UNITED STATES DEPARTMENTOF AGRICULTURE Agricultural Marketing Service

FARM LABOR REPORT

Eelease %:00 .M. (E.T.)

Washington, D. C.

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January 14, 1942

FARM WAGE RATES SHARPLY HIGHER THAN A YEAR AGC

The general average of farm wage rates on January 1 was slightly higher than on October 1, and sharply higher than a year ago the Department of Aericulture announced today. The farm wage rate index on January 1 was 1665 percent of the 1910-14 average compared with 124 a year earlier and 165 on October 1. The January 1942 index wases the highest since April 1930.

Farm wage rates were higher than a year earlier in all regions with the advances in areas where the competition largest with industries engaged in the production of war materials is greatest These areas include New England the and the Pacific East North Centrel States Coast Seasonal declines in wage rates cince October 1 were reported in the North Central States Wages with board declined slightly from October to January on both the per day and per nonth basis, but wages without board increased more than enoth to offset Farming activities around January 1 consisted largely of chores with extre care Qéing given to livestock because of higher prices for livestock and livestock Qfoducts. Some corn was still being husked some soybeans combined and some cotton picked but the great bulk of the 1941 production was housed by this time.'

In nearly all areas where winter plowing is done conditions were favor able and this work was being pushed. The citrus fruit harvest was progressing normally. Truck crops ere being harvested in Florida and California at about the same rate as a yeor 2go0.

SPECIAL TO THIS ISSUE	
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NUMBET OF FARM VORKERS SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN IN JANUARY A YEAR AGO

The total number of workers on farms was estimated at 8,665,000 on January 1 This was 54,000 more than the 8,614,000 estimated for January 1, 1941, but considerably lower than the Lecember 1 total of 9,349,000 workers. In comparison with a year ago the number of family workers was slightly lower (6,954,000 on January 1, 1942, and 6,565,000 on January 1, 1941), but the number of hired workers increased from 1,649,000 a year ago to 1,711,000 on January 1 this year. With better demand for their products and higher prices, farmers seem to be able to increase the number of hired workers more than enough to offset the decrease in unpaid family workers.

Total farm employment was slightly higher on January 1 than a year earlier in all regions except the Middle Atlantic, South Atlantic, and East South Central States.

Form Labor Supply Feported Low

The supply of farm labor as reported by crop correspondents on January 1 was practically unchanged from October 1, but it is much lower than on January 1 last year. This drop in supply has not yet resulted in any serious depletion of the number of hired workers on farms nor in curtailment of agricultural production

All regions report material declines from a year ago in the supply with the greatest declines in the Pacific and West North Central States. Felstively smalled declines were reported in the South Atlantic and South Central States. In comparison with October slight increases were reported in the northeastern portion of the country and slight declines in most other areas.

The demand for form labor, though slightly smaller in January than in October, was reported to be samethat larger than on January last year. The necessity of hiring help to replace family workers who had left thefarm for factory jobs or who had joined the armed forces of the country, and larger scale or more intensive operations in order to produce more of the foods needed for war purposes have incleased the demand for workers during the past year. Demand has increased most in the central and western parts of the country and least in the Atlantic Coast States. Declines in demand from October to January were shown in all region except the South Atlantic and East South Central.

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

	-					
	: Annual : average: 1910-14:	Oct.1,:	Jan.1,:	Oct.1,:	Jan.1,	
FARM WAGE RATE INDEXES:	:			•		
Unadjusted		129 125	124 129	165 160	166 173	<
FARM! WAGE RATES:	•					
Per month, with board	29.13 1.16	\$28.77 36.84 1.39 1.61			47.77	
SUPPLY OF AND DEMAND FOR FARM LABOR:	:					
Supply, percentage of normal		85.6 83.1 97.2	85.7 86.6 99.1	96.2	94.1	
FARM EMPLOYMENT INDEXES: Total -						
Unadjusted		9 7 3 5	71 88	96 84	7 2 39	
Unadjusted		9 5 36	76 90	93 34	76 90	
Unadjusted		106 86	57 Cl	105 35	59 04	
FARM EMPLOYMENT (Thousands of persons)	.					
Total Family labor Hired labor	9,160	8,633	3,614 6,965 1,649	11,532 3,432 3,050	6,954	
RELATED INDEXES: Prices received by farmers 1/	100	99	104	139	<u>2</u> /143	
Ratio of prices received to	1		101			
farm wage rates		77	34	34	S6	
Industrial wage rates 3/		329	257	271		
Industrial employment $\frac{4}{4}$		<u>5</u> /114 <u>5</u> /116	115 121	135 167	_6/134 _€/166	
•	•					

^{1/}As of the 15th of the month. 2/Dec. 1941 - latest data available. 3/Average Weekly earnings, New York State factories, June 1914 = 100. 4/Bureau of Labor Statistics indexes for manufacturing industries revised 1923-25 = 100. 5/Revised. 6/Nov. 1941 - latest data available.

Based on reports from approximately 21,390 correspondents. The data for previous quarters, by States, appear in Grops and Markets for Jan., Apr., July, and Oct.

Farm wage rates, by geographic divisions, January 1, 1942, by comparisons

Geographic		Annual:		:	: :	:
Division	:	average:	Oct. 1,:	Jan. 1,	: Oct. 1,	: Jan. 1
		<u> 1910-14:</u>				:_ <u>1</u> 942_
FARM WAGE RATES	:	Dollars	Dollars.	Dollars	Dollars	Dollar
PER MONTH WITH BOARD	:					
New England	:		34.23	34.29	46.31	47.70
Middle Atlantic	:	22.25	30.92	29.74	39.68	40.17
East North Central	:		30.54	23.22	39.67	33.7
West Morth Central	:	26.32	29.75	24.39	38.25	33.72
South Atlantic	:	14.62	17.75	13.26	21.75	22.3
East South Central	:		16.50	16.94	19.37	21.69
West South Central	:	17.35	20.13	20.24	25.43	23.20
llountain	:	32.48	36.93	34.33	47.33	45.1
Pacific	:	33.45	44.36 ,	43.45	59.65	62.3
PER MONTH WITHOUT BOARD	:					
New England	:	37.70	58.43	50.31	72.12	75.3
Middle Atlantic	:	33.41	47.35	46.70	57.75	59.5
East Forth Central	:	32.80	42.95	40.52	53.75	53.10
West North Central	:	36.36	40.42	35.70	50.23	45.9
South Atlantic	:	20.97	25.77	27.00	30.34	52.90
East South Central	:	20.20	23.00	24.30	27.33	30.10
West Scuth Central	:	24.93	28.78	20.76	35.24	50
Mountain	:	46.42	52.39	50.45	64.01	62.46
Pacific	:	48.16	67.83	66.51	35.19	27.29
PER DAY WITH BOARD	:					
New England	•	1.27	1.35	1.84	2.45	2.57
Middle Atlantic	:	1.24	1.36	1.73	2.42	2.5 2.3
East North Central	:	1.31	1,72	1.57		2.16
West Morth Central		1.46	1,75	1.54	2.20	1.9
South Atlantic		.21	.95	.97		1.19
East South Central	:	.81	.33	.83	1.02	1.05
West South Central	•	.98	1.02	1.01	1.36	1.43
Mountain	•	1.50	1.76	1.56	2.58	2.16
Pacific	:		2.10	2.01	2.97	2.36
	:	272				
PER DAY WITHOUT BOARD	:		0 ~0	0.45	g 50	
New England	:	1.71	2.70	2.67		3.43
Middle Atlantic	:	1.63	2.45	2.41	3.09	3.02
East North Control	:	1.60	2.23	2.05	2.89	2.73
West Forth Central	:	1.90	2.17	1.86	2.90	2.53
South Atlantic	:	1.05	1.24	1.27	1.54	1.56
East South Central	:	1.05	1.03	1.07	1.33	1.36
West South Control	:	1.25	1.28	1.27	1.72	1.78
Mountain	:	2.05	2.29	2.22	2.96	2.79
Pacific	:	2.06	2.92	2.74	3.73	3.64

Fare Labor supply, demand, and farm employment, January 1, 1942 with comparisons

	17 24 0 22	0 31.2,202 2 00 220	,			
	: Oct. 1,:	Jan 7 .		 • Jan 1	Oct.1.	Jac.l.
	• 1342 •	19:0:	1940	1941	7917	1942
		:				
SUPPLY OF FAR: LABOR	<u>:</u> :			<u> </u>	L	·
(Percentage of normal)	•					
New England	: 88.2	91.9	81.0	78.7	52.8	56.1
Middle Atlantic	: 88.5	91.2	79.C	3.03	53.9	57.1
East North Central	: 89.0	94.7	85.1	86.9		
West Porth Central	92.5	95.6	83.£	91.4		66.4
South Atlantic		27.5	81.1	80.8		5 2.0
East South Central		67.5 83.9				67.6
West South Central	: 91.3		85.1			66.5
Mountain		99.8				67.8
Pacific	: 99.9		94.5			65.7
TRUTTE	. 39.9	708.0	94.0	93.0	00.7	65.7
DEMAND FOR FARM LABOR	•					
(Percentage of normal)	•					
Now England	. Ω2 T	86.7	91.6	89.9	99.5	94.9
Middle Atlantic		82.4	90.3	88 . 2		92.3
East North Central		64.3	91.0		100.5	
West Forth Central	: 79.0	77.8	35.1			95.4
South Atlantic			90.7	-		
East South Central		30.3			94.2	
West South Central		72.1				
Mountain	: 33.6	ε1.9	57.4 67.0			
Pacific	: 03.6		91.3		98.4	
TACTILE	. 07.7	SZ. 1	91.0	03.3	30.4	
SUPPLY OF FARM LABOR	•					
(Forcentage of demand)	•					
New England	• 100 1	7.00.4	00 1	07 6	52.9	58.9
Middle Atlantic	: 100.1	106.0	83.4			
East North Central	: 102.5	110.7	87.5	91.4	55.1	
West Forth Central	: 102.6	111.7	93.8 102.9	96.0	60.4	
South Atlantic		122.9		106.8	63 . 9	60.1
	97.5	102.3	S9.4	9^.8		
	: 173.0	110.0		29.3		
West South Central	: 112.7	123.4	100.8	105.7	72.1	73.7
Mountain	: 111.6	121.3	105.2	107.1	66.2	72.1
Pacific	: 117.9	104.1	103.5	104.7	69. 3	65.1
FARII EIPLOYIENT	:					
(Thousands of persons)						
Total	•					
New England	• 205	กาห	טמכ	າກດ	250	0 178
Middle Atlantic	: 265		273	223	258	231
East North Central	: 625	532	621	542	672	535
West North Central	: 1,516	1,329	1,492	1,325	1,462	1,345
South Atlantic	: 1,745	1,427	1,773	1.431	1,757	1,451
East South Central	: 2,353	1,569	2,352	1,562	2,199	1,543
West South Central	: 2,124	1,361	2,075	1,305	2,306	1,238
Mountain	: 2,191	1,377	2.141	1,426	2,115	1,431
Rountain Pacific	493574	372	462 560	367	515	390
+ ac1110	• 5/4	-1-17	568	423	5 38	451

Farm employment, by geographic divisions, January 1, 1942 with comparisons

	_						
Geographic	:	Oct. 1,:		Oct. 1,:			
Division	:	1939 :	1940 :	1940 :	1941 :	1941 :	1942
	<u>:</u>	:	:	: : _	:	:	
FARM EMPLOYMENT	:						
(Thousands of persons)	:						•
Family Labor	:				_		
New England	:	166	162	167	162	163	162
Middle Atlantic	:	403	399	402	. 400	401	400
East North Central	:	1,128	1,106	1,115	1,102	1,115	1,115
West North Central	:	1,305	1,208	1,305	1,190	1,307	1,198
South Atlantic	:	1,767	1,245	1,715	. 1,224	1,643	1,218
East South Central	:	1,839	1,213	1,783	1,162	1,678	1,139
West South Central	:	1,653	1,150	1,595	1,147	1,563	1,141
Mountain	:	284	279	281	277	288	280
Pacific	:	319	301	320	301	325	301
	:						
Hired Labor	:						
New England	•	. 99	65	106	66	96	69
Middle Atlantic	:	222	133	219	142	231	135
East Morth Central	:	388	223	377	223	347	230
West North Central	:	110	219	468	241	450	253
South Atlantic	:	586	324	617	. 333	556	325
East South Central	:	285	148	290	143	328	149
West South Central	:	538	227	546	279	552	290
Mountain	:	209	93	181	90	227	110
Pacific	:	255	146	248	127	263	150
	:						

Persons employed in the United States, December 1941, with comparisons

:	Oct., 1940	Nov., 19:10	Dec., :	Oct., :	Nov.,:	Dec., 1941
	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	1,000's	<u>ī,000's</u>	1,000's
Farm employment 1/	8,411	10,111 7,676 2,435	8,967 7,089 1,878	10,976 8,162 2,814	9,885 7,480 2,405	9,007 7,035 1,972
Nonagricultural employment $2/3/\dots$ Total employment $3/\dots$	37,375	37,528 47,639	3/38,161 3/47,128	3/40,776 3/51,752	40,693 50,578	

^{1/}Average of estimates of farm employment as of the first of the given and the following menth.

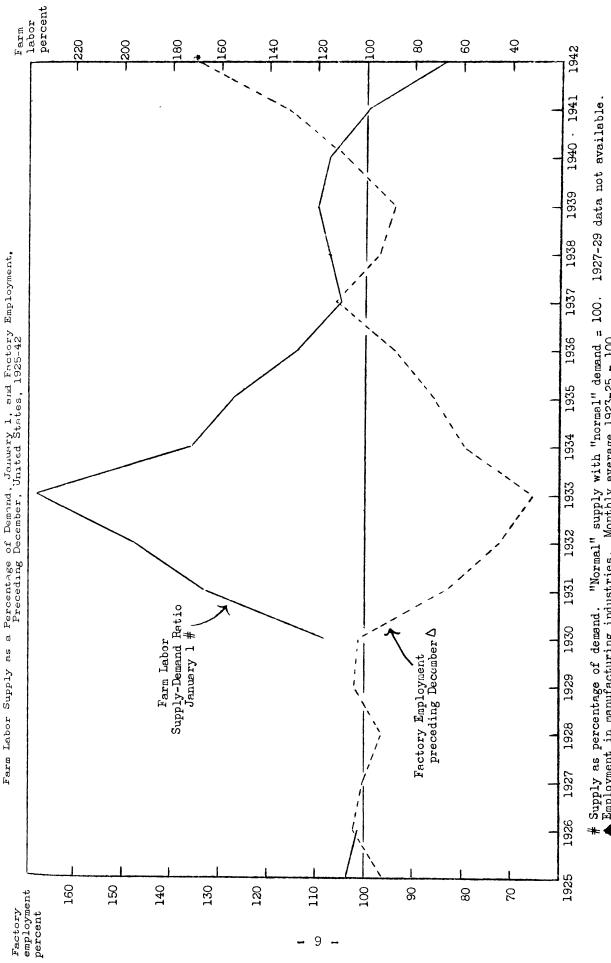
^{2/}Estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor. Excludes persons employed on W.P.A. or N.Y.A. projects, enrollees in C.C.C. camps, and military and naval forces.

^{3/}Revised

Farm employment: Annual averages of number of persons employed, and index numbers, United States, 1909-41

Year	:	Avcrage number	: Index : 1010-14		: Index : 1910-14	: Average	:1910-14
	:	1,000's		1,000's		1,000's	•
	:						
1909	:	12,209	101	9,341	103	2,868	99
1910	:	12,146	101	9,269	101	2,877	99
1911	:	12,04?	100	9,172	100	2,370	93
1912	:	12,033	100	9,149	100	2,389	100
1913	;	12,053	100	9,123	100	2,905	10C
1914	:	12,000	190	9,081	99	2,919	101
	;			•			
1915	:	11,981	99	9,047	93	2,934	101
1916	:	12,016	100	3, 050	9 9	2,966	193
1917	:	11,789	5 3	3,85 3	97	2,353	101
1918	:	11,343	94	8,507	93	2,841	98
1910	:	11,106	32	8,322	91	2,784	96
	:						
1920	:	11,362	94	8,479	93	2,893	100
1921	:	11,413	95	8,511	93	2,991	100
1823	:	11,443	95	8,523	23	2,915	101
1923	:	11,383	04	8,491	93	2,894	100
1881	:	11,562	94	6 ,4 88	3 3	2,874	99
	:						
1925	:	11,446	95	8,577	94	2,869	99
1926	:	11,534	96	8,507	93	3,037	105
1927	:	11,246	93	8,296	91	2,350	102
1928	:	11,296	94	8,340	91	2,956	102
1659	:	11,289	94	8,305	91	2,984	103
1950	:	11,175	១១	8,323	91	2,350	99
1931	:	11,159	95	8,469	32	2,690	93
1932	:	11,069	25	8,571	94	2,498	86
1935	:	11,023	91	8,590	94	2,433	84
1934	:	10,852	00	8,506	93	2,346	81
	;						
1935	:	11,173	23	8,704	95	2,468	85
1936	:	10,907	91	ອ,502	93	2,495	86
1937	:	10,830	90	8,373	90	2,557	88
1938	:	10,745	83	8,216	90	2,529	87
1959	:	10,629	8.8	8,150	89	2,479	86
1940	:	10,445	97	7,095	87	2,450	85
1941	:	10,267	85	7,817	85	2,450	85
							<u>.</u>

	- <u>-</u> -							
	:	Per mo	onth	Per	dav		ly of and defarm labor	
	:-	With	TTT: 4.7	:	:	TSupply as	:Demandas	:Summ
	:	Board	Without Board	: With Board	: Without Board	:percentage	e:percentage	e:percent
	: - —:-			•	: DOAFU	of normal	of normal	of dema
	•	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent	Percer
Maine	:	45.75	63.00	2.55	3.25	54	95	57
И. Н.	:	41.00	69.75	2.50	3.35	57	96	50
Vt.	:	44.25	66.00	2.35	3.20	58	102	57
Mass.	:	45.50	73.25	2.50	3.45	53	91	58
R. I.	:	52.50	82.50	2.30	3.55	60	91	66
Conn	:-	53.75	31.00	2.65_	3.70	59	9_6	6 <u>1</u> _
N.J.	:	43.00	62.25	2.40	3.15	55	94	59
Pa.	:	45.75	70.00	2.50	3.25	55	94	59
a Ohio		_ <u>_35.2</u> 5 34.75	<u>53.00</u>	$-\frac{2.15}{2.15}$	2.80	60	91=	66_
Ind.	•	34.75 36.50	49.50	2.15	2.70	55	23	5 9
Ill.	:	41.25	49.25 53.00	2.00 2.30	2.55	61	94	65
Mich.	•	39.25	56.75	2.30	2.80 2.95	70	95 91	74 60
_Wis	:	39.50	56.00	2.05	2.65	55 68	91 105	60
Minn.	· - :	32.50	48.00	2.00	2.70	67	95	65_ 71
Iowa	:	39.50	51.50	2.20	2.80	71	97	73
Mo.	:	29.50	40.75	1.50	1.90	, 50	94	73 64
N.Dak.	:	23.00	44.25	1.75	2.55	66	93	71
S.Dak.	:	30.50	45.75	1.30	2.50	66	39	74
Nebr.	:	34.25	4 6.00	2.10	2.65	65	92	71
_Kans	:	_34.25_	<u> 4</u> 2.2 <u>5</u>	1.95_	2.60	67	101	66_
Del.	:	34.25	48.00	2.05	2.65	50	100	58
Md.	:	34.25	43.75	1.85	2.10	60	96	6,2
Va.	:	23.00	39.50	1.45	1.90	58	96	60
W.Va.	:	27.50	.10.25	1.35	1.80	59	94	63
n.c.	:	23.00	32.50	1.25	1.60	6.2	95	65
S.C.	:	16.25	23.50	.30	1.05	65	26	77
Ga. _Fla	:	16.50	23.50	.85	1.10	65 67	95 95	68 66
Ky.	:	21.75 25.75	37.50 35.50	$-\frac{1.20}{1.20}$	1.65	63	95	60 _
Tenn.	•	21.75	30.25	1.05	1.35	60 66	95 95	73 69
Ala.	:	13.75	26.00	.95	1.20	63	95 95	64
Miss.	:	18.75	26.50	.95	1.25	72	97	74 -
Ark.	`- :	22.75	31.75	1.10	1.40	63	37	72
La.	:	19.00	27.25	1.00	1.25	69	36	00
Okla.	:	28.25	40.25	1.55	2.00	63	94	72
Tex.	: .	_31.50_	42.00	1.55	1.90	65	91-	73 _
Mont.	:	46.80	62.00	2.40	3.25	70	92	76
Idaho	:	49.50	66 .5 0	2.45	3.15	77	95	81
t Wyo .	:	48.40	65.50	2.25	2.30	68	96	71
Colo.	:	39.75	56.50	2.05	2.65	67	94	71
N.Mex.	:	38.00	52.50	1.35	2.30	65	93	70
Ariz.	:	48.75	63.50	1.95	2.55	66	97	68 60
Utah	:	58.50	74.50	2.55	3.10	63	93	68 .
Nev.	: -	50.00	71.50	<u>2.15</u>	2.95	63	97	65 63
Wash.	;	52.00	73.75	2.80	3.60 7.70	60 65	95	66
Oreg.	:	51.00	72.50	2.65	3.30 7.70	65	99 oc	70
Calif	:	6 <u>6.2</u> 5	93.75	2.90	3.70	67	9.6	68.2
U. S.	:	37.08	47.77	1.77	2.12	64.2	94.1	

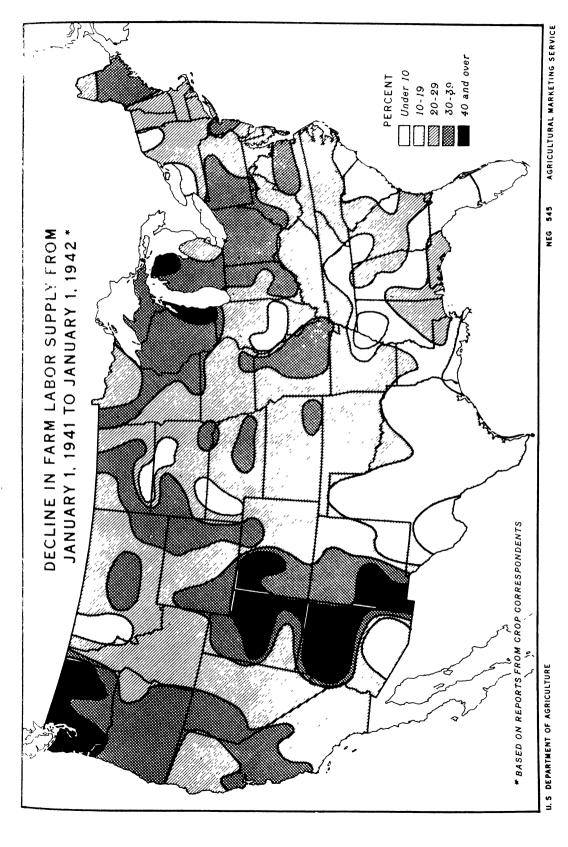


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Supply as percentage of demand. "Normal" supply with "normal" demand = 100. 1927-29 data not available. Employment in manufacturing industries. Monthly average 1923-25 = 100. November 1941 - Latest available data.

Decline in farm labor supply from January 1, 1941 to January 1, 1942 by crop-reporting districts 1/
(Percentage Changes)

	:				 P:	 rice	- -re	 porti	 ine d	 list	 rict							
State	: 7 -	 l-N:1		2 -			_							. 0	- a	 • Q A •	- -	State
		T_ N:1	9:		? <u>-</u> A:	3 <u>:</u>	4	-4-M	:o_ : :)—A:	-p-:	Ö⊶₩.	- ' -	-0_	·_ ³ _	: 3-A:	<u>∓</u> ∩_ ;	
Me.	:28	-	_	32	-	37		-		-	-	-	-	_		-	-	-
N.H.	: -	_		_	-	-				-		-	-		-	-	-	29
Vt.	: -	-	-	-			-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		29
Mass.	: -	_	_	-	_	_		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
R.I.	: -	_	_	_	_	-	_	-	-			-		-		-		20
Conn.	: -	-	-	_	_	_	_	_										_ 2 <u>1</u> _
$\overline{\text{N.Y.}}$: -	_	_	20	_	15	12	_	21	_	29	_	29	21	27	20	-	_
N.J.	: -	_	-	36	-	-	-	-	31	-	_	-		20	-			~
Pa.	:31	-	_	34_	_	24	36	-	29		29_	-	32_	21_	23_			
Ohio	:31	_		37	_	38	32		33		32		37	30	36	-		-
Ind	:21	_		32	_	32	37		28		35	-	31	33	34	_	-	-
Ill.	:21		_	_	_		16	18	20	_	24	17	25		2 9		-	-
Mich.	:33	_	_	30	_	41	36		33		21		33	36	24	-	-	-
Wis	:34;	_		<u>3</u> 8_	_		33		32		40_		<u>3</u> 3_	33_	42_	-		
Minn.	:30;			28		20	24		26		37		26	32	33		-	
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1942 IN NEARLY ALL PARTS OF THE COUN-SMALLEST DECLINES OCCURRED IN DECLINES WERE GREATEST IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, THE SOUTHERN HALF OF THE REPORTS FROM CROP CORRESPONDENTS AS TO THE SUPPLY OF FARM LABOR SHOW LARGE Rocky Mountain region and around the Great Lakes. DECLINES FROM JANUARY 1, 1941 TO JANUARY 1, THE GULF STATES. TRY.