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Farm Labor

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FARM EMPLOYMENT MAKES SEASONAL CLIMB
REMAINS UNDER YEAR AGO
WAGE RATES CONTINUE ADVANCE

About 9,945,000 persons were working on farms during the week of September 22-28, the Crop Reporting Board announced today. This was 10 percent more than a month earlier but 5 percent less than during the corresponding week last year.

The increase of 897,000 workers from the previous month, while appearing rather large, was considerably less than the usual rise from August to September. Family workers showed an increase of 12 percent, but the number of hired workers was up only 5 percent. Average August-September increases are 15 percent for family workers and 13 percent for hired workers. The decrease of nearly a half million workers from a year ago was shared almost equally (percentagewise) between family and hired workers, although in actual numbers the decline in family workers was about 3 times as great. While labor demands increased seasonally, it appears that adverse harvesting weather over the Southeastern United States plus reduced acreages of heavy labor requirement crops such as cotton and tobacco have had some effect in holding down total employment this month.

Farm wage rates continued to increase and around October 1 were nearly 3 percent higher than a year ago. The seasonally adjusted farm wage rate index of 565 percent of the 1910-14 average compares with 550 a year ago and 518 for October 1955. It is at an all-time high level for the date. Every individual

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rate of pay averaged higher than a year earlier. A high level of industrial employment in most areas of the country maintained the upward pressure on farm wage rates. As farmers now compete directly with industry for labor in many areas they must hold their rates at comparable levels to get the necessary help. Many farmers comment that hired help is becoming difficult to locate and hold unless there is some assurance of permanency.

October 1 rates were higher than a year earlier in all except the East South Central region, and here the decline was very small. Based on the composite rate per hour, increases ranged from 0.6 cent in the South Atlantic States to 3.6 cents per hour in the Mountain States, while the decline in the East South Central region was 0.4 cent.

Most geographic regions also showed some seasonal increase in composite rates from July 1. Notable exceptions were the Middle Atlantic and West North Central States. As measured by the seasonally adjusted index, rates were lower in the Northeast, Mountain, and Pacific States and higher in the North Central, South Atlantic, and West South Central States. The East South Central States showed no change from last quarter. Several States reported shortages of specialized labor, especially tractor drivers. There is normally more work with harvest machinery throughout the country in the fall. This probably accounts for part of the seasonal wage rate rise as machine operators and those working with mechanized equipment usually are paid higher wage rates.

Heavy rains beginning on September 25 extended from southeast Texas northeastward along the Gulf and northward to Virginia. Harvesting operations were delayed and some minor crop losses resulted. Elsewhere, weather during the survey week of September 22-28 was mostly favorable for harvesting, fall seeding, and other farm activities. Temperatures were unusually cool in the East but were unseasonably warm in the West. Freezing occurred over northern areas but damage was limited to corn in extreme north-central areas and cranberries in the Northeast, mainly New Jersey and Rhode Island.

Seeding of small grains was making rapid progress in the principal producing areas of the Great Plains. Wheat seeding was in full swing in central Kansas, nearing completion in the western part of the State, and half or more finished in Oklahoma. Fall grain seeding also made good advances in the central Missouri and Ohio Valleys.

Cotton harvest was delayed, the opening of bolls was slowed, and open cotton suffered some damage from the moderate to heavy rains in the west Gulf coastal area and much of the region east of the Mississippi River. In Louisiana and east Texas rice harvesting also was halted and some was being damaged from lodging. Cotton harvest was under way in the northern portions of the Belt and warm, sunny weather favored maturity and picking operations in the far Southwest.

Farm activity throughout the North Central States consisted mainly of harvest or preparations for harvest. Principal jobs were combining soybeans, cutting late hays, filling silos, digging potatoes, harvesting sugar beets, and picking apples. Mostly dry, sunny weather promoted the maturity of corn but very little was being picked for cribbing yet. Soybean harvest was progressing well, but a little behind schedule in most of the main producing areas. In the Northern Plains and Mountain States ranchers were busy bringing in winter feed supplies and moving cattle and sheep to winter range or to market.

Harvesting tobacco, apples, and miscellaneous late vegetables made good progress in the area from Virginia northward to New England. Peanut harvest was under way throughout most of the Southeast, but some damage has been reported from Georgia and Alabama due to the prolonged rainy weather. Seeding winter vegetables was active in Florida, South Texas, and California. California was near its peak of harvest activity with such crops as cotton, wine grapes, canning tomatoes, potatoes, walnuts, and olives.

Total number of persons at work on farms during the survey week was less than a year earlier in all regions, except for a very small 1-percent increase in the Pacific States. Decreases ranged from 1 percent in the two West Central regions to 14 percent in the East South Central States. Part of the sharp decline in the latter region was due to unfavorable rainy weather during the survey week this year, thereby keeping thousands of persons from working in cotton and peanut harvest, especially in Alabama and Mississippi. This wet weather has been holding back harvest operations and is creating a current heavy demand for the existing labor supply.

Both family and hired labor shared in the decline from September a year ago; family workers were 5 percent less and hired 4 percent below the level a year earlier. Geographic regions showed decreases in number of family workers, ranging from 1 to 11 percent. On the other hand, hired workers were more prevalent in 3 of the 9 regions --West North Central, West South Central, and Pacific States. However, they failed to offset decreases in family labor, except in the Pacific States where favorable harvest weather and peak of seasonal employment of hired farm laborers led to a total number of workers higher than a year earlier.

As in the past, most of the increase in total farm employment from August to September was in the South. About half of the net increase in the country was accounted for by the East South Central States --with their 457,000 increase. However, this 35-percent rise during the month was far below the usual seasonal increase of 55 percent. Reduced crop acreages and bad weather for crop harvesting caused this greater than usual decline. Likewise, the 31-percent increase in the West South Central States was below the average increase, due in part to current weather and partly to later than usual planting of cotton, corn, rice, and other crops. Three percent more persons were engaged in farm work in the Mountain and Pacific States. The two North Central groups of States were the only regions showing seasonal decreases during the month and they dropped 2 percent, about the same as usual from late August to late September.

The number of family workers generally increases about 15 percent from August to September. This year the rise was only 12 percent or 766,000 workers. Large seasonal gains were made in the South; 16 percent in the South Atlantic, 35 percent in the East South Central, and 38 percent in the West South Central States. More moderate gains were registered in New England, the Middle Atlantic, and Mountain States. Small seasonal declines appeared in the North Central and Pacific States.

The small 5-percent increase in hired workers from a month earlier points up the reduced requirements for harvest labor due to less crop acreages and shift to more mechanization. Last year there was an 8-percent increase for the comparable period --the average increase is 13 percent. Of course, the weather factors mentioned previously kept a few hired laborers idle throughout the Gulf States during the survey week this year. There is no way to measure the reduction in employment due to the weather, but general comments indicated that there would be increased demand for labor in early October due to delay in harvest operations throughout the Gulf States and Georgia. The West North Central and Mountain States reported about the usual seasonal decline in number of hired workers. New England reflected a greater than average decline, but the same as a year ago. Total hired employment in the United States, then, was estimated at 2.8 million workers, about 8 percent less than the September 1952-56 average.

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Farm employment: Persons employed during week of September 22-28, 1957, United States, with comparisons

	September average 1952-56 1/	September 23-29, 1956	August 18-24, 1957	September 22-28, 1957
FARM EMPLOYMENT (Thousands of persons)				
Total	11,106	10,428	9,048	9,945
Family labor	8,071	7,502	6,375	7,141
Hired labor	3,035	2,926	2,673	2,804
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES (Adjusted for seasonal variation, 1910-14=100)				
Total	61	57	58	55
Family labor	63	59	59	56
Hired labor	56	54	54	52

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

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Farm wage rates: Wage rates, indexes, and related data, October 1, 1957, United States, with comparisons 1/

	July 1, 1956	October 1, 1956	July 1, 1957	October 1, 1957
FARM WAGE RATES				
Per month with house	$170.00	$161.00	$177.00	$168.00
Per month with board and room	129.00	129.00	133.00	134.00
Per week with board and room	32.75	32.50	34.25	33.75
Per week without board or room	40.50	39.75	42.50	41.00
Per day with house	4.40	4.60	4.50	4.75
Per day with board and room	6.10	5.50	6.20	5.80
Per day without board or room	5.50	6.00	5.70	6.30
Per hour with house	.83	.90	.86	.94
Per hour without board or room	.91	.82	.93	.84
Composite rate per hour 2/	.696	.736	.717	.757
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES (1910-14=100)				
Adjusted for seasonal variation	535	550	552	565
RELATED INDEXES (1910-14=100)				
Prices received by farmers 3/	246	235	246	245*
Ratio of prices received to farm wage rates	46	43	45	43

1/ Wage rates on the average refer to a date 2 or 3 days before the first of the month.
2/ Weighted average of all rates on a per hour basis.
3/ Average of the 15th of the given and the 15th of the previous month.
* September 15, 1957.

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Farm employment: Persons employed during week of September 22-28, 1957, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons

Geographic division	September average 1952-56 1/	August 19-25 1956	September 23-29, 1956	August 18-24, 1957	September 22-28, 1957
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
	TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT				
United States	11,106	9,238	10,428	9,048	9,945
New England	203	203	205	200	200
Middle Atlantic	669	598	632	583	617
East North Central	1,399	1,386	1,360	1,339	1,311
West North Central	1,784	1,740	1,666	1,693	1,652
South Atlantic	2,114	1,824	1,912	1,700	1,831
East South Central	2,164	1,253	2,056	1,321	1,778
West South Central	1,502	1,012	1,335	1,007	1,315
Mountain	474	453	492	453	466
Pacific	797	769	770	752	775
	FAMILY WORKERS 2/				
United States	8,071	6,533	7,502	6,375	7,141
New England	120	115	122	112	117
Middle Atlantic	442	398	413	389	411
East North Central	1,128	1,133	1,085	1,105	1,057
West North Central	1,473	1,400	1,383	1,366	1,356
South Atlantic	1,641	1,282	1,459	1,195	1,382
East South Central	1,708	995	1,597	1,049	1,415
West South Central	963	621	856	599	825
Mountain	265	250	258	232	253
Pacific	331	339	329	328	325
	HIRED WORKERS 3/				
United States	3,035	2,705	2,926	2,673	2,804
New England	83	88	83	88	83
Middle Atlantic	227	200	219	194	206
East North Central	271	253	275	234	254
West North Central	311	340	283	327	296
South Atlantic	473	542	453	505	449
East South Central	456	258	459	272	363
West South Central	539	391	479	408	490
Mountain	209	203	234	221	213
Pacific	466	430	441	424	450

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 September 1957, United States and geographic divisions, with comparisons 1/

Geographic division	1952-56	1954	1955	1956	1957
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
	TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT				
United States	8,463	8,581	8,309	7,971	7,739
New England	174	178	171	172	171
Middle Atlantic	534	548	522	501	497
East North Central	1,320	1,343	1,293	1,254	1,232
West North Central	1,562	1,576	1,533	1,457	1,433
South Atlantic	1,530	1,562	1,499	1,423	1,375
East South Central	1,269	1,292	1,239	1,179	1,118
West South Central	1,077	1,086	1,068	997	948
Mountain	376	373	365	373	362
Pacific	621	623	619	615	603
	FAMILY WORKERS 2/				
United States	6,497	6,586	6,367	6,055	5,831
New England	114	117	111	111	108
Middle Atlantic	388	397	386	368	365
East North Central	1,125	1,140	1,102	1,067	1,046
West North Central	1,337	1,347	1,318	1,253	1,226
South Atlantic	1,153	1,175	1,123	1,049	997
East South Central	1,048	1,066	1,020	957	911
West South Central	775	787	757	698	651
Mountain	234	235	226	230	214
Pacific	323	322	324	322	313
	HIRED WORKERS 3/				
United States	1,966	1,995	1,942	1,916	1,908
New England	60	61	60	61	63
Middle Atlantic	146	151	136	133	132
East North Central	195	203	191	187	186
West North Central	225	229	215	204	207
South Atlantic	377	387	376	374	378
East South Central	221	226	219	222	207
West South Central	302	299	311	299	297
Mountain	142	138	139	143	148
Pacific	298	301	295	293	290

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

2/ Includes farm operators doing one or more hours of farm work and members of their families working 15 hours or more during the survey week without cash wages.

3/ Includes all persons doing one or more hours of farm work during the survey week for pay.

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Farm wage rates: Wage rates by geographic divisions,
October 1, 1957, with comparisons

Geographic division	July 1, 1956	October 1, 1956	July 1, 1957	October 1, 1957
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
PER MONTH WITH HOUSE				
New England	180.00	181.00	192.00	191.00
Middle Atlantic	177.00	180.00	185.00	188.00
East North Central	170.00	170.00	177.00	177.00
West North Central	165.00	160.00	170.00	168.00
Mountain	202.00	204.00	210.00	209.00
Pacific	249.00	252.00	258.00	263.00
PER MONTH WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	143.00	148.00	147.00	147.00
Middle Atlantic	126.00	127.00	133.00	133.00
East North Central	128.00	126.00	133.00	132.00
West North Central	132.00	126.00	134.00	132.00
Mountain	157.00	154.00	162.00	159.00
Pacific	192.00	193.00	200.00	209.00
PER WEEK WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
New England	38.50	39.50	40.25	40.50
Middle Atlantic	33.75	34.00	35.50	35.25
PER WEEK WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	51.25	53.25	53.50	54.25
Middle Atlantic	45.75	47.25	48.75	48.25
PER DAY WITH HOUSE				
South Atlantic	4.30	4.45	4.45	4.55
East South Central	3.55	3.75	3.70	3.75
West South Central	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.30
PER DAY WITH BOARD AND ROOM				
East North Central	6.50	6.50	6.70	6.70
West North Central	6.90	6.60	7.00	6.90
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	8.80	9.10	9.10	9.50
Middle Atlantic	8.20	8.20	8.60	8.50
East North Central	8.10	8.00	8.40	8.30
West North Central	8.50	8.10	8.70	8.50
South Atlantic	5.10	5.30	5.20	5.30
East South Central	4.20	4.40	4.35	4.40
West South Central	5.70	5.90	5.80	6.10
Mountain	8.20	7.90	8.50	8.40
PER HOUR WITH HOUSE				
Pacific	1.05	1.05	1.08	1.08
PER HOUR WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM				
New England	1.10	1.11	1.12	1.12
Middle Atlantic	1.03	1.04	1.06	1.08
East North Central	1.03	1.04	1.06	1.06
West North Central	1.02	1.01	1.03	1.02
South Atlantic	.64	.67	.66	.68
East South Central	.55	.59	.57	.58
West South Central	.68	.72	.71	.74
Mountain	.97	.96	1.02	1.00
Pacific	1.14	1.15	1.16	1.15

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Farm wage rates: Wage rates by States and regions, October 1, 1956 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	175.00	142.00	38.00	54.00	-	-	9.20	-	1.06	.934	536
N. H.	180.00	145.00	39.00	52.00	-	-	8.90	-	1.10	.939	600
Vt.	165.00	142.00	35.00	47.00	-	-	8.30	-	1.06	.881	558
Mass.	193.00	155.00	43.50	55.00	-	-	9.60	-	1.19	1.012	642
R. I.	205.00	155.00	43.00	58.00	-	-	9.60	-	1.19	1.025	691
Conn.	206.00	165.00	45.00	59.00	-	-	9.80	-	1.25	1.062	711
New Eng.	181.00	148.00	39.50	53.25	-	-	9.10	-	1.11	.956	607
N. Y.	184.00	130.00	35.25	49.00	-	-	8.50	-	1.07	.841	507
N. J.	204.00	142.00	37.25	53.00	-	-	8.90	-	1.11	.887	610
Pa.	166.00	118.00	31.50	43.50	-	-	7.60	-	.98	.763	603
Mid. Atl.	180.00	127.00	34.00	47.25	-	-	8.20	-	1.04	.816	554
Ohio	161.00	119.00	-	-	-	6.30	7.80	-	1.05	.831	558
Ind.	158.00	121.00	-	-	-	6.10	7.70	-	1.04	.825	575
Ill.	181.00	141.00	-	-	-	7.10	8.60	-	1.06	.873	594
Mich.	190.00	129.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.50	-	1.06	.864	565
Wis.	172.00	130.00	-	-	-	6.50	7.90	-	1.02	.829	516
E.N.Cent.	170.00	126.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.00	-	1.04	.840	562
Minn.	168.00	133.00	-	-	-	7.20	9.00	-	1.07	.820	499
Iowa	171.00	140.00	-	-	-	7.60	9.30	-	1.07	.835	504
Mo.	139.00	105.00	-	-	-	5.50	6.70	-	.92	.674	602
N.Dak.	182.00	154.00	-	-	-	7.10	8.80	-	1.05	.835	440
S.Dak.	163.00	135.00	-	-	-	6.50	8.20	-	1.02	.783	457
Nebr.	178.00	138.00	-	-	-	6.90	8.80	-	1.04	.812	541
Kans.	173.00	130.00	-	-	-	7.00	8.60	-	1.04	.799	633
W.N.Cent.	160.00	126.00	-	-	-	6.60	8.10	-	1.01	.768	535
Del.	-	-	-	-	6.20	-	8.00	-	.97	.858	757
Md.	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	7.50	-	.98	.853	829
Va.	-	-	-	-	4.85	-	6.00	-	.74	.650	701
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	4.25	-	5.30	-	.72	.612	476
N.C.	-	-	-	-	4.80	-	5.60	-	.67	.600	683
S.C.	-	-	-	-	3.30	-	3.90	-	.48	.424	562
Ga.	-	-	-	-	3.75	-	4.45	-	.62	.518	566
Fla.	-	-	-	-	5.50	-	6.00	-	.75	.664	665
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	4.45	-	5.30	-	.67	.584	650
Ky.	-	-	-	-	4.10	-	5.40	-	.74	.683	519
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	3.45	-	4.35	-	.57	.533	472
Ala.	-	-	-	-	3.90	-	4.45	-	.59	.556	541
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.60	-	4.05	-	.54	.509	484
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	3.75	-	4.40	-	.59	.549	505
Ark.	-	-	-	-	4.85	-	5.20	-	.66	.637	556
La.	-	-	-	-	4.30	-	4.85	-	.65	.618	586
Okla.	-	-	-	-	6.20	-	7.10	-	.86	.835	579
Tex.	-	-	-	-	5.50	-	6.20	-	.73	.714	551
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	5.20	-	5.90	-	.72	.695	559
Mont.	206.00	172.00	-	-	-	-	8.60	-	1.10	.926	445
Idaho	228.00	182.00	-	-	-	-	9.60	-	1.10	.969	535
Wyo.	203.00	153.00	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	1.10	.921	461
Colo.	193.00	145.00	-	-	-	-	8.00	-	.96	.823	519
N.Mex.	164.00	115.00	-	-	-	-	6.00	-	.81	.672	547
Ariz.	250.00	175.00	-	-	-	-	8.30	-	.85	.833	556
Utah	212.00	183.00	-	-	-	-	8.50	-	1.12	.944	572
Nev.	210.00	160.00	-	-	-	-	8.40	-	1.10	.915	475
Mountain	204.00	154.00	-	-	-	-	7.90	-	.96	.833	497
Wash.	252.00	209.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.16	1.23	1.200	585
Oreg.	228.00	179.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.11	1.14	1.112	548
Calif.	255.00	193.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.03	1.14	1.111	514
Pacific	252.00	193.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.05	1.15	1.119	525
U. S.	161.00	129.00	32.50	39.75	4.60	5.50	6.00	.90	.82	.736	550

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, October 1, 1957 1/

State and Region	Per month		Per week		Per day		Per hour		Composite rate per hour	Indexes of composite rates 1910-14=100 2/
	With house	With board and room	With board and room	Without board or room	With house	Without board and room	With house	Without board or room		
	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	Dol.	
Maine	182.00	141.00	38.50	54.00	-	-	9.50	-	1.03	.929	533
N. H.	195.00	144.00	38.00	54.00	-	-	9.40	-	1.08	.948	606
Vt.	179.00	144.00	36.50	50.50	-	-	8.80	-	1.10	.926	586
Mass.	204.00	154.00	46.00	56.00	-	-	9.90	-	1.24	1.048	665
R. I.	213.00	158.00	46.00	58.00	-	-	10.00	-	1.21	1.047	706
Conn.	218.00	160.00	46.50	58.00	-	-	10.10	-	1.26	1.071	717
New Eng.	191.00	147.00	40.50	54.25	-	-	9.50	-	1.12	.970	616
N. Y.	193.00	137.00	36.50	50.50	-	-	8.80	-	1.10	.869	524
N. J.	211.00	146.00	36.25	50.75	-	-	9.00	-	1.14	.900	618
Pa.	173.00	122.00	33.00	44.50	-	-	7.30	-	1.02	.792	626
Mid. Atl.	188.00	133.00	35.25	48.25	-	-	8.50	-	1.08	.845	574
Ohio	165.00	125.00	-	-	-	6.60	8.10	-	1.07	.854	573
Ind.	164.00	125.00	-	-	-	6.30	8.00	-	1.05	.841	586
Ill.	186.00	145.00	-	-	-	7.30	8.80	-	1.07	.887	603
Mich.	197.00	134.00	-	-	-	6.80	8.60	-	1.07	.877	574
Wis.	180.00	136.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.50	-	1.06	.867	540
E.N.Cent.	177.00	132.00	-	-	-	6.70	8.30	-	1.06	.862	576
Minn.	175.00	140.00	-	-	-	7.70	9.30	-	1.08	.842	512
Iowa	179.00	146.00	-	-	-	7.80	9.40	-	1.09	.856	517
Mo.	144.00	107.00	-	-	-	5.60	6.90	-	.93	.687	613
N.Dak.	185.00	155.00	-	-	-	7.30	9.20	-	1.07	.854	450
S.Dak.	171.00	139.00	-	-	-	6.80	8.50	-	1.02	.798	465
Nebr.	185.00	142.00	-	-	-	7.00	9.00	-	1.04	.823	549
Kans.	177.00	137.00	-	-	-	7.40	9.20	-	1.06	.829	656
W.N.Cent.	168.00	132.00	-	-	-	6.90	8.50	-	1.02	.790	551
Del.	-	-	-	-	6.50	-	8.30	-	.95	.873	770
Md.	-	-	-	-	5.90	-	7.30	-	.93	.826	802
Va.	-	-	-	-	5.00	-	6.10	-	.76	.666	718
W.Va.	-	-	-	-	4.40	-	5.40	-	.76	.635	494
N. C.	-	-	-	-	4.80	-	5.60	-	.68	.606	690
S. C.	-	-	-	-	3.40	-	4.00	-	.49	.435	576
Ga.	-	-	-	-	3.90	-	4.45	-	.61	.516	563
Fla.	-	-	-	-	5.40	-	6.00	-	.76	.668	669
So. Atl.	-	-	-	-	4.55	-	5.30	-	.68	.590	656
Ky.	-	-	-	-	4.20	-	5.40	-	.75	.692	527
Tenn.	-	-	-	-	3.55	-	4.40	-	.59	.550	488
Ala.	-	-	-	-	3.75	-	4.30	-	.55	.523	509
Miss.	-	-	-	-	3.65	-	4.15	-	.55	.519	494
E.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	3.75	-	4.40	-	.58	.545	502
Ark.	-	-	-	-	4.95	-	5.40	-	.67	.649	567
La.	-	-	-	-	4.40	-	5.00	-	.68	.645	612
Okla.	-	-	-	-	6.30	-	7.30	-	.88	.855	594
Tex.	-	-	-	-	5.60	-	6.50	-	.76	.743	574
W.S.Cent.	-	-	-	-	5.30	-	6.10	-	.74	.717	577
Mont.	207.00	172.00	-	-	-	-	8.90	-	1.12	.944	453
Idaho	233.00	188.00	-	-	-	-	10.00	-	1.13	.999	551
Wyo.	209.00	155.00	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	1.12	.934	466
Colo.	201.00	151.00	-	-	-	-	8.80	-	1.03	.882	556
N.Mex.	164.00	116.00	-	-	-	-	6.50	-	.84	.698	560
Ariz.	250.00	175.00	-	-	-	-	7.90	-	.85	.824	550
Utah	225.00	190.00	-	-	-	-	9.30	-	1.12	.975	591
Nev.	230.00	160.00	-	-	-	-	9.00	-	1.15	.962	499
Mountain	209.00	159.00	-	-	-	-	8.40	-	1.00	.869	519
Wash.	258.00	218.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.18	1.25	1.221	595
Oreg.	232.00	187.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.10	1.16	1.130	556
Calif.	267.00	210.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.07	1.14	1.120	518
Pacific	263.00	209.00	-	-	-	-	-	1.08	1.15	1.131	531
U. S.	168.00	134.00	33.75	41.00	4.75	5.80	6.30	.94	.84	.757	565

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

EXPLANATIONS 1/

Farm employment estimates of the Agricultural Marketing Service cover persons doing farm work on all farms. Mailed questionnaires are received every month from 20,000 to 25,000 farmers who report the number of persons working on their farms during the last complete calendar week, ending at least one day before the end of the month. The Census of Agriculture and interview surveys of farmers are used to provide bench mark data on employment.

All farm operators 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 35,000 farm and nonfarm households on the labor force status of the household members 14 years of age and over for the week including the 12th of the month. In addition, both series are subject to sampling variation and may differ from the results of a complete census.

Wage rates are reported quarterly by the same sample of farm operators that reports employment. The farmer is asked to report average wage rates being paid "at this time" in his locality.

1/ Additional information available in January 1957 issue of Farm Labor.

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