

**FACT SHEET**  
**FARMWORKERS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY**

- Income from agricultural sales in Washington County exceeded \$163 million in 1991
- Economic impact from processing farm products added another \$326 million to the county's economy
- Approximately 12,000 migrant, seasonal and year-round farmworkers are needed to plant, cultivate, harvest, process and transport Washington County's farm products
- The average farmworker annual family income is \$10,500, compared to the Washington County median family income of \$35,554
- The average hourly wage for farmworkers in \$4.88 per hour
- The average family size for farmworkers is 5 persons, compared to the Washington County average of 3.72 persons

Farmworkers bring with them strong family and religious values, a strong work ethic, and hopes of earning enough money to provide for their families. Yet, what they experience is oftentimes:

- poor housing conditions or homelessness
- low and intermittent wages
- unsafe, unsanitary working conditions
- lack of health care benefits
- lack of income to meet basic needs, such as food, transportation or clothing
- discrimination at all levels

Like all Washington County residents, farmworkers and their families need:

- safe, decent and affordable housing
- secure family wage employment with benefits
- reliable transportation
- access to basic services such as health care, child care and education

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