

Farm Labor

Release:
December 10, 1970
3:00 P.M. EST

NOVEMBER FARM LABOR FORCE 18 PERCENT BELOW LAST MONTH

The Nation's farm labor force had an estimated 4,113,000 workers during the November 22-28 survey week, 3 percent less than a year earlier and 18 percent below last month's survey week. Included were 3,178,000 working farm operators and unpaid family members while the remaining 935,000 persons were hired workers.

Farm workers averaged only 36.3 hours during the November survey week reflecting the slowing activity and Thanksgiving holiday. Farm operators averaged 38.6 hours, unpaid family members 30.3 hours, and hired workers 36.5 hours.

PERCENT CHANGE

Farm Employment-Weekly Hours Worked

Item	All Workers		Farm Operators & Unpaid Family Members		Hired Workers	
	Oct. 1970 to Nov. 1970	Nov. 1969 to Nov. 1970	Oct. 1970 to Nov. 1970	Nov. 1969 to Nov. 1970	Oct. 1970 to Nov. 1970	Nov. 1969 to Nov. 1970
Employment	-18	-3	-15	-3	-27	-3
Hours Worked	- 5	0	-10	-3	+ 4	+11

Fall Harvest Nears Completion

Corn harvest in the Central States neared completion as farmers took advantage of ideal weather conditions. Well over 90 percent of the corn crop was harvested in all Corn Belt States except Missouri. Picking was virtually complete throughout the Southern States.

Soybean combining progressed rapidly during the survey week. Sorghum harvest was completed in Texas and New Mexico and moved into the final stages in the Central Plains.

Cotton picking made good progress in the southeastern States, and was about 75 percent complete as the survey week ended. Picking progressed rapidly in Texas and other southwest areas.

Sugarbeet harvest was slowed in Idaho and Utah as cold wet weather curtailed digging; but progress was good in Kansas and New Mexico where dry conditions prevailed.

Citrus harvest was active in Texas and Arizona, but harvest activities in California groves were curtailed by heavy rains.

Vegetable harvest activity in southern areas continued seasonally from California to Florida.

Farm employment represents number of family and hired labor working during the survey week. Family labor includes farm operators working on farms one hour or more plus other family members working 15 hours or more without receiving cash wages during survey week. Hired workers include all persons working one hour or more for cash wages during the survey week. These data should not be confused with the data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS). The BLS data are derived from a household survey where each member 16 years of age and older is classified as performing farm or nonfarm work on the basis of major activity during the survey week.

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

Item	: Annual : average : 1968	: Annual : average : 1969	: Nov. : 17-23, : 1968	: Nov. : 23-29, : 1969	: Nov. : 22-28, : 1970
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/					
(Thousands)					
Total	4,748.8	4,589.8	4,368.5	4,255.1	4,113.3
Family labor	3,535.4	3,415.4	3,398.8	3,286.8	3,178.1
Hired labor	1,213.4	1,174.4	969.7	968.3	935.2
INDEXES 2/					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	35	34	35	34	33
Family labor	35	34	35	34	33
Hired labor	36	35	34	35	33
(1957-59=100)					
Total	64	61	63	62	60
Family labor	64	62	64	62	60
Hired labor	62	60	60	60	58

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, October 1, 1970, United States

Item	: Annual : average : 1969	: October 1, : 1968	: October 1, : 1969	: October : 1970
FARM WAGE RATES				
Composite rate per hour 1/	\$ 1.33	\$ 1.27	\$ 1.37	\$ 1.46
Per month with house	307	283	305	325
Per month with board and room	234	220	235	250
Per week with board and room	56.75	53.75	58.25	61.25
Per week without board or room	73.00	66.50	73.00	76.50
Per day with house	9.00	8.60	9.30	10.10
Per day with board and room	10.10	9.20	10.00	10.50
Per day without board or room	10.90	10.50	11.40	12.20
Per hour with house	1.42	1.42	1.54	1.65
Per hour without board or room	1.58	1.41	1.51	1.61
INDEXES 2/				
(1910-14=100)	1,023	964	1,039	1,107
(1957-59=100)	176	166	179	190

1/ Weighted average of all rates on a per hour basis. Composite rate does not include piece rate workers.

2/ Indexes are adjusted for seasonal variation.

Workers on Farms, November 1970 ^{1/}

State and division	November 1968			November 1969			November 1970		
	Week of 17-23			Week of 23-29			Week of 22-28		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	T h o u s a n d s								
Maine	18	13	5.0	16.9	12	4.9	15.6	11	4.6
N. H.	7.0	5.0	2.0	6.5	4.7	1.8	5.7	4.1	1.6
Vt.	15	12	3.0	14.7	11	3.7	13.5	10	3.5
Mass.	17	11	6.0	14.5	9.6	4.9	13.3	8.5	4.8
R. I.	3.0	2.0	1.0	1.9	1.2	.7	1.8	1.2	.6
Conn.	10	7.0	3.0	10.3	7.3	3.0	8.4	6.2	2.2
N. Eng.	70	50	20	64.8	45.8	19.0	58.3	41.0	17.3
N. Y.	94	75	19	91	72	19	90	71	19
N. J.	16	10	6.0	14	9.0	5.0	14	9.0	5.0
Pa.	101	89	12	99	87	12	96	84	12
M. Atl.	211	174	37	204	168	36	200	164	36
Ohio	153	139	14	146	135	11	136	124	12
Ind.	122	112	10	119	110	9.0	118	108	10
Ill.	166	143	23	161	138	23	153	133	20
Mich.	119	106	13	120	106	14	120	103	17
Wis.	187	173	14	178	164	14	177	162	15
E. N. Cent.	747	673	74	724	653	71	704	630	74
Minn.	162	151	11	171	160	11	158	147	11
Iowa	210	185	25	207	182	25	197	172	25
Mo.	174	154	20	171	152	19	183	160	23
N. Dak.	45	39	6.0	43	38	5.0	38	34	4.0
S. Dak.	57	51	6.0	58	52	6.0	54	49	5.0
Nebr.	97	86	11	96	86	10	96	87	9.0
Kans.	100	94	6.0	97	90	7.0	94	87	7.0
W. N. Cent.	845	760	85	843	760	83	820	736	84
Del.	6.0	4.0	2.0	6.0	4.0	2.0	6.0	4.0	2.0
Md.	28	22	6.0	28	23	5.0	28	22	6.0
Va.	108	88	20	108	87	21	102	82	20
W. Va.	37	32	5.0	34	30	4.0	35	31	4.0
N. C.	190	160	30	176	148	28	180	153	27
S. C.	66	53	13	70	56	14	65	51	14
Ga.	97	74	23	98	74	24	90	69	21
Fla.	121	36	85	116	35	81	125	34	91
S. Atl.	653	469	184	636	457	179	631	446	185
Ky.	188	164	24	175	154	21	152	136	16
Tenn.	189	164	25	177	155	22	168	148	20
Ala.	119	91	28	117	91	26	104	83	21
Miss.	139	115	24	119	98	21	121	98	23
E. S. Cent.	635	534	101	588	498	90	545	465	80
Ark.	149	95	54	164	87	77	135	82	53
La.	80	56	24	70	52	18	69	51	18
Okla.	115	99	16	118	98	20	114	96	18
Texas	313	200	113	294	188	106	297	194	103
W. S. Cent.	657	450	207	646	425	221	615	423	192
Mont.	34	27	7.0	34	27	7.0	33	26	7.0
Idaho	37	30	7.0	36	29	7.0	36	28	8.0
Wyo.	12	8.0	4.0	13	8.0	5.0	13	8.0	5.0
Colo.	48	32	16	45	29	16	48	32	16
N. Mex.	28	15	13	29	15	14	24	13	11
Ariz.	40	6.0	34	39	6.0	33	39	6.0	33
Utah	21	17	4.0	20	16	4.0	18	15	3.0
Nev.	3.5	1.8	1.7	3.3	2.0	1.3	4.0	2.1	1.9
Mount.	223.5	136.8	86.7	219.3	132	87.3	215	130.1	84.9
Wash.	55	43	12	57	43	14	58	43	15
Oreg.	47	41	6.0	48	40	8.0	47	40	7.0
Calif.	225	68	157	225	65	160	220	60	160
Pac.	327	152	175	330	148	182	325	143	182
U. S.	4,368.5	3,398.8	969.7	4,255.1	3,286.8	968.3	4,113.3	3,178.1	935.2

^{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 November 1970 1/

State and division	January through November 1968			January through November 1969			January through November 1970		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	T h o u s a n d s								
Maine	22	14	8.0	21.2	13	8.2	20	12	8.0
N. H.	7.0	5.0	2.0	7.2	4.8	2.4	6.5	4.4	2.1
Vt.	15	12	3.0	14.7	11	3.7	14.6	11	3.6
Mass.	20	11	9.0	18.3	10.2	8.1	17.3	9.4	7.9
R. I.	3.0	2.0	1.0	2.1	1.3	.8	2.0	1.3	.7
Conn.	15	8.0	7.0	14.2	7.9	6.3	13.1	7.2	5.9
N. Eng.	82	52	30	77.7	48.2	29.5	73.5	45.3	28.2
N. Y.	103	75	28	102	74	28	98	72	26
N. J.	23	10	13	21	10	11	22	10	12
Pa.	124	106	18	118	101	17	116	98	18
M. Atl.	250	191	59	241	185	56	236	180	56
Ohio	159	139	20	153	136	17	149	131	18
Ind.	131	119	12	126	115	11	127	115	12
Ill.	171	143	28	168	140	28	163	136	27
Mich.	147	120	27	138	115	23	140	116	24
Wis.	203	183	20	200	180	20	196	177	19
E. N. Cent.	811	704	107	785	686	99	775	675	100
Minn.	197	175	22	192	172	20	181	161	20
Iowa.	222	192	30	218	190	28	213	185	28
Mo.	199	166	33	193	162	31	193	161	32
N. Dak.	66	54	12	63	52	11	58	48	10
S. Dak.	70	62	8.0	70	61	9.0	68	60	8.0
Nebr.	112	98	14	109	95	14	108	94	14
Kans.	119	103	16	112	97	15	110	95	15
W. N. Cent.	985	850	135	957	829	128	931	804	127
Del.	7.0	4.0	3.0	7.0	4.0	3.0	7.0	4.0	3.0
Md.	35	26	9.0	32	24	8.0	32	24	8.0
Va.	122	90	32	118	87	31	112	84	28
W. Va.	40	34	6.0	38	32	6.0	37	32	5.0
N. C.	269	197	72	256	189	67	248	183	65
S. C.	87	64	23	81	60	21	78	58	20
Ga.	112	87	25	105	82	23	101	79	22
Fla.	112	36	76	111	34	77	111	34	77
S. Atl.	784	538	246	748	512	236	726	498	228
Ky.	175	139	36	160	130	30	151	122	29
Tenn.	165	132	33	152	124	28	153	123	30
Ala.	106	83	23	101	78	23	91	71	20
Miss.	148	113	35	135	104	31	135	101	34
E. S. Cent.	594	467	127	548	436	112	530	417	113
Ark.	143	87	56	152	85	67	143	80	63
La.	97	59	38	88	55	33	77	49	28
Okla.	127	109	18	126	109	17	126	108	18
Texas	298	195	103	293	195	98	289	193	96
W. S. Cent.	665	450	215	659	444	215	635	430	205
Mont.	41	30	11	41	29	12	40	29	11
Idaho	50	36	14	48	35	13	47	34	13
Wyo.	16	10	6.0	15	10	5.0	15	10	5.0
Colo.	59	38	21	59	36	23	60	37	23
N. Mex.	26	16	10	24	15	9.0	23	15	8.0
Ariz.	37	6.0	31	38	7.0	31	35	6.0	29
Utah	24	17	7.0	25	18	7.0	23	17	6.0
Nev.	4.9	2.5	2.4	4.6	2.5	2.1	4.9	2.5	2.4
Mount.	257.9	155.5	102.4	254.6	152.5	102.1	247.9	150.5	97.4
Wash.	82	54	28	84	53	31	86	53	33
Oreg.	71	48	23	70	47	23	70	47	23
Calif.	272	78	194	267	77	190	269	70	199
Pac.	425	180	245	421	177	244	425	170	255
U. S.	4,853.9	3,587.5	1,266.4	4,691.3	3,469.7	1,221.6	4,579.4	3,369.8	1,209.6

1/ Average number during survey week of each month.

Farm Work: Weekly hours worked per worker

State and division	Average for reporting farms - week of November 22-28, 1970				
	Farm operators	Other family members ^{1/}	All family ^{1/}	Hired workers	All workers ^{1/}
H o u r s					
Maine	48.5	36.0	45.2	44.3	44.8
N. H.	52.4	29.4	47.9	37.6	43.6
Vt.	61.4	33.3	52.8	42.3	49.2
Mass.	55.2	35.7	50.1	34.0	42.6
R. I.	41.5	16.9	30.0	40.2	34.9
Conn.	49.0	38.8	46.1	53.6	48.6
N. Eng.	53.0	34.5	47.8	41.5	45.4
N. Y.	54.9	31.7	47.2	39.5	44.8
N. J.	35.7	32.8	35.0	35.3	35.0
Pa.	46.9	30.7	42.1	34.6	40.5
M. Atl.	49.5	31.2	43.7	37.3	42.1
Ohio	37.2	30.5	35.5	27.4	34.0
Ind.	34.9	28.9	33.7	27.7	32.7
Ill.	37.4	31.7	36.5	30.1	35.3
Mich.	43.7	33.7	41.1	29.5	38.6
Wis.	52.6	29.7	43.8	36.4	42.5
E. N. Cent.	41.1	30.8	38.1	30.5	37.0
Minn.	45.7	30.6	41.1	27.4	39.0
Iowa	48.6	28.6	43.1	27.8	40.0
Mo.	41.2	32.7	39.4	40.9	39.8
N. Dak.	33.1	30.1	32.4	35.8	32.8
S. Dak.	42.0	30.2	38.9	28.3	37.6
Nebr.	42.5	29.4	39.0	25.6	37.1
Kans.	38.5	30.4	36.7	29.7	35.6
W. N. Cent.	43.0	30.4	39.6	31.7	38.4
Del.	38.1	26.7	35.1	33.6	34.7
Md.	44.8	29.9	40.6	35.6	39.3
Va.	37.1	30.1	35.5	31.7	34.2
W. Va.	33.8	25.8	31.6	24.6	30.5
N. C.	32.3	29.7	31.7	29.0	30.9
S. C.	36.3	27.9	34.5	28.8	31.9
Ga.	33.1	28.4	32.0	25.5	29.6
Fla.	43.9	28.8	40.8	41.6	41.3
S. Atl.	35.2	29.0	33.8	35.2	33.8
Ky.	34.1	32.1	33.6	27.0	31.4
Tenn.	28.9	29.7	29.1	22.8	27.7
Ala.	29.4	26.9	28.8	26.8	28.2
Miss.	33.7	30.1	32.9	37.0	35.3
E. S. Cent.	31.5	29.9	31.2	28.8	30.5
Ark.	33.5	34.9	33.8	38.6	36.1
La.	28.9	28.1	28.7	34.6	30.8
Okla.	36.5	29.9	35.1	24.8	32.9
Texas	38.8	30.4	36.9	37.6	37.2
W. S. Cent.	36.0	30.8	34.9	36.4	35.4
Mont.	37.4	29.3	35.4	41.1	36.4
Idaho	37.3	21.3	31.8	40.3	33.3
Wyo.	42.1	32.3	39.4	39.7	39.5
Colo.	40.7	34.0	39.0	39.1	39.1
N. Mex.	41.7	28.2	39.0	39.7	39.3
Ariz.	43.5	37.6	42.1	42.6	42.4
Utah	32.4	23.6	30.2	27.7	29.7
Nev.	35.0	24.2	31.3	41.3	36.0
Mount.	38.6	28.4	35.7	40.5	37.5
Wash.	33.2	30.9	32.8	28.0	31.1
Oreg.	30.8	25.6	29.6	28.1	29.2
Calif.	39.8	36.4	39.0	45.9	43.9
Pac.	35.2	31.6	34.4	43.7	39.5
U. S.	38.6	30.3	36.4	36.5	36.3

^{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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