

Teaching Appalachia: History

Student Work

Farming in North Carolina


Madison County Farms

Number of Farms	1974	1987	1998
	1,000	800	600

Some names of Madison County Farms

- Anderson's Oak Farm and Orchard
- Carroll's Maple Farm
- McNelly Farm
- Springing Water Community
- Quinn Farm
- Wade's Berry Farm

Operator characteristics	Quantity
All operators by race	
American Indian or Alaska Native	2
Asian	1
Black or African American	2
Hispanic or Latino	1
White	166
Other race not listed	2
All operators of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino race	2



1977 small farm, North Carolina National Academy

Works available for a migrant worker in NC

3:00 AM Get up and get to work. Get a quick rest breakfast in your kitchen (10-15 min) and get on the road.

4:00 AM Start the car, shut off the lights, get in the truck, check the gas, check the tires, and get on the road.

4:30 AM Get to a regular long haul truck for your first and second shift. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours.

8:00 AM Get to the field for 12-14 hours. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours.

12:00 PM Breakfast in the field. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours.

4:00 PM The truck gets your second shift. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours.


8:00 PM You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours. You'll be in the truck for 12-14 hours.

NC farm workers' stats


- Make \$1,000 if working alone and \$16,000 if working as a family
- Farm workers earn about 50% less wages than other jobs
- 5 out of every 12 farm workers are hungry

Rights for Migrant Workers


- All persons, regardless of their nationality, race, height or other status, are entitled to fundamental rights and other labor protections, including migrant workers and farm workers. Rights are also afforded under human rights and protections identified in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- The human right of migrant workers to free association, including the freedom to contract, to strike, to join or form unions, and to participate in labor organizations.
- The human right to work and receive equal pay for work of the same nature and complexity.
- The human right to freedom from discrimination based on race, religion or ethnic origin in any other status in all aspects of work, including conditions of work and promotion, equal access to training, equal pay and equal benefits.
- The human right to equality before the law and equal protection of the law, particularly in regard to justice before the law, application, suspension of a migrant's legal status.
- The human right to protection against arbitrary expulsion from the State of employment.
- The human right to equal before the law.
- The human right to protection of living standards for the health and well-being of the migrant worker and his or her family.
- The human right to safe working conditions and a decent and safe working environment.
- The human right to reasonable limitation of working hours, rest and leisure.
- The human right to freedom of association with a trade union.
- The human right to freedom of association with a trade union.
- The human right to protection from arbitrary dismissal from any work.
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Migrant worker's fight for a better life and working conditions.




Each Migrant worker contributes around \$12,000 to North Carolina's economy but only earns 50-60 per bucket that they bring in.



1987 Migrant workers in California

They do not qualify for health benefits nor do they get workers compensation even though they get sick from their jobs however many receive sick pay.



Present day - migrant workers

Farming in NC, Migrant or Not

North Carolina is ranked 6th in the number of migrant workers in the nation, with over 6500 migrant workers more coming every day on an H-2A visa.


Migrant Workers

- A "migrant worker" is a person who either (1) migrates within their home country or overseas to perform work such as seasonal work.
- The International Labor Organization estimated in 2014 there were 132 million international migrants worldwide who were outside their home country for at least 12 months and approximately half of them were estimated to be economically active.
- According to the International Labor Organization, 48 percent of all international migrants are women and they are increasingly migrating for work purposes.
- Children of migrant workers migrate to achieve the same level of educational attainment as their parents.
- The migrant workforce has historically played a vital role in the growth and economic development of many nations. Economies, particularly in developed nations, rely on migrant workers from other nations.
- Recruitment of international workers through employment agencies is a common phenomenon in developed countries, such as the United States or the UK.

California Migrant Workers Stats

- As of 2015 most migrant workers in California if working full time earn about 30,000 a year and 17,000 if working part-time.
- The migrant workers earn anywhere between \$10.00 and \$10.50 an hour.
- The migrant workers are under a watchful eye while working and are not allowed to speak to one another while at work.
- If you are not fast enough at picking the supervisor will yell at the workers.

5 out of 12 migrant workers don't have enough money to feed themselves.



1962

Cesar Chavez The man who fought for migrant workers.

The main crops that migrant workers harvest in North Carolina are tobacco, potatoes, cucumbers, cotton, apples, corn and berries.

Migrant workers are people that either move with their house or are seasonally in certain well, trying to find for seasonal work as they work in. Migrant workers that stay in the United States are called foreign workers or expatriates. The United Nations defines the term "migrant worker" as a person who is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national."

