	13.00	--	1.88
Mass.	430	330	85.00	120.00	--	--	19.50	--	2.20
Mich.	2/435	2/325	2/90.00	2/115.00	--	--	2/18.50	--	2/2.12
Minn.	392	309	--	--	--	14.70	17.90	--	2.01
Miss.	--	--	--	--	11.00	--	11.70	--	1.52
Mo.	340	255	--	--	--	12.00	16.00	--	1.95
Mont.	413	330	--	--	--	--	17.10	--	2.04
Nebr.	440	337	--	--	--	14.70	17.60	--	2.06
Nev.	450	330	--	--	--	--	17.50	--	2.15
N.H.	400	310	80.00	110.00	--	--	17.50	--	2.15
N.J.	400	300	80.00	105.00	--	--	18.00	--	2.21
N.Mex.	330	273	--	--	--	--	13.80	--	1.55
N.Y.	411	308	80.25	105.25	--	--	16.20	--	1.99
N.C.	--	--	--	--	11.40	--	13.20	--	1.62
N.Dak.	390	350	--	--	--	14.70	18.20	--	1.90
Ohio	360	270	--	--	--	11.40	15.00	--	1.90
Okla.	--	--	--	--	14.30	--	16.60	--	1.84
Oreg.	2/454	2/356	--	--	--	--	--	2.01	2.03
Pa.	386	297	73.25	94.00	--	--	15.20	--	1.89
R.I.	430	320	85.00	120.00	--	--	19.00	--	2.20
S.C.	--	--	--	--	9.80	--	2/11.10	--	1.47
S.Dak.	391	324	--	--	--	13.40	16.10	--	1.84
Tenn.	--	--	--	--	9.70	--	12.10	--	1.60
Tex.	--	--	--	--	13.00	--	14.50	1.50	1.70
Utah	395	310	--	--	--	--	15.10	--	2.00
Vt.	410	305	85.00	105.00	--	--	17.50	--	2.10
Va.	--	--	--	--	11.50	--	13.20	--	1.68
Wash.	490	400	--	--	--	--	--	2.20	2.25
W.Va.	2/230	170	--	--	--	2/9.50	11.80	--	1.56
Wis.	411	310	--	--	--	13.70	17.20	--	2.05
Wyo.	420	319	--	--	--	--	16.80	--	1.97
U.S.	2/408	2/312	2/76.75	101.00	12.00	2/13.50	14.40	1.86	2/2.01

1/ Average rates paid on crop and livestock reporters' farms or in their localities for arrangements specified above. U.S. averages include estimates for unpublished State rates of small importance.
2/ Revised.

Farm Wage Rates, July 1, 1974 1/

State	Per month		Per week		Per day			Per hour	
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	W/out board or room	With house	With board and room	W/out board or room	With house	W/out board or room
	Dollars								
Ala.	--	--	--	--	11.90	--	13.10	--	1.76
Ariz.	520	360	--	--	--	--	18.00	--	2.07
Ark.	--	--	--	--	15.30	--	15.80	--	1.85
Calif.	500	370	--	--	--	--	--	2.38	2.49
Colo.	449	342	--	--	--	--	18.60	--	2.23
Conn.	480	350	95.00	125.00	--	--	19.50	--	2.35
Del.	285	--	--	--	--	--	13.50	--	1.92
Fla.	--	--	--	--	14.50	--	15.50	--	1.95
Ga.	--	--	--	--	12.70	--	14.40	--	1.80
Idaho	495	380	--	--	--	--	21.00	--	2.30
Ill.	455	340	--	--	--	16.70	20.30	--	2.35
Ind.	388	278	--	--	--	13.10	16.90	--	2.17
Iowa	492	416	--	--	--	18.00	21.30	--	2.37
Kans.	460	353	--	--	--	16.50	19.90	--	2.31
Ky.	--	--	--	--	10.10	--	13.10	--	1.89
La.	--	--	--	--	13.50	--	14.20	--	1.74
Maine	390	320	80.00	110.00	--	--	18.50	--	2.15
Md.	285	216	65.00	86.00	--	--	13.50	--	1.88
Mass.	480	360	95.00	130.00	--	--	20.50	--	2.25
Mich.	490	360	105.00	134.00	--	--	20.80	--	2.27
Minn.	440	365	--	--	--	17.00	20.30	--	2.27
Miss.	--	--	--	--	12.70	--	14.10	--	1.76
Mo.	400	305	--	--	--	14.00	17.00	--	2.10
Mont.	448	370	--	--	--	--	19.00	--	2.16
Nebr.	485	369	--	--	--	16.60	20.00	--	2.32
Nev.	470	360	--	--	--	--	18.00	--	2.30
N. H.	460	350	90.00	125.00	--	--	19.50	--	2.30
N. J.	425	315	85.00	110.00	--	--	20.00	--	2.37
N. Mex.	400	300	--	--	--	--	16.00	--	1.80
N. Y.	435	326	87.25	111.25	--	--	16.40	--	2.18
N. C.	--	--	--	--	13.60	--	15.00	--	1.85
N. Dak.	464	389	--	--	--	17.80	21.20	--	2.31
Ohio	385	280	--	--	--	13.00	16.50	--	2.09
Okla.	--	--	--	--	16.40	--	18.20	--	2.08
Oreg.	489	380	--	--	--	--	--	2.20	2.23
Pa.	411	316	80.25	103.00	--	--	16.30	--	2.05
R. I.	480	360	95.00	130.00	--	--	20.50	--	2.35
S. C.	--	--	--	--	11.80	--	13.50	--	1.75
S. Dak.	422	347	--	--	--	15.50	18.50	--	2.06
Tenn.	--	--	--	--	11.00	--	13.90	--	1.81
Tex.	--	--	--	--	14.50	--	16.00	1.75	1.95
Utah	445	375	--	--	--	--	16.80	--	2.25
Vt.	460	350	90.00	115.00	--	--	19.00	--	2.25
Va.	--	--	--	--	11.90	--	14.70	--	1.87
Wash.	535	440	--	--	--	--	--	2.40	2.50
W. Va.	270	195	--	--	--	10.10	13.10	--	1.66
Wis.	459	338	--	--	--	14.60	18.10	--	2.23
Wyo.	449	322	--	--	--	--	18.30	--	2.29
U. S.	440	335	83.75	108.50	13.30	15.20	16.00	2.08	2.25

1/ Average rates paid on crop and livestock reporters' farms or in their localities for arrangements specified above. U.S. averages include estimates for unpublished State rates of small importance.