

# farm labor



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## RAIN LIMITS FIELD ACTIVITY

The Nation's farm labor force had an estimated 3,328,000 workers during the January 21-27, 1973 survey week, 1 percent less than last month but 1 percent above the corresponding week last year. Included were 2,640,000 farm operators and unpaid family members while the remaining 688,000 persons were hired workers.

Farmworkers averaged 33.2 hours during the January survey week, compared with 33.1 hours a month earlier. Farm operators averaged 34.6 while other unpaid family members worked 28.7 hours. Hired workers averaged 33.1 during the survey week.

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Farm employment and indexes, January 1973, with comparisons, United States

Item	: Annual : average : 1971	: Annual : average : 1972	: January : 24-30, : 1971	: January : 23-29, : 1972	: January : 21-27, : 1973
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/ (Thousands)					
Total.....	4,445.9	4,391.9	3,344.5	3,288.2	3,327.8
Family labor.....	3,281.4	3,239.5	2,666.3	2,618.0	2,639.7
Hired labor.....	1,164.5	1,152.4	678.2	670.2	688.1
INDEXES 2/ (1910-14=100)					
Total.....	33	32	35	34	35
Family labor.....	32	32	33	33	33
Hired labor.....	34	34	41	40	41
(1967=100)					
Total.....	92	89	95	95	95
Family labor.....	89	89	92	92	92
Hired labor.....	89	89	108	105	108

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 1973 1/

State	January 1971			January 1972			January 1973		
	Week of 24-30			Week of 23-29			Week of 21-27		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	T h o u s a n d s								
Maine	15.3	11	4.3	14.1	10	4.1	13.3	9.3	4.0
N. H.	5.2	3.6	1.6	5.0	3.3	1.7	4.9	3.3	1.6
Vt.	14.1	11	3.1	13.4	10	3.4	13.3	9.5	3.8
Mass.	12.3	8.2	4.1	12.7	8.7	4.0	13.0	8.7	4.3
R. I.	1.7	1.1	.6	1.7	1.1	.6	1.4	.9	.5
Conn.	7.7	5.5	2.2	8.1	5.9	2.2	8.8	6.2	2.6
N. Y.	79	64	15	79	64	15	78	63	15
N. J.	12	9.0	3.0	14	10	4.0	13	8.0	5.0
Pa.	89	78	11	90	78	12	86	75	11
Ohio	111	105	6.0	113	107	6.0	129	122	7.0
Ind.	111	106	5.0	111	106	5.0	120	114	6.0
Ill.	116	101	15	119	106	13	124	109	15
Mich.	107	92	15	84	73	11	94	80	14
Wis.	167	156	11	157	147	10	159	148	11
Minn.	135	128	7.0	126	119	7.0	133	124	9.0
Iowa	147	136	11	148	137	11	144	131	13
Mo.	155	142	13	140	129	11	149	137	12
N. Dak.	34	31	3.0	33	30	3.0	35	32	3.0
S. Dak.	46	43	3.0	43	40	3.0	43	40	3.0
Nebr.	84	77	7.0	82	76	6.0	81	74	7.0
Kans.	81	76	5.0	79	74	5.0	81	76	5.0
Del.	4.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	3.0	1.0
Md.	20	16	4.0	22	18	4.0	22	18	4.0
Va.	76	63	13	76	63	13	88	73	15
W. Va.	26	23	3.0	25	22	3.0	25	22	3.0
N. C.	149	134	15	147	130	17	124	109	15
S. C.	49	40	9.0	48	38	10	49	39	10
Ga.	68	59	9.0	70	59	11	70	59	11
Fla.	130	28	102	133	33	100	130	32	98
Ky.	105	98	7.0	100	92	8.0	101	93	8.0
Tenn.	102	93	9.0	105	95	10	108	98	10
Ala.	54	43	11	53	43	10	53	42	11
Miss.	81	64	17	81	62	19	71	54	17
Ark.	83	65	18	83	61	22	82	61	21
La.	48	39	9.0	48	39	9.0	44	34	10
Okla.	105	97	8.0	109	101	8.0	105	97	8.0
Texas	218	161	57	223	171	52	222	177	45
Mont.	26	22	4.0	27	23	4.0	26	22	4.0
Idaho	26	23	3.0	30	25	5.0	28	24	4.0
Wyo.	9.0	7.0	2.0	8.0	6.0	2.0	9.0	7.0	2.0
Colo.	32	25	7.0	28	23	5.0	29	24	5.0
N. Mex.	17	12	5.0	16	12	4.0	15	11	4.0
Ariz.	35	5.0	30	37	6.0	31	38	6.0	32
Utah	14	12	2.0	14	11	3.0	13	11	2.0
Nev.	3.2	1.9	1.3	3.2	2.0	1.2	3.1	1.8	1.3
Wash.	55	41	14	50	40	10	51	38	13
Oreg.	44	37	7.0	41	36	5.0	39	33	6.0
Calif.	235	70	165	234	69	165	255	80	175
U. S.	3,344.5	2,666.3	678.2	3,288.2	2,618.0	670.2	3,327.8	2,639.7	688.1

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; Average for reporting farms, week of January 21-27, 1973

State	Farm operators	Other family members 1/	All family 1/	Hired workers	All workers 1/
Hours					
Maine	62.0	34.3	52.5	36.9	46.8
N. H.	60.2	28.0	48.7	36.2	44.2
Vt.	58.4	32.0	49.1	41.3	46.1
Mass.	55.3	34.6	47.8	36.1	42.9
R. I.	60.3	34.8	52.8	36.8	45.0
Conn.	56.3	30.4	48.1	41.4	45.2
N. Y.	51.2	33.5	45.5	38.6	43.3
N. J.	35.4	31.3	34.5	33.4	34.2
Pa.	43.1	28.5	38.7	31.9	37.4
Ohio	34.4	29.6	33.1	27.9	32.2
Ind.	31.6	30.5	31.4	23.5	30.1
Ill.	31.7	29.3	31.3	29.5	31.0
Mich.	36.4	34.0	35.9	32.0	35.1
Wis.	49.2	29.9	41.9	32.2	40.1
Minn.	40.4	27.8	36.7	27.3	35.4
Iowa	41.5	29.9	38.8	27.1	36.9
Mo.	33.6	25.9	32.1	28.8	31.5
N. Dak.	31.4	29.0	30.8	28.6	30.6
S. Dak.	37.2	30.2	35.6	28.0	34.7
Nebr.	40.8	31.0	38.7	37.8	38.5
Kans.	35.2	30.4	34.2	32.8	34.0
Del.	37.3	31.8	35.6	35.3	35.5
Md.	40.4	30.7	37.6	27.7	35.2
Va.	36.0	30.0	34.6	30.4	33.2
W. Va.	34.1	28.5	32.8	24.8	31.4
N. C.	27.2	27.6	27.3	24.1	26.3
S. C.	31.9	29.7	31.5	28.6	30.2
Ga.	33.3	27.2	32.0	31.1	31.7
Fla.	37.8	22.0	33.4	37.2	35.6
Ky.	27.5	27.6	27.5	26.4	27.2
Tenn.	26.8	27.1	26.8	21.3	25.7
Ala.	29.9	24.6	29.0	28.3	28.8
Miss.	28.2	26.2	27.9	27.6	27.7
Ark.	27.1	27.5	27.2	29.2	28.1
La.	24.0	29.2	24.7	31.1	27.1
Okla.	34.1	27.4	32.6	32.8	32.6
Texas	31.4	26.4	30.4	27.6	29.6
Mont.	36.0	32.5	35.2	35.8	35.3
Idaho	39.2	30.0	36.4	30.7	35.4
Wyo.	41.2	21.3	36.3	42.1	38.7
Colo.	30.9	28.3	30.3	36.7	31.3
N. Mex.	35.8	32.9	35.4	37.8	36.2
Ariz.	46.0	38.3	44.9	43.8	44.2
Utah	29.2	25.9	28.4	25.7	28.0
Nev.	35.6	23.3	33.2	50.8	40.0
Wash.	32.6	27.9	31.6	32.4	31.9
Oreg.	31.7	27.3	30.7	34.2	31.5
Calif.	38.2	36.4	37.8	35.1	35.8
U. S.	34.6	28.7	33.0	33.1	33.2

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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Rain during the week of January 21-27 hampered harvest across most of the Nation. Corn and soybean harvest was almost complete but wet, soft fields prevented completion of work.

Cotton picking continued to be slowed by wet fields. Snow and ice shut down operations in Texas. Mississippi and Missouri made little headway during the week. Other areas of the South were in the clean-up stage and harvest was virtually complete in the Western States.

Rains slowed citrus harvest in Florida. In Texas, harvest was running behind schedule and some early oranges were falling off the trees. Navel orange harvest was nearing completion in Arizona while the Valencia harvest was underway at Yuma.

Lettuce harvest was active in the Imperial Valley of California and supplies of asparagus were increasing in southern California. Florida vegetable harvest was hampered by rain and cold weather.

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.