

Migrants - New York

p. 15

State of New York
Department of Labor

Division of
Research and Statistics

CHILD FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PICKERS IN NEW YORK STATE, 1955

A Study Made by the Division of Research and Statistics
and the Division of Industrial Relations, Women in Industry and Minimum Wage

CONTENTS

	Page
Highlights	1
Importance and Sources of Harvest Labor	2
Farm Labor Laws	4
Comparability of Data	5
Enforcement Program	5
Child Labor Law Enforcement	7
Child Care Centers	11
Migrant-Registration Law	12
Contractor-Registration Law	14
Wage Payment Law	15
Voluntary Accident Insurance	15
Tables 1-6	17-23

Special Labor News Memorandum
Number 64 February 17, 1956

CHILD FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PICKERS, NEW YORK STATE, 1955

Highlights

Less illegal child labor was employed on New York fruit and vegetable farms in 1955 (0.6 percent) than in 1954 (0.8 percent), according to findings by investigators of the Department's Division of Industrial Relations, Women in Industry and Minimum Wage.

During 1955, the Labor Department made 5,381 inspections of fruit and vegetable farms which employed 65,929 workers at the time of visit, including 2,692 children under 16 years of age. Although in the 1955 enforcement drive there were twice as many inspections of fruit and vegetable farms as in the preceding year, 53 fewer children were found working illegally. Of the 2,692 child workers under 16 years of age covered by these fruit and vegetable farm inspections, 161 were illegally employed because they were under 14 years of age. (The Labor Law exempts children employed by their parents on the home farm if they are at least 12 years old.) The other 2,531 child workers were 14 and 15 years of age. These included 224, or 9 percent (compared with 12 percent in 1954), who were illegally employed because they had no farm-work permits as required by the Labor Law.

Full compliance with the child labor laws was found on 96 percent of the farms visited in 1955, compared with 94 percent in 1954. The highest proportion of employers with some illegal child labor was found on bean, berry, onion, and cherry farms in the order mentioned.

In 1955 the Department of Labor issued 569 annual certificates of registration (compared with 560 in 1954) to farm-labor contractors or crew leaders, under an amendment to the Labor Law which became effective on May 1, 1954. This law makes it a misdemeanor for a labor contractor to operate in New York State without a certificate and empowers the Department,

after a hearing, to revoke the certificate of a contractor who has violated the Labor Law or the Penal Law, or has misrepresented wage, housing, or working conditions to workers.

Importance and Sources of Harvest Labor

In 1955, New York State was the fourth largest producer of vegetables for the fresh market and for processing in the United States. Production of 16 principal vegetables (green lima beans, snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, lettuce, onions, green peas, spinach, tomatoes, and Brussels sprouts) for the fresh market amounted to 621,000 tons, valued at \$41,212,000. Production of 9 principal vegetables (green lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, green peas, spinach, and tomatoes) for processing amounted to 330,700 tons, valued at \$14,362,000. New York was the fourth largest producer of potatoes with an output of 29,700,000 bushels (preliminary estimate). It ranked second in the Nation in the production of commercial apples (17,100,000 bushels), grapes (88,500 tons), and sour cherries (30,900 tons); it also produced quantities of sweet cherries (6,300 tons), peaches (1,300,000 bushels), and pears (510,000 bushels). New York was the sixth largest producer of strawberries in the country with an output of 410,000 crates valued at \$3,198,000. In addition to strawberries, quantities of currants, raspberries, and blackberries are grown commercially in New York State.

Thousands upon thousands of men, women, and children are employed to produce this enormous output of fruits and vegetables. Some phases of production require much more labor than others. Preharvest operations -- ploughing, seeding, cultivating, and fertilizing -- are highly mechanized and require relatively small crews. The harvesting operation, however, has stubbornly resisted mechanization, and requires a prodigious amount of hand labor.

There are some exceptions. For example, about 80-90 percent of the sweet corn in New York was picked with the aid of the sweet corn harvester in 1955. All beets, carrots, spinach, and most peas are now harvested by machinery. The potato digger has reduced the amount of labor required to harvest this crop. During 1955, 12 mechanical snap bean pickers were in use in New York State (there had been 11 in 1954) and about 125 in the United States. These machines were used only on second pickings and picked only 0.3 to 0.4 of one percent of total production.

Because all fruits and most vegetables grown in New York State are harvested by hand, growers must greatly increase the size of their labor force at harvest time, and do so promptly in order to avoid loss of quantity and quality. Maximum labor requirements in this State occur during July, August, and September. Fewer workers are needed in May and June, to harvest such crops as spinach, peas, and strawberries, and in the fall to harvest carrots, cabbage, and cauliflower.

A problem of major concern to growers and processors is how to obtain an adequate supply of workers to harvest their crops. For this vast recruiting undertaking, employers depend upon labor contractors or crew leaders, the State Employment Service (acting in cooperation with the United States Employment Service), direct recruiting, and advertising. A number of "free-wheelers" among the migratory farm workers find their own jobs by applying directly at the farms.

The motley harvest labor force of New York State consists of workers drawn from a very wide geographical area. Local workers live near the farms and walk to work or transport themselves. Day-haul workers are picked up daily by truck or bus by growers, contractors, or crew leaders, at pick-up points in nearby cities, such as Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, and Utica. Intrastate

migrants come from neighboring cities in New York State and live in labor camps during the harvest season. They include many families. Interstate migrants, also including many family units, come largely from southern states, principally Florida. Some come from nearby states, such as Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The term Puerto Ricans is here used to refer to adult males who are brought to New York State under a written contract whose terms are approved by the Puerto Rican Labor Department, though there are also some Puerto Ricans who come from the Island on their own without a contract.

FARM LABOR LAWS

The New York State Department of Labor enforces the following farm labor laws:

Child labor. - It is illegal in this State to employ a child under 14 years of age on a farm or to employ a child 14 or 15 years old without a farm-work permit. Children, 12 years or older, employed by their parents on the home farm are exempt.

Wage payment. - Farm employers are required to pay wages in full weekly. They may pay every two weeks, if the payment covers all work done through payday.

Migrant registration. - Under a law passed in 1946, anyone who employs, recruits, transports, and brings into the State from other states 10 or more farm or food processing workers must, prior to the importation of such workers, register with the Department of Labor and submit a statement on wages, working conditions, housing, and related information, including charges that workers will have to pay, and how many workers will be brought in. The statement may be filed by a grower or by a contractor. A copy is to be given to each migrant worker at the time of recruitment, but not later than upon arrival in New York, and a copy must be posted at the camp where the migrants live. The statement

is intended to prevent misunderstanding by the worker. Misstatements about working conditions are not penalized in this law, but a penalty is provided in an amendment passed in 1954 (see just below).

Contractor registration. - A law passed in 1954 requires that a certificate of registration be obtained from the Department of Labor by any farm labor contractor or crew leader who, for a fee, recruits, transports, supplies, or hires farm or food processing workers from outside or inside the State, or controls any part of their work. This certificate must be renewed each year.

The Department may, after a hearing, revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew the certificate of a contractor who has violated the Labor Law or the Penal Law. This power is expected to protect workers from contractors who might abuse their position, for example, by absconding with a payroll. It also protects workers from false or misleading information, since the contractor's certificate may also be revoked if he misrepresents terms, conditions, or existence of employment.

Comparability of Data

The 1954 and 1955 data on child labor violations are not strictly comparable because of the inclusion in the 1955 sample of farms those that were visited two or more times during the year. The findings of the 1954 study were based on first inspections only and excluded the effect of rechecks or follow-up inspections on the results. In order to make the findings for the two years comparable, it was necessary to adjust the 1954 figures by combining first inspections and re-inspections. Also, the data are not comparable because twice as many inspections were made in 1955 as in the preceding year.

Enforcement Program

During 1955, investigators of the Labor Department made 5,381 inspections of fruit and vegetable farms -- twice as many as in 1954 -- and

339 farm-labor camp inspections, in order to enforce the farm labor laws. This report excludes visits to 4,357 fruit and vegetable farms that reported no employees in 1955 and 8,418 other than fruit and vegetable farm inspections.¹ These farms² and camps were situated in the Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Utica areas, and in counties near the New York City area.³ Investigators spent some time explaining the various farm labor laws, especially to new employers and workers in the State for the first time, and assisted contractors in filling out their applications for registration, since some were unfamiliar with the new law or were illiterate.

Inspections were made on the basis of lists of growers and contractors who registered with the Labor Department under the migrant-registration law, contractors who filed for certificates of registration, camp operators who applied to the Health Department for permits, and others known to the Labor Department.

1. Among these were 290 other than fruit and vegetable farms with some hired labor, including 130 dairy farms, 54 poultry farms, 36 livestock farms, 33 nurseries, 24 grain farms, and 13 miscellaneous farms. At the time of visit these farms employed 983 workers, including 53 under 16 years; 33 of these child workers were illegally employed, 24 because they had no farm-work permits and 9 because they were under 14. Of the 290 farms, 29 had some illegal child labor. Only 8 of the 259 other than fruit and vegetable farms visited in 1954 had some illegal child labor.

2. Throughout this report the terms "farm," "employer," and "inspection" are used interchangeably.

3. For the purpose of this report, the Albany area included farms and camps visited in Albany, Clinton, Columbia, Dutchess, Essex, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Ulster, Warren, and Washington Counties; the Binghamton area, Allegany, Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, Schuyler, Steuben, Sullivan, Tioga, and Tompkins Counties; the Buffalo area, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara Counties; the New York City area, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties; the Rochester area, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates Counties; the Syracuse area, Cayuga, Cortland, Jefferson, Onondaga, Oswego, and Seneca Counties; and the Utica area, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Lewis, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, and St. Lawrence Counties.

Investigators reported on the number of workers employed on each farm at time of visit; the exact age of each worker under 16 years; whether children of 14 and 15 years had a farm-work permit; when wages were paid; whether deductions were made from wages; whether the workers were covered by workmen's compensation or farmer's liability insurance; whether persons responsible for bringing 10 or more workers from other states had complied with the migrant-registration law; and whether contractors or crew leaders had obtained a certificate of registration.

Calendar hearings. - All violators were reported by enforcement investigators to their district supervisors, who summoned the more serious offenders to calendar hearings. During 1955, the Labor Department held 74 calendar hearings for violation of the farm labor laws:

- 41 for violation of the child labor law;
- 32 for violation of the migrant-registration law and/or the contractor-registration law;
- 1 for violation of the law which requires the employer to furnish information and facilitate an inspection.

There was only one prosecution for violation of the Labor Law in 1955.

Child Labor Law Enforcement

Investigators of the Department inspected 5,381 fruit and vegetable farms which in 1955 employed 65,929 workers on the day of visit, including 2,692 children under 16 years of age. Although the 1955 enforcement drive covered 2,627 more fruit and vegetable farms than the preceding year, 53 fewer children were found working illegally. Of the 2,692 workers under 16 years of age covered by these 5,381 fruit and vegetable farm inspections, 161 were illegally employed because they were under 14 years (the Labor Law exempts children employed by their parents on the home farm if they are at least 12 years old). The other 2,531 child workers were 14 and 15 years of age. These

included 224, or 9 percent (compared with 12 percent in 1954), who were illegally employed because they had no farm-work permits as required by law. (See Table 1.)

The proportion of total workers who were under 16 years of age was about the same in 1955 -- 4.1 percent -- as in 1954 -- 4.0 percent. The proportion of illegal child labor to total labor dropped from 0.8 percent in 1954 to 0.6 percent in 1955. (See Table 2.)

Some illegal child labor was found at 4 percent of the 5,381 fruit and vegetable farms visited in 1955 and at 6 percent of the 2,744 farms visited in 1954. This change is related to the fact that only 12 percent of the farm employers visited in 1955 used some child labor under 16 years of age compared with almost 19 percent in 1954. (See Table 4.)

Better compliance with the child labor laws in 1955 was associated with the Labor Department's record-breaking enforcement drive and with the fact that growers were under less economic pressure than in 1954: production of vegetables in New York State in 1955 dropped by more than 15 percent over the previous year. This cut in vegetable production was only partly counterbalanced by a 22 percent increase in the production of strawberries and cherries, the only two major commercial fruit crops that require a significant number of child workers.

The improvement was also associated with the fact that more children obtained farm-work permits in 1955 than in 1954. From January to August 1955 (very few permits are issued after August) 9,526 farm-work permits were issued compared with 8,533 in the corresponding period of 1954.

Area differences. - Areas differed considerably in the proportion of illegal child labor to total labor under 16 years of age, ranging from 7 percent in the Albany area to 41 percent in the New York City area. In

1955 this proportion dropped in five of the seven areas covered from 11 percent to 7 percent in the Albany area; from 13 percent to 7 percent in the Buffalo area; from 48 percent to 41 percent in the New York City area; from 26 percent to 12 percent in the Rochester area; and from 34 percent to 12 percent in the Utica area. There was an increase in the Binghamton area from 36 percent to 41 percent; and in the Syracuse area from 11 percent to 17 percent.

Area differences in the extent of illegal child labor were associated with such factors as nature of crops, size of farm (measured in terms of number of workers employed at time of inspection), type of labor employed and time of year when inspections were made.

Crop differences. -- Most of the principal fruits and vegetables grown in the State were represented by the 1955 inspections. Some illegal child labor was reported on all crops except, broccoli, cauliflower, celery, and corn; 335 of the 385 illegal child workers were employed on beans, berries, cherries (sweet and sour), onions, and potatoes. These crops constituted 46 percent of all fruit and vegetable farm inspections and had 65 percent of all the workers and 87 percent of total illegal child labor.

The highest proportions of illegal child labor to total labor employed at time of inspection were found on onion farms (2.5 percent), pea farms (1.4 percent), and berry farms (1.3 percent). (See Table 3.) The highest proportions of violators of the child labor laws were found on bean farms (11.3 percent), berry farms (9.2 percent), onion farms (9.1 percent), and cherry farms (8.6 percent). (See Table 4.)

The decline in the proportion of illegal child labor to total labor employed on the farms visited in the Utica area -- from 1.5 percent in 1954 to 0.9 percent in 1955 -- was due in part to the fact that proportionately

fewer bean farms were visited in that area in 1955 than in the previous year. In 1955, 37 percent of all inspections in this area represented bean farms compared with 56 percent in 1954. There was a 21 percent cut in the production of beans for the State as a whole compared with slightly more than 15 percent for all vegetables combined.

Time of visit. - Nearly 80 percent of the employers in violation of the child labor laws in 1955 were found on farms visited during July and August, although only 45 percent of all inspections were made during this period. (See Table 5.) During July and August when schools are closed in New York State, the maximum number of children are available for farm employment. When schools are in session in New York State -- from early September to the end of June -- it is illegal for a grower to hire any child, resident or migrant, under 16 years of age when required to attend school. Generally, because of transportation difficulties, it is not practical for an employer to hire children after school hours, unless they live close to his farm. Even then they would be available for only a brief time.

Differences in harvesting dates between one crop and another influence crop and area differences. For example, the strawberry harvest in New York State usually lasts about one month (from June 10 - July 10); on the other hand, the snap bean harvest lasts three and a half months (from July 1 - October 15). For this reason, children are more likely to pick snap beans some time during the summer than green peas, strawberries, cherries, and the many other crops that have shorter harvest seasons.

Type of labor. - The large number of Puerto Rican adult males employed in the Buffalo and Rochester areas during 1955 helped to keep down the rate of child labor violations in these areas. Two-thirds of the more than 2,000 Puerto Rican farm workers brought to New York under government-approved

contract in 1955 worked in the Buffalo and Rochester areas, according to the Puerto Rican Department of Labor. Most of their work was farm work, though some was on food processing.

Child Care Centers

About 16 percent of the 1955 summer population of the farm labor camps of New York State were children under 14 years of age, according to the Department of Health's report on 405 camps in operation during the last half of August.

The Sanitary Code, which is administered by the Department of Health, requires camp operators to provide adequate and competent adult supervision for occupants under 16 years at times when they are not accompanied by an adult. Some parents prefer to take their children to the fields where they can watch them, or in order that the children can earn some money. A number of parents are dissatisfied with the type of supervision in the camp and take their children to the fields for this reason.

Under the New York State Migrant Child Care Program, child care centers have been set up to provide children of migrant parents with competent care and supervised recreation. They may also prevent their illegal employment. This program is sponsored by the New York State Federation of Growers' and Processors' Association, Inc., and is administered by the Department of Agriculture and Markets. The State pays 70 percent of the cost of this program, and growers and processors pay the other 30 percent. Parents are charged \$1.50 for each child. These fees are added to the capital fund.

The Child Care Program has reached only a few of the many migrant children who may be left in the camps without proper supervision or may accompany their parents to the fields. About 3,200 children under 14 years of age lived with their parents in labor camps reported in operation during last

half of August 1955 (compared with 3,900 in corresponding period in 1954), according to the Department of Health. Approximately 1,800 of these children in 1955 lived in 70 camps that had 15 or more children under 14 years of age. Fifteen is the minimum number required under the State program to qualify for a child care center; camps with fewer than 15 children can qualify for a center by pooling their children with those of nearby camps. Nevertheless, there were only nine child care centers in operation under the Program in 1955. These centers took care of only 473 children of the following ages: under two, 151; two to six, 214; six to ten, 95; ten to thirteen, 13. In 1954 there had been 14 child care centers in operation which had an enrollment of 680 children under 14 years. One of the reasons for this decline was the fact that there were fewer migrant children in the State in 1955.

Migrant-Registration Law

Tens of thousands of interstate migrants pour into New York State each summer to work, for the most part, as harvest hands on fruit and vegetable farms; some are employed in food processing plants. The greatest influx occurs during July - September; the time of peak demand for fruit and vegetable harvest hands. These migrants travel long distances to come to New York State because jobs are not available to them during the summer in their own home states, principally Florida and other southern states. Fruit and vegetable harvesting in Florida is substantially over by May.

Though some migrants come to New York on their own, most are brought here by growers or by labor contractors or crew leaders.

To avoid misunderstanding between migrants and their employers concerning wages, housing, and other conditions of employment, the migrant-registration law was passed in 1946 (see "Farm Labor Laws," above). In 1955, the Labor Department received 521 registrations from growers, contractors, and

processors, who expected to bring into the State 26,702 interstate migrant workers: 24,157 farm workers, 1,332 food processing workers, 525 classified under both headings, and 688 potato graders, packers, and loaders. (See Table 6.) These migrant workers included representatives from more than a dozen southern states, the bulk were from Florida; 1,140 came from Pennsylvania, and 60 from New Jersey.

These figures do not include all the interstate migrants who were expected to work in the State during 1955, since they exclude interstate migrant workers who found their own jobs, and others who worked for employers who failed to register, or who were not required to register, since they recruited fewer than 10 interstate migrant workers. Approximately 32,750 southern migrant workers were utilized at peak employment in 1955, compared with 32,300 in 1954, according to the State Farm Placement Service. In addition, an estimated 5,000 farm and food processing workers (compared with 4,900 in 1954) came from Puerto Rico, 808 from the British West Indies, and 136 from Canada -- a total of 944 from these two last places compared with 1,275 in 1954.

During 1955 investigators of the Department visited 339 farm labor camps in order to enforce the migrant-registration law; 256 of these camps were located in the Rochester area, 44 in the Albany area, 23 in the Buffalo area, 11 in the Syracuse area, 4 in the Binghamton area, and 1 in the Utica area. Of the 339 camps visited, 44 were not required to register because they had fewer than 10 interstate migrant workers or housed Puerto Ricans who are not covered under the law. Of the 295 camp operators who were required to register, post, and distribute to the workers copies of the information on wages, housing, and other terms of employment, 86 failed in some degree to comply with the provisions of the law: 52 failed to register; 30

failed to post and distribute copies; 1 failed to post; and 3 failed to distribute copies.

Contractor-Registration Law

In general, a farm labor contractor or crew leader is one who, for a consideration, supplies a grower or processor with workers and controls them in the field. A contractor may assume complete responsibility for growing and harvesting a crop.

In 1954, the migrant-registration law was amended by requiring farm labor contractors to obtain from the Labor Department certificates which could be taken from them after a hearing, if they had violated the Labor Law or the Penal Law or had misrepresented the terms of employment to their workers. (See "Farm Labor Laws," above).

Each contractor is required to carry his certificate with him and to show it to the investigator upon request. The certificate expires in December and must be renewed each year. It is illegal to operate in New York State without a certificate.

During 1955, the Labor Department received applications for certificates from 569 farm labor contractors compared with 560 in 1954 -- the first year of the operation of this law. It is significant that three-fourths of the contractors certificated in 1954 returned to work in New York State in 1955.

More than 80 percent of the 5,381 fruit and vegetable farm inspections by the Department in 1955 (which included farms visited two or more times during the season) covered farms operated without the use of a contractor or crew leader; 798 of the inspections involved contractors with certificates; and 212 inspections involved contractors without certificates.

Very few contractors recruited more than one type of worker. Of 452 contractors who reported this information, 436 recruited only one type:

- 388 contractors recruited interstate migrants;
- 43 recruited day-haul workers;
- 3 recruited Puerto Ricans;
- 2 recruited intrastate migrants.

Of the remaining 16 contractors, 14 recruited two different types of workers:

- 4 recruited interstate and intrastate migrants;
- 9 recruited interstate migrants and day-haul workers;
- 1 recruited intrastate migrants and day-haul workers.

Only two out of the 452 contractors recruited three different types of workers (interstate and intrastate migrants, and day-haul workers).

Of the 21,768 workers recruited by the 452 contractors, 19,455 were interstate migrants, 1,910 were day-haul workers, 273 intrastate migrants, and 130 Puerto Ricans.

Wage Payment Law

Very few violations of the wage payment law were reported in connection with the fruit and vegetable farms inspected in 1955. Most employers (4,231 out of 5,303 who reported this information) paid their workers weekly; 378 paid wages daily; 252 paid every two weeks; 212 employers paid some workers daily and others weekly; 16 employers paid some workers weekly and others every two weeks.

Voluntary Accident Insurance

The Workmen's Compensation Law of New York State does not cover agricultural labor. However, workers can sue the employer under the common law if an injury results from the employer's negligence or that of another employee. To insure against such claims, many growers and contractors have voluntarily taken out workmen's compensation insurance or farmer's liability insurance. One or both types were carried by 413, or 79 percent of the 521

employers who registered with the Labor Department in 1955 under the migrant-registration law. This figure covered only employers (including contractors) of interstate migrants and was not representative of all farm employers in the State. Information based on 5,352 inspections which were representative of employers of all types of farm workers showed that 63 percent carried either workmen's compensation or farmer's liability or both; 39 percent of these inspections showed that the employees were covered by workmen's compensation. The number of different employers who carried insurance may be smaller than these figures indicate since some employers may have been visited more than once during the season.

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS VISITED AND NUMBER OF FARM WORKERS EMPLOYED, BY AREA AND COUNTY, 1955

Area and county	:Numbers:		Number of workers				
	: of em- : ploy- : ers : : visit- : ed :	Total:	16 years and over:	14 and 15 years with farm-work permits:	Total:	Illegal child labor : 14 and 15 years without farm-work permits :	Under 14 years :
New York State	5,381	65,929	63,237	2,307	385	224	161
Albany area	678	6,977	6,856	113	8	6	2
Albany	60	179	174	5	-	-	-
Clinton	56	1,939	1,921	18	-	-	-
Columbia	141	1,089	1,069	17	3	2	1
Dutchess	95	1,299	1,246	50	3	2	1
Essex	8	51	51	-	-	-	-
Greene	15	37	34	3	-	-	-
Rensselaer	25	103	102	1	-	-	-
Saratoga	31	225	225	-	-	-	-
Schenectady	17	61	44	16	1	1	-
Schoharie	10	76	73	2	1	1	-
Ulster	201	1,633	1,633	-	-	-	-
Warren	3	98	98	-	-	-	-
Washington	16	187	186	1	-	-	-
Binghamton area	283	3,495	3,348	87	60	31	29
Allegany	33	307	282	9	16	4	12
Broome	7	36	24	11	1	1	-
Chemung	8	48	36	9	3	-	3
Chenango	13	224	217	3	4	3	1
Delaware	8	133	131	2	-	-	-
Otsego	11	85	85	-	-	-	-
Schuyler	35	239	218	20	1	1	-
Steuben	145	2,267	2,209	27	31	18	13
Sullivan	3	93	87	4	2	2	-
Tioga	3	18	14	2	2	2	-
Tompkins	17	45	45	-	-	-	-
Buffalo area	825	11,353	10,843	476	34	21	13
Cattaraugus	30	1,369	1,340	20	9	7	2
Chautauqua	221	1,741	1,681	43	17	6	11
Erie	299	6,547	6,158	384	5	5	-
Niagara	275	1,696	1,664	29	3	3	-
New York City	1,014	5,057	4,930	75	52	21	31
Nassau	35	191	189	1	1	1	-
Orange	195	1,430	1,362	49	19	9	10
Putnam	5	19	19	-	-	-	-
Rockland	34	221	210	10	1	1	-
Suffolk	733	3,128	3,084	13	31	10	21
Westchester	12	68	66	2	-	-	-

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS VISITED AND NUMBER OF FARM WORKERS EMPLOYED, BY AREA AND COUNTY, 1955
(Continued)

Area and county	Number of employers visited		Number of workers				
	Total	over 16 years	14 and 15 years with farm-work permits	Total	14 and 15 years without farm-work permits	Under 14 years	Illegal child labor
Rochester area	1,872	21,325	20,724	529	72	44	28
Genesee	129	1,158	1,153	3	2	-	2
Livingston	61	1,008	1,008	-	-	-	-
Monroe	279	2,716	2,605	106	5	3	2
Ontario	89	1,580	1,497	82	1	1	-
Orleans	401	5,980	5,815	146	19	14	5
Wayne	651	5,991	5,871	83	37	22	15
Wyoming	45	778	778	-	-	-	-
Yates	217	2,114	1,997	109	8	4	4
Syracuse area	372	7,550	7,132	347	71	53	18
Cayuga	70	2,974	2,821	140	13	7	6
Cortland	8	16	16	-	-	-	-
Jefferson	8	38	32	3	3	3	-
Onondaga	78	1,026	964	51	11	11	-
Oswego	204	3,345	3,161	143	41	30	11
Seneca	4	151	138	10	3	2	1
Utica area	337	10,172	9,404	680	88	48	40
Franklin	23	438	423	15	-	-	-
Fulton	4	97	86	10	1	-	1
Hamilton	3	272	267	-	5	-	5
Herkimer	37	514	478	27	9	6	3
Lewis	2	6	6	-	-	-	-
Madison	147	4,166	3,765	366	35	10	25
Montgomery	8	123	95	28	-	-	-
Oneida	112	4,554	4,282	234	38	32	6
St. Lawrence	1	2	2	-	-	-	-

TABLE 2. PERCENT OF LEGAL AND ILLEGAL WORKERS EMPLOYED, BY AREA, 1955

Area	Number of workers	Percent of workers					
		Total	16 years and over	14 and 15 years with farm-work permits	Total	Illegal child labor: 14 and 15 years without farm-work permits	Under 14 years
New York State	65,929	100.0	95.9	3.5	0.6	0.3	0.3
Albany area	6,977	100.0	98.3	1.6	0.1	0.1	(a)
Binghamton area	3,495	100.0	95.8	2.5	1.7	0.9	0.8
Buffalo area	11,353	100.0	95.5	4.2	0.3	0.2	0.1
New York City area	5,057	100.0	97.5	1.5	1.0	0.4	0.6
Rochester area	21,325	100.0	97.2	2.5	0.3	0.2	0.1
Syracuse area	7,550	100.0	94.5	4.6	0.9	0.7	0.2
Utica area	10,172	100.0	92.4	6.7	0.9	0.5	0.4

a. Less than one-tenth of one percent.

TABLE 3. PERCENT OF LEGAL AND ILLEGAL WORKERS EMPLOYED,
BY CROP, NEW YORK STATE, 1955

Crop	Number of workers	Percent of workers					
		Total	16 years and over	14 and 15 years with farm-work permits	Illegal child labor		
					Total	14 and 15 years without farm-work permits	Under 14 years
Total	65,929	100.0	95.9	3.5	0.6	0.3	0.3
Apples	8,459	100.0	99.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	(a)
Beans - all types	23,853	100.0	94.4	5.1	0.5	0.3	0.2
Berries - all types	4,233	100.0	89.8	8.9	1.3	0.8	0.5
Cabbage	379	100.0	96.3	3.2	0.5	0.5	-
Cauliflower and broccoli	279	100.0	98.9	1.1	-	-	-
Celery	693	100.0	99.0	1.0	-	-	-
Cherries - all types	6,012	100.0	94.3	4.9	0.8	0.5	0.3
Corn	543	100.0	99.4	0.6	-	-	-
Cucumbers	456	100.0	98.3	1.3	0.4	0.4	-
Grapes	2,257	100.0	99.9	0.1	(a)	(a)	-
Lettuce	565	100.0	94.3	4.8	0.9	0.5	0.4
Onions	2,644	100.0	91.0	6.5	2.5	1.3	1.2
Peaches	605	100.0	98.2	1.3	0.5	0.5	-
Peas	351	100.0	98.0	0.6	1.4	-	1.4
Potatoes	5,955	100.0	98.8	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.4
Tomatoes	4,838	100.0	99.1	0.7	0.2	0.2	-
Other	2,139	100.0	95.6	3.7	0.7	0.4	0.3
Not reported	1,668	100.0	99.1	0.7	0.2	-	0.2

a. Less than one-tenth of one percent.

TABLE 4. PERCENT OF EMPLOYERS IN COMPLIANCE WITH CHILD LABOR LAWS, BY CROP, NEW YORK STATE, 1955

Crop	Total		Employers with legal labor only			Employers with some illegal child labor		
	Number of employers visited	Percent	Total	All workers 16 years and over	Some workers under 16 years	Total	All workers 14 years and over	Some workers under 14 years
Total	5,381	100.0	96.0	88.1	7.9	4.0	2.2	1.8
Apples	948	100.0	99.6	98.5	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.2
Beans - all types	566	100.0	88.7	60.3	28.4	11.3	6.9	4.4
Berries - all types	328	100.0	90.8	72.2	18.6	9.2	4.6	4.6
Cabbage	74	100.0	98.6	94.5	4.1	1.4	1.4	-
Cauliflower and broccoli	36	100.0	100.0	91.7	8.3	-	-	-
Celery	40	100.0	100.0	95.0	5.0	-	-	-
Cherries - all types	360	100.0	91.4	72.2	19.2	8.6	4.4	4.2
Corn	105	100.0	100.0	98.1	1.9	-	-	-
Cucumbers	45	100.0	97.8	93.4	4.4	2.2	2.2	-
Grapes	374	100.0	99.7	99.2	0.5	0.3	0.3	-
Lettuce	117	100.0	96.6	88.1	8.5	3.4	2.5	0.9
Onions	405	100.0	90.9	79.3	11.6	9.1	4.4	4.7
Peaches	109	100.0	98.2	94.5	3.7	1.8	1.8	-
Pears	44	100.0	95.5	91.0	4.5	4.5	-	4.5
Potatoes	813	100.0	97.3	96.7	0.6	2.7	0.9	1.8
Tomatoes	465	100.0	98.5	95.7	2.8	1.5	1.5	-
Other	422	100.0	98.1	92.4	5.7	1.9	1.4	0.5
Not reported	130	100.0	98.5	95.4	3.1	1.5	-	1.5

TABLE 5. PERCENT OF EMPLOYERS IN COMPLIANCE WITH CHILD LABOR LAWS,
BY MONTH OF INSPECTION, NEW YORK STATE, 1955

Month of inspection	Total		Employers with legal labor only			Employers with some illegal child labor		
	Number of employers visited	Percent	Total	All workers 16 years and over	Some workers under 16 years	Total	All workers 14 years and over	Some workers under 14 years
Total	5,381	100.0	96.0	88.1	7.9	4.0	2.2	1.8
May	2	100.0	100.0	100.0	-	-	-	-
June	800	100.0	96.7	91.3	5.4	3.3	2.2	1.1
July	1,116	100.0	91.6	74.3	17.3	8.4	4.4	4.0
August	1,268	100.0	93.9	81.4	12.5	6.1	3.5	2.6
September	1,655	100.0	99.3	97.6	1.7	0.7	0.5	0.2
October	536	100.0	98.7	98.3	0.4	1.3	-	1.3
November	3	100.0	100.0	100.0	-	-	-	-
December	1	100.0	100.0	100.0	-	-	-	-

TABLE 6. MIGRANT-REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, 1955

County in which migrant will work	Number of applications	Number of workers expected
New York State	521	26,702 ^a
Albany area	50	1,467
Columbia	9	263
Dutchess	21	755
Rensselaer	1	20
Saratoga	1	130
Ulster	18	299
Binghamton area	81	4,136
Allegany	4	215
Chenango	20	1,934
Otsego	2	140
Steuben	55	1,847
Buffalo area	23	1,443
Cattaragus	1	40
Chautauqua	3	130
Erie	10	1,065
Niagara	9	208
New York City area	61	1,573
Orange	9	304
Rockland	1	19
Suffolk	51	1,250
Rochester area	225	10,216
Genesee	7	1,085
Livingston	14	925
Monroe	16	780
Ontario	10	308
Orleans	50	2,446
Wayne	111	4,052
Wyoming	10	302
Yates	7	318
Syracuse area	27	3,804
Cayuga	10	2,368
Cortland	4	245
Onondaga	4	315
Oswego	8	841
Seneca	1	35
Utica area	54	4,063
Herkimer	5	425
Madison	13	776
Montgomery	2	100
Oneida	34	2,762

a. Includes 714 interstate migrants who were expected to work in two counties.