

Farm Labor

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RECORD LOW NUMBER OF FARM WORKERS

The Nation's farm work was performed by 3,715,000 persons during the survey week of January 22-28. This total was 2.5 percent below last year's comparable week, and the smallest total for a survey week in any month of record. The 3,029,000 farm operators and other family workers doing farm work was 3 percent below a year earlier. Persons working for pay totaled 686,000, up 10,000 workers from January 1966. Four States--Florida, Texas, Arizona, and California--that were harvesting citrus and vegetable crops, employed nearly one-half of the national total hired farm workers.

Farm workers averaged 34.9 hours during the January survey week compared with 34.5 hours a month earlier. Farm operators averaged 36.6 hours while other family members worked 29.0 hours. Hired workers averaged 35.3 hours during the survey week.

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Farm employment and indexes, January 1967, with comparisons, United States

	: Annual : average : 1961-65 1/	: Annual : average : 1966 1/	: January : average : 1961-65 1/	: January : 23-29, : 1966	: January : 22-28, : 1967
FARM EMPLOYMENT					
(Thousands)					
Total	6,372	5,259	4,565	3,810	3,715
Family labor	4,655	3,902	3,725	3,134	3,029
Hired labor	1,717	1,357	840	676	686
INDEXES ^{2/}					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	47	39	47	39	38
Family labor	46	38	47	39	38
Hired labor	51	40	51	41	41
(1957-59=100)					
Total	85	70	86	72	70
Family labor	84	71	86	72	70
Hired labor	88	69	88	71	72

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.

Workers on Farms, January 1967 ^{1/}
(Thousands of persons)

State and division	January Average 1961-65			January 1966 Week of 23-29			January 1967 Week of 22-28		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
Maine	23	18	5	21	17	4	19	15	4
N.H.	9	7	2	8	6	2	7	5	2
Vt.	22	17	5	19	16	3	17	14	3
Mass.	22	16	6	19	14	5	19	14	5
R.I.	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	1
Conn.	16	12	4	13	10	3	10	8	2
N.Eng.	95	72	23	82	64	18	74	57	17
N.Y.	113	86	27	91	72	19	91	72	19
N.J.	26	18	8	21	15	6	17	11	6
Pa.	127	110	17	98	87	11	102	90	12
M. Atl.	266	214	52	210	174	36	210	173	37
Ohio	159	147	12	132	124	8	132	125	7
Ind.	155	147	8	129	123	6	127	122	5
Ill.	164	138	26	136	119	17	127	112	15
Mich.	153	132	21	128	113	15	122	110	12
Wis.	224	209	15	194	182	12	180	170	10
E.N.Cent.	855	773	82	719	661	58	688	639	49
Minn.	187	175	12	164	155	9	150	144	6
Iowa	198	184	14	176	164	12	160	147	13
Mo.	196	183	13	165	156	9	163	149	14
N.Dak.	50	45	5	42	38	4	40	36	4
S.Dak.	62	58	4	54	50	4	52	49	3
Nebr.	114	106	8	96	91	5	87	80	7
Kans.	113	106	7	95	89	6	93	87	6
W.N.Cent.	920	857	63	792	743	49	745	692	53
Del.	7	5	2	5	4	1	4	3	1
Md.	35	26	9	29	22	7	26	20	6
Va.	121	100	21	95	79	16	91	76	15
W.Va.	43	37	6	33	29	4	31	27	4
N.C.	217	190	27	175	154	21	184	160	24
S.C.	95	75	20	74	58	16	63	50	13
Ga.	95	76	19	83	69	14	78	65	13
Fla.	135	40	95	137	32	105	139	38	101
S. Atl.	748	549	199	631	447	184	616	439	177
Ky.	165	148	17	147	132	15	149	124	25
Tenn.	148	131	17	124	112	12	125	109	16
Ala.	79	65	14	63	54	9	67	52	15
Miss.	114	95	19	91	75	16	88	73	15
E.S.Cent.	506	439	67	425	373	52	429	358	71
Ark.	104	85	19	75	65	10	80	66	14
La.	87	69	18	66	53	13	62	52	10
Okla.	115	107	8	103	97	6	103	97	6
Texas	251	189	62	181	149	32	221	169	52
W.S.Cent.	557	450	107	425	364	61	466	384	82
Mont.	33	29	4	30	26	4	29	25	4
Idaho	39	34	5	36	31	5	35	30	5
Wyo.	12	10	2	10	8	2	11	9	2
Colo.	38	32	6	30	27	3	32	26	6
N.Mex.	23	16	7	17	12	5	18	12	6
Ariz.	38	9	29	35	7	28	36	7	29
Utah	20	16	4	14	12	2	14	12	2
Nev.	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1
Mount.	206	148	58	175	125	50	178	123	55
Wash.	67	54	13	59	47	12	51	40	11
Oreg.	62	52	10	51	43	8	48	40	8
Calif.	283	117	166	241	93	148	210	84	126
Pac.	412	223	189	351	183	168	309	164	145
U.S.	4565	3725	840	3810	3134	676	3715	3029	686

^{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

State and division	Average for reporting farms - week of January 22-28, 1967				
	Farm Operator	Other Family l/ Members	All Family l/	Hired Workers	All Workers
	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
Maine	51.3	28.7	45.6	31.4	41.0
N.H.	50.3	34.5	47.2	40.8	45.3
Vt.	63.3	44.5	56.7	43.1	52.5
Mass.	54.0	28.6	44.8	40.0	42.9
R.I.	32.9	22.0	31.5	40.1	34.8
Conn.	53.8	37.0	48.9	42.1	46.5
N.Eng.	54.2	33.6	48.1	38.9	45.1
N.Y.	54.1	34.1	48.2	41.7	46.0
N.J.	38.9	31.1	37.1	36.0	36.8
Pa.	47.1	28.5	40.9	34.9	39.8
M.Atl.	49.5	31.0	43.7	38.6	42.2
Ohio	40.7	30.1	38.0	28.3	36.3
Ind.	33.3	25.0	31.5	29.6	31.2
Ill.	32.6	30.9	32.4	32.5	32.4
Mich.	41.7	32.0	39.0	34.2	38.2
Wis.	53.9	29.2	44.3	34.8	42.9
E.N.Cent.	40.3	29.4	36.9	32.5	36.7
Minn.	42.2	27.8	37.9	33.0	37.4
Iowa	42.4	27.7	38.9	29.5	37.5
Mo.	35.2	28.2	34.0	29.6	33.0
N.Dak.	31.5	29.4	31.0	30.2	31.0
S.Dak.	39.9	28.8	37.1	30.2	36.5
Nebr.	37.7	34.0	37.0	33.7	36.6
Kans.	36.1	30.0	34.9	32.3	34.5
W.N.Cent.	38.5	29.0	36.3	30.9	35.6
Del.	30.0	25.0	29.4	28.6	29.2
Md.	38.0	31.5	36.2	35.9	36.1
Va.	36.9	28.2	35.0	34.6	34.9
W.Va.	33.3	28.2	32.1	29.9	31.7
N.C.	32.5	30.0	32.0	25.6	29.7
S.C.	32.9	25.7	31.3	30.9	31.1
Ga.	33.9	30.9	33.2	31.8	32.7
Fla.	40.6	23.2	35.2	35.4	35.3
S.Atl.	34.4	28.7	33.0	33.3	32.6
Ky.	33.7	29.5	32.7	27.0	30.7
Tenn.	28.0	28.4	28.1	25.7	27.5
Ala.	28.0	26.2	27.7	21.0	25.6
Miss.	29.4	24.2	28.2	24.1	26.2
E.S.Cent.	29.9	27.4	29.4	24.8	28.0
Ark.	28.6	30.3	28.8	28.4	28.7
La.	29.1	30.4	29.4	29.0	29.3
Okla.	32.5	23.0	30.1	30.0	30.1
Texas	34.8	30.7	34.0	38.7	35.6
W.S.Cent.	32.4	29.0	31.6	35.1	32.4
Mont.	35.1	29.3	33.8	33.9	33.8
Idaho	35.1	26.7	32.9	29.1	32.4
Wyo.	41.2	28.6	37.2	39.8	37.9
Colo.	34.7	27.7	33.1	37.6	34.0
N.Mex.	39.4	25.8	36.8	42.6	39.0
Ariz.	40.2	35.3	39.0	43.0	41.4
Utah	28.8	24.8	27.9	28.3	28.0
Nev.	37.9	30.5	36.1	45.8	39.3
Mount.	35.4	27.7	33.6	39.8	35.5
Wash.	30.4	26.1	29.5	30.9	30.0
Oreg.	33.2	29.3	32.3	32.2	32.3
Calif.	42.1	33.2	40.2	44.4	43.4
Pac.	36.6	30.2	35.3	42.7	39.5
U.S.	36.6	29.0	34.6	35.3	34.9

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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Citrus Harvest Main Agricultural Activity

A major snowstorm buried portions of the central Great Plains and Great Lakes region. Heavy snows also hit the mountain areas of the Pacific Northwest, while heavy rains fell on the West Coast. An ice storm caused much damage to trees and power and communication lines from central Missouri to northwestern Ohio.

Major agricultural activity was confined to harvest of citrus and vegetable crops. Care of livestock and other chores dominated the farm activity in other areas.

Orange picking in Florida has lagged during the present season because of the late maturity of the current crop. Physical facilities for handling the current crop are reported adequate. It appears that labor for harvest will be the limiting factor in fruit utilization during the next two months. Harvest made good progress in Texas and Arizona, but heavy rains slowed harvest in California. The labor supply is reported to be adequate in these States, except for spot shortages. Pruning fruit orchards continued active in many areas of the country.

Vegetable harvest continued active in Arizona, gained momentum in Texas, but was delayed in California by wet fields. Florida's vegetable production reached normal levels for January after being delayed by late maturity caused by adverse weather. Planting spring potatoes made progress in Florida, Alabama, Arizona, and California.

Sugarcane harvest in Florida remained active. Tobacco stripping and preparing the crop for market continued over much of the Appalachian States. Planting tobacco seedbeds was well along in the extreme Southeast, with seedbed preparation active in the more northern producing States.

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