Introduction:
The agricultural sector in Jordan provides a critical source of subsistence and income, particularly for the poorest segments of society. In Jordan, provisions under the Labour Law do not largely apply to agriculture workers—a large number of whom are migrant workers and Syrian refugees.

A key area of concern is child labour, where 82 per cent of farmers surveyed by the ILO in 2018 indicated that children under the age of 15 were working in their operation. More than half of surveyed agriculture workers report a lack of accessible schooling options for their children and a lack of suitable childcare arrangements. As a result, families may bring children to work for lack of a better option.

Syrian refugee children in Jordan often start working before the age of 12, becoming increasingly involved in occupations that are hazardous.

The ILO is implementing a project in agriculture, funded by the Government of Norway, which aims to reduce incidence of child labour in the sector, taking into consideration children and their families’ vulnerability. Through the project’s activities, the ILO has carried out an assessment to identify and evaluate local services that are available to children under the age of 15 and those between the ages of 15-18, with a view to improve and unify their efforts to support children and their families. This includes looking into schooling options, childcare, extracurricular activities and health services that are available at the community level.

As part of these efforts, a survey was conducted to provide a better insight into the needs of vulnerable children and their families. The survey, which was conducted in Irbid, Ramtha, Zarqa, Mafraq and Northern Jordan Valley, focused on settler territories where most vulnerable agricultural workers are based. It targeted 89 households including 152 working children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION</th>
<th>CHILD LABOUR INFORMATION</th>
<th>SCHOOL ATTENDANCE</th>
<th>CHILD LABOUR INFORMATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>89 Households Were</strong></td>
<td><strong>19.3% of surveyed children are Female</strong></td>
<td><strong>90.8% Of working children surveyed</strong></td>
<td><strong>42.2% WORK 5-6 days a week</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Surveyed</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Not Enrolled</strong></td>
<td><strong>46.8% are female</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Out of the 152 working children, 147 are working in agriculture</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>72 of whom are female</strong></td>
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<td><strong>152 OUT OF 188 Surveyed CHILDREN</strong></td>
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<td><strong>92.5% of children working in agriculture work alongside family members.</strong></td>
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Working Children

- Out of the 152 working children, 147 are working in agriculture:
  - 72 of whom are female
  - 92.5% of children working in agriculture work alongside family members.

Payment per hour for all working children surveyed:
- 57.1 per cent of children in agriculture are paid less than Jordanian Dinar (JD) 1 per hour; while, 42.2 per cent of working children in agriculture are paid between JD 1-2 per hour.
- 0.7 per cent are paid more than JD 4 an hour (which consists of one female child labourer).

Payment per hour for female working children surveyed:
- 44.6 per cent of child labourers who left school expressed the desire to return to school - with the majority (59.5 per cent of whom are female child labourers) saying they wish to return back to school out of desire for learning. The other hand, 48.5 per cent of working children said they did not wish to return to school.

PERSONAL NEEDS

- 81.6% Would not be provided with basic personal needs if they returned back to schools:
  - 80.6 per cent of females compared to
  - 82.7 per cent of the males.