# Oregon Update Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Enumeration Profiles Study

FINAL REPORT May, 2013

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### HURRAH - IT'S DONE!



### Why Estimate MSFWS?

- o Planning -- targeting services
- Setting policy
- Funding decisions
- Advocacy
- o Politics

## Why Is It So Hard?

- o Definitions differ
- o Migrants move
- o Counting people more than once
- Sampling frame
- o Population changes
- o Agriculture changes

# Oregon MSFW EPS Part of a Series

- MHP/EPA year 2000 (10 states):
  - Arkansas, California, Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas, Washington.
- NYCAMH harvest worker estimates:
   New York (2003), Maine (2005).
- o State initiated:

Oregon (2002), Idaho (2006), Michigan (2006), Georgia (2008), Arizona (2008).

## Enumeration Updates

- Washington (2009).
- o Michigan (begun 2012).
- o OREGON! (2013)

Funding: OHA, Primary Care Office Marc Overbeck, Director

# Commonality for All MSFW EPS Studies

- Similar definitions
- Similar guidelines
- Very interactive process

#### BUT

- Each is state-specific
- Different detailed methodologies and sources

#### What Is Estimated?

# Use the Migrant Health Program Definition\* to Estimate:

- Migrant farmworkers; seasonal farmworkers
- o Non-farmworkers in same household
- Children and youth under 20 years (some youth may be farmworkers)

\*Changed Dec. 2012

# Migrant Health Program Definition

- Migratory agricultural worker
  - Principal employment in agriculture
  - On a seasonal basis
  - In last 24 months
  - Establishes temporary abode
- o Seasonal agricultural worker
  - Same, but not a temporary abode

#### MSFW EPS Particulars

#### What Industries Included?

- o Field and orchard agriculture
- Nursery/greenhouse and crops under cover
- Food processing packing and sorting
- o Reforestation
- Forest Gathering
- \*Migrant Health added animal agriculture, dropped food processing, reforestation, and forest gathering.

#### MSFW EPS PARTICULARS

#### What Industries Excluded?

- "Critters" dairy, livestock, hogs, chickens
- o Fishing
- Meat or poultry processing
- o Farm equipment operation
- o Produce transport
- o Agricultural services

#### MSFW EPS Particulars

#### What Demographic Features?

- Migrant farmworkers/seasonal farmworkers
- Accompanied/unaccompanied
- o For accompanied:
  - Household size
  - Number of farmworkers/household
  - Number of children/household
  - Children and youth in specific age groups

### Oregon Has Base Estimates

- 2002 MSFW EPS Used for 10 years by: advocates, agricultural producers, funders, government agencies and regulators, grant writers, legislators, media, planners, researchers, service programs, etc.
- First Question: changes in agricultural production, MSFW characteristics
- o Known change: Indigenous workers.

## Research Steps Oregon Study

- Internet-based survey seeking: changes, information, sources
- Utilize existing research, databases, agricultural statistics
- Request data runs: service organizations, government agencies
- Follow-up calls: clarification, specific information (agriculture, MSFW clients, research, etc.)
- Oregon site visit: gather and verify information

## Research Steps Oregon Study

- Determine best means to estimate workers in each industry
- o Extract demographic factors
- Develop Draft Report: estimates, explanatory narrative
- Draft review by local knowledgeable experts, compare to other MSFW counts
- o Discussion and additional research
- o Prepare and present Final Report

## Content Of EPS Update Report

- o Description of methodology and sources
- o Assessment of changes 2002 to 2012/13
- o Estimates
  - MSFWs, migrant workers, seasonal workers (county)
  - Non-farmworkers in MSFW households (county)
  - MSFW children and youth under 20 years (state)
- Other tables: field agriculture methods, non-farmworker estimate factors, Indigenous language requests
- Bibliography

### Difficulties

- Workforce changing RIGHT NOW
- No primary research to verify factors
- Reliance on existing information: reports, databases, client statistics, crop production statistics
- o What's "the truth"
- o Unknown factors

### Study Strengths

- o Access to client databases
- Site visits
- Variety of sources for most demographic factors
- Draft estimates and methodology examined by Oregon reviewers
- Assistance from individuals in Oregon locating data, identifying sources, sharing knowledge

## Findings: Changes

- o Major growth in grapes/wine industry
- Increase in blueberry acreage unclear if this means more hand labor jobs
- o More sweet cherries -? more workers
- Expanded crop variety to keep workers employed
- Nursery down due to housing recession, now on up-swing
- Food processing holding steady
- o Immigration-related fear
- o Demographic changes unclear

## Findings: Indigenous Workers

- o Definite presence and for some time
- Oregon organizations, research more recognition/activity than in most other states
- Potential access barriers to receipt of health care and other services
- Unclear how many Indigenous people are being served by Oregon health center network

### Major Data Sources for Estimates

- o Census of Agriculture (NASS 2007)
- Oregon Unemployment Insurance Wage Database (worker numbers, three quarters or less, 2007-11 average)
- Client database demographics, generally a five-year average

# Used NAICS Codes When Possible

- North American Industrial Classification System
- Used when data sources classed worker numbers by NAICS

# SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES

Field Agriculture

Demand for Labor (DFL) Formula

 $DFL = (A \times H / W \times S)$ 

A: crop acreage

H: hours to perform task on one acre

W: work hours per farmworker per day

5: season length for peak activity

Rule-of-Thumb Methods

# SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES

#### Nursery/Greenhouse

- Many workers are full-time not parttime/temporary
- o Oregon UI Database (NAICS 1114)
- Oregon Nursery and Greenhouse Survey
   (OR NASS, 2010) average three years for statewide figure

# SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES Christmas Trees

- o DFL formula
- Oregon Agriculture and Fisheries
   Statistics, Christmas tree workers (OR NASS, 2011) average four years for statewide figure

# SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES Food Processing

- Did not use Oregon UI Database worker numbers (NAICS 3114)
- Tried variety of methods
- Used post-harvest DFL/Rule-of-Thumb factors (sorting, cleaning, grading, packing for fresh market)

# SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES Reforestation

- Statewide estimate only
- o Four methods
  - OR Labor Management Information System list of employers/employee range, NAICS 1153 reduced for reforestation
  - Oregon UI Database, NAICS 1153 adjusted for reforestation
  - DFL/Rule-of-Thumb (two methods)

# SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES Forest Gathering

- Ferns, salal, wreath-making material, mushrooms, etc.
- Statewide estimate only
- o Oregon UI Database (NAICS 11321)

# SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES Duplication Rate

- Used for crop/food processing and reforestation estimates
- Client database work history information for crop/food processing
- o Oregon UI Database for reforestation

# SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES

#### Non-Farmworker Calculations

- Apply percent identified migrant/seasonal
- o Determine percent accompanied
- Divide accompanied by average farmworkers per household = number households
- Multiply accompanied households by average non-farmworkers per household

# SPECIFIC METHODOLOGIES Children and Youth

- o Includes youth who may be farmworkers
- Multiply number households by average C&Y per household
- Apply percent in six age groups

# Findings: Oregon Percent by Agricultural Industry

Field Agriculture/	
Food Processing	83.4%
Nursery/Greenhouse	13.0%
Reforestation/	
Forest Gathering	3.6%

## Findings: Estimates

- 90,289 MSFWs (slightly less than 2002)
- 160,429 MSFW workers and nonfarmworking household members
- o 33.5% migrant; 66.5% seasonal
- o 75.8% are accompanied households
- 80,123 MSFW children and youth (under 20 years of age)

### Where to Find the Study

Primary Care Office Website:

http://www.oregon.gov/oha/OHPR/PCO/Documents/2013%20Update%20to%20MSFW%20Enumeration%20Studies%20Report.pdf

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Researcher: Alice Larson, Larson Assistance Services, las@wolfenet.com Now My Work Is Done

I Hope This Helps You With Your Work

#### Thanks To:

- Staff of MSFW-serving programs who offered information/their databases
- Individuals who participated in interviews, consulted via phone or email, offered methodological ideas and other suggestions
- Report reviewers
- Marc Overbeck, Primary Care Office, for support and encouragement and making this Update happen

#### For More Information:

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