

MIGRANT & SEASONAL NEW JERSEY

Presented

New Jersey Department of

by

Patricia A.

April 1

Resource Id#: 5023

**Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers: New
Jersey, 1996**

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

This paper is intended to provide the New Jersey Department of Health with information for the development of a primary care access plan for migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

- ◊ *demand -- the numbers and location of migrant and seasonal farmworkers*
- ◊ *primary health resources available to migrants and seasonal farmworkers*
- ◊ *recommendations for future action by the New Jersey Department of Health*

METHODOLOGY AND PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

Counting Migrants, Seasonal Farmworkers, and Their Dependents

There is no single, reliable count of migrants, seasonal farmworkers, or their dependents. Although seasonal farmworkers and their dependents have not been universally counted, there are a number of reasons why. For these reasons, this analysis is based upon those primary data sources that are available. This analysis of the numbers of migrants and seasonal farmworkers is based on the following assumptions:

To identify sources of data about the number of seasonal and migrant farmworkers, interviews and mail surveys were conducted with advocates, employers, and health care providers who provide primary health services to low-income persons. These interviews and surveys were conducted in the following areas:

There are very real political and economic reasons for the historical undercounting of migrants and seasonal farmworkers. There is a natural tendency of regulators (Department of Health, Department of Labor, etc.) to have very different perceptions of the numbers of migrants and seasonal farmworkers. More importantly, however, are the political and economic realities of New Jersey. One perspective on the plight of the state's migrant and seasonal farmworkers is provided by the Executive Director of Migration Demographics of Louisville, Kentucky, who in a recent report on the editorial noted:

Sweatshops are spreading through the United States.

underground or 'informal' economy, defined as firms outside the institutional systems of rules, rights, regulations

Fueling the informal economy have been the sweeping changes in part by three decades of mass immigration, nearly 90% of informalization's main victims -- and its accomplices

Ambiguous regulations and under-enforcement of laws about the informal economy.

Nearly three-quarters of the informal economy is in the [unlabeled industries]...and perishable crop agriculture. Unfair competition, the rules, ultimately forcing them also to go informal

Seasonal crops are picked by a quarter-million migrants. The system has chronically encouraged wage-and-hour exploitation of farmers get cheap labor with no responsibility for the

All levels of government now promote contracting out. Wages stayed flat for 25 years, while the workforce and productivity perpetuates the serfdom of farm workers by excluding labor contractors.

There has been no genuine effort to curb illegal immigration. The immigrant population has spiraled since the 1960s. Signaling the end of inspectors from a pending immigration control bill.

Thus, the vulnerability and exploitation of migrants and other low-wage workers continue to minimize their production costs by evading regulation and immigration laws. As a consequence, migrant counts which rely upon inherently deficient.

To facilitate acceptance of the primary care access plan, preliminary findings were asked to comment on the preliminary findings.

Priority Counties

Recommendations about priorities are driven by the presence of migrant farmworkers, which is limited to those counties with at least 200 migrant farmworkers, as documented by the Department of Labor housing counts.

Atlantic
Burlington
Cumberland
Gloucester
Salem

While estimates of the numbers of migrants and seasonal farmworkers are available for all of the counties wherein there are unmet needs for primary health services, the estimates are not available for all counties.

DATA SOURCES, COUNTS OF MIGRANTS AND SEASONAL FARMWORKERS

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

The Bureau of the Census conducts a state-by-state census of farmworkers. The most recent survey was of the year 1992. The count for 1997 is expected to be released in 1998, with the census to be issued some months later. The census includes counts of farm owner family members, temporary and permanent farmworkers, and seasonal farmworkers, including migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

The U.S. Census of Agriculture is the only source of consistent data on farmworkers in the United States. To that extent, this census offers a basis for comparison. However, official censuses have been criticized for their undercounting of farmworkers, and the measure is now dated.

New Jersey Department of Labor, Wage & Hour Division

By far, the New Jersey Department of Labor, Wage & Hour Division is the most reliable source of data on agricultural workers. The official counts released each year by the Department are for migrant or migrant workers. Counts issued by the Department for 1997 are available.

Because the Department of Labor counts all workers, it is not p
is counted whether s/he works one day or year-round. TH
imposes requirements on farm owners, including a requiremen
One advocate noted specifically that the pattern of cash pa
benefits, including possibly the minimum wage.

This measure, unlike others, has a distinct advantage of be

The Puerto Rican Action Committee

The Committee, identified as PRAC, is an advocacy and s
estimate of the migrant and seasonal farmworker population
overall consistency of those estimates with those provided b

United States Department of Labor

The only counts specifically of migrant farmworkers are derive
owner. The numbers reported are of maximum approved capa
of migrant workers would emanate from deliberate housing
community, either in a commercially-available property or wi

New Jersey Department of Labor

Through a cooperative agreement with the Commonwealth o
occupied by residents of Puerto Rico. The shortcomings of th
U.S. Department of Labor.

Gloucester County Special Services School District

The school district provides services to migrant children from
The program provides dental, vision, and episodic health servic
laboratory testing, immunizations, and tuberculosis screening
in Northern New Jersey, administered by the Essex Educatio

seasonal farmworker children are not covered by this program.

Farm Labor Housing

Farm Labor Housing is a study of farmworker housing needs. The study was conducted by the Farmers Home Administration. The co-authors were Frank R. Pfeffer, Ph.D., Department of Human Ecology, Cook College, Rutgers University, and Dr. J. M. Tavernier, Bureau of Farm Labor, U.S. Department of Agriculture. The study was unsuccessful. Dr. Pfeffer now teaches at Cornell University; Dr. Tavernier is at Cook College; Dr. Tavernier was unable to provide more current data. The entire report is included in the Appendix.

The report is now dated and does not provide the county-level data on farmworkers by what is required to produce a given locally grown crop. It is based on farm operator disclosure.

Migrant Health Atlas, 1990

The Atlas is the official count of migrant workers used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is dated. It also does not provide county-level data for this area. The data is inaccurate, without offering concrete documentation otherwise.

Migrant Enumeration Project, 1993

The Migrant Enumeration Project was commissioned by Migrant Education. The project and dependents is based upon a demand for labor techniques. The project was through 1991. Of note, research was informed by reviews by the U.S. Department of Agriculture composed on migrant data experts. This report is not current. It is based on the migrant health definition. The report is in the Appendix.

WHO ARE NEW JERSEY'S FARMWORKERS?

According to statistics provided by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Nearly one in every five (18%) of the state's acres is devoted to farming. Of the state's farms being in the smallest category, fewer than 100 acres, 91% are owned by individuals or family corporations (91%) or partnerships (9%).

Among the state's counties, total farm receipts are highest in Cumberland and Monmouth Counties. New Jersey's top five agricultural commodities are green peppers (5.8%), tomatoes (3.7%), and chicken eggs (3.4%).

The text of the U. S. Department of Agriculture report is in the Agricultural Department of Agriculture, which publishes an annual statistical report.

Details about the characteristics of the seasonal and migrant farmworkers appear to be a detailed demographic analysis of the population.

The migrant stream comes from three primary sources: Mexico, Puerto Rico, and as a community with family members and neighbors, from a relatively small number of legal or illegal, and, increasingly are bringing families with them and Mexican workers, most likely to be single men, occurs through an international network.

Seasonal farmworkers include both local residents and day-haulers. Seasonal workers who have settled-out into the population of communities such as Bridgeton, New Jersey from Philadelphia, Delaware, and, to a lesser extent, from other states. Day-haul workers come from Philadelphia, estimated to be about 5,000 workers, largely Asian -- Cambodian, Vietnamese, Laotian -- but include less than 1,000 workers often come from an agrarian background in their home countries. The day-haul workers travel without non-working family members, and a smaller number of day-haul workers are traveling into Northern New Jersey.

Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Counts, by County

	Census, 1992	NJDOL, 1996	PR AC	USDOL
	All	All	MSFW	Housing
ATLANTIC	3589	5465	2000	
BERGEN	308	487	0	
BURLINGTON	1935	2160	500-1000	
CAMDEN	574	980	0	
CAPE MAY	199	50	2000	
CUMBERLAND	3563	4220	5000	
ESSEX	34	34	0	
GLOUCESTER	3020	3750	3000-4000	
HUDSON	0	0	0	
HUNTERDON	1353	1250	0	
MERCER	493	530	0	
MIDDLESEX	432	655	0	
MONMOUTH	1814	1720	0	
MORRIS	570	685	0	
OCEAN	266	380	0	
PASSAIC	107	235	0	
SALEM	2037	2505	1000-2500	
SOMERSET	389	435	0	
SUSSEX	681	695	0	
UNION	160	120	0	
WARREN	1017	873	0	
	22541	27229	13500 - 16500	

KEY TO TABLE

Census, 1992:	Counts all farmworkers and does not specifically identify those who work fewer than 10 hours per week.
NJDOL, 1996:	New Jersey Department of Labor, Wage & Hour Division.
PRAC:	Puerto Rican Action Committee estimate.
USDOL Housing:	Maximum allowable occupancy, housing for migrant farmworkers.
NJDOL Housing:	Maximum allowable occupancy, housing for migrant farmworkers.
Total DOL:	Total, New Jersey & US Department of Labor.
Children:	Migrant children education program. Counts only migrant children of farmworkers.
Minimum:	This measure is the lowest number which could be derived from the housing count and the count of children.
Maximum:	This number represents the maximum doable count of farmworkers. This maximum would represent the total number of farmworkers and migrant children if all were counted.

Farm Labor Housing Estimates

COUNTIES	DAY HAUL	MIGRANT	LOCAL SE
Atlantic, Camden, Cape May	3488	5822	
Burlington	3038	647	
Cumberland	686	3950	
Bergen, Essex, Passaic, Union	79	533	
Gloucester	166	3144	
Hunterdon	34	108	
Mercer, Middlesex, Somerset	60	101	
Morris, Sussex, Warren	0	326	
Monmouth, Ocean	64	589	
Salem	97	1066	
	7712	16286	

Gloucester County Special Services District

|COUNTIES

|Camden, Cape May, Salem

|Mercer, Ocean, Burlington, Atlantic, Gloucester

|Warren, Union, Passaic, Morris, Monmouth, Middlesex, Hudson, Essex,
Sussex

Farm Labor Housing Estimate

COUNTIES	DAY HAUL	MIGRANT	I
Atlantic, Camden, Cape May	3488	5822	
Burlington	3038	647	
Cumberland	686	3950	
Bergen, Essex, Passaic, Union	79	533	
Gloucester	166	3144	
Hunterdon	34	108	
Mercer, Middlesex, Somerset	60	101	
Morris, Sussex, Warren	0	326	
Monmouth, Ocean	64	589	
Salem	97	1066	
	7712	16286	

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Count of Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers and Their Dependents

The lowest number which can be documented of migrant workers and their dependents is 7,779; the maximum documented number of agricultural workers and their dependents is 10,000. The total migrant and seasonal farmworker and dependent count if all the above are included is 17,779.

- ◇ Given the concentration of migrants and seasonal farmworkers in developing service capacity be accorded to Southern Jersey community/migrant health centers. Each of these organizations provides health services to migrants and seasonal farmworkers and related health and social services through the Hand to Hand assistance with outreach and language and cultural access.
- ◇ It is recommended that support for capacity expansion be based on objective data alike suggests that the seasonal farmworker population is designated Health Professional Shortage Areas, including the following:
- ◇ While precise numbers are not readily available, there is a growing part, day-haulers are not New Jersey residents; they are over 50% from Delaware. In developing its service priorities, the New Jersey Department of Health should consider whether it chooses to allocate resources for migrant workdays. Sensitivity to serving Asians is a priority for technical assistance.
- ◇ Access issues appear to be less about the number of people in the multiethnic farmworker population.
- ◇ HPSA designations, where they do not currently exist, would be based on the current requirement of at least 30% of the population currently not designated suggests that designation in support of the population because of the relatively few municipalities which

Future Trends

In the near future, three distinct trends are expected to impact on the the future dimensions of the unmet need for primary health care for

- ◇ Welfare Reform: The impact of state and national welfare reform will be taken into consideration. The withdrawal of welfare support from farm work and wages which they had previously been unwelcome to Americans who are willing seasonal farmworkers.

- ◇ Immigration Policy: Anecdotal reports suggest that the ease of obtaining forged documents for Immigration operations (raids) in New Jersey have yielded

By contrast, an advocate reports that enforcement in rural areas is expected to prevent illegal immigration to America's farm areas. This may have a chilling effect on the availability of illegal immigrants.

- ◇ Agricultural Economy: The aging of farm owners, who are often in farmwork, may lead to greater corporate ownership of the land. This may lead to farmers selling out for residential or commercial development. This may require workers required for planting, maintaining and harvesting.

APPENDICE:

APPENDIX

Worksheets

APPENDIX

Excerpt, National Center For F:

APPENDIX

Farm Labor Hou ng Apri 992

APPENDIX IV

Migrant Enumeration Project 99 Mi

APPENDIX V

xcerpts U. Census of Agriculture

APPENDIX V

xcerpt Migrant Atlas 990

APPENDIX V

New Jersey Fact heet U. Departm

APPENDIX VI

Sources

APPENDIX I: WORKSHEETS

A. UNIT OF ANALYSIS

UNIT	COUNTY	FIPS	MCD/TRACTS
	Cumberland	011	All

B. TARGET POPULATION

1. Number of Migrant Farmworkers: (including dependents)	
2. Number of Seasonal Farmworkers: (including dependents)	
3. Total Estimated Farmworker Population: migrant and seasonal farmworkers, including dependents)	1664 - 48

¹Note: The range is of documented migrants and migrant children (maximum). The need for primary health care has been factored into the community health services to be provided by the Community/Migrant Health

C. PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER FTEs

TYPE	NAME	ADDRESS	PTS
C/MCH	Community Health Care, Inc.	105 Manheim Avenue, Bridgeton	8167
		319 Landis Avenue Vineland	

UNMET NEED

TARGET POPULATION	PROVIDER FTES	
1664 - 4863	.82	
1.1 - 3.2		

RECOMMENDATIONS

The sole identified provider of primary health services to migrants is C. The expansion of its service capacity.

- ◇ Priority in Loan Redemption for physicians, dentists
- ◇ Capacity expansion, to serve larger portion of migrant farmworkers. Capacity expansion includes both phy
- ◇ Technical assistance on developing cultural sensitivity

A. UNIT OF ANALYSIS

UNIT	COUNTY	FIPS	MCD/TRACTS
Service Area, Southern Jersey Family Health Centers	Atlantic	001	
	Burlington	005	
	Gloucester	015	
	Salem	033	

B. TARGET POPULATION

- 1. Number of Migrant Farmworkers: (including dependents)**
- 2. Number of Seasonal Farmworkers: (including dependents)**

**3. Total Estimated Farmworker Population:
(migrant and seasonal farmworkers, including dependents)**

C. PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER FTEs

TYPE	NAME	ADDRESS	PTS
MSFW	Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers	860 South Whitehorse Pike Augusta Professional Center Hammonton 08037 932 South Main Street Pleasantville 08232 238 E. Broadway Salem 08079 310 Bellevue Avenue Hammonton 08037 (dental only)	10000

UNMET NEED

TARGET POPULATION	PROVIDER FTES	
5545 - 15115	.9	2
Need: 3.7 - 10.1 FTE		

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ◇ Same as for Cumberland County.
- ◇ HPSA designation for low-income populations of Gloucester County, as may redesignation of existing portions of 30% rule, as may redesignation of existing portions