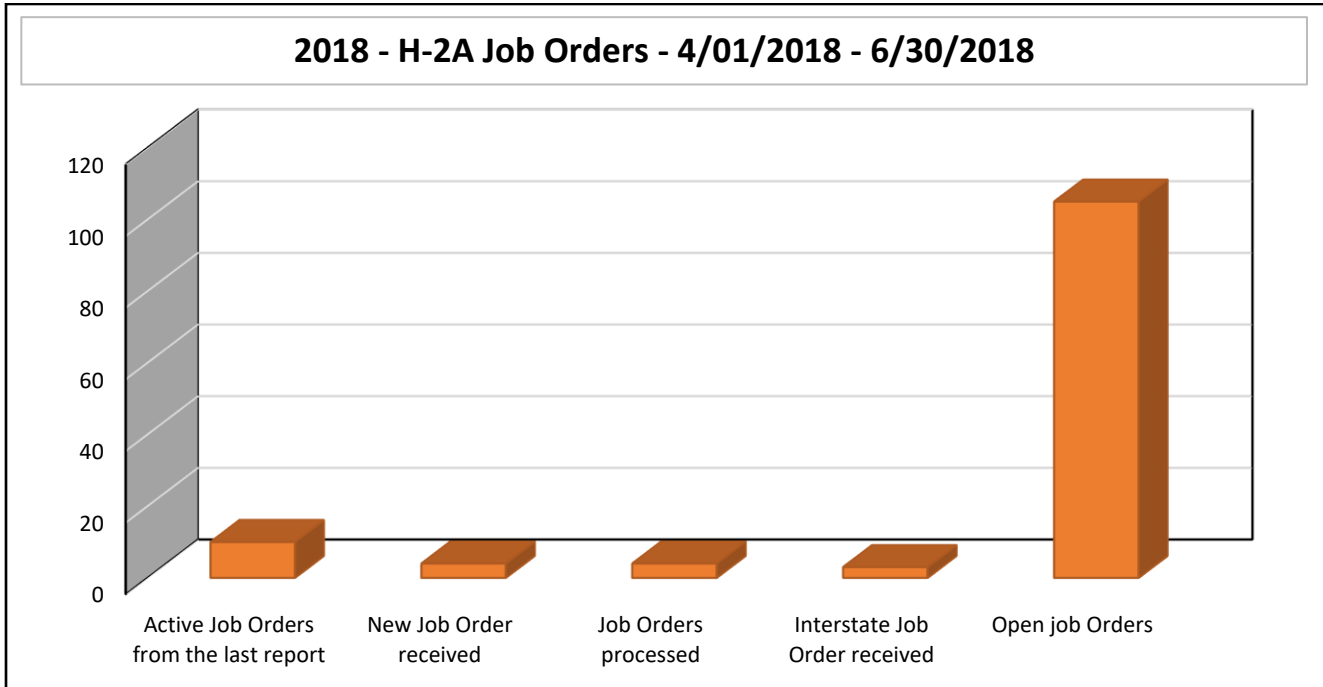


2018 FLC Activity – 3rd Quarter

H-2A Program

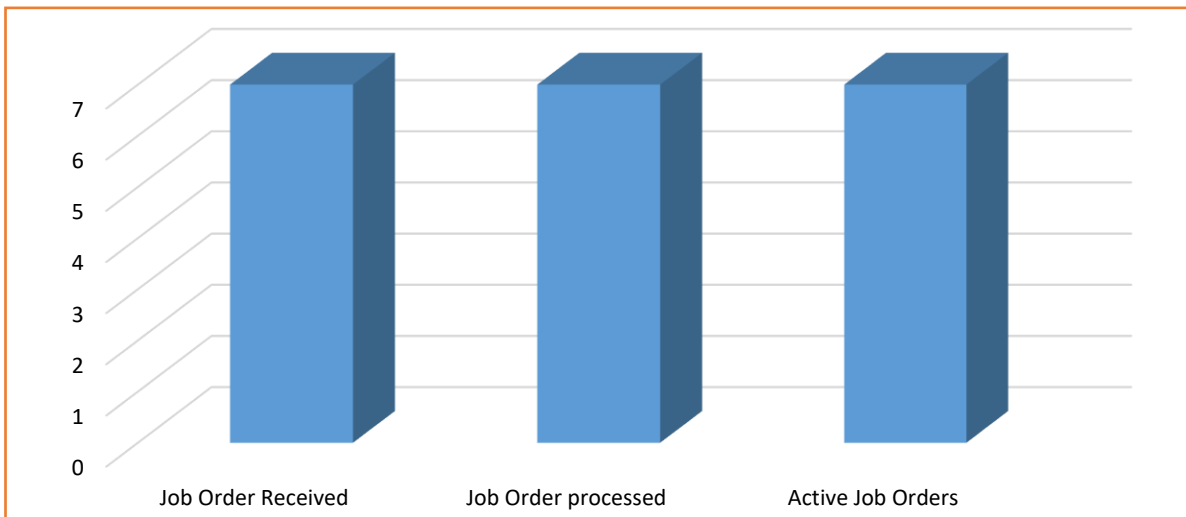
Overall employment of agricultural workers is projected to show little or no change in the near future. Regardless of increased demand for crops and other agricultural products, employment growth is expected to remain at the same level as in the past few years. This is mainly due to the use of agricultural technologies that increase output per worker. Peak activity for the H-2A program takes place during the months of February and March each year. This is due to the timelines agricultural employers must follow in order to participate in the H-2A program. As in any of the visa programs, employers must adhere to the “seasonal” nature of the activities they will engage.



H-2B Program

Service industry jobs (H-2B related) are expected to grow every year in the short term. As in the past, these are jobs that require little preparation or skills. MA employers that participate in this type of program tend to have a seasonal or temporary need for these workers. Due to regulatory requirements, the “peak” period of activity for MassHire DCS takes place during the early part of January and then drops down until mid-February. This year, we experience a “bump” of activity during the month of April due to the “lifting” of the H-2B cap. However, this did not translate into new applications because MassHire DCS was directed to re-open existing cases.

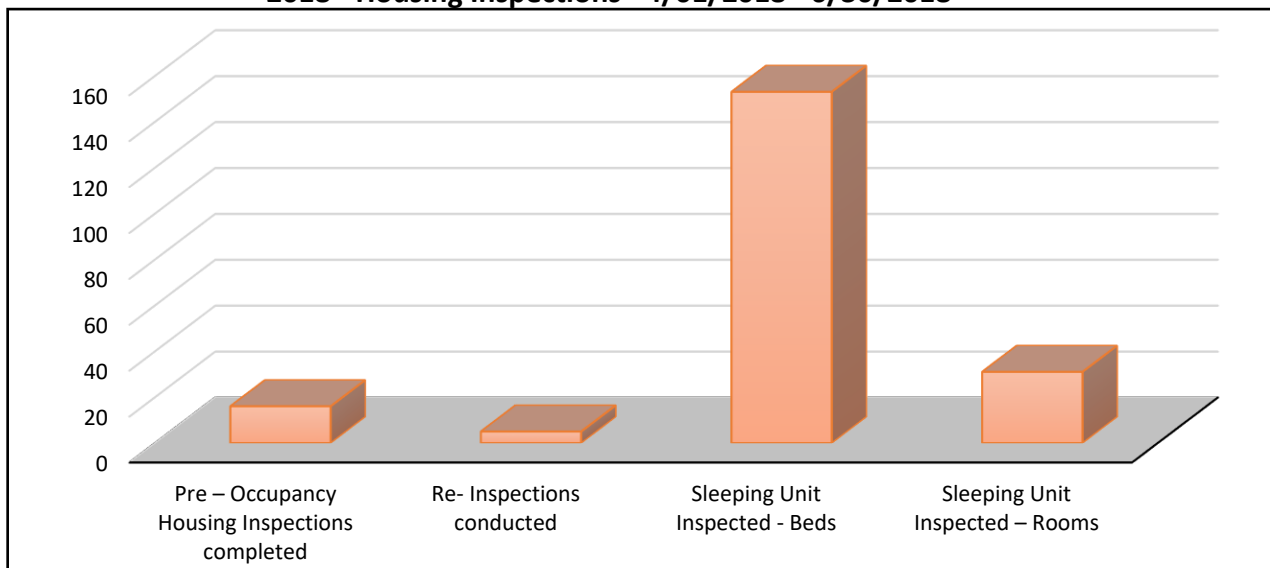
2018 - H-2B Job Orders - 4/01/2018 - 6/30/2018



Housing Inspections

Bulk of activity takes place during the months of February, March and April with few exceptions in June. Re-inspections are conducted in instances that the employer fails to correct items after initial inspection. In the last few years, re-impaction have become less taxing than in the past as employers renovate or build new housing facilities.

2018 - Housing Inspections - 4/01/2018 - 6/30/2018



Activities not statistically accounted above

All this FLC activities are paperwork intensive and involve coordination with several federal and state agencies. Staff completes all paperwork related activities after completion of initial processing of each case. This involves the entry of U.S. DOL, CNPC notices of acceptance, certification, audits, clearance and associated documents (job orders & miscellaneous notices), referrals processing, transportation arrangements housing inspections reports, certificates, etc. In addition, staff provides employers and agents with technical assistance in a routine basis, guidance and staff responds to inquiries about the use of the FLC application.