farm labor



Release: January 14, 1975 3:00 P.M. ET

TOTAL FARM WORKERS ABOUT SAME AS YEAR AGO

The agricultural work force in the United States totaled 3,430,300 workers during the week of December 22-28, 1974, virtually the same as last year. There were 2,665,400 farm operators and unpaid family workers and 764,900 hired farm workers. This compares to 2,683,500 family and 734,200 hired workers last December. The 1974 annual average of 4,294,400 workers was 1 percent smaller than 1973.

Farm workers averaged 32.6 hours during the survey week which included Christmas Day. The November 1974 average was 37.4 hours while the December 1973 average was 33.3 hours. Farm operators average 33.3 hours, unpaid family workers 32.1 hours, and hired workers 33.0 hours during the current survey week.

WAGE RATES CONTINUE TO INCREASE

Farm wage rates on January 1, 1975 were up 9 percent from last year and 5 percent higher than in October 1974. The rate per hour without board or room was \$2.39, compared to \$2.17 a year ago. Other methods of pay, such as monthly, weekly, and daily, were up similarly. For 1974, the per hour without room or board averaged \$2.24, up 12 percent from the \$2.00 average for 1973.

SPECIAL NOTICE

This is the final issue of the monthly Farm Labor Report. In the future, Farm Labor estimates will be issued quarterly with publication scheduled for February, May, August, and November. The report to be issued on February 28, 1975 will include farm labor and wage rate estimates for January 1975 as well as revisions of 1974 data on farm employment and wage rates, and annual averages for 1974.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE

CROP REPORTING BOARD

La 1 (1-75)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

FARM EMPLOYMENT AND INDEXES, DECEMBER 1974, WITH COMPARISONS, UNITED STATES

		ANDITAT		ANTATTAT		DECEMBED		DECEMBED		DECEMBED
	:	ANNUAL	:	ANNUAL	:	DECEMBER	:	DECEMBER	:	DECEMBER
ITEM	:	AVERAGE	:	AVERAGE	:	24-30,	:	23-29,	:	22-28,
	:	1973	:	1974	:	1972	:	1973	:	1974
FARM EMPLOYMENT 1/	:									
(THOUSANDS)	:									
TOTAL	:	4,336.7		4,294.4		3,357.8		3,417.7		3,430.3
FAMILY LABOR	:	3,169.0		3,116.0		2,691.2		2,683.5		2,665.4
HIRED LABOR	:	1,167.7		1,178.4		666.6		734.2		764.9
INDEXES 2/	:									
(1910-14=100)	:									
TOTAL	:	32		32		33		34		34
FAMILY LABOR	:	31		31		32		32		32
HIRED LABOR	:	34		35		38		42		44
(1967=100)	:									
TOTAL	:	89		89		91		94		95
FAMILY LABOR	:	86		86		89		89		89
HIRED LABOR	:	89		92		100		111		116
	:									

^{1/} EMPLOYMENT DURING THE LAST FULL CALENDAR WEEK ENDING AT LEAST ONE DAY BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH.

FARM WAGE RATES AND INDEXES, JANUARY 1, 1975, UNITED STATES

ITEM	:	ANNUAL : AVERAGE : 1974 :	JANUARY 1, : 1973	JANUARY 1, : 1974 :	JANUARY 1, 1975
FARM WAGE RATES	:				
COMPOSITE RATE PER HOUR 1/	:\$	1.92	1.77	1.94	2.11
PER MONTH WITH HOUSE	:	423	372	401	431
PER MONTH WITH BOARD AND ROOM	:	334	294	323	346
PER WEEK WITH BOARD AND ROOM	:	80.50	68.75	75.75	82.00
PER WEEK WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM	:	102.75	85.50	96.50	103.00
PER DAY WITH HOUSE	:	13.60	12.10	13.40	14.50
PER DAY WITH BOARD AND ROOM	:	14.60	12.40	13.60	14.90
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM	:	16.10	13.80	15.10	16.60
PER HOUR WITH HOUSE	:	2.01	1.63	1.84	2.00
PER HOUR WITHOUT BOARD OR ROOM	:	2.24	1.98	2.17	2.39
INDEXES 2/	:				
(1910-14=100)	:	1,477	3/1,238	1,360	1,476
(1967=100)	:	174	146	161	174

^{1/} WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF ALL RATES ON A PER HOUR BASIS. COMPOSITE RATE DOES NOT IN-CLUDE PIECE RATE WORKERS.

^{2/} MONTHLY INDEXES ARE ADJUSTED FOR SEASONAL VARIATION.

^{2/} INDEXES ARE ADJUSTED FOR SEASONAL VARIATION.
3/ REVISED.

STATE :	: JANUARY THROUGH E: DECEMBER 1972				ARY THROUGH	:	JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER 1974			
	TOTAL :	FAMILY :	HIRED :	TOTAL :	FAMILY :	HIRED :	TOTAL :	FAMILY :	HIRED	
					THOUSANDS -		7.7	60	15	
ALA :		65	17	83	66	17	77	62	15	
ARIZ :	36	6.0	30	32	6.0	26	32	6.0	26	
ARK :	131	79	52	126	75	51	117	70	47	
CALIF :	281	70	211	280	65	215	293	67	226	
COLO	53	34	19	57	36	21	54	35	19	
0020										
CONN	13.7	7.2	6.5	13.3	6.9	6.4	13.5	6.9	6.6	
DEL	7.0	4.0	3.0	6.0	4.0	2.0	6.0	4.0	2.0	
FLA	114	35	79	115	35	80	112	35	77	
	96	78	18	100	78	22	100	77	23	
GA :	45	33	12	44	32	12	41	29	12	
IDAHO	45	33	12	44	32	12	72	2)		
	161	136	25	162	135	27	158	131	27	
ILL	161	129	13	143	130	13	144	130	14	
IND :	142								31	
IOWA :	208	181	27	201	171	30	199	168		
KANS	108	94	14	111	95	16	109	93	16	
KY :	153	125	28	148	118	30	153	119	34	
:	70	46	27	68	43	25	61	40	21	
LA :	73								6.5	
MAINE	17.6	12	5.6	18.1	12	6.1	18.5	12 23		
MD :	31	24	7.0	32	24	8.0	32		9.0	
MASS :	16.6	9.4	7.2	17.1	9.3	7.8	16.4	9.3	7.1	
MICH :	125	101	24	121	98	23	121	98	23	
:			00	100	150	2.4	104	150	26	
MINN :	171	151	20	183	159	24	184	158		
MISS :	113	85	28	109	81	28	106	77	29	
MO :	183	154	29	187	157	30	194	165	29	
MONT :	41	29	12	39	27	12	38	25	13	
, NEBR :	112	95	17	110	93	17	112	93	19	
:								0.5		
NEV :	4.8	2.5	2.3	4.7	2.5	2.2	4.8	2.5	2.3	
· NH	5.0	3.5	1.5	4.9	3.4	1.5	4.8	3.4	1.4	
. N J	: 20	9.0	11	19	9.0	10	18	9.0	9.0	
N MEX	20	12	8.0	22	14	8.0	20	13	7.0	
N Y	95	70	25	99	70	29	99	70	29	
:	;									
, NC :	210	158	52	197	143	54	185	130	55	
N DAK	: 59	49	10	58	48	10	60	49	11	
OHIO :	148	130	18	155	136	19	155	136	19	
· OKLA	125	107	18	120	103	17	118	100	18	
OREG	57	38	19	58	36	22	54	34	20	
PA	110	94	16	116	97	19	122	101	21	
RI	1.6	.9	.7	1.5	.9	.6	1.5	.9	.6	
	72	54	18	64	46	18	61	41	20	
S DAK		54	7.0	65	57	8.0	65	56	9.0	
TENN ·	153	125	28	147	121	26	147	121	26	
	. 155	223	20	£ T/						
TEX	275	187	88	264	184	80	250	176	74	
UTAH	20	15	5.0	21	16	5.0	20	15	5.0	
VT	13.1	10.2	2.9	13.1	10	3.1	12.9	10	2.9	
	107	79	28	103	77	26	102	76	26	
VA	: 75	48	26 27	75	45	30	74	43	31	
WASH	. />	40	21	15	4)	30	/4	43	31	
W VA	34	30	4.0	36	31	5.0	35	31	4.0	
	: 179	159	20	173	153	20	179	155	24	
WIS		139	5 . 0	173	10	5.0	179	10	5.0	
WYO	: 15 ·	10	3.0	13	10	3.0	1.7	10	٥.0	
US	4,373.4	3,227.7	1,145.7	4,336.7	3,169.0	1,167.7	4,294.4	3,116.0	1,178.4	
0 3	. -, 5/5.4	3,221.1	1,147.7	- ,550.7	3,109.0	1,10/./	7,277.4	3,110.0	1,170.7	

^{1/} PERSONS EMPLOYED DURING THE LAST FULL CALENDAR WEEK ENDING AT LEAST ONE DAY BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH.

WORKERS ON FARMS: DECEMBER 1974

STATE		MBER 1972 OF 24-30	:		MBER 1973 C OF 23-29	:				
	: TOTAL :	FAMILY :	HIRED :		FAMILY :	HIRED :	TOTAL	FAMILY :	HIRED	
	: : 66	55	11	70	58	12	60	51	9.0	
ALA	: 40	6.0	34	37	7.0	30	36	5.0	31	
ARIZ	: 40	65	20	72	59	13	69	54	15	
ARK		59	170	241	61	180	246	61	185	
	: 229	39 30	8.0	41	33	8.0	42	33	9.0	
COLO	: 38 :	30	8.0	41	33	0.0	42	33	9.0	
ONN	: 9.4	6.4	3.0	9.1	5.5	3.6	9.8	5.3	4.5	
EL	: 4.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	3.0	1.0	4.0	3.0	1.0	
LA	: 121	29	92	125	32	93	120	29	91	
SA	: 74	62	12	81	64	17	86	64	22	
	: 30 :	25	5.0	30	25	5.0	31	24	7.0	
LL	: 136	122	14	135	120	15	135	118	17	
IND :	: 127	119	8.0	117	111	6.0	125	117	8.0	
AWO	: 163	151	12	152	137	15	157	140	17	
(ANS	: 86	80	6.0	88	81	7.0	89	81	8.0	
Y :	: 121	116	5.0	123	112	11	132	116	16	
LA	: : 44	37	7.0	46	36	10	40	33	7.0	
	: 13.6	11	2.6	13.8	10	3.8	12.4	9.6	2.8	
ID	: 22	19	3.0	24	19	5.0	25	19	6.0	
	: 14.6	9.0	5.6	12.9	7.3	5.6	13.1	7.3	5.8	
	: 83	72	11	91	79	12	92	78	14	
	: : 123	115	8.0	140	131	9.0	134	123	11	
	: 63	56	7.0	66	56	10	56	48	8.0	
	: 154'	142	12	168	154	14	183	163	20	
	: 29	24	5.0	26	19	7.0	28	20	8.0	
	91	82	9.0	89	80	9.0	95	85	10	
EV	: : 3.5	1.7	1.8	3.8	2.1	1.7	3.8	2.3	1.5	
H :	4.4	3.3	1.1	4.2	3.1	1.1	4.0	3.0	1.0	
J	12	8.0	4.0	13	8.0	5.0	12	8.0	4.0	
MEX		12	5.0	17	12	5.0	15	12	3.0	
	80	63	17	86	64	22	87	62	25	
C :	: : 129	113	16	119	101	18	120	95	25	
		33	3.0	41	37	4.0	39	35	4.0	
DAK : HIO :		108	7.0	132	121	11	129	117	12	
KLA		96	7.0	101	94	7.0	105	95	10	
REG :		34	7.0	35	30	5.0	34	28	6.0	
	:	~~	10	0.7	00	17	100	90	10	
Α :	83	73	10	93	80	13	108	89 .9	19 .6	
I :		.8	.5	1.4	.9	.5	1.5	32	8.0	
C :	50	41	9.0	42	32	10	40 50	32 45	5.0	
DAK :	49	45 100	4.0	50	45 104	5.0 14	50 124	110	14	
ENN :	120	109	11	118	104	14	124	110	14	
EX :	193	148	45	221	163	58	194	153	41	
TAH :	: 14	13	1.0	15	13	2.0	14	12	2.0	
Т :	: 14	11	3.0	12.5	9.6	2.9	12.7	10	2.7	
A :	: 78	67	11	75	63	12	76	65	11	
ASH :	51	38	13	49	34	15	53	36	17	
VA :	29	26	3.0	31	28	3.0	31	29	2.0	
IS :	157	144	13	145	131	14	146	131	15	
YO :	11	8.0	3.0	11	8.0	3.0	11	8.0	3.0	
:	3,357.8	2,691.2	666.6	3,417.7	2,683.5	734.2	3,430.3	2,665.4	764.9	

FARM WORK: WEEKLY HOURS WORKED PER WORKER AVERAGE FOR REPORTING FARMS, WEEK OF DECEMBER 22-28, 1974

STATE	FARM OPERATORS	: OTHER : FAMILY	: ALL : FAMILY	HIRED WORKERS	: ALL
	: Of BRITORD	: MEMBERS 1/	: MEMBERS 1/	: HOROMO	
ALA	: : 21.9	פר ד	22.4	20. 6	22.0
	•	25.5	22.4	20.6	22.0
ARIZ	: 42.8	31.3	41.2	43.5	42.7
ARK	: 21.9	29.1	23.0	22.8	22.9
CALIF	: 40.5	41.9	40.8	34.3	35.7
COLO	: 33.9	34.2	34.0	37.5	34.5
	:	· · · · -			
CONN	: 58.0	39.6	52.2	44.6	49.5
DEL	: 27.8	29.7	28.2	29.8	28.8
FLA	37.4	29.1	35.6	41.1	38.5
GA	30.4	27.3	29.7	25.8	28.3
IDAHO					
IDANO	: 29.6	26.8	29.0	35.4	30.0
T7 7	28.9	70 7	20.2	77.0	20. 0
ILL		30.3	29.2	33.0	29.8
IND	: 34.1	26.0	32.3	26.7	31.4
IOWA	: 37.0	30.2	35.3	27.9	34.0
KANS	33.5	35.6	33.9	30.1	33.2
KY	28.8	28.8	28.8	24.2	27.3
	:			- / / -	20
LA	23.5	30.7	24.6	25.9	25.0
MAINE	55.7	31.4	47.6	34.3	42.8
MD	: 37.8	29.1	35.5	32.3	34.8
MASS	: 56.5	35.7	49.1	37.0	43.8
MICH	: 35.5	32.0	34.6	36.2	35.0
	:				
MINN	: 36.7	28.8	34.4	29.1	33.8
MISS	: 21.4	22.5	21.6	22.0	21.8
MÓ	. 34.2	28.3	33.0	29.3	32.3
MONT	34.1	29.9	32.9	38.4	34.3
NEBR					
MEDI	: 38.3	31.2	36.4	36.0	3 6. 3
NEV	: 30.7	17.1	27.1	29.3	27.7
N H	: 56.9	32.0	50.7	38.1	45.7
N J	: 30.5	27.9	30.0	36.3	31.3
N MEX	: 27.8	27.1	27.6	31.6	28.6
N Y	: 49.2	32.7	44.2	39.1	42.4
	:				
N C	: 26.1	27.1	26.3	25.4	26.0
n dak	: 28.5	30.2	28.9	31.6	29.2
OHIO	33.2	32.9	33.1	33.3	33.1
OKLA	37.8	28.8	35.1	31.2	
OREG	: 27.3				34.3
OKEG	: 27.3	27.2	27.3	30.0	27.9
D.A.	:	70 7	42.0	74.4	40 7
PA	: 46.2	32.7	42.0	34.4	40.3
RI	: 61.0	34.0	58.5	34.5	45.1
S C	: 28.9	17.2	25.6	25.0	25.4
S DAK	: 35.0	28.3	33.3	26.9	32.4
TENN	27.0	26.9	27.0	23.5	26.3
	•	•			-0.0
TEX	33.4	27.4	32.0	28.7	31.1
UTAH	29.7	23.2	27.9	22.8	27.1
VT	61.7	33.6	51.5		
				45.8	49.5
VA	: 33.0	32.7	33.0	30.2	32.1
WASH	: 31.3	26.6	30.2	27.0	29.0
	:				
W VA	: 33.7	27.9	32.1	29.5	31.8
WIS	: 50.9	29.7	42.1	31.6	40.3
WYO	: 38.1	41.4	39.0	34.7	37.8
	:				
US	: 33,3	29.2	32.1	33.0	32.6
0.5	. 22.3	23.2	32.1	55.0	34.0

^{1/} INCLUDES AS "OTHER FAMILY" ONLY THOSE FARM HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS WORKING 15 HOURS OR MORE PER WEEK WITHOUT RECEIVING CASH WAGES.

	PER	MONTH	; PER	WEEK	:	PER DAY		: PER	HOUR
	:	: WITH	: WITH	: WITHOUT	:	: WITH	: WITHOUT	: :	WITHOUT
STATE	: WITH :	BOARD	: BOARD	: BOARD	: WITH	: BOARD	: BOARD	: WITH :	BOARD
	: HOUSE :	: AND	: AND	: OR		: AND	: OR	: HOUSE :	
	:	ROOM	: ROOM	: ROOM	:	: ROOM	: ROOM	: ::	
	:				DOLLA		_		
ALA	:				12.40		13.80	1.65	1.87
ARIZ	: 560	400					20.80		2.24
	:				15.80		16.70	1.86	1.94
	510	390						2.40	(2.60)
	: 476	334					19.30	2.16	2.37
	:	35 .							2.37
	: 490	350	90.00	125.00			20.50		2.40
	: 315						15.00		2.10
FLA	· 515				15.00		16.50	1.85	2.06
GA	:				12.80		14.20	1.72	1.89
	: 495	390					21.20	2.4.7.2.	2.50
	. 400 :	370					21.20		2.50
	: 460	350				16.00	19.70		2.45
IND	: 390	286				12.20	17.30		2.24
IOWA	: 505	405				18.50	21.10		2.51
	471	364				15.40	19.30		2.33
KY	:				11.30		14.30	1.64	1.98
	:								_•••
LA	:				13.30		14.80	1.69	1.85
MAINE	: 400	310	80.00	115.00			19.00		2.20
MD	: 315	240	72.00	95.00			15.00		2.10
MASS	: 490	350	95.00	135.00			21.50		2.40
MICH	: 505	373	100.00	129.00			19.90		2.34
	:								
MINN	: 438	341				16.00	19.50		2.34
MISS	:				13.50		15.00	1.78	1.87
MO	: 390	295				14.00	18.00		2.25
MONT	: 447	351					18.50	2.20	2.37
NEBR	: 487	382				16.10	19.60		2.42
	:	0.65					10.00		0 15
	: 480	365					19.00		2.45
	: 470	340	85.00	125.00			20.50		2.40
	: 425	315	86.00	115.00			20.00		2.45
2	: 390	300					15.60		1.90
ΝΥ	: 451	330	89.75	113.25			18.20	-	2.23
N C	· :				13.40		15.00	1.75	1.95
	472	375			25,70	16.60	20.80		2.40
	430	310				13.60	17.50		2.19
	. 				16.50		18.40	1.99	2.17
OREG	492	387						2.21	2.38
Olaba	: 4,2	307						2.22	2.50
PA	423	320	84.50	106.00			16.10		2.11
R I	490	350	95.00	130.00			21.50		2.40
S C	:				11.80		13.90	1.60	1.80
	423	333				16.20	17.70		2.11
TENN	:				11.30		14.30	1.56	1.86
:	:				•				
TEX	:				15.30		16.40	1.81	1.98
UTAH	: 410	340					19.50		2.40
VT :	: 450	340	85.00	120.00			19.00		2.40
VA:					12.80		15.40	1.79	1.96
WASH	: 535	445						2.50	2.65
17 174	. 070	100				10.00	12.00		1.82
	272	199				10.00	13.00		2.29
	: 462 : 469	350 353				14.70 	18.40 20.20	2.21	2.29
WYO :	, 4 07 !	درد					2.0 . 20	4 • 4 L	2.50
US	431	346	82.00	1 0 3.00	14.50	14.90	16.60	2.00	(2.39)
					·				

^{1/} AVERAGE RATES PAID ON CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTERS' FARMS OR IN THEIR LOCALITIES FOR ARRANGEMENTS SPECIFIED ABOVE. U. S. AVERAGES INCLUDE ESTIMATES FOR UNPUBLISHED STATE RATES OF SMALL IMPORTANCE.

0	: PER	MONTH		WEEK	:	PER DAY		PE	R HOUR
STATE	:	:WITH BOAR			: "	:WITH BOAR		WITH	: W/OUT
	: WITH	: AND	: AND	: BOARD	: WITH	: AND	: BOARD	HOUSE	: BOARD
	HOUSE	: ROOM	: ROOM	OR ROOM	: HOUSE	: ROOM	OR ROOM :	HOUSE	OR ROOM
	:					LLARS	10 10		1 (1
ALA	:				10.90		12.10	1.44	1.64
ARIZ	: 450	350			14.70		17.30	1.40	2.00
ARK	;				14.70		15.60	1.60	1.80
CALIF	: 490	370						2.26	2.36
COLO	: 429	306					17.40	1.96	2.17
CONN	: : 460	340	90.00	125.00			20.00		2.40
DEL	: 285						12.50		1.91
FLA	:				13.90		15.00	1.72	1.85
GA	: <u>-</u> -				11.50		12.50	1.49	1.72
IDAHO	: 463	371					18.90		2.19
	:								
ILL	: 430	315				14.50	18.10		2.25
IND	: 369	292	~-			11.30	15.90		2.09
IOWA	: 475	394				16.30	19.50		2.27
KANS	: 426	340				14.00	17.20		2.09
KY	:				9.90		12.30	1.44	1.76
	:								
LA	:				2/12.30		13.00	1.51	1.67
MAINE	: 390	310	75.00	110.00			19.00		2.10
MD	: 285	216	64.00	88.00			12.50		1.85
MASS	: 460	370	95.00	130.00			21.50		2.40
MICH	: <u>2</u> /445	330	96.00	120.00			18.90		2.15
	:								
MINN	: 416	324				15.40	17.90		2.12
MISS	:				11.60		12.80	1.52	1.62
MO	: 360	260				13.00	16.00		2.05
MONT	: 421	335					16.70	1.91	2.10
NEBR	: 460	342				<u>2</u> /14.90	18.50		2.14
MEN	: 450	770					40.00		
NEV	: 450	330		400.00			18.00		2.30
N H	: 430	330	85.00	120.00			19.00		2.35
N J	: 400	200	80.00	110.00		~-	19.00		2.37
N MEX	: 389	320					14.10		1.66
N Y	: 430	323	83.50	110.75			16.40		2.06
N C	:				12 (0		14 70	1 55	1 00
	: 400	770			12.60	14.40	14.30	1.55	1.80
N DAK	: 400	330				14.40	17.60		2.07
OHIO	: 375	270				12.00	15.40		2.01
OKLA	:				15.10		16.50	1.74	1.93
OREG	: 2/444	347						2.06	2.14
PA	: 398	288	71.75	06.00			16 20		1 00
RI				96.00			16.20		1.99
S C		350	95.00	130.00			20.00		2.40
	:				10.80		12.50	1.45	1.64
S DAK	: 405	318				13.50	16.90		1.90
TENN	:				10.10		12.60	1.37	1.65
TEX	:				14.00		15.00	1.69	1 06
UTAH	: 380	320							1.86
VT	: 430						15.20		2.10
VA	: 430	330	85.00	110.00	11 60		18.00	1 40	2.30
VA WASH	: 505	410			11.60		13.80	1.49	1.79
	:	410						2.30	2.35
W VA	· : 227	167				9.00	12,20		1.60
WIS	: 438	331				14.10	17.40		2.18
WYO	: 429	319				14.10	17.40	2.07	2.18
-	:	010					17.30	2.07	2,19
US	: 401	323	75.75	96.50	13.40	13.60	15.10	1.84	2,17
		020	, , , , ,	20.00	10.10	10.00	13.10	1,04	2,1/

^{1/} AVERAGE RATES PAID ON CROP AND LIVESTOCK REPORTERS' FARMS OR IN THEIR LOCALITIES FOR ARRANGEMENTS SPECIFIED ABOVE. U. S. AVERAGES INCLUDE ESTIMATES FOR UNPUBLISHED STATE RATES OF SMALL IMPORTANCE. 2/ REVISED

Farm Work Limited by Holiday and Weather

Farm activities consisted primarily of livestock care during the week of December 22-28. Precipitation as well as holiday festivities reduced most farm work to chores and machinery maintenance.

Citrus harvest was active in Florida, Texas and Arizona. Harvesting of navel oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and lemons was at seasonal levels in California. Pecan harvest was virtually complete in Georgia and Texas.

Cotton harvest progressed in Arizona and consisted of second picking in California. Wet weather in Oklahoma, Texas and the Southeast slowed harvest operations there.

Sugarcane harvest was in full swing in Florida but was slowed in Louisiana by muddy fields. Tobacco plant bed preparation was active in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and Virginia. Tobacco stripping continued in Kentucky and Maryland.

Rains slowed vegetable harvest in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Lettuce, cabbage and broccoli harvest progressed well in Arizona. Vegetable loadings in Florida were low because of the holidays.

In California, harvests of artichokes, asparagus, broccoli and cauliflower were light, while carrot, celery, lettuce, and potato harvest continued active.

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.