

farm labor



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August Farm Labor Force Declines Seasonally

The Nation's farm labor force had an estimated 5,251,000 workers during the survey week of August 22-28, approximately 2 percent less than both the corresponding week last year and the July 1971 survey week. The farm work force consisted of 3,569,000 farm operators and unpaid family members and 1,682,000 hired workers.

Farm workers averaged 37.9 hours during the August survey week compared with 38.6 hours in July. Farm operators worked an average of 44.0 hours; other unpaid family members, 33.7; and hired hands, 32.5 hours during the August week.

(Continued on page 4)

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

Item	: Annual : average : 1969	: Annual : average : 1970	: August : 24-30, : 1969	: August : 23-29, : 1970	: August : 22-28, : 1971
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/	:	:	:	:	:
(Thousands)	:	:	:	:	:
Total	: 4,595.8	: 4,522.6	: 5,427.4	: 5,344.7	: 5,251.0
Family labor	: 3,419.4	: 3,348.1	: 3,738.7	: 3,676.0	: 3,568.9
Hired labor	: 1,176.4	: 1,174.5	: 1,688.7	: 1,668.7	: 1,682.1
INDEXES 2/	:	:	:	:	:
(1910-14=100)	:	:	:	:	:
Total	: 34	: 33	: 34	: 33	: 33
Family labor	: 34	: 33	: 34	: 33	: 32
Hired labor	: 35	: 35	: 35	: 34	: 34
(1967=100)	:	:	:	:	:
Total	: 94	: 92	: 93	: 91	: 89
Family labor	: 94	: 92	: 94	: 92	: 89
Hired labor	: 92	: 92	: 92	: 89	: 89

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 (9-71)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

Workers on Farms, August 1971 1/

State and division	August 1969			August 1970			August 1971		
	Week of 24-30			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	24	14	10	23.2	14	9.2	21	12	9.0
N. H.	8.6	5.4	3.2	7.9	4.9	3.0	7.6	4.9	2.7
Vt.	16.1	12	4.1	14.8	11	3.8	15	11	4.0
Mass.	26	11	15	26	11	15	22.8	9.8	13
R. I.	2.3	1.4	.9	2.2	1.4	.8	2.1	1.3	.8
Conn.	21.7	8.7	13	21.4	8.4	13	18.7	7.8	10.9
N. Eng.	98.7	52.5	46.2	95.5	50.7	44.8	87.2	46.8	40.4
N. Y.	124	79	45	119	78	41	118	77	41
N. J.	31	10	21	34	10	24	30	9.0	21
Pa.	147	118	29	142	115	27	136	110	26
M. Atl.	302	207	95	295	203	92	284	196	88
Ohio	160	131	29	158	129	29	154	127	27
Ind.	130	117	13	137	121	16	132	117	15
Ill.	172	142	30	174	141	33	168	139	29
Mich.	163	124	39	163	125	38	152	115	37
Wis.	222	193	29	211	185	26	204	176	28
E. N. Cent.	847	707	140	843	701	142	810	674	136
Minn.	219	186	33	201	171	30	215	180	35
Iowa	242	200	42	243	200	43	242	196	46
Mo.	204	165	39	215	173	42	206	164	42
N. Dak.	98	71	27	91	66	25	90	65	25
S. Dak.	86	68	18	80	68	12	79	66	13
Nebr.	126	104	22	127	104	23	119	94	25
Kans.	133	102	31	120	98	22	130	102	28
W. N. Cent.	1,108	896	212	1,077	880	197	1,081	867	214
Del.	10	5.0	5.0	10	5.0	5.0	10	5.0	5.0
Md.	43	29	14	42	28	14	41	29	12
Va.	145	97	48	126	94	32	140	88	52
W. Va.	42	36	6.0	43	37	6.0	43	36	7.0
N. C.	416	256	160	420	254	166	385	240	145
S. C.	102	74	28	97	70	27	95	69	26
Ga.	134	100	34	127	95	32	136	100	36
Fla.	81	30	51	84	31	53	85	31	54
S. Atl.	973	627	346	949	614	335	935	598	337
Ky.	185	134	51	181	132	49	174	127	47
Tenn.	161	121	40	166	123	43	163	118	45
Ala.	96	72	24	92	69	23	85	65	20
Miss.	156	127	29	152	123	29	126	97	29
E. S. Cent.	598	454	144	591	447	144	548	407	141
Ark.	173	83	90	176	84	92	170	86	84
La.	97	56	41	86	49	37	94	49	45
Okla.	115	94	21	116	98	18	120	95	25
Texas	290	195	95	291	196	95	308	199	109
W. S. Cent.	675	428	247	669	427	242	692	429	263
Mont.	59	36	23	55	34	21	58	34	24
Idaho	62	40	22	60	38	22	59	38	21
Wyo.	19	12	7.0	19	12	7.0	19	12	7.0
Colo.	83	43	40	85	44	41	71	38	33
N. Mex.	24	15	9.0	25	15	10	21	14	7.0
Ariz.	32	7.0	25	30	6.0	24	30	5.0	25
Utah	32	21	11	31	20	11	30	20	10
Nev.	6.7	3.2	3.5	7.2	3.3	3.9	6.8	3.1	3.7
Mount.	317.7	177.2	140.5	312.2	172.3	139.9	294.8	164.1	130.7
Wash.	94	57	37	103	60	43	108	62	46
Oreg.	92	51	41	90	46	44	100	54	46
Calif.	322	82	240	320	75	245	311	71	240
Pac.	508	190	318	513	181	332	519	187	332
U.S.	5,427.4	3,738.7	1,688.7	5,344.7	3,676.0	1,668.7	5,251.0	3,568.9	1,682.1

1/ Persons employed during 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 August 22-28, 1971				
	Farm operators	Other family members 1/	All family 1/	Hired workers	All workers 1/
	Hours				
Maine	50.1	38.6	46.7	36.5	42.9
N. H.	59.3	34.5	52.3	38.7	46.2
Vt.	60.8	34.3	50.8	42.8	47.9
Mass.	56.7	41.0	51.4	44.2	48.4
R. I.	46.8	30.0	42.0	56.0	49.0
Conn.	44.8	37.8	42.3	38.5	41.0
N. Eng.	53.9	37.3	48.4	40.7	45.2
N. Y.	57.0	33.9	48.6	40.5	45.8
N. J.	42.4	34.7	40.5	31.2	37.5
Pa.	49.7	30.5	43.4	30.8	40.2
M. Atl.	52.3	32.2	45.4	35.4	42.2
Ohio	42.5	32.7	39.7	24.3	35.6
Ind.	38.0	30.7	36.4	24.0	33.8
Ill.	39.0	34.0	38.0	29.4	36.2
Mich.	44.7	36.8	42.7	35.1	40.8
Wis.	55.9	35.0	47.4	39.5	45.8
E. N. Cent.	44.0	33.8	40.8	31.4	39.0
Minn.	56.1	36.1	48.5	33.7	45.7
Iowa	50.6	30.5	43.9	25.4	39.6
Mo.	42.2	33.2	40.2	28.8	37.2
N. Dak.	69.1	50.2	60.7	48.2	57.9
S. Dak.	55.1	35.3	47.9	36.8	46.1
Nebr.	53.9	37.3	48.8	24.4	43.2
Kans.	48.4	36.3	45.1	33.3	42.5
W. N. Cent.	51.4	35.3	46.0	31.7	43.1
Del.	33.9	37.2	35.1	40.3	36.0
Md.	46.9	35.4	42.6	29.1	38.9
Va.	41.0	35.8	39.5	28.1	33.9
W. Va.	41.3	29.0	37.5	23.4	33.5
N. C.	43.1	35.1	40.1	22.2	29.0
S. C.	36.5	30.5	34.9	26.8	30.8
Ga.	36.1	29.6	34.2	24.6	29.8
Fla.	36.6	31.9	35.4	27.4	30.3
S. Atl.	40.2	33.1	37.9	25.1	30.9
Ky.	37.2	31.3	35.6	23.1	30.5
Tenn.	32.7	28.9	31.9	22.3	28.7
Ala.	30.9	28.6	30.4	25.4	28.8
Miss.	30.1	31.7	30.4	34.5	33.0
E. S. Cent.	33.0	30.1	32.3	25.5	30.3
Ark.	33.5	30.6	32.8	30.6	31.7
La.	33.8	32.2	33.4	36.8	34.8
Okla.	44.2	33.0	41.2	31.6	38.9
Texas	42.7	33.4	40.5	35.1	38.2
W. S. Cent.	40.2	32.6	38.3	33.6	36.3
Mont.	58.3	41.1	51.3	48.9	50.4
Idaho	58.8	37.9	49.6	37.7	46.0
Wyo.	60.4	42.1	53.6	35.8	46.7
Colo.	55.7	37.7	50.2	43.5	48.6
N. Mex.	48.0	31.8	43.9	39.6	42.2
Ariz.	43.7	42.4	43.4	42.8	43.1
Utah	46.1	39.9	43.8	32.2	39.8
Nev.	44.0	33.4	39.9	41.8	40.5
Mount.	54.6	38.5	48.7	41.9	46.2
Wash.	50.4	37.5	46.6	33.1	38.4
Oreg.	43.8	35.8	41.2	36.6	39.7
Calif.	45.8	38.6	43.9	38.7	39.7
Pac.	46.7	37.5	44.0	37.6	39.4
U. S.	44.0	33.7	40.7	32.5	37.9

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
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

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Harvest of Small Grains Nears Completion

Grain harvesting advanced rapidly from the Rocky Mountains to the Great Lakes. Winter wheat was all cut in Montana, with spring wheat and oats 80 percent combined. Oat and barley harvest was also nearly finished in most producing areas. Seedbed preparation and seeding operations for next year's winter wheat crop were underway in most of the Great Plains.

Warm weather through the Corn Belt rapidly advanced maturity of the corn crop. Over half the crop is in the dent stage with some acreage already mature. Corn harvest has started in the South.

Soybean podding was ahead of last year and many of the early fields were starting to yellow. Sorghum harvest started in California's Sacramento Valley; with harvest active in other Southwestern and Southern States.

The first bale of the 1971 cotton crop was ginned in Alabama, but large scale ginning is not expected until late September.

Tobacco harvest activities along the Atlantic Coast were halted by tropical storm Doria late in the survey week. Potato digging was slowed by rain in Michigan and New York, but increased in Maine. The Idaho potato crop is 10 percent dug.

Peach harvest continued strong in the Northeast.

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.