Farm Labor

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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SEASONAL INCREASE IN NUMBER OF FARM WORKERS LESS THAN USUAL

A total of 11,111,000 persons were employed on farms on September 1, an increase of 2 percent over a year earlier, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported today. The increase from August 1 was smaller than usual. The number of family workers increased less than usual during August and the number of hired workers remained the same. All farm workers, including farm operators and their families and hired hands, on September 1 were putting in less time per day at work than a year earlier.

Fewer people were at work on farms on September 1 than a year earlier in the New England, South Atlantic, Mountain and Pacific States. In the North Central States the number of workers was the same as a year earlier. The number of family workers in all regions except the New England and Mountain States was larger than a year ago. For hired workers, however, only the Middle Atlantic and West South Central States reported increases from a year earlier.

Farmers and farm workers were working fewer hours per day on September 1 than a year before. This reflects continuation of the trend toward shorter work days. With a more liberal supply of labor and less rush to complete work, many farmers have been able to cut down the working hours per day. The average hours of farm operators and hired workers are now slightly less than on September 1, 1939.

Farm work in the production of a prospective all-time record volume of crops has made good progress so far this year. Field work started earlier than usual and most crops have continued ahead of their customary schedule. Rain has not interfered to any great extent with planting, cultivation or harvest of crops. In the case of cotton, however, rains shortly after planting time led to poor stands and delayed replanting and cultivation. The cotton crop in most areas is later than usual, but still earlier than the 1945 crop. By September 1 the harvest of small grain was practically completed. Major crops still to be harvested are the corn, cotton, and soybean crops, late potatoes, sugar crops and fall and winter apples. Harvest of truck crops for canning and market will also be of importance in some areas this fall.

The less than usual seasonal increase from August 1 to September 1 in the number of farm workers was largely owing to the shift this year in the seasonal harvest pattern. It also resulted partly from a more even distribution of work than usual. Good weather permitted some jobs to be spread over longer periods.

Thus, fewer workers were required than would have been the case if it had been necessary to rush certain work to completion. In addition, time generally was available to complete miscellaneous cleanup and odd jobs during the harvest season, rather than postpone them for completion after rush jobs were over.

The number of hired workers on September 1 was about the same as on August 1, but slightly less than a year earlier. Only in the Mountain, Pacific and East South Central States were there substantial seasonal increases in the number of hired workers. In the Pacific States the increase was less than normal. Other regions had fewer hired workers than on August 1, except the West North Central States where there was a slight increase. The South Atlantic States reported a decrease in numbers of hired workers, compared with sizeable increases in recent years.

The number of family workers for the United States increased slightly during August, whereas the usual increase is sizeable. A decrease in the number of family workers in the South Atlantic States in contrast to a usual increase from August 1 to September 1 was largely responsible. In the East South Central and Pacific States the numbers of family workers increased substantially, as usual. A small increase was marked up in the New England States. Decreases in all other regions were about as large as usual.

In the New England States the number of hired workers on September 1 was a fifth less than a month earlier. The decrease was only a little greater than a year ago, but was nearly twice as large as the average for the previous 10 years. The number of family workers increased slightly, compared with the usual decrease. Both family and hired workers on September 1 were fewer than a year earlier. Work in New England consisted largely of the harvest of hay, early potatoes, apples, and vegetables and the usual farm chores.

Family and hired farm workers in the Middle Atlantic States on September 1 were more numerous than a year earlier. Seasonal decreases in both classes of workers were greater than a year ago, but about normal. Harvest of small grains and hay in this region was mostly completed. Preparations for seeding fall grains were started. In New York some early potatoes and fruit were being harvested. In Pennsylvania the peach harvest was at its peak, and some corn was being cut for silage in the southeastern part of the State. In northern New Jersey, land from which crops had been harvested was being seeded to winter cover crops. In the central part of the State the potato crop was nearly all dug and the fruit harvest was well advanced. In south Jersey harvest of commercial truck crops was the most important job.

Farm work in the North Central States had slacked off on September 1, with small grain harvest complete except in some sections of North and South Dakota and Minnesota. The number of persons employed was less than a month earlier by about the usual amount and was the same as a year ago. Family workers exceeded the number at work a year earlier, whereas the number of hired workers was smaller. The seasonal decline in the number of family workers was about as usual. The number of hired workers declined a bit more than usual in the East North Central States, but increased slightly in the West North Central States. Prior to 1942 some decrease in hired workers usually occurred in this region from August 1 to September 1, but since 1942 there has been little change during August. During August 1945, however, their number increased substantially owing to the late harvest of spring planted crops.

Preparation of land for winter grains was in progress in most areas of the North Central States. However, the work was being delayed in parts of the East North Central region because of dry soil. The seeding of winter grain was starting in Kansas and Missouri. Potato digging was commencing in North Dakota and Minnesota. Fruit and truck crops for canning were being harvested in most states.

In the South Atlantic States on September 1 tobacco cutting and cotton picking were major jobs. Cotton picking was in full swing in southern Georgia and was starting in central Georgia and southern South Carolina. Harvest of flue-cured tobacco was nearly completed in North Carolina and Virginia. Harvesting burley tobacco in North Carolina and West Virginia and of the Maryland tobacco crop was under way. Peanut harvest was in progress in Georgia and South Carolina. In Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland apple picking was progressing. The number of persons employed on September 1 was a little less than a year earlier. A decrease in the number of hired workers more than balanced an increase in the number of family workers. Numbers of both family and hired workers showed a seasonal decline in contrast to increases during August in recent years.

In the East South Central States the number of hired workers on September 1 was about a third larger than a month earlier. The number of family workers also increased considerably. This region usually uses more workers on September 1 than on August 1. At this time, cotton picking in Alabama and Mississippi and tobacco harvest in Kentucky and Tennessee draw heavily on the region's supply of labor. These jobs were in progress on September 1. Farmers in south and central Alabama were in the midst of cotton picking. Picking was only starting in southern Mississippi. Hay harvest was still in progress in most of the region. In Alabama peanuts were also being harvested. The number of hired hands employed on September 1 was about the same as a year earlier, but there was a considerable increase in the number of family workers.

The seasonal pattern of farm employment appears to be changing in the West South Central States. The number of persons at work on farms increased sharply during August in the 1935-39 period, and remained about the same during 1940-44. In the past two years, however, the numbers of both family and hired workers have decreased during August, although the decreases this year were not as large as in 1945. Numbers of both family and hired workers employed on September 1 were considerably larger than on September 1, 1945. Demand for farm workers for fall planting was increasing in Oklahoma around September 1 as rains relieved drought conditions. Fall harvest was also beginning. In Texas farm work was up-to-date as harvest of corn and cotton made good progress. Rice harvest was starting in Arkansas and was under way in Louisiana. Hay was being harvested in both States. In Louisiana land was being prepared for planting sugar cane.

In the Mountain States farm work was making good progress. In Montana, Wyoming and Colorado seeding of winter wheat was getting under way, while peaches were being harvested in Colorado and Utah. In Utah farmers were harvesting tomatoes for canning and also for fresh consumption. Idaho farmers were harvesting some grains and dry peas, fruit, canning corn, onions and late potatoes, In Arizona soil preparation for winter crops in irrigated areas was starting. Requirements for farm labor in New Mexico were lighter than usual because of drouth. In this region the number of persons employed was unchanged from August 1 and a

little less than a year earlier. Ordinarily employment increases during August, whereas this year the number of family workers decreased, falling below the number a year earlier. The number of hired workers was the same as a year ago.

Labor requirements in the Pacific States reached their seasonal peak on September 1. The number of persons employed did not reach the level of a year ago owing to a less than usual increase in the number of hired workers. More family workers were employed on September 1 than a year ago, after a normal seasonal increase during August. Farm operations in the region included harvest of grains, fruits and vegetables. In California the major crops being harvested were vegetables, peaches, pears, grapes, almonds, citrus, prunes, apples, hops and hay. In Oregon prune picking was about finished in the eastern part of the State and was starting in the western part. In Washington and Oregon small grain harvest was about finished. In Washington green beans and peas for processing were being picked. Blackberries in the Pudget Sound Area required large numbers of workers for harvest. In the central irrigated valleys peaches, winter and fall pears and potatoes were being harvested. Preparations for seeding fall grains were in progress in the Big Bend and Palouse areas.

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Farm labor: Wage rates, persons employed, indexes and related data, United States, September 1, 1946, with comparisons

	Annual average 1910-14	Annual average 1935-39	Sept. 1, 1945	July 1, 1946	Sept. 1, 1946
FARM EMPLOYMENT (thousands of persons)					
Total	12,052	10,920	10,907	11,586	11,111
Family labor	9,160	8,353	8,094	8,875	8,334
Hired labor	2,892	2,567	2,813	2,711	2,777
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES (Adjusted for seasonal variation)					
Total	100	91	81	84	83
Family labor	100	91	82	87	85
Hired labor	100	89	78	74	77
RELATED INDEXES					
Prices received by farmers 1/	100	107	200	231	2/ 249
Ratio of prices received to farm wage rates	100	91	---	59	---
Average weekly factory earnings: 3/	100	199	363	---	---
FARM WAGE RATES					
Per month, with board	$22.09	$26.01	---	$92.00	---
Per month, without board	29.18	34.17	---	106.00	---
Per day, with board	1.16	1.23	---	4.25	---
Per day, without board	1.42	1.50	---	4.84	---
Composite rate per month 4/	24.76	29.15	---	96.50	---
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES					
Unadjusted	100	118	---	390	---
Adjusted for seasonal variation	100	118	---	378	---
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES BY REGIONS:					
New England	100	143	---	367	---
Middle Atlantic	100	129	---	374	---
East North Central	100	115	---	342	---
West North Central	100	98	---	346	---
South Atlantic	100	111	---	336	---
East South Central	100	101	---	292	---
West South Central	100	102	---	350	---
Mountain	100	106	---	339	---
Pacific	100	129	---	426	---

1/ Average of the 15th of the given and the 15th of the previous month.
2/ August 15, 1946 - latest data available.
3/ Factory payroll per employed worker; average of all weeks during the designated month. Revised April 1946.
4/ Weighted average of monthly rates with and without board, and daily rates with and without board converted to a monthly basis.

Based on reports from 18,541 farmers.

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Farm employment: Persons employed, United States and geographic divisions, September 1, 1946, with comparisons

TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT

	Sept. average 1935-39	August 1, 1945	Sept. 1, 1945	August 1, 1946	Sept. 1, 1946
	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's
United States	11,973	10,612	10,907	11,044	11,111
New England	283	301	275	289	266
Middle Atlantic	687	762	702	765	730
East North Central	1,575	1,528	1,478	1,531	1,481
West North Central	1,792	1,741	1,727	1,790	1,735
South Atlantic	2,346	1,922	2,090	2,134	2,074
East South Central	2,011	1,408	1,657	1,496	1,744
West South Central	2,044	1,723	1,619	1,796	1,749
Mountain	525	500	519	509	510
Pacific	710	727	840	734	822
FAMILY WORKERS 1/					
United States	8,860	7,970	8,094	8,258	8,334
New England	173	176	173	169	171
Middle Atlantic	436	457	433	451	442
East North Central	1,202	1,220	1,197	1,224	1,214
West North Central	1,386	1,414	1,369	1,445	1,388
South Atlantic	1,762	1,518	1,588	1,647	1,602
East South Central	1,694	1,224	1,407	1,312	1,495
West South Central	1,528	1,329	1,268	1,367	1,357
Mountain	309	322	320	331	311
Pacific	370	310	339	312	354
HIRED WORKERS					
United States	3,113	2,642	2,813	2,786	2,777
New England	110	125	102	120	95
Middle Atlantic	251	305	269	314	288
East North Central	373	308	281	307	267
West North Central	406	327	358	345	347
South Atlantic	584	404	502	487	472
East South Central	317	184	250	184	249
West South Central	516	394	351	429	392
Mountain	216	178	199	178	199
Pacific	340	417	501	422	468

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

Based on reports from 18,541 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.

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Farm employment: Total, family and hired workers, United States, specified annual averages and by month, Jan. 1945 - Sept. 1946 1/

Year and month	Total farm employment	Family workers 2/	Hired workers
	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's
1910-14 av.	12,052	9,160	2,892
1935-39 av.	10,920	8,352	2,568
1939 av.	10,740	8,145	2,595
1940 av.	10,585	8,019	2,566
1941 av.	10,361	7,829	2,532
1942 av.	10,397	7,855	2,542
1943 av.	10,263	7,857	2,406
1944 av.	10,037	7,810	2,227
1945 av.	9,844	7,726	2,118
January 1	8,005	6,571	1,434
February 1	8,051	6,557	1,494
March 1	8,414	6,894	1,520
April 1	8,982	7,322	1,660
May 1	10,017	8,153	1,864
June 1	10,994	8,637	2,357
July 1	11,100	8,556	2,544
August 1	10,612	7,970	2,642
September 1	10,907	8,094	2,813
October 1	11,052	8,558	2,494
November 1	10,747	8,178	2,569
December 1	9,245	7,217	2,028
1946 av.	---	---	---
January 1	7,732	6,412	1,320
February 1	7,799	6,375	1,424
March 1	8,263	6,774	1,489
April 1	9,121	7,469	1,652
May 1	10,366	8,391	1,975
June 1	11,422	8,969	2,453
July 1	11,586	8,875	2,711
August 1	11,044	8,258	2,786
September 1	11,111	8,334	2,777

1/ Annual averages are straight averages of first of month employment estimates.

2/ Includes farm operators and members of their families working without wages.

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Farm labor: Length of workday for operators and hired workers, September 1, 1946, with comparisons

State	Operator			Hired workers		
	Sept. 1, 1939	Sept. 1, 1945	Sept. 1, 1946	Sept. 1, 1939	Sept. 1, 1945	Sept. 1, 1946
	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
Maine	12.2	12.5	12.4	9.5	9.0	8.9
N. H.	11.9	11.9	11.9	9.3	9.4	9.4
Vt.	12.3	12.5	12.1	10.7	11.1	10.7
Mass.	11.8	11.7	11.2	9.9	9.1	9.1
R. I.	11.6	12.2	12.0	10.2	9.1	9.0
Conn.	11.8	11.4	10.9	10.0	8.7	8.7
N. Eng.	12.0	12.0	11.7	9.9	9.6	9.5
N. Y.	12.4	12.2	12.1	10.6	10.4	10.4
N. J.	11.8	12.0	12.0	9.8	10.0	10.0
Pa.	12.2	12.7	12.4	10.0	10.2	10.2
M. Atl.	12.3	12.4	12.2	10.2	10.3	10.3
Ohio	12.1	12.2	11.8	9.9	9.8	9.7
Ind.	11.7	12.1	11.5	10.0	9.9	9.9
Ill.	11.9	12.0	11.6	10.7	10.6	10.3
Mich.	12.3	12.4	12.1	10.4	10.2	9.9
Wis.	12.7	13.0	12.6	11.4	11.6	11.3
E. N. Cent.	12.1	12.3	11.9	10.5	10.5	10.3
Minn.	12.8	13.1	12.5	11.2	11.2	10.8
Iowa	12.2	12.5	12.1	11.0	10.7	10.4
Mo.	12.0	12.2	11.6	10.2	10.2	9.6
N. Dak.	12.9	13.6	13.1	11.5	11.5	11.2
S. Dak.	12.4	13.5	12.4	11.3	10.9	10.9
Nebr.	12.0	13.0	12.2	10.8	10.7	10.2
Kans.	12.3	12.5	11.8	10.8	10.3	10.2
W. N. Cent.	12.3	12.7	12.1	10.9	10.9	10.6
Del.	12.0	12.4	12.8	10.0	9.2	9.6
Md.	12.0	12.1	12.3	10.0	10.0	10.1
Va.	11.6	12.0	12.0	9.9	9.5	9.5
W. Va.	11.2	11.9	11.6	9.1	9.1	9.0
N. C.	11.4	11.5	11.2	9.8	9.4	9.1
S. C.	11.2	11.0	11.0	9.7	9.2	9.5
Ga.	11.3	11.2	11.0	10.0	9.8	9.5
Fla.	10.3	10.7	10.2	9.3	8.9	8.9
S. Atl.	11.3	11.5	11.3	9.8	9.4	9.4
Ky.	11.0	12.1	11.5	10.0	9.9	9.5
Tenn.	11.4	11.6	11.5	10.0	10.1	9.7
Ala.	11.0	11.0	10.8	10.0	9.7	9.5
Miss.	10.7	10.7	10.7	9.9	9.3	9.4
E. S. Cent.	11.0	11.3	11.1	10.0	9.7	9.5
Ark.	11.2	10.9	10.7	9.9	9.4	9.3
La.	10.7	11.2	10.6	9.7	9.5	9.3
Okla.	11.7	12.0	11.2	10.5	9.7	9.9
Tex.	11.6	11.7	11.2	10.0	9.7	9.6
W. S. Cent.	11.4	11.5	11.0	10.0	9.6	9.5
Mont.	12.4	12.9	12.4	10.5	10.3	10.2
Idaho	12.0	12.9	12.4	10.0	9.5	9.6
Wyo.	12.2	12.7	12.3	9.8	10.0	10.0
Colo.	11.9	12.7	12.2	10.3	9.9	9.8
N. Mex.	11.5	12.4	11.7	10.0	9.7	10.0
Ariz.	10.3	11.3	10.8	9.5	9.5	9.4
Utah	12.0	11.9	11.9	8.7	8.6	9.0
Nev.	12.4	12.3	12.0	8.6	9.0	9.0
Mount.	11.9	12.5	12.1	9.9	9.7	9.8
Wash.	11.8	12.3	11.6	9.8	9.9	9.7
Oreg.	11.8	11.8	11.1	9.5	9.1	9.0
Calif.	10.6	10.7	10.6	9.2	9.1	9.2
Pacific.	11.2	11.4	11.0	9.4	9.3	9.3
U. S.	11.7	11.9	11.5	10.1	9.9	9.8

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Hourly earnings of hired farm workers in July 1946 less than in September 1945 1/

Hired farm workers earned an average of 46 cents per hour in July 1946, or 2 cents per hour less than in September last year. Average day and hour rates for the entire United States - the types of wage rates paid the majority of hired farm workers in July - were $3.55 per day and 55 cents per hour in July, somewhat lower than last September. Seasonal differences in work performed, in the geographic distribution of hired farm workers, and in number of workers paid different types wage rates are responsible for much of the change from one survey period to another.

For purposes of comparison, tables showing earnings, time worked, wage rates, and distribution of hired farm workers by type of wage rates are presented here, covering four weeks in different seasons of 1945 and 1946. Because of the importance of seasonal differences and because the data presented do not cover identical periods, they do not form a basis for measuring trends in wages or wage rates. The most recent data are compared with the information for the week in September because late July and late September are both periods of peak hired employment, although the work performed differs widely. The July period covers the early part of the harvest season and the week in September the harvest of late crops, in most areas.

Average hourly earnings in the Northeast and North Central Regions were about the same as the average for the country as a whole, but in the West they were 43 percent more and in the South 22 percent less. Hourly earnings in all major regions 2/ except the South were lower in July than in the preceding September. In the Northeast, the North Central States and the West hourly earnings were lower because fewer workers were employed at piece rates than other types of wage rates. In the Northeast potato picking at piece rates last September was an importnat source of employment, especially in Aroostook County, Maine. In the West a larger proportion of workers were engaged in grain harvest operations and other jobs at daily and hourly rates in the survey week in July, while last September the proportion of workers harvesting fruits and vegetables at piece work rates was larger. There were many more piece rate workers in the South last September than in July of this year, but in this region average hourly earnings at piece work rates were lower than at other rates in September. Most piece work was cotton picking, in which many women and children were employed. The work done by these tended to reduce average hourly earnings.

Average earnings per day were lower in July than in September except in the South. Half of the hired workers in the entire United States were employed in the South. The increase in average earnings per day there, together with a slightly longer work day, held daily earnings in July at the same level for the country as a whole as in September 1945.

1/ This is a preliminary report of a nationwide enumerative survey made by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for the week of July 14-20, 1946. There were 19,000 farms in the sample of which 4,000 farms reported 13,000 hired workers. Results of previous surveys for the weeks of March 18-24, 1945; May 20-26, 1945 and September 16-22, 1945, have been published in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics series "Survey of Wages and Wage Rates in Agriculture" as Reports 4, 7 and 16.

2/ Northeast, New England and Middle Atlantic States; North Central, East and West North Central States; South, South Atlantic and East and West South Central States; West, Mountain and Pacific States.

Weekly earnings of hired farm workers in the entire country averaged lower in July than last September. The difference is attributable both to lower hourly earnings and to fewer hours worked during the week. Weekly earnings are shown from the reporting farm only. These earnings may not be the entire earnings for the week, as a worker may have been employed on more than one farm during the survey week. In the Northeast, weekly earnings were nearly the same in July as last September, as workers there were employed more hours per week than in September. In all other regions weekly earnings were considerably lower in July than in September 1945.

Longer work days in July

Hours worked per day averaged 9.7 for the country as a whole in July, slightly more than in September. The longest average work day 10.4 hours, was in the North Central region. All regions reported longer working hours per day, in July than last September except the South where they remained the same. The greatest difference between the two periods was shown in the North Central region. In the North Central States and the West, hours worked per week were about the same in July as in September a year ago. The Northeast showed an increase in hours worked per week, but the decrease in the South was large enough to bring the United States average for July under that for last September. For the United States as a whole and for all regions except the Northeast, hired farm workers averaged fewer days work in the week surveyed in July 1946 than they did in September 1945.

Day rates in South higher than in September

Day rates without meals, predominantly in the South, were the most common rate paid hired farm workers in the country in July. Day rates in the South averaged $3.30, a little more than in September. For the United States they averaged a little less in July than last September.

Hourly rates without meals for the entire country were also lower in July than last September, although they were higher in all regions except the South where they were unchanged. The overall reduction in hourly rates came from the fact that a larger proportion of the country's hired workers paid by the hour were in the South in July than last September. For the country as a whole, monthly rates and weekly rates without meals were higher in July than last September.

The most significant difference between the July 1946 and September 1945 surveys in the distribution of hired farm workers by type of wage rate is the much smaller proportion of workers paid piece rates. This difference, although evident in all regions, was most marked in the South where cotton picking was in progress last September. The large percentage of workers employed at custom rates in the North Central region is much above the percentage in any other region and more than 4 times the proportion in September 1945. Wheat harvest was in progress in the North Central States during July and was responsible for much of the custom hire. In July the entire country and all regions showed more workers receiving more than 2 meals in addition to cash wages than in last September.

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Farm labor: Average cash earnings and average time worked by hired farm workers, United States and major regions, July 1946, with comparisons

	Cash earnings (on reporting farm)			Time worked (On reporting farm)		
	Hourly	Daily	Weekly	Hours per day	Hours per week	Days per week
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars			
United States						
July 14-20, 1946	.46	4.40	17.50	9.7	38	4.0
September 16-22, 1945	.48	4.40	19.50	9.3	45	4.6
May 20-26, 1945	.37	3.60	16.80	9.7	45	4.6
March 18-24, 1945	.35	3.20	15.80	9.1	45	5.0
Northeast						
July 14-20, 1946	.44	4.20	21.30	9.7	49	5.1
September 16-22, 1945	.49	4.70	21.90	9.4	44	4.7
May 20-26, 1945	.40	3.80	22.20	9.6	56	5.8
March 18-24, 1945	.34	3.30	19.40	9.7	57	5.9
North Central						
July 14-20, 1946	.44	4.60	21.00	10.4	47	4.5
September 16-22, 1945	.52	4.90	24.70	9.4	48	5.1
May 20-26, 1945	.30	3.20	18.00	10.7	60	5.6
March 18-24, 1945	.28	2.90	16.30	10.3	58	5.7
South						
July 14-20, 1946	.36	3.30	10.10	9.2	28	3.1
September 16-22, 1945	.32	2.90	11.00	9.2	34	3.7
May 20-26, 1945	.26	2.50	9.80	9.6	37	3.9
March 18-24, 1945	.29	2.60	11.20	9.0	39	4.3
West						
July 14-20, 1946	.66	6.30	34.20	9.6	52	5.4
September 16-22, 1945	.73	6.80	37.00	9.2	50	5.5
May 20-26, 1945	.67	6.20	33.80	9.2	51	5.5
March 18-24, 1945	.62	4.90	27.20	7.8	44	5.6

Estimates based on enumerative surveys. Results from July 1946 survey are preliminary.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm labor: Average farm wage rates, United States and major regions, July 1946, with comparisons

Type of rate and data	United States	Northeast	North Central	South	West
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Rates per month without meals 1/					
July 14-20, 1946	114.70	107.70	115.90	79.10	164.40
September 16-22, 1945	108.30	97.60	100.60	77.30	167.20
May 20-26, 1945	108.10	100.00	102.30	75.00	167.30
March 18-24, 1945	99.30	98.60	98.20	65.60	151.00
Rates per month with meals 2/					
July 14-20, 1946	83.60	66.80	75.80	58.10	133.80
September 16-22, 1945	76.60	60.20	67.00	53.20	124.30
May 20-26, 1945	74.40	54.50	65.70	45.20	122.60
March 18-24, 1945	67.10	55.90	60.50	43.80	121.80
Rates per week without meals 2/					
July 14-20, 1946	27.20	31.30	26.60	21.10	38.20
September 16-22, 1945	23.20	31.40	24.90	15.90	36.00
May 20-26, 1945	25.80	30.60	23.70	21.80	36.20
March 18-24, 1945	21.60	27.00	21.80	16.30	34.70
Rates per day without meals 2/					
July 14-20, 1946	3.55	4.90	4.45	3.30	6.00
September 16-22, 1945	3.60	8.35	3.80	3.00	6.20
May 20-26, 1945	2.55	5.15	3.40	2.40	4.40
March 18-24, 1945	2.65	5.40	3.20	2.35	4.80
Rates per hour without meals 2/					
July 14-20, 1946	.58	.63	.62	.42	.76
September 16-22, 1945	.63	.57	.58	.42	.75
May 20-26, 1945	.52	.54	.50	.30	.75
March 18-24, 1945	.57	.57	.54	.36	.80

1/ Includes some workers receiving one meals per day.

2/ Two or more regular meals per day.

Estimates based on enumerative surveys. Results from July 1946 survey preliminary.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm labor: Percentage distribution of hired farm workers, by type of wage rates, United States and major regions, July 1946, with comparisons

Type of wage rate	United States				Northeast				North Central			
	July 14-20, 1946	September 16-22, 1945	May 20-26, 1945	March 18-24, 1945	July 14-20 1946	September 16-22, 1945	May 20-26, 1945	March 18-24, 1945	July 14-20, 1946	September 16-22, 1945	May 20-26, 1945	March 18-24, 1945
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Per month	11	10	16	21	14	15	28	32	22	28	42	47
Per week	5	4	8	9	23	15	33	36	5	6	11	7
Per day	42	18	44	33	13	12	9	14	24	14	24	24
Per hour	27	18	23	26	31	19	16	14	24	21	15	14
Piece rate	8	45	4	8	15	37	12	3	8	27	1	1
Other 1/	7	5	5	3	4	2	2	1	17	4	7	7
Without meals furnished 2/	80	86	79	77	67	70	61	57	58	63	52	50
Per month	5	4	7	10	5	5	10	10	7	10	15	18
Per week	3	3	5	6	12	8	17	20	2	3	6	4
Per day	35	15	37	27	8	9	6	10	12	8	14	12
Per hour	24	16	22	24	24	14	15	13	18	13	12	11
Piece rate	8	44	4	8	15	33	12	3	8	27	1	1
Other 1/	5	4	4	2	3	1	1	1	11	2	4	4
With meals furnished 3/	20	14	21	23	33	30	39	43	42	37	48	50
Per month	6	6	9	11	9	10	18	22	15	18	27	29
Per week	2	1	3	3	11	7	16	16	3	3	5	3
Per day	7	3	7	6	5	3	3	4	12	6	10	12
Per hour	3	2	1	2	7	5	1	1	6	8	3	3
Piece rate	4/	1	4/	4/	4/	4	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
Other 1/	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2/	6	2	3	3

Continued

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics

Farm labor: Percentage distribution of hired farm workers, by type of wage rates, United States and major regions, July 1946, with comparisons - Continued -

Type of wage rate	South				West			
	July 14-20 1946	Sept. 16-22 1945	May 20-26 1945	March 18-24 1945	July 14-20 1946	Sept. 16-22 1945	May 20-26 1945	March 18-24 1945
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Per month	4	3	6	9	13	11	19	22
Per week	3	3	5	7	2	2	3	3
Per day	65	24	66	48	14	8	12	10
Per hour	20	8	18	21	49	43	47	61
Piece rate	4	56	1	13	19	34	15	3
Other 1/	4	6	4	2	3	2	4	1
Without meals furnished 2/	90	94	89	88	86	89	82	84
Per month	3	2	5	6	6	5	9	12
Per week	2	2	4	5	2	1	2	2
Per day	60	22	59	42	9	5	8	7
Per hour	18	7	17	20	47	42	46	59
Piece rate	4	55	1	13	19	34	14	3
Other 1/	3	6	3	2	3	2	3	1
With meals furnished 3/	10	6	11	12	14	11	18	16
Per month	1	1	1	3	7	6	10	10
Per week	1	1	1	2	4/	1	1	1
Per day	5	2	7	6	5	3	4	3
Per hour	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	2
Piece rate	4/	1	4/	4/	4/	4/	1	4/
Other 1/	1	4/	1	4/	4/	4/	1	4/

1/ Includes custom work rates and annual rates.
2/ Includes some workers receiving one meal per day.
3/ Two or more regular meals.
4/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Estimates based on enumerative surveys. Results from July 1946 survey are preliminary.

Farm labor program: Foreign workers employed in agriculture, August 30, 1946 1/

State	Mexicans	Jamaicans	Bahamians	British Hondurans	Barbadians	Newfoundlanders	Total
Maine		26	20			47	93
N. H.	2/23	21				37	81
Vt.	2/45					87	132
Mass.		233				40	273
R. I.						6	6
Conn.		1,967	1		23	59	2050
N. Y.	2/74	2,141	341	122	141	179	2998
N. J.		1,425	45		171	50	1691
Pa.		248	257		70	50	625
Ohio		904					904
Ind.	160	218					378
Ill.	1088	787	4				1879
Mich.	2129	622					2751
Wis.	1,108	1,263	31	5	141		2,548
Minn.	1851	124					1975
Iowa	732						732
Mo.		43					43
N. Dak.							---
S. Dak.	238						238
Nebr.	466						466
Kans.	136						136
Del.		298	209		52	6	565
Md.		558	817		98	8	1,481
Va.			557				557
W. Va.							---
N. C.			940				940
S. C.							---
Ga.							---
Fla.		8	1,227		1830		3065
Ky.							---
Tenn.			225				225
Ala.							---
Miss.							---
Ark.							---
La.							---
Okla.							---
Tex.							---
Mont.	858						858
Idaho	2,141						2141
Wyo.	279						279
Colo.	316						616
N. Mex.	23						23
Ariz.	986						986
Utah	627						627
Nev.	350						350
Wash.	1,792						1,792
Oreg.	2,504						2504
Calif.	19,840						19,840
U. S.	37,924	10,886	4,674	127	2526	569	56,848

1/ Data provided by Reguirements and Certifications Sections, Program Division, Labor Branch, P.M.A.

2/ Canadians

Farm labor program: Farm labor placements, July 1946 1/

State	July		January 1 to July 31	
	1945	1946	1945	1946
Maine	1,055	4,142	2,179	6,451
N. H.	891	2,536	2,090	4,073
Vt.	344	171	1,533	1,093
Mass.	2,026	532	4,229	2,110
R. I.	107	43	255	125
Conn.	5,533	9,485	12,552	15,636
N. Y.	51,385	37,881	85,956	88,217
N.J.	23,178	9,278	68,459	19,235
Penn.	10,369	3,487	16,283	6,947
Ohio	5,930	11,526	15,009	21,974
Ind.	11,843	7,963	21,311	11,409
Ill.	9,313	17,511	31,175	31,235
Mich.	38,862	33,532	56,015	53,622
Wis.	7,428	11,020	14,456	17,333
Minn.	7,409	5,636	14,439	11,714
Iowa	20,444	18,531	37,857	22,192
Mo.	4,175	1,269	16,327	5,701
N. Dak.	7,054	13,218	26,655	21,939
S. Dak.	11,778	9,144	18,903	16,593
Nebr.	20,124	9,515	47,484	12,365
Kans.	9,033	924	14,105	3,544
Del.	3,997	3,571	8,388	5,929
Md.	34,621	12,190	68,981	42,347
Va.	16,594	4,588	50,377	26,420
W. Va.	283	141	1,535	582
N. C.	22,477	21,041	70,051	74,160
S. C.	27,325	7,740	53,257	14,526
Ga.	19,087	18,708	69,424	53,255
Fla.	2,119	139	24,407	18,258
Ky.	12,666	1,099	34,099	11,245
Tenn.	16,911	10,935	95,967	38,961
Ala.	2,117	1,134	18,508	12,209
Miss.	14,824	10,357	79,199	76,644
Ark.	53,105	19,131	199,350	123,329
La.	7,476	5,983	38,755	32,665
Okla.	17,735	10,120	106,623	59,185
Tex.	47,057	44,273	203,426	120,062
Mont.	34,791	14,686	56,355	37,282
Idaho	41,732	22,519	116,569	144,265
Wyo.	5,975	3,796	9,878	11,658
Colo.	6,845	13,343	35,282	57,889
N. Mex.	8,482	9,874	30,877	17,924
Ariz.	8,343	250	45,524	25,932
Utah	31,787	13,569	65,930	49,229
Nev.	1,468	820	3,734	2,750
Wash.	70,322	63,489	152,680	135,734
Oreg.	45,722	33,273	69,614	80,940
Calif.	64,925	67,862	342,890	306,259
Total	867,067	621,975	2,558,952	1,953,247

1/ Data from monthly reports of Extension Farm Labor Program, Extension Service, U.S.D.A., Washington, D. C.

Farm labor program: Placements of World War II veterans on farms, United States, by months, January 1945 - July 1946 1/

Month	As hired hands	As tenants or sharecroppers	All placements
1945			
January	513	80	593
February	730	116	846
March	910	167	1,077
April	1,149	140	1,289
May	1,229	85	1,314
June	1,718	76	1,794
July	3,024	86	3,110
August	3,791	140	3,931
September	3,873	196	4,069
October	5,529	378	5,907
November	4,892	663	5,555
December	4,378	505	4,883
Total	31,736	2,632	34,368
1946			
January	3,186	1,750	4,936
February	3,544	1,844	5,388
March	4,538	1,527	6,065
April	5,707	1,627	7,334
May	8,048	990	9,038
June	12,569	974	13,543
July	16,062	824	16,886

1/ Data from monthly reports of Extension Farm Labor Program, Extension Service, U.S.D.A., Washington, D. C.

Farm labor program: Placements of World War II veterans on farms, by geographic divisions, July 1946 1/

Area	As hired hands	As tenants or sharecroppers	All placements
New England	105	2	107
Middle Atlantic	198	134	332
East North Central	622	137	759
West North Central	6,354	39	6,393
South Atlantic	395	84	479
East South Central	388	186	574
West South Central	1,568	231	1,799
Mountain	1,797	8	1,805
Pacific	4,635	3	4,638
United States	16,062	824	16,886

1/ Data from monthly reports of Extension Farm Labor Program, Extension Service, U.S.D.A., Washington, D. C.

SPECFIC WAGE CEILINGS ISSUED, AMENDED OR REVOKED AUGUST 1946 1/

FLORIDA

CITRUS FRUIT. Picking of grapefruit, oranges, and tangerines, loading of "bunch" or "goat" trucks in grapefruit, oranges and tangerine groves and driving "bunch" or "goat" trucks in grapefruit, or oranges, or tangerine graves in Florida. No. 21, amended August 12, 1946.

Maximum wage rates: Picking tangerines, 30 cents per standard field box. Picking seedling oranges, 25 cents per standard field box. Picking oranges from canopy-type budded orange trees, requiring use of ladder 30 feet or more in length, 25 cents per standard field box. Picking budded oranges, 15 cents per standard field box. Picking grapefruit, 9 cents per standard field box. Provided, that in cases of sparse crops, where the trees are large enough to require the use of a ladder for picking and the entire grove or portions of the grove consisting of solid blocks of trees and covering 5 or more acres is less than 40 field boxes per acre, a wage rate not to exceed 75 cents per hourmay be paid for picking tangerines, oranges, or grapefruit on such grove or portion of grove in place of the piece rates above, if the employer has advised the chairman of the Florida USDA Wage Board of his intention to use this alternative rate, before the beginning of picking, and shall have made proper showing to said chairman, that the foregoing conditions exist. Loading tangerines, oranges, and grapefruit: loaders, including customary distribution and picking up of empty boxes, 70 cents per hour, or 1 cent per box stacking on "bunch" or "goat" trucks in grove, when fruit is stacked in boxes; $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per box for unloading from "bunch" or "goat" trucks at roadside to roadside truck; $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per box for stacking on roadside trucks when fruit is stacked in boxes. Driving "bunch" of "goat" trucks, 70 cents per hour.

ARIZONA

COTTON. Picking, pulling, bolling, snapping, and scrapping seed cotton in the counties of Pima, Greenlee, Santa Cruz, Pinal, Graham, and Maricopa. No. 29 amended August 15, 1946.

Maximum wage rates: Picking cotton: American Egyptain, $4.50 per 100 lbs; American Upland, $2.65 per 100 lbs. Pulling, bolling, snapping, and scrapping American Egyptian and American Upland, $1.35 per 100 lbs.

OREGON

PLUMS AND PRUNES. Harvesting plums and prunes in Washington, Yamhill, Polk and Marion counties. No. 95, issued August 23, 1946.

Maximum wage rates: Picking plums or prunes or both from the ground, 25 cents per lug box of 56 pounds. Picking and shaking plums or prunes or both, 35 cents per lug box of 56 pounds. Other harvest labor, $1.00 per hour.

CALIFORNIA

RAISIN GRAPES. Picking of grapes for sun-dried raisins in the counties of Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera and Merced, Stanislaus, and San Joaquin. No. 37, amended August 30, 1946.

Maximum wage rates: Picking Thompson and Sultana varieties; trays (22 pounds, fresh grapes) per unit (500 bearing vines), 500 and over, 6 cents per tray; 400 - 499, 6¼ cents per tray; 300 - 399, 6½ cents per tray; 200 - 299, 6 3/4 cents per tray; 199 and less, 7 cents per per tray. Muscat varieties, trays per unit, 500 and over, 7½ cents per tray; 400 - 499, 7 3/4 cents per tray; 300 - 399, 8 cents per tray; 200 - 299, 8¼ cents per tray; 199 and less 8½ cents per tray. Hourly rates, $1.00.

PEARS, PRUNES, AND HOPS. Harvesting pears, prunes, and hops in the counties of Mendocino and Sonoma. No. 62, amended August 15, 1946.

Maximum wage rates: Picking pears, prunes, and hops, hourly rate, 85 cents. Piecework rates: picking hops, 3½ cents per pound; picking prunes from the ground, 25 cents per 50 pounds, or $10 per ton; tree-picking pears, 15 cents per 50 - pound box or $6 per ton.

1/ Data from Wage Stabilization Division, Labor Branch, P.M.A.

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