

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MAINE



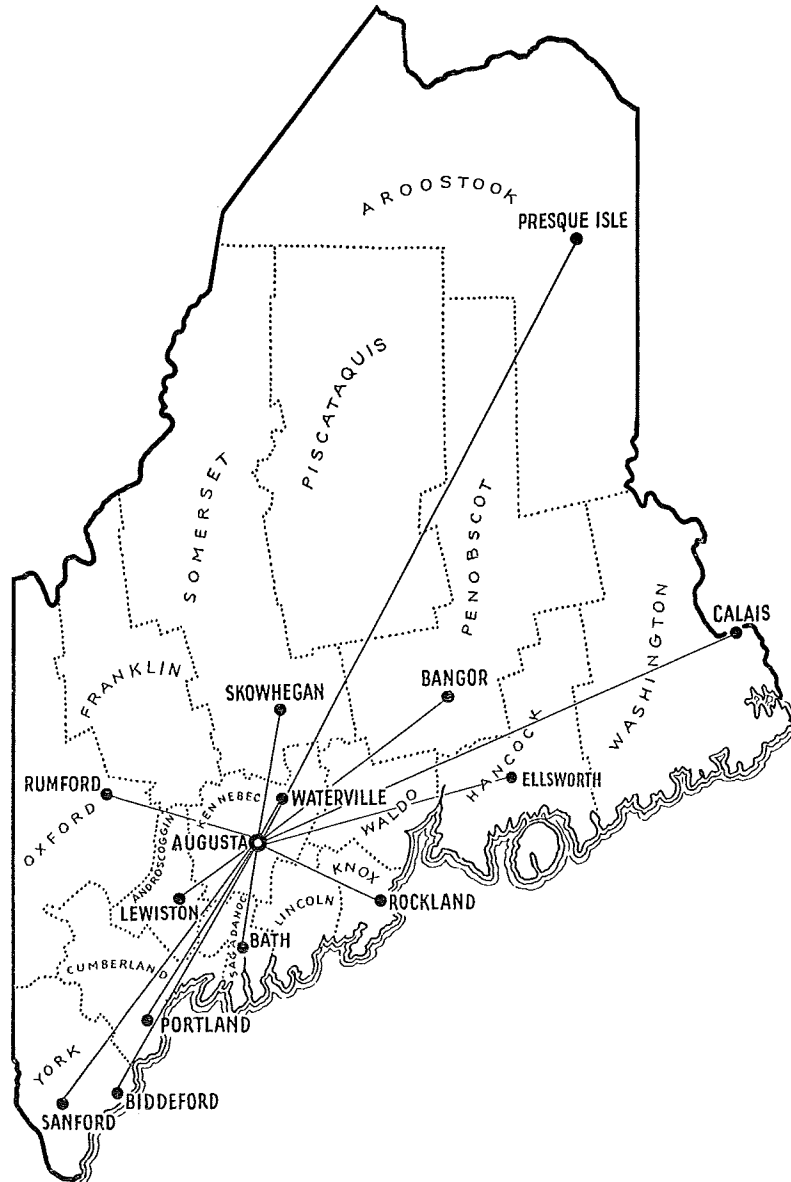
# Farm Labor Report

1959

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION • AUGUSTA, MAINE



ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL  
and  
FOOD PROCESSING REPORT



MAINE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

236318

MAINE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION

CHAIRMAN

E. S. DIRECTOR

RECRUITMENT SUPERVISOR

INFORMATIONAL SERVICE  
REPRESENTATIVE

POTATO HARVEST PROGRAM

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAMS

PRESQUE ISLE LOCAL OFFICE MANAGER:  
FIELD SUPERVISOR  
DIRECT SUPERVISION OF CANADIAN  
RECRUITMENT FOR AROOSTOOK  
POTATO HARVEST PROGRAM

14 Local Offices:

AUGUSTA; BANGOR, BATH, BIDDEFORD,  
CALAIS; ELLSWORTH; LEWISTON; PORT-  
LAND; PRESQUE ISLE, ROCKLAND, RUM-  
FORD; SANFORD, SKOWHEGAN, WATERVILLE

FARM PLACEMENT  
REPRESENTATIVES

2 TEMPORARY FARM PLACEMENT REPRESEN-  
TATIVES AT:

CANADIAN RECRUITMENT  
TEAMS & BORDER CROSSING  
ASSIGNMENT STAFF

9 SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OFFICES  
13 TEMPORARY FARM PLACEMENT EMPLOYEES  
(7-FPR, 6-CLERICAL)

CARIBOU  
FT. FAIRFIELD  
FT. KENT  
HOULTON  
LIMESTONE

MADAWASKA  
MARS HILL  
VAN BUREN  
WASHBURN

PORTLAND & ROCKLAND  
INTERVIEWERS WITH FARM PLACEMENT  
ASSIGNMENTS AT:  
AUGUSTA, BANGOR, BATH, BIDDEFORD;  
CALAIS; ELLSWORTH, LEWISTON;  
PRESQUE ISLE, RUMFORD; SANFORD;  
SKOWHEGAN AND WATERVILLE

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART  
MAINE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION  
1959 FARM PLACEMENT



ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL  
AND  
FOOD PROCESSING REPORT

PART I: ANNUAL SUMMARY

Planning

- A. The program is operated under the general administrative supervision of the State Employment Service Director. Direct administration, planning, training, supervision, coordination, analysis, and evaluation of statewide operations are the responsibilities of the recruitment supervisor.

Local office managers have direct responsibilities for the operation of the Farm Placement Program in their areas.

Each local office and the administrative office unit established plans for operating the program for the 1959 season. These plans charted the course to meet anticipated area and State problems. This included plans to secure information from growers and canners regarding the amount and location of crop acreages and whether or not machine or hand harvesting would be involved and the extent of each method. The information received was the basis of establishing labor needs for various locations within each local office area of operations and the approximate dates for the peak harvest periods.

Plans were made to include school recruitment of youth, active file call-ins, complete surveys of all local office applicant files including youth registrations used during the previous season and the utilization of the press, radio, television, crop posters, and visits to youth gathering spots such as swimming pools and play grounds in accordance with the needs as they developed prior to and during the crop harvest season. The plans included intensive recruitment and training for crew supervisors as they are considered one of the most important elements in the success of the day-haul programs. Importation of agricultural workers was anticipated and plans were made to develop information on the potential domestic labor supply at the earliest dates possible to provide for a realistic approach to any decisions which might have to be made as to whether or not shortages existed.

- B. Meetings with employers, growers, crew supervisors, and canners were scheduled prior to the seasonal crop activities and during the harvest periods as it became necessary. The basis for this planning was initially established from the experiences of the previous years. The information available indicated that it

would be necessary to have meetings with market garden growers on the subject of Puerto Rican usage; blueberry growers' requirements which might or might not indicate the need of organized Indian recruitment in Canada; orchardists who might require Canadian importation during the apple harvest; and, the annual program of importation of Canadian planters and potato pickers for the Aroostook County potato harvest.

Potato recruitment meetings were held at Van Buren on March 24 with growers and directors of the Aroostook Farm Labor Association to determine needs for spring planting and at Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, in August to review needs, supply, methods, and dates concerning recruitment for the potato harvest. Representatives from the Canadian National Employment Service, the Regional Office in Boston, United States Immigration Service and Border Patrol, Maine Employment Security Commission and the Aroostook Farm Labor Association.

These meetings were held as anticipated and many other meetings with individual growers of various crops were held throughout the pre-season periods and during the crop seasons as a method of meeting changing conditions of supply, demand, weather conditions, and mechanization.

Meetings were held by local office managers and farm placement interviewers with recruited day-haul supervisors for the purpose of reviewing the supervisors' responsibilities to the job, growers, and youth harvesters.

Schools were recruited for the following crop activities: strawberries, snap beans, market gardens, and blueberries.

#### Employment Trends

##### A. Market Gardens:

Market Garden activities were concentrated in the Bangor and Portland areas.

Rain and cold weather in April set activities back two to three weeks. Exceptionally warm weather in early May brought progress back to normal status.

The full-time employment of Puerto Rican crews has diminished the demand for day-haul youth to a considerable extent.

##### B. Strawberries:

Most of the strawberry pickers in Washington County were employed directly by the growers during July. The supply of pickers came from areas near the locations of the strawberry fields. A cold

April and winterkill resulted in a very poor crop. Some growers experienced 95% winterkill.

C. Snap Beans:

The crop and picking season were generally good in many areas. The demand for hand pickers decreased by 20% to 30% in many areas, and in some areas 50% below the 1958 season, primarily because of grower use of machine pickers and less acreage. One grower of twenty six (26) acres to be hand picked, cancelled his contract because of heavy rain in June. Hand picking in one area was limited to forty one (41) acres out of two hundred (200) acres planted. Previously, this acreage was all hand picked. There were many variations throughout the fourteen (14) local office areas. Some growers used the machine picker to harvest all their snap beans, but others used hand pickers entirely. Some growers used hand pickers for the first two picks and then used the machine picker to clean the fields in one pick. Some growers were entirely satisfied with the machine picker and others were dissatisfied or unfortunate, due to ground and plant conditions. Some local offices did not have any snap bean day haul crews, as canners and growers used the machine for all of their picking in those areas. Other offices were required to recruit fewer hand pickers because acreages in their areas were partially picked by machine.

The recruitment of youth bean pickers was limited to area requirements as the requirements became known. A problem of over-recruitment existed as in some cases it was not possible to determine the exact needs until a very late date. Generally, the recruitment came close to the actual needs and, therefore, it was found possible to utilize the school youth recruited for bean picking without a big surplus. There were not any shortages throughout the State except in isolated eastern areas.

Only six hundred (600) acres were hand picked in 1959 as compared to the peak activity in 1956 when twenty one hundred (2100) acres were hand picked.

D. Blueberries:

The blueberry crop in Washington County was better than the 1958 crop. The need for rakers was filled locally by employers through direct hiring, except in the Sanford area where one large grower depends each year on local office recruitment of raking crews.

E. Potatoes:

The potato harvest followed the customary pattern. Domestic harvest hands, with a pre-determined number of Canadian



harvest hands, were aided by some intrastate and interstate pickers in harvesting the potato crop. Ideal planting weather prevailed during the first two weeks. This was followed by a long period of rain resulting in late planting. Some potatoes were not planted until June 6. Dry conditions in August slowed maturity. Rain during the last of August promoted growth but digging of late planted potatoes was delayed to provide growth. This resulted in digging operations later than originally planned. Snow fell October 18, the day following the close of the temporary offices. Mechanization has changed little from the 1958 season. It may remain static during the next few years. The harvest progressed smoothly and utilized all available domestic pickers. There was a good quantity and quality crop. There were eighteen days of near-perfect harvesting weather.

F. Apples:

The 1959 apple crop was the fourth successive crop with high production and top quality.

Apple production is increasing each year with a demand for more pickers. This can be expected for future years as more trees start bearing and orchards continue to be expanded. A shortage existed during the 1959 season and it was necessary to import Canadian pickers in some areas. The Augusta, Lewiston, and Sanford local office areas have a concentration of apple orchards. The crop was 10% to 20% above normal.

Recruitment and Labor Supply

- A. The recruitment of youth and adults, the importation of Canadians for bean, apple, and potato picking, and the use of off-shore Puerto Ricans for market gardens was sufficient to meet the most urgent needs to care for and harvest the major market garden, strawberry, snap bean, blueberry, apple, and potato crops.

One local office, cooperating with the Psychopathic Department of the Veterans Administration and selected growers, planned and operated a program of agricultural harvest introductory employment for rehabilitating veterans. Crews were used to harvest potatoes, turnips, apples, and blueberries.

Recruitment was planned successfully following the establishment of the demand for harvesters in that no reports were received of serious losses due to lack of harvest workers. The over-all demand for youth harvest workers was 50% less than 1957 and 20% less than 1958. This reduction in needs was primarily accounted for by mechanization, weather conditions, failure of some growers and canners to plant crops and a reduction in the volume of crops which was not offset by the increased demand for apple pickers.

In those instances where additional recruitment was necessary during the harvest season the press and radio were used with good results.

One local office placed fifty three (53) crew supervisors, many of them for crews available locally to employers using direct hiring.

#### Market Gardens:

There was less demand for youth in 1959. No shortage problem developed during the season.

Sixty percent of the initial labor supply of youth is provided through recruitment visits to public schools. Forty percent of the youth harvest workers are secured as a result of special harvest period recruitment through the use of visits to youth assembly points such as swimming pools and play grounds and by the use of the press, radio, and television.

#### Strawberries:

The recruitment of strawberry pickers through local office activities was limited primarily to the Portland and Rockland areas. Other areas were in most instances supplied through direct hiring by the employer from pickers living near the strawberry acreages and by the direct recruitment of Indians by the employers. The crop was very poor, in some areas 95% winterkilled. The demand was very low, resulting in no recruitment problems.

#### Snap Beans:

The necessary supply of snap bean pickers was readily recruited as the demand was comparatively light. School recruitment took place in most local office areas. Some local office areas rely most heavily on recruitment at gathering places for youth through the bean picking season. Extreme care was necessary in order to assure recruited youth employment without under-recruiting, to fill the need for harvesters.

#### Blueberries:

The available supply of rakers living near the blueberry fields was generally enough to supply the need for rakers and the majority of the growers therefore did not place orders with local offices. This was generally true, with the exception of the Sanford, Augusta, and Rockland areas.

Indians were used in Washington and Hancock Counties. Some growers in Washington and Hancock Counties brought in MicMac Indians from Canada by direct recruitment.

#### Apples:

A shortage of apple pickers primarily in the Augusta, Lewiston, and Sanford areas required the application of every possible recruitment device in an attempt to secure domestic workers. Employers started inquiries early in the spring. As a result, plans were made at an early date to use every recruitment resource in anticipation of a demand much greater than the indicated supply.

Jobcasts over the radio, newspaper articles, call-ins, and positive recruitment were used to build a supply of apple pickers. In addition there were continual spot announcements over the radio.

All-out recruitment efforts were made and the results were comparatively satisfactory. However, it was not possible to recruit enough full-time apple pickers to meet the needs of the growers and some importation of Canadians was necessary.

English and French narrative training films on how to pick apples are now in use through the cooperative efforts of parties interested in the problem of securing enough qualified full-time pickers to meet the anticipated demand for next season. Importing employers during the 1959 season employed any qualified full-time domestic apple pickers during the picking season regardless of any Canadian importation.

#### Potatoes:

Clearance orders provided few potato pickers from intrastate and interstate areas. The Aroostook County potato harvest program followed the usual pattern for the recruitment and utilization of domestic pickers in addition to the importation of a previously agreed upon number of pickers from Quebec and New Brunswick provinces.

Maximum importation was planned for three hundred (300) starting with the planting season and sixty-five hundred (6500) for the harvest season, for a total of sixty-eight hundred (6800). Maintenance of this maximum of sixty-eight hundred (6800) throughout the potato season in Aroostook County resulted in avoiding any additional request to bring in more Canadians above the three hundred (300) and sixty-five hundred (6500) quotas.

Potato acreage in the Bangor area increased for the second consecutive year. One grower contracted directly with an out-of-state crew of fifty (50) to dig, truck, and store his crop.

- B. Intrastate and interstate potato pickers reporting as a result of a clearance order were instructed to report at the Houlton temporary office for assignment to growers. Maine does not have a program for migratory labor as such. Most secured employment before or after arrival in Houlton without reporting in to the Houlton office.

C. The majority of market garden growers in the Portland area employed off-shore Puerto Ricans through direct hire, by preference. Those who were employed by contract were very competent. However, some failed to remain for the entire harvest season, supposedly because of the cold fall weather. One contract grower provided excellent housing, off-time visits to places of interest and gave special attention to their needs with emphasis on personalized attention in cases of illness and injury. This approach resulted in excellent relationships and crew production. Another contract employer provided a bonus for those who remained until the close of the season. This incentive was very productive as a large percentage stayed until near the end of the season.

D. Foreign workers were imported to supplement domestic labor to harvest beans, apples, and potatoes. They were effectively used during the peak harvest periods. Demand and supply following intensive recruitment were examined to determine whether or not a shortage existed. This included information regarding the rate of labor turnover during the previous years. Final results tended to prove that the shortage estimates were quite close in that available domestic pickers were employed and the crop was harvested without sizeable losses due to a labor shortage, except in a few minor instances not verifiable at the close of the harvest period.

Importing employers employed available full-time domestic pickers at any time during the peak period of activity. Wage surveys were conducted. These were personal checks with the employers and the harvest hands. Rates of pay were found to be in accordance with the going rates in the area.

Housing for contract Puerto Ricans in market gardening, Canadian apple pickers, and Canadian potato harvest labor was considered satisfactory and, in some cases, outstandingly good.

E. Local offices did not participate in any community programs designed to facilitate recruitment.

F. The supply of apple pickers prior to 1934 to pick a 5,000,000 bushel crop was primarily available because apple pickers lived in the orchard areas during those years and there were many small orchards. Today's problems are primarily accounted for by the concentration of a few large orchards which are being increased in size year by year. The majority of these orchards are near industrial centers. There is an extensive demand for a large number of apple pickers from centralized industrial areas and much of the industrial labor supply is not particularly interested in agricultural employment.

There have been potato picker shortages in Aroostook County, ranging from 5,000 to 7,000 in recent years. A small number of intrastate

and interstate pickers were available. A big shortage remained and Canadian importation was a definite necessity. Construction, fewer available local workers, and employment at surrounding air bases continue to account for the labor shortage to a large extent. There are no indications at the present time that there will be any change in the importation pattern for the Aroostook County potato harvest.

- G. The locations of the majority of large orchards are such that they do not draw from enough agricultural areas to supply the need for apple pickers. In most instances private transportation is necessary.

Employers are encouraged to participate in establishing car pools but the practice has been for apple pickers to provide their own transportation. Apple picking in most orchards requires the ability to carry and place tall ladders. In most instances pickers are expected to pick the complete tree assigned to them. This has resulted in the employment of a high proportion of men.

#### EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The over-all operations for the Farm Placement Program are considered successful, primarily because the objective of the program to fill orders for season agricultural labor was completed to the point where crops were harvested without any major losses and the supply of domestic agricultural labor was employed.

The planned program for over-all operations was carried out successfully. This included recruitment of available domestic labor, contacts with canners and growers to establish needs, recruitment of qualified crew leaders, the supervision of youth working conditions, the establishment of going rates through wage surveys and the inspection of housing provided for Puerto Rican and Canadian crews. Placements were reduced by adverse effects on the need for agricultural labor by mechanization and a reduction in some crops in various areas throughout the State. Over-recruitment was limited to an absolute minimum and in cases of under-recruitment importation was certified. Full-time Puerto Rican market garden hands reduced the demand for day haul youth who might otherwise have been employed to a greater extent.

Plans, methods, organization, public relations materials, contacts with employers, recruitment and utilization of sources and materials relevant to the promotion of recruitment seem to have been basically sound and productive. Occasions demanding fast and accurate decisions were met to the satisfaction of those concerned with the program and it appears that realistic activities conducive to the successful results.



Each year, during the twelve-year span of this program, more services have been provided to growers. The program has wide and complete acceptance and confidence by users. Better supervision, better organized crews, more competent crew supervisors, and better working conditions prevail. Users rely on this established and well known program of operations to meet their requirements, whether they increase, decrease, or fluctuate with conditions.

Table 1. Selected data on farm placement operations in 1959

Item		Number
Section A. Day-haul activities		
1. Operated by Local Office:		
a. Day-haul points.....		11
b. Towns with day-haul points.....		9
c. Sum of workers transported on average day in each town.....		340
d. Sum of workers transported on peak day in each town.....		704
2. Established (unsupervised) by Local Office:		
a. Day-haul points.....		165
b. Towns with day-haul points.....		86
c. Sum of workers transported on average day in each town.....		3,253
d. Sum of workers transported on peak day in each town.....		5,104
Section B. Services to school-age youth		
3. Towns in which separate school-age youth programs are operated...		9
4. Day-haul points operated separately for school-age youth.....		11
a. Sum of school-age youth workers transported on peak day in each town.....		704
5. Day-haul points established by Local Office for school-age youth.		81
6. Supervised camps operated for school-age farm workers.....		xxx
a. Placements in camps.....		xxx
7. Placements of school-age youth in supervised live-in farm homes..		
Section C. Services to other special groups		
8. Services rendered to Indians by Local Offices or itinerant points on reservations:		
a. Placements.....		
b. Applicant holding acceptances.....		
9. Other placements of reservation Indians.....		110
10. Puerto Ricans brought into State under work contract.....		30
Section D. Special services to employers		
11. Employers receiving combine services:		
a. From out of area.....		
b. From out of State.....		
12. Employers receiving cotton-harvesting-machine services:		
a. From out of area.....		xxx
b. From out of State.....		xxx
13. Food processing employers receiving placement services.....		12
Section E. Other special services		
14. Local Offices which held farm clinics.....		
15. Days on which farm clinics were held.....		
16. Issues of farm labor bulletins published.....		
a. Copies distributed.....		
17. State agency's work guides distributed:		
a. Within reporting State.....		
b. To other States.....		
18. Local Offices participating in formal community service programs.		
19. Volunteer farm placement representatives.....		

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
Bureau of Employment Security  
ES-225--Worksheet A (10/58)

Budget Bureau No. 44-R779.6

State MAINE

Year 1959

Worksheet A. Day-haul activities, by town

☒ 1. At points operated by State agency

☐ 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State agency

Towns	Number of day-haul points		Number of workers transported		
	Total	School-age youth	Average day	Peak day	
				Total	School-age youth
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
<u>CALAIS</u>					
Calais	1	1	30	43	43
<u>LEWISTON</u>					
Lewiston	1	1	48	70	70
Auburn	1	1	48	70	70
Lisbon	1	1	13	16	16
Lisbon Falls	1	1	13	15	15
<u>PRESQUE ISLE</u>					
Houlton	1	1	50	125	125
<u>WATERVILLE</u>					
North Vassalboro	1	1	54	80	80
Oakland	1	1	29	45	45
Waterville	3	3	55	240	240
<u>TOTALS</u>	11	11	340	704	704

Worksheet B. Day-haul activities, by period of action

- ☒ 1. At points operated by State agency  
☐ 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State agency

Towns (from column I of worksheet A) I	Period of action		Number of workers on peak day IV	Crop Activity V	Type of program	
	Begin- ning date II	End- ing date III			School- age youth VI	Other VII
<u>CALAIS</u> Calais	8/1/59	8/12/59	43	Snap Bean Harvest	X	
<u>LEWISTON</u> Lewiston	7/27/59	8/14/59	70	Snap Beans	X	
Auburn	7/27/59	8/14/59	70	Snap Beans	X	
Lisbon	7/28/59	7/30/59	16	Snap Beans	X	
Lisbon Falls	7/28/59	7/30/59	15	Snap Beans	X	
<u>PRESQUE ISLE</u> Houlton	8/6/59	8/28/59	125	Snap Beans	X	
<u>WATERVILLE</u> N. Vassalboro	7/25/59	8/12/59	80	Picking Snap Beans	X	
Oakland	7/30/59	8/8/59	45	Picking Snap Beans	X	
Waterville	7/14/59	8/12/59	240	Picking Snap Beans	X	
	9/1/59	9/5/59				

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
Bureau of Employment Security  
ES-225--Worksheet A (10/58)

Budget Bureau No. 44-R779.6

State MAINE

Year 1959

Worksheet A. Day-haul activities, by town

- ☐ 1. At points operated by State agency  
☒ 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State agency

Towns	Number of day-haul points		Number of workers transported		
	Total	School-age youth	Average day	Peak day	School-age youth
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
<u>AUGUSTA</u>					
Augusta	1	1	54	154	154
<u>BANGOR</u>			Est.	Est.	Est.
Bangor	5	5	160	235	235
Brewer	3	3	70	85	85
Carroll	1	1	25	35	35
Chester	1	1	20	28	28
Dexter	3	3	65	90	90
E. Millinocket	1	1	25	40	40
Exeter	1	1	10	10	10
Enfield	1	1	15	20	20
Glenburn	1	1	10	15	15
Howland	3	3	45	54	54
Kingman	2	2	45	55	55
Lee	1	1	10	15	15
Levant	2	2	32	40	40
Lincoln	1	1	20	30	30
Mattawamkeag	2	2	30	40	40
Medway	1	1	40	60	60
Milo	3	3	53	87	87
Old Town	3	3	115	153	153
Orono	2	2	30	60	60
Prentiss	2	2	35	40	40
Springfield	2	2	38	40	40
Webster	1	1	12	15	15
Winn	2	2	35	40	40
<u>BIDDEFORD</u>					
Biddeford	2	2	40	73	73
<u>CALAIS</u>					
Woodland	1	1	30	75	75
Princeton	1	1	20	28	28
Grand Lake Stream	1	1	10	14	14



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
Bureau of Employment Security  
ES-225-Worksheet A. (10/58)

Budget Bureau No. 44-R779.6

State MAINE

Year 1959

Worksheet A. Day-haul activities, by town

☐ 1. At points operated by State agency

☒ 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State agency

Towns	Number of day-haul points		Number of workers transported		
	Total	School-age youth	Average day	Peak day	School-age youth
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
<u>ELLSWORTH</u>					
Milbridge	1	1	20	25	25
<u>LEWISTON</u>					
Norway	1	1	50	74	74
South Paris	1	1	29	60	60
<u>PORTLAND</u>					
Portland	8	8	102	223	223
South Portland	4	4	65	147	147
Westbrook	2	2	20	35	35
Scarboro	2	2	35	72	72
<u>PRESQUE ISLE</u>					
Houlton	1	1	34	50	50
Woodstock	1	1	18	20	20
<u>ROCKLAND</u>			Est.	Est.	Est.
Appleton	3	0	50	90	45
Belfast	6	0	170	250	160
Belmont	2	0	40	85	50
Brooks	2	0	80	110	100
Burkettville	1	0	20	30	25
Camden	4	0	50	70	60
Cushing	1	0	10	15	13
East Union	1	0	10	15	13
Friendship	1	0	20	30	25
Hope	2	0	30	35	30
Jackson	1	0	10	15	13
Jefferson	3	0	50	60	50
Knox	1	0	12	15	12
Liberty	3	0	40	60	35
Monroe	1	0	7	10	8
Montville	1	0	15	25	20
Morrill	1	0	25	35	25

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
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ES-225--Worksheet A (10/58)

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Year 1959

Worksheet A. Day-haul activities, by town

☐ 1. At points operated by State agency

☒ 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State agency

Towns	Number of day-haul points		Number of workers transported		
	Total	School-age youth	Average day	Peak day	School-age youth
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
<u>ROCKLAND</u> - continued			Est.	Est.	Est.
Northport	1	0	30	50	35
North Waldo	3	0	20	35	22
Palermo	2	0	25	30	25
Rockland	11	0	225	350	235
Rockport	2	0	20	30	25
Searsmont	1	0	30	40	35
Searsport	3	0	30	40	35
South Hope	1	0	10	15	13
South Liberty	1	0	10	15	13
South Montville	1	0	20	30	25
South Union	1	0	15	20	17
St. George	1	0	15	20	17
Stockton Springs	4	0	45	90	45
Swanville	1	0	30	40	30
Tenants Harbor	1	0	15	20	15
Thomaston	2	0	25	45	30
Thorndike	1	0	15	20	15
Union	2	0	70	100	70
Waldo	1	0	10	15	13
Waldo	4	0	60	100	70
Warren	2	0	25	50	25
Washington	2	0	60	70	60
W. Rockport	1	0	20	30	25
Winslows Mills	1	0	10	15	10
<u>RUMFORD</u>					
Rumford	2	2	60	161	161
Mexico	1	1	51	92	92
Dixfield	1	1	44	57	57
<u>SANFORD</u>			Est.	Est.	Est.
Sanford	2	2	52	65	65

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
Bureau of Employment Security  
ES-225--Worksheet A. (10/58)

Budget Bureau No. 44-R779.6

State MAINE

Year 1959

Worksheet A. Day-haul activities, by town

☐ 1. At points operated by State agency

☒ 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State agency

Towns	Number of day-haul points		Number of workers transported		
	Total	School-age youth	Average day	Peak day	School-age youth
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
<u>SKOWHEGAN</u>					
Skowhegan	1	1	25	48	48
Anson	1	1	25	40	40
Madison	1	1	40	60	60
Pittsfield	1	1	15	24	24

Worksheet B. Day-haul activities, by period of action

☐ 1. At points operated by State agency

☒ 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State agency

Towns (from column I of worksheet A)	Period of action		Number of workers on peak day	Crop Activity	Type of program	
	Begin- ning date	End- ing date			School- age youth	Other
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
<u>AUGUSTA</u>						
Augusta	8/4/59	8/21/59	154	Beans	X	
<u>BANGOR</u>			Est.			
Bangor	7/25/59	8/15/59	235	Snap Bean Harvest	X	
Brewer	7/30/59	8/13/59	85		X	
Carroll	7/31/59	9/8/59	35		X	
Chester	8/1/59	8/12/59	28		X	
Dexter	8/3/59	8/12/59	90		X	
E. Millinocket	8/1/59	8/12/59	40		X	
Exeter	7/25/59	8/14/59	10		X	
Enfield	8/1/59	8/13/59	20		X	
Glenburn	7/25/59	8/15/59	15		X	
Howland	8/1/59	8/13/59	54		X	
Kingman	8/4/59	8/24/59	55		X	
Lee	8/4/59	8/24/59	15		X	
Levant	7/25/59	8/14/59	40		X	
Lincoln	8/3/59	9/4/59	30		X	
Mattawamkeag	8/1/59	8/20/59	40		X	
Medway	8/1/59	8/12/59	60		X	
Milo	8/6/59	8/11/59	87		X	
Old Town	7/30/59	8/13/59	153		X	
Orono	7/25/59	8/14/59	60		X	
Prentiss	8/4/59	8/24/59	40		X	
Springfield	8/4/59	8/24/59	40		X	
Webster	8/4/59	8/24/59	15		X	
Winn	8/1/59	8/20/59	40		X	
<u>BIDDEFORD</u>						
Biddeford	7/7/59	7/20/59	15	Strawberries	X	
	7/22/59	7/28/59	58	Snap Beans	X	
<u>CALAIS</u>						
Woodland	8/1/59	8/20/59	75	Snap Bean Harvest	X	
Princeton	8/4/59	9/5/59	28	" " "	X	
Grand Lake Stream	8/4/59	9/5/59	14	" " "	X	

Worksheet B. Day-haul activities, by period of action

☐ 1. At points operated by State agency

☒ 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State agency

Towns (from column I of worksheet A) I	Period of action		Number of workers on peak day IV	Crop Activity V	Type of program	
	Begin- ning date II	End- ing date III			School- age youth VI	Other VII
<u>ELLSWORTH</u>						
Milbridge	8/17/59	8/19/59	25	Snap Beans	X	
<u>LEWISTON</u>						
Norway	7/1/59	7/15/59	49	Peas	X	
	7/21/59	7/30/59	25	Beans	X	
So. Paris	7/1/59	7/15/59	40	Peas	X	
	7/21/59	7/30/59	20	Beans	X	
<u>PORTLAND</u>						
Portland	4/16/59	10/17/59	223	Market Garden	X	
	7/1/59	7/16/59		Strawberry Harvest	X	
	7/20/59	8/26/59		Factory Bean Harvest	X	
So. Portland	4/7/59	10/17/59	147	Market Garden	X	
	7/1/59	7/27/59		Strawberry Harvest	X	
	7/20/59	8/19/59		Factory Bean Harvest	X	
Westbrook	7/2/59	9/6/59	35	Market Garden	X	
	6/28/59	7/16/59		Strawberry Harvest	X	
Scarboro	4/7/59	8/19/59	72	Market Garden	X	
	7/3/59	7/27/59		Strawberry Harvest	X	
	7/20/59	8/19/59		Factory Bean Harvest	X	
<u>PRESQUE ISLE</u>						
Houlton	8/8/59	8/19/59	50	Snap Beans	X	
Woodstock	8/10/59	8/24/59	20	Snap Beans	X	
<u>ROCKLAND</u>			Est.			
Appleton	8/1/59	8/29/59	90	Blueberries		X
Belfast	7/30/59	8/26/59	250	" Beans S. B.		X
Belmont	7/30/59	8/26/59	85	"		X
Brooks	7/27/59	8/26/59	110	" Beans		X
Burkettville	8/1/59	8/25/59	30	"		X
Camden	8/1/59	8/25/59	70	"		X
Cushing	8/1/59	8/24/59	15	"		X
East Union	8/1/59	8/27/59	15	"		X
Friendship	8/1/59	8/26/59	30	"		X
Hope	8/1/59	8/27/59	35	"		X



Worksheet B. Day-haul activities, by period of action

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Towns (from column I of worksheet A)  I	Period of action		Number of workers on peak day  IV	Crop Activity   V	Type of program	
	Begin- ning date  II	End- ing date  III			School- age youth  VI	Other  VII
ROCKLAND - cont.						
Jackson	7/27/59	8/22/59	15	Beans		X
Jefferson	8/1/59	8/26/59	60	Blueberries		X
Knox	7/29/59	8/28/59	15	Beans, Blueberries		X
Liberty	8/3/59	8/26/59	60	Blueberries		X
Monroe	7/27/59	8/22/59	10	Beans		X
Montville	8/3/59	8/26/59	25	Blueberries		X
Morrill	8/3/59	8/21/59	35	" , Beans		X
Northport	7/27/59	8/24/59	50	" "		X
No. Waldoboro	8/1/59	8/24/59	35	"		X
Palermo	8/3/59	8/27/59	30	"		X
Rockland	7/30/59	8/28/59	350	"		X
Rockport	8/1/59	8/28/59	30	"		X
Searsmont	8/1/59	8/26/59	40	" , Beans		X
Searsport	8/1/59	8/27/59	40	" Beans S.B.		X
South Hope	8/3/59	8/27/59	15	"		X
So. Liberty	8/3/59	8/28/59	15	"		X
S. Montville	8/3/59	8/28/59	30	"		X
South Union	8/1/59	8/27/59	20	"		X
St. George	8/3/59	8/26/59	20	"		X
Stockton						
Springs	8/5/59	8/26/59	90	"		X
Swanville	7/29/59	8/24/59	40	" Beans S.B.		X
Tenants Harbor	8/3/59	8/24/59	20	"		X
Thomaston	7/30/59	8/26/59	45	"		X
Thorndike	7/29/59	8/28/59	20	Beans, Blueberries		X
Union	7/30/59	8/26/59	100	Blueberries		X
Waldo	8/3/59	8/21/59	15	"		X
Waldoboro	8/5/59	8/24/59	100	"		X
Warren	8/3/59	8/24/59	50	"		X
Washington	8/3/59	8/24/59	70	"		X
W. Rockport	8/1/59	8/27/59	30	"		X
Winslows Mills	8/1/59	8/24/59	15	"		X
RUMFORD						
Rumford	8/1/59	8/19/59	161	Snap Bean Picking	X	
Mexico	8/1/59	8/19/59	92	Snap Bean Picking	X	
Dixfield	8/1/59	8/19/59	57	Snap Bean Picking	X	

Worksheet B. Day-haul activities, by period of action

☐ 1. At points operated by State agency

☒ 2. At points established (unsupervised) by State agency

Towns (from column I of worksheet A) I	Period of action		Number of workers on peak day IV	Crop Activity V	Type of program	
	Begin- ning date II	End- ing date III			School- age youth VI	Other VII
<u>SANFORD</u>						
Sanford	8/3/59	8/19/59	Est. 65	Blueberry Raking	X	
<u>SKOWHEGAN</u>						
Skowhegan	8/10/59	8/17/59	48	Snap Bean Harvest	X	
Anson	7/31/59	8/15/59	40	" " "	X	
Madison	7/31/59	8/15/59	60	" " "	X	
Pittsfield	8/10/59	8/13/59	24	" " "	X	

Table 5. Interstate seasonal agricultural clearance activities in 1959

Item	Orders		Openings	
	Extended (Sec. A) Received (Sec. B)	Filled	Extended (Sec. A) Received (Sec. B)	Filled
I	II	III	IV	V
Section A. Reporting State as order-holding State				
1. Reporting State, total...	1	0	6,500	0
2. Applicant-holding States Involved:				
New Hampshire	1	0	6,500	0
Vermont	1	0	6,500	0
Massachusetts	1	0	6,500	0
Rhode Island	1	0	6,500	0
Section B. Reporting State as applicant-holding State				
3. Reporting State, total...				
4. Order-holding States involved:				

B. Reverse of table 5

Comments:

This order for potato pickers in Aroostook County is cleared each season. About 30,000 workers are employed for the harvest, 6,000 to 7,000 Canadians included. The clearance order is for the same number, according to the quota for Canadians.

Down-state Maine applicants and out-of-state applicants issued referral cards seldom identify themselves at the Houlton Temporary Clearance office as having been referred by a local office. Many secure employment before they reach Houlton. Others pass Houlton and secure employment at any one of 2,000 farms in Aroostook County.

The supply and demand are closely checked for importing growers. A great many non-importers do not place orders for various reasons. Some have their family members. Others have a neighborhood supply and others employ those who appear at the farm. Any number of combinations make up such direct hired crews.

## PART II: OUTLOOK FOR THE COMING YEAR

### A. State Forecast

Generally, less activity is expected for the coming year. Weather conditions will play an important part as usual. Difficulties are anticipated in recruiting enough domestic full-time apple pickers. A conference will be held in January to review the operations of the 1959 program and to revise it where indicated. A new training film is in use as an aid in the training of inexperienced pickers in an effort to secure better quantity and quality picking.

Less demand is expected for snap bean pickers. The demand for market garden, blueberry, and potato seasonal agricultural labor is expected to remain the same. The demand will be greater for apple pickers and the supply less. This will be a problem area in 1960, especially in the Augusta, Lewiston, and Sanford areas. The demand will also be greater for strawberry pickers.

### B. Area Forecast

The demand and supply should be about the same for potato pickers in the Aroostook County area.

There will be less demand for snap bean pickers in all areas. Strawberry pickers and apple pickers in the residual area will be in greater demand. Market gardens will remain about the same in the Bangor and Portland areas.

The demand for more blueberry rakers will be evident in the York County area and about the same or less in Washington County.

### SEASONAL CROP PERIODS EXPECTED BY AREAS

	<u>Residual Area</u>	<u>Aroostook County Area</u>
Strawberries	June 23 - August 10	
Market Gardens	April 13 - October 15	
Snap Beans	July 3 - August 27	August 7 - August 31
Blueberries	July 27 - August 27	
Potatoes	September - October	September 15-October 15
Apples	September 15-October 15	



PART III: ATTACHMENTS

AGRICULTURAL PLACEMENTS BY LOCAL OFFICES, 1959

LOCAL OFFICES	TOTALS	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
Augusta	186		1		5	4	2	2	24	133	9	6	
Bangor	4825		1	3	1	2	2	886	3542	371	17		
Bath	528		5		1			340	179				3
Biddeford	473			1				345	125	2			
Calais	1102					1		1	1012	88			
Ellsworth	108								97	9	2		
Lewiston	1622	2	4	11	9	8	5	20	1342	98	94	29	
Portland	5638	1	1	8	64	237	121	3044	1900	187	48	27	
Presque Isle	3069								1814	728	527		
Rockland	4213						130	548	3533		2		
Rumford	622						4	13	603		2		
Sanford	180							1	75	23	13	68	
Skowhegan	725	2	2	3	2	1	5	14	640	50	4	1	1
Waterville	1549	1				1		592	879	75			1
TOTALS	24,840	6	14	26	82	254	269	5806	15765	1764	718	131	5

# SEASONAL HIRED WORKERS

Legend: C-Canadians; L-Local; P-Puerto Ricans; IS-Interstate; IN-Intrastate

At Close of Two-Week Periods for Employment Service Major Crop Activities

<u>Item</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>5-15</u>	<u>5-31</u>	<u>6-15</u>	<u>6-30</u>	<u>7-15</u>	<u>7-31</u>	<u>8-15</u>	<u>8-31</u>	<u>9-15</u>	<u>9-30</u>	<u>10-15</u>	<u>10-31</u>
Totals as posted		7038	7795	7576	8046	8462	13286	17073	12575	17110	31792	7599	65
Apples	L		100	150	150	100	100	100	213	405	1345	245	45
	C										262	80	
Blue-berries	L				100	100	806	3716	3274	615			
	IN								50				
Market	L	25	363	564	658	732	2257	2266	963	678	372	324	20
Gardens	P	25	41	46	57	58	58	58	59	37	34	21	
	IS				20	20	20	20	20	20	20		
Potatoes	L	6775	7075	6700	6725	6725	6725	6950	6725	13215	22609	6579	
	C	213	216	116	116	116	116	119	167	2000	6800	300	
	IS										100	50	
	IN									100	250		
Snap	L						3179	3774	1034	40			
Beans	C							70	70				
Straw-berries	L				220	611	25						

PART III  
SEASONAL OFFICES  
(AROOSTOOK COUNTY)

<u>LOCATIONS</u>	<u>OPENING DATE</u>	<u>CLOSING DATE</u>
Caribou Main Street	8/17/59	10/16/59
Houlton Court Street	8/17/59	10/16/59
Fort Kent Town Office	8/25/59	10/14/59
Fort Fairfield J. W. Barnes Mach. Co. Main Street	8/25/59	10/14/59
Limestone Church Street	8/25/59	10/17/59
Madawaska Main Road	8/25/59	10/14/59
Mars Hill T. R. York Office Main Street	8/25/59	10/8/59
Van Buren 326 Main Street	8/25/59	10/16/59
Washburn Town Office Main Street	8/25/59	10/14/59

AROOSTOOK COUNTY POTATO HARVEST  
DISPOSITION OF ORDERS FOR POTATO HARVEST HANDS BY TEMPORARY OFFICE AREAS

	<u>PRIORITY ORDERS</u>		<u>LATE ORDERS</u>		<u>CANADIANS ASSIGNED</u>
<u>OFFICES</u>	<u>ORDERS</u>	<u>OPENINGS</u>	<u>ORDERS</u>	<u>OPENINGS</u>	
CARIBOU	107	1197	21	108	1234
FORT FAIRFIELD	106	1319	19	73	1284
FORT KENT	44	292	16	44	265
HOULTON	62	551	26	106	477
LIMESTONE	26	285	15	120	380
MADAWASKA	46	258	5	11	298
MARS HILL	37	415	10	110	896
*PRESQUE ISLE	71	850	11	86	437
VAN BUREN	59	931	36	178	1047
WASHBURN	56	612	7	30	482
TOTALS	614	6710	166	866	6800

\* Local Office

780 ----- Total priority and late orders

7576 ----- Total priority and late harvest hands ordered

IMPORTATION-AROOSTOOK COUNTY POTATO HARVEST  
BORDER CROSSINGS BY PORTS  
HARVEST BONDS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>FT. KENT</u>	<u>VAN BUREN</u>	<u>HOULTON</u>	<u>MADAWASKA</u>
Sept. 2	403	233		
Sept. 3	481	210		
Sept. 4	418	143		
Sept. 5	135	31		
Sept. 8	550	444		
Sept. 9	480	597		
Sept. 10	469	336		
Sept. 11	342	355		
Sept. 12	86	18	612	
Sept. 13	1			
Sept. 14	48	56		1
Sept. 15				1
Sept. 16	3	18		2
Sept. 17	2			
Sept. 21				15
Sept. 23				10
TOTALS	3418	2441	612	29

GRAND TOTAL-Harvest Bond: 6500

SPRING BONDS

Retained from spring bonds--63

August 28		28
August 31		17
Sept. 1		17
Sept. 15	92	64
Sept. 17	7	12
TOTALS	99	138

TOTAL-SPRING BONDS--300

GRAND TOTAL-HARVEST BOND & SPRING BOND used during potato harvest. 6800

RECRUITING

<u>DATES</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>NUMBER FOR PORTS</u>
Full crew 9-2 to 9-12	St. Rose du Degele, P.Q.	4185 Processed for
Reduced crew 9-13 to 9-16		Importation
Full crew 9-8 to 9-11	Edmundston, N.B.	2003
Reduced crew 9-12 to 9-17		
Full crew 9-12	Houlton	612
		<u>6800</u> Total

Presque Isle, Maine  
August 10, 1959

Mr. Aroostook Farmer

Dear Sir:

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of our plans for supplying labor for the 1959 potato harvest. Plans have been made with Canada and U. S. Immigration Service for the importation of a possible 6500 potato harvest workers from the Provinces of Quebec and New Brunswick. If you are interested in workers from this labor source the following procedures will apply:

1. The following Farm Labor Offices will be open on Monday, August 17th, for priority order taking to last until Saturday, August 29th. See attached page for list of Farm Labor Offices.
2. The charge for ordering workers from the Canadian source will be \$3.00 per man. This money is received in check form made to the order of the Aroostook Farm Labor Association. Farmers who have not placed orders during the past three years will be required to pay a membership fee of \$5.00. The cancellation of order date to insure refund of monies paid will be September 1, 1959. Orders placed after August 29th will not have priority and no guarantee will be made for the delivery of Canadian workers.
3. Recruitment, a few days earlier than the past year, will follow about the same pattern as last season's operation.

Quebec Workers - Recruitment and processing will be conducted at Ste Rose du Degele in accordance with the attached schedule, beginning Wednesday, September 2nd and continuing through Saturday, September 12th. The office will stand by until September 16th if needed. Total workers expected 4200.

New Brunswick Workers - Recruitment and processing at Edmundston, September 8th through September 11th. In addition a limited number will be processed at Houlton - 500 - on Saturday, September 12th. The Edmundston Office will stand by until September 16th if needed. Total workers - Edmundston 1800. Other New Brunswick Offices for Houlton - 500.

No workers will cross into Maine at Madawaska. The ports of Fort Kent and Van Buren will be used for all workers other than those at Houlton.

The Aroostook Farm Labor Association will furnish literature at the Farm Labor Offices as to accident and medical coverage for Association members.

You are urged to place your orders early so that we will have a true picture of this season's labor demand. Any questions as to farm labor and this season's operation should be asked of your local Farm Placement Representative. Thanking you for your cooperation in other years I am sure that the same spirit will result in a successful harvest labor program for this season.

Yours truly,