

**Most at risk of all children and youth at risk are  
America's migrant children**

a 1987 study showed that almost HALF(49%)of migrant students in seventh grade in 1980-81 had graduated by 1986. In other words, the graduation rate among migrant students is rising impressively while that of the general population is declining. It's no accident — it's the result of total commitment by migrant educators, who have utilized every available tool and resource, who have developed positive attitudes among migrant students, migrant families and educators in general, and who have creatively applied innovation and technology to the needs of migrant children. Computerized records transfer, portable study packages, interstate linkages — Migrant Education has created models for all of education.



**THE MIGRANT EDUCATION  
PROGRAM MAKES MIGRANT  
FAMILIES FULL PARTNERS IN  
EDUCATION**

Unique among Federally-supported supplementary education programs, the Migrant Education Program is required to identify and verify every individual child it serves. It's a considerable administrative and financial burden, requiring 10% or more of all program funds, but it provides migrant educators a chance to make direct contact with migrant families, to ascertain the needs of every child, to remove barriers between migrant families and new communities, and to foster greater parental involvement. Migrant Education has educated migrant parents to the importance of education, and made them strong advocates and partners in the fight for better educational opportunities for their children. Unfortunately, the reduction in funding has diminished its ability to reach out to new migrant families. Many migrant programs have been discouraged from assertive identification and recruitment of migrant children because of the likelihood there would be no additional funds to serve additional children.

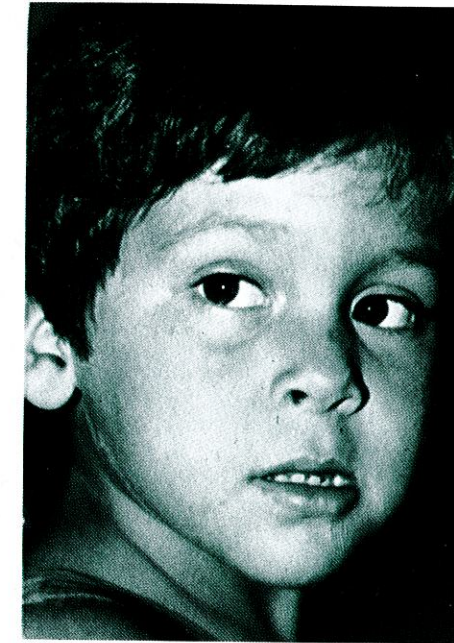


**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT  
THE MIGRANT EDUCATION  
PROGRAM, CONTACT**

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# MOST AT RISK...



**OF ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
AT RISK ARE AMERICA'S  
MIGRANT CHILDREN**

SINCE 1966 they have benefited from a highly successful Federally supported program that has dramatically improved educational continuity and produced a quantum leap in graduation rates.

**NOW THE MIGRANT EDUCATION  
PROGRAM IS ITSELF AT RISK.**

IT NOW receives an appropriation that represents only 35.56% of authorized funding.

IT NOW receives, in constant dollars, only 60% of the Federal support it received in 1980...even though there are 30% MORE children to be served.

## MIGRANT CHILDREN ARE MORE AT RISK THAN ANY OTHER DISADVANTAGED POPULATION

The comprehensive Charles Stewart Mott Foundation study of America's 12 million youth at risk stated unequivocally that there are proportionately more at risk youth among migrants than among any other identifiable group. Saddled with the triple disadvantage of poverty, constant mobility, and, for most, poor English language skills, migrant students are twice as likely to become high school dropouts as are stable students. The vast majority of them are minority children whose parents are politically and socially unempowered. Without intervention they face a lifetime of low pay and frequent unemployment.



## MIGRANT CHILDREN ARE AMERICA'S CHILDREN - THEY ARE A SHARED INTERSTATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHOM A FEDERAL SUPPORTING ROLE IS UTTERLY ESSENTIAL

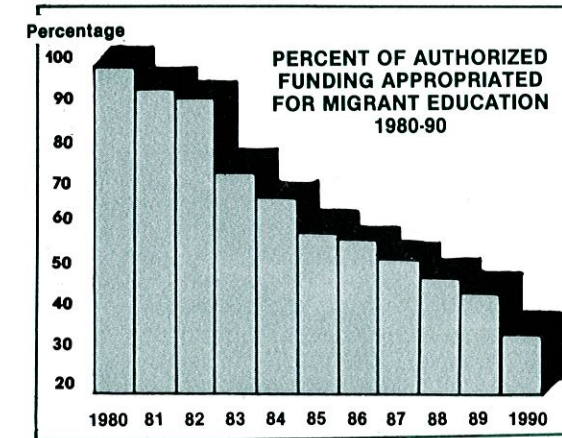
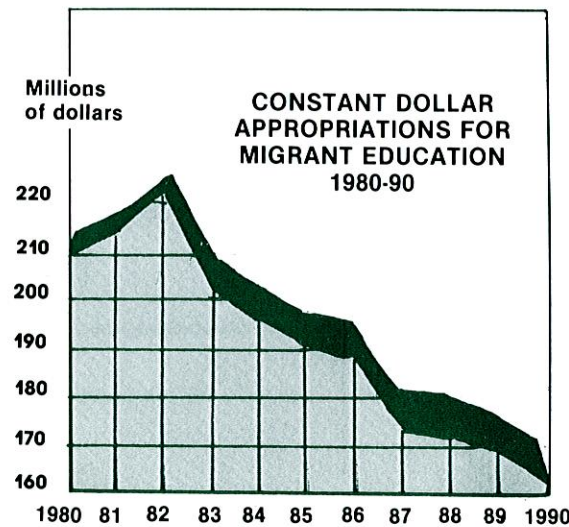
Because migrant children so often move between states and between areas within states, local schools are usually unable to address their individual needs in the limited time they have. Without a strong national commitment to meet the special needs of these children wherever they move, there could be no hope for educational continuity as they move from school to school. The Migrant Education Program makes it possible to track children and monitor their educational progress as they move. It enables educators in widely separated areas to work together as a team.

## MIGRANT CHILDREN HAVE INCREASED IN NUMBER

The Hawkins-Stafford Education Amendments of 1988 require the Migrant Education Program to address the instructional needs of preschool migrant children ages 3-4 and migrant youth ages 18-21, in addition to those in the 5-17 age bracket as originally defined in the law. Even before this change the number of children to be served trended upward each year, but with the new age spread the number mushroomed from 473,051 to 557,985. Yet no additional funds were appropriated for the new age groups.

## FUNDING FOR THE MIGRANT PROGRAM HAS DECLINED STEADILY

Funds to operate the Migrant Education Program have declined steadily since 1980. The current appropriation has risen from \$209.3 million in 1980 to \$271 million in 1989, but in inflation adjusted constant dollars the appropriation has decreased to \$163.6 million. The allocation for each identified migrant child has declined even as measured in nominal dollars; in constant dollars it has been cut almost in half.



Prior to 1981 the Migrant Education Program received funding based on the numbers of identified migrant children, allocated among the states according to a formula written into the law. The formula has never been altered, but in 1981 a "cap" was placed on the appropriation. Since then the Migrant Education Program has lost ground each year. For fiscal 1990 the program was allocated only 35.56 percent of the amount authorized under the formula.

## THE MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM HAS ACHIEVED REMARKABLE SUCCESS, INCLUDING A GRADUATION RATE IMPROVEMENT OF MORE THAN 400 PERCENT

Even with limited resources, migrant educators have achieved remarkable successes throughout the nation. Despite enormous economic pressure to leave school to help support their families, migrant students are staying in school longer. More and more are graduating from high school and moving into postsecondary education and meaningful careers. The best estimate from the mid-seventies was that 90 percent of migrant youth dropped out before high school graduation, but