

Dane County Farmworker Housing Study Preliminary Findings from the Enumeration Phase Report (2026)


HHN Presentation

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Community Partners:
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Sift Consulting





Estimated Agricultural Workforce

Workforce Scenarios

- **Low:** 1,440 workers
- **Moderate** (Recommended): 2,348 workers
- **High:** 2,962 workers

Census of Agriculture Upper Boundary:

- ~3,300–3,400 workers



Estimated Housing Need Scenarios

- **Low:** 600–900 units
- **Moderate:** 900–1,400 units
- **High:** 1,200–1,900 units
- **Benchmark Scenario:**
 - 4,931 residents
 - 1,644 housing units



Housing Demand Follows Corridors

Workers often do not live where they work.

Housing demand follows:

- Affordability
- Transportation access
- Proximity to services

Planning should focus on workforce corridors rather than individual farms.



Preliminary Recommendations for Dane County

1. Use 2,348 workers as the planning baseline.
2. Plan for approximately 1,644 housing units.
3. Consider the Census of Ag upper boundary in long-term planning.
4. Target investments along workforce corridors.
5. Treat farmworker housing as economic infrastructure.



Thank You!

