farm labor

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FARM WORK FORCE SMALLER THAN A YEAR AGO

The Nation's farm labor force for the survey week of June 18-24, 1972 totaled 5,116,700 workers, about 161,500 fewer than a year ago. The work force consisted of 3,503,100 farm operators and unpaid family members and 1,613,600 hired workers.

Farmworkers averaged 40.0 hours during the June survey week, compared with 41.7 hours a month earlier. Farm operators worked an average of 48.3 hours; unpaid family members, 35.4 hours; and hired workers 32.9 hours during the week.

Farm wages were generally higher on July 1, 1972, and the average cash rate per hour without board and room rose to $1.85 from $1.75 per hour a year earlier. Monthly, weekly, and daily rates increased similarly. The seasonally adjusted national Index of Farm Wage Rates was 142 on the 1967 base, up 7 percent over a year earlier.

Wheat harvest continued on the southern Great Plains. Progress was fairly good in Oklahoma but was slowed somewhat in Texas and Kansas by showers. Wheat progressed normally in South Dakota with fields turning color. However, considerable lodging has occurred in the main growing areas. Small grain harvest continued in California and was about to start in Oregon.

Cotton has progressed very well and bolls are squaring and setting in the Southern States as far east as Alabama. Cotton harvest was underway in the Yuma, Arizona area.

Soybean planting is virtually complete. Rains from "Agnes" were beneficial in areas where moisture was needed, although they did delay planting in Virginia and Maryland.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE CROP REPORTING BOARD
La 1(7-72) WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

Tobacco harvest was underway in the Carolinas and Georgia. Damage from the storm was light in the major producing States. Haymaking made good progress in most areas except the East Coast where the storm hampered activities.

Peach harvest continued in the South where picking was slowed by Agnes, but the rain was needed for fruit sizing. Cherry harvest continued in Oregon and Washington. Citrus harvest continues in California. Picking of early apples started in Arkansas.

Strawberry picking continued in the North. Cantaloupe harvest was active in Arizona and California. Pea harvest was in full swing in Wisconsin.

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 in classified as performing farm or nonfarm work on the basis of major activity during the survey week.

Farm employment and indexes, June 1972, with comparisons, United States

Item	Annual average 1970	Annual average 1971	June 21-27, 1970	June 20-26, 1971	June 18-24, 1972
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/					
(Thousands)					
Total	4,522.6	4,445.9	5,439.5	5,278.2	5,116.7
Family labor	3,348.1	3,281.4	3,699.5	3,599.6	3,503.1
Hired labor	1,174.5	1,164.5	1,740.0	1,678.6	1,613.6
INDEXES 2/					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	33	33	34	33	32
Family labor	33	32	33	33	32
Hired labor	35	34	36	35	34
(1967=100)					
Total	92	92	93	92	89
Family labor	92	89	92	92	89
Hired labor	92	89	95	92	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.

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Farm wage rates and indexes, July 1, 1972, United States

Item	Annual average 1971	July 1, 1970	July 1, 1971	July 1, 1972
FARM WAGE RATES				
Composite rate per hour 1/	$ 1.48	$ 1.38	$ 1.44	$ 1.54
Per month with house	340	340	3/348	369
Per month with board and room	263	249	3/260	276
Per week with board and room	64.50	63.00	66.50	70.25
Per week without board or room	81.00	81.75	84.50	89.75
Per day with house	10.30	9.70	10.20	11.00
Per day with board and room	11.20	11.00	11.50	12.40
Per day without board or room	12.20	11.60	12.10	13.10
Per hour with house	1.56	1.52	1.61	1.70
Per hour without board or room	1.73	1.66	3/1.75	1.85
INDEXES 2/				
(1910-14=100)	1,138	1,078	1,128	1,203
(1967=100)	134	127	133	142

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 1972 1/

State and division	June 1970 week of 21-27			June 1971 week of 20-26			June 1972 week of 18-24		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	Thousands								
Maine	20.1	15	8.1	21.1	13	8.1	20.3	13	7.3
N. H.	7.4	4.8	2.6	7.5	4.8	2.7	7.3	4.9	2.4
Vt.	15.6	12	3.6	14.6	11	3.6	13.9	10	3.9
Mass.	19.8	11	8.8	20.1	11	9.1	17.6	9.7	7.9
R. I.	2.2	1.4	.8	2.2	1.4	.8	1.9	1.1	.8
Conn.	15.6	7.6	8.0	13.8	7.5	6.3	12.6	7.4	5.2
N. Eng.	83.7	51.8	31.9	79.3	48.7	30.6	73.6	46.1	27.5
N. Y.	109	77	32	109	76	33	100	73	27
N. J.	27	10	17	25	10	15	23	9.0	14
Pa.	144	115	29	138	112	26	119	101	18
M. Atl.	280	202	78	272	198	74	242	183	59
Ohio	174	144	30	170	142	28	162	143	19
Ind.	146	123	23	147	127	20	143	124	19
Ill.	195	157	38	195	156	39	193	157	36
Mich.	162	135	27	147	117	30	147	116	31
Wis.	214	190	24	203	182	21	197	172	25
E. N. Cent.	891	749	142	862	724	138	842	712	130
Minn.	223	184	39	234	183	51	231	179	52
Iowa	266	209	57	274	204	70	254	196	58
Mo.	214	170	44	220	174	46	205	164	41
N. Dak.	72	58	14	69	54	15	66	53	13
S. Dak.	84	70	14	80	66	14	70	58	12
Nebr.	130	109	21	140	112	28	140	109	31
Kans.	144	107	37	143	105	38	137	104	33
W. N. Cent.	1,133	907	226	1,160	898	262	1,103	863	240
Del.	9.0	5.0	4.0	9.0	5.0	4.0	6.0	4.0	2.0
Md.	39	27	12	39	28	11	31	23	8.0
Va.	152	84	48	138	78	60	123	78	45
W. Va.	47	36	11	47	36	11	38	32	6.0
N. C.	310	201	109	286	191	95	271	180	91
S. C.	93	64	29	93	63	30	84	60	24
Ga.	112	78	34	98	76	22	96	74	22
Fla.	98	30	68	103	32	71	105	32	73
S. Atl.	840	525	315	813	509	304	754	483	271
Ky.	181	130	51	181	128	53	176	126	50
Tenn.	172	122	50	167	121	46	170	123	47
Ala.	89	67	22	82	61	21	78	58	20
Miss.	142	103	39	130	95	35	127	93	34
E. S. Cent.	584	422	162	560	405	155	551	400	151
Ark.	170	83	87	148	80	68	156	90	66
La.	90	51	39	79	47	32	82	49	33
Okla.	157	122	35	158	125	33	152	121	31
Texas	344	219	125	309	212	97	317	210	107
W. S. Cent.	761	475	286	694	464	230	707	470	237
Mont.	47	29	18	51	32	19	52	31	21
Idaho	60	38	22	61	39	22	62	38	24
Wyo.	21	12	9.0	20	10	10	20	11	9.0
Colo.	81	43	38	69	39	30	66	38	28
N. Mex.	25	16	9.0	21	13	8.0	23	13	10
Ariz.	37	7.0	30	38	7.0	31	36	6.0	30
Utah	29	20	9.0	29	19	10	25	16	9.0
Nev.	5.8	2.7	3.1	5.9	2.9	3.0	6.1	3.0	3.1
Mount.	305.8	167.7	138.1	294.9	161.9	133	290.1	156	134.1
Wash.	125	66	59	124	63	61	120	64	56
Oreg.	118	56	62	104	53	51	117	54	63
Calif.	318	78	240	315	75	240	317	72	245
Pac.	561	200	361	543	191	352	554	190	364
U. S.	5,439.5	3,699.5	1,740.0	5,278.2	3,599.6	1,678.6	5,116.7	3,503.1	1,613.6

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

FARM WORK: Weekly Hours Worked Per Worker: Average for reporting farms, week of June 18-24, 1972

State and division	Farm Operators	Other Family Members 1/	All Family 1/	Hired Workers	All Workers 1/
			Hours		
Maine	61.5	36.5	52.9	39.1	47.1
N. H.	61.0	27.1	49.2	40.1	45.4
Vt.	64.0	38.8	55.5	48.6	52.6
Mass.	59.3	36.6	51.2	34.0	44.4
R. I.	60.0	37.0	53.1	37.3	47.5
Conn.	61.2	38.5	52.8	34.5	46.4
N. Eng.	61.5	36.3	52.7	38.1	47.2
N. Y.	56.0	33.9	48.2	36.8	44.5
N. J.	41.0	31.1	38.2	32.2	36.7
Pa.	49.7	32.2	44.0	33.1	41.4
M. Atl.	51.8	32.8	45.4	34.6	42.2
Ohio	46.9	32.7	42.3	27.9	38.6
Ind.	48.3	33.8	44.4	23.6	39.0
Ill.	54.0	35.6	48.9	32.4	44.8
Mich.	50.3	37.0	46.1	30.8	41.5
Wis.	59.4	36.1	49.4	36.2	46.4
E. N. Cent.	52.0	35.0	46.3	30.8	42.4
Minn.	61.3	37.7	52.3	29.4	46.8
Iowa.	60.2	33.6	51.1	27.2	44.6
Mo.	49.5	41.6	47.4	32.3	41.0
N. Dak.	63.1	46.7	56.7	42.0	53.9
S. Dak.	60.1	38.5	53.1	32.4	49.0
Nebr.	59.5	37.8	51.1	39.6	46.7
Kans.	57.2	40.5	51.8	34.1	47.0
W. N. Cent.	57.8	38.7	51.1	31.5	45.8
Del.	32.8	37.4	34.0	40.4	35.8
Md.	45.1	34.9	41.7	34.0	39.6
Va.	39.7	34.6	38.2	27.5	33.9
W. Va.	37.7	27.6	34.6	20.6	31.4
N. C.	38.7	32.0	36.6	23.6	31.0
S. C.	38.5	36.0	37.8	27.8	32.8
Ga.	37.7	29.7	35.5	23.8	30.1
Fla.	43.0	30.7	39.0	22.1	26.3
S. Atl.	39.2	32.3	37.1	24.6	31.3
Ky.	39.8	31.6	37.3	24.0	31.8
Tenn.	39.0	31.3	36.9	25.2	32.7
Ala.	35.5	30.6	34.2	28.9	32.4
Miss.	36.5	32.6	35.4	36.4	36.0
E. S. Cent.	38.0	31.5	36.2	27.8	33.1
Ark.	40.8	37.9	39.9	36.7	38.2
La.	36.8	36.1	36.6	40.6	38.1
Okla.	51.1	36.9	46.2	33.9	42.3
Texas	45.9	36.2	43.4	33.6	38.7
W. S. Cent.	45.0	36.7	42.5	35.5	39.3
Mont.	58.0	38.4	50.4	41.5	47.4
Idaho	56.8	37.3	48.5	30.9	43.1
Wyo.	59.5	42.8	53.7	43.1	49.3
Colo.	53.1	38.1	48.1	41.8	46.6
N. Mex.	52.5	42.9	49.8	40.4	45.6
Ariz.	46.8	38.5	45.1	47.5	46.6
Utah	45.0	34.9	41.3	24.0	34.9
Nev.	55.0	45.2	50.3	55.0	52.1
Mount.	54.1	38.6	48.4	40.2	45.2
Wash.	50.2	38.3	46.4	34.9	40.0
Oreg.	45.3	32.3	40.6	29.5	35.0
Calif.	48.1	45.0	47.3	40.7	42.1
Pac.	48.0	39.4	45.2	37.9	40.1
U. S.	48.3	35.4	44.0	32.9	40.0

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, 1971 1/

State and division	Per month		Per week		Per day			Per hour	
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board and room	With house	With board and room	Without board and room	With house	Without board and room
	Dollars								
Maine	320	270	70.00	90.00			15.00		1.75
N. H.	350	280	75.00	95.00			16.00		1.90
Vt.	350	270	70.00	100.00			15.50		1.95
Mass.	400	300	75.00	100.00			17.00		1.95
R. I.	390	290	75.00	101.00			17.00		2.00
Conn.	380	290	80.00	100.00			17.00		2.00
N. Eng.	365	285	74.50	97.25			16.30		1.91
N. Y.	380	255	70.75	94.00			15.20		1.87
N. J.	380	280	71.00	91.00			16.00		1.94
Pa.	310	246	67.75	83.00			13.00		1.67
M. Atl.	354	257	69.75	89.25			14.60		1.81
Ohio	311	237				10.80	13.40		1.66
Ind.	295	199				10.60	13.40		1.74
Ill.	364	264				12.70	15.70		1.87
Mich.	2/400	2/290					14.50		1.85
Wis.	367	279				11.60	14.40		1.83
E. N. Cent.	2/349	2/255				11.60	14.40		1.80
Minn.	348	272				12.90	15.60		1.79
Iowa	386	307				14.10	17.00		1.88
Mo.	284	204				10.25	12.50		1.70
N. Dak.	337	279				12.80	16.20		1.67
S. Dak.	329	266				11.50	14.00		1.59
Nebr.	389	291				13.70	16.90		1.79
Kans.	352	273				12.50	15.10		1.74
W. N. Cent.	347	269				12.60	15.30		1.77
Del.	270						12.50		1.66
Md.	275	190	57.00	73.00			12.90		1.69
Va.					9.50		11.10		1.45
W. Va.							9.60		1.30
N. C.					9.90		11.10		1.45
S. C.					8.80		10.00		1.26
Ga.					9.20		10.30		1.39
Fla.					10.80		11.50		1.35
S. Atl.					9.90		11.00		1.41
Ky.					8.00		10.60		1.47
Tenn.					8.60		10.10		1.34
Ala.					8.50		9.30		1.29
Miss.					9.10		9.85		1.30
E. S. Cent.					8.50		10.10		1.36
Ark.					11.60		12.10		1.42
La.					10.10		10.60		1.36
Okla.					11.40		13.20		1.57
Texas					11.50		12.70		1.48
W. S. Cent.					11.30		12.30		1.46
Mont.	360	285					14.60		1.71
Idaho	400	320					14.40		1.80
Wyo.	342	256					13.00		1.74
Colo.	365	273					14.90		1.74
N. Mex.	310	240					12.10		1.35
Ariz.	410	290					14.50		1.55
Utah	340	290					13.50		1.72
Nev.	350	270					14.00		1.80
Mount.	373	284					14.30		1.68
Wash.	440	340						2/1.95	2/2.00
Oreg.	366	288						1.86	1.80
Calif.	445	330						1.88	1.96
Pac.	431	324						2/1.89	2/1.94
U. S.	2/348	2/260	66.50	84.50	10.20	11.50	12.10	1.61	2/1.75

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, 1972 1/

State and division	Per month		Per week		Per day			Per hour	
	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
	Dollars								
Maine	340	280	70.00	95.00			15.50		1.90
N. H.	380	300	75.00	105.00			17.50		2.10
Vt.	400	300	75.00	95.00			16.00		2.00
Mass.	420	300	85.00	105.00			16.50		2.10
R. I.	420	300	85.00	115.00			18.00		2.10
Conn.	420	300	85.00	115.00			18.00		2.05
N. Eng.	393	295	79.00	103.50			16.60		2.03
N. Y.	390	280	75.00	98.50			15.90		1.95
N. J.	380	280	72.00	92.00			16.50		1.97
Pa.	323	255	68.00	81.50			14.00		1.75
M. Atl.	365	271	72.00	91.25			15.40		1.88
Ohio	330	250				11.00	14.10		1.75
Ind.	309	220				11.20	14.80		1.81
Ill.	370	270				13.10	15.90		2.00
Mich.	420	320	84.00	110.00			17.50		1.93
Wisc.	386	291				12.70	15.70		1.87
E. N. Cent.	366	273				12.50	15.70		1.89
Minn.	353	285				13.40	16.40		1.86
Iowa	411	332				14.90	17.40		2.01
Mo.	305	225				11.00	14.00		1.75
N. Dak.	374	309				13.70	17.40		1.81
S. Dak.	343	283				12.40	14.60		1.67
Nebr.	395	295				13.00	16.30		1.86
Kans.	380	292				13.40	16.00		1.86
W. N. Cent.	369	290				13.30	16.10		1.87
Del.	280						12.90		1.72
Md.	277	210	62.00	78.00			12.90		1.74
Va.					10.10		12.10		1.54
W. Va.	195	163				8.40	10.30		1.33
N. C.					10.30		12.10		1.48
S. C.					9.40		10.50		1.35
Ga.					10.10		11.30		1.48
Fla.					12.00		13.00		1.56
S. Atl.					10.50		12.10		1.50
Ky.					8.50		10.70		1.53
Tenn.					9.00		10.90		1.41
Ala.					9.30		10.40		1.37
Miss.					10.50		11.50		1.40
E. S. Cent.					9.20		10.90		1.44
Ark.					12.50		13.00		1.48
La.					10.70		11.60		1.43
Okla.					12.70		14.60		1.66
Texas					12.60		13.90		1.59
W. S. Cent.					12.30		13.40		1.54
Mont.	375	300					15.30		1.80
Idaho	425	340					16.40		1.95
Wyo.	382	260					15.10		1.88
Colo.	376	289					16.10		1.88
N. Mex.	318	245					12.40		1.38
Ariz.	420	300					14.80		1.70
Utah	350	275					13.00		1.85
Nev.	350	260					14.00		1.80
Mount.	389	295					15.20		1.81
Wash.	465	365						2.00	2.10
Oreg. 2/	409	314						1.86	1.88
Calif.	455	330						1.95	2.05
Pac.	450	333						1.95	2.03
U. S.	369	276	70.25	89.75	11.00	12.40	13.10	1.70	1.85

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 States rates of small importance.
2/ A typographical error in the April 11, 1972 issue of Farm Labor, page 6, listed the Oregon wage rate per hour with house at $1.88 and without house at $1.85. These should be corrected to $1.85 and $1.86, repectively.

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