



JUN 18 1974

Release:
June 10, 1974
3:00 P.M. ET

NUMBER OF WORKERS DOWN 2 PERCENT

The Nation's farm labor force numbered 4,636,000 during the survey week of May 19-25, 1974, down 2 percent from a year earlier. Farm operators and unpaid family workers totaled 3,368,300, while hired workers totaled 1,267,700.

Farm workers averaged 40.2 hours during the May week compared with 40.4 hours during April, and 41.9 hours in May 1973. Farm operators worked 46.8 hours, other unpaid family members 32.8, and hired workers 35.2 hours.

Rain Hinders Fieldwork

Rains late in the survey week benefited winter wheat in the Great Plains but halted the harvest getting underway in southwest Oklahoma. Wet weather in North Dakota continued to keep farmers in the northeastern part of the State from planting spring wheat.

Rain soaked soils limited corn planting in most of the Corn Belt to less than 2 days during the week of May 19-25 and overall planting progress stood about the same as a year earlier. Ponds of water standing in many recently planted Corn Belt fields will necessitate spot replanting.

Cotton planting made good progress in most areas but rain interrupted fieldwork. Planting neared completion in the South except in Texas, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. Some replanting will be required due to local flooding. In the West, cotton is nearly all planted except in northern New Mexico. The California crop is developing normally while the Arizona crop is rated good with 50 percent of the Yuma area cotton fully squared. Continued on page 4.

Special in This Issue

Quarterly Probability Farm Labor Survey Farm Wage Rates,
by States, Standard Federal Regions & United States
page 5-7.

Workers on Farms: May 1974

State	May 1972			May 1973			May 1974		
	week of 21-27			week of 20-26			week of 19-25		
	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired	Total	Family	Hired
	Thousands								
Alabama	105	83	22	103	81	22	88	71	17
Arizona	35	6.0	29	32	6.0	26	33	7.0	26
Arkansas	162	87	75	154	82	72	131	70	61
Calif.	323	73	250	316	66	250	313	73	240
Colo.	61	41	20	59	41	18	58	39	19
Conn.	14.7	7.6	7.1	13.7	7.3	6.4	13.7	7.3	6.4
Delaware	7.0	4.0	3.0	8.0	5.0	3.0	8.0	5.0	3.0
Florida	118	33	85	123	36	87	123	36	87
Georgia	98	79	19	95	77	18	103	80	23
Idaho	47	35	12	48	34	14	45	31	14
Illinois	203	164	39	197	161	36	168	139	29
Indiana	180	162	18	172	156	16	155	144	11
Iowa	246	216	30	239	206	33	221	186	35
Kansas	119	103	16	122	104	18	116	100	16
Kentucky	167	130	37	134	108	26	166	126	40
Louisiana	81	51	30	71	45	26	68	44	24
Maine	16.3	13	3.3	15.9	12	3.9	16	13	3.0
Maryland	34	26	8.0	35	26	9.0	38	26	12
Mass.	16.6	9.8	6.8	17.2	10	7.2	16.6	9.9	6.7
Mich.	155	131	24	141	116	25	135	112	23
Minn.	196	171	25	200	177	23	203	176	27
Miss.	140	92	48	132	90	42	128	86	42
Mo.	202	163	39	194	163	31	191	165	26
Mont.	44	28	16	44	29	15	43	28	15
Nebr.	132	110	22	124	102	22	131	110	21
Nev.	5.0	2.8	2.2	5.0	2.8	2.2	4.8	2.6	2.2
N. H.	4.6	3.6	1.0	4.5	3.5	1.0	4.6	3.6	1.0
N. Jersey	22	9.0	13	20	9.0	11	19	9.0	10
N. Mex.	19	12	7.0	22	15	7.0	21	14	7.0
N. Y.	92	68	24	94	68	26	98	68	30
N. C.	200	162	38	194	153	41	175	138	37
N. Dak.	70	56	14	69	55	14	68	53	15
Ohio	189	162	27	171	149	22	170	149	21
Okla.	134	114	20	131	112	19	121	103	18
Oreg.	58	42	16	58	39	19	52	36	16
Penn.	116	98	18	117	100	17	132	112	20
R. I.	1.6	.9	.7	1.6	1.0	.6	1.5	.9	.6
S. C.	70	54	16	68	48	20	65	43	22
S. Dak.	63	58	5.0	67	61	6.0	71	62	9.0
Tenn.	161	127	34	148	118	30	162	129	33
Texas	294	197	97	282	191	91	279	186	93
Utah	22	16	6.0	23	17	6.0	23	18	5.0
Vt.	13.8	11	2.8	13	9.9	3.1	12.8	10	2.8
Va.	118	90	28	104	82	22	116	90	26
Wash.	89	55	34	87	52	35	86	50	36
W. Va.	39	32	7.0	35	30	5.0	36	31	5.0
Wisc.	196	175	21	190	170	20	190	165	25
Wyoming	15	10	5.0	16	11	5.0	17	11	6.0
U. S.	4,894.6	3,573.7	1,320.9	4,709.9	3,437.5	1,272.4	4,636.0	3,368.3	1,267.7

Farm Work: Weekly hours worked per worker
Average for reporting farms, week of **May 19-25, 1974**

State	Farm operators	Other family members 1/	All family 1/	Hired workers	All workers 1/
Hours					
Ala.	39.0	30.4	37.0	30.1	34.9
Ariz.	52.2	32.3	47.3	50.4	49.1
Ark.	38.1	34.5	37.3	36.0	36.6
Calif.	46.2	41.8	45.2	38.7	39.9
Colo.	54.0	37.3	48.8	38.5	46.2
Conn.	59.5	39.0	52.2	40.3	47.8
Del.	46.1	37.2	42.9	31.3	38.9
Fla.	37.2	20.7	32.8	34.9	34.2
Ga.	41.5	29.4	37.6	31.6	35.4
Idaho	54.3	36.0	48.6	37.9	44.9
Ill.	42.6	35.6	40.9	35.8	39.9
Ind.	42.9	29.9	39.4	31.1	37.9
Iowa	56.3	33.7	49.2	28.3	43.8
Kans.	46.8	36.8	43.9	35.7	42.2
Ky.	41.0	28.6	37.1	24.7	32.2
La.	37.5	32.6	36.4	35.7	36.1
Maine	61.9	30.7	49.8	32.5	43.9
Md.	49.8	37.4	45.3	31.3	41.3
Mass.	63.3	39.6	54.4	35.4	45.1
Mich.	52.7	37.6	47.9	37.5	45.4
Minn.	60.1	32.2	50.5	34.3	47.4
Miss.	34.6	33.5	34.3	34.2	34.3
Mo.	42.2	30.3	38.9	31.6	37.3
Mont.	53.6	39.3	49.0	41.4	46.7
Nebr.	59.3	34.4	49.0	42.2	47.7
Nev.	47.8	34.1	43.8	41.4	43.0
N. H.	61.2	29.4	51.5	33.4	43.8
N. J.	41.4	30.8	38.9	35.6	37.9
N. Mex.	47.6	35.0	44.0	40.3	42.7
N. Y.	59.3	30.6	48.8	36.7	44.4
N. C.	40.3	30.3	37.2	28.8	33.9
N. Dak.	54.2	39.7	48.9	41.6	47.4
Ohio	50.2	33.4	45.0	32.8	42.4
Okla.	44.6	32.8	41.0	33.5	39.4
Oreg.	38.1	30.4	36.0	31.3	34.7
Pa.	55.0	32.5	47.3	35.0	44.5
R. I.	59.8	33.8	54.0	32.6	47.4
S. C.	37.5	30.6	35.9	27.9	32.1
S. Dak.	58.8	39.1	52.0	36.4	49.2
Tenn.	39.7	29.9	36.7	21.2	31.8
Texas	43.3	33.8	40.9	38.0	39.7
Utah	47.9	24.8	38.3	26.7	35.3
Vt.	66.0	35.6	54.6	42.3	49.8
Va.	46.3	32.6	41.7	29.1	36.6
Wash.	48.7	29.3	43.3	39.1	41.3
W. Va.	39.8	32.1	37.6	23.1	34.9
Wis.	60.9	33.4	50.0	37.6	47.3
Wyo.	60.2	44.4	53.9	42.9	50.9
U. S.	46.8	32.8	42.4	35.2	40.2

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

Comments continued from page 1.

Vegetable planting and transplanting stayed on schedule in the North Atlantic States. Spring vegetable harvesting continued in the mid-Atlantic States while harvesting increased in Southern States. In Florida watermelon movement increased sharply and tomatoes continued in full volume. Moderate supplies of tomatoes are available in extreme South Texas and harvest started in East Texas. In California, harvesting increased for lettuce at Salinas and fresh market tomatoes at Imperial and San Diego.

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.

Farm employment and indexes, May 1974, with comparisons, United States

Item	: Annual : average : 1972	: Annual : average : 1973	: May : 21 - 27, : 1972	: May : 20 - 26, : 1973	: May : 19 - 25, : 1974
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/ (Thousands)	:	:	:	:	:
Total	4,373.4	4,336.7	4,894.6	4,709.9	4,636.0
Family labor	3,227.7	3,169.0	3,573.7	3,437.5	3,368.3
Hired labor	1,145.7	1,167.7	1,320.9	1,272.4	1,267.7
INDEXES 2/ (1910-14=100)	:	:	:	:	:
Total	32	32	34	32	32
Family labor	32	31	32	31	31
Hired labor	34	34	37	35	35
(1967=100)	:	:	:	:	:
Total	89	89	91	88	88
Family labor	89	86	89	86	86
Hired labor	89	89	97	92	92

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.

-----oOo-----

QUARTERLY PROBABILITY SURVEY OF FARM WAGE RATES

The selected wage rate items presented in this publication were derived from a probability farm labor survey conducted in April by the Statistical Reporting Service. This continues the series of published farm wage rates from quarterly probability surveys which started in April 1970. These data supplement but so not replace the farm wage rate series regularly published in Farm Labor.

The major differences between the two series follow: (1) The regular series measures the prevailing wage as of April 1, while the new probability series measures wage rates for the week including April 12; (2) The regular series is a nonprobability sample from about 22,000 farm operators that report the prevailing wages in their localities by various hiring arrangements. The probability survey measures the actual payrolls of selected farms which are then classified by hiring arrangements and type of work performed; (3) The regular series does not include wages for piece-rate workers while the probability survey does.

The inputs for making the following wage rates computations were supplied by employers of farm labor in the 48 contiguous States. The sample was expanded in January to provide wage rates for all States except those in Region I, each of the Standard Federal Regions, and the United States. The wage rates for April 1, 1974 were published on page 4 of the April issue of Farm Labor. Comparisons can be made between these wage rates based on the nonprobability survey and the ones shown on page 6 and 7 of this release based on the probability survey. However, in making these comparisons, the differences in the two surveys as described above must be kept in mind.

Farm Wage Rates April 1973 and 1974, United States

Item	April 8-14, 1973	April 7-13, 1974
	Dollars per hour	
Farm Wage Rates		
All Hired Farm Workers	2.16	2.21
Workers Paid by Piece-Rate	2.81	2.65
Workers Paid by other than piece rate	2.12	2.19
Workers Paid by Hour only	2.15	2.21
Workers Receiving Cash Wages only	2.35	2.46
Workers Paid by hour Receiving Cash Wages only	2.22	2.29
Type of Work Performed:		
Field and Livestock workers	2.01	2.04
Packinghouse workers	2.29	2.35
Machine Operators	2.13	2.18
Maintenance and Bookkeeping workers	2.50	2.71
Supervisors	3.50	3.86
Other Agricultural workers	2.38	2.34

Farm Wage Rates by Method of Pay, April 7-13, 1974 by States,
Standard Federal regions and United States

State and region	Farm wage rates method of pay					
	All	By				
	hired farm workers	piece-rate	other than piece rate	hour only	cash wages only	hour receiving cash wages only
D o l l a r p e r h o u r						
Region I <u>1</u> /	2.21	2.41	2.20	2.16	2.44	2.16
New Jersey	2.40	<u>2</u> /	2.40	2.27	2.35	2.40
New York	2.42	<u>2</u> /	2.44	2.59	2.62	2.48
Region II	2.42	<u>2</u> /	2.43	2.52	2.57	2.47
Delaware	2.46	<u>2</u> /	2.46	2.22	2.56	2.33
Maryland	2.10	2.03	2.10	2.13	2.49	2.10
Pennsylvania	2.20	--	2.20	2.28	2.53	2.30
Virginia	1.94	<u>2</u> /	1.94	1.99	2.19	2.13
West Virginia	1.46	<u>2</u> /	1.44	1.73	1.68	1.71
Region III	2.09	2.03	2.09	2.15	2.39	2.20
Alabama	1.75	1.87	1.75	1.70	1.90	1.88
Florida	2.62	3.07	2.50	2.28	2.64	2.31
Georgia	1.88	<u>2</u> /	1.88	1.92	2.15	2.02
Kentucky	1.68	<u>2</u> /	1.68	1.62	1.91	1.74
Mississippi	1.87	--	1.87	1.70	2.10	1.84
North Carolina	1.83	<u>2</u> /	1.83	1.80	2.13	1.95
South Carolina	1.75	1.81	1.75	1.64	1.81	1.68
Tennessee	1.80	<u>2</u> /	1.78	1.82	1.84	1.95
Region IV	2.03	2.92	1.97	1.91	2.26	2.07
Illinois	2.37	<u>2</u> /	2.31	2.40	2.68	2.52
Indiana	2.14	<u>2</u> /	2.14	2.16	2.73	2.56
Michigan	2.48	<u>2</u> /	2.47	2.50	2.56	2.57
Minnesota	1.50	<u>2</u> /	1.49	2.16	2.16	2.09
Ohio	2.34	<u>2</u> /	2.33	2.24	2.40	2.24
Wisconsin	2.14	<u>2</u> /	2.14	2.32	<u>2</u> /	2.45
Region V	2.10	<u>2</u> /	2.09	2.32	2.72	2.42
Arkansas	2.08	<u>2</u> /	2.08	1.91	2.06	2.11
Louisiana	1.86	<u>2</u> /	1.88	1.90	1.97	1.98
New Mexico	1.74	<u>2</u> /	1.74	<u>2</u> /	<u>2</u> /	<u>2</u> /
Oklahoma	1.94	<u>2</u> /	1.94	1.92	1.98	1.92
Texas	2.09	<u>2</u> /	2.06	1.94	2.20	2.01
Region VI	2.00	2.27	1.99	1.88	2.05	1.94
Iowa	2.14	<u>2</u> /	2.21	2.27	2.53	2.42
Kansas	2.28	<u>2</u> /	2.28	2.15	2.34	2.42
Missouri	1.81	<u>2</u> /	1.81	1.93	2.21	2.02
Nebraska	2.29	--	2.29	2.30	2.50	2.19
Region VII	2.09	<u>2</u> /	2.11	2.15	2.37	2.23
Colorado	2.16	<u>2</u> /	2.16	2.27	2.47	2.36
Montana	1.84	<u>2</u> /	1.84	2.25	<u>2</u> /	2.28
North Dakota	2.02	--	2.02	2.27	2.62	2.79
South Dakota	1.87	<u>2</u> /	1.87	1.94	<u>2</u> /	2.01
Utah	2.37	<u>2</u> /	2.40	2.36	2.43	2.38
Wyoming	1.86	--	1.86	2.16	2.70	2.05
Region VIII	1.98	1.99	1.98	2.22	2.27	2.32
Arizona	2.50	2.15	2.56	2.66	2.38	2.31
California	2.67	2.93	2.65	2.51	2.68	2.51
Nevada	1.84	--	1.84	2.58	2.53	2.58
Region IX	2.64	2.74	2.63	2.52	2.65	2.50
Idaho	2.22	<u>2</u> /	2.23	2.27	2.38	2.35
Oregon	2.64	<u>2</u> /	2.63	2.46	2.85	2.50
Washington	2.53	2.91	2.51	2.39	2.57	2.38
Region X	2.47	2.79	2.46	2.38	2.58	2.40
United States	2.21	2.65	2.19	2.21	2.46	2.29

1/ Region I: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont.

2/ Insufficient data for this category - data included in all hired farm workers and in United States wage rates.

Farm Wage Rates by Type of Work, April 7-13, 1974 by States,
Standard Federal regions and United States

State and Region	Farm Wage Rates - Type of work performed					Supervisors
	Field and livestock workers	Packing- house workers	Machine operators	Maintenance & Bookkeeping workers		
	Dollars per hour					
Region I ^{1/}	2.06	2.16	2.67	2.77		3.45
New Jersey	2.12	2.24	<u>2/</u>	2.26		4.46
New York	2.23	2.18	<u>2/</u>	2.99		4.17
Region II	2.21	2.19	<u>2/</u>	2.72		4.23
Delaware	2.24	<u>2/</u>	2.24	<u>2/</u>		3.70
Maryland	2.00	<u>2/</u>	1.83	<u>2/</u>		3.03
Pennsylvania	1.94	2.62	2.76	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
Virginia	1.80	1.98	1.95	<u>2/</u>		3.09
West Virginia	1.35	<u>2/</u>	2.04	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
Region III	1.89	2.48	2.02	2.80		4.19
Alabama	1.65	1.64	2.19	<u>2/</u>		2.83
Florida	2.45	2.27	2.63	3.05		4.33
Georgia	1.76	<u>2/</u>	1.66	2.92		3.41
Kentucky	1.56	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
Mississippi	1.69	<u>2/</u>	1.75	2.17		3.86
North Carolina	1.73	1.74	1.76	2.48		3.53
South Carolina	1.58	<u>2/</u>	1.85	<u>2/</u>		3.54
Tennessee	1.75	<u>2/</u>	1.75	2.47		3.57
Region IV	1.91	2.11	1.88	2.61		3.90
Illinois	2.31	2.54	2.23	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
Indiana	1.93	1.89	2.45	3.14		<u>2/</u>
Michigan	2.38	2.22	3.13	2.86		<u>2/</u>
Minnesota	1.42	2.16	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
Ohio	2.13	2.76	2.62	2.91		<u>2/</u>
Wisconsin	1.68	2.14	3.01	2.49		<u>2/</u>
Region V	1.85	2.29	2.65	2.65		4.67
Arkansas	2.16	<u>2/</u>	1.98	2.46		<u>2/</u>
Louisiana	1.67	<u>2/</u>	1.89	2.49		3.14
New Mexico	1.42	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
Oklahoma	1.83	<u>2/</u>	2.13	2.45		<u>2/</u>
Texas	2.03	1.90	2.01	2.32		3.29
Region VI	1.89	2.04	1.99	2.06		3.18
Iowa	2.07	<u>2/</u>	1.97	3.14		<u>2/</u>
Kansas	2.22	<u>2/</u>	2.47	2.12		3.07
Missouri	1.72	<u>2/</u>	2.06	2.75		<u>2/</u>
Nebraska	2.18	<u>2/</u>	2.32	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
Region VII	2.00	2.44	2.22	2.60		3.64
Colorado	1.97	<u>2/</u>	2.25	2.40		3.18
Montana	1.86	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
North Dakota	1.85	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
South Dakota	1.82	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
Utah	2.07	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>		3.70
Wyoming	1.71	--	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>		3.18
Region VIII	1.87	2.58	2.20	1.97		2.76
Arizona	2.40	2.07	2.35	2.96		3.20
California	2.48	2.76	2.66	3.20		4.17
Nevada	1.75	--	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>		<u>2/</u>
Region IX	2.45	2.75	2.61	3.15		4.04
Idaho	2.09	2.38	2.93	2.65		3.14
Oregon	2.43	<u>2/</u>	2.87	3.23		3.66
Washington	2.33	2.56	2.65	3.14		4.26
Region X	2.28	2.51	2.76	3.05		4.01
United States	2.04	2.35	2.18	2.71		3.86

^{1/} Region I: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont.

^{2/} Insufficient data for this category - data included in all hired farm workers and in United States wage rates.