National Data on Disabilities:

Helpful for the farm population?

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October 12, 2010



Overview

- Introduction
- Methodology
- O Data
- A Results

Gail Deboy, Paul Jones, William Field, Justin Metcalf, Roger Tormoehlen (2008)

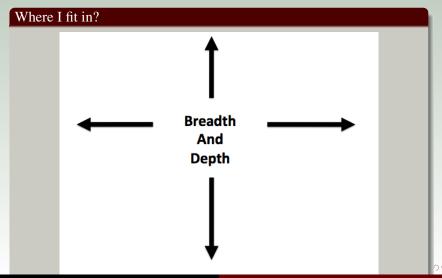
- Review of literature on farm and ranch population estimates
- Review of literature on the prevalence of disability in farm and ranch populations
- Similar Findings: difficulty defining farm population, difficulty getting at disability estimates

What is the issue?

We don't know the extent of disability within the farm population. There are no farm-specific surveys capturing disabilities.

Why do we need better data on the extent of disabilities within the farm population?

- To realize how many people need assistance
- 2 To help find ways to better serve this population
- To help with program funding, foster new partnerships and allocate resources



Surveys

Aim of research

- To examine national survey questions targeting disability.
- 2 To separate farm and non-farm respondents and view responses.

Defining Farm and Non-farm

- The farm population includes any survey respondent who classifies him- or herself as employed as a farm or ranch manager, farmer or rancher, or miscellaneous farm worker.
- 2 The non-farm population includes everyone else of working age, including those no longer in the workforce.

The Data Sets

- **1** 2008 American Community Survey
- 2000 Census Public Use Microdata Sample Survey 5%
- **3** 1994-1995 National Health Interview Survey Supplement on Disability

What is it?

The American Community Survey is an ongoing statistical survey, by the U.S. Census Bureau, sent to approximately 3 million addresses per year. It is the largest survey other than the decennial census that the Census Bureau administers.

ACS Respondents

- **1** 26,676 farm and 2,973,981 non-farm observations
- 2 representing a population of: 2,216,722 farmers and 301,843,006 non-farm

ACS definition of disability

- Disability: the *restriction* in participation that results from a *lack* of fit between the individual's functional limitations and the *characteristics* of the physical and social environment.
- 2 The way to capture it in a survey is to measure components that make up the process.

2008 American Community Survey

Disability Questions

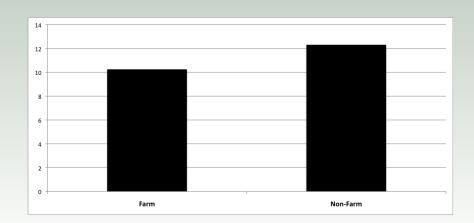
- Is this person deaf or does he/she have serious difficulty hearing? (hearing)
- 2 Is this person blind or does she have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses? (vision)
- Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does this person have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering or making decisions? (cognitive)

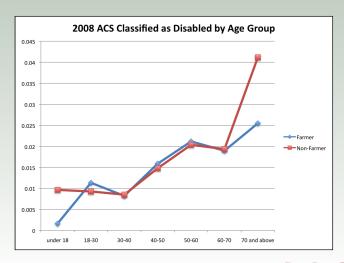
2008 American Community Survey

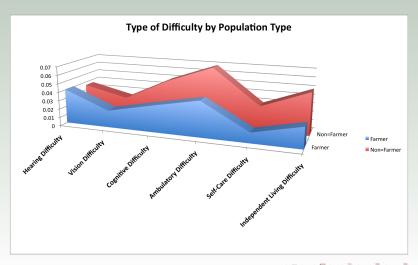
Disability Questions continued

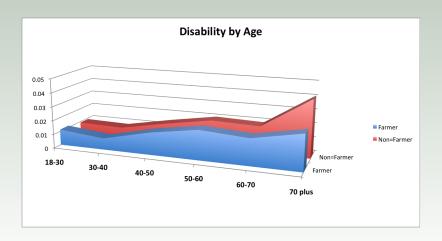
- Does this person have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs? (ambulatory)
- 2 Does this person have difficulty dressing or bathing? (self-care)
- Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition does this person have difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping? (independent living)

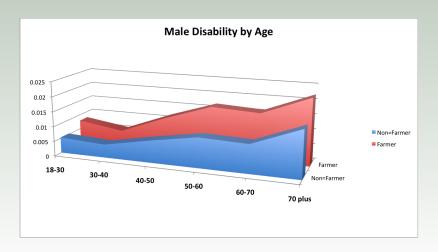
2008 ACS Disabled

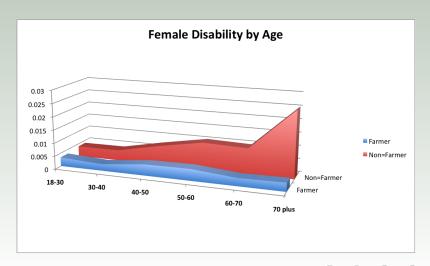












2000 Census PUMS 5%

PUMS Respondents

- **1** 146,758 farm and 14,124,536 non-farm observations
- 2 2,219,478 farm and 283,011,038 non-farm

Disability Questions

Does this person have any of the following long-lasting conditions:

- blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment?
- 2 a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying? (ambulatory)

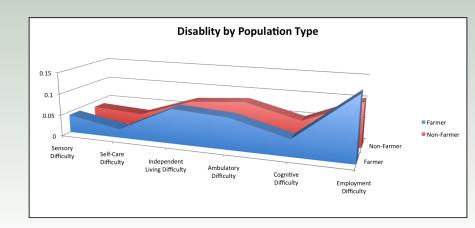
Disability Questions continued

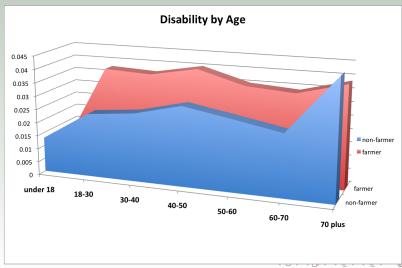
Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting six months or more, does this person have any difficulty doing the following:

- learning, remembering, or concentrating? (cognitive)
- 2 dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home? (self-care)
- going outside the home alone to shop or visit the doctor's office? (independent living)
- working at a job or business? (employment)

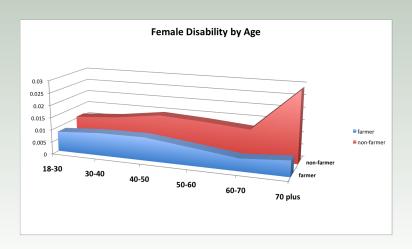
PUMS 5% Disabled

In this analysis, 23.3% of farm population are considered disabled by the Census definition and 14.0% of the non-farm population reported a disability.









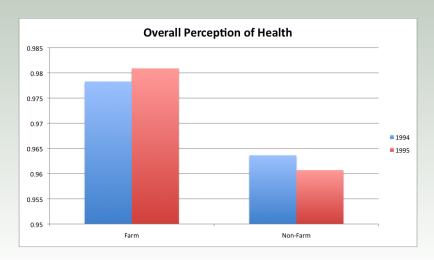
1994-1995 NHIS-D

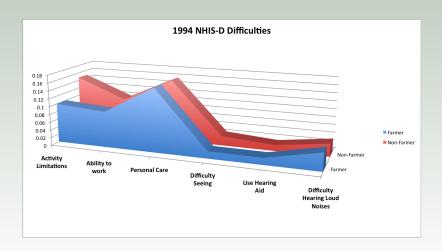
Data

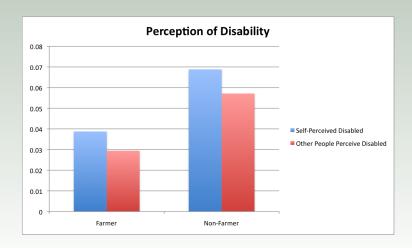
- **1** 1994: 1,099 farm and 93,992 non-farm observations
- **2** 1995: 1,290 farm and 106,179 non-farm observations

What is it?

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which was signed into law in July 1990, is one of the catalysts prompting legal and policy reforms in the area of disability. However, policy-relevant data on disability needed to understand its many aspects and impacts is either very limited or nonexistent, particularly on a national level.







Next Steps

- Dig deeper into NHIS-D to paint a better picture of the depth of disability
- Examine NHANES data for more depth of disability by occupation