

farm labor



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AUG 13 1973

Release:
August 9, 1973
3:00 P.M. EDT

FARM WORK FORCE SHOWS LITTLE CHANGE FROM A YEAR AGO

The Nation's farm labor force had an estimated 5,256,700 workers during the July 22-28 work week, up slightly from a year earlier but off 2 percent from two years ago. The labor force was made up of 3,459,400 farm operators and other unpaid family members and 1,797,300 hired workers.

Farm workers averaged 39.3 hours during the July survey week, compared with 38.7 hours in July 1972. Farm operators worked 45.5 hours, other unpaid family members 34.7, and hired workers 34.3. These averages compare with a year ago when operators averaged 45.7 hours, other unpaid family 34.0 and hired workers 33.0 hours.

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

Item	: Annual : average : 1971	: Annual : average : 1972	: July : 18-24, : 1971	: July : 23-29, : 1972	: July : 22-28, : 1973
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/					
(Thousands)					
Total	: 4,436.3	: 4,373.4	: 5,347.4	: 5,234.9	: 5,256.7
Family labor	: 3,275.1	: 3,227.7	: 3,544.1	: 3,519.2	: 3,459.4
Hired labor	: 1,161.2	: 1,145.7	: 1,803.3	: 1,715.7	: 1,797.3
INDEXES 2/					
(1910-14=100)					
Total	: 33	: 32	: 33	: 33	: 33
Family labor	: 32	: 32	: 32	: 32	: 32
Hired labor	: 34	: 34	: 36	: 34	: 36
(1967=100)					
Total	: 92	: 89	: 91	: 89	: 91
Family labor	: 89	: 89	: 89	: 89	: 89
Hired labor	: 89	: 89	: 95	: 89	: 95

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(8-73) WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

Workers on Farms, July 1973

State	July 1971			July 1972			week of 22-28		
	week of 18-24			week of 23-29					
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	Thousands								
Maine	21	13	8.0	21.2	14	7.2	20.2	14	6.2
N.H.	6.7	4.2	2.5	6.0	4.1	1.9	5.7	3.8	1.9
Vt.	14.8	11	3.8	12.7	10	2.7	14.4	11	3.4
Mass.	23	10	13	21	11	10	22	11	11
R.I.	2.3	1.5	.8	1.7	.9	.8	1.6	.9	.7
Conn.	19.4	7.4	12	21	8.0	13	20.7	7.7	13
N.Y.	121	80	41	121	79	42	118	75	43
N.J.	31	10	21	32	10	22	29	9.0	20
Pa.	131	110	21	137	111	26	128	105	23
Ohio	172	144	28	165	141	24	161	140	21
Ind.	150	130	20	158	141	17	152	135	17
Ill.	187	148	39	187	147	40	187	151	36
Mich.	160	122	38	163	119	44	157	122	35
Wis.	205	178	27	197	170	27	193	166	27
Minn.	241	187	54	214	171	43	218	174	44
Iowa	270	200	70	254	202	52	247	188	59
Mo.	210	157	53	218	175	43	210	164	46
N. Dak.	83	59	24	82	62	20	84	62	22
S. Dak.	79	64	15	76	61	15	77	62	15
Nebr.	147	109	38	142	108	34	139	107	32
Kans.	144	105	39	134	104	30	133	103	30
Del.	10	5.0	5.0	10	5.0	5.0	11	5.0	6.0
Md.	41	29	12	41	29	12	38	28	10
Va.	144	80	64	143	81	62	139	81	58
W. Va.	44	36	8.0	40	33	7.0	39	33	6.0
N. C.	388	216	172	375	203	172	358	176	182
S. C.	98	62	36	96	63	33	94	64	30
Ga.	96	74	22	92	73	19	96	76	20
Fla.	85	31	54	86	30	56	94	31	63
Ky.	157	121	36	156	124	32	152	120	32
Tenn.	153	112	41	154	116	38	160	114	46
Ala.	72	55	17	67	51	16	67	52	15
Miss.	132	95	37	127	93	34	121	91	30
Ark.	170	77	93	145	72	73	170	75	95
La.	71	43	28	75	42	33	70	39	31
Okla.	122	102	20	143	107	36	141	109	32
Texas	323	205	118	327	213	114	351	222	129
Mont.	54	30	24	51	31	20	55	30	25
Idaho	64	42	22	64	40	24	60	39	21
Wyo.	19	11	8.0	19	11	8.0	18	10	8.0
Colo.	78	39	39	71	39	32	79	41	38
N. Mex.	24	14	10	21	12	9.0	24	13	11
Ariz.	32	5.0	27	32	5.0	27	36	7.0	29
Utah	29	20	9.0	26	18	8.0	26	19	7.0
Nev.	6.2	3.0	3.2	6.3	3.2	3.1	6.1	3.0	3.1
Wash.	114	64	50	110	61	49	111	57	54
Oreg.	102	47	55	86	42	44	98	43	55
Calif.	301	76	225	308	73	235	325	70	255
U. S.	5,347.4	3,544.1	1,803.3	5,234.9	3,519.2	1,715.7	5,256.7	3,459.4	1,797.3

Farm Work: Weekly hours worked per worker
Average for reporting farms, week of July 22-28, 1973

State	Farm operators	Other family members 1/	All family 1/	Hired workers	All workers 1/
H o u r s					
Maine	69.2	40.0	57.0	31.8	45.8
N. H.	60.6	35.2	51.7	41.5	47.3
Vt.	64.5	36.5	52.9	42.6	48.2
Mass.	62.7	34.4	50.9	35.8	45.0
R. I.	61.3	35.0	58.9	40.7	48.7
Conn.	59.2	35.2	49.6	35.6	44.5
N. Y.	60.5	36.2	51.5	36.7	45.6
N. J.	42.8	32.3	39.8	34.6	38.2
Pa.	54.0	34.7	47.0	31.4	42.5
Ohio	42.4	32.1	39.3	28.0	36.6
Ind.	40.7	31.2	38.3	29.8	36.4
Ill.	43.8	32.8	41.2	31.0	38.8
Mich.	50.9	35.1	45.2	37.3	43.2
Wis.	57.5	36.1	49.2	36.4	46.3
Minn.	56.5	35.0	48.4	32.2	44.9
Iowa	53.2	34.7	47.4	26.6	41.6
Mo.	41.8	32.6	39.5	32.6	37.7
N. Dak.	58.1	41.9	51.6	44.7	50.3
S. Dak.	60.7	41.8	53.6	36.2	50.2
Nebr.	55.1	38.3	48.5	41.1	46.8
Kans.	48.7	39.9	46.2	37.9	44.3
Del.	39.1	26.9	35.3	40.1	37.2
Md.	42.5	31.9	39.3	29.9	36.7
Va.	40.4	36.0	39.1	27.5	34.2
W. Va.	41.3	32.7	38.4	25.7	35.8
N. C.	38.3	34.4	36.9	25.3	29.3
S. C.	40.5	32.8	38.2	27.6	32.2
Ga.	37.5	32.5	36.1	23.8	30.2
Fla.	37.6	32.1	36.0	30.6	32.3
Ky.	36.2	32.0	35.0	25.3	32.0
Tenn.	35.2	30.9	34.2	23.0	30.6
Ala.	33.0	31.2	32.6	27.4	31.0
Miss.	35.6	31.8	34.5	34.6	34.6
Ark.	41.0	34.3	39.0	37.0	37.9
La.	34.5	34.5	34.5	38.8	36.2
Okla.	49.3	36.8	45.2	30.9	41.0
Tex.	43.5	32.2	40.4	29.7	35.4
Mont.	56.2	42.3	50.8	48.4	49.9
Idaho	52.5	46.4	50.2	35.2	46.5
Wyo.	59.5	48.3	55.8	42.0	49.6
Colo.	55.7	39.7	50.1	42.8	47.8
N. Mex.	53.0	41.6	49.5	38.0	44.3
Ariz.	51.3	39.6	48.6	52.7	51.2
Utah	45.2	32.1	39.7	28.1	36.0
Nev.	48.9	30.3	41.5	49.5	44.6
Wash.	52.5	38.4	48.6	39.6	43.1
Oreg.	44.5	36.4	41.8	38.4	40.5
Calif.	46.7	44.8	46.2	43.1	43.7
U. S.	45.5	34.7	42.0	34.3	39.3

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

WEATHER FAVORABLE FOR GOOD GROWTH AND HARVEST

Showers interrupted combining of small grain crops from the central and northern Great Plains to New York. Harvest was active and gained momentum in the Northwestern States under hot, dry weather.

Rains throughout the Corn Belt greatly benefited the rapidly growing corn crop, especially in the northern portions where topsoils were getting dry. Topsoil moisture supplies are rated mostly adequate to surplus from Nebraska to Ohio.

Cotton made good growth and development both in the South and West. Despite late planting in the Delta States, the crop is looking good and fruiting well. Insect counts were high in some areas, light in others as farmers maintained control measures. Harvesting in Texas was in the very early stages.

Rains gave the North Central Region soybean crop a boost. Beans made rapid growth as blooming and setting of pods increased. Most acreage is in good condition. In the South Atlantic States, the crop was in mostly good condition and developing normally. In the Delta States, beans were late but growing well and looking good.

Showers and high humidity slowed hay making in the Corn Belt. Sorghum grain harvest made excellent progress in south Texas. In North Carolina, flue-cured tobacco harvest had started and opening day market prices set a record high. Peach harvest started in New York and apple and peach supplies are increasing in Pennsylvania. Peach, apple, and apricot picking were underway in Washington and Oregon. Fruit and vegetable harvest continued in California and vegetables were being harvested in most northern producing areas of the country.

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 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.