

# Migrant Populations

**Health issues and infectious disease  
management in China**



# Diversity of Population

- 144 million people at 2000 census:
  - 80 million moving to different counties; 60% men and women aged 15-29
- By 2006, 20 million child migrants.



# Main health needs of Migrants



- Men:
  - *Occupational safety*
- Women:
  - *Safe birth*
- Children:
  - *Immunizations*



# Main infectious disease issues

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- Tuberculosis
  - Migrants have low cure rates and high loss to follow-up treatment and care.
- Vaccine-preventable diseases
  - Migrant children have low immunization rates
- HIV
  - Young woman migrants linked to commercial sex through entertainment jobs



# Barriers to Migrant Health

- Fee for service: lack insurance, employment coverage, residency permits
- No sick leave
- Poor/isolated housing dormitories
- Gender





# Policy Implications

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- National
  - Extend medical access and insurance coverage regardless of residence and employment status
  - Extend national policy to local implementation



# Policy Implications

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- Community
  - House-to-house childhood immunizations
  - Strengthen community health clinics
  - Vocational training for young women



# Policy Implications



- Employers
  - Improve living conditions
  - Support health-seeking behaviors of migrant employees, including on-site directly-observed treatment for TB



# Thank you

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