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Bureau of Agricultural Economics

FARM LABOR REPORT

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FARM EMPLOYMENT UP;
WAGES ALSO HIGHER

With the working force on farms swelled by large numbers of students and others not normally engaged in farm work, farm employment on June 1 was somewhat higher than on the same date last year. There were 232,000 more persons employed on farms on June 1, this year than last. Of this increase 208,000 were family workers and 24,000 hired labor. In view of the great demand for available labor by war industries, farm women; the nation's youth, and older persons are being called upon to a larger extent than usual to help plant, cultivate, and harvest the increased acreages of 1942 crops.

A total of 11,917,000 persons were employed on farms on June 1. This was 1,121,000 more than on May 1, an increase that is just about usual for this time of the year. The index of farm employment rose from 90 percent of the 1910-14 average on May 1 to 99 percent on June 1; the seasonally adjusted index of 88 was the same as a month earlier.

Farm wage rates during May increased only seasonally, and at 183 percent of the 1910-14 average on June 1, were 6 points higher than on April 1. Compared with last year, it is estimated that the June 1 wage rates were approximately 20 percent higher.

In the New England and Pacific States where the demand for labor by war industries is heavy employment on farms was smaller this June 1 than last. Seasonal work was somewhat delayed by wet weather in the West North Central States and employment on farms was practically the same as a year earlier. In the East South Central States total farm employment also was the same as last year. Elsewhere more persons were working on farms this June 1 than last, with the largest increase taking place in the West South Central States where more than the usual number of women and children were helping with cotton chopping and other farm operations.

More family workers were employed on the first of this month than a year ago the country over, but the number of hired farm workers was smaller than a year earlier in New England, West North Central, East South Central, and Pacific States. A few persons of those temporarily unemployed as a result of shortages of raw materials needed in industries manufacturing certain types of civilian goods were available to help farmers in the Middle Atlantic and East North Central States, but this was of minor importance in other areas.

Farm Work Generally on Schedule

Farm operations in some sections of the Northwest were delayed in May as a result of heavy rains, but jobs requiring the greatest amount of labor - such as harvesting truck crops and early fruits, haying, and cotton chopping - quite generally were on schedule. To accomplish this, extraordinary efforts were required of farmers and public agencies to recruit and enlist all necessary manpower. The end of the spring school term made thousands of students available in many States by June 1. Some townspeople, also, assisted in the harvests. In most sections of the country

good progress has been made in planting and cultivating the 1942 crops. Closer planning on the part of farmers has helped to make better use of the labor supply. More intensive use of available farm machinery was evident in many places.

Farm Employment Picture Shows Some Improvement

The trend in farm employment the last 5 months - particularly during May and June when the heavy work really began - indicates the possibility of expanding the working force on farms enough or more than enough to offset the withdrawals of farm hands by industries and the Selective Service. The extent to which the reserve of youth, of the aged, and of women not ordinarily available for farm work could be utilized this year was an unknown quantity in the early months of the year and gave rise to considerable apprehension as to the adequacy of the farm labor supply. Industry and the armed services have made and will continue to make large demands for available manpower, but it now appears probable that employment on farms during the remaining half of this year may not be significantly less than employment during the corresponding months of last year. So far this year, total employment on farms has averaged slightly more than during the first half of 1941. For 1942 average employment may be about the same or possibly a little lower than in 1941, when it was approximately 10,355,000. Employed workers during 1942 undoubtedly will include a much larger proportion of inexperienced help.

Farm wage rates the remainder of this year are likely to continue at a substantially higher level than a year earlier, although the increases over current averages may be not much more than seasonal; for the year they may average approximately 20 percent higher than in 1941. Because of the substantial increase in rural living costs since 1941, the wage rate level for 1942 is not likely to represent a sharp increase in real farm wage rates when measured in terms of goods bought by hired farm workers. The purchasing power of farm wages may be only 4 or 5 percent higher than in 1941. Price controls that went into effect last month may prevent a further substantial rise in the rural cost of living.

Farm Work Increasing in New England

The number of workers on farms in New England on June 1 was estimated at 259,000, an increase of 14,000 laborers over a month ago. Total farm employment, however, is now behind that of 1941 by 2 percent.

Farm work in New England is increasing seasonally, resulting in a further tightening of a farm labor situation already strained by demands of defense plants in this highly industrial area. Farm operators are meeting this drain on the supply of workers partly through the increased employment of high school boys, women and older men and partly by more efficient use of available machinery and more extensive use of family labor. Reports indicate that no material reduction in agricultural production has as yet taken place. With the establishment of the Volunteer Land Corps in New Hampshire and Vermont and the ending of the school year in these and other States, some additional workers recently have become available. Except in Maine, milk production per cow in herds of crop correspondents on June 1 was the largest on record.

Middle Atlantic Farm Work Ahead of Normal

The first peak of spring farm work in the Middle Atlantic States has been passed with no significant loss in crops or curtailment of acreage because of farm labor scarcities. In New Jersey the bulk of the strawberry, asparagus and pea crops had

been harvested by June 1, while in Pennsylvania and New York planting and early truck crop harvest was about completed by that date. The supply of workers in rural villages has been drained by non-agricultural industries and selective service requirements, but the close of harvest in many of the Southern States has resulted in a light movement of migrants into the truck crop and fruit sections of the Middle Atlantic States.

Weather conditions have been generally favorable for farming during the past month. On June 1 the number of persons working on farms in the Middle Atlantic States totaled 657,000 as compared with 619,000 on May 1. Total on June 1 last year was 634,000 and on May 1 it was 615,000. The increase this year was in the family worker group. The number of hired farm workers on June 1 this year was estimated at 226,000 - the same as a year ago.

East North Central Farm Employment Ahead of Last Year

An estimated total employment on farms throughout the East North Central States of 1,584,000 persons on June 1 was 86,000 larger than on June 1 a year ago, and an increase of 66,000 workers since May 1 of this year.

Farmers in Ohio and Indiana are working longer hours with women and children helping in the fields. The Illinois labor situation was about the same as a month earlier and farmers reported satisfactory progress with farm work. In Michigan the use of older men and high school boys eased the situation somewhat. Wisconsin farmers have held requirements for hired labor to a minimum by the use of more custom tractor work and more efficient use of both man and machines.

Farm Employment Slightly Under Year Ago in West North Central States

A somewhat late season occasioned by rains and cool weather in most of the West North Central States during May has somewhat delayed seasonal work and kept down the number of workers that might otherwise have been employed. Employment on June 1 in the West North Central States totaled 1,773,000 persons, or 9,000 fewer than a year earlier. This decrease was entirely in hired labor since the number of family workers was a few thousand greater than on June 1 last year. Corn planting was 2 to 3 weeks late in Minnesota, Missouri, South Dakota, and Nebraska as a result of heavy rains during most of May. Planting of other late spring crops also was delayed. But in Iowa, farm work has made about the normal progress with corn and soybeans planted, and a considerable part of the corn acreage cultivated. Cutting of the first crop of alfalfa was nearly completed in southern Nebraska and was under way in the central and northern parts of the State. In Kansas, field work was progressing satisfactorily and the first crop of alfalfa hay was being harvested.

Employment Continued Higher than Last Year in the South Atlantic States

The number of people employed on farms on June 1 was seasonally larger than on May 1 in the South Atlantic States and larger than a year ago by a little more than 3 percent. The increase in employment this year over last occurred

both in family and in hired farm workers. Total employment in this region on June 1 is estimated at 2,430,000, compared with 2,351,000 on June 1 last year. Reports from farmers indicated that farm work generally was progressing satisfactorily in these States, with the supply of labor on farms apparently sufficient to handle current operations. The strawberry harvest was completed in Maryland with apparently no loss of production as a result of labor shortages. Farmers in Virginia are busy setting tobacco plants, and completing the planting of peanuts, soybeans, corn, and cotton. Cutting of hay and the harvesting of small grains has begun in some parts of the State, while on the Eastern Shore potato digging and harvesting of truck crops is underway.

In the Carolinas, farm work was in full swing on June 1. Available information indicates that farmers in these two States are keeping up with their work as well as, if not better than usual. Anticipation of possible labor scarcities has led farmers in these States to push their work as much as possible to keep from getting behind. Cultivating and vegetable harvesting has been mainly by women and children in North and South Carolina. Increased use of machinery, such as grain combines, is also contributing to satisfactory progress of farm work. In Georgia, farm work is progressing satisfactorily with more women and children being employed. The school year was completed in May, making available many school children for farm work. The harvesting of grains and cotton chopping are keeping the farm labor force working long hours and using extensively all available mechanical equipment.

Employment in the East South Central States Unchanged

A decrease of 10,000 hired workers in the East South Central States on June 1 this year compared with last was just about offset by corresponding increases in the number of family workers. Total employment on farms in these States on June 1 of 2,014,000 persons was just 1,000 short of employment on June 1, 1941. Favorable weather conditions, however, have enabled farmers in these States to keep up with their work quite well. In Alabama, most of the cotton chopping has been completed, and the fields are well cultivated; in Mississippi cotton was being chopped and hoed, and oats harvested; as in the rest of the South much of the cotton chopping and hoeing work ordinarily is done by women and children.

West South Central Employment Larger Than a Year Ago

In the West South Central States the number of workers on farms June 1 is estimated at 2,152,000 workers, or 56,000 more than a year earlier. Largest increase is in number of hired workers, particularly in Texas where favorable weather at the end of May made it possible for farmers to do much work which had been delayed by prolonged rains earlier in the season. Cotton chopping neared completion in southern Texas and released workers for harvesting vegetables and wheat. The upsurge in farm activity was general throughout the West South Central States but only isolated areas encountered serious difficulty in obtaining needed workers.

Employment Up Over Last Year in Mountain States But Lower in Pacific States

The number of workers on farms June 1 in the Mountain States was about 11 percent above May 1 employment and 4 percent larger than on June 1 last year. The increase over last year was only in family workers, the number of hired workers being the same. A cold wet spring delayed farming in most of this area but conditions improved during late May and by June 1 farm work was in full swing.

It has been particularly difficult to get sugarbeets blocked and thinned properly and this work is later than usual in most States. Some laborers brought in to work on beets have quit to take jobs in war industries. Though progress has been slow and additional workers could be used to advantage, in general it is believed that the sugarbeet work will be accomplished fairly satisfactorily. Cutting of alfalfa was underway in a number of States and in Colorado farmers were planting/ ^{corn,} seeding beans, sorghums, and potatoes, "thinning" apples, weeding and hoeing onions and completing late lambing and shearing. So far this season farmers in the Mountain States have accomplished necessary work without undue difficulty. Their labor force has been augmented by some Japanese evacuees and by high school students and other townspeople as well as by members of the farm population who have not heretofore done much farm work.

An increase in number of farm workers in the Pacific Coast States is recorded for June 1 compared to a month earlier but the estimate of 566,000 workers is 15,000 persons, or 3 percent, below that for June 1, last year. Weather conditions during the week ending June 1 were not favorable for maximum employment of labor in Washington and Oregon. In California much farm work is in progress and it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain workers. Volunteer farm workers are offering partial relief to farmers unable to obtain labor through the usual channels. In some instances, city residents are spending week-ends at farm work. Volunteer women and high school students have cooperated in thinning peaches, picking strawberries and cherries in some areas. Chopping cotton and thinning sugarbeets are important jobs now, and grain harvesting is beginning in several sections of the State. An increase in acreage of many crops, labor scarcity and a late crop season have made it particularly difficult to get sugarbeets blocked and thinned with the result that this work is later than usual.

Smaller Proportion of Males in the Farm Population

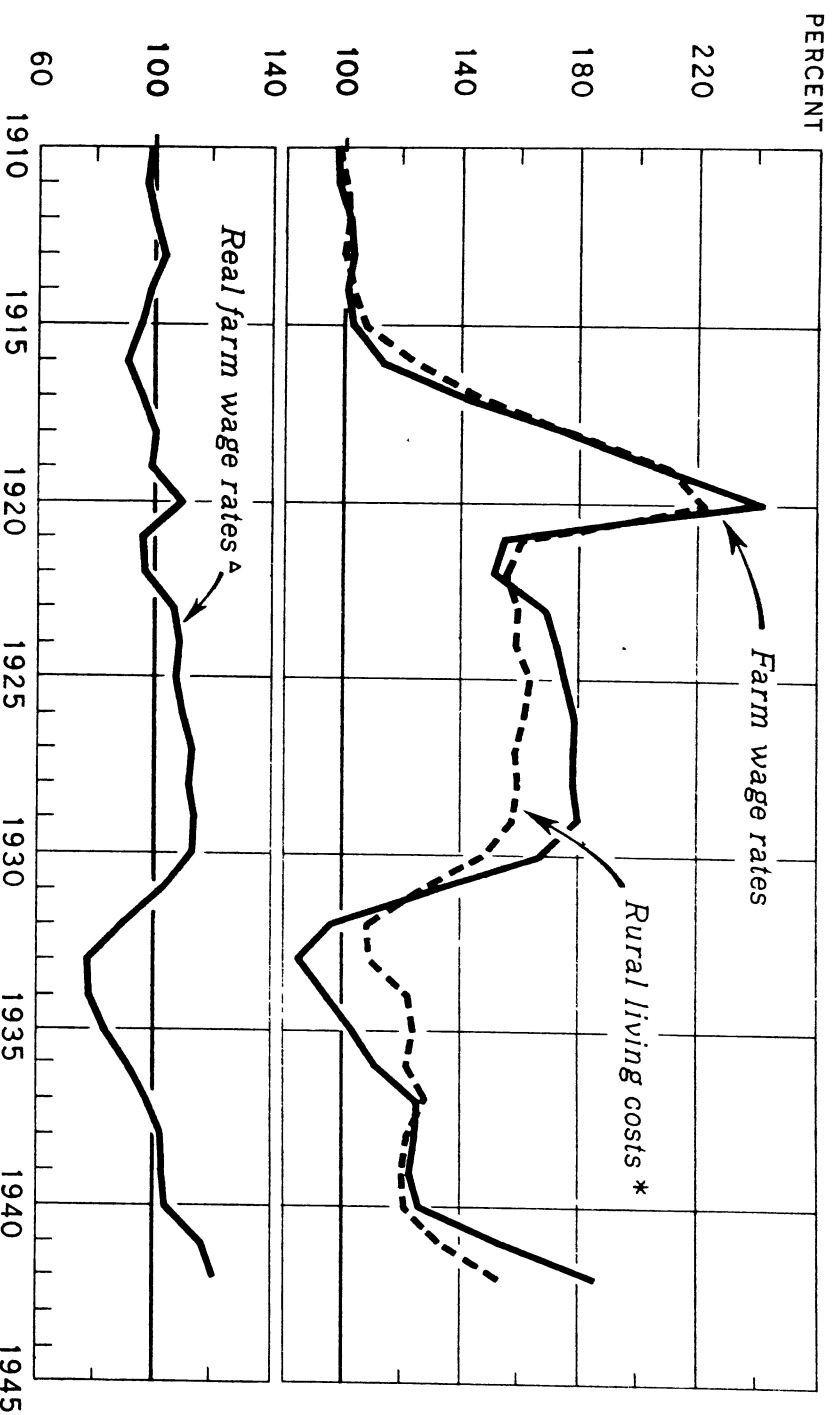
This month's Farm Labor Inquiry requested information as to the number of males and females living on the reporting farms. The results of this inquiry are shown in the table on page 14 by States and regions. For the country as a whole the males constitute 52 percent of the total population living on the reporting farms and females 48 percent. This represents a slight downward shift in the proportion of males in the farm population since the date of the last Census--the week of March 24-30, 1940. As of the census date, males constituted 53 percent of the farm population and females 47 percent.

Although the sex composition of the total farm population has not undergone a material change since the early part of 1940, a radical shift has apparently taken place in the sex composition of the working force on farms. This was shown by a previous farm labor survey on April 1 of this year. The results of this survey are also reproduced on the table on page 14. This survey revealed that nearly 14 percent of all workers on the reporting farms were women. This is a much higher percentage of female workers in agriculture than was shown by the April 1, 1940 Population Census which reported only 5.8 percent of all agricultural workers to be women. 1/

1/ In the Farm Labor Report issued on April 16, 1942, it was erroneously stated that the proportion of women workers in agriculture shown by the 1940 Census was 1.5 percent. The correct figure is 5.8 percent.

FARM WAGE RATES, RURAL LIVING COSTS, AND REAL FARM WAGE RATES, UNITED STATES, 1910-42

INDEX NUMBERS (1910-14=100)



* PRICES PAID BY FARMERS FOR COMMODITIES USED IN LIVING
Δ WAGE RATES DIVIDED BY RURAL LIVING COSTS
DATA FOR 1942 ARE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES

FARM WAGE RATES IN 1942 ARE EXPECTED TO AVERAGE 20 PERCENT HIGHER THAN IN 1941, BUT RURAL LIVING COSTS MAY BE UP 15 PERCENT. THE BUYING POWER OF THIS YEAR'S FARM WAGE RATES (REAL WAGE RATES) IS THUS LIKELY TO AVERAGE ONLY ABOUT 4 PERCENT MORE THAN LAST YEAR. REAL FARM WAGE RATES ARE NOW SLIGHTLY ABOVE THE PREVIOUS RECORD REACHED IN 1929.

Farm wage rates, rural living costs and real farm wage rates, United States,
1910 - 1942

Index numbers, 1910-1914 = 100			
Year	Farm wage rates	Rural living costs 1/	Real farm wage rates 2/
1910	97	98	99
1911	98	100	98
1912	101	101	100
1913	103	100	103
1914	101	102	99
1915	103	107	96
1916	113	124	91
1917	141	147	96
1918	177	177	100
1919	207	210	99
1920	242	222	109
1921	155	161	96
1922	151	156	97
1923	169	160	106
1924	173	159	109
1925	176	164	107
1926	179	162	110
1927	179	159	113
1928	179	160	112
1929	180	158	114
1930	167	148	113
1931	130	126	103
1932	96	108	89
1933	85	109	78
1934	95	122	78
1935	103	124	83
1936	111	122	91
1937	126	128	98
1938	125	122	102
1939	123	120	102
1940	126	121	104
1941	154	133	116
1942 3/	185	153	121

1/ Prices paid by farmers for commodities used in living.

2/ Wage rates divided by rural living costs.

3/ Preliminary estimates.

Farm wage rates and related data, United States, June 1, 1942,
with comparisons

	Annual					
	average:	Apr. 1,	June 1,	Apr. 1,	May 1,	June 1,
	1910-14	1941	1941	1942	1942	1942
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES:						
Unadjusted.....	100	138	-	177	-	183
Seasonally adjusted.....	100	141	-	181	-	181
FARM WAGE RATES:						
Per month, with board.....	\$22.09	31.56	-	41.47	-	42.93
Per month, without board.....	29.18	40.44	-	50.90	-	53.20
Per day, with board.....	1.16	1.41	-	1.83	-	1.89
Per day, without board.....	1.42	1.70	-	2.10	-	2.10
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES:						
Total -						
Unadjusted.....	100	79	97	79	90	99
Seasonally adjusted <u>1</u> /.....	100	86	85	86	88	88
Family labor -						
Unadjusted.....	100	83	96	82	92	99
Seasonally adjusted <u>1</u> /.....	100	86	84	85	88	88
Hired labor -						
Unadjusted.....	100	69	99	70	83	100
Seasonally adjusted <u>1</u> /.....	100	88	88	90	88	88
FARM EMPLOYMENT:						
(Thousands of persons)						
Total.....	12,052	9,580	11,685	9,483	10,796	11,917
Family labor.....	9,130	7,589	8,829	7,473	8,399	9,037
Hired labor.....	2,892	1,991	2,856	2,010	2,397	2,880
RELATED INDEXES:						
Prices received by farmers <u>2</u> /	100	<u>1</u> /106	115	148	151	<u>3</u> /151
Ratio of prices received to						
farm wage rates.....	100	<u>1</u> / 77	-	84	-	83
Industrial wage rates <u>4</u> /.....	---	248	263	<u>5</u> /302	-	-
Industrial employment <u>6</u> /.....	---	<u>1</u> /123	128	<u>7</u> /136	-	-
Industrial pay rolls <u>6</u> /.....	---	<u>1</u> /135	152	<u>7</u> /186	-	-

- 1/ Revised.
- 2/ Average of 15th of given month and 15th of previous month.
- 3/ May 1942 - latest data available.
- 4/ Average weekly earnings, New York State factories, June 1914 = 100.
- 5/ March 1942 - latest data available.
- 6/ Bureau of Labor Statistics indexes for manufacturing industries adjusted to the 1939 Census of Manufactures, 1923-25 = 100.
- 7/ Preliminary.

Farm employment, United States and geographic divisions,
June 1, 1942, with comparisons

Geographic division	: Apr. 1, : 1941	: May 1, : 1941	: June 1, : 1941	: Apr. 1, : 1942	: May 1, : 1942	: June 1, : 1942
	: 1,000's	: 1,000's	: 1,000's	: 1,000's	: 1,000's	: 1,000's

TOTAL FARM EMPLOYMENT

United States.....	9,530	10,683	11,685	9,483	10,796	11,917
New England.....	223	237	264	229	245	259
Middle Atlantic.....	558	615	634	575	619	657
East North Central.....	1,376	1,477	1,498	1,382	1,518	1,584
West North Central.....	1,539	1,697	1,782	1,523	1,666	1,773
South Atlantic.....	1,791	2,077	2,351	1,805	2,175	2,430
East South Central.....	1,567	1,831	2,015	1,547	1,817	2,014
West South Central.....	1,661	1,819	2,096	1,548	1,811	2,152
Mountain.....	397	423	464	409	433	482
Pacific.....	468	507	581	465	512	566

FAMILY WORKERS 1/

United States.....	7,589	8,260	8,829	7,473	8,399	9,037
New England.....	157	154	166	161	167	169
Middle Atlantic.....	408	413	408	414	426	431
East North Central.....	1,122	1,171	1,188	1,135	1,222	1,267
West North Central.....	1,292	1,347	1,415	1,280	1,352	1,417
South Atlantic.....	1,365	1,576	1,794	1,386	1,665	1,848
East South Central.....	1,337	1,572	1,674	1,322	1,561	1,683
West South Central.....	1,315	1,439	1,578	1,189	1,401	1,582
Mountain.....	295	284	300	292	303	318
Pacific.....	298	304	306	294	302	322

HIRED WORKERS

United States.....	1,991	2,423	2,856	2,010	2,397	2,880
New England.....	66	83	98	68	78	90
Middle Atlantic.....	150	202	226	161	193	226
East North Central.....	254	306	310	247	296	317
West North Central.....	247	350	367	243	314	356
South Atlantic.....	426	501	557	419	510	582
East South Central.....	230	259	341	225	256	331
West South Central.....	346	380	518	359	410	570
Mountain.....	102	139	164	117	130	164
Pacific.....	170	203	275	171	210	244

1/ Including farm operators.

Based on reports from 73,981 farmers.

Farm employment, by States, June 1, 1942, with comparisons

State	TOTAL			FAMILY			HIRED		
	Apr. 1	May 1	June 1	Apr. 1	May 1	June 1	Apr. 1	May 1	June 1
	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's
Maine	51	57	67	41	46	47	10	11	20
N.H.	24	26	26	18	19	19	6	7	7
Vt.	40	41	42	29	29	29	11	12	13
Mass.	59	64	67	38	38	39	21	26	28
R.I.	6	6	6	4	4	4	2	2	2
Conn.	49	51	51	31	31	31	18	20	20
N.Y.	253	270	290	180	185	188	73	85	102
N.J.	60	64	82	34	34	36	26	30	46
Pa.	262	285	285	200	207	207	62	78	78
Ohio	322	353	357	269	286	290	53	67	67
Ind.	236	275	295	200	230	245	36	45	50
Ill.	306	311	329	239	241	250	67	70	79
Mich.	230	259	278	199	216	228	31	43	50
Wis.	288	320	325	228	249	254	60	71	71
Minn.	280	302	309	230	244	249	50	58	60
Iowa	306	335	359	246	260	280	60	75	79
Mo.	343	375	394	292	311	320	51	64	74
N.Dak.	115	133	153	96	98	105	19	35	48
S.Dak.	105	112	120	89	90	95	16	22	25
Nebr.	164	182	192	144	155	160	20	27	32
Kans.	210	227	246	183	194	208	27	33	38
Del.	14	17	19	10	12	12	4	5	7
Md.	71	77	86	45	49	51	26	28	35
Va.	255	279	308	199	216	240	56	63	68
N.Va.	130	133	140	118	119	123	12	14	17
N.C.	487	617	680	405	527	590	82	90	90
S.C.	291	345	430	220	255	300	71	90	130
Ga.	410	550	610	308	400	445	102	150	165
Fla.	147	157	157	81	87	87	66	70	70
Ky.	311	329	352	267	282	301	44	47	51
Tenn.	329	353	390	274	293	320	55	60	70
Ala.	429	557	585	353	467	485	76	90	100
Miss.	478	578	687	428	519	577	50	59	110
Ark.	335	407	525	278	350	410	57	57	115
La.	246	300	335	184	230	240	62	70	95
Okla.	258	277	297	215	234	252	43	43	45
Tex.	709	827	995	512	587	680	197	240	315
Mont.	74	79	79	55	56	56	19	23	23
Idaho	67	73	86	51	55	61	16	18	25
Wyo.	26	30	35	18	19	20	8	11	15
Colo.	85	90	112	63	67	69	22	23	43
N.Mex.	69	71	74	48	50	51	21	21	23
Ariz.	40	46	44	20	21	22	20	25	22
Utah.	38	34	42	32	30	34	6	4	8
Nev.	10	10	10	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wash.	107	115	134	84	86	89	23	29	45
Oreg.	83	87	96	67	71	73	16	16	23
Calif.	275	310	336	143	145	160	132	165	176
U.S.	9,483	10,796	11,917	7,473	8,399	9,037	2,010	2,397	2,880

**Farm wage rates, by States and geographic divisions,
April 1, 1942 and June 1, 1942**

	P e r M o n e t h				P e r D a y			
	With Board		Without Board		With Board		Without Board	
	Apr. 1, 1942	June 1, 1942	Apr. 1, 1942	June 1, 1942	Apr. 1, 1942	June 1, 1942	Apr. 1, 1942	June 1, 1942
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Maine	47.75	50.00	70.25	70.25	2.85	2.90	3.35	3.40
New Hampshire	47.50	47.50	76.00	76.00	2.60	2.60	3.40	3.40
Vermont	48.75	48.75	70.50	71.00	2.60	2.60	3.35	3.35
Massachusetts	53.50	53.50	89.25	90.00	2.60	2.60	3.65	3.65
Rhode Island	54.00	55.00	88.75	90.00	2.80	2.90	3.70	3.80
Connecticut	56.00	56.00	89.75	89.75	2.80	2.90	3.90	3.90
N. Eng.	52.08	52.32	82.19	81.75	2.67	2.75	3.60	3.58
New York	48.75	49.00	70.25	71.00	2.50	2.60	3.35	3.50
New Jersey	50.25	50.50	76.25	77.25	2.60	2.60	3.45	3.50
Pennsylvania	37.00	40.00	60.00	65.00	2.25	2.50	2.90	3.20
M. Atl.	44.56	46.25	67.27	70.16	2.42	2.57	3.19	3.39
Ohio	38.00	40.00	53.75	58.00	2.25	2.35	2.80	2.80
Indiana	40.75	40.75	53.50	55.00	2.10	2.10	2.65	2.80
Illinois	48.25	49.50	60.00	65.00	2.45	2.45	3.00	3.00
Michigan	42.75	45.00	62.00	65.00	2.40	2.70	3.05	2.70
Wisconsin	49.25	49.25	68.00	68.00	2.30	2.30	3.00	2.30
E. N. Cent.	44.52	45.30	59.84	62.67	2.32	2.38	2.91	2.72
Minnesota	49.25	53.00	64.00	64.00	2.25	2.50	3.05	3.05
Iowa	53.75	56.75	65.00	67.00	2.50	2.75	3.25	3.25
Missouri	33.50	36.00	43.75	44.00	1.55	1.60	2.00	2.00
North Dakota	48.50	50.00	65.50	65.50	2.15	2.25	2.85	3.00
South Dakota	47.50	48.50	63.25	63.25	2.15	2.25	2.90	2.90
Nebraska	44.25	46.75	57.50	60.75	2.25	2.30	2.80	2.80
Kansas	38.00	42.50	53.75	59.75	2.10	2.10	2.75	2.85
W. N. Cent.	45.16	47.91	58.24	59.67	2.14	2.26	2.81	2.84
Delaware	40.00	40.00	57.75	57.75	2.25	2.25	2.75	2.75
Maryland	36.75	36.75	54.00	54.00	1.95	1.95	2.50	2.50
Virginia	29.50	30.00	42.00	48.00	1.50	1.50	1.95	1.95
West Virginia	29.00	30.00	43.00	44.00	1.40	1.45	1.85	1.90
North Carolina	25.00	26.00	41.00	41.00	1.30	1.30	1.60	1.60
South Carolina	18.75	18.75	25.50	25.50	.85	.90	1.10	1.10
Georgia	18.25	18.25	25.75	26.25	.95	1.00	1.20	1.25
Florida	25.00	26.50	39.50	55.00	1.30	1.30	1.75	1.75
S. Atl.	23.96	23.69	35.54	36.96	1.22	1.20	1.55	1.52
Kentucky	27.25	28.00	38.00	40.00	1.25	1.30	1.60	1.65
Tennessee	23.50	23.50	32.50	34.50	1.10	1.10	1.40	1.40
Alabama	21.00	21.00	29.25	30.00	1.00	1.00	1.30	1.30
Mississippi	19.50	19.50	26.75	30.00	.95	1.05	1.25	1.15
E. S. Cent.	22.48	22.14	31.25	32.51	1.06	1.08	1.37	1.32
Arkansas	24.00	24.50	33.50	44.50	1.25	1.25	1.55	1.55
Louisiana	21.50	22.50	29.50	31.00	1.05	1.10	1.30	1.35
Oklahoma	30.50	35.00	42.75	50.00	1.55	1.75	1.95	2.25
Texas	32.50	34.60	43.00	45.75	1.55	1.60	1.85	1.85
W. S. Cent.	29.12	30.58	39.13	43.39	1.42	1.46	1.72	1.74
Montana	59.25	68.00	80.00	89.00	2.80	3.15	3.60	3.75
Idaho	59.50	62.50	80.00	84.00	2.80	3.05	3.50	3.80
Wyoming	55.00	66.50	74.75	86.00	2.50	2.50	3.20	3.20
Colorado	44.50	50.55	65.25	69.25	2.20	2.20	2.90	2.90
New Mexico	39.00	42.00	56.75	59.00	1.95	1.95	2.35	2.10
Arizona	54.50	56.00	75.75	77.00	2.25	2.35	2.70	2.80
Utah	64.00	70.00	83.75	88.00	2.75	2.75	3.15	3.00
Nevada	56.00	65.00	83.75	85.00	2.25	2.50	3.00	3.00
Mount.	51.60	57.03	73.07	76.66	2.39	2.53	3.04	3.06
Washington	60.50	60.50	89.25	89.25	3.10	3.10	3.90	3.90
Oregon	61.00	61.00	85.50	86.50	2.95	2.95	3.65	3.70
California	68.25	71.00	97.00	107.00	3.00	3.40	3.90	4.40
Pacific	66.58	68.12	94.88	102.06	3.01	3.30	3.88	4.24
U. S.	41.47	42.93	50.90	53.20	1.83	1.89	2.10	2.10

Persons employed in the United States, May 1942,
with comparisons

	Mar.	Apr.	May	Mar.	Apr.	May
	1941	1941	1941	1942	1942	1942
	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's
Farm employment <u>1</u> /.....	9,178	10,132	11,184	9,110	10,140	11,356
Family workers.....	7,310	7,925	8,544	7,206	7,936	8,718
Hired workers.....	1,868	2,207	2,640	1,904	2,204	2,638
Nonagricultural employ- ment <u>2</u> /.....	37,761	38,228	3/38,902	3/40,392	4/40,773	-

1/ Average of estimates of farm employment as of the first of the given and the following month.

2/ Estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Dept. of Labor. Excludes persons employed on W.P.A. or N.Y.A. projects, enrollees in C.C.C. Camps, and military and naval forces.

3/ Revised.

4/ Preliminary.

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Annual average wage rates, United States and
geographic divisions, 1941

Geographic division	P e r M o n t h		P e r D a y	
	With	Without	With	Without
	Board	Board	Board	Board
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
United States.....	34.85	43.64	1.69	1.93
New England.....	42.19	68.74	2.23	3.14
Middle Atlantic.....	37.26	55.60	2.19	2.84
East North Central.....	36.99	50.33	2.06	2.62
West North Central.....	34.70	46.36	1.96	2.53
South Atlantic.....	20.49	29.68	1.09	1.41
East South Central.....	19.09	26.69	.94	1.21
West South Central.....	23.93	33.13	1.24	1.55
Mountain.....	43.71	60.79	2.12	2.73
Pacific.....	54.94	78.97	2.62	3.35

Percentage distribution, by sex, 1/ of farm population
June 1, 1942 and of farm employment April 1, 1942

State	Farm Population			Farm Workers		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Maine	100	53	47	100	86	14
N. H.	100	53	47	100	88	12
Vt.	100	54	46	100	89	11
Mass.	100	55	45	100	88	12
R. I.	100	57	43	100	92	8
Conn.	100	54	46	100	85	15
N. Eng.	100	54	46	100	87	13
N. Y.	100	54	46	100	87	13
N. J.	100	55	45	100	87	13
Pa.	100	54	46	100	85	15
M. Atl.	100	54	46	100	86	14
Ohio	100	53	47	100	84	16
Ind.	100	53	47	100	86	14
Ill.	100	54	46	100	92	8
Mich.	100	55	45	100	85	15
Wis.	100	55	45	100	83	17
E. N. Cent.	100	54	46	100	86	14
Minn.	100	55	44	100	84	16
Iowa	100	53	47	100	92	8
Mo.	100	49	51	100	86	12
N. Dak.	100	56	44	100	80	20
S. Dak.	100	54	46	100	83	17
Nebr.	100	53	47	100	86	14
Kans.	100	53	47	100	85	15
W. N. Cent.	100	53	47	100	86	14
Del.	100	54	46	100	87	13
Md.	100	52	48	100	85	15
Va.	100	50	50	100	91	9
N. Va.	100	52	48	100	89	11
N. C.	100	49	51	100	80	20
S. C.	100	49	51	100	80	20
Ga.	100	50	50	100	81	19
Fla.	100	53	47	100	76	24
S. Atl.	100	50	50	100	82	18
Ky.	100	52	48	100	89	11
Tenn.	100	50	50	100	90	10
Ala.	100	50	50	100	83	17
Miss.	100	49	51	100	83	17
E. S. Cent.	100	50	50	100	86	14
Ark.	100	51	49	100	85	15
La.	100	50	50	100	86	14
Okla.	100	52	48	100	87	13
Tex.	100	51	49	100	85	15
W. S. Cent.	100	51	49	100	85	15
Mont.	100	59	41	100	88	12
Idaho	100	57	43	100	88	12
Wyo.	100	59	41	100	90	10
Colo.	100	54	46	100	93	7
N. Mex.	100	53	47	100	90	10
Ariz.	100	55	45	100	92	8
Utah	100	54	46	100	89	11
Nev.	100	64	36	100	93	7
Mount.	100	56	44	100	90	10
Wash.	100	55	45	100	80	20
Oreg.	100	54	46	100	80	20
Calif.	100	59	41	100	93	7
Pacific	100	57	43	100	88	12
U. S.	100	52	48	100	86	14

1/ On farms of crop and labor reporters.

Piece rates paid by farmers for selected jobs for
specified States, June 1, 1942

State	Range 1/	Average	State	Range 1/	Average
	Cents	Cents		Dollars	Dollars
PICKING STRAWBERRIES, PER QUART			PLOWING, PER ACRE		
New Jersey.....	3.1 - 4.3	3.7	Ohio.....	2.00 - 3.00	2.50
Pennsylvania....	2.0 - 3.0	2.5	Illinois.....	1.25 - 1.40	1.30
Ohio.....	2.5 - 3.0	2.6	Iowa.....	.50 - 1.50	1.40
Missouri.....	2.5 - 3.0	2.8	North Dakota...	1.25 - 1.40	1.30
Kansas.....	2.8 - 3.1	3.0	South Dakota...	1.00 - 1.25	1.20
North Carolina..	1.5 - 2.0	1.9	Nebraska.....	1.00 - 1.40	1.20
Florida.....	3.0 - 4.0	3.8	Kansas.....	1.00 - 1.25	1.25
Kentucky.....	2.0 - 3.0	2.8	South Carolina..	1.00 - 1.25	1.25
Tennessee.....	2.7 - 3.2	3.0	Alabama.....	1.00 - 1.25	1.15
Arkansas.....	2.0 - 3.0	3.0	Idaho.....	2.50 - 5.00	3.00
Louisiana.....	3.2 - 4.0	3.4	Colorado.....	2.25 - 4.50	3.20
Texas.....	3.5 - 4.0	3.7	Utah.....	2.00 - 3.00	2.30
Washington.....	2.1 - 3.3	2.8			
Oregon.....	2.0 - 3.0	2.8	DISKING, PER ACRE		
PICKING BEANS, PER BUSHEL			Illinois.....	.50 - .60	.55
Pennsylvania....	20 - 30	25	Iowa.....	.50 - .60	.60
North Carolina..	20 - 25	24	Kansas.....	.50 - .60	.55
South Carolina..	15 - 20	15	Arkansas.....	.50 - .60	.55
Florida.....	30 - 40	35	California.....	1.25 - 3.00	1.60
Mississippi.....	20 - 30	22			
Louisiana.....	20 - 25	25	LISTING, PER ACRE		
PICKING PEAS, PER HAMPER			Kansas.....	.50 - .75	.75
Florida.....	15 - 25	20	Nebraska.....	.50 - .60	.55
PICKING SPINACH, PER BUSHEL			Colorado.....	.50 - .60	.52
Pennsylvania....	20 - 30	25			
PICKING CANTALOUPS, PER CRATE			HARVESTING GRAIN, PER ACRE		
Arizona.....	17 - 18	17	South Carolina..	1.88 - 2.50	2.25
THINNING PEACHES, PER TREE					
California....	38 - 40	39	CUTTING ASPARAGUS, PER 100 LBS.		
CUTTING POTATOES, PER BU.			New Jersey.....	1.60 - 1.96	1.78
Maine.....	10 - 15	12			
North Dakota...	5 - 7	6	WEEDING ONIONS, PER ACRE		
Idaho.....	6 - 8	8	Idaho.....	4.75 - 5.25	5.00
Oregon.....	8 - 9	9	Colorado.....	5.75 - 6.25	6.00
PLANTING CORN, PER ACRE					
Illinois.....	50 - 60	50	CHOPPING COTTON, PER ACRE		
Iowa.....	50 - 60	50	Alabama.....	1.00 - 1.20	1.00
Kansas.....	50 - 60	50	Texas.....	.76 - 1.31	1.03
SHEEP SHEARING, PER HEAD			Arizona.....	1.25 - 2.00	1.50
Ohio.....	20 - 25	22			
Missouri.....	20 - 30	25	BLOCKING AND THINNING BEETS, PER ACRE		
Nebraska.....	18 - 20	19	Ohio.....	11.00 - 13.50	12.82
Kansas.....	15 - 18	18	Minnesota.....	10.48 - 11.46	11.00
Tennessee.....	20 - 28	25	Nebraska.....	9.50 - 10.50	10.00
Texas.....	15 - 18	17	Idaho.....	9.24 - 11.75	10.50
Colorado.....	18 - 22	20	Wyoming.....	9.20 - 15.50	12.35
Utah.....	18 - 22	19	Colorado.....	9.00 - 10.00	9.50
Oregon.....	12 - 18	15	Utah.....	9.00 - 11.00	9.70
			Oregon.....	10.00 - 11.00	10.12
			CUTTING WOOD, PER CORD		
			Minnesota.....	1.75 - 1.90	1.75
			North Carolina..	1.25 - 2.00	1.75
			Idaho.....	1.50 - 1.75	1.50
			Oregon.....	1.50 - 3.50	2.25

1/ Range includes at least two-thirds of all rates reported.