

# farm labor



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## FARM LABOR FORCE REGISTERS SHARP GAIN

The Nation's farm labor force for the week of April 18-24 climbed 3 percent above the April 1970 survey week and jumped 15 percent above the corresponding week last month. The estimated 4,507,000 total workers included 3,455,000 farm operators and other unpaid family members together with 1,052,000 hired farm workers.

Improving spring weather increased the average work week to 40.2 hours for all workers. Farm operators averaged 46.1 hours, other unpaid family members 31.3 hours, and hired workers 36.5 hours during the week, all substantially above a month earlier.

(Continued on page 4)

Farm employment and indexes, April 1971, with comparisons, United States

Item	: Annual : average : 1969	: Annual : average : 1970	: April : 20-26, : 1969	: April : 19-25, : 1970	: April : 18-24, : 1971
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/ (Thousands)	:	:	:	:	:
Total	: 4,595.8	4,522.6	4,552.0	4,393.7	4,507.4
Family labor	: 3,419.4	3,348.1	3,498.9	3,393.2	3,455.6
Hired labor	: 1,176.4	1,174.5	1,053.1	1,000.5	1,051.8
INDEXES 2/ (1910-14=100)	:	:	:	:	:
Total	: 34	33	34	33	34
Family labor	: 34	33	34	33	33
Hired labor	: 35	35	37	35	37
(1967=100)	:	:	:	:	:
Total	: 94	92	95	92	93
Family labor	: 94	92	94	92	92
Hired labor	: 92	92	97	92	97

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.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE      CROP REPORTING BOARD  
La 1 (5-71)      WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

Workers on farms, April 1971 1/

State and division	April 1969			April 1970			April 1971		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	T h o u s a n d s								
Maine	18.1	13	5.1	17.4	12	5.4	17.3	12.0	5.3
N. H.	6.7	4.7	2.0	6.1	4.4	1.7	6.0	4.2	1.8
Vt.	14.4	11	3.4	14.3	11	3.3	14.3	11.0	3.3
Mass.	15	10	5.0	14.5	9.7	4.8	14.6	9.7	4.9
R. I.	2.1	1.3	.8	1.9	1.2	.7	2.0	1.3	.7
Conn.	12	7.5	4.5	11.7	7.4	4.3	11.4	6.9	4.5
N. Eng.	68.3	47.5	20.8	65.9	45.7	20.2	65.6	45.1	20.5
N. Y.	90	70	20	89	70	19	88	68	20
N. J.	18	9.0	9.0	16	8.0	8.0	19	10	9.0
Pa.	115	101	14	114	101	13	114	99	15
M. Atl.	223	180	43	219	179	40	221	177	44
Ohio	156	142	14	145	133	12	163	146	17
Ind.	126	116	10	125	116	9.0	134	123	11
Ill.	180	150	30	163	138	25	180	152	28
Mich.	131	113	18	138	119	19	136	116	20
Wis.	205	188	17	210	193	17	204	187	17
E. N. Cent.	798	709	89	781	699	82	817	724	93
Minn.	197	179	18	173	163	10	187	173	14
Iowa	216	196	20	214	196	18	211	192	19
Mo.	196	171	25	184	163	21	199	172	27
N. Dak.	62	55	7.0	50	46	4.0	57	50	7.0
S. Dak.	70	64	6.0	67	63	4.0	68	62	6.0
Nebr.	120	104	16	113	99	14	115	101	14
Kans.	107	97	10	103	94	9.0	107	97	10
W. N. Cent.	968	866	102	904	824	80	944	847	97
Del.	6.0	4.0	2.0	6.0	4.0	2.0	7.0	5.0	2.0
Md.	31	24	7.0	29	23	6.0	33	26	7.0
Va.	113	91	22	112	91	21	107	87	20
W. Va.	38	32	6.0	38	32	6.0	38	32	6.0
N. C.	212	179	33	213	175	38	214	176	38
S. C.	76	58	18	78	59	19	74	55	19
Ga.	96	75	21	98	79	19	95	77	18
Fla.	121	34	87	127	37	90	133	41	92
S. Atl.	693	497	196	701	500	201	701	499	202
Ky.	138	116	22	132	112	20	141	118	23
Tenn.	138	116	22	132	113	19	147	122	25
Ala.	103	80	23	92	72	20	94	74	20
Miss.	136	104	32	130	98	32	124	88	36
E. S. Cent.	515	416	99	486	395	91	506	402	104
Ark.	150	89	61	141	78	63	146	84	62
La.	87	55	32	74	48	26	77	47	30
Okla.	116	105	11	127	113	14	127	112	15
Texas	294	197	97	275	190	85	271	192	79
W. S. Cent.	647	446	201	617	429	188	621	435	186
Mont.	42	33	9.0	37	29	8.0	46	35	11
Idaho	46	36	10	45	35	10	43	34	9.0
Wyo.	14	10	4.0	14	10	4.0	13	9.0	4.0
Colo.	49	38	11	48	37	11	48	37	11
N. Mex.	19	13	6.0	19	14	5.0	20	14	6.0
Ariz.	40	7.0	33	36	6.0	30	37	6.0	31
Utah	23	17	6.0	22	17	5.0	21	16	5.0
Nev.	4.7	2.4	2.3	4.8	2.5	2.3	4.8	2.5	2.3
Mount.	237.7	156.4	81.3	225.8	150.5	75.3	232.8	153.5	79.3
Wash.	94	56	38	84	54	30	81	53	28
Oreg.	62	49	13	58	45	13	70	52	18
Calif.	246	76	170	252	72	180	248	68	180
Pac.	402	181	221	394	171	223	399	173	226
U. S.	4,552.0	3,498.9	1,053.1	4,393.7	3,393.2	1,000.5	4,507.4	3,455.6	1,051.8

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 April 18-24, 1971					All Workers 1/
	Farm Operators	Other Family Members 1/	All Family 1/	Hired Workers	All Workers 1/	
Hours						
Maine	49.7	27.6	42.9	29.5	38.2	
N. H.	51.8	28.8	47.0	33.9	41.7	
Vt.	64.1	27.3	46.9	44.2	46.0	
Mass.	49.2	32.9	44.0	39.6	42.3	
R. I.	42.4	21.5	36.4	51.7	43.5	
Conn.	48.4	30.1	42.9	47.0	44.4	
N. Eng.	52.6	28.9	44.3	39.3	42.4	
N. Y.	55.8	33.1	48.1	36.0	43.9	
N. J.	42.1	32.8	39.4	35.6	38.4	
Pa.	51.7	29.7	44.4	31.8	41.6	
M. Atl.	52.8	31.3	45.6	34.5	42.2	
Ohio	49.7	32.7	44.7	27.8	41.0	
Ind.	45.2	30.2	41.2	30.0	39.1	
Ill.	50.9	33.9	46.7	36.3	44.7	
Mich.	50.9	33.5	46.2	31.4	42.6	
Wis.	59.1	30.7	47.1	34.4	44.8	
E. N. Cent.	51.3	32.2	45.3	32.6	42.7	
Minn.	57.6	31.7	48.5	36.1	46.8	
Iowa	62.8	33.4	53.5	33.3	49.2	
Mo.	48.5	25.2	42.1	38.7	41.2	
N. Dak.	56.4	39.2	50.9	38.4	48.7	
S. Dak.	57.9	33.5	50.1	35.0	47.5	
Nebr.	55.1	34.5	48.8	32.7	46.3	
Kans.	45.9	31.6	42.4	26.0	39.4	
W. N. Cent.	54.8	31.5	47.7	34.8	45.4	
Del.	44.9	31.0	39.6	34.7	38.2	
Md.	50.0	34.7	44.9	37.2	42.8	
Va.	40.3	28.1	37.5	37.1	37.3	
W. Va.	38.6	27.7	35.7	27.6	34.2	
N. C.	39.3	29.8	36.7	28.2	33.2	
S. C.	37.0	30.2	35.4	31.2	33.3	
Ga.	39.1	33.9	37.8	31.7	35.6	
Fla.	41.1	25.7	36.3	37.6	37.2	
S. Atl.	39.7	30.0	37.1	34.3	35.5	
Ky.	38.6	28.4	36.0	28.6	33.7	
Tenn.	36.4	29.8	34.9	27.3	32.8	
Ala.	35.8	28.1	34.0	30.5	32.9	
Miss.	34.7	31.4	34.1	34.6	34.4	
E. S. Cent.	36.5	29.4	34.9	30.7	33.5	
Ark.	38.6	34.1	37.6	37.9	37.7	
La.	35.0	33.1	34.6	36.8	35.5	
Okla.	39.4	29.6	37.0	26.3	34.8	
Texas	43.0	30.6	40.4	36.6	38.8	
W. S. Cent.	40.3	31.3	38.4	36.2	37.3	
Mont.	52.8	34.8	46.5	49.9	47.5	
Idaho	46.8	32.0	42.9	35.3	41.2	
Wyo.	52.0	37.0	48.1	44.8	46.6	
Colo.	45.6	35.3	42.9	36.6	41.5	
N. Mex.	49.6	28.7	43.5	35.0	40.7	
Ariz.	46.1	40.7	45.1	46.1	45.7	
Utah	39.1	26.8	35.2	31.8	34.5	
Nev.	36.6	27.4	34.6	25.7	31.2	
Mount.	47.3	33.0	43.1	41.7	42.7	
Wash.	46.1	32.3	42.8	37.8	40.5	
Oreg.	39.9	25.5	35.7	34.8	35.4	
Calif.	43.8	44.3	43.9	43.3	43.4	
Pac.	43.4	35.2	41.2	41.9	41.4	
U. S.	46.1	31.3	41.8	36.5	40.2	

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

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(Continued from page 1)

Spring Farm Activities Moving at a Rapid Pace

Corn Belt farmers got off to a fast start in planting this year's corn crop with progress 1 to 2 weeks ahead of average in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Missouri.

Planting of spring grains was slowed by wet weather in the northern Plains and northern Rockies; however, more acreage was seeded than a year ago at this time. Oats were nearly all seeded from Iowa to Ohio, with planting rapid in the Lake States.

Vegetable shipments were increasing in Florida and California. Strawberry picking was active in the South.

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.