

farm labor



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Farm Work Force At Seasonal Low Point

The Nation's farm labor force had an estimated 3,288,000 workers during the January 23-29, 1972 survey week, 3 percent less than last month and 2 percent below the corresponding week last year. Included were 2,618,000 farm operators and unpaid family members while the remaining 670,000 persons were hired workers.

Farmworkers averaged 33.1 hours during the January survey week, compared with 32.5 hours a month earlier. Farm operators averaged 33.7 while other unpaid family members worked 28.8 hours. Hired workers averaged 34.2 during the survey week.

(Continued on page 4)

Farm employment and indexes, January 1972, with comparisons, United States

Item	: Annual : average : 1970	: Annual : average : 1971	: January : 18-24, : 1970	: January : 24-30, : 1971	: January : 23-29, : 1972
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/ (Thousands)					
Total	: 4,522.6	: 4,454.3	: 3,283.3	: 3,349.8	: 3,288.2
Family labor	: 3,348.1	: 3,285.8	: 2,665.2	: 2,668.6	: 2,618.0
Hired labor	: 1,174.5	: 1,168.5	: 618.1	: 681.2	: 670.2
INDEXES 2/ (1910-14=100)					
Total	: 33	: 33	: 34	: 35	: 34
Family labor	: 33	: 32	: 33	: 33	: 33
Hired labor	: 35	: 34	: 37	: 41	: 40
(1967=100)					
Total	: 92	: 92	: 93	: 95	: 95
Family labor	: 92	: 89	: 92	: 92	: 92
Hired labor	: 92	: 89	: 97	: 108	: 105

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 1972 1/

State and division	January 1970			January 1971			January 1972		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	T h o u s a n d s								
Maine	15.3	11	4.3	15.3	11	4.3	14.1	10	4.1
N. H.	5.4	3.7	1.7	5.2	3.6	1.6	5.0	3.3	1.7
Vt.	14.2	11	3.2	14.1	11	3.1	13.4	10	3.4
Mass.	13.0	9.1	3.9	12.5	8.4	4.1	12.7	8.7	4.0
R. I.	1.9	1.3	.6	1.7	1.1	.6	1.7	1.1	.6
Conn.	8.6	6.2	2.4	7.8	5.6	2.2	8.1	5.9	2.2
N. Eng.	58.4	42.3	16.1	56.6	40.7	15.9	55	39	16
N. Y.	79	65	14	81	66	15	79	64	15
N. J.	13	9.0	4.0	11	8.0	3.0	14	10	4.0
Pa.	89	79	10	89	78	11	90	78	12
M. Atl.	181	153	28	181	152	29	183	152	31
Ohio	114	108	6.0	111	105	6.0	113	107	6.0
Ind.	109	104	5.0	110	105	5.0	111	106	5.0
Ill.	115	102	13	116	101	15	119	106	13
Mich.	113	98	15	108	93	15	84	73	11
Wis.	168	158	10	167	156	11	157	147	10
E. N. Cent.	619	570	49	612	560	52	584	539	45
Minn.	136	129	7.0	135	128	7.0	126	119	7.0
Iowa	151	140	11	147	136	11	148	137	11
Mo.	140	130	10	155	142	13	140	129	11
N. Dak.	35	32	3.0	34	31	3.0	33	30	3.0
S. Dak.	48	45	3.0	46	43	3.0	43	40	3.0
Nebr.	82	76	6.0	83	76	7.0	82	76	6.0
Kans.	82	77	5.0	81	76	5.0	79	74	5.0
W. N. Cent.	674	629	45	681	632	49	651	605	46
Del.	4.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	3.0	1.0
Md.	21	17	4.0	20	16	4.0	22	18	4.0
Va.	80	67	13	77	64	13	76	63	13
W. Va.	27	24	3.0	26	23	3.0	25	22	3.0
N. C.	142	129	13	152	136	16	147	130	17
S. C.	50	42	8.0	49	40	9.0	48	38	10
Ga.	68	58	10	68	59	9.0	70	59	11
Fla.	126	29	97	132	28	104	133	33	100
S. Atl.	518	369	149	528	369	159	525	366	159
Ky.	103	95	8.0	102	96	6.0	100	92	8.0
Tenn.	105	97	8.0	102	93	9.0	105	95	10
Ala.	56	45	11	55	44	11	53	43	10
Miss.	81	66	15	81	64	17	81	62	19
E. S. Cent.	345	303	42	340	297	43	339	292	47
Ark.	77	59	18	83	65	18	83	61	22
La.	48	39	9.0	48	38	10	48	39	9.0
Okla.	109	102	7.0	105	97	8.0	109	101	8.0
Texas	193	154	39	218	161	57	223	171	52
W. S. Cent.	427	354	73	454	361	93	463	372	91
Mont.	27	23	4.0	26	22	4.0	27	23	4.0
Idaho	29	25	4.0	26	23	3.0	30	25	5.0
Wyo.	9.0	7.0	2.0	9.0	7.0	2.0	8.0	6.0	2.0
Colo.	29	24	5.0	32	25	7.0	28	23	5.0
N. Mex.	17	12	5.0	17	12	5.0	16	12	4.0
Ariz.	36	6.0	30	35	5.0	30	37	6.0	31
Utah	14	12	2.0	14	12	2.0	14	11	3.0
Nev.	2.9	1.9	1.0	3.2	1.9	1.3	3.2	2.0	1.2
Mount.	163.9	110.9	53	162.2	107.9	54.3	163.2	108	55.2
Wash.	51	39	12	55	41	14	50	40	10
Oreg.	40	34	6.0	46	39	7.0	41	36	5.0
Calif.	206	61	145	234	69	165	234	69	165
Pac.	297	134	163	335	149	186	325	145	180
U.S.	3,283.3	2,665.2	618.1	3,349.8	2,668.6	681.2	3,288.2	2,618.0	670.2

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; Average for
reporting farms, week of January 23-29, 1972

State and division	Farm operator	Other family members 1/	All family 1/	Hired workers	All workers 1/
	H o u r s				
Maine	43.3	32.8	40.7	31.7	37.3
N. H.	48.9	32.1	46.7	41.3	44.4
Vt.	56.2	34.6	48.8	38.8	45.2
Mass.	53.6	36.4	48.0	37.8	44.0
R. I.	53.4	55.0	53.9	31.6	44.6
Conn.	47.3	33.8	43.4	46.5	44.6
N. Eng.	49.6	34.5	45.3	37.8	42.7
N. Y.	50.1	30.6	43.8	37.2	41.8
N. J.	33.4	29.0	32.2	33.6	32.5
Pa.	43.4	24.7	37.4	31.3	36.1
M. Atl.	45.6	27.4	39.7	34.5	38.3
Ohio	32.3	29.5	31.7	29.2	31.3
Ind.	29.6	29.6	29.6	24.6	28.9
Ill.	29.8	29.0	29.7	29.4	29.7
Mich.	32.3	32.4	32.3	33.5	32.5
Wis.	46.3	29.5	40.0	33.8	39.0
E. N. Cent.	34.1	29.9	32.6	30.8	32.8
Minn.	37.2	28.3	34.9	30.5	34.5
Iowa	39.4	25.6	35.7	31.1	35.1
Mo.	32.6	27.8	31.9	29.4	31.4
N. Dak.	28.5	29.4	28.7	34.3	29.3
S. Dak.	34.0	27.3	32.4	25.5	31.6
Nebr.	36.2	32.5	35.4	24.7	34.1
Kans.	33.1	32.5	33.0	30.9	32.7
W. N. Cent.	35.2	28.6	33.6	29.6	33.2
Del.	31.2	25.8	30.3	29.0	30.0
Md.	41.2	29.5	37.5	33.9	36.6
Va.	33.1	30.7	32.6	32.2	32.5
W. Va.	32.5	28.8	31.5	23.8	30.5
N. C.	27.3	27.8	27.4	25.7	26.9
S. C.	31.4	26.5	30.4	28.0	29.3
Ga.	33.6	28.1	32.4	30.4	31.7
Fla.	43.6	34.8	41.1	37.2	38.4
S. Atl.	32.1	28.8	31.3	34.1	32.1
Ky.	26.7	25.3	26.4	24.3	25.9
Tenn.	25.7	26.3	25.8	25.3	25.7
Ala.	27.5	26.1	27.3	25.3	26.7
Miss.	28.0	25.9	27.6	28.7	28.2
E. S. Cent.	26.8	25.9	26.7	26.5	26.5
Ark.	25.8	27.9	26.1	30.1	27.8
La.	25.3	29.6	26.0	30.7	27.5
Okla.	33.8	27.3	32.3	27.7	31.5
Texas	39.8	30.8	38.1	39.7	38.7
W. S. Cent.	34.0	29.3	33.0	35.4	33.9
Mont.	34.7	28.6	33.1	37.6	34.0
Idaho	35.9	29.2	33.9	32.7	33.7
Wyo.	42.5	25.2	39.3	34.5	37.3
Colo.	30.6	34.8	31.3	30.9	31.3
N. Mex.	34.8	28.1	33.3	42.2	25.9
Ariz.	42.6	37.4	41.6	39.2	40.2
Utah	34.1	23.8	31.2	27.7	30.3
Nev.	38.3	22.3	34.7	41.8	37.3
Mount.	34.9	29.7	33.5	37.2	35.0
Wash.	28.3	29.3	28.5	25.2	27.3
Oreg.	29.1	27.3	28.7	31.1	29.1
Calif.	39.4	38.8	39.3	37.1	37.7
Pac.	33.0	32.6	33.0	36.3	35.0
U. S.	33.7	28.8	32.4	34.2	33.1

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

(Continued from page 1)

Farm Activities Curtailed by Cold Winter Weather

Harvest activities were limited to citrus, cotton, and winter vegetable crops in southern areas. In the North, activity was restricted to livestock care and general chores.

Cotton harvest made good progress in Texas with about 96 percent of the crop harvested by the end of the survey period. Picking was nearing the cleanup stage in Oklahoma.

Vegetable harvest was active in California, Arizona, Texas, and Florida with vegetables from these areas available in variable quantities.

Picking of navel oranges continues in California's central district and some frost damage is also showing in southern California. Florida citrus harvest progressed under favorable conditions. Citrus harvest was also active in Texas and Arizona.

Farm employment represents the 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 the survey week. These data should not be confused with 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.