

Farm Labor

Release
August 10, 1966
3:00 P.M. (E.D.T.)

July Work Force Edges Downward

The Nation's farm labor force totaled 6,198,000 for the week of July 24-30. This represents a 9 percent decline from the corresponding period in July 1965 and continues the downward trend of recent years in the farm work force. This total work force consisted of 4,156,000 family workers and 2,042,000 hired workers.

Comparisons with July a year ago show the number of hired workers down 13 percent and family workers down 7 percent. When compared with the June 1966 survey week, family workers declined 1 percent but hired workers increased 1 percent. The total work force was slightly smaller than the previous month because the decline in the larger number of family workers more than offset the increase in hired workers.

Small grain harvest became active in the northwest during the week, while clean-up harvest continued in other areas. Harvest operations in the northwest were aided by dry weather and near normal temperatures. In South Dakota, 40 percent of the spring wheat had been cut and winter wheat harvest was near completion. Barley harvest reached 65 percent completion and oats were 70 percent harvested. Combining was well along in southern North Dakota. Minnesota harvest was well underway, with one-fourth of the oats, 10 percent of the barley, and 5 percent of the spring wheat combined. Montana harvest was 12 percent complete for winter wheat and 8 percent for barley. Winter grain harvest in Idaho ranged from just beginning to about half finished in the southwest. Winter wheat harvest in Wyoming was complete in the southeast and was half finished in the northeast. In Washington wheat harvest was active.

Georgia tobacco harvest was 75 percent complete by the end of the week and marketing was active. North Carolina harvest was 12 percent complete. Harvest in South Carolina was more than half completed but lagging 7 to 10 days behind last year. Virginia Flue-cured tobacco was about 5 percent harvested and topping continued active. The Virginia crop should respond favorably to the rains which came the latter part of the survey week. Florida shade tobacco was moving to packing houses.

Texas crop harvesting was active as mostly hot, dry weather prevailed during the week. Cotton harvest got underway in the Rio Grande Valley and was opening rapidly in the Coastal Bend area. Corn harvest reached 5 percent completion. Sorghum and rice combining were 21 and 9 percent complete, respectively. Rice harvest was considerably below the 30 percent harvested at the same time last year. Harvest of the early rice crop was beginning in Louisiana.

Peach harvest continued active in the southeast. In California harvest of clingstone peaches continued, and Bartlett pear harvest was active in the San Jose area. In Michigan, sweet cherry picking was nearly finished, tart cherry harvest was at a peak in the west central part of the State and active in the northwest.

Hours Worked by Farm Workers Decline Seasonally

Farm workers on reporting farms averaged 39.5 hours of farm work during the July survey week. This compares with 39.0 hours for the same period in 1965 and represents a seasonal decline of 1.9 hours from June 1966. All family workers averaged a work week of 42.8 hours, a decline of 3.5 hours from June.

Hired farm workers averaged 32.8 hours, practically unchanged from the 32.9 hours worked during the survey week a month earlier. The average hours worked by hired workers ranged from a low of 21.9 hours in the South Atlantic States to a high of 45.9 hours in the Pacific States.

Farm employment and indexes, July 1966, with comparisons, United States

	: Annual : average : 1960-64 <u>1/</u>	: Annual : average : 1965 <u>1/</u>	: July : average : 1960-64 <u>1/</u>	: July : 18-24, : 1965	: July : 24-30, : 1966
FARM EMPLOYMENT					
(Thousands)					
Total	6,662	5,610	8,009	6,824	6,198
Family labor	4,862	4,128	5,272	4,474	4,156
Hired labor	1,800	1,482	2,737	2,350	2,042
INDEXES <u>2/</u>					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	49	41	50	43	39
Family labor	48	41	48	41	38
Hired labor	53	44	54	47	41
(1957-59=100)					
Total	89	75	90	77	70
Family labor	88	75	89	75	70
Hired labor	92	76	94	81	70

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, 1966, United States

	: Annual : average : 1965	: July : average : 1960-64	: July 1, : 1965	: July 1, : 1966
FARM WAGE RATES				
Composite rate per hour <u>1/</u>	\$ 0.951	\$ 0.837	\$ 0.929	\$ 1.01
Per month with house	223	210	232	253
Per month with board and room ..	171	156	171	184
Per week with board and room ...	40.25	38.25	42.50	45.25
Per week without board or room ..	51.50	50.00	55.00	59.25
Per day with house	6.20	5.50	6.10	<u>3/</u> 6.60
Per day with board and room	7.40	7.20	7.90	8.50
Per day without board or room ..	7.60	6.80	7.50	8.10
Per hour with house	1.03	.96	1.07	1.15
Per hour without board or room ..	1.14	1.07	1.17	1.26
INDEXES <u>2/</u>				
(1910-14=100)	732	665	726	<u>3/</u> 787
(1957-59=100)	126	114	125	135

1/ Weighted average of all rates on a per hour basis.

2/ Indexes are adjusted for seasonal variation.

3/ Revised.

Workers on Farms, July 1966

(Thousands of persons)

State and division	July Average 1960-64 1/			July 1965 Week of 18-24			July 1966 Week of 24-30		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
Maine	37	23	14	33	22	11	33	22	11
N. H.	13	9	4	11	8	3	10	7	3
Vt.	28	21	7	23	18	5	22	17	5
Mass.	46	25	21	37	17	20	33	15	18
R. I.	4	3	1	3	2	1	3	2	1
Conn.	35	17	18	34	14	20	30	12	18
N. Eng.	163	98	65	141	81	60	131	75	56
N. Y.	181	109	72	148	92	56	133	88	45
N. J.	59	26	33	54	19	35	45	16	29
Pa.	206	166	40	160	131	29	157	130	27
M. Atl.	446	301	145	362	242	120	335	234	101
Ohio	254	204	50	212	174	38	198	163	35
Ind.	233	196	37	186	158	28	164	140	24
Ill.	275	207	68	235	182	53	214	166	48
Mich.	265	193	72	219	160	59	212	156	56
Wis.	300	265	35	263	232	31	245	215	30
E. N. Cent.	1327	1065	262	1115	906	209	1033	840	193
Minn.	361	274	87	319	240	79	287	227	60
Iowa	359	272	87	319	244	75	311	225	86
Mo.	299	247	52	257	213	44	240	200	40
N. Dak.	127	87	40	113	79	34	102	74	28
S. Dak.	107	85	22	91	74	17	86	71	15
Nebr.	197	152	45	173	131	42	156	118	38
Kans.	194	141	53	179	128	51	156	120	36
W. N. Cent.	1644	1258	386	1451	1109	342	1338	1035	303
Del.	15	7	8	15	8	7	13	7	6
Md.	71	43	28	64	41	23	50	33	17
Va.	224	124	100	193	105	88	155	94	61
W. Va.	72	59	13	55	46	9	45	39	6
N. C.	697	378	319	607	294	313	492	249	243
S. C.	248	141	107	182	101	81	145	83	62
Ga.	168	113	55	158	106	52	123	86	37
Fla.	89	39	50	81	35	46	49	29	20
S. Atl.	1584	904	680	1355	736	619	1072	620	452
Ky.	258	177	81	221	160	61	205	144	61
Tenn.	236	163	73	199	140	59	197	138	59
Ala.	109	86	23	103	83	20	103	76	27
Miss.	190	146	44	169	117	52	164	118	46
E. S. Cent.	793	572	221	692	500	192	669	476	193
Ark.	206	96	110	183	78	105	148	73	75
La.	138	73	65	118	59	59	99	59	40
Okla.	151	109	42	130	95	35	118	94	24
Texas	495	273	222	348	201	147	339	208	131
W. S. Cent.	990	551	439	779	433	346	704	434	270
Mont.	63	38	25	58	36	22	62	35	27
Idaho	95	56	39	91	54	37	87	52	35
Wyo.	26	15	11	24	13	11	24	13	11
Colo.	82	52	30	73	48	25	68	43	25
N. Mex.	40	22	18	32	18	14	30	17	13
Ariz.	36	10	26	33	8	25	32	8	24
Utah	42	27	15	37	23	14	32	22	10
Nev.	6	4	2	6	3	3	6	3	3
Mount.	390	224	166	354	203	151	341	193	148
Wash.	164	93	71	126	84	42	129	77	52
Oreg.	134	73	61	125	64	61	114	60	54
Calif.	374	133	241	324	116	208	332	112	220
Pac.	672	299	373	575	264	311	575	249	326
U. S.	8009	5272	2737	6824	4474	2350	6198	4156	2042

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

Workers on farms: Average January through July 1966 ^{1/}
(Thousands of persons)

State and division	January through July : Av. 1960-64			January through July : 1965			January through July : 1966		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
Maine	29	20	9	27	20	7	26	19	7
N. H.	11	8	3	9	7	2	9	7	2
Vt.	28	22	6	22	17	5	20	16	4
Mass.	32	21	11	26	16	10	23	15	8
R. I.	4	3	1	3	2	1	2	1	1
Conn.	24	15	9	21	12	9	18	11	7
N. Eng.	128	89	39	108	74	34	98	69	29
N. Y.	145	97	48	116	81	35	111	78	33
N. J.	41	23	18	35	17	18	30	15	15
Pa.	173	144	29	137	116	21	130	111	19
M. Atl.	359	264	95	288	214	74	271	204	67
Ohio	225	193	32	186	163	23	174	152	22
Ind.	210	187	23	168	150	18	161	145	16
Ill.	233	183	50	198	162	36	185	152	33
Mich.	213	174	39	174	143	31	170	141	29
Wis.	268	242	26	235	214	21	223	203	20
E. N. Cent.	1149	979	170	961	832	129	913	793	120
Minn.	269	229	40	235	200	35	226	199	27
Iowa	284	245	39	249	215	34	248	211	37
Mo.	250	219	31	219	193	26	206	181	25
N. Dak.	85	68	17	73	59	14	69	57	12
S. Dak.	87	77	10	74	66	8	72	64	8
Nebr.	153	129	24	129	110	19	124	106	18
Kans.	154	129	25	138	115	23	130	110	20
W. N. Cent.	1282	1096	186	1117	958	159	1075	928	147
Del.	12	7	5	10	6	4	8	5	3
Md.	53	36	17	47	33	14	2/40	2/29	11
Va.	176	125	51	144	102	42	130	94	36
W. Va.	62	50	12	49	40	9	43	36	7
N. C.	381	275	106	329	226	103	286	204	82
S. C.	168	107	61	120	77	43	103	71	32
Ga.	153	110	43	125	91	34	110	82	28
Fla.	126	45	81	129	42	87	116	35	81
S. Atl.	1131	755	376	953	617	336	2/836	2/556	280
Ky.	216	170	46	191	152	39	179	141	38
Tenn.	206	159	47	180	142	38	170	133	37
Ala.	119	92	27	107	86	21	96	74	22
Miss.	195	143	52	167	115	52	149	105	44
E. S. Cent.	736	564	172	645	495	150	594	453	141
Ark.	181	106	75	150	83	67	124	76	48
La.	129	80	49	106	65	41	100	62	38
Okla.	146	122	24	121	103	18	119	103	16
Texas	381	243	138	288	189	99	281	188	93
W. S. Cent.	837	551	286	665	440	225	624	429	195
Mont.	49	36	13	44	33	11	44	33	11
Idaho	66	47	19	62	44	18	59	42	17
Wyo.	20	13	7	17	11	6	17	11	6
Colo.	60	45	15	50	39	11	50	37	13
N. Mex.	31	19	12	25	15	10	24	15	9
Ariz.	40	9	31	36	8	28	36	7	29
Utah	31	22	9	28	19	9	24	17	7
Nev.	5	3	2	5	3	2	4	2	2
Mount.	302	194	108	267	172	95	258	164	94
Wash.	119	77	42	101	67	34	100	65	35
Oreg.	99	67	32	91	60	31	81	55	26
Calif.	329	133	196	296	115	181	281	107	174
Pac.	547	277	270	488	242	246	462	227	235
U. S.	6471	4769	1702	5492	4044	1448	2/5131	2/3823	1308

1/ Average number during survey week of each month.

2/ Correct Jan.-June averages in July Farm Labor for Total and Family workers to read as follows: Maryland, 38 and 28; South Atlantic, 800 and 546; U. S., 4950 and 3763.

Farm Work: Weekly Hours Worked Per Worker

State and division	Average for reporting farms - week of July 24-30, 1966				
	Farm Operator	Other Family Members ^{1/}	All Family ^{1/}	Hired Workers	All Workers ^{1/}
	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
Maine	60.2	34.7	50.2	34.5	42.8
N.H.	61.8	42.1	56.5	38.9	49.7
Vt.	64.8	46.5	58.3	45.4	52.5
Mass.	66.0	34.9	57.4	41.6	49.5
R. I.	60.1	27.2	50.2	41.2	45.8
Conn.	55.9	34.6	47.8	40.3	45.4
N. Eng.	61.9	37.9	53.7	40.0	47.3
N. Y.	62.9	37.1	53.3	40.9	48.8
N. J.	50.4	32.9	44.9	35.5	40.8
Pa.	55.1	33.8	46.8	31.9	42.8
M. Atl.	58.0	35.1	49.4	36.9	44.9
Ohio	54.4	36.3	48.0	25.4	40.3
Ind.	41.6	32.0	39.5	25.9	35.6
Ill.	45.8	34.8	43.1	30.2	39.8
Mich.	57.2	37.9	50.1	29.5	43.7
Wis.	64.4	34.1	50.8	39.2	48.5
E. N. Cent.	52.4	34.9	46.1	30.0	42.1
Minn.	61.7	35.8	50.7	32.5	46.6
Iowa	60.1	35.0	50.6	26.3	43.1
Mo.	45.1	37.1	43.0	27.0	39.6
N. Dak.	64.1	44.7	55.9	48.3	54.3
S. Dak.	61.9	40.1	54.2	41.7	52.2
Nebr.	56.2	40.6	50.6	33.6	46.7
Kans.	52.2	37.6	47.9	38.6	45.7
W. N. Cent.	56.1	37.5	49.2	32.8	45.4
Del.	45.6	42.3	44.7	33.2	41.1
Md.	47.9	37.0	44.4	36.2	41.7
Va.	40.2	33.5	38.2	32.0	35.7
W. Va.	36.5	31.1	35.1	27.4	33.4
N. C.	35.7	30.3	33.8	17.0	23.0
S. C.	38.9	30.5	36.0	20.7	25.5
Ga.	36.4	30.2	34.5	21.5	26.9
Fla.	35.3	34.8	35.2	38.3	37.3
S. Atl.	37.6	31.6	35.6	21.9	27.8
Ky.	38.1	30.2	35.9	26.9	32.5
Tenn.	31.6	29.8	31.1	22.9	28.4
Ala.	34.4	30.1	33.3	23.0	29.4
Miss.	38.0	30.0	35.6	36.1	35.9
E. S. Cent.	35.4	30.0	33.9	27.3	31.6
Ark.	35.3	34.9	35.2	33.4	34.4
La.	36.4	32.1	35.1	31.5	33.7
Okla.	43.1	33.3	40.1	27.0	37.1
Texas	40.6	35.9	39.3	38.0	38.7
W. S. Cent.	39.5	34.6	38.1	34.8	36.8
Mont.	61.0	46.6	55.7	42.7	51.5
Idaho	61.1	38.2	51.3	39.4	48.3
Wyo.	61.2	36.9	52.0	36.5	45.3
Colo.	55.7	39.0	49.3	41.7	47.0
N. Mex.	51.2	35.2	45.8	37.5	41.9
Ariz.	43.0	39.9	41.7	39.9	40.8
Utah	51.3	33.8	43.6	32.8	40.3
Nev.	43.4	22.2	37.1	33.8	35.7
Mount.	56.8	39.1	49.8	39.5	46.2
Wash.	50.5	36.9	45.8	38.2	41.8
Oreg.	48.4	34.2	42.9	35.0	40.1
Calif.	50.0	42.0	50.1	50.4	49.9
Pac.	49.8	38.7	47.2	45.9	46.1
U. S.	47.2	34.6	42.8	32.8	39.5

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



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