

Farm Labor

Release
February 9, 1968
3:00 P.M. (E.S.T.)

Small Farm Labor Force Needed During Survey Week

The Nation's farm labor force for the week of January 21-27 totaled 3,493,000 persons. This was the lowest for a survey week in any month of record. There were 2,852,000 farm operators and other unpaid family members working during the survey week. Hired workers totaled 641,000 -- 7 percent below the same period a year earlier.

Farm workers averaged 33.7 hours during the January survey week compared with 33.8 hours a month earlier. Farm operators averaged 34.5 hours while other unpaid family members worked 29.3 hours. Hired workers averaged 34.5 hours during the survey week.

(continued on Page 4)

-----o0o-----

Farm employment and indexes, January 1968, with comparisons, United States

	: Annual : average : 1962-66 1/	: Annual : average : 1967 1/	: January : average : 1962-66 1/	: January : 22-28, : 1967	: January : 21-27, : 1968
FARM EMPLOYMENT					
(Thousands)					
Total	6,031	4,935	4,337	3,715	3,493
Family labor	4,420	3,679	3,541	3,029	2,852
Hired labor	1,611	1,256	796	686	641
INDEXES 2/					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	44	36	45	38	36
Family labor	44	36	44	38	36
Hired labor	47	37	48	41	39
(1957-59=100)					
Total	81	66	82	70	66
Family labor	80	67	81	70	66
Hired labor	82	64	83	72	67

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 1968 ^{1/}
(Thousands of persons)

State and division	January Average 1962-66			January 1967 Week of 22-28			January 1968 Week of 21-27		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
Maine	23	18	5	19	15	4	17	13	4
N.H.	8	6	2	7	5	2	6	4	2
Vt.	21	17	4	17	14	3	15	12	3
Mass.	20	15	5	19	14	5	15	11	4
R.I.	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1
Conn.	16	12	4	10	8	2	9	7	2
N.Eng.	90	69	21	74	57	17	64	48	16
N.Y.	106	82	24	91	72	19	83	66	17
N.J.	25	17	8	17	11	6	14	9	5
Pa.	119	103	16	102	90	12	98	86	12
N.AtI.	250	202	48	210	173	37	195	161	34
UnIo	151	140	11	132	125	7	125	118	7
Ind.	149	141	8	127	122	5	111	106	5
Ill.	157	133	24	127	112	15	129	112	17
Mich.	145	126	19	122	110	12	116	101	15
Wis.	215	200	15	180	170	10	170	158	12
E.N.Cent.	817	740	77	688	639	49	651	595	56
Minn.	181	170	11	150	144	6	152	143	9
Iowa	188	174	14	160	147	13	159	146	13
Mo.	188	176	12	163	149	14	139	127	12
N.Dak.	48	43	5	40	36	4	38	34	4
S.Dak.	60	56	4	52	49	3	50	47	3
Nebr.	107	100	7	87	80	7	85	80	5
Kans.	108	101	7	93	87	6	87	82	5
W.N.Cent.	880	820	60	745	692	53	710	659	51
Del.	7	5	2	4	3	1	4	3	1
Md.	33	25	8	26	20	6	23	18	5
Va.	115	95	20	91	76	15	87	73	14
W.Va.	39	34	5	31	27	4	29	26	3
N.C.	207	181	26	184	160	24	162	144	18
S.C.	86	68	18	63	50	13	54	44	10
Ca.	89	71	18	78	65	13	76	62	14
Fla.	135	38	97	139	38	101	126	29	97
N.AtI.	711	517	194	616	439	177	561	399	162
Ky.	161	143	18	149	124	25	134	116	18
Tenn.	141	125	16	125	109	16	115	103	12
Ala.	76	62	14	67	52	15	60	48	12
Miss.	106	88	18	88	73	15	88	73	15
E.S.Cent.	484	418	66	429	358	71	397	340	57
Ark.	96	79	17	80	66	14	74	65	9
La.	80	64	16	62	52	10	55	46	9
Okla.	111	104	7	103	97	6	107	102	5
Texas	232	178	54	221	169	52	201	162	39
W.S.Cent.	519	425	94	466	384	82	437	375	62
Mont.	32	28	4	29	25	4	28	23	5
Idaho	38	33	5	35	30	5	31	26	5
Wyo.	11	9	2	11	9	2	10	8	2
Colo.	36	31	5	32	26	6	37	25	12
N.Mex.	22	15	7	18	12	6	18	12	6
Ariz.	36	8	28	36	7	29	36	6	30
Utah	18	15	3	14	12	2	14	12	2
Nev.	3	2	1	3	2	1	3	2	1
Mount.	196	141	55	178	123	55	177	114	63
Wash.	62	50	12	51	40	11	53	40	13
Oreg.	58	49	9	48	40	8	48	41	7
Calif.	270	110	160	210	84	126	200	80	120
PaS.	390	209	181	309	164	145	301	161	140
U.S.	4337	3541	796	3715	3029	686	3493	2852	641

^{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 21-27, 1968				
	Farm Operators	Other Family Members ^{1/}	All Family ^{1/}	Hired Workers	All Workers ^{1/}
	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
Maine	48.8	32.3	44.2	34.6	41.2
N.H.	50.4	35.7	46.6	37.0	42.7
Vt.	61.6	39.2	53.9	42.6	50.3
Mass.	56.1	33.4	49.5	41.5	45.9
R.I.	49.0	39.7	45.9	37.8	43.0
Conn.	49.3	36.9	45.5	39.5	43.1
N.Eng.	53.3	35.3	47.9	38.9	44.9
N.Y.	51.3	33.2	46.0	38.0	43.4
N.J.	39.7	32.1	38.2	39.5	38.6
Pa.	48.2	28.5	41.7	31.0	39.6
M.Atl.	49.0	30.7	43.3	35.8	41.1
Ohio	37.4	28.8	35.4	27.7	34.1
Ind.	34.0	27.4	32.7	31.0	32.4
Ill.	32.5	32.2	32.5	34.0	32.7
Mich.	41.6	32.2	39.1	33.1	37.9
Wis.	51.8	30.2	43.5	37.1	42.5
E.N.Cent.	39.3	30.2	36.5	33.4	36.4
Minn.	41.6	31.9	38.6	32.2	37.8
Iowa	41.3	27.4	37.8	29.5	36.4
Mo.	33.0	31.2	32.7	28.9	32.0
N.Dak.	29.2	29.7	29.3	31.7	29.5
S.Dak.	38.9	27.8	36.1	29.7	35.3
Nebr.	36.6	31.3	35.4	31.2	35.1
Kans.	35.6	28.8	34.4	32.3	34.1
W.N.Cent.	37.3	29.9	35.5	30.5	35.0
Del.	25.8	24.1	25.3	40.8	30.8
Md.	39.3	31.8	37.2	39.6	37.9
Va.	34.3	29.1	33.1	31.6	32.6
W.Va.	31.3	27.8	30.5	25.5	29.8
N.C.	27.1	28.1	27.3	23.0	26.0
S.C.	29.2	27.2	28.8	22.2	26.1
Ga.	33.0	28.6	32.1	30.7	31.5
Fla.	32.9	37.4	33.8	31.6	32.4
S.Atl.	30.7	29.0	30.3	30.2	29.9
Ky.	30.6	28.4	30.2	26.6	29.1
Tenn.	25.7	26.6	25.9	25.5	25.8
Ala.	26.6	26.5	26.6	24.1	25.8
Miss.	28.8	23.7	27.8	23.0	25.7
E.S.Cent.	28.0	26.5	27.7	24.9	26.9
Ark.	25.1	25.7	25.2	30.1	26.2
La.	28.4	33.3	29.2	29.6	29.3
Okla.	32.4	25.1	30.8	31.6	30.9
Texas	27.6	30.6	28.1	34.6	30.0
W.S.Cent.	28.3	28.9	28.3	33.0	29.5
Mont.	33.6	33.5	33.6	39.6	34.9
Idaho	32.2	24.2	30.2	34.4	30.8
Wyo.	41.7	26.9	37.1	35.4	36.6
Colo.	36.3	33.8	35.8	38.9	36.4
N.Mex.	37.4	27.3	35.1	41.7	37.7
Ariz.	40.4	34.0	39.3	41.3	40.4
Utah	29.0	24.8	28.1	27.1	27.9
Nev.	38.1	23.2	33.2	41.5	37.0
Mount.	34.7	29.3	33.4	39.6	35.5
Wash.	30.5	27.0	29.8	31.9	30.5
Oreg.	32.6	30.9	32.2	32.9	32.4
Calif.	39.8	35.0	36.8	44.4	42.9
Pac.	35.0	31.4	34.3	42.7	39.0
U.S.	34.5	29.3	33.1	34.5	33.7

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

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

(Continued from Page 1)

Citrus and Vegetable Harvests Are Main Activities

Harvests of seasonal fruits and vegetables were the major agricultural activities. Farm labor in other areas was limited mainly to care of livestock and other chores.

Navel orange harvest advanced in California. Harvest of tangerines was ending in the Imperial Valley; grapefruit and lemon harvests were increasing. A few oranges and grapefruit were being picked in the Salt River Valley of Arizona. Citrus harvest continues in the Yuma area. Movement of grapefruit and early and mid-season oranges continues heavy in Florida. Tangerine and tangelo harvest nears completion.

Florida vegetables sustained minor cold damage. Cabbage, tomatoes, celery, peppers, and beans were moving in volume. Harvest of winter vegetables in Texas was hindered by wet field conditions. Light to moderate volumes of seasonal vegetables were moving from the Lower Valley and Winter Garden areas. Harvest of a good quality, high yielding winter lettuce was underway in the Yuma area of Arizona. California harvest of cabbage was increasing in the Imperial Valley. Harvest of broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, and celery continues in producing areas. Digging of winter potatoes is underway.

Harvests of corn, soybeans, and cotton neared completion. Marketing of burley tobacco in the Appalachian States is about over. Tobacco seedbed preparation continues in North Carolina and throughout the Southeast. Sugar cane harvest in Florida is on schedule.

Heavy snow fell in parts of the Sierras and Rockies; elsewhere precipitation was mostly light to moderate. Temperatures averaged above normal in most areas during the survey week, except in the area south and east of the Ohio River.