

REVIEW DRAFT
October 1955

AGRICULTURAL MIGRANTS IN
11 WESTERN STATES AND
TEXAS

(Map of the 11 States and Texas)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service
1955

Resource ID#7188

**Agricultural Migrants In 11 Western States
And Texas**

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been completed.)

Why this pamphlet?

Questions about farm migrants are often raised by health workers and others. "Who are the migrants?" "Why do they move from place to place?" "How do they differ from other farm workers?"

The following pages present brief answers to some of these questions, based chiefly on published information about migrants in 11 Western States and Texas.

Definitions

For purposes of this pamphlet, the term "migratory farm worker" is defined as one who moves one or more times each year in search of employment, returning to a home-base when he fails to find employment of the type he seeks and for which he qualifies.

His migration follows a seasonal course, sometimes through several States. It may also be confined within a single State. In no case, however, is the place of his employment away from home-base close enough so that the worker can return to his home each night.

The "agricultural migrant population" is defined to include both workers and family dependents who travel with them. It also includes both citizens of this country, or "domestic workers," and citizens of other countries--chiefly Mexico--who work in the United States temporarily.

This pamphlet is concerned chiefly with domestic migrants.

The National picture

MECHANIZATION, CROP SPECIALIZATION, AND OTHER CHANGES IN FARMING METHODS--

1. Have reduced the total number of man-hours of labor required for crop production and harvesting.

Total man-hours of labor (family and hired) required--

in 1930-34 - 22,231,000,000

in 1950 - 18,292,000,000

2. Have created sharp shifts in work opportunity as seasons change, increasing the peak demand for hired farm workers but reducing the opportunity for year-around work.

Proportion of hired farm workers needed for--

1931 1949

12 months 46 19

2 months or less 11 27

Total farm labor force, 1949

High month Low month

All workers 14,694,000 7,150,000

Family workers 10,538,000 6,197,000

Hired workers 4,156,000 953,000

3. Have created a demand for a mobile labor force to fill the gap between local supply and local demand for workers.

Total farm manpower (estimates)

Migratory workers - 1,000,000

Seasonal workers who do not migrate - 2,250,000

Year-around and other regular hired workers - 1,000,000

Farmers and members of their families - 10,000,000

4. This demand is chiefly for large-scale operations in which many workers are employed.

| <u>Migratory labor use in man-days, September 1948</u> | <u>Farms</u> | | <u>Migratory workers</u> | |
|--|------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | <u>All Farms</u> | <u>Farms using migratory labor</u> | <u>Thousands</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
| | <u>Percent</u> | <u>Percent</u> | | |
| Farms with migratory workers | 3.8 | 100 | 712 | 100 |
| 1 to 74 days | .6 | 16 | 24 | 3 |
| 75 to 249 days | .8 | 21 | 95 | 13 |
| 250 to 499 days | .7 | 16 | 96 | 14 |
| 500 to 999 days | .7 | 17 | 97 | 14 |
| 1,000 days and over | .7 | 19 | 276 | 39 |
| Not reported | .4 | 11 | 124 | 17 |

5. In many parts of the country there is little employment of migrants. Some parts, however, depend heavily upon migrant workers.

During 1954, in the 10 East Coast States from Florida to New York--

18 of the total of 646 counties had more than 3,000 migrants at the peak of the season.

(Includes domestic workers and dependents)

155 counties had at least 100 during the period when local farm labor demand was greatest.

In the same year, in the 11 Western States ^{1/}--

14 of the total of 411 counties had more than 3,000 migrants at the season's peak. (Includes domestic workers only.)

162 counties had at least 100 when local farm labor demand was greatest.

^{1/} Preliminary estimates.

6. Peak seasonal needs for agricultural workers in some areas have created a demand for migrants since the beginning of the century or earlier.

Farm labor demand varies in any local area and over the country as a whole--both from one year to the next and over a period of years--as the result of:

Variations in crop yield which in turn depend upon weather and other unpredictable factors.

Variations in prices which crops command. Low prices may influence growers to curtail production of a particular crop requiring hand labor. High prices may have the opposite effect. Low prices at harvest time may make a grower decide not to harvest part or all of his crop.

Progress in mechanization, which to some degree depends on economic as well as other factors.

Over-all, fewer people are likely to be needed for farm work in the future as the productivity per worker increases through farm mechanization and other means.

Mechanization is likely to have a substantial effect in such crops as cotton and sugar beets.

Crop hand work is difficult to eliminate in fruits, berries, vegetables, and tobacco.

Even with increased mechanization reducing the total need for hand labor, there seems little likelihood that the need for agricultural migrants in some crops will completely disappear.

7. Aside from factors influencing the demand for migrants, the availability of other employment is among the factors influencing the number of agricultural migrants on the supply side of the picture.

The number of agricultural migrants was greatest during the wide-scale unemployment of the 1930's. At that time it reached 3 or 4 million.

During World War II's manpower shortage, the number declined to about one-half million.

Since the war, the number of migrant farm workers has had a tendency to increase.

8. The agricultural migrant population, including nonworking family dependents, totals roughly a little under 1½ million persons.

Of these, about half are domestic workers and their dependents.

The remainder are alien contract workers--single men without families who travel with them--and illegal aliens.

In 1954, 300,000 alien contract workers, mostly Mexicans, were employed in the United States, nearly twice the number employed two years earlier.

The number of illegal aliens or "wetbacks" who are employed on farms in the United States at any one time can only be guessed at. Mexican workers, with or without their families, have long filtered across the border, some finding employment as far north as Illinois and Michigan.

The recent increase in alien contract workers from Mexico doubtless reflects the extent to which the current drive to check wetbacks has been successful.

9. The total agricultural migrant population includes about the same number of persons as the population of any one of three States--Nebraska, Colorado, or Oregon. It is greater than the population of any one of a dozen States.

Taking only domestic workers and their family dependents into consideration, the population is about the same as that of--

Rhode Island

Either of the Dakotas

Arizona

It is greater than the population of 9 States.

The Western States and Texas--

1. Where migrants are needed as the seasons change

The peak period for employment of migratory farm workers in the United States during 1954 was reported for the fall months. Approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ million migrants were employed at the peak. Of these, about 65 percent were domestic workers. Between 33 and 44 percent of the domestic migrants worked in the Western States, exclusive of Texas. Nearly one-fourth worked in Texas.

More than half of the out-of-State domestic seasonal farm labor force working in the Western States in 1954 migrated from Texas. About 85 percent of these originated among the Latin-American population of south Texas.

The work routes of those who follow a particular crop can be followed with comparative ease. In April and May close to 60,000 leave Texas for the sugar beet areas of Colorado, Idaho, Montana, and Utah. They return in November after the crop is harvested, although some may stop along the way to pick cotton in Arizona.

In July the cotton pickers who originate in Texas (100,000 or more) begin their work in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Those who move on to New Mexico, Arizona, and California return about January.

It is difficult to trace work routes for others who are not "crop specialists." Many families move back and forth during the season between areas and harvests for different crops.

In June, some leave the South Central States (Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and others). They work in crops to the east of the Rockies or along the West Coast, returning in October.

Other workers leave Arizona and southern California in May, travel north to various California counties and return "home" in October, November, or December.

In December and January, some California workers move into Arizona for the winter harvest. In the spring, as crops begin to mature, some travel north, working in Oregon and Washington from July until they return to California in November.

About 25,000 migrants live and work the entire year in California, moving from county to county as jobs open up.

In August, September and October, Idaho needs thousands of migrant workers to harvest its peach and potato crops. These workers come chiefly from Texas, Arizona and the West Coast States.

In August and September also, the Colorado and Utah peach harvest requires about 6,000 additional workers. Migrants from Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nevada, California, and Wyoming supplement the labor force from within the two States.

In mid-September 1954--California's peak month for the year--120,000 Mexican and other nonlocal farm workers were reported to be employed in the State. Arizona's peak came in November when 20,000 workers from other States and 14,000 Mexican Nationals helped to harvest cotton, vegetable and citrus crops.

Important crops requiring migrant workers, peak periods of employment, and estimated numbers of nonlocal workers employed at the peak by State appear in Table 1. The estimated number for each State includes only selected agricultural areas. It does not include workers in nondelineated areas or in areas requiring less than 500 workers.

The series of maps shows in a more graphic way where labor requirements are high for each quarterly period.

Table 1. - Time Pattern of Selected Crops/ Requiring Migrant Workers in Texas and the Western States, 1954

| State and crop | Month | | | | | | | | | | | | Peak Period | Estimated Number of Migrants 2/ | |
|-------------------|-------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | | | |
| <u>Texas</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Oct. | 141,730 |
| Cotton | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Citrus | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Tomatoes | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Corn | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| <u>Arizona</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Nov. | 34,000 |
| Cotton | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Lettuce | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Carrots | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| <u>California</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Sept. | 120,000 |
| Cotton | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Sugar beets | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Prunes | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Melons | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Citrus | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Oranges | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Lemons | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Other | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Grapes | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |

Table 1. - Time Pattern of Selected Crops/ Requiring Migrant Workers in Texas and the Western States, 1954
 (Continued)

| State and crop | Month | | | | | | | | | | | | Peak Period | |
|-------------------|-------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------------|--------|
| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | | |
| <u>Colorado</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Aug. | 8,137 |
| Sugar beets | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Peaches | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Melons | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| <u>Idaho</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Oct. | 8,340 |
| Potatoes | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Peas | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Sugar beets | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| <u>Montana</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | June | 7,571 |
| Sugar beets | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Potatoes | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| <u>Nevada</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Aug. | 700 |
| Hay | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Tomato Plants | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| <u>New Mexico</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Oct. | 21,057 |
| Cotton | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |

Table 1, - Time Pattern of Selected Crops^{1/} Requiring Migrant Workers in Texas and the Western States, 1951
(Continued)

| State and crop | Month | | | | | | | | | | | | Peak Period | Estimated Number of Migrants ^{2/} |
|-------------------|-------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------------|--|
| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | | |
| <u>Oregon</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Aug. | 23,320 |
| Onions | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Peas | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Apples | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Potatoes | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Beans | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| <u>Utah</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Sept. | 1,769 |
| Sugar beets | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Fruits | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Vegetables | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| <u>Washington</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | Oct. | 15,338 |
| Berries | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Apples | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Potatoes | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Peas | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| <u>Wyoming</u> | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | June | 4,130 |
| Sugar beets | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Potatoes | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |
| Hay | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | XX | XX |

Table 1. - Time Pattern of Selected Crops/ Requiring Migrant Workers in Texas and the Western States, 1954
(Continued)

Source: Guide to Seasonal Farm Work Areas in the Intermountain States (1950) and Far Western States (1952-1953), Farm Placement Service, Bureau of Employment Security, United States Department of Labor; and Employment and Wage Supplement, Farm Labor Market Developments published monthly during each crop season by the Bureau of Employment Security.

1/ Crops were selected on the basis of their estimated relative importance as to labor demand. Clues that were used to estimate labor requirements for specific crops were the 1954 Biweekly Reports (ES223) to the Bureau of Employment Security, United States Department of Labor, and reports of several studies conducted between 1945 and 1952 by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, in various areas of the Western States.

2/ Estimated numbers of migrants include intra- and inter-State migrants and Mexican workers. These estimates are from Bureau of Employment Security reports except for California and Arizona. The latter are from State reports. Bureau of Employment Security monthly estimates are based on selected agricultural areas. They are useful yardsticks of monthly fluctuations in employment but they do not provide complete coverage for National or State-wide employment of migrant farm labor. They do not include workers in non-delineated areas nor those in areas needing less than 500 workers.

2. Who the people are

Typically, migrant farm workers are persons who are handicapped in finding regular jobs by lack of education and occupational skills. Their race or national background are often added handicaps. Migrants in Texas and the Western States are no exception.

A sharp shift in the racial and national characteristics of the western farm migrant has taken place since about 1940, however. Then about 85 percent were native whites, usually former tenants or sharecroppers from Texas, Oklahoma, and other States of the South and Southwest. By 1946, an estimated one-half were Latin-American and only one-third were persons of Anglo-Saxon extraction.

Eighteen percent of the western migrant farm labor force was estimated to be nonwhite in 1946. Just three years later, an estimated 28 percent of the workers were nonwhite. The trend toward greater numbers of nonwhites seems to be continuing as southern Negroes are becoming a more important part of the migrant population of the Western States.

In spite of various restrictions, Mexican workers have long crossed the border more or less regularly for seasonal work in agriculture. An emergency program for importing single men for temporary farm work was initiated early in the 1940's to help meet the wartime shortage of manpower. The number of Mexican workers brought in under the program ranged from 4,000 in 1942 to 62,000 in 1944. It declined to 20,000 in 1947. These workers were placed in 24 States with the Western States -- particularly California -- taking by far the largest share.

Following the cessation of emergency wartime programs, the Agricultural Act of 1949 was passed. The Act enables the Department of Labor to arrange

for the importation of Mexican workers. As amended in 1955 the program will continue to June 30, 1959.

Concurrently with the program for legal importation of Mexican workers, an influx of illegal migrants has continued. Commonly termed "wetbacks," they were apprehended by the Immigration and Naturalization Service in greater and greater numbers each year up to 1954. More than 650,000 apprehensions were reported during the first 8 months of 1953. The number of "repeaters" included in this figure is offset to some extent by the number who crossed without detection--estimated to be at least equal to the number caught.

In 1954 the effort to check the wetback traffic was greatly strengthened. As a result, the number of Mexican Nationals brought in under contract increased to more than 300,000 compared with about 200,000 in the previous year. Two-thirds were contracted for in California and Texas with Texas taking more than half. Other western States bulked large among the 24 States using Mexican Nationals in 1954.

The number of wetbacks working in the United States at the present time is unknown but is believed to be greatly reduced. For the Nation as a whole, an estimated one-third of the domestic migrant labor force is made up of women and girls. Domestic migrants are a relatively young group, with 86 percent between 14 and 45 years of age compared with 72 percent of the hired farm workers who do not migrate.

Labor force figures usually include only persons 14 or over. Among migrants, however, there are many workers under 14 years of age. In addition, the migrant labor population includes many nonworking wives and dependents. Mexican contract workers are single men or men who leave their families in Mexico. The domestic migrant, on the other hand, typically has his family with

him. "Such evidence as we have," according to one report, "indicates that the number of nonworking wives and dependents is almost as large as the number of workers. The proportion of dependents in Latin-American families is especially large." More than two-thirds of the farm worker families included in a San Joaquin Valley survey during 1948 had two or more children. Latin-American families averaged nearly 5 persons per family and Anglo-American, 4.

Other evidence as to characteristics of the migrant labor population indicates substantial numbers of nonworkers, usually children under 14. A report for Texas shows 150,000 Latin-Americans moving within Texas and to other States, accompanied by 60,000 children under 14. Children over 14 are considered workers. Arizona, California, Oregon and Washington--taken together--are reported to have about 100,000 out-of State migrant workers accompanied by 37,000 nonworkers, again mostly children under 14.

Even as late as 1950, population groups typical of those from which migrants are drawn included many persons over 25 who had little or no schooling. In one county of the lower Rio Grande Valley, for example, one-fourth of the total rural population over 25 had never attended school. The median school achievement of the county's population was 5.4 grades. For those with Spanish surnames, it was less than third grade.

The people over 25 in Fresno county, California, outside of the city of Fresno had completed--as of 1950--less than 9 grades. Among the group in the county with Spanish surnames--one-eighth of the county's population--the median school grade completed was 5.6. In Imperial County, California, nearly one-fifth of the population has Spanish surnames. The median school achievement of adults over 25 in this group was fourth grade compared with a county median of ninth grade.

3. Amount of earnings and conditions of work

The daily earnings of farm migrants average higher than those of non-migrant farm workers, but the migrant farm worker's annual earnings are reduced by a variety of conditions. One is the time lost from work as the result of travel.

Travel is a necessity imposed by the lessening opportunity for year-around farm work at a single location. About 25 years ago, nearly 40 percent of the hired farm workers required at the peak of the season in the Mountain States and 50 percent of those in the Pacific Coast States would have been able to find employment in the same area at other times of the year as well. By 1949 those percentages were reduced by approximately half to 19 and 26 percent, respectively, for the Mountain and the Pacific Coast States.

The migrant farm worker also loses time because of bad weather, uncertainties as to crop yield or exact time of harvesting, an oversupply of labor in a particular area, and other circumstances. Since typically he is paid only while he is actually working, loss of time means loss of earnings. Wage payments are often on a piecework basis and a poor crop is likely to mean reduced earnings even though a worker may be employed fairly regularly.

When off-farm work is available for which they qualify, many migrants take advantage of it. Usually, however, they lack the special skills required for permanent work off the farm. The off-farm jobs for which they qualify may also be seasonal or temporary.

The total earnings of migrant workers employed on farms more than 25 days during 1952 averaged \$1,100 for males and \$259 for females. This includes earnings from both farm and nonfarm employment during the year. Thus, assuming that a man and wife both worked, family earnings would amount to about \$1,350 not taking into account the earnings of children which would probably be

sporadic. In 1949, family earnings estimated on this basis amounted to about \$1,000.

Since 1910, the average hourly earnings for all hired farm workers--both migrant and nonmigrant--have ranged from less than one-third to two-thirds of the hourly wage rates of industrial workers. Although farm workers customarily get some remuneration in forms other than cash, factory workers also get important perquisites including sick benefits, holiday pay, retirement, and other benefits.

The hourly earnings of both hired farm workers and industrial workers generally average higher in the Western States than the national average (see Table 2). In Texas the average is lower.

Comparisons of the earnings of migratory and nonmigratory farm workers appear in Table 3. Table 4 compares the annual earnings of these two types of farm workers with those of workers in manufacturing when the value of perquisites is taken into account.

Self-recruitment of workers who may return to the same employer year after year is rather common. Dependence on employment middlemen to put worker and employer in touch with each other, however, has long been an accepted and widely used practice in agricultural employment. Employers depend on these middlemen to procure enough workers, of a type and at a time suited to their special needs, and willing to work at the rates of pay offered. Workers, in turn, often depend on employment middlemen for transportation, housing, and other services.

Various reports show something of the extent of dependence on employment middlemen in Texas and the Western States. According to one report, "Most of the approximately 90,000 migratory workers who are engaged in harvesting cotton in Texas are recruited by crew leaders. The predominant Texas-Mexican segment operates almost entirely under crew leaders...Vegetable harvesting in

Texas is also performed by workers under the crew leader system. In addition to the crew leader, the licensed labor agent is a common type of employment middleman in Texas. In 1950, almost 50,000 workers were recruited by licensed labor agents in this State for the account of farm employers in other States."

In California the labor contractor predominates in the recruitment and hiring of labor in peas, asparagus, and several fruit crops. He is also found in other crops, both in California and elsewhere. A farm labor contractor has been defined as an employment middleman or intermediary who "assembles a crew and undertakes the harvest of fruit, vegetables, cotton, sugar beets, and other specialty crops for a contract price usually based on weight or volume of product or acreage harvested." He usually carries on a number of functions that might otherwise be assumed by a farm operator such as recruiting, transporting, supervising, and paying workers. He may also provide for workers' housing and, in the case of single workers, their board. In the case of families he may operate a commissary.

Originally the use of crew leaders, labor contractors, and similar employment middlemen developed out of the need of foreign-language workers for an intermediary who could negotiate with employers. Even with English-speaking groups, however, such middlemen continue to be important, taking their place alongside the Farm Placement Service--the public recruitment agency--and individual employers or employer groups that do their own recruiting. The employment middleman in many cases works with the Farm Placement Service, depending at least in part on public employment offices for assistance in finding workers on locating jobs.

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Texas is also performed by workers under the crew leader system. In addition to the crew leader, the licensed labor agent is a common type of employment middleman in Texas. In 1950, almost 50,000 workers were recruited by licensed labor agents in this State for the account of farm employers in other States."

In California the labor contractor predominates in the recruitment and hiring of labor in peas, asparagus, and several fruit crops. He is also found in other crops, both in California and elsewhere. A farm labor contractor has been defined as an employment middleman or intermediary who "assembles a crew and undertakes the harvest of fruit, vegetables, cotton, sugar beets, and other specialty crops for a contract price usually based on weight or volume of product or acreage harvested." He usually carries on a number of functions that might otherwise be assumed by a farm operator such as recruiting, transporting, supervising, and paying workers. He may also provide for workers' housing and, in the case of single workers, their board. In the case of families he may operate a commissary.

Originally the use of crew leaders, labor contractors, and similar employment middlemen developed out of the need of foreign-language workers for an intermediary who could negotiate with employers. Even with English-speaking groups, however, such middlemen continue to be important, taking their place alongside the Farm Placement Service--the public recruitment agency--and individual employers or employer groups that do their own recruiting. The employment middleman in many cases works with the Farm Placement Service, depending at least in part on public employment offices for assistance in finding workers on locating jobs.

Table 2.--Estimated Average Hourly Wage Rates for all Hired Farm Workers (1954), and for Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries (1953), United States, Texas, and Eleven Western States

| Area | Average hourly wage rates | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | All hired farm workers (1954) 1/ | Industrial workers (1953) 2/ |
| <u>United States</u> | <u>\$0.651</u> | <u>\$1.77</u> |
| Texas | .635 | 1.68 |
| Montana | .821 | 1.93 |
| Idaho | .866 | 1.87 |
| Wyoming | .807 | 1.99 |
| Colorado | .740 | 1.74 |
| New Mexico | .600 | 1.80 |
| Arizona | .760 | 1.88 |
| Utah | .855 | 1.79 |
| Nevada | .804 | 2.08 |
| Washington | 1.097 | 2.04 |
| Oregon | 1.037 | 2.12 |
| California | 1.032 | 1.97 |

1/ Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.: Farm Labor, January 12, 1955, page 15.

2/ Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics: Employment and Earnings, annual supplement, May 1954.

Table 3.--Average Time Worked and Cash Wages Earned at Farm and Nonfarm Work by Workers with 25 Days or More of Farm Wage Work During the Year and by Migratory Status, 1952 ^{1/} _{2/}

| Migratory status of workers | Wage work | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------|----------------------|-------------|--------|----------------------|-------------|--------|
| | Total | | | Farm | | | Nonfarm | | |
| | Average days of work | Cash earned | | Average days of work | Cash earned | | Average days of work | Cash earned | |
| | | Yearly | Daily | | Yearly | Daily | | Yearly | Daily |
| <u>All Farm Wage Workers</u> | 162 | \$908 | \$5.60 | 132 | \$684 | \$5.15 | 30 | \$224 | \$7.45 |
| Migratory workers | 124 | 884 | 7.15 | 87 | 600 | 6.90 | 37 | 284 | 7.75 |
| Nonmigratory workers | 169 | 911 | 5.40 | 140 | 698 | 5.00 | 29 | 213 | 7.40 |

^{1/} U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics: The Hired Farm Working Force of 1952, with special information on Migratory Workers, Table 5 and Table 18.

^{2/} Data relate to persons 14 years of age and over in the civilian noninstitutional population at the time of the survey and include domestic migratory farm workers only.

Table 4.--Employment and Earnings of Farm and Factory Workers, 1949 and 1952

| | Type of worker | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | 1949 ^{1/} | | | 1952 | | |
| | Migrant farm | Non-migrant farm | Manufacturing | Migrant farm ^{2/} | Non-migrant farm ^{2/} | Manufacturing |
| Average days of work | 101 | 120 | 245 | 124 | 169 | 245 |
| Average rate per day | \$5.10 | \$4.40 | \$11.21 | \$7.15 | \$5.40 | \$13.59 ^{3/} |
| Cash earnings per year | 514 | 520 | 2746 | 884 | 911 | 3329 |
| Value of perquisites ^{4/} | 36 | 60 | 120 | 36 | 60 | 120 |
| Total earnings | \$550 | \$580 | \$2866 | \$920 | \$971 | \$3449 |

^{1/} Migratory Labor. Hearings Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, Washington, 1952, Table XVI, page 983.

^{2/} The Hired Farm Working Force of 1952. Louis J. Ducoff. Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

^{3/} Average weekly rate (Employment and earnings, May 1955, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, page 102) divided by 5.

^{4/} Estimate dates back to 1945 - none more recent.

4. Some State and Federal laws applicable to
domestic agricultural workers

Typically, agricultural workers have not been covered by the laws that generally regulate working conditions in trade and industry. Even where the law itself contains no specific exclusion of agricultural workers, these workers may be excluded in practice. A few laws, however, apply specifically to agricultural workers.

The following is a brief summary of the situation in the Western States and Texas:

Child Labor

The Federal Fair Labor Standards Act establishes a minimum age of 16 years for agricultural employment during school hours.

The Sugar Act, another Federal law, prescribes that children under 14 may not work in the production, cultivation, or harvesting of sugar cane or sugar beets.

California sets a minimum age of 12 during vacations and 14 outside school hours on school days.

Utah sets a minimum of 16 and California a minimum of 16 years for agricultural work during school hours.

(In some States, compulsory school-attendance laws supplement the standards set under the child-labor laws.)

Workmen's compensation

California provides elective coverage for farmers with payrolls of \$500 or over a year. (That is, farmers may elect to come under the provisions of the law if they wish.)

Arizona and Wyoming require coverage of agricultural workers in certain mechanized or power operations.

Wages

Aside from the provisions of the Sugar Act which set up machinery for establishing a minimum wage for workers in sugar beets and sugar cane, no Federal law applies to wages in agriculture.

Nevada law sets a specific wage rate for farm workers.

In California, Colorado, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington the laws setting or permitting the establishment of minimum wages for women and minors are broad enough to cover agricultural workers.

A number of State wage payment laws are probably broad enough to apply to farm employers. California's law has provisions for payment of wages expressly applicable to farm workers. The Commissioners of Labor in California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington have authority to take assignments from workers for the collection of back wages. This authority is broad enough to cover claims of farm workers.

Regulation of farm labor contractors

California, Oregon, and Texas have laws applying specifically to contractors who recruit farm workers. The laws apply primarily to recruitment activities.

Transportation of farm workers

California and Oregon have laws or regulations setting safety standards for vehicles used in the transportation of farm workers. (See also suggested Transportation Code prepared by the President's Committee on Migratory Labor.)

Regulation of farm labor camps

Several of the Western States have fairly detailed laws or regulations applicable to all labor camps or to migrant camps. (See separate report for comparison of provisions of these laws.)

The President's Committee on Migratory Labor has prepared a suggested set of regulations for consideration by the States. (Attached to separate report.)

Old age and survivor's insurance

The 1954 amendments to the Social Security Act extended coverage to farm workers earning as little as \$100 a year from one employer.

5. Residence requirements

(a) For general assistance (as of January 1, 1955)

"Migrant workers...are either not protected under the social-insurance and workmen's compensation programs or receive only a limited degree of protection. Furthermore--due to restrictive residence or settlement requirements, community attitudes, or lack of funds--welfare services, including financial aid, are not uniformly available to migrant workers.

"The effect of settlement laws may differ widely. For example, in one State a person not having legal settlement may not be eligible for relief. In another, such a person may be eligible for 'emergency' relief only, while in a third State the fact that he does not have legal settlement may not affect his eligibility but may determine the locality responsible for any general assistance granted him.

"... The extent and duration of aid available varies greatly within and among States from dependence upon local attitudes and availability of funds to the acceptance of nonresidents on the same basis as residents."

The following summarizes current residence requirements for general assistance in Texas and the Western States:

Texas

1 year required to gain residence.

General assistance is administered on local basis only. In most counties the applicant is required to have 1 year residence in State and 6 months in the county. This varies from county to county.

"Intent" to abandon residence is the criterion for loss of settlement.

Six months residence is required for care in a mental hospital unless dangerously insane when admission is requested.

Arizona

5 years out of the last nine years, the last year continuous, required to gain residence.

Arizona - Continued

Up to 5 years or time required to gain residence in other State, whichever is less, results in loss of residence.

1 year's county residence sufficient for medical and general hospital care.

Requirement for mental hospital care usually 1 year, established through reciprocal agreement with other States.

California

3 years required to gain residence.

Absence of 1 year results in loss of residence.

Under the health laws, no settlement is required for communicable disease care. Under the "Indigent Law" 3 years are required for medical and general hospital care. However, "every county may give such emergency relief to dependent nonresidents as the respective boards of supervisors deem necessary."

For mental hospital care, only 1 year's residence is required, although reciprocal agreements with five States are based on a requirement of two year's residence.

Colorado

3 years required to gain residence.

1 year's absence results in loss of residence.

Emergency assistance may be granted to nonresidents if county department so desires.

Idaho

1 year required to gain residence.

1 year's absence results in loss of residence.

Reciprocal agreements with the States of Washington and Oregon fix 2 years as the required period of residence for care in a mental hospital; other States one year.

Montana

1 year required to gain residence.

"Intent" to abandon residence is criterion in loss of settlement.

Nevada

3 years required to gain residence.

1 year's residence is required for care in a mental hospital. Time during which the individual is confined in a public institution or receiving public assistance cannot be counted toward establishment of legal residence.

Oregon

3 years required to gain residence.

1 year's absence results in loss of residence.

2 years' residence required for care in mental hospitals.

Special provision is made for granting assistance to needy persons who lack settlement. Authorization to return to state of settlement considered a resource in determining eligibility.

Utah

1 year required to gain residence.

Unemployable general assistance cases may have assistance continued until residence is established in the state to which they have moved.

Assistance to employables discontinued immediately upon removal from state.

Washington

1 year required to gain residence.

1 year's absence results in loss of residence.

To be eligible, a general assistance applicant must have lived in the state continuously for one year immediately prior to the date of application, except for temporary absences for such purposes as visits, employment, illness, etc. Provision is made for assistance to non-residents pending return to their state of residence.

Wyoming

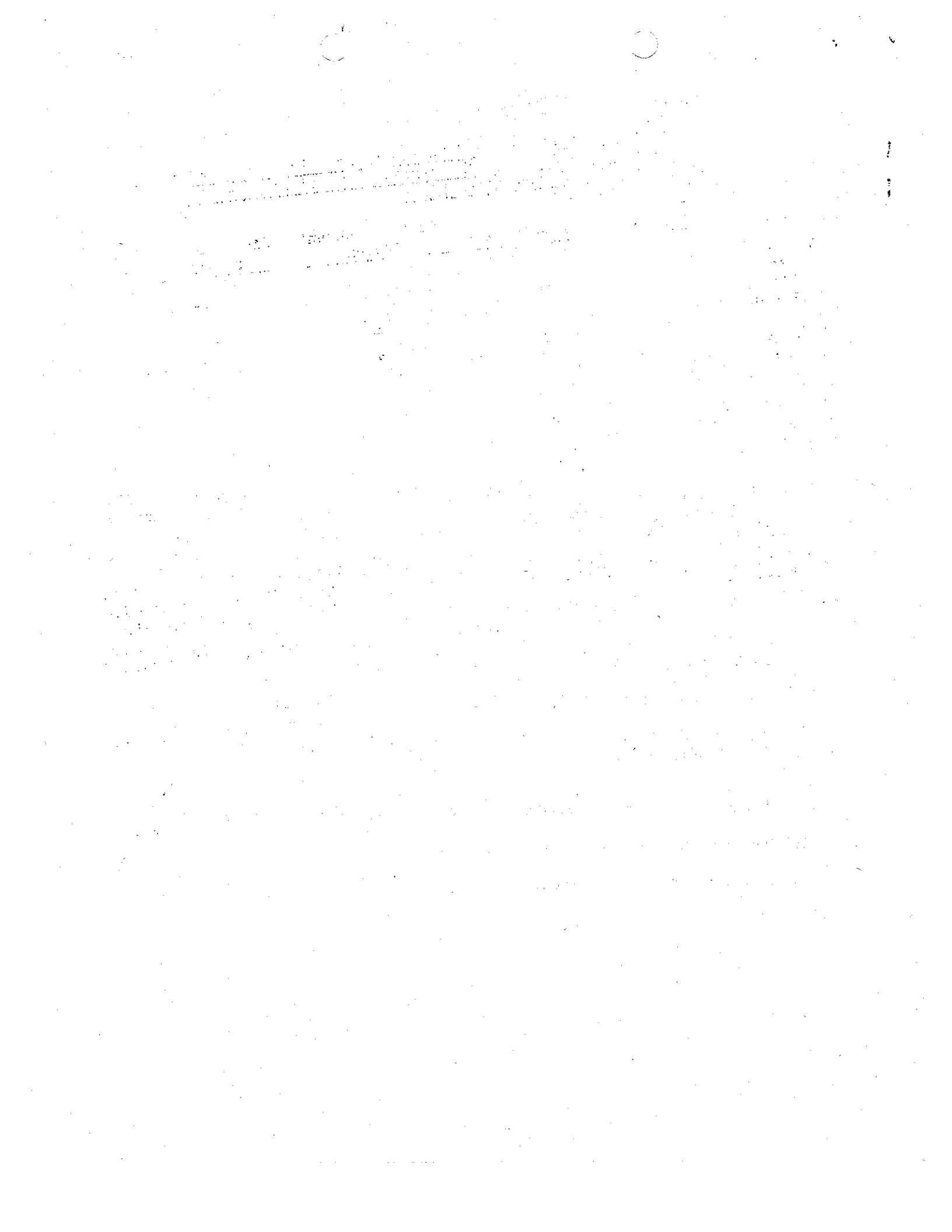
1 year required to gain residence.

1 year's absence results in loss of residence.

(b) Old-age assistance, aid to the blind, aid to dependent children, and aid to the permanently and totally disabled (as of January 1, 1955)

| <u>State</u> | <u>Old-age assistance</u> | <u>Aid to blind</u> | <u>Aid to dependent children</u> | <u>Aid to permanently and totally disabled</u> |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Texas | a | a | a | - |
| Arizona | a | a <u>1/</u> | a | - |
| California | a | a <u>1/</u> | a <u>2/</u> | - |
| Colorado | k | a <u>1/</u> | a | b |
| Idaho | b <u>3/</u> | b <u>3/</u> | a <u>3/</u> | b |
| Montana | a | a | a | b |
| Nevada | a | j | - | - |
| N. Mexico | b | b <u>1/</u> | a | b |
| Oregon | a | a <u>3/</u> | a | b |
| Utah | b | b | a | b |
| Washington | a | g <u>1/</u> | a | b |
| Wyoming | b | b | a | b |

- a. Federal Maximum: OAA, AB, AD--5 of 9 years immediately preceding application and 1 continuous year immediately preceding application; ADC--1 year immediately preceding application or born within state within 1 year immediately preceding application if the parent or other relative with whom the child is living has resided in state for 1 year immediately preceding child's birth.
 - b. 1 year immediately preceding application.
 - g. 5 out of 10 years immediately preceding application without reference to the year preceding application.
 - j. 2 of 9 years preceding application, with last year continuous.
 - k. 5 of 9 years immediately preceding application without reference to the year preceding application.
1. Not required if became blind while resident of state.
 2. Not required if child born in state.
 3. Alternative sometimes provided.



*May, Western States
& Texas*

Estimated monthly employment of seasonal hired workers in agriculture by source of labor supply, United States, 11 Western States, and Texas, 1954 1/

| Month | Local | | Nonlocal | | Total | Local | | Nonlocal | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|----------|---------|-------|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| | Thous. | Thous. | domestic | Foreign | | Percent | Percent | Percent | Percent |
| <u>United States</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan. | 299 | 188 | 67 | 44 | 100 | 63 | 22 | | 15 |
| Feb. | 263 | 183 | 44 | 36 | 100 | 70 | 17 | | 13 |
| Mar. | 255 | 176 | 43 | 37 | 100 | 69 | 17 | | 14 |
| Apr. | 314 | 216 | 58 | 40 | 100 | 69 | 18 | | 13 |
| May | 610 | 440 | 116 | 55 | 100 | 72 | 19 | | 9 |
| June | 917 | 623 | 222 | 71 | 100 | 68 | 24 | | 8 |
| July | 952 | 628 | 251 | 74 | 100 | 66 | 26 | | 8 |
| Aug. | 1,054 | 639 | 308 | 107 | 100 | 61 | 29 | | 10 |
| Sept. | 1,219 | 803 | 292 | 124 | 100 | 66 | 24 | | 10 |
| Oct. | 1,204 | 727 | 279 | 199 | 100 | 60 | 23 | | 17 |
| Nov. | 751 | 419 | 156 | 176 | 100 | 56 | 21 | | 23 |
| Dec. | 414 | 237 | 84 | 93 | 100 | 57 | 21 | | 22 |
| <u>11 Western States</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan. | 178 | 104 | 50 | 24 | 100 | 59 | 28 | | 13 |
| Feb. | 131 | 84 | 26 | 21 | 100 | 64 | 20 | | 16 |
| Mar. | 124 | 79 | 26 | 20 | 100 | 64 | 20 | | 16 |
| Apr. | 159 | 99 | 37 | 23 | 100 | 62 | 23 | | 15 |
| May | 246 | 144 | 70 | 32 | 100 | 59 | 28 | | 13 |
| June | 339 | 195 | 104 | 40 | 100 | 58 | 31 | | 11 |
| July | 389 | 249 | 100 | 40 | 100 | 64 | 26 | | 10 |
| Aug. | 368 | 224 | 102 | 42 | 100 | 61 | 28 | | 11 |
| Sept. | 413 | 226 | 121 | 66 | 100 | 55 | 29 | | 16 |
| Oct. | 437 | 230 | 122 | 85 | 100 | 53 | 28 | | 19 |
| Nov. | 273 | 141 | 65 | 68 | 100 | 52 | 23 | | 25 |
| Dec. | 209 | 112 | 56 | 41 | 100 | 53 | 27 | | 20 |
| <u>Texas</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan. | 55 | 46 | -- | 9 | 100 | 83 | 1 | | 16 |
| Feb. | 59 | 57 | 1 | 2 | 100 | 96 | 1 | | 3 |
| Mar. | 60 | 54 | -- | 6 | 100 | 90 | - | | 10 |
| Apr. | 66 | 59 | -- | 6 | 100 | 90 | 1 | | 9 |
| May | 99 | 87 | 3 | 9 | 100 | 88 | 3 | | 9 |
| June | 148 | 128 | 8 | 12 | 100 | 87 | 5 | | 8 |
| July | 165 | 131 | 14 | 19 | 100 | 80 | 9 | | 11 |
| Aug. | 281 | 164 | 67 | 50 | 100 | 58 | 24 | | 18 |
| Sept. | 183 | 114 | 36 | 34 | 100 | 62 | 20 | | 18 |
| Oct. | 237 | 95 | 65 | 76 | 100 | 40 | 28 | | 32 |
| Nov. | 263 | 96 | 70 | 97 | 100 | 36 | 27 | | 37 |
| Dec. | 124 | 69 | 11 | 43 | 100 | 56 | 9 | | 35 |

Source: Published and unpublished data compiled by the Bureau of Employment Security, U.S. Department of Labor.

1/ Does not include food processing workers.

Table . Percentage of estimated monthly employment in certain States of seasonal hired workers in agriculture (not including food processing workers)/status of mobility, 1954 1/
by

| Area and type of worker | Percent of Workers | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|
| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December |
| <u>United States</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local | 63 | 70 | 69 | 69 | 72 | 68 | 66 | 61 | 66 | 60 | 56 | 57 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 22 | 17 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 24 | 26 | 29 | 24 | 23 | 21 | 21 |
| Foreign | 15 | 13 | 14 | 13 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 17 | 23 | 22 |
| Mexican contract | 11 | 9 | 10 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 9 | 9 | 15 | 22 | 20 |
| <u>Texas</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local | 83 | 96 | 90 | 90 | 88 | 87 | 80 | 58 | 62 | 40 | 36 | 56 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 1 | 1 | 3/ | 1 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 24 | 20 | 28 | 27 | 9 |
| Foreign-Mexican contract | 16 | 3 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 11 | 18 | 18 | 32 | 37 | 35 |
| <u>11 Western States</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local | 59 | 64 | 64 | 62 | 59 | 58 | 64 | 61 | 55 | 53 | 52 | 53 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 28 | 20 | 20 | 23 | 28 | 31 | 26 | 28 | 29 | 28 | 23 | 27 |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | 13 | 16 | 16 | 15 | 13 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 16 | 19 | 25 | 20 |
| <u>Arizona</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local | 38 | 58 | 62 | 69 | 72 | 64 | 66 | 64 | 47 | 33 | 29 | 31 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 47 | 23 | 11 | 5 | 9 | 13 | 11 | 14 | 23 | 36 | 43 | 43 |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | 15 | 19 | 27 | 26 | 19 | 23 | 23 | 22 | 30 | 31 | 28 | 26 |
| <u>California</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local | 65 | 65 | 65 | 61 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 58 | 52 | 53 | 60 | 61 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 24 | 20 | 22 | 24 | 25 | 25 | 23 | 24 | 28 | 26 | 21 | 23 |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | 11 | 15 | 13 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 21 | 19 | 16 |
| <u>Colorado</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 67 | 50 | 61 | 54 | 57 | 62 | 2/ | 2/ |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | 33 | 38 | 35 | 44 | 40 | 37 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | - | 12 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | |
| <u>Idaho</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 34 | 37 | 52 | 57 | 52 | 78 | 2/ | 2/ |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | 66 | 62 | 45 | 42 | 46 | 21 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | - | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | |

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Table . Percentage of estimated monthly employment in certain States of seasonal hired workers in agriculture (not including food processing workers)/status of mobility, 1954 1/ (Continued)
by

| Area and type of worker | Percent of Workers | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December |
| <u>Montana</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | | | | | | | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> |
| Local | | | | | 24 | 24 | 26 | 39 | 44 | 53 | | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | 76 | 63 | 62 | 61 | 56 | 45 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | - | 13 | 12 | - | - | 2 | | |
| <u>Nevada</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | | | | | | | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> |
| Local | | | | | 70 | 100 | 29 | 41 | 35 | 85 | | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | - | - | 71 | 59 | 65 | 15 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | 30 | - | - | - | - | - | | |
| <u>New Mexico</u> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local | 34 | 32 | 38 | 49 | 44 | 48 | 53 | 49 | 37 | 25 | 19 | 22 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 5 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | 61 | 64 | 54 | 43 | 47 | 44 | 40 | 43 | 55 | 69 | 76 | 74 |
| <u>Oregon</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | | | | | | | | | | <u>2/</u> |
| Local | | | 60 | 62 | 55 | 58 | 61 | 65 | 62 | 63 | 87 | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | 40 | 38 | 45 | 42 | 39 | 35 | 38 | 37 | 13 | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| <u>Utah</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | | | | | | | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> |
| Local | | | | | 58 | 72 | 72 | 75 | 73 | 68 | | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | 41 | 26 | 24 | 18 | 24 | 28 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | 1 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 4 | | |

Table . Percentage of estimated monthly employment in certain States of seasonal hired workers in agriculture (not including food processing workers)/status of mobility, 1954 ^{1/} (Continued)
by

| Area and type of worker | Percent of Workers | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-----------|------|------|--------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December |
| <u>Washington</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | | | | | | | | | <u>2/</u> |
| Local | | | | 71 | 68 | 67 | 84 | 80 | 72 | 56 | 84 | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | 29 | 32 | 32 | 15 | 20 | 28 | 44 | 16 | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | - | <u>3/</u> | 1 | 1 | - | <u>3/</u> | <u>3/</u> | - | |
| <u>Wyoming</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | <u>2/</u> | | | | | | | | | <u>2/</u> |
| Local | | | | 87 | 62 | 45 | 49 | 73 | 77 | 80 | 88 | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | 13 | 38 | 47 | 45 | 26 | 21 | 20 | 12 | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | - | - | 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | - | - | |

^{1/}Source: Published and unpublished data compiled by the Bureau of Employment Security, U. S. Department of Labor, from semimonthly reports (ES 223) submitted by State agencies for individual Agricultural Reporting Areas. An Agricultural Reporting Area is a geographic area, within a State, defined by the State agency and approved by the Bureau of Employment Security. Semimonthly reports are required beginning with the period during which any of the following requirements are met: (1) 500 or more seasonal farm workers employed (2) 100 or more surplus workers or 100 or more workers needed, or (3) Any foreign workers. The semimonthly reports provide estimates of the number of seasonal farm workers employed in each area. They do not provide complete coverage, however, since they are limited to some 275 defined reporting areas and do not include workers employed in non-delineated areas nor those in areas whose need for labor in seasonal farm activities has just begun or nearly ended.

^{2/} No reports received.

^{3/} Less than one-half of one percent.

Table • Estimated monthly employment of seasonal hired workers in agriculture (not including food processing workers) by State, 1954 1/

| Area and type of worker | Number of Workers | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December |
| <u>United States Total</u> | 299,349 | 263,389 | 254,968 | 313,712 | 610,326 | 916,559 | 952,335 | 1,054,493 | 1,219,139 | 1,204,269 | 751,196 | 413,870 |
| Local | 188,159 | 183,206 | 175,535 | 215,759 | 439,545 | 623,130 | 628,219 | 639,201 | 802,864 | 726,788 | 419,182 | 237,130 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 66,741 | 43,873 | 42,560 | 58,128 | 115,958 | 222,451 | 250,571 | 308,140 | 292,333 | 278,710 | 156,500 | 83,881 |
| Foreign | 44,449 | 36,307 | 36,873 | 39,825 | 54,823 | 70,978 | 73,545 | 107,152 | 123,942 | 198,771 | 175,514 | 92,859 |
| Mexican contract | 32,898 | 24,235 | 25,712 | 29,093 | 44,247 | 62,786 | 64,830 | 99,155 | 113,430 | 185,879 | 168,197 | 84,533 |
| <u>Texas Total</u> | 54,848 | 58,987 | 60,314 | 65,815 | 98,945 | 147,815 | 164,561 | 280,732 | 183,134 | 236,550 | 262,905 | 123,602 |
| Local | 45,600 | 56,685 | 54,141 | 59,180 | 86,842 | 128,069 | 131,158 | 163,652 | 113,630 | 94,820 | 95,980 | 69,479 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 320 | 610 | 130 | 405 | 2,740 | 7,557 | 14,490 | 67,183 | 35,818 | 65,470 | 69,770 | 11,160 |
| Foreign-Mexican contract | 8,928 | 1,692 | 6,043 | 6,230 | 9,363 | 12,189 | 18,913 | 49,897 | 33,686 | 76,260 | 97,155 | 42,963 |
| <u>11 Western States Total</u> | 177,897 | 131,024 | 124,495 | 158,605 | 245,674 | 338,509 | 388,774 | 368,281 | 413,147 | 437,139 | 272,835 | 209,288 |
| Local | 104,104 | 83,776 | 79,126 | 98,946 | 143,908 | 194,696 | 249,262 | 224,480 | 226,197 | 229,974 | 140,614 | 111,702 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 49,823 | 26,397 | 25,700 | 36,858 | 69,659 | 103,802 | 99,551 | 101,835 | 120,824 | 122,163 | 64,654 | 56,127 |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | 23,970 | 20,851 | 19,669 | 22,801 | 32,107 | 40,011 | 39,961 | 41,766 | 66,126 | 85,002 | 67,567 | 41,459 |
| <u>Arizona Total</u> | 36,447 | 15,706 | 9,663 | 9,657 | 14,733 | 16,892 | 17,055 | 16,576 | 30,325 | 49,022 | 53,141 | 45,542 |
| Local | 13,822 | 9,077 | 5,949 | 6,664 | 10,625 | 10,732 | 11,335 | 10,655 | 14,116 | 16,182 | 15,528 | 14,291 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 17,032 | 3,602 | 1,095 | 462 | 1,279 | 2,191 | 1,840 | 2,240 | 7,122 | 17,781 | 22,610 | 19,683 |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | 5,593 | 3,027 | 2,619 | 2,531 | 2,829 | 3,969 | 3,880 | 3,681 | 9,087 | 15,059 | 15,003 | 11,568 |
| <u>California Total</u> | 134,800 | 111,800 | 107,400 | 123,900 | 172,250 | 192,410 | 187,800 | 196,000 | 235,400 | 241,800 | 183,700 | 156,240 |
| Local | 88,000 | 73,000 | 69,800 | 75,550 | 101,300 | 114,600 | 114,800 | 113,900 | 123,300 | 128,280 | 109,570 | 95,800 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 32,450 | 22,600 | 23,250 | 30,050 | 43,850 | 48,700 | 43,200 | 47,500 | 64,970 | 62,750 | 39,010 | 35,980 |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | 14,350 | 16,200 | 14,350 | 18,300 | 27,100 | 29,110 | 29,800 | 34,600 | 47,130 | 50,770 | 35,120 | 24,460 |
| <u>Colorado Total</u> | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 7,856 | 15,869 | 14,873 | 17,767 | 18,641 | 14,130 | 2/ | 2/ |
| Local | | | | | 5,275 | 7,976 | 9,093 | 9,630 | 10,672 | 8,851 | | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | 2,581 | 5,983 | 5,244 | 7,831 | 7,532 | 5,172 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | - | 1,910 | 536 | 306 | 437 | 107 | | |
| <u>Idaho Total</u> | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 5,515 | 10,773 | 10,276 | 9,430 | 9,395 | 38,755 | 2/ | 2/ |
| Local | | | | | 1,855 | 3,966 | 5,337 | 5,395 | 4,895 | 30,415 | | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | 3,660 | 6,672 | 4,640 | 3,950 | 4,344 | 8,218 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | - | 135 | 299 | 85 | 156 | 122 | | |

Table • Estimated monthly employment of seasonal hired workers in agriculture (not including food processing workers), by State, 1954 ^{1/} (Continued)

| Area and type of worker | Number of Workers | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|
| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December |
| <u>Montana Total</u> | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 7,070 | 10,001 | 10,142 | 11,343 | 8,350 | 6,003 | 2/ | 2/ |
| Local | | | | | 1,700 | 2,385 | 2,678 | 4,465 | 3,715 | 3,180 | | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | 5,370 | 6,299 | 6,280 | 6,878 | 4,635 | 2,691 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | - | 1,317 | 1,184 | - | - | 132 | | |
| <u>Nevada Total</u> | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 200 | 600 | 700 | 1,180 | 650 | 650 | 2/ | 2/ |
| Local | | | | | 140 | 600 | 200 | 480 | 225 | 550 | | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | - | - | 500 | 700 | 425 | 100 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | 6,030 | - | - | - | - | - | | |
| <u>New Mexico Total</u> | 6,650 | 5,210 | 4,997 | 4,583 | 4,274 | 6,186 | 7,657 | 6,897 | 16,297 | 26,611 | 23,037 | 7,326 |
| Local | 2,282 | 1,699 | 1,912 | 2,227 | 1,872 | 2,955 | 4,095 | 3,395 | 6,018 | 6,554 | 4,513 | 1,611 |
| Nonlocal domestic | 341 | 195 | 385 | 386 | 369 | 477 | 537 | 520 | 1,274 | 1,582 | 1,080 | 284 |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | 4,027 | 3,316 | 2,700 | 1,970 | 2,033 | 2,754 | 3,025 | 2,982 | 9,005 | 18,475 | 17,444 | 5,431 |
| <u>Oregon Total</u> | 2/ | 2/ | 2,435 | 6,170 | 10,741 | 49,358 | 56,055 | 66,510 | 47,888 | 18,671 | 5,062 | 2/ |
| Local | | | 1,465 | 3,823 | 5,861 | 28,428 | 34,085 | 43,190 | 29,729 | 11,750 | 4,390 | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | 970 | 2,347 | 4,880 | 20,930 | 21,970 | 23,320 | 18,159 | 6,921 | 672 | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| <u>Utah Total</u> | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 1,650 | 4,671 | 7,083 | 3,381 | 6,460 | 4,578 | 2/ | 2/ |
| Local | | | | | 960 | 3,361 | 5,117 | 2,518 | 4,691 | 3,094 | | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | | 669 | 1,196 | 1,681 | 618 | 1,560 | 1,266 | | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | | 21 | 114 | 285 | 245 | 209 | 218 | | |

Table . Estimated monthly employment of seasonal hired workers in agriculture (not including food processing workers), by State, 1954 ^{1/}
(Continued)

| Area and type of worker | Number of Workers | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|
| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December |
| <u>Washington</u> Total | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 11,380 | 16,994 | 24,199 | 70,203 | 34,409 | 36,756 | 34,624 | 7,470 | 2/ |
| Local | | | | 8,132 | 11,595 | 16,273 | 59,113 | 27,357 | 26,535 | 19,286 | 6,236 | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | 3,248 | 5,335 | 7,796 | 10,570 | 7,052 | 10,173 | 15,219 | 1,232 | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | - | 64 | 130 | 520 | - | 48 | 119 | - | |
| <u>Wyoming</u> Total | 2/ | 2/ | 2/ | 2,915 | 4,391 | 7,550 | 6,930 | 4,788 | 2,985 | 2,295 | 425 | 2/ |
| Local | | | | 2,550 | 2,725 | 3,420 | 3,409 | 3,495 | 2,301 | 1,832 | 375 | |
| Nonlocal domestic | | | | 365 | 1,666 | 3,558 | 3,089 | 1,226 | 630 | 463 | 50 | |
| Foreign-Mex. contract | | | | - | - | 572 | 432 | 67 | 54 | - | - | |

^{1/} Source: Published and unpublished data compiled by the Bureau of Employment Security, U. S. Department of Labor, from semimonthly reports (ES223) submitted by State agencies for individual Agricultural Reporting Areas. An Agricultural Reporting Area is a geographic area, within a State, defined by the State agency and approved by the Bureau of Employment Security. Semimonthly reports are required beginning with the period during which any of the following requirements are met: (1) 500 or more seasonal farm workers employed (2) 100 or more surplus workers or 100 or more workers needed, or (3) Any foreign workers. The semimonthly reports provide estimates of the number of seasonal farm workers employed in each area. They do not provide complete coverage, however, since they are limited to some 275 defined reporting areas and do not include workers employed in non-delineated areas nor those in areas whose need for labor in seasonal farm activities has just begun or nearly ended.

^{2/} No reports received.

^{3/} Less than one-half of one percent.