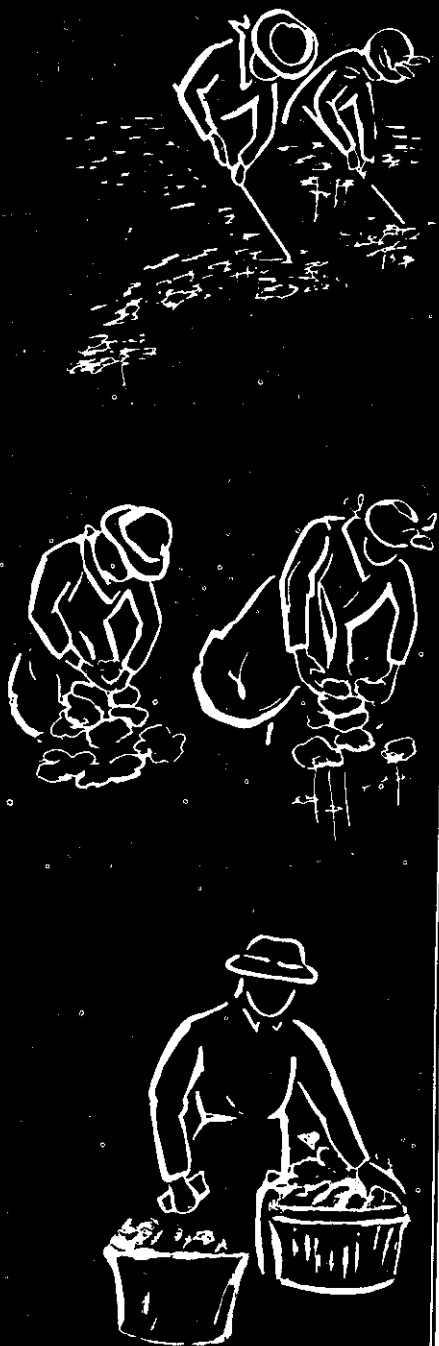


1115

January 1960
Review and Outlook

FARM Labor Market developments

INFORMATIONAL EXCHANGE MATERIAL
FROM
THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON MIGRATION



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

James P. Mitchell, Secretary

BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

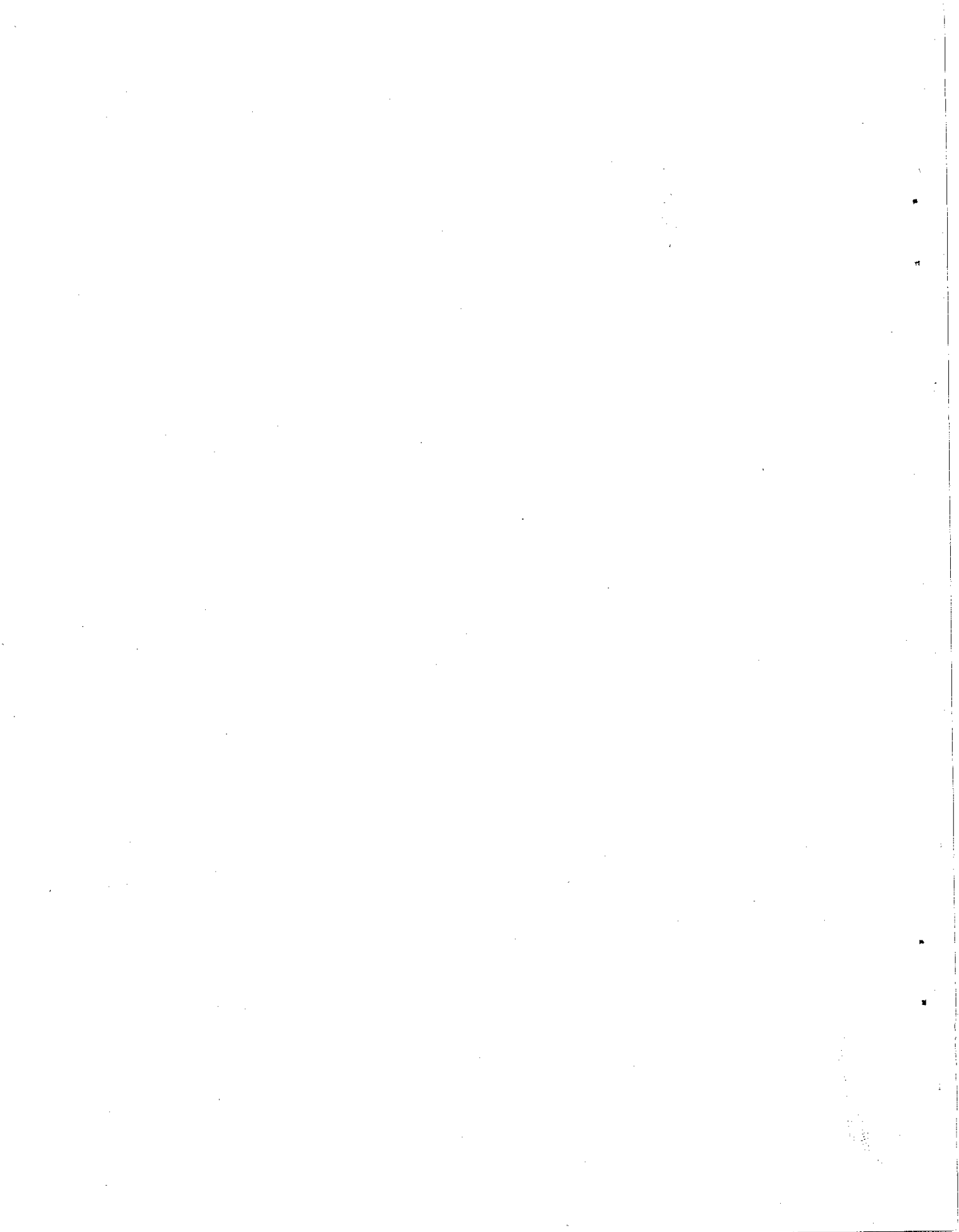
Robert C. Goodwin, Director

OFFICE OF PROGRAM REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

Washington 25, D. C.

Resource ID 7869

Farm Labor Market Developments



FARM LABOR MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

January 1960

Review and Outlook

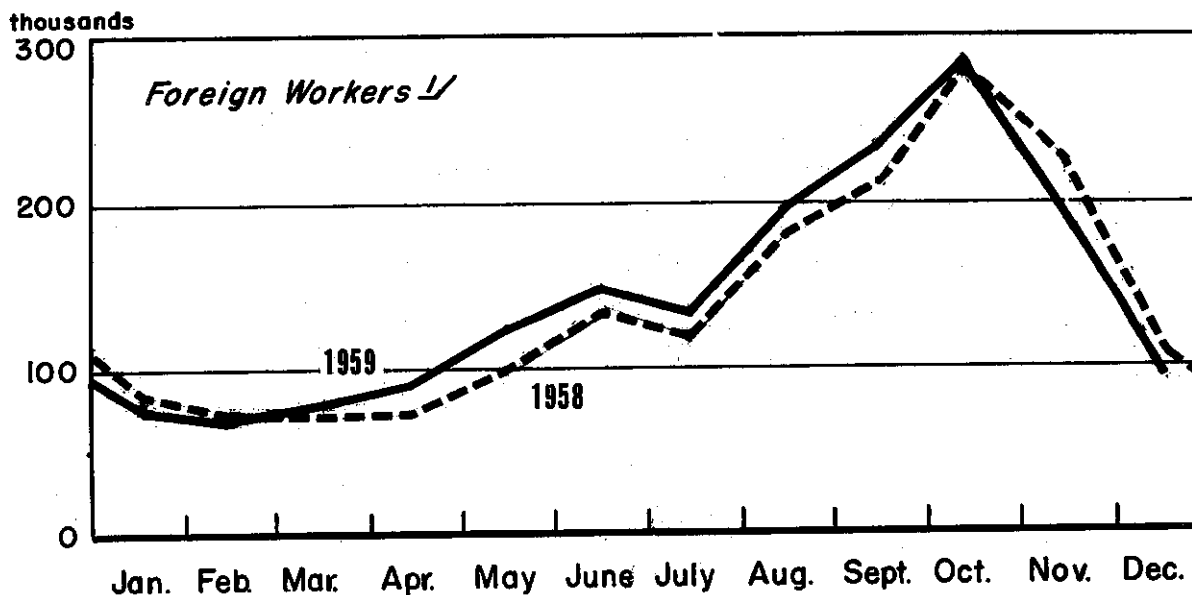
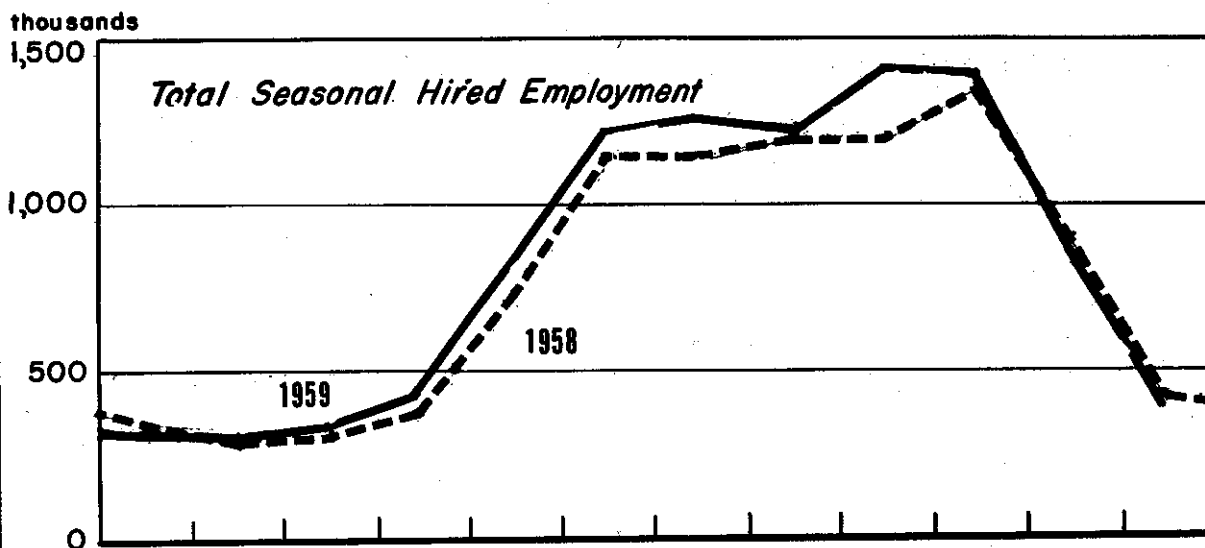
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
James P. Mitchell, Secretary

Bureau of Employment Security
Robert C. Goodwin, Director

Office of Program Review and Analysis

Farm Labor Market Developments and its Employment and Wage Supplement are issued monthly during the active agricultural season. The January issue is the 7th and last for the current season. Publication is expected to be resumed in the spring of 1960.

TOTAL SEASONAL HIRED EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN WORKERS IN AGRICULTURE, 1958-1959



1/ Foreign nationals legally imported for temporary farm work.

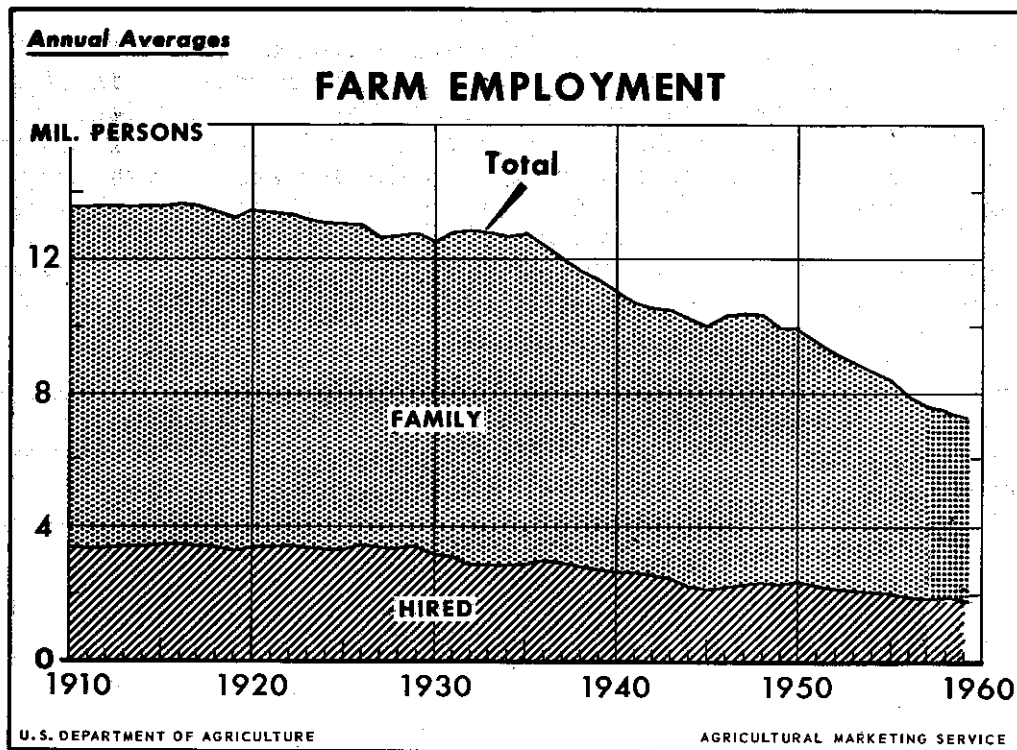
Source: In-season farm labor reports for the 15th of each month, covering 267 major agricultural areas reporting to Bureau of Employment Security.

FARM LABOR DEVELOPMENTS IN 1959

AND OUTLOOK FOR 1960

The 1959 pattern of seasonal hired farm employment differed substantially from the preceding year, due mainly to weather conditions and changes in crop production. The peak of total seasonal hired employment in 1959 occurred at the beginning of October, rather than at mid-month as in previous years. About 1,482,000 workers were reported at the high point in the major agricultural areas delineated by BES, compared with peaks of 1,356,000 in 1958 and 1,258,000 in 1957.

More temporary farm workers than in the preceding year were also reported in the months of March through September, with both foreign and domestic workers sharing the gain during most of the period. In the last two months of 1959, however, seasonal hired employment fell below the 1958 level. These year-to-year differences reflected, to a large extent, the increased size and earlier timing of cotton labor needs.



Higher Employment in Cotton

The cotton crop employs the largest number of temporary farm hands, accounting for nearly half of total seasonal hired employment at peak. A sharp increase of cotton acreage and high yields per acre raised cotton production and labor requirements well above the 1958 levels. Almost 16 million acres were planted in cotton during 1959--some 3.5 million acres more than in 1958. This advance resulted, in large part, from the ending of the cotton acreage reserve program, which had withdrawn 5 million acres from potential production in the latter year. Another 1 million acres were added to acreage allotments by the new "Choice B" under the price support program, which permitted growers to step-up output if they were willing to accept a lower price support level. Only about a half-million acres of this increment was offset by withdrawal of more land into the Conservation Reserve.

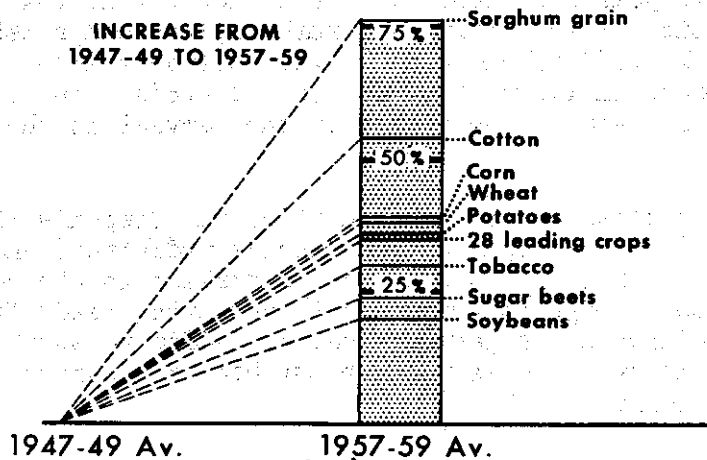
With increased acreage and average yield per harvested acre close to the record set in 1958, cotton production in 1959 totaled about 14.7 million bales--3.2 million more than a year earlier and higher than in any year since 1955. As a result, labor demands were raised, in spite of increased use of machines to gather the crop. The 670,000 temporary cotton field workers reported to BES in mid-October were seven percent more than the number reported as of October 15, 1958.

Significantly, the ending of the acreage reserve program reversed slightly the westward shift of cotton production which has been underway in recent years. The proportion of cotton output produced in the Western States decreased between 1958 and 1959, while the Southeast's proportion rose. The Southeast had a higher proportion of its cotton land in the acreage reserve program than other regions during 1958; ending the program, therefore, released a relatively larger acreage for planting in 1959. The Delta States also increased their relative share of total cotton production, but there was a drop in the southwestern States (Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas) due to lower yields per acre and proportionately smaller acreage gains in 1959.

The cotton crop was also the most important factor underlying the drop of seasonal hired employment during the last two months of 1959. At this time of the year the cotton harvest is mainly concentrated in west Texas and the Western States. The earlier timing of cotton picking in large parts of this region and a sharp increase in the use of machines to gather the crop helped to reduce hand labor requirements during the period.



Yields Per Acre Rise Sharply During 1950's

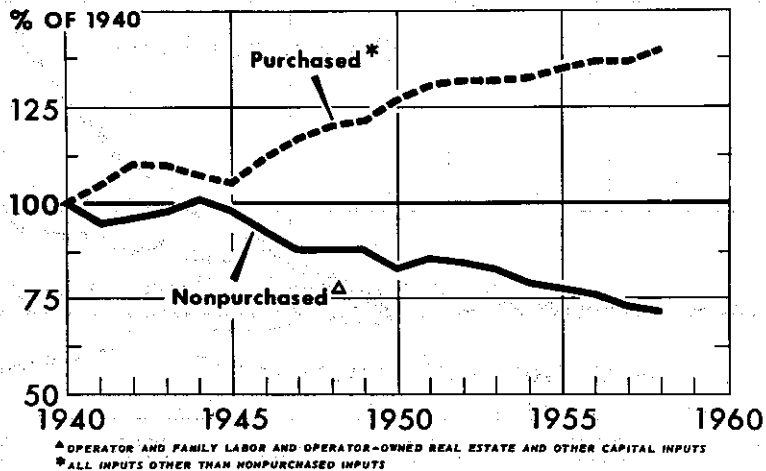


U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE



Growing Volume of Production Inputs Is Purchased



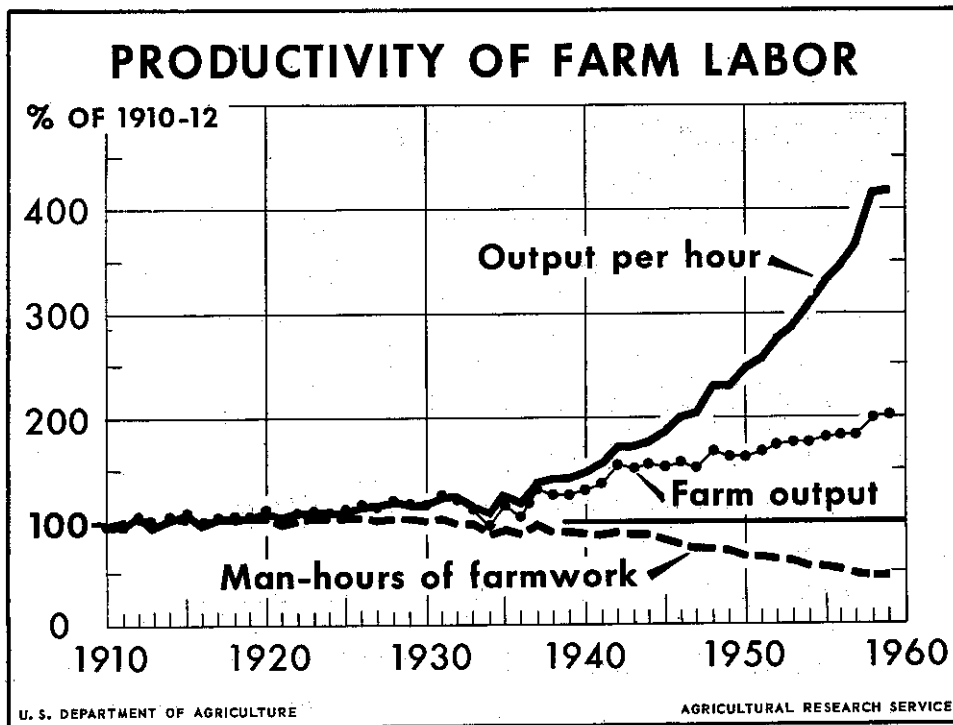
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Changes in Other Crops

Although changes in the production and seasonal pattern of cotton activities exerted the greatest influence on employment levels, other crops also showed substantial year-to-year differences. The strawberry harvest, second to cotton in utilization of temporary wage workers, reached a seasonal employment peak of some 115,000 around June 15--considerably lower than in 1958. The decrease was due, in large part, to reduced production of late spring varieties, and to changes in the timing of the harvest in the Pacific Coast States.

A much larger and earlier cherry crop in Michigan, Oregon's later bean crop, and sharply reduced grain output in the Dakotas influenced employment levels in July and August. In the autumn months, a smaller tomato crop in California and reduced lettuce acreage in Arizona cut back labor needs from a year earlier. Florida's larger citrus and sugar cane harvest added to labor requirements in November; a month later, adverse weather cut back employment on Texas and Florida vegetable farms.



Advances in Mechanization

Increasing mechanization reduced employment during 1959 in a number of crop activities which customarily have furnished employment to large groups of seasonal workers. A study by the New York employment security agency found that snap bean picking was two-thirds mechanized in 1958, with a still larger proportion expected to be machine-harvested in 1959. The Delaware agency, in a similar study, reported 60 percent for its State. Over 70 percent of California's cotton harvest was done by machines in 1958, and the proportion is on the increase. In the country as a whole, over a third of all cotton is now gathered mechanically. Mechanization of the cherry, pea, and potato harvests also gained. Sugar beet cultivation, formerly a source of high hand labor requirements, is yielding to machine methods facilitated by improved seed varieties. Field packing machines on carrot and lettuce farms have added new skill requirements to farmwork while reducing employment in packing sheds.

Such technical advances not only eliminate or shorten some farm jobs, but also dislocate established employment patterns. Migratory workers accustomed to move from crop to crop to extend their employment periods find gaps in their customary itinerary. Some employers who have relied on this itinerary to bring them their labor supply each year must make other arrangements. For example, migrant bean pickers were usually available to pick apples after the bean harvest in New York. With job opportunities on bean farms curtailed, many migrants left the State ahead of schedule, creating a new recruitment problem for apple growers. Similar conditions are occurring in other crops and areas.

Migratory Workers Piece Together Short-term Jobs

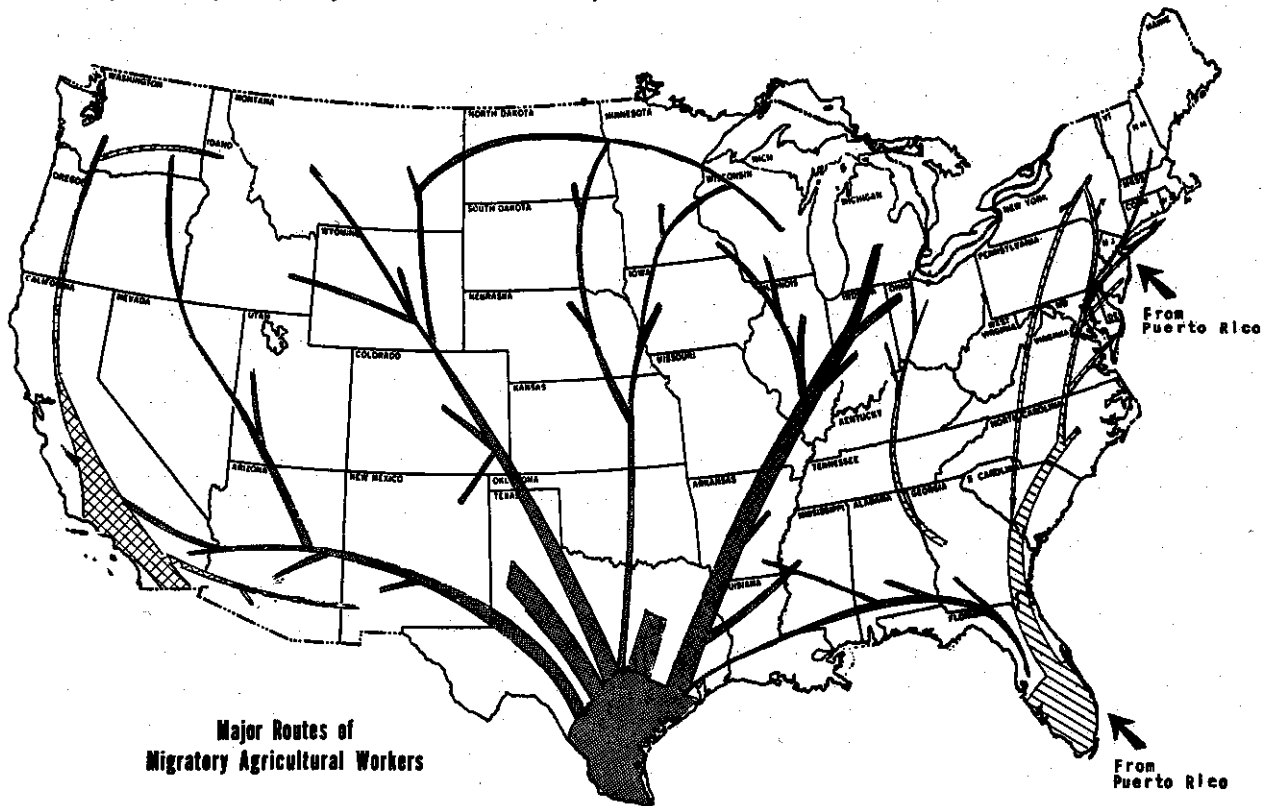
Each year, about a half-million American workers leave their homes to fill temporary farm labor needs in distant areas. Lacking skills or opportunities for full-time work at their home bases, or attracted by higher wage rates in other areas, these workers travel to piece together the brief periods of employment which increasingly characterize farm work. They play an important role in filling labor demands for which a sufficient local labor supply is not available. An estimated 150,000 dependents move with the transient laborers, adding to the health, welfare, and economic problems associated with migrancy.

In 1959, about 313,000 U. S. migratory farm workers were employed at peak--the end of August--in the major agricultural areas reporting to the Bureau of Employment Security. They included 158,000 workers of interstate origin, 138,000 intrastate workers, and 17,000 temporary workers from Puerto Rico. Employment of migrant labor was reported by 47 States during the year.

Most of the interstate migratory workers followed the major routes which have become a part of the American agricultural scene. One large group followed the Eastern Seaboard pattern from home bases in Florida and other southeastern States to vegetable producing areas in the Carolinas, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. Later in the summer, many continued northward to help with harvests in New York and Pennsylvania. The stream turned southward early in the fall, with some workers going directly home to participate in the cotton harvest and Florida's winter agriculture, while others paused en route to gather fall fruits and vegetables in Virginia and other areas.

Texans of Spanish-American descent formed a majority of another large group originating in the South Central States, which moved into the North Central States during the spring to cultivate sugar beets and pick a variety of fruits and vegetables. Later in the season many concentrated in the Great Lakes States to harvest tomatoes, before turning southward to join the cotton harvest work force.

Migrants piece together short-term jobs



The South Central and southwestern States were the source of another sizeable movement of labor to meet the demands of sugar beet and fruit and vegetable growers in the Rocky Mountain areas, and migrants from the same regions joined the substantial number of farm hands following the crops along the Pacific Coast. Smaller migratory streams crisscrossed these major currents.

The nationwide network of public employment offices provides labor market information and arranges job commitments for a substantial proportion of the migrants. Numerous openings for seasonal farm workers were filled by means of interstate clearance of job orders. Under the Annual Worker Plan, devised by the Bureau of Employment Security and its affiliated State employment security agencies to maximize the number and continuity of job opportunities and to provide a dependable labor supply to growers, some 6,800 interstate migrant groups including about 165,000 individuals were contacted during 1959.

More Foreign Workers Employed

Foreign workers fill an important gap in the U. S. farm work force. They are utilized mainly in particularly arduous crop activities or those which must be performed in very hot weather for which U. S. workers cannot be recruited readily, in activities which yield insufficient earnings to attract the domestic labor supply, and in sparsely populated areas of the southwest where insufficient local labor is available. The lack of on-farm housing suitable for U. S. migrants, many of whom travel in family groups, and the short-term, sporadic character of seasonal farm work also create recruitment difficulties and make it necessary to supplement the labor supply from foreign sources.

In 1959, almost 456,000 foreign workers were contracted or admitted to the U. S. for temporary agricultural jobs. Over 308,000 were employed in September--the peak for the year. Foreign workers were used in 38 States, and assisted with some 50 crops.

The largest number of out-of-country workers--188,000 at the employment peak--was used in cotton. Tomatoes, sugar beets, citrus fruit, cucumbers, lettuce, and melons are other crops relying heavily on this source of labor. Texas and California, with peak foreign-worker employment totals of about 137,000 and 84,000, respectively, in 1959 are the largest user States. Other States employing 10,000 or more during the year were Arkansas, New Mexico, Arizona, Michigan, and Florida.

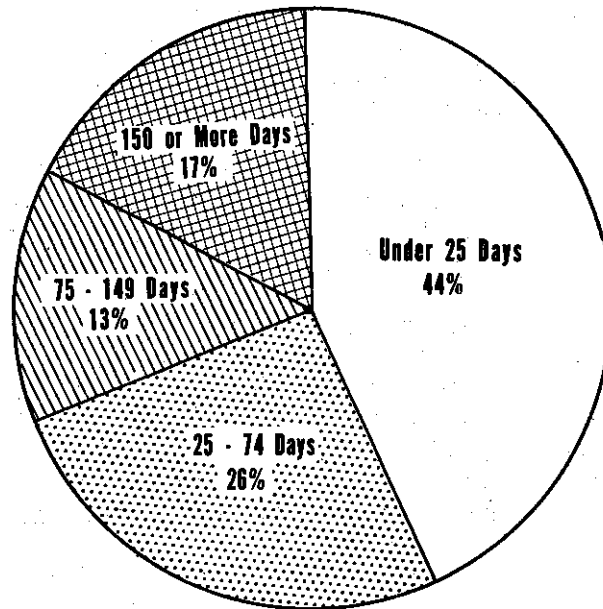
More than 9 out of every 10 foreign workers come from Mexico. In 1959, employment of "braceros" was reported by 26 States, with the heaviest concentrations in Texas, California, Arkansas, New Mexico, and Arizona. Cotton, fruit, vegetables, sugar beets, irrigation, and livestock care were their major activities.

About 11,000 British West Indians were employed at their December peak in 1959. Sixteen States, located mainly along the Eastern Seaboard and the Great Lakes, utilized BWI's for fruit, vegetable, and sugar cane harvest and preharvest tasks.

Canadians were employed in 5 northeastern States during the year, reaching an employment peak of 8,500 around September 30. The greatest concentration of these workers occurred, as usual, in the relatively brief but critical potato harvest of Maine's Aroostook County. Some 1,400 Japanese and a few Filipinos in California are also included in the foreign-worker employment totals.

More contract foreign nationals were employed during the 1959 peak than in preceding years, although the number contracted or admitted to the country did not reach the previous high of 1956. The increase in peak employment (23,000 more than in 1958, 36,000 more than in 1957) was primarily due to greater acreage and production of cotton, sugar beets, and cucumbers in States which use a substantial number of workers from other countries. Because employment of temporary U. S. workers also gained, the average monthly employment of foreign workers comprised a smaller percentage (17.5) of average total seasonal hired employment than in 1958 (18.1) or 1957 (19.0).

Farm wage work affords only partial employment



Hired Farm Workers, by days of farm wage work, 1957

Source: Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service

1960 Outlook for Seasonal Labor

Demand for seasonal hired workers is expected to remain strong in 1960 due to a combination of short-term and long-term factors. Although total farm employment, including farm operators and unpaid members of their families as well as hired workers, is expected to continue its long-range decline, there has been a trend toward increased reliance on hired labor. In particular, demand for seasonal hired workers has been sustained at a high level by the tendency to shorten the period of agricultural employment over the years.

Farms are becoming more specialized, concentrating their labor needs into shorter periods on just a few crops. Output of materials and services which formerly extended on-farm employment is being replaced by purchases of prepared feeds, machinery, fuel, crop-dusting services, manufactured fertilizer, and other goods and services from off-farm sources. Mechanization has increased the seasonality of farm work by limiting high labor needs to relatively brief periods for those phases of crop production which cannot yet be performed by machines. These trends will help hold the number of short-term farm hands close to the 1959 level.

The national upland cotton acreage allotment for 1960, at 16.3 million acres, is the same as last year, and additional optional acreage under the "Choice B" program will again be available. Assuming continued high yields per acre, therefore, cotton production and employment is likely to stay high. Fruit and vegetable output, which also requires substantial seasonal labor, is not expected to differ much from 1959, although severe weather damage to Florida crops which occurred early in 1960 will affect labor requirements in that State.

Offsetting these estimates to some extent is an expected increase in the mechanization of crop activities. However, the actual extent to which machines will replace manpower next year will be influenced by crop, weather, price, and local labor market conditions which cannot yet be foreseen.

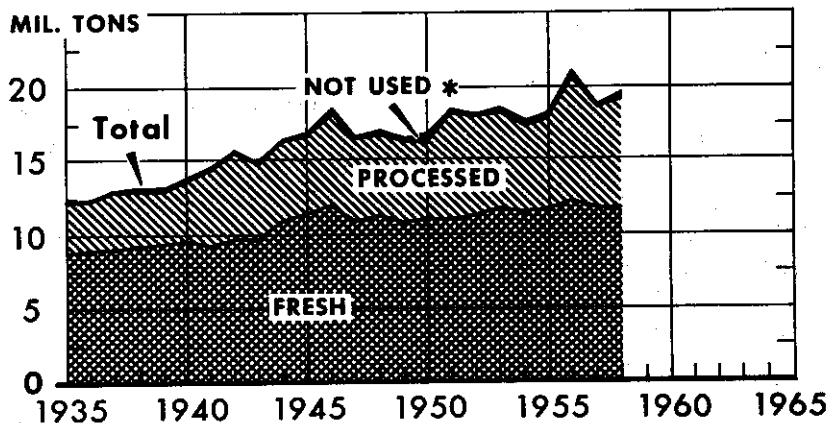
No substantial change is predicted in the supply of workers for seasonal farm jobs. With a high level of employment and lower unemployment forecast for the general economy during 1960, shortages of local workers available for the relatively short, arduous, and low-wage farm jobs will continue to require recruitment of U. S. migrants and foreign contract workers.

The long-range decline of the nation's farm population, reflecting mainly the movement of farm people to urban areas and the conversion of farms to residential and other uses, is expected to continue. In 1959, the farm population was estimated at less than 21,200,000--a slight drop from the 1958 total and about 16 percent below 1950. Persons still on the farm are turning increasingly to off-farm work to supplement incomes. These changes will also contribute to shortages of seasonal farm hands in many areas.

NOTE

Employment and contracting of foreign workers admitted to the U. S. for temporary farm work are the subjects of the Annual Report on Employment of Foreign Workers, 1959 which will be issued shortly by the Bureau of Employment Security. Among the topics covered in this report are trends in the employment of foreign farm workers and the distribution of foreign workers by States, areas, crop activity, time period, and country of origin. A copy of the report may be obtained upon request to the Department of Labor, Bureau of Employment Security.

 **Production of Vegetables for Processing Doubles in 20 Years**

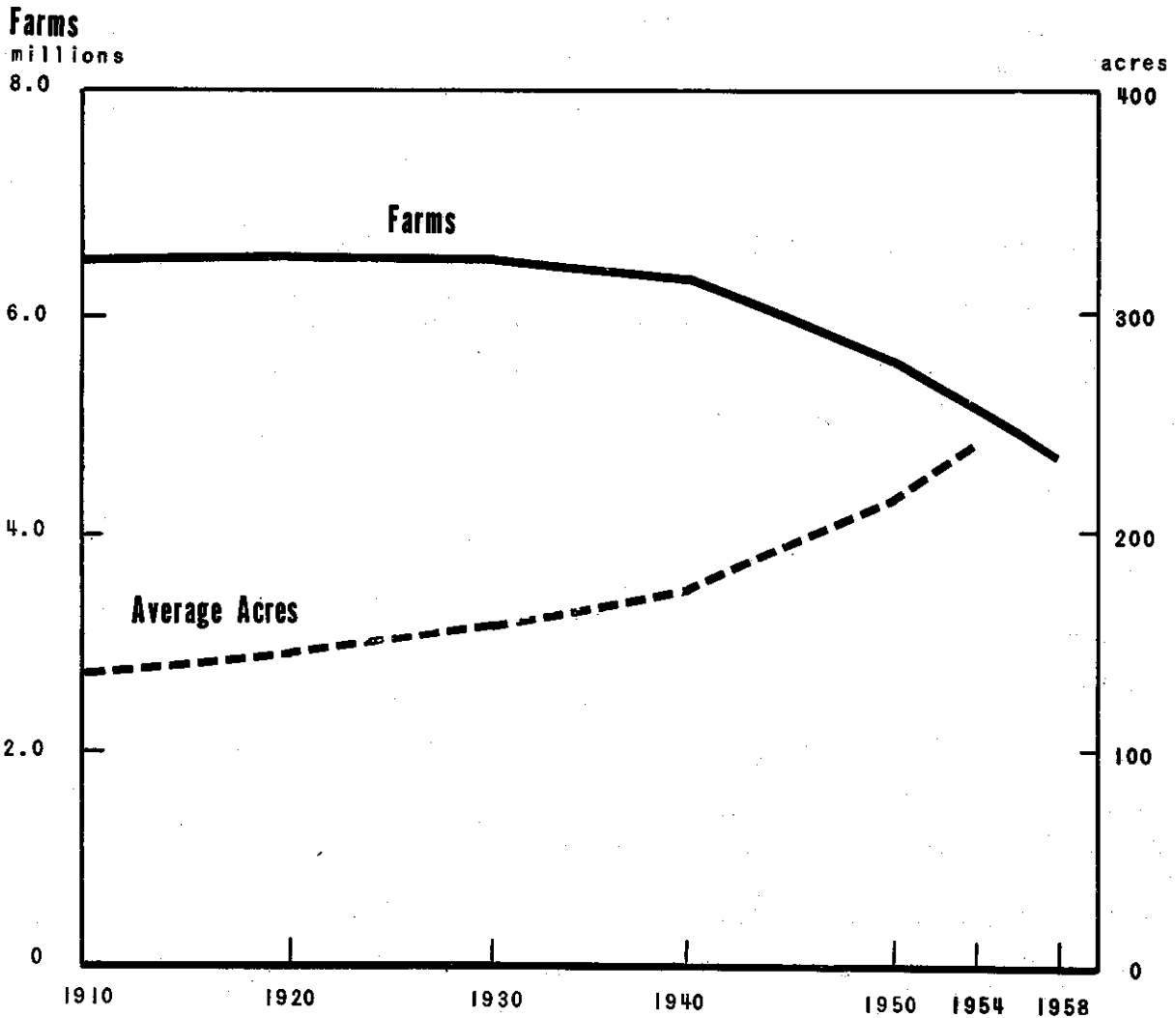


* UNHARVESTED ON ACCOUNT OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, AND SHRINKAGE AND LOSS OF DRY ONIONS

Because agricultural wage work is less and less a full-time occupation, the proportion of the hired farm work force composed of youth, housewives and others only temporarily attached to the labor force has been increasing. This tendency may reasonably be expected to continue in 1960.

Chronically depressed rural areas, mainly in the southeast, will continue to provide contrasts to the general tightness of most farm labor markets, and to replenish the migratory streams.

Farms are becoming fewer and larger-



Source: Department of Agriculture and Bureau of the Census

Estimated Employment of Seasonal Hired Agricultural Workers
by Origin of Workers
January - December 1959

Origin of Workers	January	February	March	April	May	June
Total	331,800	321,300	340,200	439,800	845,800	1,224,200
U. S. Workers	258,700	249,800	262,600	351,400	723,200	1,081,500
Local	210,600	203,900	217,900	291,100	587,300	846,700
Migrant	48,100	45,900	44,700	60,300	135,900	234,800
Intrastate	23,700	22,400	21,300	27,800	55,900	75,900
Interstate	21,200	20,100	20,400	30,600	69,300	145,800
Puerto Rico	3,200	3,400	3,000	1,900	10,700	13,100
Foreign	73,100	71,500	77,600	88,400	122,600	142,700
Mexico	61,700	60,400	66,700	77,400	111,800	133,800
British West Indies	10,200	10,000	9,800	9,700	9,300	7,300
Canada	0	0	0	0	200	100
Japan & Philippines	1,200	1,100	1,100	1,300	1,300	1,500
Origin of Workers	July	August	September	October	November	December
Total	1,237,800	1,207,400	1,402,900	1,384,100	823,200	399,000
U. S. Workers	1,104,600	1,008,200	1,169,900	1,099,700	638,300	301,900
Local	801,600	728,600	896,500	827,700	492,900	247,900
Migrant	303,000	279,600	273,400	272,000	145,400	54,000
Intrastate	115,400	108,000	118,600	139,300	100,300	29,800
Interstate	172,600	154,400	140,700	122,200	41,200	21,700
Puerto Rico	15,000	17,200	14,100	10,500	3,900	2,500
Foreign	133,200	199,200	233,000	284,400	184,900	97,100
Mexico	128,100	193,600	223,600	275,300	174,400	84,600
British West Indies	3,700	3,900	5,600	7,000	9,000	10,900
Canada	100	200	2,300	500	0	0
Japan & Philippines	1,300	1,500	1,500	1,600	1,500	1,600

Source: Bureau of Employment Security in-season farm labor reports for the 15th of each month.

Note: Several totals have been slightly revised since originally issued in Farm Labor Market Developments.

**Annual Peak Employment of Foreign Nationals Employed
in Temporary Agricultural Jobs in the United States
1951 - 1959**

Calendar year	All foreign workers											
	Total		Mexican		BWI		Canadian		Japanese		Filipinos	
	Number	Month	Number	Month	Number	Month	Number	Month	Number	Month	Number	Month
1951	130,100	Oct.	121,600	Oct.	13,900	June	2,300	Sept.	--	--	--	--
1952	139,400	Oct.	125,500	Oct.	12,300	July	5,200	Oct.	--	--	--	--
1953	171,100	Oct.	159,200	Oct.	12,000	Oct.	5,700	Oct.	--	--	--	--
1954	202,600	Oct.	194,500	Oct.	11,700	Feb.	6,300	Sept.	--	--	--	--
1955	240,800	Oct.	232,300	Oct.	9,900	Dec.	6,700	Sept.	--	--	--	--
1956	290,200	Oct.	276,900	Oct.	11,300	Dec.	6,600	Sept.	390	Oct.	--	--
1957	272,400	Oct.	260,500	Oct.	12,200	May	7,200	Sept.	990	Sept.	33	Oct.
1958	284,800	Sept.	274,500	Oct.	11,700	Jan.	6,900	Sept.	1,200	Sept.	25	1/
1959	308,200	Sept.	291,500	Sept.	10,900	Dec.	8,500	Sept.	1,560	Dec.	30	June- Dec.

Source: In-Season Farm Labor Reports for the 15th and last day of each month, Bureau of Employment Security.

Total Number of Foreign Workers Contracted or Admitted to the
United States for Temporary Agricultural Employment, by Year
1951 - 1959

Calendar year	Total	Mexican	BWI 2/	Canadian	Japanese 2/	Filipinos 2/
1951	203,640	192,000	9,040	2,600	--	--
1952	210,210	197,100	7,910	5,200	--	--
1953	215,321	201,380	7,741	6,200	--	--
1954	320,737	309,033	4,704	7,000	--	--
1955	441,966	398,650	6,616	6,700	--	--
1956	459,850	445,197	7,563	6,700	390	--
1957	452,205	436,049	8,171	7,300	652	33
1958	447,513	432,857	7,441	6,900	315	0
1959	455,858	437,643	9,210	8,600	400	5

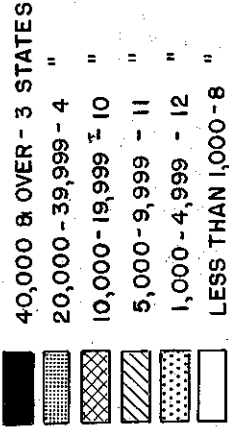
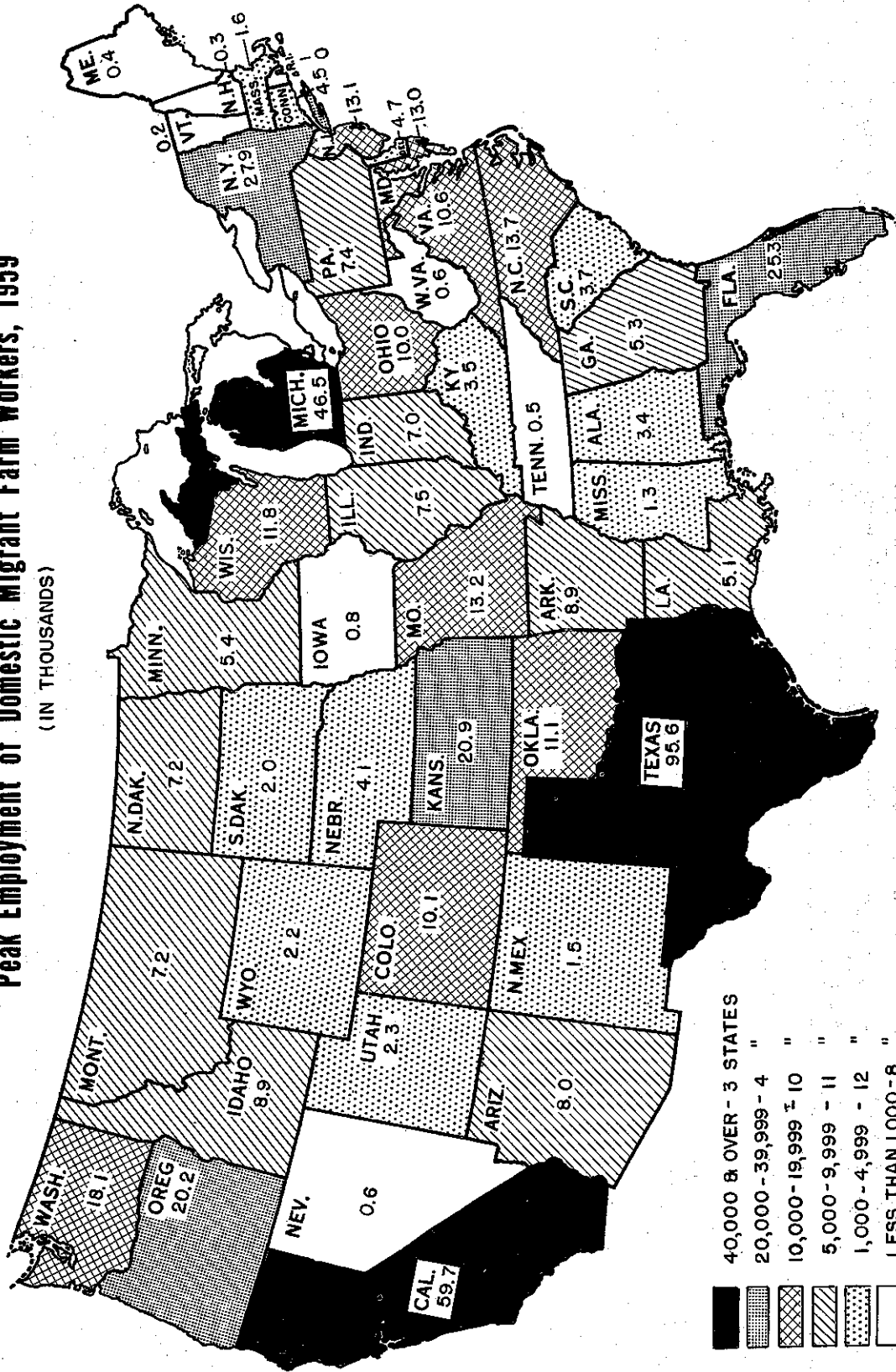
1/ Employment of Filipinos remained relatively constant throughout the year.

2/ Due to carryover of workers from year to year, the number admitted is usually less than peak employment.

Source: Administrative reports, Bureau of Employment Security; figures for Canadians, Japanese and Filipinos are approximations.

Peak Employment of Domestic Migrant Farm Workers, 1959

(IN THOUSANDS)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
 BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
 OFFICE OF PROGRAM REVIEW AND ANALYSIS
 Washington 25, D. C.

Estimated Peak Employment and Period of Employment
of Domestic Migrant Labor ^{1/} in Agriculture, 1959

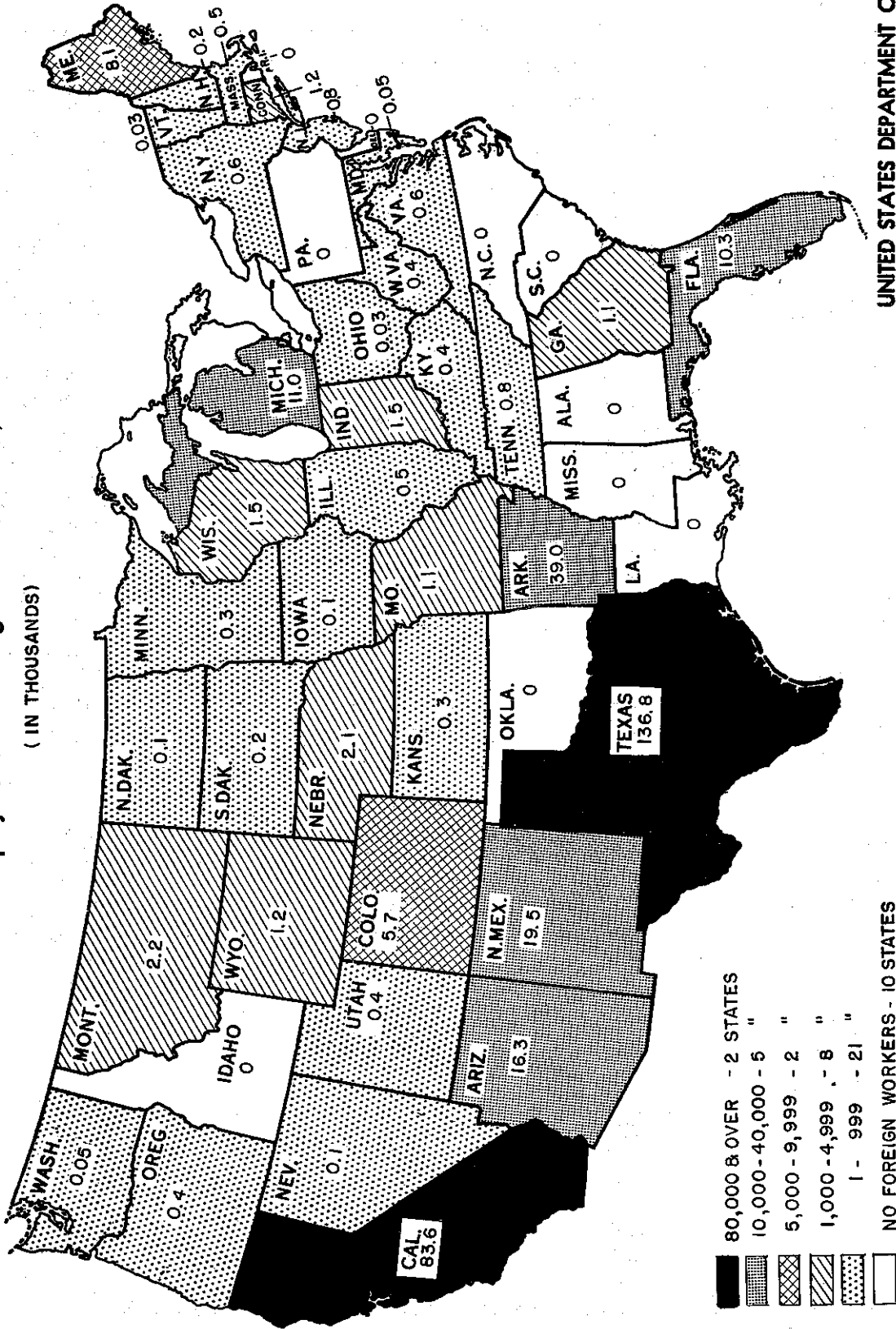
State	Peak No. Migrants Employed	Periods in which Migrants were Employed	Date of Peak Employment
Texas	95,600	Jan.-Dec.	October 31
California	59,700	Jan.-Dec.	August 31
Michigan	46,500	Jan., March-Dec.	July 15
New York	27,900	May-Nov.	August 31
Florida	25,300	Jan.-Dec.	February 28
Kansas	20,900	April-Nov.	June 30
Oregon	20,200	Mar.-Nov.	June 30
Washington	18,100	Jan.-Dec.	June 30
North Carolina	13,700	April-Dec.	June 15
Missouri	13,200	May-Nov.	Sept. 30
New Jersey	13,100	Feb.-Nov.	August 15
Maryland	13,000	Jan.-Nov.	July 30
Wisconsin	11,800	May-Oct.	July 30
Oklahoma	11,100	April-Dec.	October 31
Virginia	10,600	May-Nov.	June 30
Colorado	10,100	May-Nov.	August 31
Ohio	10,000	May-Oct.	August 31
Arkansas	8,900	April-Nov.	May 15
Idaho	8,900	March-Nov.	Oct. 15
Arizona	8,000	Jan.-Dec.	Oct. 15
Illinois	7,500	May-Oct.	August 31
Pennsylvania	7,400	May-Nov.	August 31
North Dakota	7,200	April-Oct.	July 30
Montana	7,200	April-Nov.	Sept. 15
Indiana	7,000	May-Oct.	August 31
Minnesota	5,400	May-Nov.	June 30
Georgia	5,300	April-Nov.	August 31
Louisiana	5,100	Jan.-May; Sept.-Dec.	April 30
Delaware	4,700	April-Oct.	July 31
Connecticut	4,500	Jan.-Dec.	July 31
Nebraska	4,100	May-Dec.	July 15
South Carolina	3,700	May-August	June 15
Kentucky	3,500	May-Nov.	Sept. 15
Alabama	3,400	May-Oct.	June 15
Utah	2,300	April-Oct.	May 30
Wyoming	2,200	May-Oct.	June 15
South Dakota	2,000	June-Aug.	July 30
Massachusetts	1,600	April-Nov.	Aug. 15
New Mexico	1,500	Jan.-Dec.	Oct. 15
Mississippi	1,300	May-July; Sept.-Nov.	July 30
Iowa	800	July-Sept.	August 15
Nevada	600	Jan.-Dec.	August 15
West Virginia	600	Sept.-Nov.	Sept. 30
Tennessee	500	May-June; Sept.-Dec.	Oct. 15
Maine	400	May-Oct.	Sept. 30
New Hampshire	300	May-Oct.	Sept. 30
Vermont	200	June-Oct.	July 15

^{1/} Migrants include intrastate, interstate, and Puerto Rican workers.

Source: Bureau of Employment Security in-season farm labor reports for the 15th and last day of the month.

Peak Employment of Foreign Farm Workers, 1959

(IN THOUSANDS)



- 80,000 & OVER - 2 STATES
- 10,000 - 40,000 - 5 "
- 5,000 - 9,999 - 2 "
- 1,000 - 4,999 - 8 "
- 1 - 999 - 21 "
- NO FOREIGN WORKERS - 10 STATES

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
 BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
 OFFICE OF PROGRAM REVIEW AND ANALYSIS
 Washington 25, D. C.

Estimated Peak Employment and Period of Employment
of Foreign Workers ^{1/} in Agriculture, 1959

State	Peak no. foreign workers employed	Period in which foreign workers were employed	Date of peak employment
Texas	136,800	Jan.-Dec.	Oct. 15
California	83,600	Jan.-Dec.	Sept. 15
Arkansas	39,000	April-Nov.	Oct. 15
New Mexico	19,500	Jan.-Dec.	Oct. 15
Arizona	16,300	Jan.-Dec.	Nov. 15
Michigan	11,000	Jan.-Dec.	Aug. 15
Florida	10,300	Jan.-Dec.	Dec. 31
Maine	8,100	May-Oct.	Sept. 30
Colorado	5,700	May-Nov.	June 15
Montana	2,200	May-July	June 15
Nebraska	2,100	May-July	June 15
Wisconsin	1,500	May-Oct.	Aug. 31
Indiana	1,500	June-Oct.	Sept. 15
Wyoming	1,200	May-Sept.	June 15
Connecticut	1,200	Jan.-Dec.	Aug. 15
Missouri	1,100	June-Nov.	Oct. 15
Georgia	1,100	Aug.-Oct.	Sept. 15-Sept. 30
Tennessee	800	May-July, Sept.-Nov.	Sept. 30-Oct. 31
New Jersey	800	Jan.-March, June, Sept.-Nov.	Oct. 15
New York	600	Sept.-Nov.	Sept. 30
Virginia	600	Sept.-Nov.	Oct. 15
Illinois	500	May-Oct.	June 15
Massachusetts	500	Jan.-Dec.	Sept. 30
Utah	400	April-Oct.	Sept. 30
West Virginia	400	Sept.-Nov.	Oct. 15
Oregon	400	Aug.-Sept.	Sept. 30
Kentucky	350	June-July, Sept.-Nov.	Sept. 30
Minnesota	300	June-Nov.	Aug. 15
South Dakota	200	June	June 15
New Hampshire	200	May-Oct.	Sept. 30
Nevada	100	April-Dec.	May 31
Iowa	75	July-Sept.	July 31
North Dakota	50	June-July	June 30
Washington	50	July	July 15
Maryland	50	Jan.-Dec.	June 30-Sept. 15
Ohio	30	Sept.-Oct.	Sept. 30-Oct. 31
Kansas	30	June-Nov.	Oct. 15
Vermont	25	June-Oct.	Sept. 30-Oct. 15

^{1/} Foreign nationals legally contracted for temporary farm work in the United States.

Source: Bureau of Employment Security, In-Season Farm Labor Reports for the 15th and last day of the month.

EXPLANATION AND COVERAGE

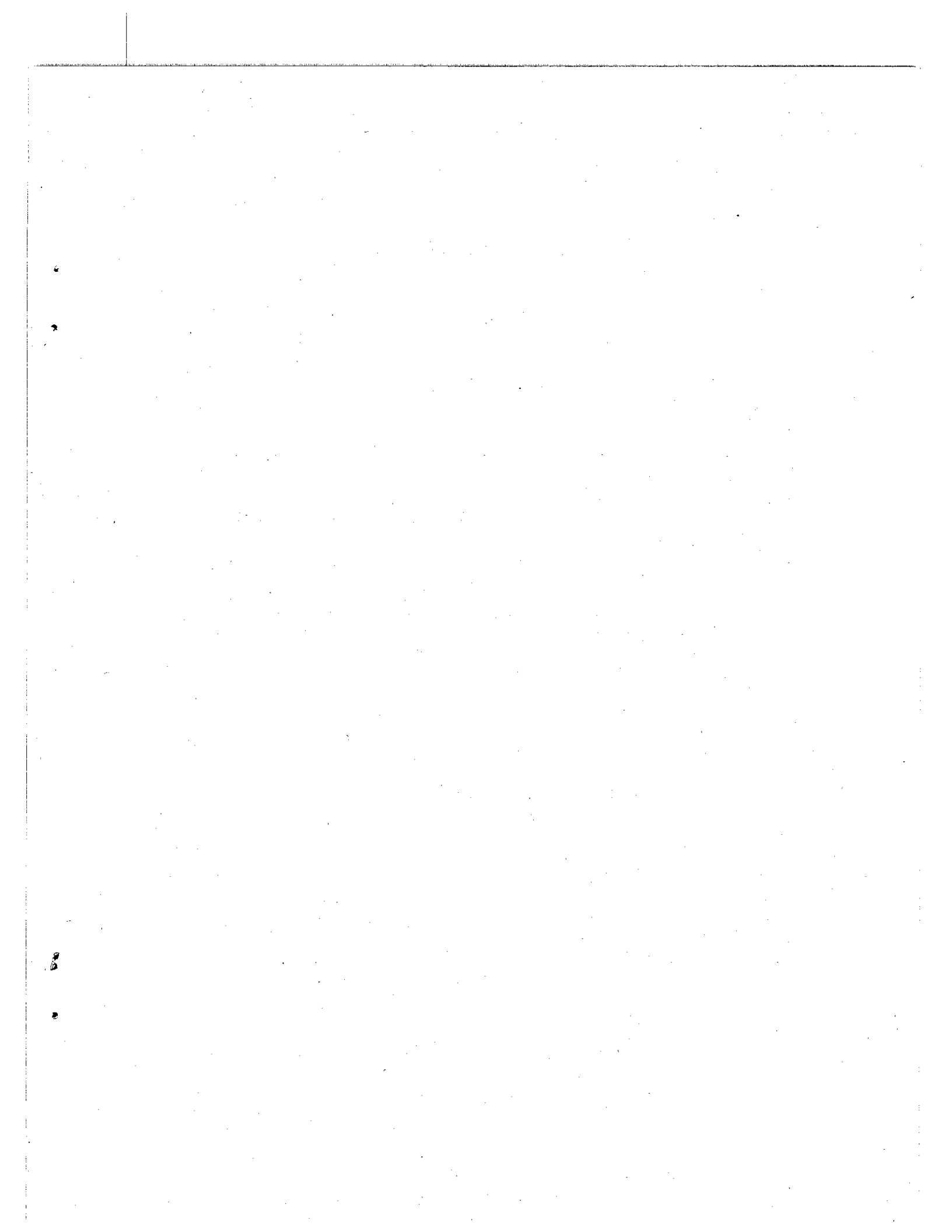
Information in this publication is based mainly on semi-monthly reports collected by the Bureau of Employment Security through its affiliated State agencies (Report ES-223). These reports contain estimates of seasonal hired employment in agriculture by crop activity and origin of worker. The employment estimates relate to the last normal working day of each report period.

The Bureau has delineated 267 agricultural reporting areas throughout the country. Reports are received for each area during its agricultural season, from the first through the last semi-monthly period in which 500 or more seasonal hired farm workers are employed. In addition, a report is required for an area at other times if any of the following criteria are met:

1. A shortage of 100 or more seasonal farm workers exists;
2. A surplus of 100 or more seasonal farm workers available for other areas exists;
3. Foreign workers legally admitted to the United States for temporary farm work are employed.

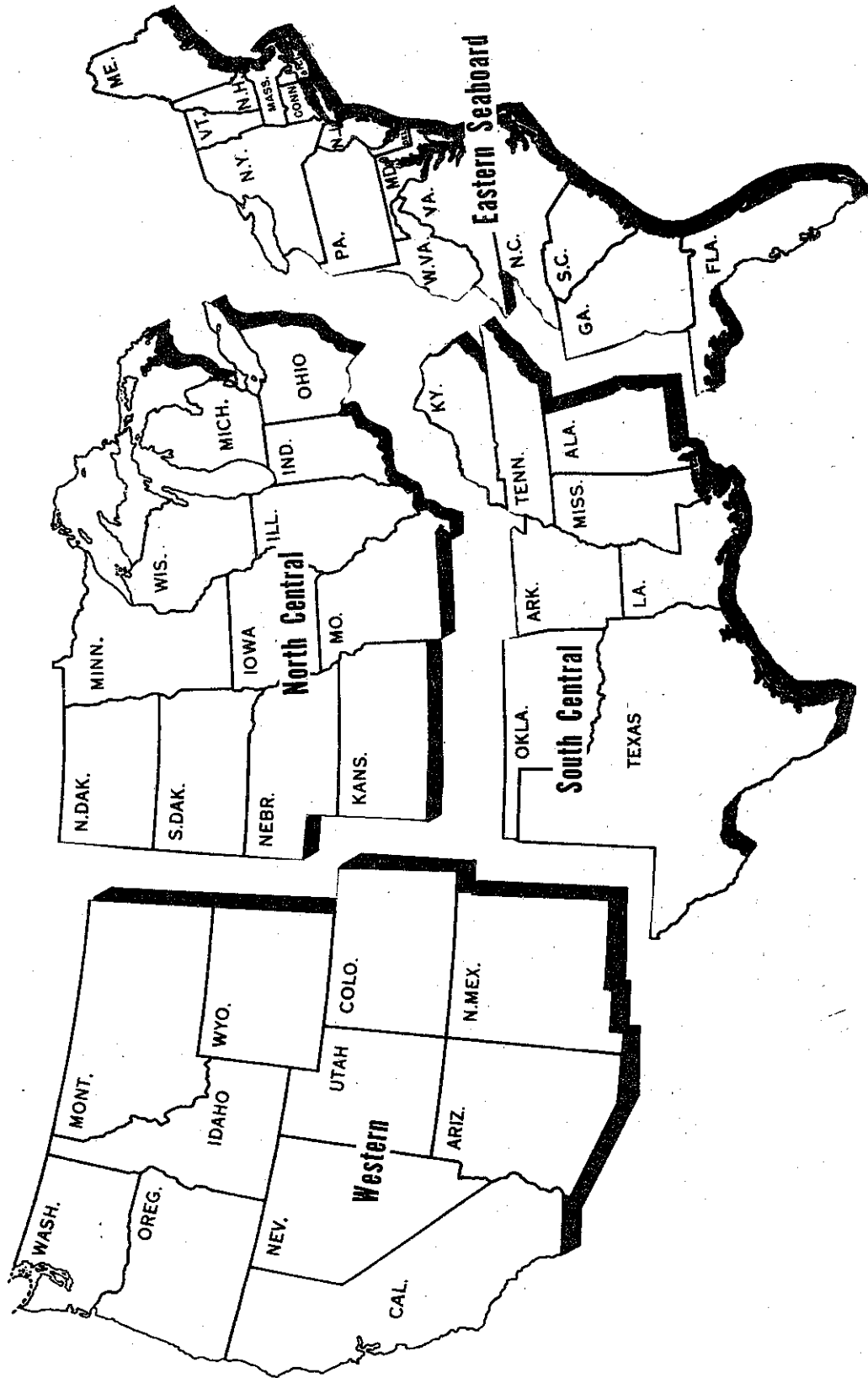
Agricultural workers are defined as those engaged in the production of agricultural crops or livestock and in closely related on-farm activities such as post-harvest storage, sorting, and packing which do not materially change the product from its original form. (Workers engaged in such activities as canning, freezing, and cotton ginning are excluded.)

Seasonal hired workers are defined as those who are hired or assigned to work on any one farm or establishment for less than a continuous 150 day period in the course of a year. Because the figures cover only seasonal hired workers employed in major agricultural areas reporting to the Bureau, they are not comparable to hired worker employment data published by the Bureau of the Census and the Agricultural Marketing Service, which include year-round hired workers and have nationwide coverage.



FARM LABOR MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

Regional Map of the United States



Note: Alaska and Hawaii are not included in the four regions.