

Farm Labor

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Farm Work Force at Seasonal Low Point

The Nation's total farm labor working force is estimated at 3,246,000 workers for the week of January 18-24, 5 percent less than a year earlier and 7 percent below the survey week in December. There were 2,645,000 working farm operators and unpaid family members, 6 percent below a year ago. Hired workers are estimated at 601,000 persons, 3 percent less than for the same period a year earlier.

Farm workers averaged 33.1 hours during the January survey week compared with 32.7 hours a month earlier. Farm operators averaged 33.5 hours while other unpaid family members worked 28.7 hours. Hired workers averaged 35.3 hours during the January survey week.

(Continued on page 4)

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Farm employment and indexes, January 1970, with comparisons, United States

	: Annual : average : 1968	: Annual : average : 1969	: January : 21-27 : 1968	: January : 19-25 : 1969	: January : 18-24 : 1970
FARM EMPLOYMENT ^{1/}					
(Thousands)					
Total	4,745.8	4,598.8	3,498.3	3,420.0	3,245.7
Family labor	3,532.4	3,428.5	2,834.8	2,801.0	2,644.6
Hired labor	1,213.4	1,170.3	663.5	619.0	601.1
INDEXES ^{2/}					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	35	34	36	35	34
Family labor	35	34	35	35	33
Hired labor	36	34	40	37	36
(1957-59=100)					
Total	63	62	66	65	61
Family labor	64	62	65	64	61
Hired labor	62	60	69	65	63

^{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 1970 1/

State and Division	January 1968			January 1969			January 1970		
	Week of 21-27			Week of 19-25			Week of 18-24		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	Thousands								
Maine	17	13	4.0	16	12	4.0	15.3	11	4.3
N. H.	6.0	4.0	2.0	6.0	4.0	2.0	5.3	3.6	1.7
Vt.	15	12	3.0	14	11	3.0	14.2	11	3.2
Mass.	14	10	4.0	14	10	4.0	12.6	8.7	3.9
R. I.	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.9	1.3	.6
Conn.	9.0	7.0	2.0	9.0	7.0	2.0	8.5	6.1	2.4
N. Eng.	63	47	16	61	45	16	57.8	41.7	16.1
N. Y.	83	66	17	80	64	16	78	64	14
N. J.	14	9.0	5.0	14	9.0	5.0	13	9.0	4.0
Pa.	98	86	12	93	82	11	88	78	10
M. Atl.	195	161	34	187	155	32	179	151	28
Ohio	125	118	7.0	121	114	7.0	114	108	6.0
Ind.	116	111	5.0	109	105	4.0	107	102	5.0
Ill.	129	112	17	124	109	15	115	102	13
Mich.	116	101	15	111	97	14	108	94	14
Wis.	170	158	12	175	165	10	168	158	10
E. N. Cent.	656	600	56	640	590	50	612	564	48
Minn.	152	143	9.0	145	139	6.0	136	129	7.0
Iowa	159	146	13	153	143	10	151	140	11
Mo.	137	126	11	143	134	9.0	139	129	10
N. Dak.	38	34	4.0	35	32	3.0	34	31	3.0
S. Dak.	50	47	3.0	49	46	3.0	48	45	3.0
Nebr.	85	80	5.0	86	81	5.0	82	76	6.0
Kans.	87	82	5.0	83	79	4.0	81	76	5.0
W. N. Cent.	708	658	50	694	654	40	671	626	45
Del.	4.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	3.0	1.0
Md.	23	18	5.0	22	18	4.0	21	17	4.0
Va.	87	73	14	81	68	13	79	66	13
W. Va.	29	26	3.0	28	25	3.0	27	24	3.0
N. C.	162	144	18	150	136	14	142	129	13
S. C.	54	44	10	51	43	8.0	48	41	7.0
Ga.	76	62	14	76	64	12	66	56	10
Fla.	132	29	103	130	28	102	127	29	98
S. Atl.	567	399	168	542	385	157	514	365	149
Ky.	116	106	10	139	125	14	101	93	8.0
Tenn.	115	103	12	104	95	9.0	103	95	8.0
Ala.	60	48	12	57	47	10	55	44	11
Miss.	88	73	15	84	71	13	79	64	15
E. S. Cent.	379	330	49	384	338	46	338	296	42
Ark.	74	65	9.0	80	66	14	77	59	18
La.	57	46	11	52	41	11	45	38	7.0
Okla.	107	102	5.0	109	102	7.0	107	100	7.0
Texas	201	162	39	217	163	54	193	154	39
W. S. Cent.	439	375	64	458	372	86	422	351	71
Mont.	27	23	4.0	26	23	3.0	27	23	4.0
Idaho	31	26	5.0	27	25	2.0	29	25	4.0
Wyo.	10	8.0	2.0	9.0	7.0	2.0	9.0	7.0	2.0
Colo.	34	27	7.0	30	25	5.0	29	24	5.0
N. Mex.	18	12	6.0	18	13	5.0	17	12	5.0
Ariz.	36	6.0	30	38	6.0	32	36	6.0	30
Utah	14	12	2.0	14	12	2.0	14	12	2.0
Nev.	3.3	1.8	1.5	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.9	1.9	1.0
Mount.	173.3	115.8	57.5	165	113	52	163.9	110.9	53
Wash.	53	40	13	52	42	10	51	39	12
Oreg.	47	41	6.0	41	36	5.0	43	37	6.0
Calif.	218	68	150	196	71	125	194	63	131
Pac.	318	149	169	289	149	140	288	139	149
U. S.	3,498.3	2,834.8	663.5	3,420.0	2,801.0	619.0	3,245.7	2,644.6	601.1

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 18-24, 1970					
	Farm Operators	Other Family Members ^{1/}	All Family ^{1/}	Hired Workers	All Workers ^{1/}	
	H o u r s					
Maine	47.6	29.6	43.1	35.0	40.1	
N. H.	49.9	29.1	45.3	39.1	42.9	
Vt.	58.0	35.0	49.7	41.9	47.4	
Mass.	53.7	33.4	47.9	39.8	45.0	
R. I.	47.4	48.6	47.8	66.1	54.4	
Conn.	52.8	32.3	47.2	45.2	46.6	
N. Eng.	52.1	32.4	46.5	40.6	44.6	
N. Y.	53.3	32.6	46.5	38.3	44.1	
N. J.	31.9	29.6	31.4	37.0	32.7	
Pa.	44.2	29.7	39.8	34.9	38.9	
M. Atl.	47.2	30.9	42.0	36.9	40.7	
Ohio	29.8	28.9	29.6	30.8	29.8	
Ind.	30.7	26.5	30.0	26.1	29.4	
Ill.	29.4	28.4	29.2	29.8	29.3	
Mich.	38.6	31.1	36.8	28.9	35.2	
Wis.	49.8	28.8	41.9	35.3	40.8	
E. N. Cent.	35.5	28.7	33.3	30.4	33.6	
Minn.	39.4	29.0	36.5	25.4	35.2	
Iowa	40.8	25.9	37.3	27.5	35.8	
Mo.	31.6	29.7	31.3	24.9	30.3	
N. Dak.	31.0	30.4	30.9	31.6	30.9	
S. Dak.	38.3	28.4	35.7	28.8	34.9	
Nebr.	38.1	31.2	36.6	30.1	35.8	
Kans.	36.1	30.5	35.1	30.1	34.4	
W. N. Cent.	36.8	29.0	35.0	27.6	34.1	
Del.	24.0	32.9	25.8	33.9	27.1	
Md.	35.6	30.9	34.4	38.4	35.4	
Va.	32.1	29.6	31.5	33.8	32.3	
W. Va.	31.9	27.4	30.8	26.2	30.2	
N. C.	24.4	27.2	24.9	23.9	24.7	
S. C.	29.2	27.3	28.8	24.7	27.3	
Ga.	30.6	27.6	30.0	29.8	29.9	
Fla.	35.4	28.3	34.2	39.0	37.9	
S. Atl.	29.1	28.0	28.8	35.6	30.8	
Ky.	28.5	28.3	28.5	25.4	27.7	
Tenn.	24.8	26.7	25.1	20.7	24.4	
Ala.	25.9	26.1	25.9	25.0	25.7	
Miss.	28.7	25.1	28.1	23.3	25.8	
E. S. Cent.	26.9	26.7	26.9	23.6	25.9	
Ark.	25.0	26.7	25.3	24.0	24.8	
La.	24.1	28.4	24.8	27.7	25.6	
Okla.	33.0	28.5	32.0	27.4	31.3	
Texas	32.9	28.4	32.1	36.7	33.5	
W. S. Cent.	30.3	28.1	29.9	31.7	30.5	
Mont.	37.0	31.5	35.7	42.0	36.9	
Idaho	34.7	26.2	32.0	30.2	31.7	
Wyo.	35.5	29.9	34.4	44.5	38.2	
Colo.	36.8	35.4	36.5	38.0	36.8	
N. Mex.	37.8	25.0	35.4	40.8	37.2	
Ariz.	43.5	37.5	42.4	42.5	42.5	
Utah	33.1	23.0	30.4	26.4	29.6	
Nev.	33.9	36.0	34.2	36.1	35.0	
Mount.	36.2	29.9	34.6	40.3	36.6	
Wash.	32.5	29.7	32.1	29.5	31.1	
Oreg.	29.1	29.5	29.2	28.1	28.9	
Calif.	35.0	36.0	35.2	43.0	40.9	
Pac.	32.6	32.2	32.5	41.3	37.4	
U. S.	33.5	28.7	32.2	35.3	33.1	

^{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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OFFICIAL BUSINESS



(Continued from Page 1)

Winter Chores Dominate Farm Activity Scene

Warm weather prevailed over the entire western half of the United States. Very heavy rain occurred along the northern Pacific Coast. The eastern half of the country experienced a continuation of intensely cold weather accompanied by only light to moderate precipitation.

Primary farm work activities were the care and feeding of livestock. There was heavy supplemental feeding of livestock, especially in the East. Field harvest activities were limited to southern and western citrus and vegetable crops.

Citrus harvest was active in California. Navel orange quality was generally good although some frost damage had occurred earlier. Citrus picking continued active in Arizona and Texas. Florida early and mid-season oranges were in active harvest.

Vegetable harvest increased in Florida under improved weather conditions. Harvest was active in the Lower Valley of Texas. Heavy lettuce shipments were coming from the Imperial Valley of California and the Yuma area of Arizona.